The Lady Wildcats’ star player is none other than the CNY Player of the Year, Martha Dwyer. West Genesee is also home to three other CNY team members: Chrissy Zaika, Meghan O’Connell and Nicole Motondo. The 2001 Class A Championship team also includes: Eileen Gagnon, Vanessa Bain, Shannon Burke, Laura Corso, Lindsey Shortz, Kelly Fitzgerald, Colleen O’Hara, Milly Yackel, Kelly Kuss, Keri Rubois, Nelli Nash, Katie Kozloski, Carolyn Maurer, Kim Capraro, and Eileen Flynn.

I am very proud of these young women and wish to celebrate the outstanding athletic achievements they have made this season. I am equally proud of the coaching staff and wish to join them, as well as the parents and other family members, teachers and administrators, in extending sincere congratulations for a job well done. This strong group of fine young athletes deserves special recognition.

HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO UNDOCUMENTED RESIDENTS

HON. GENE GREEN
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 25, 2001

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker. I rise to introduce legislation which would allow states and localities to provide primary and preventive health care services to undocumented residents.

According to some estimates, there are as many as nine million undocumented residents currently living in the United States. The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA) prohibits public hospitals from providing free or discounted preventive service to undocumented immigrants—even if they pay for such services with State or local funds. PRWORA does, however, allow public hospitals to provide emergency room services.

This system has created a crisis in our nation’s emergency rooms. Because undocumented residents cannot afford to see the doctor for routine physical and preventive medicine, they arrive in the emergency room with costlier, often preventable, health problems. The Federation for American Immigration Reform estimates that 29 percent of this population uses hospital and other emergency services in a given year, compared to the 11 percent use by the general U.S. population.

The costs of this broken system are especially burdensome for our nation’s public hospitals. Harris County Hospital District, in my hometown of Houston, Texas, estimates that emergency room care for undocumented residents cost taxpayers, insurance companies, and patients $225 million over the last three years. Hospitals in New York State provide a total uncompensated care for undocumented residents of $300 million to $380 million each year—almost one third of uncompensated care for the state.

Mr. Speaker, people should not enter any nation illegally. But I cannot understand a health care system that forces patients to let their health problems escalate into full fledged emergencies before it will provide them care.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

Wouldn’t it make more economic sense to cover preventive services rather than let illnesses develop into painful and expensive complications? Most importantly, should the federal government be telling states and localities how they can and can’t spend their own health care dollars?

That is why I am introducing legislation which would allow—note the word “not require”—state and local programs to provide preventive and primary health care to undocumented aliens. This legislation would not provide a new benefit for undocumented residents. However, it would make sure that our health care dollars are spent more wisely by preventing emergencies—not treating them.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AUTHORIZING CONGRESS TO PROHIBIT PHYSICAL DESECRATION OF THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES

SPREECH OF
HON. JAMES R. Langevin
OF RHODE ISLAND
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, July 17, 2001

Mr. Langevin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of our American flag and as a cosponsor of H.J. Res. 36, which would amend the Constitution to allow Congress to protect the United States flag from acts of physical desecration.

Our flag occupies a truly unique place in the hearts of millions of citizens as a cherished symbol of freedom. As an international emblem of the world’s greatest democracy, the American flag should be treated with respect and care. I do not believe our free speech rights should entitle us to consider the flag as mere “personal property,” which can be treated any way we see fit, including physically desecrating it as a form of political protest.

The American flag is a source of inspiration wherever it is displayed, and a symbol of hope to all nations struggling to build democracies. As a proud member of the House Armed Services Committee, I deeply admire those who have fought and died to preserve our freedoms. These men and women have bravely defended our flag and the fundamental principles for which it stands. They deserve to know that their government treasures the flag and all it represents as much as they do.

For these reasons I, as well as a great number of Americans, believe that our flag should be treated with dignity and deserves protection under the law. I urge my colleagues to join me in protecting one of the most enduring symbols of our nation and our democracy by adopting this resolution today.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002

SPREECH OF
HON. DANNY K. Davis
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, July 24, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2506) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes:

Mr. Davis of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of the Lee-Leach Global HIV/AIDS Amendment to the Foreign Operations Appropriations bill, which decreases the United States’ contribution to the international AIDS trust fund from $100 million to $160 million.

In June 1981, scientists reported the first evidence of a disease that would become known as AIDS. Twenty years later, the AIDS pandemic has spread to every corner of the world. Almost 22 million people have already lost their lives to the disease, and over 36 million people are currently infected with the HIV virus. The numbers are indeed staggering.

Yet, the consequences of the AIDS pandemic extend far beyond the death tolls. The AIDS pandemic is much more than just a health crisis. It is a social crisis, an economic crisis, and a political crisis. AIDS knows no borders, and respects no boundaries.

A world with AIDS is a world in chaos. Imagine growing up without parents, without teachers. Imagine living in a community with no options for work, no options for education, no mentors or civic leaders to help mold the community’s youths into productive members of society. Imagine living in a world where people have no reason to plan for the years ahead, no reason to want to better themselves or improve society. This is the world of AIDS.

As the world’s greatest nation—the nation that is most admired, most respected, and most powerful—we must take a leading role in the fight against AIDS. We must demonstrate to the global community the depth of our compassion, the breadth of our courage, and the strength of our commitment to the greater good. To do otherwise would be irresponsible and unimaginable. Therefore, I wholeheartedly Support the Lee-Leach Global HIV/AIDS Amendment, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

HONORING DAVID AND SUE ANN SMITH

HON. SCOTT McINNIS
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 25, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take time to recognize two individuals, David and Sue Ann Smith. They have shared a life
together for fifty years. These two were married in Gallup, New Mexico on December 28, 1951. This is a special and "golden" occasion, and quite an event in times when marriage doesn’t always endure these long years. It shows great dedication and hard work, exemplifying such values for future generations in their family. As family and friends will gather to celebrate this joyous occasion, I too would like to recognize them for their special time together.

David and Sue Ann have built and shared their life together these fifty years in Meeker, Colorado on the Smith Family Ranch that has been in the family for well over 100 years. It is a Centennial Ranch in Colorado. David and Sue Ann expanded the ranch in the late 1960’s by adding the Barrett ranches and the Ed Sprod Ranch, and the ranch now surrounds the town of Meeker on all four sides.

In addition to the responsibilities of the ranch work, David and Sue Ann both have been heavily involved with their community. Both have been active on numerous Community Boards. David served on the School Board, worked with the Cub Scouts, served on the Planning and Zoning Commission and served as a Rio Blanco County Commissioner. He has been and still is involved with many water issues. He currently serves on the Meeker Town Ditch Committee, the Highland and Yellow Jacket Ditch Groups, and is also a long-standing member of the Colorado River District Board and the Colorado Water Conservancy Board.

Sue Ann has worked as a den mother for the Cub Scouts and has been a leader for various Girl Scout troops. She has also been active with the Colorado West Mental Health Group and many 4-H groups. She is now working with the Safe House Group, the Build a Generation Group, and she started the Walbridge Wing Family Support Group. As you can see, these two individuals have contributed and still contribute many hours of service and dedication to their community.

Their largest contribution has always been to their family where they have raised five children: David W. Smith, Brent A. Smith, Phillip M. Smith, Lori E. McInnis, and Brian E. Smith. They now have eleven grandchildren. Through their work on their ranch and all of their community service, they have provided their children and grandchildren with morals and values for hard work and the giving of oneself to others. The largest gift given is the example set forth through fifty years of a strong and determined love for each other.

David and Sue Ann, congratulations on your fifty years together. We wish you many more great years together.