

IN RECOGNITION OF TEXAS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY'S TABLE TENNIS TEAM

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the teamwork and spirit of the Texas Wesleyan University's Table Tennis program. These individuals have established themselves as true champions, emphasized no less by their devotion and passion to the sport. Texas Wesleyan is home to the National Championship Team for Collegiate Table Tennis, a title they have held since 2002. Texas Wesleyan University has won 16 out of 25 possible collegiate titles in 4 years.

The Texas Wesleyan table tennis players have exhibited their commitment to each other and their common goals this past season by diligently competing and overcoming any adversity in their way. Throughout the season these outstanding individuals have shown the success that comes from working as a team to achieve a great goal.

Under the leadership of former coaches and players such as Christian Lilleroos, the team has continued its championship status. It is with great honor that I stand here today to recognize this group of individuals who have made their community so proud: Interim Coach Keith Evans; Interim Assistant Coach Jasna Reed; Program Assistant Michael Meier; Volunteer Assistant Coach James Rautis; and Women's Junior Varsity team members Johnese Evans and Kareema Styles; Women's Varsity team members Jasna Reed and Sabrina Worrell; Men's Junior Varsity team members Andre Scott, Aldis Presley, Michael Meier, David Livings, Peter Lindsay-van der Puje, Sadiq Khan and Tim Aikey; and Men's Varsity team members Eric Owens, Courtney Roberts, Dinko Kranjac, Abdul Rahman Khan, Ludovic Gombos and Carlos Chiu.

The table tennis program of Texas Wesleyan University has demonstrated the essence of the American spirit of sportsmanship.

ACADEMIC ALL-STAR TEAM**HON. ED WHITFIELD**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2006

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize nominees for the Regional Academic All-Star Team from the Pennyroyal region in western Kentucky.

The regional academic All-Star program's purpose is to recognize top academic scholars and performers. Students from Caldwell, Christian, Trigg and Todd Counties of Kentucky were nominated based upon their academic performance in seven disciplines: English, foreign language, journalism, mathematics, science, social studies and the creative and performing arts. The students are judged on their core academic score, the curriculum of the student, their grade point average, academic honors earned, unique accomplishments and achievements, extracurricular activities, both school related and outside

school activities, employment history, and an autobiographical essay.

Mr. Speaker, education is the foundation upon which we reach our human potential. Students in my district are developing their talents, furthering their education and pursuing their aspirations in life through programs like the Academic All-Star program. Encouragement and recognition develop confidence and achievement among young Americans—the future leaders of our country.

The following students have been nominated for their academic excellence:

David Keith Greene III, David Aaron Griffith, Brian Matthew Harrell, Kenton Mark Henderson, Matthew Thomas Hightower, Nicole Liane Paul, Michael Wayne Rowe, Lindsey Michelle Storm, Allison Rae Hudson, Steven Kurtis McGhee, Samantha Jean Moore, Daniel Stephen Richard, Elizabeth Alice Riley, Dustin Alan Shaw, Sarah Nicole Becker, Amanda Josephine Collett, Jessica Elizabeth Joy Gapp, Samantha René McIntyre, Cody James Noffsinger, Hilary Dawn Pate, Mary Rachel Ray, Paul Allen Reed, Thomas Andrew Burkhead, Amanda Leigh Hall, and Lindsey Nicole Hancock.

Eric Anthony Money, Kelsey Paige Pendleton, John Luke Schirtzinger, Sarah Ann Stokes, Christie Marie White, Bethany Ann Cooper, Caitlyn Taylor Hughes, Kari Jaclyn Keech, Patrick Ross Metcalfe, Denver Andrew Sizemore, Caitlyn White, Betsy Camille Austin, Barrett Ray Boyd, Garrett James Ebel, Hunter Wood Hayes, John David Heisterberg, Garrett Richard Sharp, Stacey Brooke Sholar, James Gregory Williams II, Justin Keith Cavanaugh, Courtney Lynn Greenfield, Joshua Dwayne Jenkins, Aleia Lynne Judd, and Palak Manoj Majmudar.

Brittney Michele Metts, Forrest Samuel Pittman, Amanda Jane Sweet, Brittney Michelle Addison, Alana Freeman Baker, Kyle Mark Dettro, Leonard Gordon, Jr., Jennifer Lee Robinson, Derrick Shane Strong, Jillian Katherine Terhune, Kelsi Micole Austin, Amanda Baker, Hadley Burns, Shantinna Marie Hartrum, Mackenzie Isenberg, Emily K. Kelley, Lyndsey McClain, Cody Warren Nance, Stephanie M. Radford, Brandon Thomas Stanley, Hannah Elizabeth Stokes, Kanisha Paige Frye, Keishla A. Garcia, and Tanner James.

