

Post No. 88 as they dedicate a memorial to our Nation's veterans. Post No. 88 undertook the creation and dedication of this war memorial to mark their 50th anniversary. This emblem of service will endure as a reminder of the veterans' sacrifice made for our liberty.

On July 4, Post No. 88 dedicated a demilitarized M60A3 tank and placed it on permanent display at South Village Road in Loudon, NH. Joining the legionnaires in this solemn occasion were local Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts, young musicians, local clergy, and town leaders. The monument was dedicated to the memory of those veterans who served their country, with a special remembrance for POW's and MIA's.

Our veterans have made it possible for us to live free in this great country. The strong, sound granite of the memorial stone, cut from our New Hampshire hills, is representative of America's best and bravest. The men and women who have served this country in the Armed Forces will be honored through this memorial and the community will remember their service and their sacrifice.

This monument is just one of many examples of the way American Legion Post No. 88 serves their community. Members of the post donate countless volunteer hours, fundraising for veterans' needs, support youth education, and assist the medically needy. Post No. 88 has been an integral part of the community for the past 50 years and has served the community with dedication and with pride. I congratulate American Legion Post No. 88 for their service and dedication to their community. The new war memorial is a fitting tribute to our Nation's veterans and another fine example of Post No. 88's commitment to honoring our Armed Forces.●

CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERT N. WILENTZ

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, on July 1, an era came to an end, when Robert N. Wilentz removed his robe for the final time and ended a 17-year tenure as chief justice of the New Jersey Supreme Court.

During a rare interview in 1993, when asked how the Wilentz years would be remembered, he replied, "I would hope only that they would be remembered as years when a great court system was kept great and when a great supreme court was kept great." And they will be, due to the efforts of a truly great man—Chief Justice Robert N. Wilentz.

Greatness is based not on what you gain, but on what you give. And the contributions of Justice Wilentz to the legal profession and to the people of New Jersey are a benchmark against which the actions of others will be judged. An old Latin saying notes that justice must be fair and good; while Justice Wilentz wore the judicial robes, he assured both.

He has been categorized as a liberal activist, but that is not entirely fair, for Justice Wilentz's decisions were not based on any political agenda, but on a mixture of extraordinary intellect and unusual compassion.

Under his direction, the New Jersey Supreme Court achieved a national reputation for innovative decisions which often set an example for the entire country. The court instructed municipalities that they must provide housing for low-income residents. In separate opinions, which Wilentz authored, the court recognized the "battered woman's syndrome" as a defense for women charged with homicide and made a host liable for providing alcohol to a guest, if the host is aware that the guest is intoxicated and will soon drive.

In the now famous Abbot versus Burke decision, which ordered the State to provide more money for city schools, Wilentz wrote, "We realize that perhaps nothing short of substantial social and economic change will make the difference for these students, * * *. We have concluded, however, that even if not a cure, money will help, and that these students are constitutionally entitled to that help." Like all of his statements, this one demonstrates that behind the black robes was a daring thinker and visionary jurist.

We may not agree with all of his decisions, but we must recognize his desire to always do what he believed to be right, and just.

Since Chief Justice Wilentz's appointment by Governor Brendan Byrne in 1979, the New Jersey Supreme Court has been involved in an extraordinary number of such precedent setting cases. Yet, in nearly three quarters of these cases, the decisions were unanimous; this is a testament to the chief justice's leadership abilities.

Justice Wilentz was not only a superior jurist and leader, but a skillful administrator. As chief justice, he tirelessly worked to improve the State's municipal court system. To enhance efficiency, he reorganized the courts into four divisions, civil, criminal, family, and general equity, and he divided the appellate division into eight four judge panels.

Under his guidance, the court instituted the New Jersey Judicial College, the Municipal Court Judicial Conference and a speedy trial program; all have become national models. He also created separate task forces to investigate gender bias in the court system and to address minority concerns involving the judiciary.

