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East Most Improved Player award and she was also voted to the honorable mention all-Big East team.

Junior Ericka Haney served as valuable and versatile starter for the Irish. Haney helped spark the Irish comeback against Connecticut in the semifinal game. Sophomore Alicia Ratay proved to be one of the nation’s top perimeter shooters and she was a candidate for All-American honors. Ratay led the nation in three point shooting percentage and was honored with a third-team all-Big East distinction.

Sophomore reserve players, Amanda Barksdale, Monique Hernandez, and Karen Swanson, and freshmen Jeneka Joyce and LeTanía Severe provided valuable minutes throughout the season. With such young talent, the Irish basketball program has a promising future.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, the 2001 Notre Dame Women’s Basketball Team deserves to be recognized for their Championship caliber play, their tenacity and their exemplary sportsmanship. I am proud and deeply honored to recognize this magnificent achievement. Go Irish!

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. Accordingly (at 12 o’clock and 54 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Reverend Dr. Ronald F. Christian, Lutheran Social Services, Fairfax, Virginia, offered the following prayer:

God of all mercy and grace, look kindly upon all Your people this day in both the celebrations and the sufferings of life. Shield the joyous from pride and relieve the grieving of their sorrow.

Where health of body and mind is in jeopardy, grant a full measure of Your healing and hope. Where conflict and distrust between people are present, provide a quiet and calm refrain in the clamor of their strife. And where hunger and thirst are Your children’s basic needs, challenge all those with an abundance of this world’s possessions the desire to be good stewards and to share with others from their own storehouses of wealth.

Wherever hate outranks love, wherever sadness is more common than joy, wherever retaliation is the first acceptable alternative to mercy, then and there, Oh God, we pray, give to all of Your people a sense of what Your justice for our world might mean, and let Your peace ever rule in our lives. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day’s proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. UNDERWOOD led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

IN MEMORY OF JAKE SINIAWSKI

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHABOT. Madam Speaker, Jim and Carol Siniawski lost their little boy last month. Their son Justin lost his brother. I lost a special friend. It appears to be the fault of the Chinese Air Force. They are not just holding Americans against their will in China. Think about it, China is taking $100 billion a year out of America, buying missiles with our money, pointing them at us, and now they are holding Americans against their will.

What is next, Madam Speaker? Will they return the 24 Americans when they deliver to the Pentagon the black berets they bought for millions and millions of dollars?

Beam me up, Has Uncle Sam become Uncle Sucker here? I yield back the fact that we should investigate the treason, the treason of Janet Reno and those campaign contributions to the Democrat National Committee.

TRIBUTE TO MIKE MARINER

(Mr. FLAKE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to a good friend, Mike Mariner, who passed away last week, and whose funeral service is being held today in Snowflake, Arizona. Each of us will face challenges in life, but few of us will be called to face for a moment what Mike endured for most of a lifetime.

Those who grow up with Mike will remember his good humor, his playful spirit, and fortunately for those of us who often displayed the insensitivity of youth, his boundless ability to forgive and forget.

Those who have kept in touch with Mike over the past several years have been softened, touched, and are inspired by his tireless effort to keep his frail body in step with his keen mind. The world is a better place because Mike lived in it, and we are a better people for having known him.

Mike is now home, and because of the difficult road he has traveled, we can find special meaning in the poet’s phrase “He has slipped the surly bonds of Earth and touched the face of God.” God bless you, Mike.

SINO-AMERICAN RELATIONS

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, China is holding two dozen American citizens who were forced to make an emergency landing after an air collision that appears to be the fault of the Chinese Air Force. They are not just holding American citizens, they are also holding very sensitive American technology.

Causing this collision and holding the plane and its crew are flagrant violations of international agreements China is party to. What other agreements will they violate? It may be
China is saber-rattling to try to keep us from protecting our national interests. Maybe they are trying to keep us from assisting our friends in Taiwan. Perhaps China is testing our new President to see what he is made of.

President Bush should make it clear, we will defend our national interests. We will make sure Taiwan can defend itself. We should sell Taiwan the Aegis cruisers and the Patriot missiles they need to defend themselves.

Madam Speaker, China should not test America. It is in China’s interest to return that plane and its crew to us immediately.

ELIMINATING RED TAPE AND OFFERING FULL HEALTH CARE CHOICES FOR MILITARY DEPENDENTS

(Mr. RYUN of Kansas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Madam Speaker, the dedication of our military spouses is invaluable, and I want to ensure that they are treated right with respect to health care.

Currently, military dependents who use one of the military’s choice-related health plans do so believing that they can choose their doctor. But when they become pregnant, they can be forced to change from a civilian provider to an on-base doctor even for delivery.

It is essential that a woman be comfortable with her doctor for this experience. To force a woman to change doctors at a time as critical as pregnancy is unacceptable.

That is why I am introducing legislation to eliminate burdensome red tape and to put women back in charge of their pregnancy-related health care plans.