Justin Jatczak, Jordan Lee Johnson, Aaron Michael Laurent, Leslie Denise Peck, Brittany Sweet, Kevin Tyler Wiseman, Preston Workman, John Wright, Marty Stuart Asbridge, Taylor Davis, Lyndsey McClain, Anna Miller, Kendra Angela Montejos, Carly Jo P'Pool, Michelle Schulz, Thomas Shaheen, Chelsea Smith, Sarah Tucker, Josh Villafranca, Matthew P. Clark, Will Farmer, Thomas James Gilkey, Casey Haley, Austin Porter Hart, Jessica Nichole Jobe, Emily Anne Koehler, Tierra L. McShan, James Lile Rummage, Ashton Spangler, and Kelsey Elizabeth Thomason.

Mr. Speaker, these students embody the spirit, commitment and sacrifice that we all should strive for in our daily lives. I am proud to represent them in my District. I extend my thanks to these students for their efforts, and I am proud to bring their accomplishments to the attention of this House.

TRIBUTE TO MR. EDDIE WALTER JACKSON, JR.

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2006

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a great individual and community leader, Mr. Eddie Walter Jackson, Jr., and to thank him for his contributions to the greater Waco community and this great Nation.

Mr. Jackson is one of three children born to the late Ed W. Jackson, Sr., and the late Lula Mae Bowman Parker.

Mr. Jackson graduated from Corsicana Public Schools and later Paul Quinn College where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics and business. He served this Nation honorably as a member of the U.S. Navy, World War II veteran.

Following his service in the military, Mr. Jackson's exemplary work history includes working as a teacher and coach at the Anderson High School in Mart, TX; 34 years of outstanding service at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Waco, TX, and Nick's Restaurant for over 30 years.

Mr. Jackson has a deep love for his family. He shared wonderful years of marriage to the late Lonnie B. Taylor Jackson. They had one son, Ronald Wayne Jackson, Sr., and three daughters, Sara L. Pimpton, Doris Laverne Jackson, and Portia Elaine Jackson. He is a proud and devoted grandfather of nine, great-grandfather of eight, and great-great-grandfather of two.

For over half a century today, Mr. Jackson has been a devoted member of the Pleasant Olive Missionary Baptist Church. He is a life member of the American Legion, a member of the A. Phillip Randolph Institute, the American Federation of Government Employees, AFGE, Local 1822 for over 40 years, a dedicated member of the Central Texas Labor Council for 50 years and the Masonic Family-Mason.

Within the community, Mr. Jackson has shown a deep commitment by serving as a deputized voter registrar, poll watcher for elections, precinct 2, volunteer for the Democratic Party, and a candidate for the Silver Haired Legislature.

Mr. Jackson is a man of energy and action. He is the past president of the North Junior School PTA, past vice-president of AFGE Local 1822 and the immediate past president of the Central Texas Labor Council. He has dedicated his life to working to make Waco a better community.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to honor Mr. Eddie Walter Jackson, Jr., and offer my heartfelt appreciation for a life dedicated to service to the Central Texas Labor Council, his community and the people of Central Texas.

TRIBUTE ON THE RETIREMENT OF AMERICAN HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT RICHARD J. DAVIDSON

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2006

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Dick Davidson, President of the

American Hospital Association, who has announced that he will retire on January 1, 2007.

I have been privileged to know Dick Davidson for decades, since he headed the Maryland Hospital Association and I was a member of the Maryland House of Delegates. During his 22 years as the first president of MHA, Dick believed strongly in the shared obligation between state government and hospitals to ensure that communities' health needs are met, and he put that belief into practice. MHA was a proactive partner with the Maryland state government in creating innovative approaches to issues of health care costs and quality, most notably the Health Services Cost Review Commission, and the MHA Quality Indicator (QI) Project, the largest national and international effort to measure and compare indicators of hospital performance. More than 1,900 health care organizations in the United States and abroad now participate in the QI Project. I am pleased to note that the tradition of collaboration established by Davidson continues at MHA today.

In 1991, Dick Davidson was named President of the American Hospital Association, which represents 4,800 hospitals and health systems throughout the nation. At AHA, he continued to foster the tenet that hospitals and the federal government could together create ways to better serve the health needs of their communities. He assembled what is often considered the finest team of policy professionals and advocates in Washington. Davidson's tenure will also be remembered for promoting diversity in health care leadership. In 1994, AHA founded the Institute for Diversity in Health Management to expand leadership opportunities for ethnically, culturally, and racially diverse individuals, and increase the number of these individuals entering and advancing in the field. Over the past decade, the Institute has awarded more than \$110,000 in scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students, and placed candidates in residencies and fellowships at health care organizations across the country.

Among health care providers, payers, analysts, and policymakers, there is strong consensus that Dick Davidson's leadership has contributed to the improvement of the quality of health care across America. For that, the health care community and, indeed, our nation are grateful.

