

HONORING CHIEF JUDGE WILLIAM
WALTER WILKINS, Jr.

Mr. DEMINT. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the years of dedicated service that William Walter Wilkins, Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, has given to the Federal judiciary. Hailing from my hometown of Greenville, SC, his contributions to South Carolina and our Nation are immeasurable.

Chief Judge Wilkins began his public service in 1967 as an officer in the U.S. Army, eventually earning the rank of colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves. Upon his honorable discharge from the Army, Chief Judge Wilkins worked as a law clerk for the Honorable Clement F. Haynsworth, Jr., U.S. Court of Appeals Fourth Circuit until 1970, then going on to become a legal assistant for the late Senator Strom Thurmond. And Senator Thurmond got it exactly right when he called Chief Judge Wilkins "a man of character and unquestionable integrity."

While in private practice, Chief Judge Wilkins was elected as the first Republican Solicitor for the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit since Reconstruction, a post that showcased his extensive knowledge and mastery of the legal profession.

In 1981, newly elected President Ronald Reagan used his first Presidential appointment to nominate Chief Judge Wilkins to the position of the U.S. District Judge for the District of South Carolina. Chief Judge Wilkins was confirmed by this body on July 20, 1981 and received his commission on July 22, 1981.

In 1985, President Reagan appointed Chief Judge Wilkins to be the first Chair of the United States Sentencing Commission, where he was given the task of creating guidelines for the sentencing of Federal defendants. He served in this capacity until 1994. During that time, he was also appointed to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, where he has served as Chief Judge since 2003.

Chief Judge Wilkins is a nationally recognized jurist and is known for his scholarship, sharp wit, and unyielding allegiance to the rule of law. Not only is the State of South Carolina honored to be the home of a man of his integrity, but the United States is privileged to have such a distinguished jurist defending our American legal system.

I commend Chief Judge Wilkins for his 25 years of public service to the United States.

HONORING RANDE YEAGER

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to commend Rande Yeager, a constituent of mine, on completing a year as president of the American Land Title Association, ALTA. He ably represented the land title industry at a time when the value and public policy purposes of

title insurance and the maintenance of land records came under challenge.

His leadership of ALTA over this past year was a natural extension of his corporate experience. As president of Old Republic National Title Insurance Company, one of the leading title underwriters in this country and my State of Minnesota, Rande has experience being both a leader and a spokesperson for a large company.

As ALTA president, Rande made numerous trips to State conventions across the country to get to know his colleagues better, hear their concerns for their businesses and the industry, and came back ready to find out how ALTA could help. He also came to Washington to promote the importance of title insurance and land record maintenance.

ALTA has been well served by Rande's leadership. I congratulate him on his year as president and best wishes on his future endeavors.

MIDDLE GEORGIA BUCKS SENIOR
BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I have submitted a resolution to congratulate the 2006 Middle Georgia Bucks Senior Boys Basketball Team of Macon, GA, for their winning season. Not only did they win the 2006 Amateur Athletic Union National Championship, AAU, they won the 2006 State of Georgia AAU Championship and the 2006 Hoosier Showcase in Indianapolis, IN, as well. The Bucks finished the season with an undefeated record of 27 wins and 0 losses. On August 1, they claimed their national victory by defeating the North Carolina Gators by a score of 97 to 75.

This resolution recognizes and commends the hard work, tenacity, and steadfast commitment to excellence of the members, parents, coaches, and managers of the Middle Georgia Bucks. It also commends the Amateur Athletic Union for continuing the tradition of fostering the development of sportsmanship, discipline, and self-assurance in young adults. This talented team, managed by Alfonza Hall and coached by Melvin Flowers, Chris Cromartie, and Al Hagan, has brought great pride to the State of Georgia and the Middle Georgia community, where the fans have shown unwavering enthusiasm, support, and admiration for the players and coaches.

Mr. President, I would like to recognize the players individually for their accomplishment: Lehmon Colbert; LaShun Watson; Anthony Miller; Terrell "Sput" Dunham; Keith Ramsey; Giles Mack; Antonio Steele; Tay Waller; Jarvis Ogletree; Rashad Faust; Sean LeGree; Jermaine Sparks; Josh Williams; Akila Carter; and Jeremiah Crutcher. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to each of these players and their families, and to all involved in the organization. I urge my colleagues to support the resolution.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO JARED JENSEN

• Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, today I honor the service and sacrifice of Officer Jared Jensen.

