

administrators and the staff of Dunedin High School for doing a fantastic job of raising and encouraging these exceptional student-athletes. Following my remarks, I will include for my colleagues the full story of Dunedin's Baseball Championship as reported by The St. Petersburg Times.

Madam Speaker, in closing, please join me in congratulating the Dunedin High School Falcons for their outstanding achievement in winning the Florida State Baseball Championship.

[From the St. Petersburg Times, May 15, 2008]

**LONG WAIT IS OVER: DUNEDIN WINS TITLE**

SARASOTA—It began the moment the ball disappeared into Cammeron Fisher's glove. Seconds later, a swarm of triumphant Dunedin players rushed toward the mound to celebrate a 3-2 victory and the school's first state baseball title in 44 years.

"This is something you dream about," Fisher said. "To make the final out is unbelievable, especially going through so many ups and downs in a game like this."

There already were lingering memories—of the heart-wrenching moments in the seventh inning, of the nail-biting rally in extra innings, of a game snatched from defeat—that the players swore they never doubted.

The winning run scored in the top of the 10th inning when Max Kreuter singled in Max Priest against Stuart South Fork. The two played the longest championship game since 1997.

"It was a little nerve-racking, but we have so many bats in this lineup that we knew we had a chance," Kreuter said.

But this game was won with defense and pitching.

The Falcons had a two-run lead then watched it disappear when the Bulldogs scored a run each in the third and fifth innings to tie it.

In the seventh, South Fork (27-6) had runners on first and third with no outs. The Falcons walked the next runner to load the bases.

At that point, Dunedin was desperate to win—and keep its state title hopes from vanishing.

"We were on the edge of our seats at that point," Dunedin coach Tom Hilbert said. "Our backs were against the wall. But we were able to maintain our composure."

Slowly, the Falcons (26-6) found a way to wiggle out of the jam.

Alex Norris, who came on in relief of Clay Kollenbaum, got the first and only batter he faced to ground out.

Jake Rogers came in next and got the next two batters to strike out and fly out.

"It was just incredible to come out of that the way we did," Rogers said. "I had so much adrenaline going."

Beneath the noise, tension and pressure, Rogers emerged more as a survivor than a closer.

With so much at stake, Rogers knew he couldn't afford to make mistakes. He escaped unharmed, throwing 3½ innings after pitching just three before Thursday's appearance.

"Jake was just phenomenal," Hilbert said. "It was a real gutsy performance."

It remained scoreless through the next three innings.

Then the Falcons, after squandering so many chances, made something happen in the 10th. Priest led off the inning by drawing a walk, then moved to second on a sacrifice bunt by Mike Kumbat and advanced to third on a wild pitch. Priest scored on Kreuter's single.

Rogers then finished things off. The moment Fisher caught the ball, Rogers sprang off the mound, shook his fist, twirled in a crazy leap and came down to earth knowing he would be able to sleep.

"I think all of us are going to pass out on the bus on the ride home," Rogers said. "It was such a draining game, so full of emotions."

"But it was so worth it to win like this."

**TRIBUTE TO COLONEL CHRISTINE ROLAND**

**HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2008*

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Christine Roland, recently awarded the title of 2007-2008 Harford County Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Roland has been a teacher with Harford County Public Schools for five years, teaching Biology and Forensic Science at Edgewood High School.

Born and raised in Switzerland, Mrs. Roland earned a degree in advertising and public relations and became fluent in three languages before she moved to the United States. She has since earned a bachelor's degree in Biology from Towson University, a Certification in Education, and is currently working on her master's degree in Biology.

Thanks to her unique background and teaching style, her bright, inviting classroom and original lessons keep her students active and engaged in the classroom. Using her background in advertising, Mrs. Roland packages her lessons and activities in an appealing and creative way. Her enthusiastic teachings inspire and motivate her students to put effort into their work and truly absorb the class material.

Mrs. Roland goes the extra mile when it comes to helping her students succeed. Appreciating that biology can be a difficult subject, Mrs. Roland acknowledges all student achievement. She evaluates student understanding and provides immediate feedback. Her students know that she will not move on until there is a basic understanding of every concept. The projects and activities she assigns are challenging and diverse so every student can feel a sense of accomplishment. Mrs. Roland makes herself available to students and parents before and after school, as well as through e-mail in the evenings should a student need assistance with an assignment.

