

AFC Defensive Player of the Week, a club-record, his athletic brilliance reflects his love and commitment for the game.

Derrick has made a lasting impression on our community through his Third and Long Foundation, which encourages young students from the inner city to embrace the power of literacy. His moments shared in reading to children turned quickly to lasting friendships. Children have shared stories about Derrick's kindness, his dedication of time to help them with their academic needs, and his willingness to listen and be their friend and role model. His Foundation also assists families with their parenting and literacy skills. He has been recognized for these efforts by receiving numerous awards, including the prestigious 1993 Edge NFL Man of the Year and the 1995 Bryon White Humanitarian Award for service to team, community, and country by the NFL Players Association. Former President Bush recognized his achievements by declaring him the "832nd Point of Light."

His father, Robert Thomas, was a role model who motivated and inspired him to excellence. While returning from a mission in Vietnam in December 1972, Air Force Captain Thomas was shot down. Derrick delivered the keynote address at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial during the 1993 Memorial Day remembrance ceremony in honor of his late father.

Derrick achieved many of his life long goals. He made a difference in our lives. We will always remember him. We will always remember his smile. May we learn from his tragic death the need to buckle up and in his memory remember each life is precious. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me in saluting this incredible man and in extending condolences to Derrick's family, teammates, and friends.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ALPHONSE D. MANSI

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and recognize the many achievements and contributions of Mr. Alphonse D. Mansi. Mr. Mansi will be retiring in February from the Boeing Company, where his presence will be sincerely missed.

Mr. Mansi began his career with The Boeing Company in Philadelphia in 1960. After serving a four-year assignment under the United States Marine Corps, Mr. Mansi began in the Boeing manufacturing department. Mr. Mansi's skills and talents brought him to the Labor Relations department in 1962, where he has worked for close to forty years. Mr. Mansi has aided in the global expansion and successes of The Boeing Company by holding Labor Relations positions both in America and Canada.

Alphonse Mansi was appointed Director of Labor Relations activities within The Boeing Company in March of 1976. During his appointment, he was responsible for all of the labor relations within Boeing Defense & Space Group, Helicopters Division. Mr. Mansi's dedication and loyalty to The Boeing Company

has been unparalleled and has stood as a model for fellow colleagues and peers. I would care to extend my congratulations to Mr. Mansi and thank him for all of his years of hard work and commitment.

HONORING RALPH LEON "SPEED" SHELEY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to pause and remember a man that will be missed by all those who knew him. Ralph "Speed" Sheley passed away on January 12, 2000. He was 80 years old.

Ralph was born on September 27, 1919 in Dove Creek, Colorado. Ralph spent his childhood in Kansas and Nebraska. When the United States entered World War II, Ralph was drafted in the Army where he served in the Signal Corps. Ralph was one of the first Americans in Hiroshima after the bombing. Our country is certainly indebted to him for his service and commitment to our country.

After the war, Ralph returned to Kansas, but moved shortly thereafter to Colorado. He met and married Billie Bradford in 1947 and in 1997, they celebrated 50 years of marriage. Ralph loved working in the orchards, farming, gardening, and spoiling his grandchildren and spending time with his family. Ralph always had a smile and a kind word of encouragement for everyone.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to offer this tribute in honor of Ralph "Speed" Sheley. He was a man who fought for his country and loved his family.

RECOGNIZING THE MASSACHUSETTS STATE CHAMPION LUDLOW HIGH SCHOOL BOYS SOCCER TEAM

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of the 1999 Ludlow High School boys soccer team. The Ludlow boys soccer team reclaimed the Massachusetts State title last November by trouncing their opponents from Needham 4-0. The Ludlow team finished the season with a record of 17-3-1, but their final game was their most impressive as they dominated Needham from start to finish. This team, like many Ludlow teams before it, played a skillful soccer style which allowed them to outplay virtually every opponent they faced.

Ludlow has been the heart of Western Massachusetts soccer for as long as anyone can remember. The town residents follow the high school teams with a fanaticism rarely seen in the United States, and during the 1990s, they have had a lot to cheer about. The Lions won the Western Massachusetts title five of the last six years, and won the state title in 1995, 1997, and 1999.

The success of the Ludlow boys soccer team can be linked directly to the coach. Head Coach Tony Goncalves has built a dominating program centered around skill and class. His knowledge of soccer is unparalleled in Western Massachusetts, and his coaching style is one that commands respect from his players, his opponents, and his fellow coaches. Coach Goncalves is quick to praise others, he is gracious in victory or defeat, and he is an inexhaustible resource for young coaches. He is the center of, and driving force behind, the success of the Ludlow High School boys soccer team.

Mr. Speaker, allow me to recognize here the players, coaches, and managers of the Ludlow High School boys soccer team of 1999. The players include Seniors Jonathan Witowski, Jason Chelo, Jason Dacruz, Justin Bruneau, John Reilly, Dave Fonseca, Dave Gwozdz, Rich Zina, Kevin Crespo, and Dan M. Santos, and Juniors Joe Jorge, Jason Devlin, Steve Jorge, Helder Pires, Mike Pio, Brian Cochenour, Chris Chelo, Manny Goncalves, Tim Romanski, Ray Cheria, Paul Martins, and Dennis Carvalho. The team is led by Head Coach Tony Goncalves, long time Assistant Coach Jack Vilaca, assistants Greg Kolodziej and Jonathan Cavallo, and managers Audrey Vilaca, Sarah Russell, Jennifer Russell, and Jillian Dube. Mr. Speaker, once again I am proud and honored to congratulate the 1999 Massachusetts State Champion boys soccer team from Ludlow High School in Ludlow, Massachusetts.

TRIBUTE TO JUDY PERRY

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize fellow Kansas Citian Judy Perry. Judy has served as the Executive Director of Harvesters Community Food Network in Kansas City, MO for the past 15 years. Harvesters has worked tirelessly to provide meals to less fortunate Kansas Citians and their families. Under Judy's direction Harvesters has tripled in size to serve twenty-six counties in Missouri and Kansas with more than 15 million pounds of food.

Judy's experience prior to her involvement with Harvesters was a Regional Administrator for the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation, which is a Congressionally chartered neighborhood revitalization program headquartered in Washington, DC. Her service has also brought her to Santiago, Chile with the Peace Corps where she taught English in a rural school. Judy's experiences in Chile sent her home with the whole new perspective on poverty and what Americans take for granted.

It is on the local level that we have truly seen Judy's dedication in her efforts to strengthen the bonds of our community. In addition to her work with Harvesters, Judy has served as chair of Mayor Richard Berkeley's Task Force on Food and Hunger. She has served as the co-chair of the Heart of America Hunger Network. She is currently the first vice-