My wife Joan and I were deeply saddened to hear of the death of Officer Jared Jensen while in the line of duty.

It takes a person of great courage to become an officer of the law. It takes a strong, hardworking, and considerate individual. It takes a special someone who is willing to pay the ultimate price in protecting the safety of others.

Officer Jared Jensen was just this person. He served the Colorado Springs Police Department with honor and valor for more than 3 years. Officer Jared Jensen was a dedicated police officer who had a passion for upholding the law.

Officer Jared Jensen was a husband, a brother, and a son. He is survived by his wife Natalie, a brother, who also serves the Colorado Springs Police Department, and his loving parents. Among his many hobbies and interests, Officer Jared Jensen was an avid NASCAR racing fan and golfer. Throughout his life, Jared's caring heart was evident in his devotion to family and friends, his love of animals, and his loyalty to his fellow officers with whom he served.

The city of Colorado Springs has lost a valuable member of its community, and we are all forever grateful for Officer Jared Jensen's service and dedication to the safety and well-being of others. His service to the city of Colorado Springs is highly commendable, and his contributions will be remembered.

On October 6, 2006, the Police Cross and Medal of Valor will be presented to Officer Jared Jensen, posthumously, and given to his widow Natalie at the 21st Annual Medal of Valor Award Ceremony in Colorado Springs, Colorado. These awards represent his extraordinary heroism and honorable service to the Colorado Springs Police Department.

I extend my deepest appreciation to Officer Jared Jensen. May his bravery and unwavering sense of duty serve as a role model for the future generation of law officers. •

COMMENDING FORT PECK RESERVATION AND FEDERAL HIGHWAYS ADMINISTRATION

• Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I want to take this moment to call the Senate's attention to a historic agreement that was signed today between the Federal Highways Administration and the Assiniboine & Sioux tribes at the Fort Peck Reservation in Montana.

Today, Fort Peck entered into an agreement with FHWA to directly manage highway funds for the reservation, allowing increased focus on the local needs of tribal members. Fort

Peck is one of five tribes that were selected for this new partnership. By empowering the tribes to administer these funds directly, FHWA is recognizing the critical need for improved transportation infrastructure on tribal lands. From increased safety to economic development, tribal authorities are best suited to direct this funding in a manner that will serve the needs of their communities.

In the recently passed highway bill, the Indian reservation roads account was substantially increased, which also demonstrates the Federal commitment to tribal transportation needs. I was pleased to support this increase, and even more pleased that Montana is leading the way in this new era of government-to-government cooperation in administering these funds.

I am a firm believer that empowering folks on the ground to address the specific needs of their communities generally yields the best results, and no where is that more true than in Indian Country. Montana's tribes are working tirelessly to improve the quality of life for their people, and investing in basic infrastructure, like roads, is the foundation of economic growth in these rural areas. Safe, reliable roads are needed to get kids to school, people to work, and products to market. This is a basic need we are talking about here, and I am confident that the leaders at the Fort Peck reservation are best suited to tackle these challenges.

I would like to congratulate Fort Peck and FHWA for this groundbreaking partnership. I am hopeful that we can build on this initiative and expand the ability of tribal leaders to shape the future of their people. ●

HONORING ADMIRAL JOHN WILLIAM KIME

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment today to honor and pay tribute to ADM John William Kime, the 19th commandant of the Coast Guard who passed away on September 14, 2006.

During his distinguished 41-year career in the Coast Guard, Admiral Kime embodied the ideals of superior public service. An officer of great vision and ability, his leadership as the Commandant of the Coast Guard from 1990 to 1994 left an indelible legacy of resource stewardship, environmental protection, and increased national security.

Admiral Kime graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in 1957. Following graduation, he immediately went to sea, serving in both deck and engineering assignments aboard the Coast Guard cutter *Casco*. In 1960, he assumed command of Loran Station Wake Island.

After his tour of duty in the South Pacific, Admiral Kime earned masters degrees in marine engineering and naval engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and em-

barked on what ultimately became his lifelong professional passion: improving the safety and security of this Nation's maritime interests.

