

the Navy standard and advancement was one of the highest, at 41%. The VQ-2 also received the top three awards that a command can receive during his command tour. They include: the Battle "E" for overall command excellence, the Golden Wrench Award for maintenance excellence and the Safety "S" for safety excellence. Perhaps one of the most telling effects about the Commander's leadership is how well-respected he is by his squadron; officers and enlisted personnel alike. At the squadron Christmas dinner, all-hands spontaneously gave him a standing ovation that lasted over 5 minutes.

As Commander Scorby celebrates his Change of Command, Mr. Speaker, I wanted to take this opportunity to say thank you and congratulations on behalf of the United States Congress. In every sense, Commander Scorby is a great American who deserves the praise and admiration of us all. The Commander is one of the nation's best and an officer we can all be proud of. My thanks to him for a job well done.

THE MOODY TROJANS

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 28, 2000

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to the Moody Trojans, runners-up in the 2000 Texas High School Class 5-A Baseball Championship. While not taking the top spot in the state, this season for "Moody Magic" has been one for the record books.

While the prize proved elusive, the Trojans marched impressively on their journey to the championship game. The team completed the season with a 38-4-1 record, were ranked number one in the state poll, and reached the third highest ranking in the nation.

Moody's fans were as relentless as their team. They cheered the players on, chanting "Moody Magic," blowing horns, yelling, clapping and stomping their feet. Like the Trojans of old, they didn't give up until the battle was done.

Logistics proved to be a part of the game, with rain delays holding up the game from Friday until Monday. The burden of the delays fell directly on the Moody players since their opponents could drive home after each delay, while the Trojans wandered around their Austin hotel.

The season brought forth twin themes for Moody, one of spirituality, and one of inspiration. They drew inspiration from a movie, *The Gladiator*. The certainty that Trojans were warriors and that warriors fought the good fight marked the last three weeks of the season. The foremost theme for the Trojans, however, was one of spirituality. These are warriors with a deep faith.

"Si quieres puedes" (If you want to, you can) was written underneath the bill of a player's cap. This team did indeed want to win. They prayed silently on the field and in the dugout, and looked to a tiny laminated drawing of Jesus Christ in the dugout for motivation.

The Moody Magic was part inspiration and part spirituality that drew this team close. They

rose to number three in the nation and number one in the state. They prayed together, won together and lost together; but through it all they kept their faith. While their opponent was awarded gold medals for the championship, they prayed that the experience will make them better people.

These young people have learned the very best lessons sports can teach. They learned that winning is great, but winners on the field are made from teamwork and faith; and winners in life are those who master the fundamentals, never lose their faith, and put their whole effort into every endeavor.

All these young men have learned this lesson, and eight of Moody's seniors will leave for college soon where they will play ball and employ the lessons they learned in the Moody dugout and on the ballfields of Corpus Christi.

I want to include the leadership of the school and the coaches in this victory: Interim Superintendent Sandra Lanier-Lerma, Principal Conrado Garcia, Athletic Director Richard Avilia, and coaches Steve Castillo, Gene Flores, Corky Gallegos, and Allan Lynch.

I ask the House to join me today in commending this outstanding group of young champions from "Moody Magic" who have learned the most important lessons of competition, faith and dignity.

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4690) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes:

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Chairman, I rise reluctantly to oppose this bill and the short-sighted cuts it makes to the budgets of the agencies and employees under the Subcommittee's jurisdiction.

This bill shortchanges many of the agencies responsible for local law enforcement, patent and trademarks, advanced technology programs, international peacekeeping, and trade monitoring and compliance. In particular, it severely constrains the operations of the Patent and Trademark Office, which safeguards our nation's intellectual property rights.

At a time when inventions in the fields of science and technology have driven our nation's economy, we should not be cutting back funding for this critical mission. Maintaining a sufficient investment in the PTO is absolutely vital to the future of our economic growth and prosperity.

The Committee's bill also provides insufficient funding to combat the threat of terrorism and withholds \$100 million of our assessments for participation in the United Nations and other international organizations. It cuts the

Administration's request for the COPS program by half. It also fails to provide sufficient funding for the Commission on Civil Rights and the Small Business Administration.

In addition, this bill contains some hidden riders that undermine our nation's gun enforcement laws and language undermining the Justice Department's current lawsuit to recover funds from the tobacco industry.

The bill includes a provision for the second straight year that would place a moratorium on using funds in the bill to pay overtime to Justice Department attorneys. The attorneys who work for the Justice Department are some of the most dedicated civil servants anywhere on earth. They must often leave their homes and families for weeks at a time to try cases in distant parts of the country. They are involved in stressful cases, often involving serious organized crime or complex litigation.

By denying these lawyers compensation for their overtime hours, we are denying them what other attorneys in the Federal government rightfully earn. It is clearly a hypocrisy to have the Justice Department, the very agency tasked with enforcing our laws, attempt to bypass the law to avoid paying overtime compensation to its lawyers who carry out the laws of our nation.

This bill also fails to provide funding for anti-gun violence media campaigns that replicate Richmond's "Project Exile," and does not appropriate money to expand research into "smart gun" technology.

Mr. Chairman, for all these reasons, I urge my colleagues to reject this bill and look for a better approach to funding the agencies in this bill.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE B.B. COMER MEMORIAL LIBRARY, ON RECEIPT OF THE NATIONAL AWARD FOR LIBRARY SERVICES

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 28, 2000

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and a sense of duty that I rise today to recognize one of the finest institutions in the State of Alabama, and in the United States.

The National Institute of Museum and Library Services has established an annual Award for Library Services. In this, the first such year of this award, only four Libraries from across the United States have been selected. One of the Libraries chosen to receive this distinguished award is the B.B. Comer Memorial Library. This Library is located in one of the most viable, vibrant areas in East Central Alabama, a community known as the City of Sylacauga.

The B.B. Comer Memorial Library is a product of the Great Depression in 1936. It has evolved from 250 donated books in the back room of a local bank to a free public library that serves parts of four counties and partners with over thirty organizations.

Libraries are learning centers. They are places where families can seek and find vital information. They are the necessary centerpiece of any public educational system. They