

drew a school and OVC record 27,568 fans for the 1998 home opener against Tennessee State University. It ranked fourth in attendance nationally in Division 1-AA in 1998. And the university has a new football stadium that can handle nearly 31,000 fans to usher in its Division 1-A play. Coach "Boots" Donnelly also ended a stellar career (136-81-1) with MTSU at the conclusion of the 1998 season.

As a Division 1-AA football team, MTSU finished in the top 10 of the national polls on 10 different occasions, taking the Number 1 final ranking in 1985 and 1990. And under legendary coach Charles "Bubber" Murphy, the MTSU Blue Raiders football team participated in the 1956 Refrigerator Bowl, the 1960 and 1961 Tangerine bowls, and the 1964 Grantland Rice Bowl.

I congratulate the university's move into the highly competitive Division 1-A football arena and wish each and every player, coach and fan good luck in this debut season.

HONORING THOMAS J.
D'ALESSANDRO III

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 1999

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year, Loyola College in Baltimore took the occasion to honor one of its most distinguished sons, and one of Baltimore's most distinguished citizens. On May 18, Loyola presented its President's Medal for 1999 to Thomas J. D'Alessandro III.

Baltimore has a rich and proud political history, full of leaders who have served our community with distinction. It is no small honor, then, to be designated as the "First Political Family of Baltimore." Yet the D'Alessandro's would certainly be at the top of any list of nominees.

Tommy D'Alessandro, Jr., the father of Tommy III served as Mayor of Baltimore, and later was elected to this House. His wife Nancy was a political force in her own right, and a major player in Democratic politics in the city.

When it came time for the next generation to step up, they did so with energy and dedication. Tommy was elected to the City Council, served as its president, and then was elected Mayor of Baltimore. During his time of leadership in city government, Baltimore, like most major cities across the country, went through trying times as the civil rights movement expanded.

The major civil rights legislation of the mid-60s, including the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 represented an earthquake in American politics, and nowhere was this more true than in our great urban centers. Municipal leaders across the country faced challenges that required courage and a firm adherence to principles of democratic government.

As Mayor and as president of the city council, Tommy D'Alessandro showed himself to be up to the task. He shepherded Baltimore's own Civil Rights Act through the city council. In this action, as in so many of his decisions

in public life, he was guided by the moral principles that were instilled in him during his years studying under the Jesuits at Loyola College.

Mr. Speaker, any discussion of the political accomplishments of the D'Alessandro family would be sadly incomplete without an accounting of the family's spread across the continent. As a son of Baltimore, I am proud to note that the D'Alessandro family's talent for leadership, which we have long come to appreciate in our city, are now well known on the West Coast. I am speaking, of course, of our distinguished colleague from the San Francisco Bay area.

Nancy Pelosi, my good friend, who represents California's Eighth Congressional District, is the sister of Tommy D'Alessandro. In her commitment to human rights and democracy around the world, and her fierce adherence to the values of working class Americans, she shows the same approach to politics that served her brother and her father so well in Baltimore. It is truly the case that the "D'Alessandro Way"—the "Baltimore Way"—has undergone a successful transplant in northern California.

In honoring Tommy D'Alessandro III with the President's Medal, Loyola College bestowed a great and well-deserved honor on a great son of a great Baltimore political family. The text that accompanied the presentation of the President's Medal cited Tommy D'Alessandro for "his historic contributions to civic life in Baltimore, for the integrity and conviction of his principles, and for his life lived by the highest ideals of service to humankind." The words are true, and the honor is richly deserved. I am truly pleased to take this opportunity to join in offering my heart-felt congratulations to Tommy and to the entire D'Alessandro family.

CONGRATULATIONS ON GERMAN-
AMERICAN DAY

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, German-American Day will be celebrated on October 6, 1999 with festivities all over the nation.

German-American Day honors all Americans of German descent and their contributions to the life and culture of the United States and October 6, 1999 once again calls attention to this vital ethnic group and its continuing work and efforts in support of the democratic principles of this country and its commitment to the improvement of the quality of life in the United States.

The first German immigrants arrived at Penn's landing in Philadelphia in 1683. They had been invited to come to the New World by the William Penn, and arrived under the leadership of Daniel Pastorius, to settle in Germantown in Pennsylvania. They proved indeed to be valuable assets to their new homeland. The achievements of German immigrants are legion. Famous names like Carl Schurz, Baron von Steuben, Levy Strauss, John Jacob Astor, Peter Zenger, and more recently Albert Einstein and Henry Kissinger are testimony of Germany-American industriousness, loyalty and contributions.

Congratulations to all Americans of German descent on this important day.

RECOGNITION OF THE ALEXANDER
MACOMB CITIZEN OF THE YEAR
AWARD

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the March of Dimes 1999 Alexander Macomb Citizens of the year. Beginning in 1984, a group of leading Macomb county citizens instituted the "Alexander Macomb Citizen of the Year" award. The award was named after General Alexander Macomb, the county's namesake, who was a hero of the War of 1812, repelling a superior invading force at Lake Plattsburgh, NY, which kept the United States borders intact. Since the inception of the award, over \$500,000 has been generated for the Macomb County March of Dimes.

The Alexander Macomb Award is presented annually to deserving individuals who have demonstrated outstanding contributions and commitment to improving the quality of life in his/her community, the county and the State of Michigan. One of the three to be honored is attorney, mother and community activist Deborah O'Brian, Esq. Mrs. O'Brian has been active in the city of St. Clair Shores through her local parade committee, the Miss St. Clair Shores Scholarship Pageant, and the Little Miss St. Clair Shores Pageant. She helped plan, raise funds for, the cohost the St. Clair Shores Cops for Kids Telethon, which raised more than \$35,000 in support of kids 12 and under. Mrs. O'Brian participated in the Prosecutor in School Program of the 40th District Court in 1998-1999 and is involved with the Kiwanis Club's "Say No to Drugs" program. In addition to her civic commitments, she uses her legal expertise to help others through the Macomb County Bar Association Pro Bono Services.

I am proud to join the March of Dimes in honoring Mrs. Deborah O'Brian, as a Macomb County Citizen of the year.

DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT. 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2684) making appropriations for the Department of Veteran Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes.

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Chairman, as the daughter of a veteran, I rise in support of the