prodigious market power and immense profits to harm any firm that insists on pursuing initiatives that could intensify competition against one of its core products."

According to the District Court, Microsoft "foreclosed an opportunity for PC makers to make Windows PC systems less expensive and more user-friendly as consumers desired." The record included the testimony of numerous high tech entrepreneurs who felt the lash of Microsoft's monopolistic wrath. From IBM's inability to gain support for its OS/2/Warp operating system to Apple's inability to effectively compete with Windows to threaten to cut off Netscape's "oxygen supply," Microsoft engaged in a pernicious pattern of anticompetitive behavior, openly flaunting the rule of law. Perhaps the most damning of all was the evasive testimony of Microsoft founder William Gates.

It is, frankly, a record that is quite embarrassing to anyone than show remorse. Microsoft has embarked on a vendetta to punish the outstanding group of Justice Department lawyers who tested its minions of high-paid lawyers and spin doctors.

So, Mr. President, let me take this opportunity to praise the Justice Department's Antitrust Division and its leader Joel Klein. It is well known that the people of Arkansas were successful in passing a one-eighth cent sales tax to fund these types of programs. As I'm sure is true across this country, people don't mind paying taxes for programs that promote good wildlife management and help keep species off of the Endangered Species List.

By taking steps now to prevent species from becoming endangered, we are not only able to conserve the significant cultural heritage of wildlife enjoyment for the people of this country, but also to avoid the substantial costs associated with recovery for endangered species. In fact, all 50 states would benefit as a result of the important link between these wildlife education-based initiatives and the benefits of wildlife-related tourism. I look forward to working with my colleagues on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee to make this historic legislation a reality upon our return early next year.

FIRST YEAR IN THE SENATE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, as the first session of the 106th Congress comes to an end, I cannot help but think of what an exciting first year it has been for me in the United States Senate. The experience has been a wonderful one, to say the least. As my colleagues all well know from their first days in the Senate, setting up a Senate office is a daunting task, and setting one up right does not happen by accident. Many have helped make my transition from the House to the Senate a smooth one, and I would like to take a moment to thank, in particular, the dedicated and loyal employees of the Architect of the Capitol, the Secretary of the Senate, and the Senate Sergeant at Arms who played an integral role in making sure that my staff and I could serve the citizens of New York as effectively as possible.


Kim Brinkman, Timothy O'Keefe, John Trimble, and Timothy Wineman from the Office of Secretary of the Senate deserve special recognition.

And, from the Senate Sergeant at Arms office, I would like to point out: Roosevelt Allen, Sterret Carter, Robert Croson, Val Fisher, Denise Gresham, Kenneth Lloyd, Michael Lussier, Stacy Norris, Theresia Peel, Dan Templeton, Jeanne Tessieri, and James Wentz.

The professionalism that each of these individuals displayed should be a source of great pride to their bosses, and if I wore a hat, I would tip it to them. But, for now, I hope they will accept my thanks and praise for a job well done.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:02 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3373. An act to require the Secretary of the Interior to release reversionary interests held by an entity in any one State, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3376. An act to adjust the boundaries of the Gulf Islands National Seashore to include Cat Island, Mississippi.

H.R. 3383. An act to prohibit oil and gas drilling in Mosquito Creek Lake in Cortland, Ohio.

H.R. 3382. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to release reversionary interests held by the United States in certain parcels of land in Washington County, Utah, to facilitate an anticipated land exchange.

H.R. 3383. An act to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to increase the maximum acreage of Federal leases for sodium that may be held by an entity in any one State, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3375. An act to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to assist the Congressional Budget Office with the scoring of State and local mandates.

H.R. 3376. An act to declare the centennial of the discovery of the New World by Leif Ericson.