

Sydney Hyden, Kelsey Hoover, Victoria Hunt, and Sloan King, and freshmen Dee Chriscoe, Paige Parrish, Brooke Hayes, Kaylee King, and Hayleigh Clapp.

Also assisting the team during this outstanding 30–1 season were assistant coaches Bobby Berry, Robert Hayes, Wendal Seawell, and Angela Hoover.

Again, on behalf of the Sixth District, we would like to congratulate Principal Dr. Chris Vecchione, Athletic Director Randy Key, Head Coach Steve Taylor, and all who contributed to this outstanding season. Congratulations to Southwestern Randolph High School on a spectacular season and for winning the North Carolina 3A state championship.

A TRIBUTE IN REMEMBRANCE OF
DR. DANIEL C. UDOJI

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Daniel C. Udoji, a self-employed medical provider in Brooklyn.

Dr. Udoji was born in Egbu-Owerri, Eastern Nigeria to Chief Benjamin and Mrs. Dorothy Udoji and lived there until 1954. Dr. Udoji left Nigeria for London in 1957 for further education at University College Ibadan and graduated with a M.B./B.S. in 1964.

During the Nigerian-Biafra Civil War, from 1967 to 1970, Dr. Udoji provided medical and surgical services to refugees and displaced persons. After his commendable medical assistance during the Nigerian-Biafra Civil War, Dr. Udoji proceeded to the United Kingdom for postgraduate Medical Studies at Postgraduate Medical School in Scotland and University Hospital of Wales in Wales. After completion of his studies, Dr. Udoji travelled to the United States to complete his residency at V.A. Hospital and Downstate Medical Center and at Long Island Jewish Medical Center & Queens Hospital.

Following his residency, Dr. Udoji worked as an internist at V.A. Medical Center in Brooklyn from 1978 to 1986. From 1988 to 1992, Dr. Udoji provided medical services to senior citizens at the Senior Citizen Center on Bergen Street in Brooklyn. Dr. Udoji has been providing medical services to the homeless population in Brooklyn since 1989 at the Salvation Army under the auspices of Catholic Charities. Dr. Udoji has over forty years of experience and continues to work in the Brooklyn area.

Dr. Udoji is married to Obiageli with whom he has five grown children and two grandchildren. His hobbies include gardening and photography.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Daniel C. Udoji.

CONGRATULATING RALPH CROSBY
FOR BEING NAMED BOSS OF THE
YEAR

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise today to

honor Ralph Crosby for being named “Boss of the Year” for 2009 by the Top-Side Aviation Club. The “Boss of the Year” is one of the club’s most prestigious honors, and Ralph is most deserving of this award in recognition of his tireless efforts on behalf of EADS North America. He is one of those rare, one-in-a-million type of individuals whom, I am fortunate to know and call my friend.

Throughout his entire life, Ralph’s work ethic, his love of family, country, and God have all contributed to his success and to receiving this prestigious award.

A native of Greenville, South Carolina, Ralph was appointed to West Point by Senator Strom Thurmond. He graduated first in his class in engineering and was in the top 2 percent of his overall class. He went on to earn two Master’s degrees, one from the acclaimed JFK School of Government at Harvard University, where he graduated with a perfect 4.0, and the other, where he achieved the highest academic mark ever recorded at the time from the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva.

After graduating from West Point, Ralph had a distinguished military career where he was selected as Officer of the Year of the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment and served tours in Germany, Vietnam and the United States. During his last military assignment, he served as the military staff assistant to Vice President Walter Mondale.

In 1981, Ralph resigned his commission as major in the U.S. Army and joined Northrop Grumman where he enjoyed a 21-year career and rapidly rose up the company ladder. He was among the youngest vice presidents ever appointed in the company’s 60 year history, and he ran the B-2 program—arguably one of the most important assets in our nation’s strategic arsenal.

On September 1, 2002, Ralph assumed leadership of EADS North America, one of the world’s largest aerospace and defense companies. As chairman and chief executive officer, he has been directly responsible for the company’s activities—and substantial growth—in the United States over the last seven years.