Mrs. Roland is eager to attend relevant conferences and meetings to enhance her professional development. She plays a major role on the Technology Steering Committee and is actively involved in the curriculum writing for many subjects. She initiated a new course in forensic science for Harford County, received approval and wrote the entire curriculum. The course is now part of the county curriculum and she is working on staff development for the teachers.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Christine Roland in her acceptance of the 2007-2008 Harford County Teach-

er of the Year Award. Her legacy as a dedicated, enthusiastic teacher will be forever remembered by the appreciative students who walk through her classroom doors. It is with great pride that I congratulate Christine Roland on her exemplary career in education and her outstanding performance at Edgewood High School in Harford County.

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

**HON. JERRY WELLER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2008*

Mr. WELLER of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to enter into the RECORD votes I would have cast had I been present for rollcall votes 388 through 390. I was absent on Monday, June 9th, due to flight delays caused by severe weather.

If I were present I would have voted, "yea" on rollcall vote 388, "yea" on rollcall vote 389, and "yea" on rollcall vote 390.

**CELEBRATING HOW STANLEY MICHELS GAVE NORTHERN MANHATTAN A POWERFUL VOICE IN CITY POLITICS**

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2008*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a champion of environmental health and a stellar legislator, Stanley Michels, a 24-year New York City Council member whose birthday we honor today. Three decades ago, he set for himself an ambitious task: to render visible the invisible, to—as he put it—"convince City Hall that there is life in Manhattan above 96th Street." A lifelong resident of northern Manhattan, he felt it imperative that he and his neighbors in West Harlem, in Washington Heights, in Inwood, in Morningside Heights, in Central Harlem, be given a voice. After an illustrious career on the Council, it's safe to say he has succeeded, and then some. The litany of legislative achievement attached to his name speaks to his political and personal philosophies: Prioritize the quality of life of everyday people. Hold steadfast to the guiding principles of fairness and pragmatism. And always, always stand by those who need most defending.

An environmentalist at heart whose driving motivation was consistently the health and well-being of his constituency, Michels led the charge for cleaner air and the protection of the area's water supply. He advanced a precedent-setting law aiming to protect children from lead poisoning in apartments. He spearheaded an expansion of the city's recycling and waste-reduction programs, requiring the weekly collection of recyclables and granting the Council the power to approve the city's Solid Waste Management Plan. He railed against smoking and excessive noise in public places, limiting both in his time on the Council.

Two short months after the attacks of Sept. 11, he held the first public hearings on air

quality and the environmental impact of the World Trade Center collapse. For nearly a decade, he chaired the Committee on Environmental Protection, early in his tenure bringing together at-odds parties in the battle over the city's watershed and succeeded in creating the dialogue that led to the Watershed Memorandum of Agreement, still effectively safeguarding the city's water-supply system today. A master of both policy and relationships, he is as good at legislating as he is at bringing people together.

He fought then—and continues to fight—for the little guy. He required that there be public hearings before annual increases to rent-stabilized apartments. He was the motivating force behind a provision that exempted seniors from certain rent increases. He closed loopholes in the deregulation of apartments, allowed the city to foreclose on individual properties in tax arrears, and eliminated the parking garage surtax for Manhattan residents.

For a quarter of a century, he served tirelessly for the public. His home—too often forgotten, overlooked, disregarded—had finally a voice in city government. And what a powerful and distinct voice he gave them. He optimistically noted that his tenure sent the city a clear message: that “no city agency can ignore us” ever again.

A TRIBUTE TO THE CHILDREN'S  
HOSPITAL OF PHILADELPHIA

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2008*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a great Philadelphia institution and a staple in our community, The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia has always held itself to the highest standard of care. This month, they have been recognized for their excellence as they were rated as the best over all children's hospital in America in a U.S. News & World Report exclusive annual ranking, receiving this honor for the sixth year in a row.

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia was founded in 1855 and was the first hospital devoted solely to the care of children. Today it houses 430 beds and treats more than one million patients a year. Children's Hospital of Philadelphia specializes in cancer, digestive disorders, heart and heart surgery, neonatal care, neurology and neurosurgery and respiratory disorders. While coming in first for overall general practices, the hospital also ranked in the top three in the country in each of these individual categories.

