

BAYLOR UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S
BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Baylor University Women's Basketball Team on their success during the NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament. With a record of 31–3, the Lady Bears have risen to the challenge and have represented the Big Twelve and the State of Texas with pride. Led by point guard Chelsea Whitaker, the Lady Bears have won their way into the Championship game where they will face Michigan State tonight.

I attended the Lady Bear's 68–57 victory over LSU in the Final Four game on Sunday and was particularly excited for junior forward Sophia Young, who scored 21 points in the game, and was named the Tempe Regionals' MVP earlier in the tournament. As a Member of the House Immigration Subcommittee, I was able to help bring Miss Young's mother, Annie Christopher, from St. Vincent, West Indies to see her daughter play collegiate basketball for the first time. Sophia is a very talented basketball player and I am glad that she was able to take her place as a member of the Baylor basketball team through the U.S. Immigration program. We as a nation embrace talent such as Sophia's athletic gifts and we recognize the value of reuniting families for important moments. After Baylor's latest victory when Sophia was able to hug her mother in the stands, you could see that this is truly the real face of immigration.

I also want to congratulate Coach Kim Mulkey-Robertson on her great achievements at Baylor. Tonight, she has a chance at achieving history; a win over Michigan State would make her the first women's coach to win a championship as a player and coach. She truly deserves all the credit she receives for the job she has done with this talented team. In 2000, she inherited a program that went 7–20 the previous season, in her very first season she guided the Lady Bears to a 21–9 record and last year took Baylor to the Sweet 16. This year the Lady Bears enter the national championship game having won 19 straight games, the longest such streak in college basketball this year.

I am confident that the great fans of Baylor will carry the Lady Bears to victory. They have withstood great challenges, both mental and physical to reach the pinnacle of women's college basketball. I wish the Lady Bears all the luck tonight as they play in the Championship game and hope they are able to finish their great season with a win.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF REVEREND DR. PAUL D. STEVENS, SR.

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. HENRY CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the important contributions of the Reverend Paul D. Stevens, Sr.

Rev. Stevens was born the third of seven children in Westlake, Louisiana. His father, Willie Stevens Jr., was also a minister. Paul Stevens first came to Texas to study for his Master of Arts degree, which he received from the Houston Graduate School of Theology.

Rev. Stevens has been a minister for over 20 years, and is a certified Pastoral Care Specialist. Under his leadership, the New Covenant Missionary Baptist Church has grown from 188 to over 560 members. He has served the needs of his growing congregation by overseeing the construction of a 1.5 million dollar worship center, and the founding of several new ministry programs.

In addition to his formal duties, Rev. Stevens has found the time to participate in several community organizations. He is a member of the NAACP and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, a board member of the Community of Churches for Social Action and the Cooperative Ministry for Higher Education, and a member of the Baptist Ministers Union of San Antonio and Vicinity. Reverend Stevens has been married to Belinda Hubbard Stevens for 20 years, and is the father of two teenagers, Paul Jr. and Kayla.

Mr. Speaker, he is a source of tremendous strength for his community and his congregation, and his commitment to serving his fellow man serves as a powerful example. I am proud to have the chance to honor him here today.

TRIBUTE TO DR. ROBERT HARRIS

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mrs. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in tribute to a man with a distinguished career in education. Dr. Robert Harris's vision and hard work have made Sacramento City College one of the preeminent junior colleges in Northern California. The longest tenure of any president since the college was founded in 1916; Dr. Harris will soon retire from the post of President of Sacramento City College after 18 years of wonderful service. As his family, friends, and colleagues gather to celebrate Dr. Harris' great career, I ask all my colleagues to join me in saluting one of Sacramento's most respected and successful educators.

President Harris is well-known for his resolve to foster positive changes, which has resulted in many improvements to the Sacramento City College campus, including the restoration of the Auditorium, renovation of the City Cafe, and construction of a Child Development Center, Center for Physical Excellence, and the Learning Resource Center, "a grand and gleaming hightech wonder."

Since the beginning of his presidency, he has had the vision and drive to push for the development of light rail directly to the City College Station; and under his leadership, Associated Student Government students presented a Resolution in Support of Regional Transit to the Los Rios Board of Trustees, which resulted in a student vote of the Universal Transit Pass fee and a Regional Transit Pass that allows students to use all public transit bus and light rail systems in Sacramento, Yolo, Folsom, El Dorado and Elk Grove.

During his presidency, Sacramento City College co-sponsored the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. event. In 1996 inaugurated an annual Capital Shrine Bowl to raise awareness and funding for Shriners Hospitals for children. It was also under Dr. Harris' stewardship that Sacramento City College, in partnership with Sutter Health Sacramento Sierra Region, expanded its Associate Degree Nursing Program and Sutter has committed more than \$16 million through 2010 with the goal of educating 450 registered nurses.