Admiral Kime commanded the Marine Safety Office in Baltimore, and served as the principal U.S. negotiator at the International Maritime Organization, IMO, conference in London where he was a key contributor during drafting of the liquefied gas container ship safety codes. Also during his time in Washington, Admiral Kime oversaw the structural design of the Coast Guard's Polar Class icebreakers—two vessels that have proven to be the anvil upon which this Nation's scientific research at the Earth's poles has been forged.

While commanding the Coast Guard's Eleventh District, Admiral Kime was summoned to direct the Federal response to the Exxon Valdez oil spill, an event of national significance that influenced the rest of his career. Admiral Kime went on to serve as Chief of the Marine Safety, Security and Environmental Division in Washington DC and was ultimately confirmed by the 101st Congress as Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard in 1990.

As Commandant, Admiral Kime oversaw implementation of the landmark Oil Pollution Act of 1990. This act streamlined and strengthened the Federal Government's ability to prevent and respond to catastrophic oil spills. For his immense successes in improving commercial shipping regulations, he was awarded the 1993 International Maritime Prize by the International Maritime Organization.

From overseeing the structural design of our Polar ice breaking fleet to pioneering improvements in the way our Nation prevents and responds to oil spills in the wake of the Exxon Valdez disaster, Admiral Kime's influence and energy remains visible in the wonderful performance of the U.S. Coast Guard today.

Mr. President, I ask all Members of the Senate to join me in recognizing Admiral Kime's service in our Nation's Coast Guard and remembering both his life and his dedication to the United States of America. ●

HONORING THE SERVICE OF DR. DOROTHY C. STRATTON

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, on September 17, 2006, this Nation lost another distinguished member of our "greatest generation." Dr. Dorothy Constance Stratton. She was 107.

An inspirational leader and true patriot, Dr. Stratton was born in March of 1899, attended high school in the Midwest, and graduated from Ottawa University with a bachelor of arts degree in 1933. She went on to earn a master of arts degree in psychology from the University of Chicago and a doctorate of philosophy from Columbia University.

After earning her degrees, Dr. Stratton became the first full-time dean of

women at Purdue University. Always committed to establishing a more positive and constructive atmosphere for women on campus, her pioneering force brought to life a vision to make science more appealing to women. With enthusiasm and energy, she developed an experimental curriculum that proved successful and increased undergraduate enrollment of women at Purdue from 600 to over 1,400.

In 1942, as the dark clouds of World War II gathered over our Nation, Dr. Statton felt compelled to duty and took a leave of absence from Purdue to join the Naval Women's Reserve. Shortly after receiving her commission in the Navy as a lieutenant, President Roosevelt signed an amendment to Public Law 773, thereby establishing the Coast Guard's Women Reserve.

Known for her brilliance as an organizer and administrator, a newly promoted Lieutenant Commander Stratton was sworn in as Coast Guard Women's Reserve new director, simultaneously making Dr. Statton the first woman accepted for service as a commissioned officer in the history of the U.S. Coast Guard.

Lieutenant Commander Stratton immediately left her mark on the newly established Reserve Service. Shortly after accepting the position of director she sent a memo to wartime Coast Guard Commandant ADM Russell R. Woesche. Dr. Stratton wrote, "The motto of the Coast Guard is 'Semper Paratus—Always Ready.' The initials of this motto are, of course, S-P-A-R. Why not call the members of the Women's Reserve SPARs? . . . As I understand it, a spar is a supporting beam and that is what we hope each member or the Women's Reserve will be." And so they were.

Under Stratton's inspiring leadership the newly named SPARs expanded to include nearly 1,000 officers and over 10,000 enlisted women. These dedicated, selfless women initially replaced men working in traditional clerical and routine services at shore stations, but as the war progressed, SPARs worked as parachute riggers, pilot trainer operators, aviation machinists' mates, and air control tower operators. Known as the "women behind the men behind the guns," their duties eventually extended to include the most important port security, logistical, and administrative jobs. By wars end, the SPARs successes had forever changed the role of women in the Coast Guard, and Dr. Stratton had been promoted to the rank of captain, another first for the U.S. Coast Guard.

Following her time as SPAR director, Dr. Stratton became the first director of personnel at the International Monetary Fund, followed by service as executive director of the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. She was also the United Nations representative of the International Federation of University Women.

History is replete with events demonstrating the service and sacrifices