If we want to continue to attract the high-quality people for our armed services, the people who defend this country and are defending us now, we must make sure they have all the health care provisions they should be entitled to.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that she will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a record vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 6 p.m. today.

CHESAPEAKE BAY OFFICE OF NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION AUTHORIZATION

Mr. GILCHREST. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 642) to reauthorize the Chesapeake Bay Office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk reads as follows:

H.R. 642

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. CHESAPEAKE BAY OFFICE.

(a) REAUTHORIZATION OF OFFICE.—Section 307 of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Authorization Act of 1992 (15 U.S.C. 1516d) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 307. CHESAPEAKE BAY OFFICE.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—(1) The Secretary of Commerce shall establish, within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, an office to be known as the Chesapeake Bay Office (in this section referred to as the ‘Office’).

''(2) The Office shall be headed by a Director who shall be appointed by the Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with the Chesapeake Executive Council. Any individual appointed as Director shall have knowledge and experience in research or resource management efforts in the Chesapeake Bay.

''(3) The Director may appoint such additional personnel for the Office as the Director determines necessary to carry out this section.

''(b) FUNCTIONS.—The Office, in consultation with the Chesapeake Executive Council, shall—

''(1) provide technical assistance to the Administrator, to other Federal departments and agencies, and to State and local government agencies in—

''(A) assessing the processes that shape the Chesapeake Bay system and affect its living resources;

''(B) identifying technical and management alternatives for the restoration and protection of living resources and the habitats they depend upon; and

''(C) monitoring the implementation and effectiveness of management initiatives.

''(2) develop and implement a strategy for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration that integrates the science, research, monitoring, data collection, regulatory, and management responsibilities of the Secretary of Commerce in such a manner as to assist the cooperative, intergovernmental Chesapeake Bay Program to meet the commitments of the Chesapeake Bay Agreement.

''(3) coordinate the programs and activities of the various organizations within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Chesapeake Bay Regional Sea Grant Programs, and the Chesapeake Bay units of the National Estuarine Research Reserve System, including—

''(A) programs and activities in—

''(i) coastal and estuarine research, monitoring, and assessment;

''(ii) fisheries research and stock assessments;

''(iii) data management;

''(iv) remote sensing;

''(v) coastal management;

''(vi) habitat conservation and restoration; and

''(vii) atmospheric deposition; and

''(B) programs and activities of the Cooperative Oxford Laboratory of the National Ocean Service with respect to—

''(i) nonindigenous species;

''(ii) estuarine and marine species pathology;

''(iii) human pathogens in estuarine and marine environments; and

''(iv) ecosystem health.

''(3) coordinate the activities of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration with the activities of the Environmental Protection Agency and other Federal, State, and local agencies;

''(5) establish an effective mechanism which shall ensure that projects have undergone appropriate peer review and provide other appropriate means to determine that projects have acceptable scientific and technical merit for the purpose of achieving maximum utilization of available funds and resources to benefit the Chesapeake Bay area;

''(6) remain cognizant of ongoing research, monitoring, and management projects and assist in the dissemination of the results and findings of those projects; and

''(7) submit a biennial report to the Congress and the Secretary of Commerce with respect to the activities of the Office and the progress made in protecting and restoring the living resources and habitat of the Chesapeake Bay, which report shall include an action plan consisting of—

''(A) a list of recommended research, monitoring, and data collection activities necessary to continue implementation of the strategy described in paragraph (5); and

''(B) proposals for—

''(i) continuing any new National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration activities in the Chesapeake Bay; and

''(ii) the integration of those activities with the activities of the partners in the Chesapeake Bay Program to meet the commitments of the Chesapeake 2000 agreement and subsequent agreements.

''(c) CHESAPEAKE BAY FISHERY AND HABITAT RESTORATION SMALL WATERSHED GRANTS PROGRAM.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Chesapeake Bay Office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (in this section referred to as the ‘Director’), in cooperation with the Chesapeake Executive Council, shall carry out a community-based fishery and the protection small grants and technical assistance program in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

''(2) PROJECTS.—

''(A) Subsection.—The Director shall make grants under this subsection to pay the Federal share of the cost of projects that are carried out by entities eligible under paragraph (3) for the restoration of fisheries and habitats in the Chesapeake Bay.

''(B) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share under subparagraph (A) shall not exceed 75 percent.

''(c) TYPES OF PROJECTS.—Projects for which grants may be made under this subsection include—

''(i) the improvement of fish passageways;

''(ii) the creation of natural or artificial reefs or substrata for habitats;

''(iii) the restoration of wetland or sea grass;

''(iv) the production of oysters for restoration projects; and

''(c) the prevention, identification, and control of nonindigenous species.

''(3) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—The following entities are eligible to receive grants under this subsection:

''(A) The government of a political subdivision of a State in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, and government of the District of Columbia.

''(B) An organization in the Chesapeake Bay watershed (such as an educational institution or a community organization) that is described in section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of that Code; and

''(i) that will administer such grants in coordination with a government referred to in subparagraph (A).