PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN CLASS OF 2001

HON. MIKE ROGERS
OF MICHIGAN

Thursday, September 13, 2001

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the 2001 graduating class of the University of Michigan. Due to their hard work and dedication, they are now prepared to make significant contributions to the State of Michigan and the United States of America.

As graduates from one of the most prestigious public institutions in the United States, whatever endeavors the University of Michigan class of 2001 may pursue, success is certain to follow:

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the University of Michigan Class of 2001. May this only be the beginning of the great accomplishments they will achieve in their lifetime.

ELOUISE COBELL’S NOBEL EFFORTS TO FIX THE INDIAN TRUST FUND MESS

HON. DENNIS R. REHBerg
OF MONTANA

Thursday, September 13, 2001

Mr. REHBerg. Mr. Speaker, for over 100 years the Federal Government has grossly mismanaged Indian Trust Funds derived from grazing, minerals and other natural resources revenues. Eloise Cobell of the Blackfeet Tribe in Montana, who after years of getting stonewalled in her efforts to get an accurate accounting of Indian Trust Funds, filed the monumental lawsuit Cobell v. Babbitt in 1996. Federal Judge Royce Lambeth has ruled in favor of Eloise and other plaintiffs on numerous occasions. In a December 1999 civil contempt ruling, he stated “The Federal Government here did not just stub its toe. It abused the rights of these plaintiffs to obtain these trust documents, and it engaged in a shocking pattern of deception of the court. I have never seen more egregious conduct by the Federal Government.”

I urge my colleagues to read the following article from the September 8, 2001 issue of Parade Magazine focusing on Eloise Cobell’s noble efforts to fix the Indian Trust Fund mess.

HON. SCOTT McINNIS
OF COLORADO

Thursday, September 13, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with much sorrow that I would like to take a moment to honor the memory of Mel Stein. He was taken from us on the morning of Sunday, June 24th after suffering from injuries as a result of a head-on car accident the night before in Montrose, Colorado. Mel lived a long, accomplished life during which he contributed in many ways to our American community.

Mel was born in Chicago, Illinois on May 18, 1927. Upon graduating from high school he served in WWII as a member of the U.S. Army Air Corps. Following his service he returned to Chicago to attend law school at DePaul University. Mel spent the next 10 years as a trial attorney and Special Agent with the U.S. Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service before going into private practice. He was very successful and influential in the legal and immigration fields, so much so that his children followed his lead and have chosen the same profession. He also spent a great deal of his career helping immigrants achieve their U.S. citizenship, including offering help to my office when we had a tough case.

It is always tragic to lose someone so unexpectedly and my heart goes out to his wife, Lilo, his daughter, Doree and his son, Eric. He served his country during times of conflict and helped to ensure others got the chance to pursue the American Dream. Mel has given so much to so many—his contributions will not be forgotten.

HONING MELVYN E. STEIN
OF COLORADO

Thursday, September 13, 2001

Mr. STEIN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize two special individuals in Silverthorne, Colorado. Sergeant John Minor and Mark Watson are the only foreign-born police officers employed by the city. Silverthorne is relatively unique in its acceptance of non-citizens on the police force during a time when other towns debate whether this should be allowed or not; Silverthorne has set its own precedent.

John Minor moved to the United States from Liverpool, England with his family in 1977. They moved to Colorado where they had relatives. John Minor took night classes after which he followed in his grandfather’s footsteps and began a career in law enforcement. Eventually John Minor became a U.S. Citizen. John Minor is now paving the way for others to have the same opportunity.

Mark Watson moved to Colorado because of his love for skiing in 1988. He too had a respect for the law, being the son of a judge in New Zealand. After settling down, he spoke with John Minor about how to balance his love of skiing with his interest in law enforcement.

During the past year, Mr. Watson worked as Silverthorne’s community service officer, which familiarized him with the procedures and structure of the local police department. Having recently completed the police academy, he will begin training as a probationary police officer.

Sergeant John Minor and Mark Watson provide us with the type of diversity that would benefit any organization. Their dedication to law enforcement and their unique back-grounds provide us with a great learning opportunity. I appreciate their commitment and value their participation in such an important institution and they deserve to be honored for committing to protect and serve their second home.

HAL JENSEN: 2001 JOHNS FELLOWSHIP AWARD WINNER

HON. BOB FILNER
OF CALIFORNIA

Thursday, September 13, 2001

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, and colleagues, I rise today to recognize Hal Jensen, as he is honored by the San Diego Labor Community at the 19th Annual John S. Lyons Memorial Banquet with the 2001 “JOHNS Fellowship” Award.

Hal was born in Canada in 1936 and later gained U.S. citizenship. As a member of the Mormon Church, he served a mission to Africa from 1955 to 1958, and upon his return was married to Rebecca Campbell Jensen.

Hal attended Brigham Young University where he received the “Outstanding Student” award and earned degrees in Finance and Economics. He then went on to attend Stanford University School of Law.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

After school, Hal went to work for IBM and led the team which developed IBM’s banking system. Upon leaving IBM, he founded his own computer company, Computer Planning Corporation (CPC). Among its many accomplishments, CPC developed the first real-time business system.

CPC was acquired by TRACOR, Inc., and after serving as a board member for TRACOR, Hal left to form the Industrial Development Corporation, which remains his flagship company. Hal got involved in real estate in 1976, helped found Palomar Grading and Paving, Inc. It is one of the largest operations of its kind, and employs many skilled tradesmen and women.

Beyond success in the business world, Hal has remained committed to helping people in need. In 1980, aware that Native Americans face enormous challenges in their own country, he developed programs to assist Native American businesssmen and help reservations with economic self-sufficiency.

Hal joined the Board of American Indian Services, which provides over 1200 college scholarships each year to Native Americans, and serves as Chair of its California Chapter and its Economic Development Committee.

Hal’s achievements are both extraordinary and broad. He has chaired the Navajo Nation National Advisory Board and has participated in the drafting and amending of tribal constitutions. He is a member of the Haskell University Advisory Board. He served as Chairman of the I–15 Design review Board, and has been commended on a number of occasions by Israeli institutions for his good work.

My congratulations go to Hal Jensen for his significant contributions to our community, our nation and the world. Hal’s commitment to all of humanity is evident by his actions, and I am pleased that he is the recipient of the 2001 “JOHNS Fellowship” Award.