

Throughout her long fundraising and volunteer career, her crowning achievement was undoubtedly the City of Mobile's Tricentennial Celebration in 2002. This event, celebrating the 300 year history of Mobile, drew thousands of visitors to this historic center and brought tourists, dignitaries, and media representatives from all across the United States and around the world. The celebration's schedule of concerts, exhibitions, festivals, and sporting events were a tremendous success and required a great deal of financial support. Under her leadership and guidance as chairman of the festival, Senator Bedsole was able to solicit more than \$5 million in private, local, state, and committee funds and in-kind services. Her efforts in organizing and leading this event led to a truly memorable celebration of the history and tradition of Mobile.

Along with her strong involvement in the community, Senator Bedsole is involved in many charitable organizations including serving on the boards of the Cybil Smith Charitable Trust and the J.L. Bedsole Foundation.

Senator Bedsole's efforts in the fields of volunteerism and fundraising have also led to significant recognition in previous years, and she has been honored as First Lady of Mobile in 1972 and Mobilian of the Year in 1993.

Mr. Speaker, there are few individuals more dedicated or more committed to helping their communities than Ann Bedsole, and I would like to offer my congratulations on both the Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser award and for her many personal and professional achievements. I know her husband, Palmer Bedsole, and her many family and friends join with me in praising her accomplishments and extending thanks for her many efforts on behalf of Mobile and the state of Alabama.

TRIBUTE TO THE AQUINAS BOYS' VARSITY SOCCER TEAM

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2004

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the Aquinas boys' varsity soccer team. The team had an outstanding season with a record of 22 wins, no losses, and two ties. The team rose to become class B State champions, defeating Westhill by a score of four to zero. This was the second time the boys have captured this title in 4 years.

The entire Aquinas lineup was overflowing with speed and skill that the team's opponents could not match. Keith Manscuk, Chris Roland, Steve Fantuzzo, and Frank Iacovangelo all contributed to Aquinas' victory with one goal apiece. Westhill's coach, Ronald Ficken, hailed the team as not only the best in class B, but also the best team in the State in any class.

The team includes Latim Bitek, Connor Burgasser, Sean Connell, Anthony Dambra, Stephen Fantuzzo, Frank Iacovangelo, Adam Kelly, Daniel Kolb, Corey Lown, Keith Manscuk, James Marsala, Chris Nacca, Patrick Nicholas, Jaymes Nowicki, Dominic Pettinari, Joe Pettinari, Chris Roland, Mike Roorda, Brad Torchia, and Cory Wisecup. The team was coached by Joe LaPietra and Tad Valentino. These boys are a source of pride to

our community and should be commended for their hard work and dedication.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DAVID NOVAK

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise before you to pay tribute to a remarkable man from my district. David Novak of Pueblo, Colorado passed away recently at the age of seventy-three. David will always be remembered as a devoted family man and educator of his community's youth, and I would like to ask my colleagues to please join me in recognizing his amazing life before this body of Congress and this nation today.

David began his career as a special education teacher in Pueblo, Colorado after graduating from Adams State College in 1952. He was an advocate for youth throughout his community, and instrumental in organizing youth baseball leagues. David's passion about youth baseball played an instrumental role in bringing the 1976 Babe Ruth Youth World Series to Pueblo, Colorado. Because of his dedication to the sport, he was inducted into the Greater Pueblo Sports Association Hall of Fame in 1980. He is survived by his wife and best friend, Laurel, their children, Michael, Patrick and Rebecca, eight grandchildren, and two brothers, Tony Novak and Joe Martell.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to the inspiring life of David Novak. He was a beloved man who made a tremendous impact on his community through his many years of educational leadership and organizing youth baseball. David's love of family and public service is truly a model for us all. The Pueblo community and the State of Colorado will truly miss David, and my thoughts go out to his family during this difficult time of bereavement.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF WILLIAM C. NIEBERDING

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2004

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Mr. William C. Nieberding—devoted family man, accomplished scientist, active community leader, and admired friend and mentor.

Mr. Nieberding graduated from John Carroll University with a Bachelor of Science degree in physics in 1957, and attained a Master of Science degree in physics one year later. In 1959, Mr. Nieberding began employment at NASA Glenn Research Center as a research engineer. He was promoted several times throughout his tenure at NASA, and at the time of his retirement in 1995, held the position of Deputy Chief of the Instrumentation and Control Technology Division. Mr. Nieberding's professional life reflects several significant accomplishments and innovations in

the field of aeronautics, space propulsion and space research. He was awarded the NASA Exceptional Service Medal for his outstanding achievement in the development of advanced instrumentation used in aeronautic and space research programs. He was considered the leading national authority regarding this area of study, offering his expertise to aeronautic researchers from around the world. His name is one of a select few stored within a Mars rover that he helped to create.

