

December 10, 2008

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia: Madam Speaker, I rise on behalf of myself, Congresswoman *Thelma Drake*

and Congressman

Rob Wittman

to call attention to a group of young students from Hampton, Virginia, who have distinguished themselves, their school, their community and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Phoebus High School Phantoms football team had a remarkable 2008 season. On December 6, the Phoebus High School Phantoms won their 4th state football championship this decade, defeating Dinwiddie High School of Dinwiddie 37-13, at Lane Stadium in Blacksburg, Virginia.

The Phantoms finished the season with a 15-0 record. Phoebus never trailed in a game this season, and scored 720 points while allowing 53. This latest championship is just another accolade for the City of Hampton's youngest school, founded in 1975. The football team, under Coach Bill Dee has won the State Football Championship three previous times: 2001, 2002, and 2006.

Phoebus High's legacy of excellence is not limited to just the field of athletics. Under the Direction of Principal Robert Johnson, the Phoebus faculty seeks to inspire students to strive for excellence and achievement in the classroom, in their extracurricular activities and in their communities. Phoebus has two innovative programs that expand the learning experience outside of the traditional classroom. Phoebus hosts the Hampton School Division's Center for High Technology. This magnet career academy includes classes in pre-engineering, design and drafting, and Cisco network administration, preparing students for college classes and jobs in the technology sector. Phoebus is also home to the Blue Phantom Inn. This student-run restaurant gives students an opportunity to develop their culinary arts skills, and was nationally recognized in Southern Living magazine.

The Phantoms' excellence in football is also characteristic of the quality of athletics in the Peninsula District of Virginia. Phoebus High School's championship this year marked the 12th time in the last fifteen years that a Peninsula District team has won a state title in football. To

quote from our hometown newspaper, the Daily Press, ``High school football on the Peninsula is championship football."

We would like to extend our enthusiastic congratulations to Coach Bill Dee, his coaching staff and all of the players on the Phoebus High School Phantoms, the 2008 Group AAA Division 5 Virginia High School League state football champions.