He established a significant aerospace presence in neighboring Mississippi where EADS North America produces the Light Utility Helicopter for the U.S. Army. All have been delivered on schedule and under budget. EADS has become a major employer across the United States supporting more than 190,000 jobs in 17 states and contributing over \$9 billion to the U.S. economy annually.

Alabama—and certainly the city of Mobile—has developed a close relationship with Ralph and EADS over the past several years. Under Ralph’s leadership, EADS selected Brookley Air Field in Mobile as the home for its U.S. production facility for the next-generation aerial refueling tanker. EADS also partnered with Northrop Grumman to launch a joint bid to provide America’s warfighters with the very best equipment, technology, and training to do their jobs and complete their missions.

In recognition of his impressive career and many accomplishments, Ralph was Aviation Week and Space Technology magazine’s runner-up for Person of the Year last year.

Madam Speaker, I would like to offer my personal congratulations to Ralph Crosby for being named the Boss of the Year for 2009 and, in so doing, recognize him for his many outstanding accomplishments.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating a dedicated professional and friend. I know his family—his wife, Mary Grace; their children, Ralph and Laura Grace; and their beautiful grandchildren—as well as his many friends and colleagues join me in praising his accomplishments and extending thanks for his many efforts over the years.

HONORING ALEX ADAMEK

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Alex Adamek, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 351, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Alex has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Alex has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Alex Adamek for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

FOREIGN RELATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEARS 2010 AND 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 2410) to authorize appropriations for the Department of State and the Peace Corps for fiscal years 2010 and 2011, to modernize the Foreign Service, and for other purposes:

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Chair, H.R. 2410, the Foreign Affairs Authorization, has several laudable provisions that would improve our national security and our country’s standing in the world. But it includes language that grants Congressional endorsement of preemptive war against Iran.

The provision in question says “It is the sense of Congress that Israel has the inalienable right to defend itself in the face of an imminent nuclear or military threat from Iran . . .” Among the lessons that should have been learned from the war in Iraq is that preemptive war based on an imminent threat (real or perceived) is a violation of recognized rights under international law and undermines a nation’s standing in the international community. Rather than recognizing Israel’s right to self defense against an imminent attack, a right recognized by international law, this bill contains language that supports preemptive war against a threat. A war with Iran is not in Israel’s best interest, it is not in the United States best interest, and it is not in the world’s

best interest. The provision undermines the establishment of peace in the Middle East.

I do not make the decision to oppose the full legislation lightly. It has important provisions. The additional resources authorized by this bill are necessary to make up for a history of drastic underfunding and inattention to diplomacy. This bill highlights our commitment to a new diplomatic strategy as our nation strives to heal the wounds between our country and the world.

It authorizes additional funding to train and deploy 1,500 additional Foreign Service Officers. It commits \$1.8 billion for fiscal year 2010, as well as the necessary funds in 2011 to fulfill our assessed contributions to international organizations such as the United Nations. The bill will create an additional 25 positions at the Department of State for arms control and nonproliferation. Creation of the Rotation Program will help to strengthen inter-agency cooperation toward nuclear abolition.

The bill requires that the State Department investigate the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and the atrocities associated with an occupation that compromises the health and dignity of the Palestinian people. I am hopeful that the report will allow the U.S. to credibly claim a commitment to engage in a more even handed and diplomacy oriented foreign policy.

I do not agree with inclusion of Section 822 of the bill, which reduces the number of Congressional notifications about arms transfers between the U.S. government and the governments of other nations. For example, a Congressional notification is currently required for the transfer of major defense equipment sales valued at \$14 million or more. With enactment of this section, the threshold will be raised to \$25 million or greater. As such, the trigger for Congressional review will happen less often.

Furthermore, I oppose the increased funding levels for the Merida Initiative and expansion of this flawed program to the Caribbean countries. Time and again, research has demonstrated that illicit drug production in developing countries stems from pervasive rural poverty and lack of sustainable sources of income. More money for guns and other tools of destruction will do nothing to ease the suffering of those struggling with addiction or alleviate the social problems that compel people to produce and/or traffic drugs.