Dr. Harris also helped establish Beta Eta Psi, a campus chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society. He helped to create a \$7,500 scholarship to pay the induction fee for students who need assistance, and was one of only 24 college presidents honored with the prestigious Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction which recognizes college presidents for outstanding efforts in promoting the goals of Phi Theta Kappa at the chapter level. Also, a decade ago, President Harris supported the creation of Susurrus, the college literary journal, which has twice won first place in the national Community College Humanities Association Annual Literary Magazine Competition.

President Harris deserves special recognition for his unwavering support of programs that provide services and encouragement to underrepresented and non-traditional students. It is fair to say that the Sacramento City College Classified Senate would not exist without his encouragement and his support. President Harris' views on participatory governance promoted an unprecedented level of collegiality on campus.

In 2004, directly as a result of Dr. Harris' leadership, the Western Association of Schools and Colleges reaffirmed Sacramento City College accreditation without conditions—the highest level of accreditation a college can receive.

Mr. Speaker, as Dr. Harris' friends, family, and colleagues gather to celebrate his great career, I am honored to pay tribute to one of the Sacramento Region's most successful educators. Dr. Harris' leadership is a true testament to making a positive impact to the lives of others. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in wishing Dr. Robert Harris continued success in all his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO MS. MARVELLE S.
WILSON

HON. ALBERT RUSSELL WYNN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of Ms. Marvella S. Wilson who will be 75 years young on April 9, 2005. Marvella was born on April 9, 1930, in Cleveland Ohio. She is the youngest of three girls, born to Charles and Ruth Seaton.

As a neighbor of Carl and Louis Stokes, Marvella and her sisters worked tirelessly to achieve Carl Stoke's victory as the first black mayor of Cleveland. Marvella received her degree in Library Science. She worked at the Cleveland Public School as a librarian for over 20 years until retiring to a part-time position as a Librarian with Cuyahoga Community College, a position she currently holds.

Marvelle has two sons, Marvin and Leslie Holmes. Her oldest son was elected to the Maryland State Legislature in 2002 and presently serves on the Environmental Matters Committee as well as other leadership roles within the Maryland House of Delegates.

Marvelle is recognized by her church, friends, and relatives as someone who continues to donate her time and talents to improving the community. I would like to add my wishes to the many friends and admirers. I wish you a happy 75th birthday Ms. Marvelle S. Wilson, and many more.

TRIBUTE TO DR. ANGELINE
NAZARETIAN

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Angeline Nazaretian, known by her friends and colleagues as Angie, upon her appointment as Grand Electa for the Order of the Eastern Star in the State of Alabama. Dr. Nazaretian lives in my Congressional District and is a member of the Athens Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star. The Order of the Eastern Star is the world's largest fraternal organization to which both men and women may belong.

Dr. Nazaretian moved to Athens in 1958 and has demonstrated a deep commitment and strong love for her adopted community ever since. She has done a great deal to help further the quality of life for young and senior individuals in the area.

She retired from Athens State University in 1999, after forty-two years as a Professor of Health and Physical Education and the Director of Alumni Affairs. During her tenure at Athens State, she worked with the faculty and students, local churches, and schools in the Athens-Limestone community to develop physical education programs in elementary and secondary level schools.

Dr. Nazaretian is a board member and volunteer for numerous community organizations. As an instructor for the American Red Cross, she developed numerous programs in First Aid, Water Safety, and C.P.R. She also served as a member of the R.S.V.P. Advisory Board, where she helped organize a Fitness Program for the Elderly, which is now part of the Community Wellness program. Furthermore, Dr. Nazaretian is recognized as one of the first leaders in Alabama to develop the Special Olympics program in the State.

Mr. Speaker, for her hard work and dedication, Dr. Nazaretian is respected by all who know her. On April 2, the Athens community gathered to celebrate and honor her achievements. I rise today, to join in their celebration and to congratulate her on behalf of everyone in North Alabama.

TRIBUTE TO FRED KOREMATSU

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay my respects to Fred Korematsu, who

passed away last week at the age of 86. In his early years, Mr. Korematsu experienced America at its worst, but he did so as an American at his best. Many years later, in large part thanks to Mr. Korematsu and his courageous actions, our country atoned for its mistakes, and took great steps towards fulfilling the promises entailed in our Constitution.

