

Presently, she serves as the chairperson of the Women's Ministry, is the director of the Feeding Ministry, serves as the director of the Shekina & Praise Dancers, and is the instructor of the Senior Missionary Circle. Priscilla Lyon also finds time to perform liaison work for the Women's Fellowship.

Born in South Hampton County VA, she is the third of six children. Her hobbies are sewing, crocheting, drafting, millinery, and decorating. Respected and adored by her fellow church members, she was honored at the Henry House in September 1996. She is a mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. It is my privilege to highlight her achievements and contributions.

CHAMPIONS OF THE PRAIRIE

HON. JOHN THUNE

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 13, 1997

Mr. THUNE. Mr. Speaker, lately, football fans across the Nation are talking about the Green Bay Packers. Today, I'd like to inform my colleagues about an outstanding championship team that hasn't received much national attention. They are the NAIA Division II National Football Champions—The University of Sioux Falls Cougars. With their victory in the championship playoff game in December, the Cougars became the first South Dakota college team to win a national football title.

This group of young men had a remarkable season—an exclamation point to their emergence as a football powerhouse. Many of the players spent the last 4 years playing together. While each of these seasons has been significant, the Cougars 2–8 record in 1993, didn't even foreshadow the greatness just around the corner. Head Coach Bob Young was concerned he'd lose many of his talented freshmen. Instead of dwelling on past disappointments, the young players and their coach pulled together and focused on a winning future. They have proven that commitment, loyalty, and hard work can and do pay off. In the three seasons since that disappointing 1993 season, the Cougars compiled and impressive 32–4 record, made three straight playoff appearances, and won the 1996 National Championship. For the last 2 years, the South Dakota Sports Writers Association have selected the Cougar Football Team as the Men's College Team of the Year.

The sportscaster who coined the expression "this is the one for the record books" had no idea how fitting it would be for the 1996 Cougars. Nearly half of the school's individual records were set by that team.

Quarterback Kurtiss Riggs completed the regular season without throwing an interception. He set a national collegiate record 290 pass attempts without an interception. He also holds the NAIA division record for most touchdowns in a season with 55. Yet, when he was asked about his personal records, Kurtiss said he'd give them all up for the national championship. Fortunately, he didn't have to make that sacrifice.

Senior wide receiver Kalen DeBoer finished the year with 17 touchdowns, 99 receptions, and 1,372 yards, including 182 in one game. Sophomore running back David Ruter had 19 touchdowns and 1,726 yards rushing, includ-

ing 315 in one game. When you have that kind of offensive trio achieving those kind of stats, it means you have an equally impressive offensive line doing the job up front. The Cougar defense led by Phil Porter, Larry Wilson, Chuck Morrell, Travis Dumke, and Ray Smith were ranked in the top 10 nationally both in scoring and rushing defense.

As a team, the undefeated Cougars recorded the 19th best season scoring total in collegiate history with 636 points. They achieved this record by averaging 45 points per game and defeated their opponents by an average of 30 points. These figures are even more impressive considering one game was played in a blizzard and Coach Young's practice of benching the first string players once the game was in hand. It wasn't unusual for starters to play only half the game, giving younger players valuable game experience. With such an overwhelming offense, some may have been tempted to run up the score. But Coach Young's success is grounded in good sportsmanship and an eye toward the future. The Cougars also marched to the record books without much home cooking. They had the home field advantage for only two games this season.

When the Cougars took the field for the Championship game in Tennessee on December 21, they faced Western Washington, a team with a school enrollment 10 times that of University of Sioux Falls. It was a modern-day version of David and Goliath. The outcome was the same as the Biblical tale—Sioux Falls slew Western Washington with a decisive 47-to-25 victory.

The University of Sioux Falls never was ranked No. 1, but the Cougars won their championship on the field, not in the polls. And for his leadership, Coach Bob Young was named the NAIA Division II Football National Coach of the Year.

I also want to pay tribute to the character of the players and the entire coaching staff, which was shown at the end of each game when the entire team would huddle on the field and give thanks to God for their success. This weekly demonstration of faith is a stark and moving contrast to the typical bravado we see sometimes during professional games.

Faith, loyalty, commitment, and teamwork. In a day when many look to sports for heroes, the 1996 University of Sioux Falls Cougar football team have earned two titles: local heroes and national champions. They are champions of the prairie. On behalf of the city of Sioux Falls and the State of South Dakota, I am pleased to say congratulations, Cougars. We're proud of you.

ADOPT A FARM FAMILY

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 13, 1997

Mr. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an organization that is working hard to bring about economic and spiritual renewal in rural America. Headquartered in Sikeston, MO in my congressional district, the Adopt a Farm Family of America organization has been a tremendous force for good in southern Missouri and throughout the country. The volunteers and

coordinators of Adopt a Farm Family are sponsoring a rural restoration conference in Sikeston next week, continuing their tradition of spiritual outreach and support for farm families.

