

The Leadership Fresno Steering Committee is comprised of alumni from previous Leadership Fresno classes. Kristine was president of Class 21, and Darren, District Director for California's 19th Congressional District, is in Class 23. Leadership Fresno has provided a place for community leaders to learn more about Fresno, network with other community-focused and concerned citizens, and offered innovative ways to work together to improve and change the greater Fresno area for the better.

The vision and leadership provided by this noteworthy organization is influential and effective in building communities in Fresno. Each year, Leadership Fresno coordinates a two-day retreat in August and continues building into the leadership class all year through the completion of the program the following June. The program includes seminars and projects, all leading to the improvement of community problems and concerns.

I am proud of the work done in the Fresno area by Kristine Walter in her capacity as chairman of the Leadership Fresno steering committee, and I am excited to see the work that Darren Rose will implement in the coming year. Please join me in congratulating both of these exemplary community leaders.

CONGRATULATING NORTH-  
WESTERN UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S  
LACROSSE TEAM

SPEECH OF

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 26, 2009*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 824, a resolution I introduced to congratulate the Northwestern University women's lacrosse team for winning its fifth consecutive national championship.

Madam Speaker, the Northwestern University lacrosse team completed the 2009 season with a record-setting 21–7 victory over North Carolina in the NCAA championship game on May 24. It capped a perfect 23–0 season for head coach Kelly Amonte Hiller and her team, joining the 2005 team as the second undefeated team in school history.

The Wildcats faced numerous challenges in seeking their fifth consecutive championship, yet they rose to meet that challenge each and every time. For instance, when trailing Penn 12–11 with time running out in the first overtime period of the NCAA semifinals, Katrina Dowd flipped a miracle shot over her shoulder while falling to the turf, which somehow scored with 0.2 seconds remaining, tying the game at 12. The team went on to win the game in the second overtime period.

As a team, the Wildcats set NCAA single-season records for points (570) and goals (407), while also leading the nation in draw controls (16.9 per game). Individually, Hannah Nielsen became the NCAA's single-game (10), single-season (83) and career assist leader (224). Sixteen of Northwestern's 23 wins came against ranked opponents, and they were a perfect 10–0 at home, extending their home winning streak to 54, an NCAA record.

In addition to the team honors, six Wildcats were awarded All-American honors by the Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association (IWLCA) and U.S. Lacrosse. Hannah Nielsen and Katrina Dowd were named to the first team, while Hilary Bowen, Meredith Frank and Danielle Spencer all earned second-team honors and goalkeeper Morgan Lathrop was a third-team selection.

In addition to being successes on the athletic field, this team is a success in the classroom as well. Fourteen members of the team were honored this year as being academic all-Big Ten honorees. The lacrosse team had 14 academic all-Big Ten honorees. And Senior Hilary Bowen was named ESPN the Magazine Women's At-Large Academic All-American of the Year.

Lastly, while this team's intelligence, athletic prowess and determination are evident, I would like to share a story that demonstrates the team's heart and commitment to their community. During the 5-year championship run, the Northwestern lacrosse team has made an enduring and lasting friendship with 10-year-old Jaclyn Murphy. The friendship began as the Wildcats did what they could to raise the spirits of a young girl diagnosed with a brain tumor. Today, that friendship between NU and Jaclyn continues to deepen. After seeing the impact the team had on his daughter, Jaclyn's father Denis started the Friends of Jaclyn Foundation, a non-profit organization created to raise public awareness regarding pediatric brain tumors. To date, over three dozen collegiate and high school teams have "adopted" children with brain tumors.

In conclusion Mr. Speaker, this team represents our nation's ideal of what the student athlete should be. Not only are the members of this team fantastic athletes and stellar students, they are also wonderful people. I would like to recognize all the team members: Bea Conley, Danielle Spencer, Shannon Smith, Katrina Dowd, Rachel Fox, Kim Pantages, Erin Fitzgerald, Lizzie Abramson, Taylor Thornton, Alexandra Frank, Lacey Vigmostad, Colleen Magarity, Samantha Suntulli, Ali Cassera, Amanda Macaluso, Brooke Mathews, Gabrielle Flibotte, Maggie Bremer, Kirstyn Atkinson, Maria Tedeschi, Jessica Russo, Alexa Delyra, Brittany Wilbon, Darby St. Clair-Barrie, Brianne LoManto, and Sara Harrington, as well as the coaches Kelly Hiller, Lindsey Munday, Ann Elliot, and Scott Hiller. I feel privileged to represent this team in Congress and I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

HONORING THE BOOK LAUNCH OF  
"FILIPINOS IN CARSON AND THE  
SOUTH BAY" BY FLORANTE  
PETER IBANEZ AND ROSELYN  
ESTEPA IBANEZ

**HON. LAURA RICHARDSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 27, 2009*

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to a very significant event that occurred in my district last Friday, October 23, 2009. That day marked the public introduction of an important new book, "Filipinos in Carson and the South Bay." I am proud that the co-authors of this book are my constituents, Mr. Florante Peter Ibanez, and his wife, Roselyn Estepa Ibanez. Florante is a library manager at Loyola Law School and adjunct professor at Loyola Marymount University where he teaches a course entitled "The Filipino American Experience." Rose serves as the board chair for the Filipino American Library and works for the City of Los Angeles in the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment.

Their work, "Filipinos in Carson and the South Bay," chronicles the rich history and significant contributions made by Filipino Americans to the City of Carson, the state of California, and the United States. It is an extensively researched and meticulously documented history of the Filipino experience. In addition to the general population, students of history, political science, anthropology, sociology, and other academic disciplines will find this work a welcome addition. I thank Florante Peter Ibanez and Roselyn Estepa Ibanez for undertaking this enormous task and salute their achievement.

Madam Speaker, October 2009 has been proclaimed Filipino American History Month in my home state of California and the U.S. Senate adopted a similar resolution earlier this month. It is my hope and expectation that the House will act very soon and favorably on H. Res. 155, a resolution I am proud to co-sponsor. This resolution will put the House on record in strong support of observing October as Filipino American History Month.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor and privilege to represent the people of the 37th Congressional District of California, which is one of the most ethnically, culturally, and racially diverse congressional districts in the country. This is especially true of Carson, one of the major cities in the district. Carson is comprised of roughly equal populations of Hispanics, African Americans, Caucasians, and Asian/Pacific Islanders. The majority of Asian Pacific Americans are Filipinos who settled there as early as the 1920s to work on the farms or in factories, or serve in the U.S. Armed Forces, or to start their own businesses, or to serve their community as doctors, lawyers, and members of the clergy.

In the years since the descendants of these pioneers have prospered and made Carson and the South Bay one of the most livable communities in the nation and a preferred destination for Filipinos looking to start a new life in our country.

The vibrant Filipino community in Carson and the South Bay hosts an annual Festival of Philippine Arts and Culture which is one of Southern California's oldest, largest, and most heavily attended community festivals.

Madam Speaker, the authors, Florante Peter Ibanez and Roselyn Estepa Ibanez, chronicle the remarkable story of the Filipino experience in Carson and the South Bay. Their book adds a long overdue chapter to the American story. I ask my colleagues to join with me in honoring Florante Peter Ibanez and Roselyn Estepa Ibanez and applauding their major contribution to Filipino American History Month.