

Briles and Patterson have each enjoyed huge amounts of success, but got there through different means. Patterson is known as a defensive mastermind and is one of the only coaches in history to win the national Coach of the Year award more than once. Briles, oppositely, is an offensive tactician and has engineered one of the greatest program turnarounds in recent memory. Both Baylor and TCU were low level football programs when Briles and Patterson arrived. Baylor was considered one of the worst football programs in the country, regularly winning only one or two games per season. TCU had just been left out of the Big 12 and were now members of the Western Athletic Conference, which isn't even a football conference anymore. Now, both are considered two of the top coaches in America and have brought back respect to these once forgotten programs.

And that's just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING PROFESSOR PERRY WALLACE FOR OVERCOMING ADVERSITY IN SPORTS DURING THE CIVIL RIGHTS ERA

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2015

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Professor Perry Wallace, a Vanderbilt University graduate who integrated basketball for the Southeastern Conference (SEC) and current professor at American University, for overcoming the racism and violence he experienced as an African-American collegiate athlete during the Civil Rights era. While Wallace never viewed himself as a pioneer or a change agent for civil rights, he nonetheless helped break the color-barrier in the SEC as the first African-American basketball player in the Conference.

Like many African-American college athletes at the time, Wallace faced tremendous challenges, both physical and emotional, that highlighted the ugly reality of race relations in America. One significant memory Wallace has when his health and life were threatened was during a 1968 game between Vanderbilt and the University of Mississippi that was played in Oxford. During this game, Wallace—who was the only African-American player on the team—was subjected to racial epithets, taunting, threats of lynching, and physical violence when he received a swollen eye due to a thrown elbow just before halftime. Perry eventually returned to the game after tending to his injury, but he was mindful of the fact that after halftime, no members of his team stayed behind to accompany him back to the court. He went on to help his team win 90–72.

Unfortunately, the incident at Oxford was not the only time when he had to endure racism at an away game. Wallace and his teammates have recounted a noose being dangled near the Vanderbilt bench at a game in Knoxville and items being thrown at him, including Cokes, coins, ice and even a dagger. Perhaps adding insult to injury, many of the venues were very small and the sounds of racism could be easily picked up and broadcast over the radio for all to hear, including his mother who listened to the game against Ole Miss from her hospital bed. Despite the intolerance

he experienced, Wallace remained steadfast in his resolve to not succumb to those who wished to see him fail. He was fortunate, in this manner, to have such mental strength to survive. Others, including Henry Harris, who also played in the SEC, and Nat Northington, one of the first two African-Americans to play football at the University of Kentucky, found the pressures all too great.

In a stand against the injustices of the Jim Crow laws that made segregation legal and gave protection for acts of violence and death toward African-Americans, in his last game played in Nashville against Mississippi State, Wallace ended his college basketball career with a slam dunk—a play that was deemed illegal at the time. The illegal play was allowed to stand and he finished the game scoring 28 points and 27 rebounds. He dedicated the game to his mother who passed away a year earlier.

Perry Wallace graduated from Vanderbilt and was drafted by the Philadelphia 76ers in 1970. He earned his Juris Doctorate from Columbia University in 1975 and moved to Washington, DC where he worked in the Executive Office of then-mayor Walter E. Washington before becoming an adjunct professor of law at George Washington University. Professor Wallace then served as a trial attorney at the U.S. Department of Justice and later re-joined academia as an associate professor of law at the University of Baltimore School of Law.

Today, Perry Wallace is a professor at American University Washington College of Law where he specializes in environmental, corporate and international economic law, business and environmental studies, and is the Director of the JD/MBA Joint Degree Program. Perry has received numerous awards for his accomplishments in academia and his list of publications and writings is extensive. In 2003, he was inducted into the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame and in 2004, his Vanderbilt jersey, number 25, was retired. In 2014, Andrew Maraniss, a Vanderbilt alum and former associate director of media relations at the school's athletic department, published Wallace's biography entitled "Strong Inside: Perry Wallace and the Collision of Race and Sports in the South."

Vanderbilt University has a program called VUcept where freshmen students are paired with upperclassmen to make their transition to the school easier. As a freshman there, I was fortunate to have Wallace as my VUceptor. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing Perry Wallace for his tenacity in the face of adversity and for his many professional accomplishments and contributions to academia.

HONORING COLONEL DAVID ARTHUR LERPS, USMC (RET)

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2015

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Colonel David Arthur Lerps, USMC (RET), who died on October 21, 2014 after a long and valiant struggle with Parkinson's disease, and his career of service to our nation.

