

He was the National Press Foundation's 1998 Berryman Cartoonist of the Year and won first place in the Society of Professional Journalists' 1996 and 1997 competition for editorial cartooning in the Pacific Northwest. He'd already won 10 SPJ regional awards for cartooning and reporting. He won the 1994 award for Best of the West journalism competition and was the first cartoonist to win the Environmental Media Award.

David Horsey does more than draw. He was editor of his college newspaper and has worked as a reporter as well as a cartoonist. In 1986, as a Rotary Foundation Scholar, Mr. Horsey earned a master's degree in international relations from the University of Kent, at Canterbury, England. In 1993, he was one of only 25 Americans chosen to take part in the European Community Visitorship Program in Brussels.

He's also a busy husband and parent and is at work on his first novel.

Please join me today in honoring this outstanding member of Washington State's public community.

ERIC LAW HONORED FOR BRAVERY

HON. DAVID D. PHELPS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor Eric Law, a very brave and courageous young man. Last summer, while Eric and his family were at a hotel in Peoria, Eric noticed a girl who was at the bottom of the hotel pool, and appeared to be in trouble. Taking the initiative, Eric jumped into the pool and brought the girl to the surface. Eric was assisted in efforts to save the life of this young girl by Mitch Jones, who helped drag the girl out of the pool and Cathy Highley, who performed CPR on the girl and restarted her breathing. On the morning of April 19th the Macon County Safe Kids Committee awarded Eric their safety Award for his bravery at Mt. Zion Jr. High School, where Eric is a student in the seventh grade.

Mr. Speaker, with the recent tragedy at a high school in Colorado, where we have all witnessed the potential destructiveness of children, it is refreshing and uplifting for me to address the Congress with Eric's story. I invite all of my colleagues to join me in wishing the best of luck to Eric in the future and thanking him for his undaunted act.

HONORING GRACE N. MITCHELL

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of my colleagues the retirement of an extraordinary community leader, Dr. Grace N. Mitchell, the President of San Luis Obispo's Cuesta College.

Grace has spent her 10-year tenure as President of Cuesta College making the col-

lege shine, not only in the eyes of its students and faculty but also in the eyes of the community. Under Grace's magnificent leadership, Cuesta College earned the first-ever "Best-in-Class" California Quality Eureka Award, presented by the California Council for Quality and Service.

Grace's 35-year career has been dedicated to excellence in higher education as well as outstanding community activism. She has worked as a vice chancellor, a vice president, an assistant superintendent, dean, counselor, and advisor to many community colleges throughout California. In 1995 she was named Citizen of the Year by the San Luis Obispo Chamber of Commerce. She has also been recognized for her work with the Foundation for Community Design, the SLO County Economic Advisory Committee and UCSB Economic Forecast Project, and a host of other community and professional organizations.

Mr. Speaker, Grace N. Mitchell's dedication to the people with whom she works and lives is vast and unrelenting. She has proven herself to be a valuable asset to our community. I know I speak for many when I say that her commitment and vision for Cuesta College will surely be missed upon her retirement. I congratulate Grace on 35 years of service to her community and wish her all the best as she embarks on a new life journey.

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN CHINA'S XINJIANG REGION: AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL REPORT DOCUMENTS SERIOUS ABUSES

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of our Colleagues an outstanding but deeply troubling report by Amnesty International which was released by Amnesty at a press conference earlier today sponsored by the Congressional Human Rights Caucus.

The report—entitled "People's Republic of China: Gross Violations of Human Rights in the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region"—documents in an unprecedented fashion the outrageous human rights violations in this autonomous region of China, which borders several Central Asian countries. These egregious human rights violations are committed primarily against the Uighurs, the majority ethnic group among the predominantly Muslim local population.

The appalling human rights violations, which are documented and verified for the first time by a leading international human rights organization, include a pattern of arbitrary and summary executions, torture, arbitrary detention and unjust political trials. For the first time, the Amnesty report was able to document 210 death sentences and 190 executions of political prisoners in this region. In addition, the report also documents the cases of 200 political prisoners and prisoners of conscience who were arrested during the 1990s and are still believed to be imprisoned.

Amnesty International further highlights the outrageous use of particular torture techniques

which are sexual in nature, and not known to be used in other areas of the People's Republic. These forms of torture include the insertion of horsehair into the penis, as well as wires with small spikes.

Mr. Speaker, this important report further documents the dismal human rights record of the People's Republic of China. On Friday, the international community has an opportunity to take a stand against these despicable human rights practices in China, when the U.S.-sponsored resolution condemning the PRC for its human rights violations comes up for a vote at the UN Human Rights Commission. In the face of such unspeakable atrocities which are documented in the Amnesty report, I urge nations who are friends and allies of the United States to support the strong and principled stand for human rights resolution which the United States had introduced.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the executive summary of the Amnesty International report on human rights violations in the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region be placed in the RECORD, and I urge my colleagues in the Congress to give thoughtful attention to its documentation of the deplorable human rights record of China.

[From Amnesty International, April 1999]

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA—GROSS VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE XINJIANG UIGHUR AUTONOMOUS REGION

In a new 92-page report, Amnesty International documents a pattern of gross violations of human rights in the Uighur Autonomous Region of Xinjiang (XUAR), one of the five autonomous regions of the People's Republic of China (RPC), which borders several Central Asian countries.

These violations include arbitrary and summary executions, torture, arbitrary detention, and unfair political trials. The main victims of these abuses are the Uighurs, the majority ethnic group among the predominantly Muslim local population in the region.

Thousands of people have been arbitrarily detained in the XUAR over the past few years and arbitrary arrests continue. Thousands of political prisoners, arrested at various times during the 1990s, are reported to remain imprisoned, some have been sentenced to long prison terms after unfair trials, others still detained without charge or trial after months or years in jail. Many of those detained are reported to have been tortured, some with particularly cruel methods which, to Amnesty International's knowledge, are not being used elsewhere in the PRC. Scores of Uighur political prisoners have been sentenced to death and executed in the past two years. Others are alleged to have been killed by the security forces in circumstances which appear to constitute extra-judicial executions.

These gross violations of human rights are occurring amidst growing ethnic unrest. With a massive influx of ethnic Chinese (or Han) in the XUAR since 1949, the indigenous population has felt increasingly marginalised in what they regard as their ancestral land. Ethnic discontent has also been fuelled by government policies, unemployment, discrimination, unequal economic opportunities, and curbs on fundamental freedoms, including freedom of religion.

Over the past ten years the local ethnic population has witnessed a steady erosion of its social, economic and cultural rights. Economic development in the region has largely