Fred Korematsu was born in Oakland, California on January 30, 1919. An American citizen by birth, Mr. Korematsu was nonetheless among the Americans of Japanese heritage ordered to report to World War II internment camps in May 1942. He defied the order, choosing instead to marry his girlfriend and live the life he believed that, like any other American, he was entitled to. That dream did not materialize; in May 1942 he was caught, arrested and jailed for failing to report as ordered.

Mr. Korematsu maintained that his Constitutional rights had been violated by the forced internment order, given without evidence, specific charges, or a trial. With the help of the American Civil Liberties Union, Mr. Korematsu sued the government and appealed his case to the Supreme Court. He lost the landmark *Korematsu v. the United States* by a vote of 6 to 3. In the majority opinion, Justice Hugo Black wrote that the internment was based not on "hostility to him or his race" but on "military necessity." In his dissent, Justice Frank Murphy spoke out against the internment in no uncertain terms: it "goes over the very brink of constitutional power and falls into the ugly abyss of racism."

For almost forty years, Fred Korematsu's conviction stood as a black mark of U.S. jurisprudence. In the early 1980's Peter Irons—a professor of Political Science at University of California, San Diego—discovered documents in which government intelligence agencies categorically denied that Japanese Americans posed any security threat whatsoever. For the Supreme Court case, the official reports exculpating Japanese-Americans were suppressed. In the course of his investigation, Irons unearthed other reports describing government claims of Japanese American spying as "intentional falsehoods."

In light of this information, in November 1983 Judge Marilyn Patel of the San Francisco Federal District Court overturned Mr. Korematsu's conviction. Five years later, the specter of state-endorsed racism was finally lifted for all Japanese Americans when federal law provided apologies and payments to those wrongfully relocated during the war.

There is no doubt that Fred's case figured prominently in the quest for justice for those American citizens wrongfully interned during the war. In 1998, President Clinton acknowledged Mr. Korematsu's role by awarding him the Presidential Medal of Freedom, our nation's highest civilian award. Like Rosa Parks, who insists she was just tired when she took her bus seat in Montgomery, Fred Korematsu was not looking to change the world when he refused to be interned. But also just like Rosa Parks, his defiance reverberated throughout our country, and engendered change as profound as his action was simple.

Mr. Korematsu spent his years after the war in California realizing his dream of a simple life; he worked as draftsman and raised a family. He is survived by his wife Kathryn, his son Ken, and his daughter Karen Korematsu-Haigh.

His is a life worth remembering; his defiance a testament to the potential for greatness within every ordinary American; his story a reminder of the progress our country has made, and a beacon keeping us ever hopeful for a better future. In the words of President Clinton, "In the long history of our country's constant search for justice, some names of ordinary citizens stand for millions of souls . . . Plessy, Brown, Parks . . . To that distinguished list, today we add the name of Fred Korematsu."

Mr. Speaker, Fred Korematsu was an American. He saw a wrong and did what he thought was right. With simple courage, he stood up to an entire nation and demanded that it make good on its promises. He should be remembered and honored, and as common men and women not all that different from him, we should strive to walk in his footsteps, fighting for equality and justice wherever their defense is needed.

REMEMBERING MICHELLE BULLOCK
MARRS, DEDICATED
HEALTH-CARE ADVOCATE

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Michelle Bullock Marrs of Nashville, Tennessee. Michelle Marrs was the Chief Executive Officer of the Matthew Walker Comprehensive Health Center in Nashville. She was a dedicated health-care advocate for all Tennesseans, especially the poor, uninsured and underserved. The community suffered a great loss when she passed away on Wednesday, March 16, 2005.

Michelle Marrs was born on July 13, 1952 in Louisburg, North Carolina. She attended grade school in Louisburg and Raleigh, and went on to receive a Bachelors Degree from North Carolina Central University and a Masters in Education from Harvard University. Before moving to Nashville, she served as the Chief Executive Officer for the Metrolina Comprehensive Health Center in Charlotte, North Carolina, where she was instrumental in generating significant funding for a Women's Center and Teen Clinic. She also dedicated much of her time to mentoring young women who were beginning their careers in healthcare.

Michelle's numerous public service awards included the 2004 Urban Legend Award for exemplary contributions for empowering communities and changing lives; The Ladies of Distinction Incorporation Award for dedicated service to African American Women in Healthcare in 2004; the Jefferson Street United Merchants Partnership Living Legend Award in 2003; and the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Public Service Award in 2000. Michelle was an officer on the board of the Greater Nashville Black Chamber of Commerce and she served on the Mayor's Taskforce for Child Development, as well as the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

Her most recent notable achievement was management of the Matthew Walker Comprehensive Health Center's million-dollar building project. Though diagnosed with a terminal illness, Michelle's clarity and resolve to ensure continued community healthcare led to the