

Finally, when asked whether Japan shared common values with the United States, 83 percent of the general public, and 94 percent of opinion leaders agreed. The only country that received a higher score was the United Kingdom, by only 2 percent for each group.

These numbers and responses to the Gallup Poll should suggest our relationship with Japan is excellent. The general public believes it, and our Government has said so as well. Why should we involve ourselves in a legislative act that would jeopardize a relationship as good as we share with Japan?

Is this how we Americans should conduct ourselves with the Japanese, our friends and allies?

HONORING DETECTIVE DAVID RICH

Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, today with a heavy heart and deep sense of gratitude I honor the life of a dedicated State trooper from Indiana. David Rich, 41 years old, died on July 5, 2007, from a gunshot wound he suffered in the line of duty as an Indiana master trooper detective. David risked his life every day to serve and protect Hoosiers in order to make Indiana a better place.

David comes from, and leaves behind, a family devoted to Indiana law enforcement. His father, former Miami County Sheriff and retired State trooper Jim Rich, and his mother Linda, instilled in him a sense of public service and respect for the law. Along with his brother, Indiana State Police Captain Robert Rich, David followed in his father's footsteps, taking the oath to serve and protect. He is also survived by his sister, Kimberly, and three nieces and one nephew.

David was an 18-year veteran of the State police and was well loved by his community. Although a great State trooper, he was best known for his devotion and loyalty to his family. He was a loving husband to Connie and took enormous pride in raising their 7-year-old daughter, Lauren, and 4-year-old twins, Carson and Connor.

His final act exemplified what kind of person David truly was. While off duty, David pulled over to aid a man whom he thought needed help. In a senseless act of violence, David was tragically shot and killed by this man. Even when off duty, David showed his dedication to serve, protect, and help those in need. It is a terrible tragedy that this nonsensical act took the precious life of such an honorable man.

SGT Tony Slocum, who worked with David, said Indiana "lost a very, very good man," and described him as one of the nicest people he has ever met. David would have done anything to help anyone in need "as he's done here on many occasions at the post," Slocum said. "He might give you the proverbial shirt off his back."

Today, I join David's family and friends in mourning his death. While

we struggle to bear sorrow over this loss, we can also take pride in the example he set, bravely serving to make America a safer place. It is his heroism and strength of character that people will remember when they think of David, a memory that will burn brightly during these continuing days of conflict and grief.

When I think about David's profound commitment to protect and the pain that accompanies the unjust loss of this outstanding trooper, I hope that some comfort can be brought to all the loved ones David left behind through the words of Peter 3:14:

but even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed.

Both David's final altruistic act, as well as his everyday lifestyle, epitomized doing "what is right." May God be with all of you who mourn this tragic loss, as I know He is with David.

It is my sad duty to enter the name of David Rich in the record of the U.S. Senate for his service to the State of Indiana and the United States of America.

TRIBUTE TO VERMONT FROST HEAVES

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I wish to tell my friends in the Senate about the Vermont Frost Heaves, the bumps in the road that we Vermonters are actually proud to claim as our own. Unlike the frost heaves New Englanders have come to know too well under the dented rims of our cars and trucks, these basketball-playing Vermont Frost Heaves are pioneers, superb athletes, role models, and as of this spring, champions of the American Basketball Association.

The Frost Heaves' motto, "we're going to be their bumps in the road," rang true many a winter's evening this year. With an overall record of 34-6 and a league record of 30-6, the Frost Heaves quickly became unfamiliar with losing, energizing Bump the moose, the team's mascot, and thousands of cowbell-ringing fans. Then, on March 29, 2007, while the sap was still running out of sugar bushes, the Frost Heaves charged their way to a triumphant 143-to-95 title victory over the Texas Tycoons, adding an exclamation point to the success of their inaugural season.

From the birth of the Vermont Frost Heaves, founder and owner Alex Wolff found a way to tie Vermonters into the team, captivating fans near and far and promising to be sustainable, local, built to scale, of the community, and embracing the Internet revolution. As a professional journalist found in the pages of Sports Illustrated, Wolff documented his journey growing a championship team with fan participation along the way. The result—a team beloved by Vermont.

Under Wolff's ambitious leadership, and with the permission of his wife Vanessa, the Wolffs created a family-friendly, affordable source of entertain-

ment in central and northern Vermont. With a home schedule split between two of the most historic gymnasiums in the State, the Barre Auditorium and Memorial Auditorium, fans from throughout Vermont had the opportunity to support their team. As the Wolffs explain, "we wanted to create a legacy for Vermont," and that is just what they have done.

After Wolff put the selection of their coach to a worldwide vote, the fans chose coach Will Voigt, a native of Cabot, VT, to be their skipper. Voigt, a three-star athlete before embarking upon a successful coaching career, left a coaching position in Norway to return to the Green Mountains.

The team starred three Vermonters, Kerry Lyons of Milton, Dana Martin of Stowe, and B.J. Robertson of Burlington. Lyons led the Milton High School Yellow Jackets to four Vermont State final fours. He was named Conference Player of the Year and was chosen as an All-State selection. He then attended Lyndon State College where he served as the team captain for 3 years. Lyons returned to Lyndon State after graduation serving as the assistant coach for both the men's and women's basketball teams during the 2000 to 2001 season.

Dana Martin attended Stowe High School and Proctor Academy in New Hampshire and continued on to play basketball for Skidmore College. Martin was the first basketball player from Skidmore to enter the professional ranks, playing in Germany after graduation, where he led his team in scoring with more than 22 points a game. Martin has offered a basketball camp for the past six summers in his hometown of Stowe for elementary school students aspiring to follow in Martin's Frost Heave footsteps.

B.J. Robertson is a graduate of Burlington High School and St. Michael's College, entertaining Vermonters with his pizzazz at both the high school and college levels. He is the all-time leading scorer at Burlington High, a record his brother owned prior to his arrival on the scene. Well known by high school sports aficionados, Robertson was named "Mr. Basketball" by the Burlington Free Press his senior year. At St. Michael's, Robertson played in 104 games at the collegiate level, starting 91 of them in 4 years. He consistently was among the leaders on both the offensive and defensive side of the ball for the Purple Knights.

Other Frost Heaves players came by way of New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, Arkansas, Alabama, and even as far as Senegal. Aaron Cook led the Frost Heaves in scoring and minutes played for the inaugural season, averaging 16.3 points on 22 minutes. Kelvin Parker led the team in field goal percentage. Antonio Burks led the team in free throw percentage, completing nearly 83 percent of shots from the foul line. John Bryant led the team in rebounding, with 246 for the season, also leading the team in blocks.