This body must take measurable actions to replace policies of aggression with policies of dialogue, adherence to international law and an unwavering dedication to the protection of human rights. By including the provision that paves the way for preemptive war against Iran, this bill continues the failed policies of the previous administration. Therefore, I could not vote for it.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall #335 on the final passage of H.R. 1234, I am not recorded. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

HIGH POTENCY MARIJUANA SENTENCING ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2009

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, popular culture often romanticizes casual marijuana use, and those who warn that marijuana is a "gateway drug" that can lead to use of other, harder drugs are ridiculed as being out of the mainstream. The reality is that marijuana today is vastly different than the marijuana that was prevalent in the '60s. According to the National Drug Intelligence Center, the average THC content of seized marijuana was less than 4 percent in the early 1990s. By 2007 that level rose to nearly 10 percent.

Local police in my district are now reporting a new threat from "Kush," street slang for a strain of highly potent marijuana with a THC content of at least 20 percent. The rise of Kush mirrors the increasing trend of high-THC marijuana, which has become more accessible with the rise of hydroponics. Drug growers are able to strictly control light, temperature and humidity and can cross-breed to maximize THC content. According to the Drug Enforcement Administration, Kush has been known to sell for as high as \$600 per ounce—creating the same profit potential as crack cocaine.

Today I am introducing legislation to bring federal penalties for trafficking high-potency marijuana in line with penalties for cocaine, heroin, and hashish, all of which have similar retail prices on the street. The gangs and cartels trafficking Kush are the same trafficking cocaine and heroin, and the profits they realize represent an equal danger to the public. In my view, the penalties for trafficking this dangerous drug should also be equalized.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 2346, SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, I voted against the motion. One of my concerns about the Supplemental as passed by the Senate is the fact that it contains funding for the International Monetary Fund without language designed to ensure that the IMF provide no assistance to countries that support terrorism, raise proliferation concerns, or are major human rights abusers, most notably Iran. Proponents of the motion mentioned their objections to the IMF funding; some raised similar concerns that the IMF could assist some of the worst regimes. However, a close reading of the motion reveals that conferees could implement the instructions without any cut to IMF funding and without adding any preconditions that the IMF would have to meet before obtaining \$109 billion. Given the political realities, I believe that this is the direction the conferees would take to implement these instructions in the event they did not ignore them altogether. Thus this motion does not instruct

conferees to do anything at all to IMF funding and, if implemented will lead to cuts to worthy domestic and international accounts. For these reasons, I could not support the motion.

HONORING SANDY REMPE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise today to recognize Sandy Rempe of the Missouri Department of Public Safety. Her direction of the Juvenile Justice Program and the dedication and compassion she has for today's youth is to be commended. Due to her exemplary leadership, she has earned the prestigious Tony Gobar Award, an honor that recognizes excellence in the field of juvenile justice.

Ms. Rempe has worked as the manager of the Department of Public Safety's Juvenile Justice Program for twelve years. Under her leadership, the program distributes federal grants that provide funding to sixty state and local agencies in Missouri to help support juvenile justice and delinquency prevention initiatives. Additionally, grant funds are utilized for training on juvenile justice, system improvements, and intervention programs. Ms. Rempe also serves on many groups, committees and commissions including the Mental Health Transformation Leadership Work Group and the Drug Court Commission.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Sandy Rempe for this prestigious accomplishment with the Missouri Department of Public Safety and for her tireless efforts in helping Missouri's youth.

IN HONOR OF ELLEN PSENICKA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Ellen Psenicka, whose forty-year tenure as reporter, editor and publisher of the award-winning Neighborhood News, continues to enlighten, entertain and unite Cleveland's southeast community every Wednesday, highlighting current events along our city streets—from the neighborhoods of Slavic Village, to the streets of Garfield Heights, to the steps of Cleveland City Hall.

Ellen grew up in Sandusky, Ohio and went on to attend Ohio University, where she earned a Bachelor's degree in Journalism. Shortly following graduation, in June, 1969, Ellen was hired as a reporter by Jim Psenicka, publisher of the Neighborhood News. A few years later, Jim and Ellen were married, and they worked in dedication to each other, to the newspaper and to the community until Jim's passing in 2001. At that time, Ellen accepted the torch of leadership passed to her by Jim, and she continues to carry on his legacy of excellence in journalism, and his commitment to the Greater Cleveland Community.

Ellen's spirit of volunteerism and focus on the betterment of the community is evident