

117,000 other high school seniors representing over 16,500 high schools competed at the annual Coca-Cola Scholars Weekend in Atlanta Georgia. As a result of the competition, Wade was chosen to be a 2001 Coca-Cola National Scholar. The Coca-Cola Scholarship is one of America's most prestigious scholarship awards.

In a recent edition of the Julesburg Advocate, Sandy Williams, Chairman of the Board of Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation said, "Wade Faulk has demonstrated a commitment to educational achievement, leadership and service to his school and community. The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation is proud to name him as a 2001 Coca-Cola National Scholar." Wade's strong work ethic and leadership remind us about the strength of America's youth. It is reassuring to know we have people like Wade to lead us into the future.

As a constituent of Colorado's Fourth Congressional District, Leonard Wade Faulk is truly a positive role model for the youth of America. He not only makes his community proud, but also his state and country. I ask the House to join me in extending our warmest congratulations to Mr. Leonard Wade Faulk.

[From the Julesburg Advocate, Aug. 23, 2001]

FAULK SELECTED AS 2001 NATIONAL COCA-COLA SCHOLAR

NATION'S MOST PRESTIGIOUS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM AWARDS JULESBURG STUDENT \$20,000 FOR COLLEGE

Leonard [Wade] Faulk, a 2001 graduate of Julesburg High School is recognized as one of the country's most outstanding high school seniors as Coca-Cola awards him with a \$20,000 National Coca-Cola Scholars college scholarship.

The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation, a joint effort of Coca-Cola Bottlers across the United States and The Coca-Cola Company, is one of the largest corporate-sponsored, merit scholarship programs of its kind in the United States. The program recognizes a diverse group of exemplary high school seniors who have demonstrated academic and civic excellence in their schools and communities.

"Wade Faulk has demonstrated a commitment to educational achievement, leadership and service to his school and community. The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation is proud to name him as a 2001 Coca-Cola National Scholar," said Sandy Williams, Chairman of the Board of the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation and President of Corinth Coca-Cola Bottling Works in Corinth, Miss.

Faulk is one of 51 National Scholars to receive a \$20,000 college scholarship and one of 252 students across the country benefiting from the Coca-Cola Scholars Program.

Faulk competed for 51 National scholarships of \$20,000 or 200 Regional scholarships of \$4,000 when he joined 201 of America's most impressive high school students in Atlanta for Coca-Cola Scholars Weekend, April 27-29, with the theme, "Transitions." The 2001 Class of Coca-Cola Scholars interviewed with several education, business, government and arts leaders from across the country. Scholars were evaluated on their academic achievements, school and community leadership and the desire to succeed. Scholars were chosen from an initial applicant pool of more than 117,000 high school seniors representing more than 16,500 high schools nationwide.

While in Atlanta, the students were also recognized at a banquet held in their honor. In addition, the Scholars received surprise recognition when Coca-Cola, in partnership with the Corporation for National Service, presented each of them with the President's

Student Service Award—an additional \$500 scholarship, certificate and gold pin. The President's Student Service Award honors high school juniors and seniors who have contributed at least 100 hours of service during the last year. The President's Student Service Challenge is designed to reward and encourage activities that have a significant impact in meeting the needs of local communities.

During Scholars Weekend the students also visited the World of Coca-Cola, the Atlanta History Center, CNN and the Martin Luther King Jr. Center. The Scholars also participated in a community service project, working to beautify a local elementary school and tutoring students.

The Coca-Cola Scholars Program is the most-recognized and respected corporate sponsorship in America. The program was created in 1986 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Coca-Cola establishing a lasting legacy for the education of tomorrow's leaders through college scholarships. There are more than 2000 Coca-Cola Scholars who have benefited from nearly \$17.7 million in scholarship awards. The Foundation is supported by the financial commitment of local Coca-Cola Bottlers including Denver Coca-Cola Bottling Company and the Coca-Cola Company.

HONORING MITCHELL WRIGHT

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the bravery of a remarkable young man. Until last May, Mitchell Wright was a joyful, healthy nine-year-old boy without the burdens of a serious illness. Today, he lives with a rare strain of cancer called rhabdomyosarcoma that most nine-year-old children could not even imagine, or yet, overcome.

Mitchell discovered the cancer himself and approached his mother about it. They went to see doctors and their worst-case scenario was soon realized. Experts say that this type of cancer is usually not found until it is too late, but luckily Mitchell discovered the tumor when treatment was possible. Mitchell has been traveling from Grand Junction to undergo chemotherapy and radiation therapy in Denver every three weeks and will continue to do so for another year. Mitchell has a tough road in front of him including numerous doctor check-ups for the next five years. It is a well-known fact that the treatments that Mitchell is receiving have extremely uncomfortable side effects, but Mitchell is courageously enduring these struggles and his friends and family are standing by him.