I also want to congratulate Dick's wife Janet, who will undoubtedly be able to spend much more time with him beginning in 2007. Janet was herself a fixture in the Maryland state house for many years, having worked for current Senate President Mike Miller and former Senate President STENY HOYER, among other distinguished elected officials. I would ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in wishing the entire Davidson family—including their three sons—Mike, Andy, and Rick—all the best as the Davidson era at the American Hospital Association draws to a close.

RECOGNIZING MR. LONNIE
EUGENE ROARK

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2006

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of my uncle, Lonnie Eugene

Roark, who passed away on April 15, 2006 at the age of 84.

Mr. Roark was born on February 11, 1922 in Missouri and grew up in Oklahoma during the Great Depression. He later moved to California and spent most of his life in the community of La Puente.

Mr. Roark was a proud veteran of our armed forces. He was stationed in Brazil during World War II while serving in the U.S. Army and went on to serve in the Philippines and Hawai'i with the U.S. Air Force. Mr. Roark's service is commemorated in the book, *Fighting Men of Oklahoma*.

Mr. Roark was like a brother to my father, Raul Solis, and was my sister, Anna Solis', godfather. His acts of kindness and dedication have inspired me and many who know him. It is a true blessing to have been raised with a role model like Mr. Roark; it is not every day that we encounter a person filled with such generosity and love.

Mr. Roark was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and friend. He is survived by his wife, 3 children, 4 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. He will be truly missed.

HONORING THE LATE CHARLES
WILLIAM ROGER

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.
OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2006

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor a man who will long be remembered for his devotion to his family, church, community and nation. Charlie Roger of New Iberia, LA, died last month following heart complications he experienced during surgery.

A native of Lafayette and a resident of New Iberia for 15 years, Charlie was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps. Following his military service, Charlie continued to exemplify the Marine code of "Semper Fidelis" by serving as an officer with the Lafayette Police Department, ultimately retiring as a Captain. I came to know Charlie through his most recent service as a Court Security Officer at the Federal Court House in Lafayette, where my office is located. I will always remember his smiling face as he walked the halls of the courthouse, keeping the building safe for my staff and the many other employees who worked there everyday.

Outside of his public service, Charlie also worked as a limousine driver for Mary Ellen's Bridal Shop on weekends. He was also an exceptionally talented musician, and was well known for playing the drums in his own band, "Charlie Roger and the Lafayette Playboys," or playing the scrub board with "Kenny and the Heart Breakers." Most recently, Charlie was awarded the Cajun French Music Association "First New CD of the Year 2006 Award."

In his off time, Charlie enjoyed working out and weight lifting at Red Lerille's Health Club. He was a member of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Community in Broussard, and also remained a member of the Marine Corps League and Fraternal Order of Police Officers.

I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me in paying tribute to

the memory of this outstanding public servant and in offering our deepest condolences to his wife, Debbie Picard Roger; his son Charles "C.J." Jude Roger; his sister Nelda Powell; and his brother Joseph Roger.

IN HONOR OF THE VOLUNTEERS
OF SOUTHWEST HOUSING AND
THE VILLAS OF REMOND COM-
MUNITY IN DALLAS, TEXAS

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2006

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the generous volunteers of Southwest Housing and the Villas of Remond community in Dallas, Texas. While many volunteers in the DFW Metroplex are worthy of recognition during National Volunteer Appreciation Week, the Southwest Housing and the Villas of Remond Community have performed inspiring and commendable work through their many acts of volunteerism.

During the past year, these volunteers have served on hospitality, spiritual wellness and entertainment committees that make important decisions for their community. They have led Bible studies, exercise classes, hosted book clubs, and planned celebrations. Additionally, volunteers and residents not only shared the food and clothes with the Hurricanes Katrina and Rita evacuees, but also encouraged friends, fellow churchgoers and family members to do the same. Through their generous work they have experienced first-hand the ancient truth to give is better than to receive.

The Villas of Remond is a senior community for ages 60 and "better" that encourages its residents to live life to the fullest and share their love, laughter and wisdom with anyone in need. It is indeed an honor and privilege to have these exceptional volunteers supporting the Dallas community. I salute their leadership and look forward to hearing of their continued volunteer success stories that are so critical to the local community.

INITIATIVES UNDERTAKEN BY
THE CUBAN-AMERICAN COMMU-
NITY TO AID THE CHILDREN OF
UKRAINE ON THE 20TH ANNIVER-
SARY OF THE CHERNOBYL
TRAGEDY

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2006

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, last December I had the honor to lead a Congressional delegation to Ukraine. The focus of the visit was to identify humanitarian initiatives that the Cuban-American community, that I am honored to represent, could undertake to help the "Orange Revolution" as it moved forward to address the most pressing needs of the Ukrainian people.

In the fall of 2005, Undersecretary of State Paula Dobriansky was kind enough to arrange a meeting with the First Lady of Ukraine, Katerina Yushchenko. During that meeting the First Lady made clear that one of