America's farmers and ranchers are the best in the world, but they face an increasingly complex set of challenges. Uncertain markets, changing environmental conditions, and new government policies all contribute to the challenge of operating a farm in rural America. The job calls for long hours, old-fashioned values, and a strong faith in God. Adopt a Farm Family has stood by our Nation's farmers since its inception in 1988. Today, it continues to provide the kind of assistance and expertise that makes a real difference in the lives of thousands of Americans.

At next week's rural restoration conference, from Sunday February 16 to Tuesday February 18, Adopt a Farm Family will invite farmers to come together as a group to discuss methods of improving farm life. The entire Sikeston community, many of whom are providing financial and other support to the conference, is participating in a concerted effort to make the event educational and rewarding. Seminars and speakers will address a broad variety of topics, including farm finances, soil nutrition, marketing techniques, and family issues. I should also note that I have the high honor of speaking at the conference, and I am looking forward to contributing to the special purpose of the occasion.

Mr. Speaker, Adopt a Farm Family of America is one of the best examples in America of a group of people determined to help, and who then make it happen. You can see it in founder and current director of ministry, Mrs. Mary W. Myers, in her husband and current President Peter, and in the many folks who play a part in Adopt a Farm Family programs—the belief in the idea that through hard work and faith in God, good things are possible. I commend the people who are part of the Adopt a Farm Family of America organization, and express the hope that we can help them fulfill their mission of fighting to keep farm and ranch families on the land.

RECOGNITION OF MAYOR KIERAN O'HANLON

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 13, 1997

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the accomplishments of Kieran O'Hanlon, the mayor of Limerick City, Ireland. The mayor has been invited to Queens for the celebration of St. Patrick's Day and to commemorate the 800th anniversary of the signing of the Charter of Limerick City, thereby making it the oldest chartered city in Europe.

As the founding member of the Progressive Democrats in Ireland, Mayor O'Hanlon has served as an inspiration to the members of his party as well as to the rest of the world. Having only entered the formal political arena in 1991, Mr. O'Hanlon has already made an indelible mark on politics in Ireland.

The anniversary of Limerick should remind us of the importance of maintaining the integrity of our own communities. Mr. Speaker, I hope all of my colleagues will join me in wishing Mayor O'Hanlon all the luck in the future.

When we look to the future we look for the charisma and political perseverance which is characteristic of Mr. O'Hanlon's leadership.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 1997 WESTINGHOUSE SCIENCE TALENT FINALISTS

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 13, 1997

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Long Cai, Daniel James Durand, Jonathan William Plaue, and Katheryn Joanna Potenza, all of Long Island, NY. Competing against the most talented young scientific minds that America has to offer, these outstanding high school scholars from Eastern Long Island have all been recognized as Finalists in the 1997 Westinghouse Science Talent Search.

With the guidance of their teachers, the love and support of their parents and each with their own talent and work ethic, these four students have successfully conducted breakthrough scientific experiments while just in high school. Those experiments so impressed the judges at the Westinghouse Science Talent Search that they named Long, Daniel, Jonathan, and Katheryn one of 40 finalists, among 1,652 entrants nationwide.

Three of these students—Long Cai, Jonathan Williams Plaue, and Katheryn Joanna Potenza—attend Ward Melville High School in Setauket, Long Island, where the demanding and competitive WestPrep research program produces Westinghouse science scholars on a yearly basis. Daniel James Durand attends Shoreham-Wading River High School, just a few miles east of Setauket along Long Island's North Shore.

For his Westinghouse project in biotechnology, Daniel Durand of Shoreham, Long Island developed what could be a more effective and cost-efficient method for extracting radioactive uranium from contaminated soil. A 4-year varsity wrestler and the vice president of the Physical Fitness Club at Shoreham-Wading River, Daniel plans to study biomedical engineering at Rice University.

Long Cai, of East Setauket, deduced that there are mathematical relationships that describe the effects of rotating Fresnel Zone Plates, magnifying glass lenses, on x-ray focusing, which will help scientists understand the effects of misaligned plates. Born in China, 16-year-old Long mastered the English in just the ninth-grade. He plans to study biomedical engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Jonathan Plaue, of Stony Brook, collected materials and services worth more than \$125,000 to create his environmental studies project. Landfilling is no longer a permissible waste disposal method on Long Island, so waste-to-energy incineration has become more prominent. Jonathan devised an effective method for replacing sand and gravel with incinerator ash in the manufacture of asphalt, which he calls ASHPHalt. Jonathan hopes to attend Massachusetts Institute of Technology, to study chemical engineering.

