

CONGRATULATING THE LADY SEA WARRIORS OF HAWAII PACIFIC UNIVERSITY ON WINNING THE NCAA DIVISION II SOFTBALL WORLD SERIES

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 10, 2010

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Lady Sea Warriors of Hawaii Pacific University for winning their first NCAA Division II Softball World Series title. On May 31, 2010, the Lady Sea Warriors scored four runs in the fifth inning and held off Valdosta State to win the title game by a score of 4-3.

I take great pride in extending my congratulations to players Chante Tesoro, Kozy Toriano, Erin Fujita, Melissa Awa, Malia Killam, Chelsea Luckey, Ashley Valine, Ciera Senas, Breanne Patton, Pomaikai Kalakau, Casey Sugihara, Maile Kim, Ashley Fernandez, Nicole Morrow, Sherise Musquiz, Laine Shikuma, Celina Garces, and Caira Pires, many of whom hail from Hawaii's second congressional district. The hard work, perseverance, and outstanding performance of these young women led to a 50-8 season, the most successful season in their program's history.

I would like to extend special congratulations to Ms. Musquiz, who pitched every inning of the NCAA Division II tournament and amassed a 4-0 record, earning her Most Outstanding Player honors.

I would also like to commend head coach Bryan Nakasone and assistant coaches Howard Okita, Roger Javillo, Jon Correles, and Richard Nomura for their superb leadership throughout the Lady Sea Warriors' historic season.

This has been a great year for Hawaii softball, and the Lady Sea Warriors' victory on a national stage has generated much pride back home. I congratulate the Lady Sea Warriors on their outstanding season and wish the program continued success.

A BILL TO AMEND TITLE 38, U.S.C., TO PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO THE IMMUNIZATION OF VETERANS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 10, 2010

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, today, I am introducing the "Access to Appropriate Immunizations for Veterans Act of 2010" which I believe would help advance the goal we all share of promoting lifelong health for the men and women who fought for our freedom.

While the Department of Veterans Affairs, VA, health care system is doing an admirable job of caring for those who bore the burden of combat, continual reform is needed to ensure the care veterans receive represents the most up-to-date practices and procedures.

According to statistics from the Centers for Disease Control, CDC, each year approximately 70,000 adult Americans die from vaccine-preventable diseases. Influenza alone is responsible for over one million ambulatory care visits, 200,000 hospitalizations and 30,000 deaths.

Many of our veterans who are in the "high-risk" category of contracting vaccine-preventable diseases—including those with HIV, Hepatitis C, and substance use disorder—are enrolled in the VA health care system and could particularly benefit from receiving vaccinations.

Commendably, the VA has protocols in place that recommend vaccines as protection against deadly viruses. However, VA only has established performance measures for two vaccines making it unclear if protocols are being routinely enforced for all CDC recommended vaccines.

The tremendous value performance measures have regarding the increased utilization and effectiveness of vaccination distribution is evidenced by VA's own application of performance measures for the influenza and pneumococcal vaccinations. When these performance measures were initially applied, VA saw vaccination rates rise respectively from 27 percent and 26 percent to 77 percent and 80 percent. It also resulted in a 50 percent decline in pneumonia hospitalization rates.

The legislation I am introducing today would expand VA performance measures to cover all vaccinations recommended by the VA and CDC and ensure that veterans receive appropriate immunizations at the time suggested by the CDC. It would also require VA to report to Congress on their progress in supporting vaccinations in the veteran population.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join with me in cosponsoring the Access to Appropriate Immunizations for Veterans Act of 2010. This legislation would ensure that our veterans are receiving timely and suitable access to vaccines and prevent those under the care of the VA from being unnecessarily exposed to vaccine preventable diseases.

NORTH DAVIDSON WINS SOFTBALL TITLE WITH PERFECT SEASON

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 10, 2010

Mr. COBLE. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we wish to extend our congratulations to the North Davidson softball team for its perfect season culminated by winning the North Carolina High School Athletic Association's 4-A state softball championship. North Davidson finished as the runner-up 3 out of the last 4 years, but this year they were able to win it all. The championship game concluded the Black Knight's 32-game perfect season.

As a result of the tremendous athleticism of the players, the outstanding direction of coach Mike Lambros, and the unyielding support of the community, the Black Knights had all the components necessary to clinch the State title. Furthermore, this was a particularly special season for coach Lambros who celebrated his

first championship after having coached the Black Knights for 30 years.

The Black Knight's star pitcher Hannah Alexander won most valuable player honors for her tremendous contribution to her team's success. She only allowed two runs during the entire playoffs. This championship game required tremendous amounts of teamwork and determination.

The championship team members included: Amelia Griffin, Allie Nicholson, Paige Wall, Kathy Choplin, Tess Swing, Nichole Tuttle, Jessica Plemmons, Shaundee Woosley, Lauren Grooms, Jordan Clodfelter, Lindy Yount, Hannah Alexander, Morgan Koontz, Tori Hedrick, Courtney Walker, Maggie McDowell, Mackenzie Hauser, Robyn Stanek, Missy Hunt, Eliza Davis, Kayla Harrell, Lauren Beaver, Katie Vick, Samantha Honeycutt, Lauren Mc Nerney. Assisting head coach Mike Lambros on his championship run were Lamar Powell, Billy Gerald, Thomas Vick, Ronnie Plemmons, Jason Martin, Keith Stanek, Ben Lookabill, Blythe Craver, Kendra Israel, Jerry Smith, Jason Israel, Jeff Pace, Charlie Nicholson, and Tim Martin.

Again, on behalf of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we would like to congratulate the North Davidson softball team, the faculty, staff, students and fans for an outstanding season.

TRIBUTE TO LATE TOM LARDNER

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 10, 2010

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, it is with great sorrow that I recognize the life and passing of Tom Lardner. I have known this accomplished person for a long time. He was a visionary who was not afraid to take risks. We have lost a great businessman, an exceptional husband and terrific father.

Tom Lardner, born in Port Huron, Michigan earned his bachelor's degree in business from Michigan State University. Mr. Lardner earned a master's degree in education from Michigan State. Before beginning his real estate career he was a coach at St. Gabriel High School football team in East Lansing, Michigan where he also served as a history teacher.

While running his real estate investment firm, Lehdorff USA, in Chicago he spotted the potential of the area just north of the central business district in Dallas, Texas. Eager to map out his plans he moved to Dallas. He then saw his dream transforming into reality after years of hard work with the construction of a luxury apartment building, which would be the earliest of many.

Lardner purchased a large amount of the land surrounded by McKinney Avenue, Pearl Street, Woodall Rodgers Freeway and North Central Expressway for development. He also worked alongside city officials to establish a tax increment financing district that would pay for street improvements as well as other infrastructure improvements.

Although Lardner was known for his keen eye in real estate with the development of the