Since it was established the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia has been concentrated on caring for the families of patients as well as the patients themselves. Now they have programs where parents teach the physicians what it is like to care for a child with a specific disease, because they have the best knowledge of this. The Children's Hospital also encourages families to stay with their children at all times, making the treatment more bearable for the children and their families.

Madam Speaker, The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia is a key institution in Philadelphia and I congratulate them on this honor and thank them for their dedication to excellence and their service to our community.

THE DAILY 45: MIGUEL CELIS

**HON. BOBBY L. RUSH**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2008*

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, every day, 45 people, on average, are fatally shot in the United States. Young lives are being cut short because of gun violence and families on both sides of the gun are dramatically affected.

Last week, authorities charged Edgar Ceasar Diaz, 15, of Waukegan, Illinois with six counts of first-degree murder that, if convicted, could land him in jail for the remainder of his life. His family is in pain over what their son is charged with.

Diaz is accused of the April 25 shooting death of 18-year-old Miguel Celis also of Waukegan. Celis died of a gunshot wound to the chest fired from a .38-caliber handgun that was recovered from Diaz, according to reports. His family is in mourning.

Americans of conscience must come together to stop the senseless death of “The Daily 45.” When will Americans say “enough is enough, stop the killing!”

RECOGNITION OF RICHARD M.  
KNAPP, PH.D.

**HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2008*

Mr. WAXMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the contributions of Richard M. Knapp, Ph.D., who is retiring as Executive Vice President of the Association of American Medical Colleges, AAMC, after 40 years of service to the Nation on behalf of medical schools and teaching hospitals.

As the senior policy advisor to the AAMC, Dr. Knapp has provided leadership on a wide range of health policy matters, particularly regarding the delivery of hospital and medical services where medical education simultaneously occurs and research brings advances.

Dr. Knapp joined the AAMC in 1968 after earning a bachelor of arts degree from Marietta College, in Marietta, Ohio, and a Ph.D. in hospital and health administration from the University of Iowa.

He has consistently been a fair and thoughtful advocate for the Nation's teaching hospitals and medical schools, and his knowledge and integrity are widely recognized and appreciated.

Dr. Knapp's service to the health community includes his tenure on the Board of Trustees of the Inova Health System in Fairfax County, Virginia, from 1983–2005, where he served as chair from 1999–2003. He is a past chairman of the National Association for Biomedical Research and has held the offices of secretary

and treasurer in the Federation of Associations of Schools of the Health Professions. He also served on the Advisory Board for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellowships.

Before becoming executive vice president of the AAMC, Dr. Knapp served the organization as senior vice president, director of the Department of Teaching Hospitals, director of the Division of Teaching Hospitals, and director of a teaching hospital project.

His contributions to health care policy have been recognized by his election to the Institute of Medicine.

I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Dr. Knapp and his family every success and happiness in the next phase of his life.

THE PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS  
PROTECTION AND GOVERNMENT  
ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

**HON. JOHN SULLIVAN**

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2008*

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce H.R. 6219, the Private Property Rights Protection and Government Accountability Act of 2008.

Previously, the U.S. Constitution specifically limited government taking of private property through a relatively narrow exception for “public use.” Public use has historically referred to roads, schools, firehouses, etc. You may remember the infamous 2005 Supreme Court decision, *Kelo v. City of New London*, where the court broadened the government's ability to take your home, farm, business or place of worship. The negative affects of this far reaching Supreme Court decision places millions of private property owners nationwide at risk.

Some States are trying to correct this injustice and have enacted restrictions on the use of eminent domain (in this case, is when the government seizes private property), with varied effectiveness. However, Congress has not taken action to restore private property rights and the abusive use of eminent domain has continued.

That is why I am introducing the Private Property Rights Protection and Government Accountability Act of 2008, along with the House Energy and Commerce Committee Ranking Member JOE BARTON. This legislation will restrict certain federal economic development funds for 10 years to any state or locality in which eminent domain is used to take private property for a private purpose. It will also allow private property owners the legal recourse they deserve to fight baseless private property takings by State and local governments.

Examples of eminent domain abuse can be seen across Oklahoma, from Oklahoma City to Muskogee, and across this country.

No family, business operator or place of worship is safe if the government decides that their property does not measure up, and that “public purpose” would be better served if it were torn down and replaced by something bigger, glitzier and more taxable. I encourage all my colleagues to support this important legislation.