Born in Chicago, Illinois on June 28, 1931, he spent his early years in Eastchester, New

York and was an honors graduate of Duke University where he was Commandant of the Naval Battalion and participated in every sport, winning distinction as quarterback of the 1954 Blue Demons Football Team. His flight training at NAS Pensacola prepared him for many years in the Marine Air Wing. During his 30-year military career, he served three tours in Japan and flew 312 missions in Vietnam in 1968, where he was awarded 23 Air Medals and nominated for a Distinguished Flying Cross for valor in an especially dangerous mission to the DMZ.

He later served in strategic planning at the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington, DC; was both student and teacher at the Marine Corps Command and Staff College; and attended the Industrial College of the Armed Forces while gaining his MBA at George Washington University. He concluded his active duty as Chief of Staff, LFTC Pacific Naval Amphibious Base, Coronado.

Upon retiring from active duty in 1984, he was appointed Chief of Staff at the Academy of the Pacific, a post he held for 18 years. After retiring from AOP, he became a student once again, studying Shakespeare and music at the University of Hawaii.

Col. Lerps was a board member of Hawaii Opera Theater and member of the Hawaii Wagner Society. He was an ardent ocean canoe paddler, a board member of the Lanikai Canoe Club and coordinator of the Duke Kahanamoku Long Distance Canoe Race for four years.

Even with the decline in mobility and speech and the loss of the ability to swallow, he never lost his deep love for opera, sports, for his family, Catholic faith and Marine Corps. As life-long friend John Schwarz wrote, "Dave never really left the Corps . . . 'once a Marine always a Marine.' He was 'SEMPER FI,' a Marine to his final breath!"

Dave is survived by Mary, his wife of 55 years, his children Kathy Lerps, Karen Pittman, Robert Lerps, six grandchildren: Vito and Dylan Higgins, Ashley Snow, Amber Lerps, Kylie and Cassidy Barker; and a sister Ann Falkenberg and brother Kurt Lerps. I learned of Col. Lerps' life of service from his brother-in-law and my good friend Father Robert Oldershaw.

HONORING BISHOP GORDON ARLESTER HUMPHREY, JR.

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Bishop Gordon Arlester Humphrey, Jr. Bishop Humphrey was a beloved pastor, husband, father, and friend. With his passing on Sunday, December 14, we look to Bishop Humphrey's personal legacy of leadership, service, and the outstanding quality of his life's work.

Born to Gordon Humphrey, Sr. and Helen Humphrey, in Ohio, Bishop Humphrey was educated in the public schools of Chicago and graduated from Hirsch High School. He went on to attend Morehouse College in Atlanta, and then went on to follow in his father's footsteps, entering the ministry with his wife, First Lady Diane and their two children, Gordon III and Cha'Rena.

Bishop Humphrey was noted for establishing "Sunday Night Live," a service where all are welcome to attend without any condemnation or judgment, aimed at those who otherwise may not have attended a church service. This model proved so successful that it was replicated across the nation. He was also a powerful singer and a talented musician, using his gifts to minister through music and song. He was the executive producer of an acclaimed album entitled, "Olivet Oakland, Sunday Night Live! You're in the Right Place at the Right Time." The album was nationally and internationally recognized for its inspirational message.

After the passing of his father, Bishop Humphrey moved to Chicago, away from his 30-year ministry at Olivet Institutional Missionary Baptist Church in Oakland. Upon his return to Chicago, Bishop Humphrey assumed the position of senior pastor at Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, the church his father once led for more than 40 years.

Eventually, Bishop Humphrey would become the Senior Pastor at three churches: Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church in Chicago, Olivet Institutional Missionary Baptist Church in Oakland, and Olivet's sister church of the same name in Stockton, California.

Bishop Humphrey was known as a bridge-builder, and he opened the doors of Olivet to the community for the Oscar Grant Forums, which took place weekly for more than three years. He was noted for his prolific urban message and was in great demand as an evangelist, preaching the Gospel across the nation. For years, he was known to walk the streets and meet with drug addicts and gang members, and was able to bring them together and begin the healing process.

Today, California's 13th Congressional District salutes and honors an outstanding individual, Bishop Gordon Arlester Humphrey, Jr. His dedication and efforts have impacted so many lives throughout the state of California and the nation. I join all of Bishop Humphrey's loved ones in celebrating his incredible life. He will be deeply missed, but his life, legacy, and spirit will live in our hearts and our community forever.

HONORING LT. COLONEL ALLEN
KIRKSEY

HON. RUBEN GALLEGO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2015

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. Speaker, as he begins the transition to civilian life, I rise today to salute Lieutenant Colonel Allen Kirksey for his distinguished military career and years of dedicated service to our nation.

