

In 2001, following 7 years as CEO of the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, Rusty grabbed the reins of the Los Angeles Chamber. Under his skilled leadership, the LA Chamber was transformed into a thriving and profitable organization—the “go-to” group for area entrepreneurs and businesses of all sizes.

Rusty was also a passionate advocate for the least fortunate, and understood that good schools and a healthy environment are fundamental to the Los Angeles area’s appeal.

Rusty’s insatiable spirit was evident during his battle with cancer. He published a book—“When Cancer Calls Say Yes to Life”—which he said he wrote to help others struggling with the disease.

Madam Speaker, Rusty Hammer touched many lives. He will be missed.

HONORING TIAN-LI YUE FOR RECEIVING THE 20TH ANNUAL PHRMA DISCOVERERS’ AWARD

HON. JOE SESTAK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2008

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, each year, the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA) presents awards to researchers who have made incredible contributions to the development of a revolutionary medicine that helps patients live longer, healthier lives.

Today, Tian-Li Yue received the 20th Annual PhRMA Discoverers Award from PhRMA. The Discoverers Award is PhRMA’s highest honor and is presented to the biopharmaceutical scientists whose research and development of medicines have greatly benefited mankind, and whose dedication and interest in improving the quality of life of patients exemplifies the best in the research.

This year’s award has justly been presented to a cutting-edge researcher, and my constituent, Tian-Li Yue, who works for GlaxoSmithKline located in my home state of Pennsylvania.

Therefore, on behalf of the U.S. Congress I would like to recognize Tian-Li Yue, Ph.D. for developing Coreg(r), which is used as a treatment for congestive heart failure.

His unwavering dedication and life’s work to improve the health and well being of mankind are to be commended. Patients suffering from heart failure and hypertension are forever in his debt.

IN RECOGNITION OF SISTER JOAN GALLAGHER, CSA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Sister Joan Gallagher, in celebration of her years of kindhearted service to the less fortunate within the Northeast Ohio community.

Sister Joan is credited for her vigorous involvement in major projects that have touched the lives of so many people. Joan has been

credited for converting a former Academy into affordable housing for the less fortunate, developing a portion of a campus for the elderly seeking a God-centered environment and creating Joseph’s Home, a home for homeless men with medical problems.

For many years she has helped guide the Famicos Foundation, a community development corporation that provides housing for low-income families and seniors.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing Sister Joan Gallagher. May her years of service to the most vulnerable among us be an inspiration to us all in the world today.

HONORING THE MIAMI NORTHWESTERN SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2008

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute and congratulate the Miami Northwestern Senior High School varsity football team on being crowned the 2007 National Champions voted by ESPN’s High School Football Super 25 and winning the 2008 Florida Class 6A State title.

The Bulls have concluded the 2007–2008 season with a 15–0 season record and a second consecutive Florida Class 6A State title. The Bulls won back-to-back State championships for the first time in the School’s 50-year history. They are only the fourth team from Miami-Dade County to achieve the feat since 1963.

Since opening in the fall of 1955, Miami Northwestern Senior High School students and faculty have had a sense of pride unlike any other school in South Florida. The School opened its doors as a learning institution, and nearly 1,050 Black students who attended the School during its opening year were bused daily from Black communities throughout Dade County. Indeed, during this time period segregated schools were still existent and subsisting; thus, Northwestern became the first new high school for Miami African-Americans in a generation.

Despite the trials and tribulations the School often fought long and hard to get past, the School won its first State title before integration in 1963. After court ordered desegregation of 1970, Northwestern continued to strive within its football program. In 1995 and 1998 the School won two more State titles.

Northwestern, which has the best record of any Dade team (68–13) since 2001, boasts at least seven major Division I recruits on its roster with several others who could go to mid-major programs. Five of those seven have committed to the University of Miami. Among those is senior quarterback Jacory Harris (6–4, 170). He led an offense that scored no fewer than 28 points during the team’s winning streak. It is a known fact that the State of Florida produces one National Football League player for every three of its high schools. Northwestern has played a major part in this contribution with 20 notable graduates including: OT Vernon Carey (Miami Dolphins), DB Torrie Cox (Tampa Bay Buccaneers), WR Antonio Bryant (San Francisco 49ers), RB

Vernand Morency (Green Bay Packers) and LB Nate Webster (Denver Broncos).

William “Billy” Rolle, teacher and head football coach, graduated from Coral Gables Senior High School and later Florida A&M University. He began his teaching career in 1985 at Miami Edison Senior High School where he also began coaching football. Rolle guided Northwestern to its 1998 State title, and also led Miami Killian Senior High School to a State title in 2004. Rolle is the only coach in Miami-Dade County history to lead two schools to State championships.

Coach Rolle returned to coach the Bulls in 2007 and achieved compiling two of the three State titles the School held. He has been recognized as the 2007 Coach of the Year by American Football Monthly. Rolle is committed to preparing his team for post-secondary educational opportunities, and the world of work. The 2006 State Championship team featured seven stars that could sign with the University of Miami in 2008, as well as infamous star running back Antwan Easterling (Southern Miss).

To this day, there are still just as many devoted fans as there were when the School opened in 1955. Not only has the School’s academic arena earned noteworthy and positive outcomes throughout the past 53 years, but the School’s football program has demonstrated and become the highlight in Miami-Dade County that has continuously produced the best crop of talent in the Nation.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL EVANS WILSON

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2008

Mr. BERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise here today to pay tribute to a dear friend, Michael Evans Wilson, who was a longtime advocate for advancement of education and a veteran who honorably served our country. His passion for improving the lives of Arkansans will be missed, as well as his unwavering friendship. He delighted in asking penetrating questions, and his friendship was a treasure.

Mike was a compassionate and caring family man who loved his wife and children more than anything else in the world. He had a never-ending and burning desire to help people, and he made a lasting impression on each and every individual who knew him.

Mike was the son of the late Robert Edward Lee Wilson III and Patte Evans Wilson. He was the great-great-grandson of Robert Edward Lee Wilson, who founded Lee Wilson and Co. of Wilson in 1886.

He attended high school at the Baylor School in Chattanooga, TN, and graduated from The Citadel at Charleston, SC, in 1965. He served in the United States Army in Korea, and he achieved the rank of captain in air defense artillery prior to his honorable discharge in 1967.

Following his tour of duty in the Army, Mike returned to Wilson to work at Lee Wilson and Co. He served as chairman and chief executive officer of Lee Wilson and Co. from 1987 to the present.

Mike loved the State of Arkansas. Throughout his life, he became well known and highly