Beyond his professional work, Mr. Nieberding was deeply dedicated to his community. He served on the Fairview Park Planning Commission, and was an active member of St. Angela Merici Catholic Church, where he served as President of the Parish Council for two years.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor, gratitude and remembrance of Mr. William C. Nieberding, an exceptional man, scientist, and leader whose life reflected accomplishment, caring and joy. I offer my deepest condolences to his beloved wife, Mary Ellen, his beloved children, Timothy, Therese and the memory of Christine; his beloved grandchildren, Emily and Mitchell; and his entire extended family. Mr. Nieberding's brilliant and flawless legacy, both personally and professionally, will be remembered forever by family, friends and colleagues, and will shine for all time across the starry night.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF MR. BEN C. STIMPSON

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2004

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, Mobile County and indeed the entire state of Alabama recently lost a dear friend, and I rise today to honor him and pay tribute to his memory.

Mr. Ben C. Stimpson was a devoted family man and dedicated business leader and conservationist throughout his life.

After attending the University of Alabama for a number of years, he left in 1945 to join the United States Army. At the conclusion of his enlistment, Mr. Stimpson returned home to join his brothers in the family timber business, Ben May's Gulf Lumber Company, in Mobile, Alabama. Over the next several years, he and his family built Ben May's into one of the largest sawmills in the State of Alabama, and Mr. Stimpson served as president of the company. Through his work in the timber industry, he had the opportunity to become affiliated with several professional organizations and served in various leadership capacities with these groups. These include serving as a director of the Alabama Forest Products Association, director of the Southern Forest Products Association, and chairman of the board of the Southern Pine Inspection Bureau. As a result of his professional success and industry involvement, Mr. Stimpson was inducted into the Alabama Business Hall of Fame in 2002 at the University of Alabama.

Along with his work in the timber industry, Mr. Stimpson was also actively involved in the conservation and preservation of the wildlife and natural resources of his native State. Between 1971 and 1984, he served as a member of the Conservation Advisory Board for the

Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. He was also a member of the Alabama Wildlife Federation for many years and was both a member of the board of directors and past president of that organization. In 1964, he was recognized for his tremendous efforts in the field of conservation when he was awarded the Governor's Conservation Award by then-Governor George C. Wallace.

In the midst of his busy professional schedule, Mr. Stimpson also found time to serve in many community organizations and on several boards of directors. He was a member of the board of Mobile Infirmary for 25 years; he served for 20 years as a past chairman, president, and member of the St. Paul's Episcopal School board of trustees; and was a vestryman at St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated community leader and friend to many throughout South Alabama. Mr. Stimpson will be deeply missed by his family—his wife, Nedra Greer Stimpson; his children, Nedra Stimpson Crosby, John L. Stimpson, Ben C. Stimpson, Jr., Mary Stimpson Turner, and Greer Stimpson Stephens; his brother, William Herbert Stimpson; and 16 grandchildren—as well as the countless friends he leaves behind. Our thoughts and prayers are with them all at this difficult time.

**TRIBUTE TO RETIRING SYRACUSE
UNIVERSITY LEADERS KENNETH
AND MARY ANN SHAW**

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2004

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Chancellor Kenneth A. Shaw, Ph.D., and Associate to the Chancellor, Mary Ann Shaw, M.S. Both Dr. and Mrs. Shaw are retiring administrators at Syracuse University and active members of the central New York community.

Kenneth A. Shaw has served as chancellor of Syracuse University with great honor since 1991. Prior to coming to Syracuse, Chancellor Shaw presided over the 26-campus University of Wisconsin system that serves more than 160,000 students. In addition, Dr. Shaw was chancellor of the Southern Illinois University system from 1979 to 1986, president of Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville from 1977 to 1979, and vice president and dean of Towson State University from 1969 to 1977.

Dr. Shaw is the recipient of honorary degrees from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville in 2002; Purdue University, 1990; Illinois State University, 1987; Illinois College, 1986; and Towson State University, 1979. He was also awarded the NCAA's Silver Anniversary Award in 1986 and received the Advancement and Support of Education's District II Chief Executive Leadership Award.

Recently Chancellor Shaw was elected chairman of the Metropolitan Development Association, a regional development, planning, and research organization including a 12-county area in upstate New York. In retirement, Chancellor Shaw plans on taking a more active role with the association.