Lt. Colonel Kirksey most recently served as the Wing Chief of Staff in Phoenix, Arizona, a position he has held since June of 2013. He began his military career in the United States Air Force from 1979 to 1983, during which time he completed two operational assignments with the 92nd Bomb Wing and the 435th Tactical Air Wing. He enlisted in the Arizona Air National Guard in 1984 as a drill status guardsman Combat Crew Communications Specialist. In 1998, he assumed command of the 161st Security Forces Squadron. Lt. Colo-

nel Kirksey has deployed as the Wing Senior Intelligence Officer in support of Operation Desert Shield, Deny Flight, Phoenix Scorpion, and Southern Watch.

In 2001, as the Security Forces Commander, he was mobilized in support of Operation Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom and was designated as the 201st Mission Support Squadron Detachment Commander. In 2005, he served as the 161st Deputy Mission Support Commander, and in 2006 he assumed command of the 161st Logistics Readiness Squadron. In 2010, as the Logistics Readiness Squadron Commander, he was mobilized in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation New Dawn.

Throughout his years of service, Lt. Col. Kirksey has won numerous awards and distinctions, including the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal, twice. In addition, he was named the Arizona National Guard Diversity Champion in 2008 and the National Guard Diversity Award Winner—Air National Guard Individual Category in 2011.

Incredibly, on top of his outstanding service in uniform, Lt. Colonel Kirksey also volunteers over 100 hours each year at Phoenix-area schools and is a motivational speaker in the community. In 2014, he was awarded the City of Phoenix Calvin Goode Lifetime Achievement award in recognition of his outstanding leadership and dedication to civil rights.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Lieutenant Colonel Allen Kirksey and thank him for his many years of exceptional service.

MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Regina Crafter of Missouri City, Texas for being awarded the Ms. Texas America 2015 title by the Ms. America Pageant. Regina is a health teacher at Quail Valley Middle School in Missouri City, Texas. This award recognizes her exceptional contributions to her community as an educator, youth mentor and champion of health initiatives.

Regina has led several successful fundraising drives for the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center and the American Diabetes Association (ADA). She is also a breast cancer survivor who has been an outspoken awareness ambassador for the disease. She is committed to promoting a healthy lifestyle for her students. Regina is the Health Club sponsor and the ADA coordinator at Quail Valley Middle School. She has helped her students raise more than \$10,000 for ADA, the largest donation among secondary schools in Texas. She goes on to compete in the 2015 Ms. America Pageant finals.

I commend Regina Crafter for the outstanding difference she has made in her community as a role model and leader. On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Regina for being selected to represent our state as Ms. Texas America 2015. We wish her well as she competes on the na-

tional stage. I know she will make Texas proud.

CONGRATULATING DR. BRIAN D. SMITH OF THE DALLAS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2015

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor Dr. Brian D. Smith. On November 1, 2014, Dr. Smith began serving as the eleventh president of Dallas Christian College in Farmers Branch, Texas. He will be formally inaugurated this Saturday, January 24, 2015.

Dallas Christian College was founded in 1950 and maintains a mission to educate and mentor students to be "People of Influence, Under God's Influence, for a Life of Influence." I have no doubt that the strong work of the College toward this end will continue to excel under Dr. Smith's new leadership.

Dr. Brian D. Smith has a remarkable career in Christian higher education. He received a Bachelor's degree in Biblical Studies and Christian Ministry from Florida Christian College (FCC) in 2003. Two years later he earned his Master's from Lincoln Christian University in Contemporary Christian Theology and Philosophy. Smith received his Ph.D. in Theology from the University of Exeter in England in 2011. He has published several chapters in academic works.

During his initial working years, Smith remained with FCC, which eventually merged with another school to become Johnson University Florida. He quickly advanced from serving as registrar to Associate Dean of Academics and Institutional Effectiveness, then Vice President of Academics and ultimately Assistant Provost. During his time there, Smith led the university through the process of accreditation with the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) and the Association for Biblical Higher Education.

His strong and faithful professional life made him the top contender when the Board of Trustees for Dallas Christian College took up the task of searching for a replacement for their preceding president, Dusty Rubeck. The chair of the search committee, Dr. Keith Keeran, reported that the applicant pool was remarkable and seven well-qualified candidates were interviewed, but only one reached the final interview before the Board. Keeran further commented that "the Lord's hand was on the search process from the beginning."

Dr. Smith has always prayerfully desired to spread the Gospel and loves serving that cause through the work of Christian higher education. He and his wife, Samantha, have four children together. I welcome them to the 24th District of Texas.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating and wishing well Dr. Brian D. Smith as he begins to serve as President of Dallas Christian College.