It is my honor to stand up with Mitchell's family and friends to support him during this time and recognize the bravery this young man has demonstrated. Mitchell is a courageous individual, but he is not alone in his struggle. He is surrounded by a community that provides strength and support in Mitchell's battle to overcome rhabdomyosarcoma. My thoughts and prayers along with those of this Congress are with Mitchell and his family during these difficult times.

RECOGNIZING ARKANSAS TROOPS ON THEIR RETURN FROM BOSNIA

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize and express my sincere appreciation to the National Guard Troops from southern Arkansas, our men and women in uniform, who have just returned to the United States from staging operations in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

These selfless individuals and their families made great sacrifices, including spending time away from their homes and jobs, to serve our country and to help the people of Bosnia in this time of need. They did so with honor and dignity, and I am grateful for their service.

In May, several members of my staff traveled to Bosnia to visit our National Guard units from Magnolia and Sheridan, Arkansas, in my district, including my legislative assistant for military affairs, Toby Stephens, a former member of the Magnolia unit. I regret that I was unable to accompany them due to my congressional responsibilities in our Nation's capital, but I was pleased to hear that our troops were admirably representing Arkansas and the United States in a foreign land.

As they return to their loved ones, their homes, and their daily lives in this current time of uncertainty, I want to personally thank each of these men and women for their invaluable servitude at home and abroad.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF DONALD J. COHEN, M.D.

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great sadness, in a time of national sadness, to pay tribute to an extraordinary man. Dr. Donald Cohen was a friend of the New Haven community and friend of mine. He left an indelible mark on all he touched and a legacy that will touch many he never knew.

For almost thirty years, he brought an unparalleled dedication to the Yale School of Medicine. Most recently he served as the Chairman of Child Psychiatry at the Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital and was the Sterling Professor of Child Psychiatry, Pediatrics and Psychology in the Yale School of Medicine. Donald has been the Director of the Yale Child Study Center, internationally renowned for its multi-disciplinary programs and advocacy for children and families, for nearly two decades. Under his leadership, the Center has grown to be one of the most respected research and development institutions in the world. Within the Center, Donald also founded the very successful Yale-New Haven Child Development Community Policing Program which helped teach law enforcement officers how to respond to children and families. The program has since been duplicated in communities throughout the country.

In a letter I recently received from Donald, he wrote, "the Child Study Center has been at the core of my intellectual and personal development. All of my work has been nourished by

relationships that are based here . . . the coming together of so many wonderful people who gathered around the visions of the future directions and potentials of our field." Donald dedicated his career to helping children with very special needs. He has been recognized nationally and internationally for his work in urban child development and the impact of violence and trauma on children and families. However, it was his clinical and research activities which focused on the developmental psychopathology of serious childhood neuropsychiatric disorders including pervasive developmental and tic disorders and autism that were closest to his heart. It was here that he truly wanted to make a difference.

Over the last several years, I worked on so many projects with the Yale Child Study Center, and almost always worked closely with Donald. Since our first meeting, I was in awe of his tireless efforts and dedication—especially to his research on autism. It was only this past week that I received the news that he would be honored next month at the International Meeting for Autism Research with the Lifetime Award for Research in Autism. In his letter, he described this occasion as "particularly special . . . because they bring together what I have most cherished what I have most cherished about my life as a scholar and a clinician—the opportunity to be a part of family's lives and the lives of students and colleagues working together to improve our understanding of the most enduring questions of human development."

I stand today to pay tribute to a great man and to extend my deepest sympathies to his wife Phyllis, his four children and their families, and his mother Rose. A tireless advocate and a dear friend, Dr. Donald Cohen was an inspiring leader and his legacy will forever live in the hearts of the many lives he has touched.

STATEMENT ON THE TEMPORARY UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (TUC) ACT

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, as our economy enters a period of great uncertainty, Congress can take at least one step that will protect the families most imperiled by mounting job losses, while simultaneously stimulating consumer demand and economic growth. In short, we should improve our unemployment compensation (UC) system. Expanding, extending and supplementing UC coverage will put more money into the pockets of the families most affected by economic dislocations and most likely to spend quickly.

I am therefore introducing the Temporary Unemployment Compensation Act to improve our Nation's response to rising unemployment levels. The bill would draw down funds from the federal unemployment accounts for one year to: (1) provide benefits to certain unemployed workers who are now not covered by the Unemployment Compensation system; (2) extend benefits by 13 weeks to workers whose regular UC has expired; and (3) supplement the amount of unemployment benefits. Over the next year, these provisions

would provide UC benefits to over one million jobless Americans who otherwise would go without any assistance, they would extend UC coverage to roughly 3 million individuals whose regular benefits have expired, and they would increase the amount of unemployment payments to 9 million displaced workers. With new claims for unemployment benefits recently reaching their highest level in nine years, it is imperative that Congress and the Administration consider these reforms in the quickest possible time frame.