James Bryant Conant once remarked, "each walk of life, has its own elite, its own aristocracy based on excellence of performance." And recently, the Newark Star-Ledger confirmed that "his [Wilentz] record for excellence is secure and his place in New Jersey's history is fixed." I echo that opinion. All New Jerseyans have benefited from his leadership, his scholarship, his statesmanship.

Chief Justice Robert N. Wilentz will long be remembered for his love of the law, his reasoned eloquence and his uncompromising commitment to social justice. It will indeed be difficult to fill his shoes, and his robe.

TRIBUTE TO MAX M. FISHER

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, Max M. Fisher was honored last night in Detroit at the National Republican Leadership Award Dinner. Unfortunately, votes here in the Senate prevented me from attending. I am particularly sorry to have missed this event because I hold Max in the highest possible esteem. Max Fisher's life exemplifies all that is good about our Nation and our people.

Max joined with two partners to form his own oil company, Aurora Gasoline, in 1933, only 3 years after graduating from college. He became chairman of the board of Aurora in 1957 and went on to serve on the board of directors of Marathon oil in 1962. Max has served on the board of directors of numerous corporations and continues to serve on the boards of Comerica and Sotheby's.

I can think of no man who has done more for his community than Max Fisher. He has served as founding chairman of Detroit Renaissance, founding member and former chairman of New Detroit, member of the board of Sinai Hospital, and in numerous other responsible positions helping individuals and communities.

Central to Max's philanthropic mission has been his heroic efforts on behalf of Israel and world Jewry. He has served as chairman of the board of governors of the reconstituted Jewish Agency in Jerusalem, General Chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, Chairman of the Board of United Israel Appeal, and President of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds.

In political life as well, Max has made great contributions. He has been an advisor and supporter of the last four Republican Presidents. In addition, he has been a supporter of the Republican National Committee for more than 40 years.

We on the Republican side of the aisle owe our own special debt to Max. But all of America, as well as Israel and numerous persons around the world, owe him our thanks. With this statement I pay tribute to a great man, whose life's efforts demonstrate the awesome impact one individual can have on his surroundings.●

THE 1997 DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS BILL

● Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, yesterday the Senate completed action on the fiscal year 1997 Defense appropriations bill. This is one of the most important annual appropriations bills and the largest; by itself it consumes about half of all discretionary spending. I had deep concerns about the bill because it added more than \$10 billion to the

President's request for defense. By my estimation this money was not necessary for our national security, especially when we are cutting nearly every other discretionary spending account as we move toward a balanced budget. I remain unconvinced that our defenses need vast infusions of new funds, and I disagree with some of defense priorities so ardently advocated by the majority.

Ballistic missile defenses receive \$3.3 billion in this bill, which is \$855 million above what the president requested. I don't think there is anyone in this Chamber who would argue against developing and deploying missile defense systems to protect our troops in the field. But many of my colleagues are anxious to embark on a missile defense spending spree that the Congressional Budget Office estimates could cost up to \$60 billion. I would say to them that not only would that be a waste of taxpayer money, but could have the long-term effect of squeezing other necessary defense programs from the defense budget. It would be ironic if those who profess to care so much about our defenses end up undermining them instead.

I voted for a series of unsuccessful amendments to cut billions of dollars from both the Defense authorization and appropriations bills. However, I did vote for final passage of the Defense appropriations bill. While I disagree with the overall spending figures in the bill, Senators STEVENS and INOUE did an excellent job of crafting legislation which will best serve our military. In particular, I am pleased that the bill includes \$150 million for peer-reviewed breast cancer research, and \$100 million for prostate cancer research. In addition, the bill provides a full 3 percent pay raise for our troops, as well as a 4 percent raise in the basic allowance for quarters. Finally, I worked hard to have money added to the bill so that Air National Guard F-16 units can maintain a cost-effective force structure.

