

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.