Any effort to improve our unemployment system must start with the recognition that many dislocated workers, particularly low-wage workers, do not receive assistance from the current system when they are laid off. The General Accounting Office (GAO) reported last December that while low-wage workers were twice as likely to become unemployed, they were only half as likely to receive UC benefits compared to higher-wage workers, even when employed for similar periods of time. The GAO cited the fact that only 18% of unemployed low-wage workers were receiving UI benefits compared to 40% of higher-wage workers. This problem may track a general reduction in the percentage of unemployed Americans who actually receive UC benefits (which has declined over the last few decades from about one-half to about one-third).

Over the last few years, Congress has received repeated recommendations to correct this situation. Groups suggesting changes include: the Advisory Council on Unemployment Compensation, which was jointly appointed by Congress and the President; the Committee for Economic Development, which is led by leaders in business and academia; and a group of state, federal, business and labor stakeholders in the UC system. All of these organizations highlighted two issues that must be addressed. First, too many unemployed workers are denied UC because their most recent wages are not counted. (Many States do not count the last completed quarter of work). And second, part-time workers are sometimes discriminated against in the UC system. To begin to address these inequities, the TUC Act would provide federally-funded UC coverage for one year to jobless workers who would be otherwise ineligible because their last completed quarter of employment was not included in their wage record, and to unemployed workers seeking part-time employment.

As unemployment creeps up, it becomes increasingly difficult for dislocated workers to quickly find new jobs. For this reason, Congress also should consider increasing the duration of unemployment benefits, particularly since the current law provision providing an extension of benefits has proven ineffective. In fact, since 1983, only 12 States have triggered on to the current Extended Benefits (EB) program. Because changes to the existing EB program would demand time-consuming changes to many State's laws, this legislation would establish a new, temporary program that would provide an additional 13 weeks of benefits to individuals whose regular UC expires. Like the coverage for certain newly eligible workers, these extended benefits would be federally-funded and would continue requirements that recipients seek work.

One final area that deserves attention is the adequacy of UC benefits. Unemployment benefits generally replace 50% or less of lost wages, leaving many workers hard-pressed to

meet their monthly bills. This is particularly true in many urban and suburban areas where housing costs have exceeded inflation over the last decade. Furthermore, many States have relatively low average and maximum UC payment rates (the average weekly UC payment in the US is about \$230). Finally, UC wage replacement rates were never adjusted to account for the fact that unemployment benefits were made fully taxable in 1986. This tax policy was enacted to ensure equity among families with the same amount income but from different sources. However, it has had the effect of reducing the value of UC benefits by about 15%. Therefore, to restore the value of unemployment benefits, while also maintaining equity in the tax code, this legislation would increase every UC recipient's weekly check by 15% for the next year.

Mr. Speaker, we have over \$38 billion in the Federal Unemployment Trust Funds. Those reserves are designed just for this purpose—responding to rising unemployment. We should spend a portion of those funds to help Americans face the uncertainties and hardships that come with increased joblessness. The Temporary Unemployment Compensation Act will put those monies to good use by expanding, extending and increasing unemployment coverage just when it is needed most. Thank you.

A TRIBUTE TO MARY R. WRIGHT

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the selfless public service of an individual who has committed herself to the betterment of our public parks. Ms. Mary R. Wright recently retired from her position as Chief Deputy Director of the California Department of Parks and Recreation, and I wish to take this opportunity to recognize her work for the State of California.

Mary began her career with the Department of Parks and Recreation in 1978 as the Acting Assistant Director, in Los Angeles. In this capacity, she worked as a liaison between the Department and various agencies and organizations in the greater Los Angeles area. Her valuable combination of talent in management and passion for our natural resources were quickly recognized by all those with whom she worked, and she held a variety of positions within the Department before being named District Superintendent for the Monterey District. The Monterey Peninsula is famous for its beauty and pristine natural habitats, enjoyed and treasured by residents of and visitors to the area. The role of managing and directing the efforts of those who work to preserve and protect these natural resources fell on Mary. She excelled at the task and, in June 1999, earned promotion as Governor Gray Davis's appointee to the position of Chief Deputy Director of the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

In addition to her official work on behalf of the State of California, Mary works alongside her husband as an enthusiastic community advocate. As a resident of Big Sur, she works on behalf of the residents and businesses there, serving as a member of the Big Sur Historical