Scott Gomez of the Stanley Cup champion New Jersey Devils. Scott was born and raised in Anchorage, Alaska and is only the second American to play in the National Hockey League and the first to make such a huge impact in his first year.

This past Thursday, Scott was awarded the Calder Trophy for best rookie performance in the 1999-2000 season. He led all rookies with 19 goals and 51 assists in 82 regular season games. During the playoffs, he earned 10 points. Past winners of the Calder include Bobby Orr and Ray Bourque.

Scott Gomez is an amazing young man. At the age of only 20, he has accomplished his lifelong dream of playing in the National Hockey League and winning the Stanley Cup, all in one year. He was a rising star in Anchorage where he began playing as a child. From very early on, it was evident that he would be a big star in the NHL. He was twice named Player of the Year by the Anchorage Daily News/State Coaches. In his junior year of high school, he led the Alaska All-Stars team, ages 16-17, to the USA Hockey Tier I national championship. After graduating from East High School in Anchorage, Scott played for Team USA in the World Junior Championship. In addition to this, he was the first Latino to play in the NHL. His father, Carlos, is Mexican and his mother, Dalia, is Colombian.

Mr. President, Scott Gomez is a wonderful example of a young, talented Alaskan who, I am sure, will continue to impress us all in the years to come.

50TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION OF "COMPANY K"

- Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the men of the National Guard’s 169th Infantry Regiment of the 43rd Division, or Company K, as they were called, who answered the call to serve their country 50 years ago in securing peace and democracy in Germany during the Korean War. The men of Company K were an elite group of civilian soldiers hailing from Middlesex County in my home state of Connecticut.

When Communist-led North Korea invaded South Korea on June 25, 1950, President Truman decided to strengthen United States forces by calling up the National Guard. Worried that the Korean attack was only a diversion for a planned Soviet attack on Berlin, the Truman administration deployed troops in Germany to thwart any plans for aggression. In order to make this possible, Truman relied heavily on support from the National Guard.

Company K, headquartered in Middletown, Connecticut, became part of this defense effort and reported for roll call on September 5, 1950, officially becoming part of the United States Army. While training at the A.P. Hill Military Reservation in Virginia, Company K received word from Major General Kenneth F. Cramer that they were to report for duty in Germany. It was July 10, 1951, 12:10 p.m. The Major General recalled the history of the 43rd, noting that never before had it been assigned such a task. It was to be the first time in history that a National Guard division went to Europe in peace time. Major General Cramer said to his troops:

We are now participating in a determined effort by western civilization to maintain its freedoms and to preserve the peace through the cooperative effort under the Atlantic Pact. . . . As we move into Europe, the eyes of that continent will be upon us. All these people will judge the America of today by us. By our conduct, by our appearance, by our soldierly qualities, we must make certain that their judgment is favorable to our own country, whose ambassadors we shall be.

And great representatives of America they were. On January 4, 1952, the Hartford Courant wrote that the 43rd Division had quite a force of respectable and dutiful soldiers. They further praised them for their consideration towards the people of Germany, among whom they lived and interacted on a daily basis.

Company K stayed in Germany for more than two and a half years. Through their efforts there in building defense systems, organizing the border defenses, and strengthening the NATO forces, they successfully helped to prevent any Soviet attacks.

The soldiers of the Company put the preservation of freedom and democratic society ahead of themselves. They proved that their loyalty to our society’s ideals and their desire for peace was their first priority. As such, our nation could not have asked for finer ambassadors in Europe.

On June 25, 2000, the members of Company K were celebrating their 50th Anniversary Reunion gathering. I am grateful to them for their actions 50 years ago and on behalf of the people of Connecticut, and the nation as a whole, I wish to extend a heartfelt thank you to the men of Company K. I hope that their reunion is a success and I wish them well in the future.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. DENISE DAVIS-COTTON

- Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Dr. Denise Davis-Cotton, who will be honored this morning during the Millennium Commencement Ceremony at Detroit Symphony Orchestra Hall. Dr. Davis-Cotton is being honored for her many contributions to the Detroit Public School System. In particular, she will be honored for her role as the founding principal of the Detroit High School for the Fine and Performing Arts. It is expected to be an important regional performing arts complex, which will offer professional and student performances in the world class Orchestra Hall.
COMMENDING FOUR BRAVE COAST GUARDSMEN

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to commend a helicopter crew from the Coast Guard Air Station in Sitka, Alaska. These four brave men rescued three fishermen from a fierce storm at sea last November. Pilot Lt. Robert Yerex, co-pilot Lt. James O'Keefe, and Petty Officers Third Class Christopher Williams and Noel Hutton flew their helicopter into 40- to 60-knot winds and pulled three fishermen from 35- to 40-foot high swells. The Coast Guard awarded this intrepid crew the Distinguished Flying Cross, the highest peace time honor that can be awarded, earlier this month.

On November 12, 1999, the four-member crew of the Becca Dawn was caught in a storm 160 miles southwest of Sitka, on the coast of Southeast Alaska. The storm caused the 52-foot vessel to begin sinking so quickly the crew had no time to radio a mayday. Instead, an emergency position-indicating radio beacon was triggered. The signal from the beacon was picked up by the Coast Guard and the helicopter crew was immediately sent out. When they arrived, they found the fishermen had already abandoned ship.

The storm made the rescue extremely difficult. The gusting winds made it extremely difficult to maintain the helicopter's stability, and blowing snow made visibility extremely low.

Once the Coast Guard crew arrived on the scene they pulled up three of the four crew members. This operation took the Coast Guard helicopter 45 minutes. When the helicopter crew is recovered into 60 knots, the crew of the beaking helicopter became nauseus, but persevered in their search for the missing fourth fisherman in the cold, turbulent water. They only returned to land at the last moment, almost out of fuel, when staying longer would have made them into casualties themselves. Unfortunately, the fourth fisherman was never found and is presumed lost at sea.

Obviously, this brand of courage and tenacity is worthy of the Distinguished Flying Cross and I am very proud of my fellow Coast Guardsmen and Alaskans and I congratulate their hard work and dedication. All Coast Guardsmen pride themselves on being "always ready," and these four courageous rescuers showed just what that spirit is all about. I salute them.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:15 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Noland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 1967. An act to make technical corrections to the status of certain land held in trust for the Mississinewa Band of Choctaw Indians, to take certain land into trust for that Band, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 946. An act to restore Federal recognition to the Indians of the Graton Rancheria of California; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

H.R. 2778. An act to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the Taunton River in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for study for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 3292. An act to provide for the establishment of the Cat Island National Wildlife Refuge in West Feliciana Parish, Louisiana; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

The following concurrent resolution was read and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 352. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress regarding intimidation of the independent press in the Russian Federation, expressing support for freedom of speech and the independent media in the Russian Federation, expressing the strong concern for freedom of speech and the independent media in the Russian Federation; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, June 20, 2000, he had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 761. An act to facilitate the use of electronic records and signatures in interstate or foreign commerce.

S. 2722. An act to authorize the award of the Medal of Honor to Ed W. Freeman, James K. Okubo, and Andrew J. Smith.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-9261. A communication from the Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report involving exports to Chad and Cameroon; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-9264. A communication from the Board of Trustees of the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund, transmitting, pursuant to law, the corrected 2000 annual report of the Board; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-9265. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the Refugee Resettlement Program for fiscal year 1998; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-9266. A communication from the Director of the Office of the Secretary of Defense (Administration and Management), transmitting, a notice relative to a A-76 study of the Pentagon Heating and Refrigeration Plant; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-9267. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology), transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice related to a pilot program for privatization of DOD laboratories; to the Committee on Armed Services.