

1848 by John Palmer Parker. Purdy was one of his great-grandsons.

In 1907, Eben "Rawhide Ben" Parker Low went to Cheyenne's Frontier Days and thought Hawaii's paniolo would be able to hold their own in competition there. Rawhide Ben had recently sold Pu'uwa'awa'a Ranch on the Big Island and financed the trip to Cheyenne in 1908 for himself, his half-brother Purdy, his cousin Ka'aua and his brother Jack Low.

"He felt they were the top ropers in the Islands," said Tila Spielman, Rawhide Ben's granddaughter.

The horses that Purdy, Low and Ka'aua borrowed were rough. And on the second day of competition, Low downed his calf in record time, but an asthma attack kept him from tying it up.

His time from the first day was still good enough for sixth place. Ka'aua's time of 1 minute, 28 seconds, got him third place. And Purdy was champion with an astounding 56 seconds. According to some accounts, it might have even been as low as 52 seconds.

Purdy never returned to Cheyenne, or even left Hawaii again.

He is on the verge of being immortalized in Oklahoma, but the attention he is getting today is exactly the kind that would have made him nervous.

Whenever he was asked about his accomplishments, Purdy would simply say: "Other things to talk about besides me."

[From the Honolulu Advertiser, Oct. 18, 1999]

RODEO HALL OF FAME ADDS ISLE PANIOLLO

A Hawaii paniolo who is remembered in song and story was inducted into the Rodeo Hall of Fame yesterday in Oklahoma City.

The late Ikua Purdy was one of eight people honored during a ceremony at the National Cowboy Hall of Fame and Western Heritage Center.

Twenty of Purdy's relatives and friends made the journey from Hawaii for the program. One of the ceremony's highlights was the group performing the hula to a reading of Purdy's life story.

Purdy, who was born on Christmas Eve 1873 on the Big Island's Parker Ranch, learned to ride and rope on grasslands and upland forests of Waimea and Mauna Kea.

In the 1908 world roping championship in Cheyenne, Wyo., he snagged a steer in a record 56 seconds. Such songs as "Hawaiian Rough Riders" and "Waiomina" recounted his victory. Purdy, who never returned to Wyoming to defend his title, worked as a paniolo until his death July 4, 1945.

Purdy missed induction last year by 60 votes. So Billy Bergin, a Big Island veterinarian who grew up working as a paniolo, established an organization that encouraged people in Hawaii to join the Rodeo Hall of Fame so they could vote for Purdy's induction.

Mr. AKAKA. Ikua Purdy went home to Hawaii and resumed his work as a paniolo until his death in 1945. He did not return to the mainland to defend his title, in fact he never left Hawaii's shores again. But his victory and legend live on in Hawaii and the annals of rodeo history. His achievements are immortalized in song and hula in Hawaii, including "Hawaiian Rough Riders" and "Waiomina."

Yet, during his lifetime, Ikua Purdy avoided drawing attention to his roping mastery and world record performance. I am pleased to join Ikua Purdy's

family and friends in honoring the legacy and talent of one of Hawaii's and America's greatest cowboys. This weekend's well-deserved induction into the Rodeo Hall of Fame enshrines a sporting feat that continues to amaze rodeo fans and highlights the long, proud history of Hawaii's paniolos.

This well-deserved honor for a paniolo whose talents were matched only by his humility and quiet dignity follows on the heels of renewed interest and appreciation of Hawaii's illustrious paniolo traditions.

The Hawaiian cowboy played an important role in the economic and cultural development of Hawaii and helped to establish the islands as a major cattle exporter to California, the Americas, and the Pacific Rim for over a century. Paniolo history is frequently overlooked in Hawaii and is largely unknown beyond our shores. Yet, this is an important part of Hawaii's history and of American history. Indeed, Hawaii's working cowboys preceded the emergence of their compatriots in the American West.

Paniolo came from Spain, Portugal, Mexico, California, and throughout South America to work Hawaii's ranches. They brought their languages and culture, including the guitar and ukulele. As they shared their culture, married and raised families, they embraced the Native Hawaiian culture and customs. In many ways, this sharing and blending of cultures is the foundation for the diverse and rich heritage the people of Hawaii enjoy today.

The paniolo experience is part of the distinct historical narrative of our nation's history. It illustrates how differences have developed into shared values and community. By illuminating the many currents and branches of our history and society, we acquire a better understanding and appreciation of our national landscape.

The rediscovery of paniolo history was further encouraged when Governor Ben Cayetano declared 1998 the "Year of the Paniolo" in Hawaii. An excellent documentary film by Edgy Lee, "Paniolo O Hawaii—Cowboys of the Far West," that premiered at the Smithsonian captures the essence of the Hawaiian cowboy and highlights the economic and cultural significance of the paniolo in the islands. I encourage all students and enthusiasts of the American West and cowboy lore to learn about the Hawaiian paniolo.●

AMERICANS OF ARABIC HERITAGE OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY, PENNSYLVANIA

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to express my sincere congratulations to the Americans of Arabic Heritage of the Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania who are celebrating their 10th Anniversary this year. I am proud and honored to be celebrating this event

with them at their annual banquet on October 23, 1999.

I commend those members who are involved in this organization because they advance and demonstrate the continuing positive contributions of Americans of Arab descent. Furthermore, it is heartening to see the continual efforts of the Americans of Arabic Heritage in fostering a relationship of understanding and goodwill between the peoples and cultures of the United States and the Arab world. These efforts will go far in enhancing and promoting our community's image and understanding throughout the world.

The Americans of Arabic Heritage of the Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania have worked very hard to instill a sense of pride in their heritage. Their efforts have assured that this pride and this heritage will be preserved and carried on for generations to come. I am proud and delighted to see our community promoting our heritage and I wish them much success in their ongoing endeavors.

Many in the local community have given generously of their time and efforts to be active in the Americans of Arabic Heritage of the Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania. They are to be commended for their very worthwhile efforts and foresight, and I am pleased to recognize these efforts in the United States Senate.●

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to Public Law 101-549, appoints Susan F. Moore, of Georgia, to the Board of Directors of the Mickey Leland National Urban Air Toxics Research Center.

COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM OF SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS OF TORTURE

Mr. BROWNBACK. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of H.R. 2367, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative assistant read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2367) to reauthorize a comprehensive program of support for victims of torture.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. BROWNBACK. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 2367) was read the third time and passed.