

TRIBUTE TO HOWARD TIHILA
OUTSTANDING OREGON NATIVE

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I bring to the attention of my colleagues the honor bestowed upon an Oregon native by George Washington University at a recent ceremony here in Washington, D. C.

Howard "Nig" Tihila, a native of Astoria, Oregon was inducted into George Washington University's Athletic Hall of Fame for his outstanding football feats in the late 1930's. "Nig" as his friends call him, was born of Finnish parents and was raised in Astoria. He excelled in football at Astoria High School and ended up at George Washington where he was their first string full-back in 1936 and 1937. He helped lead the colonial team to its second best record in their history and was noted for his outstanding blocking ability which opened the holes in the single-wing attack for the great running-back Tuffy Leemans.

After college, he captained a Navy minesweeper during World War II and returned to Washington to hold several key positions in government until his retirement. Howard's last position was as head of Administrative Services for the National Science Foundation where he received the Foundation's Meritorious Service Award.

Tihila joins a group of distinguished GW athletes in the Hall of Fame including Red Auerbach, Tuffy Leemans, Calvin Griffith, Bob Considine and others. Howard is also a distinguished member of the prestigious Chowder and Marching Society of Washington, D. C.

I send my congratulations to his family back in Astoria plus his lovely wife, Mary, and thank you again, Mr. Speaker, for the opportunity to display my pride in the people from the great State of Oregon.