

I would like to congratulate Huntington, West Virginia residents Deborah Novak and John Witek who have once again created an insightful and provocative documentary that chronicles three of Blenko's most famous and celebrated designers in the era of post-war modernism. Titled "Blenko Retro: Three Designers of American Glass," it is the second of its kind by the Emmy-Award winners to highlight the significance of Blenko as the industry leader in modernity in American glass.

Often said to be reflective of events that were occurring at that time, Blenko Glass was able to offer a new attitude to Americans, bringing the sleek and bold creations into their homes that were parallel to the thirst for modernity and change that swept the nation at the end of the World War II. Novak and Witek highlight the role of this American institution, emphasizing the important and permanent position that Blenko Glass and its designers hold in creative history.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE, LEGACY,  
AND MUSIC OF RUFUS THOMAS

**HON. HAROLD E. FORD, JR.**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2001*

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of one of music's greatest icons, Rufus Thomas, who passed away in Memphis, TN, on December 15, 2001, at the age of 84. As his family and friends mourn his passing, it is appropriate that we pay tribute to him and his legacy.

Rufus Thomas was known as one of Memphis' most colorful, influential, and beloved entertainers during a career that spanned more than seventy years. As a pioneering disc jockey at WDIA, an accomplished recording artist, and a prolific performer throughout his long career, Mr. Thomas made invaluable contributions to Memphis' storied musical heritage.

Rufus Thomas became widely known for songs such as "Walking the Dog," "Do the Funky Chicken," "Can Your Monkey Do the Dog?," "Push and Pull," "Breakdown" and "Do the Funky Penguin." But Mr. Thomas's musical contributions went far beyond commercial success. A true musical pioneer, he opened the door for many young musicians and helped catapult African American music into the limelight as a cornerstone of popular culture and entertainment. Mr. Thomas helped found two historic recording studios, Stax Records and Sun Records, that helped launch the careers of many musical legends, including B. B. King, Otis Redding, Isaac Hayes, and Elvis Presley.

In recognition of his great contributions, Rufus Thomas was honored by the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1998, one of many accolades he received throughout his career. His songs have remained popular since their release and have been re-recorded by groups such as Aerosmith and the Rolling Stones. He was featured as a performer at the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta.

Yet, even with all of his successes, Rufus Thomas remained an integral part of the community—always accessible and willing to per-

form for his many devoted fans. Until he became ill in November of this year, he never spoke of retiring and referred to himself as the "World's Oldest Teenager." He explained, "I ain't old. You don't get old when you're doing what you love and enjoying every minute of it."

Rufus Thomas made a life of doing what he loved and for that he was loved by all who knew him. A true symbol of undying youth and optimism, Mr. Thomas will be remembered for the kind heart and boundless energy that he displayed in all aspects of his life, and for the mark he left on musical history.

Mr. Speaker, it is with profound reverence that we honor Rufus Thomas. He will be missed and remembered fondly by his family and friends, an entire community, and musicians and music lovers everywhere.

TRIBUTE TO THE CARNEY-NADEAU  
WOLVES, MICHIGAN HIGH  
SCHOOL CLASS D GIRLS BASKET-  
BALL CHAMPIONS

**HON. BART STUPAK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2001*

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the girls' basketball team of Carney-Nadeau High School, a Class D school in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan in my congressional district. With only 86 students, Carney-Nadeau is one of the smallest schools in its division, but the Carney-Nadeau Wolves proved once again on December 1 that it only takes a big heart, not a big school, to win a state division championship. I say "once again," Mr. Speaker, because the Wolves won State titles under their same coach, Paul Polfus, in 1989 and 1990.

A team championship can be analyzed in numbers, and any sports fan will plenty of exciting statistics associated with this gusty team, such as their season record of 26-1 and their coach's 410-115 career record. In the 54-32 championship game against McBain Northern Michigan Christian, starter Tara Benson, a senior, led the Wolves with 16 points and snagged six rebounds and six steals, while her sister Carly, a freshman, went seven of eight in her shooting. Starter Brittany Pipkorn hit four 3-pointers.

Peel away those numbers, however, and you will find enough stories of real people to make a movie equal to any classic "underdog" story. You will learn that Coach Paul Polfus, who has worked at Carney-Nadeau for 26 years, was once a basketball player at this same school, coached by the current superintendent Ron Solberg. Inducted into the U.P. Sports Hall of Fame in 1996, Paul celebrates his third girls' championship with his wife Colleen and their sons Jacob, Michael and Matt.

In our own version of "Rocky," look behind the numbers to find 5-foot, 1-inch starter Tracy Hernandez, who vowed after the team's loss in the finals last year that the team would win the title this year. Tracy kept her vow by reporting to the gym every morning at 5:30 to lift weights and work toward that goal.

The story of this championship season is also revealed in the story of the Benson sis-

ters, daughters of Nancy (Janofski) Pugh, a member of the first All-U.P. girls team picked in 1975, and Ed Benson, All-U.P. in 1971 and 1972. Tara credits both parents for their help in shaping her game, but perhaps her greatest accomplishment is a personal one—Tara returned to top-form play this year after sitting out the 2000 season recovering from ACL surgery.

The sacrifice and the hurdles met and overcome by each player are part of the story, as well as the home community itself, Carney. This is a community that has faced great economic adversity, Mr. Speaker, but, like the rest of the Upper Peninsula, hope and optimism are characteristics of its people. And the school proving that education and sports go hand in hand, was honored this week in the Michigan Golden Apple Awards program as one of the state's most improved schools in performance on Michigan Educational Assessment Program tests.

In light of the great challenges facing this team, the championship run of the Carney-Nadeau Wolves caught the attention and fueled the enthusiasm of sports writers in the nearby large communities of Menominee and Escanaba. Tom Kaeser, assistant sports editor for the Menominee, Mich.-Marinette, Wis. EagleHerald, has followed Carney-Nadeau for a decade. He described the 2001 Class D champs as "a team that came together, loved each other and worked hard together for its bright, shining moment." Dennis Grall, Escanaba Daily Press sports editor, summed up the team's season in a Dec. 3 story. "For 11 months the Carney-Nadeau Wolves lived under unbelievably immense expectations and pressure," "Dennis wrote. He was on hand—and described the celebration—when the state champs returned home at the head of a two-mile-long motorcade and were given a police escort and a fireworks display along the final leg of their trip from Escanaba to Carney.

Mr. Speaker, basketball is a team sport, and, as such, every member of the team deserves credit for her contribution during this championship season. I am pleased to share with you the full roster of the 2001 Michigan Class D girls basketball state champion Carney-Nadeau Wolves: Tara and Carly Benson, Cindy Charlier, Rachael Folcik, Trisha Hernandez, Rachel Kuntze, Leslie Linder, Emily Marsicek, Jenna Mellen, Trisha Otradovec, Brittany Pipkorn, Cassandra Relken, Shawn Retaskie, Erin Schetter, and Roseann Schetter.

I ask you, Mr. Speaker, to join me and our House colleagues in recognizing the skill, determination, hard work, optimism, hope, love, and teamwork of the Carney-Nadeau Wolves, Michigan Class D basketball champions.

NEWSPAPER SAYS INDIAN GOV-  
ERNMENT KNEW OF PAR-  
LIAMENT ATTACK

**HON. DAN BURTON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2001*

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, the recent attack on India's Parliament by terrorists must be condemned. While there are