Katheryn Potenza, of Setauket, examined the effects of parents' marriages and mothers' socialization practices on the romantic rela-

tionships of adolescents for her Westinghouse project in psychology. Katheryn collected data from 57 mother-adolescent pairs, then completed her research at the nearby State University of New York at Stony Brook. She hopes to pursue studies in psychology at the University of Virginia.

During the week of March 5, all of the Westinghouse finalists will visit Washington, DC, where they will compete for \$205,000 in scholarships. I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to extend their congratulations to all of the 1997 Westinghouse Science Talent Search finalists.

TRIBUTE TO GWENDOLYN BROOKS

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 13, 1997

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor and reverence that I offer this tribute to a fellow Chicagoan, Poetess Gwendolyn Brooks.

Her writings have painted the picture of African-American people. A picture that is often filled with deep emotion, resounding character, and gallant triumphs. The depth of her talent has allowed her writings to reveal the character and experiences of America as a whole.

The quality and importance of her poetry to this Nation is evidenced by the fact that in 1950 she became the first African-American to win the Pulitzer Prize for poetry. As further evidence of her contribution to American letters she has been awarded two Guggenheim Fellowships, has served as a poetry consultant to the Library of Congress, and currently serves as State of Illinois poet laureate.

My words of praise cannot convey the depth of my gratitude for her contribution to her community and her Nation. The writings of Gwendolyn Brooks have the quality of a hand that rocks a baby's cradle. For the hand that soothes a baby by rocking it to and fro is also the same hand that disciplines the child—both done with love. Her style of writing welcomes and embraces. It is this characteristic of her work that allows her to address difficult if not disturbing issues we have addressed as individuals, as a people, and a nation without being haughty or magnanimous.

Gwendolyn Brooks is an American treasure. A treasure whose brilliance will never fade. It is with deep affection that I offer this tribute.

WORLD NEEDS FAMILY PLANNING FUNDS

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 13, 1997

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member highly commends to his colleagues the following editorial regarding funds for international family planning which appeared in the Omaha World Herald on February 5, 1997.

WORLD NEEDS FAMILY-PLANNING FUNDS

The United States government's commitment to population control and support for family-planning services around the world is headed for another test in Congress. Anti-

abortion forces have slowed and reduced the U.S. role in the past. We hope they don't do so again.

A vote is approaching on whether to release \$385 million to provide family-planning services to women in the world's poorest countries. The funds were allocated last year but tied up by anti-abortion congressmen who demanded stronger restrictions on using the money to promote abortion.

U.S. funding for family-planning programs around the world hit a record \$547 million in 1995 but was slashed by 35 percent last year. Ironically, the cut demanded by anti-abortion leaders, which denied access to modern contraceptives to seven million couples, resulted in an estimated 1.6 million more abortions, the Alan Guttmacher Institute has said. The U.S. Agency for International Development, which handles the family-planning programs, said the funding delays have "resulted in programmatic disruption, inefficiencies" and an estimated \$1 million in extra administrative costs.

President Clinton has submitted a report to Congress summarizing the negative impact the lack of funding is having. The report notes the unintended consequences of more abortions and more infant and maternal mortality Congress must act on that report sometime this month, either reaffirming its decision to delay the money or allowing it to be paid out.

Since 1973, Congress has forbidden the use of U.S. tax dollars for abortions or abortion-related services overseas. Money sent to the United Nations for family planning and contraceptive services is clearly and unequivocally segregated from any abortion-related expenditures.

But anti-abortion forces have demanded that Clinton return to what is known as the Mexico City policy of the Reagan and Bush administrations. That policy barred funding for any organization that performs or promotes abortion as a means of family planning, even though U.S. money would not be used for those activities. Clinton canceled the policy when he took office.

Werner Fornos, president of the Population Institute, has suggested that the wider availability of family-planning services in developing nations could actually reduce abortions, which now number 32 million a year.

Further delays in family-planning funding would result in even more unintended pregnancies and more abortions. Anti-abortion forces will have caused the very thing they say they abhor most if they continue to delay the release of family-planning money.

Population control is vital. Fast population growth underpins most of the worst problems facing the world—pollution, erosion and soil depletion, loss of the rain forests and a growing shortage of fresh water for domestic and agricultural use. Modern, easily available family-planning services can make a big difference. Congress ought to release the funds needed to keep the international programs going.

INDEPENDENT FACT FINDERS NEEDED TO STRENGTHEN HOUSE ETHICS PROCESS

HON. DAVID DREIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 13, 1997

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to join my distinguished colleague, Representative LEE HAMILTON, in introducing House Resolution 61. This resolution would for the first time give private citizens a meaningful