

abuse and to include teaching criminals, through their arrest, conviction and imprisonment, that we do not want drugs sold to our children.

I am very proud of the people of Whitley County and their effort to protect our children from the destructive forces of illegal drugs. I would also like to thank the superintendent of schools, Lonnie Anderson, for his dedication to this campaign. Furthermore, I would like to thank the drug-free schools coordinator, Cathy Stout, for her hard work on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, America's future is seriously jeopardized by illegal drug use. Winning this battle is essential to make our Nation a better place. The citizens of Whitley County have set a strong example for the rest of us to follow and I commend them for their hard work to protect their community.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF
JACKIE ROBINSON

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 1997

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, as a lifelong Dodger fan, it gives me extreme pleasure to pay tribute to one of America's great heroes, Jackie Robinson.

Jackie Robinson demonstrated amazing athletic ability as a young man. We all know of his greatness on the baseball field, but what many forget is that while he was a student at UCLA, Robinson lettered in four sports; football, basketball, track, and, or course, baseball. Ironically, it is widely believed that baseball was actually his weakest sport.

Robinson made significant contributions to America's pastime as a ball player. But more lasting than those are his contributions to our Nation by the man he was both on and off the field. This young ball player challenged America's preconceptions about African-Americans and helped break the stereotypes of inferiority which were pervasive in white America 50 years ago.

In the April 15, 1997, edition of the Washington Post, Michael Wilbon describes a historic bridge between Jackie Robinson and Tiger Woods and goes on to say that, "this isn't just about sports, however, the venue is sports, and, as is often the case, sports is the earliest setting for significant social change."

The most radical thing Robinson may have ever done was simply walk out onto the field. Because the moment he stepped onto Ebbets Field, he was on equal footing with his teammates and his opponents. The rules of segregated America no longer applied and America got just a glimpse of equality—an equality we haven't yet reached. But the athletic field is ultimately one of the few places—like the battlefield—where one's talents and abilities cannot be mitigated. They can keep you from playing—as people afraid of equality will try. But once you get on the field, equality and all its blessings begin to manifest themselves. Once Jackie took the field, there was no turning back. It was not because there weren't those who tried to turn back, it was not because everyone wanted to move forward, but it was because of Jackie's unshakable faith in equality and his incredible athletic ability that moved us all forward.

And all of us moved forward 50 years ago when Jackie put on his cleats—all of us, white and black, those of us who are neither, and most especially those of us who weren't even born yet.

It is for this reason that I am concerned that today's America, despite some social progress and despite the great interest in sports as a venue for social advancement as well as entertainment, does not fully appreciate his efforts. It is striking that so many young people do not fully appreciate the legacy of Jackie Robinson, not for the generation that endured that time in America's history, but for today's generation and for generations yet to come.

His unique combination of courage, grace, intelligence, athletic ability and tenacity marks Jackie Robinson as a great human being. He turned his cleats into weapons for social change as well as stealing bases. He used his bat for justice as well as base hits. He used his glove not just to catch baseballs—or even catch hell, which he certainly did—but as a way to turn the hard heads of bigotry into respectful, even admiring minds. It reminds me of the smoothness of turning a hard grounder into a quick but graceful double play.

I thank you Jackie Robinson for making baseball the great game that it is. But I thank you more for helping America challenge itself to be a greater nation and to be true to its promise for democracy and opportunity for all.

We are all part of the great American project to perfect democracy for each and every generation. It is clear that Jackie Robinson did more than his share. In fact, he carried the load of an entire generation.

TRIBUTE TO ABEL SCHRADER

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 1997

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend a young man who exemplifies the hard work and dedication of the people of the 20th District of Illinois. This individual has worked extremely hard for the past 3 years in order to earn himself a spot among the best Class A basketball players in the best basketball State in America.

This young man is Abel Schrader, of Okawville, IL. Mr. Speaker, Abel has demonstrated the all-around ability, leadership, and attitude it takes to lead the Okawville Rockets to 20 wins and only 5 losses this past season.

As a 3-year starter on the varsity squad, Abel has led the team in 3-point shots, rebounds, assists, steals, blocked shots, and free throws. He scored almost 50 percent of the teams's total points in the past season, he ranks among the top three scorers ever in Okawville history, and he holds the record for the highest scoring average in a season.

He also averaged over 27 points per game this past season earning second team All-State honors and the honor of being named the Belleville News-Democrat's Class A Player of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Abel Schrader and all of the Okawville Rocket basketball team on a job well done

CONGRATULATING LISA-ANNE FURGAL OF LARGO, FLORIDA FOR RECEIVING THE "PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARD"

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 1997

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding high school student from Largo, FL. Lisa-Anne Furgal has been awarded the Prudential Spirit of Community Award for her outstanding volunteer service to her community. She will represent the State of Florida here in Washington, DC at a national event honoring those high school and middle school students who have shown a deep commitment to their communities and to helping others.

Lisa, a student at Largo High School, founded an organization called YOUTH which stands for Youth Out To Help, and informs people in her community about volunteer opportunities. Twenty-five to forty hours of her busy week are dedicated to meeting with board members, planning a newsletter, and collecting donations. YOUTH also publishes a booklet of nonprofit organizations where other students can volunteer their time or direct their donations. In Lisa's own words, "Volunteering enables you to make a positive impact on the world."

The sacrifice Lisa has made to serving others should be an example to us all. Many times it seems our responsibilities make free time more scarce than we would like. But taking a minute away from our business, and looking for ways we can volunteer, can make a significant difference in another person's life at a time when they need help. I hope that young and old alike take notice of the needs that many have in our country. And if we can pull together, one community at a time, with the exceptional leadership of individuals like Lisa-Anne Furgal, we will see positive changes in the lives of the people who are in need.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS DENEWITH

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 1997

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Thomas Denewith, principal at L'Anse Creuse High School North. The Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals has recognized Mr. Denewith as Macomb County Principal of the Year.

Mr. Denewith's career began as a teacher and coach in the 1960's. He taught high school at his alma mater, St. Mary's in Mt. Clemens. The many triumphs and obstacles of teaching taught him how to work with students, parents, and the community. In 1974, Mr. Denewith brought his knowledge and experience to L'Anse Creuse Public Schools.

He began his tenure at L'Anse Creuse Schools as an assistant principal of L'Anse Creuse High School. In 1980, Mr. Denewith became principal of L'Anse Creuse High