Mary Ann Shaw is the associate of the chancellor of Syracuse University and has

held this position since 1991. At Syracuse University she works closely with the Office of Institutional Advancement and assists her husband, Chancellor Kenneth A. Shaw.

During her tenure as associate, Mrs. Shaw has helped found and direct the University's Center for Public and Community Service, which promotes public and community service as a fundamental part of the teaching and learning experience. Mrs. Shaw was an original founder of the Syracuse University Literacy Corps, a cadre of SU students who tutor young students in local schools. Mrs. Shaw is currently the chair of the steering committee for the development of the Central New York Children's Hospital and was instrumental in the development of United Way's Success By Six. Mrs. Shaw has also been active as a member and/or officer of the following community organizations: Lifetime Healthcare, Inc., BlueCross BlueShield of Central New York, Inc., the Salvation Army of the Syracuse Area, Syracuse Stage, Syracuse Symphony, and Central New York Community Foundation.

Chancellor Shaw has long been known among the Syracuse University student body for his accessibility and visibility not only in university activities, but in everyday student life. The chancellor has demonstrated his profound commitment to the education of students in many ways; none more significant than his connection and engagement with the Syracuse University student body.

Upon hearing of the chancellor's plans to retire, the Syracuse University student newspaper, the Daily Orange, published an editorial that praised his willingness to defend the newspaper's freedom of speech and his consistent availability to answer questions and talk with the student writers. The editorial wrote that Chancellor Shaw 'recognized the importance of an independent student voice amid a university of administrative voices.'

The Shaws' dedication to the constant advancement of the resources and ideas available to students is reflected in the university's many academic achievements. Chancellor and Mrs. Shaw will leave a lasting influence on the relationship between the Syracuse community and the university. The success attained by the Shaws is attributed largely in part to their genuine concern and interest in providing an atmosphere that fosters growth and discovery.

Both Chancellor and Mrs. Shaw have made a far-reaching impact on the students and faculty of Syracuse University as well as the surrounding community. Their leadership has elevated the educational curriculum and caliber of student attending and graduating from Syracuse University. Chancellor and Mrs. Shaw have set an educational precedent that solidifies Syracuse as a top collegiate program.

On behalf of the students, faculty and community members of Syracuse, I extend my sincere gratitude for the dedication and service Chancellor Shaw and Mrs. Shaw have offered to the community. We look forward to their continued involvement in local civic and business organizations in retirement.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO LOUISE
GARCIA**

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a sad heart that I rise to pay tribute to the passing of a great woman from my district. Louise Garcia, a native of Durango, Colorado, recently passed away at the age of 85. Louise dedicated her life to improving public transportation and serving the Durango community. I am honored today to bring her contributions to the attention of this body of Congress and this nation today.

Louise will forever be remembered as a pioneer of the transportation system in Durango. She worked as both a dispatcher and a bookkeeper for the city bus and Opportunity Bus transportation systems. Louise dedicated her time, energy and even personal living space to the betterment of the city's bus system. Louise enjoyed the outdoors and often volunteered to take children camping with the local Community Action organization. Louise was also an active member of the Mother's Club and the choir at her local church.

Mr. Speaker, Louise Garcia was a dedicated woman that selflessly served her Durango community, and I am honored to pay tribute to such a generous public servant. Her lifetime of service is an incredible model for all Americans and my thoughts and prayers go out to her family during this difficult time of bereavement.

**HONORING AND RECOGNIZING THE
HONORABLE JUDGE PATRICIA
ANN BLACKMON**

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2004

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Judge Patricia Ann Blackmon, for her significant and groundbreaking professional accomplishments, and for serving as an inspiration and role model for minority women in Cleveland, Ohio, and far beyond.

Her unwavering integrity and strong work ethics were gifts from her mother, who taught by example during her childhood in Mississippi. Blackmon was the first member of her family to attend college, graduating magna cum laude from Tougaloo College in Mississippi with a Bachelor's Degree in African American Studies, political science and history. Her quest for knowledge and personal growth led her away from her Mississippi home, north to Cleveland, to earn a law degree at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law. Throughout her noteworthy career as an attorney, Judge Blackmon has served as the chief prosecutor for the City of Cleveland, assistant director of Victims/Witness Program, and professor at Dyke College. Presently, Judge Blackmon holds the monumental title as the first African-American woman to preside over the Court of Appeals of Ohio. Judge Blackmon has served, and continues to serve, on many civic advisory boards. She currently serves as