

There is a taste of America in the Mountaineers' football triumphs. They are a team of hardworking players who know what it means to walk the walk, but who know best what it means to earn the title of champion. This team of scholar-athletes, under the leadership of Coach Moore, has shown America that we don't need famous names or star power to win championships. What counts most are hard work and perseverance.

I salute all the players, coaching staff, and the extended ASU family for a third straight national championship. This has been a great year for Mountaineer football, and I expect that next year we will see more of the same.

□ 2245

REGARDING THE PASSING OF
CHARLES G. TILDON, JR.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BRALEY). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, tonight I rise to pay tribute to a great American who fought tirelessly against injustice and inequality, using education as both his sword and his shield.

Charles D. Tildon, Jr., left this Earth on December 15, 2007, at the age of 81. Affectionately known as Charlie, he was born in my hometown of Baltimore, Maryland, to Charles G. Tildon, Sr., a preacher, and Estrom Elizabeth Tildon, a teacher.

His belief in the power of education was formed at a very young age. He and his brother, Dr. Tyson Tildon, were raised to pursue excellence, despite living in an era of overt and permeating racism. Not only did they pursue excellence, but they achieved it in every task they took on.

Both brothers, now reunited in heaven, embodied the virtues of dignity, integrity, and brilliance. Charlie received a degree in biology from the then Morgan State College and graduated from Frederick Douglass High School. He had a long and successful career that culminated with the post of the president of Baltimore City College, from which he retired in 1985. Along the way, he held positions as a middle school science teacher, associate director of Provident Hospital, executive director of the Maryland Service Corps, and assistant secretary of the Maryland Department of Human Resources.

His career trajectory as well as his community engagement were fueled by his desire to help others reach their fullest potential. Charles Tildon was indeed a trailblazer. In 1969, he became one of the first African American trustees for the Maryland Institute College of Arts. He also contributed his talents and his time to several community organizations, including Associated Black Charities and Open Society Institute. He combined his leadership capabilities with a passion for justice

to help organize movements for social change. He was a founding member of the organization BLEWS, the Black/Jewish Forum of Baltimore, which was created in 1978 as an effort to overcome estrangement between African Americans and Jews. Charlie Tildon understood the importance of having these two communities come together in order to build mutual trust and understanding. He recognized that we are all more alike than we are different, and that by working together we bring out the very best in ourselves and in others.

I was blessed to call Charlie my mentor and my friend. He was a role model to me and so many others. He taught us that our intellect is our greatest strength and, with it, we have a voice that we cannot be silenced. He also taught us that there are trying moments in our lives when we simply cannot remain silent.

He co-edited a collection of essays called *Clairvoyance: Reweaving the Fabric of the Community for Black Folk*. This visionary blueprint included discussions by some of Baltimore's most gifted thinkers about the relationship between our schools and the community in which we live. It concluded that we must become a community of learning if we are to become a society in which all people have the opportunity to succeed. *Clairvoyance* is just one example of how Charlie put education at the forefront of a march for human rights which everyone can join.

I fervently believe in our responsibility to create communities of learning to provide all children with equal educational opportunity and to teach them how to use their minds to overcome bigotry and hatred. Charlie helped to shape that belief.

Not only did he selflessly serve his community, but he cherished his role as a husband and as a father. I know I speak for all of those who had the privilege of knowing Charlie when I say his presence in our lives was present enough. He saw his life as a vessel to help others to succeed. I can think of no greater legacy. My prayers are with his wife of 49 years, Louise Tildon, his son Charles Tildon III, and his two grandchildren and his entire family. I thank them for sharing him with us, and I thank God for Charles Tildon's life of extraordinary service and unbounded grace.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

S. 2484

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Rhode Island (Mr. KENNEDY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, tonight I am proud to stand here to speak on behalf of S. 2484, a bill to rename the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, NICHD, after my aunt, Eunice Kennedy Shriver.

In 1962, Mrs. Shriver persuaded her brother, my uncle, President Kennedy, to establish the NICHD to ensure that all children are born healthy, and that they have an equal chance to achieve their full potential.

Since that time, NICHD has been a global leader in producing developments that improve the lives of this world's children. Specifically, research through the NICHD has helped produce results in reducing the rates of sudden infant death syndrome, reducing infant mortality and maternal HIV transmissions.

My aunt Eunice Shriver has spent her life fighting to deliver the promise of the American dream to each and every child, not only in this country, but around the world. She has never backed down from a challenge. In fact, when she heard from a mother who could not find a camp that would accept their disabled child, Eunice started a camp of her own in her own backyard, a camp for other parents who, like her, were trying to deal with a family member who was mentally retarded. My Aunt Rosemary had mental retardation, and my Aunt Eunice was inspired because of her experience with my Aunt Rosemary to start the Special Olympics. And I don't think there is anything that has probably had a more profound effect on millions of people's lives in this world than the impact that Special Olympics has had, not only on the millions of families whose lives that it has touched with those with intellectual disabilities, but also for the millions and millions of volunteers who have come in contact with Special Olympics and who found their lives moved and transformed because of their experience with Special Olympics.

The Special Olympics organization has given athletes and their families the courage to participate in competition while always remembering that success is not measured by how often you win but by how brave you are in the attempt.

Beyond providing athletes and their families with new and unique opportunities in competitive sports, the Special Olympics also established the Healthy Athletes Initiative, which increases health care to athletes at events all around the world. During 2006, 600 screening events took place, and 135,000 athletes received a screening. These screenings provided not only critical care to athletes; they also provided appropriate treatment, and also an opportunity for those athletes to get the rewards of getting the best in treatment that are too often taken for granted by the rest of us.

In addition to that, the data from these screenings are collected and used