In closing, I look forward to the results of the nonpartisan, independent National Defense Panel created by a 100 to nothing vote during the debate on the DOD authorization bill. This Commission will be tasked with reviewing our current defense program, and give an independent assessment of a variety of possible force structures through 2010. We owe it to the Nation to put the Defense Department through the same budgetary scrutiny that we are putting virtually every other category of Government spending. ●

ISABEL STUDENT HONORED

● Mr. PRESSLER. Mr. President, I would like to bring to my colleagues' attention the outstanding efforts of a young man from my home State. Ryan Maher is a senior from Isabel High School in Isabel, SD. Recently, Ryan placed second in his region and first in the State competitions to advance to

the national competition for National History Day.

National History Day is a 5-day event held in June at the University of Maryland in College Park. The annual competition is now entering its third decade. Today, 400,000 students and 50,000 teachers and media specialists participate. National History Day is an excellent way to encourage students to be more active in learning United States history.

Every year National History Day is centered around a specific theme. The theme of this year's competition was "Taking a Stand." There are two levels of competition, the junior level is 6th through 8th grades and the senior division includes grades 9 through 12. Categories include research paper, group or individual presentation, display presentation, or performance.

Ryan competed in the senior division with a display presentation entitled, "Dakota Farmer: Battling the Elements." Like other students who were a part of the competition, he spent countless hours researching and developing his project. He incorporated interviews with his grandfather and other farmers from the area, together with old photographs, to tell the history of working South Dakota land. Ryan became interested in the subject after he had written a paper on farming and the dust bowl years of the thirties. This was the second time Ryan participated in the nationwide competition.

Ryan won the honor of having his project displayed in the Smithsonian Museum of American History on Wednesday, June 12, 1996. Projects were judged on several criteria, including relation to annual theme, analysis of information, and historical perspective. The honor of having one's work displayed in the Smithsonian Museum of American History and earning the trip to our Nation's Capital are great rewards to students such as Ryan. I highly commend Ryan Maher for his outstanding academic efforts. ●

JOHN S. WATSON, SR.

● Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, on July 6, former New Jersey Assemblyman John S. Watson, Sr. died of cancer. A committed public official and compassionate private individual, he will be missed by the entire New Jersey community.

Watson's life was a series of firsts. He was a public official for 23 years, serving at both the county and State level. In 1970, he became the first African-American member of the Board of Chosen Freeholders in Mercer County. Seven years later, he became the first black freeholder in New Jersey to be chosen president of a county freeholder board. In 1981, he was elected to the New Jersey Assembly where he represented the 15th District for 12 years. His career in the legislature was capped by being named chairman of the Assembly Appropriations Committee in 1992; he was the first African-American in the country to hold such a position.

During his years in the Assembly, John also served on the Housing Committee, the Legislative Advisory Committee on Arts and Furnishings, and the New Jersey Capital Budgeting and Planning Commission. As a legislator, he successfully sponsored measures to create the minority opportunity skills training program, a college based computer training program, and the New Jersey pre-college program for high school students.

Assemblyman Watson consistently supported State aid to urban areas, tax reform and programs for the elderly and poor. He successfully fought to establish a rainy day fund to reserve budget surpluses for times when revenue declined. He was also known for his unflinching courtesy to those on both sides of the political aisle.

But if that is how John Watson will be remembered in Trenton, his district will remember him as a caring man who used his political power to aid individuals and families in need. New Jersey will indeed miss his service and his spirit.

The great humanitarian Albert Schweitzer remarked, "One thing I know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who will have sought and found how to serve."

If that is true, then John S. Watson, Sr. was indeed the happiest of men. ●

TRIBUTE TO MOLLY PHELAN OF COLORADO, GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD WINNER

● Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, today I would like to recognize 17-year-old Molly Phelan of Estes Park, CO. On June 29, 1996, Molly was honored with the Girl Scout Gold Award from the Mountain Prairie Girl Scout Council in Colorado. The Gold Award is the highest honor achieved in U.S. Girl Scouting and is awarded to young women between the ages of 14 and 17, or in grades 9 through 12. To be eligible for this award, one must display outstanding achievement in the areas of leadership, community service, career planning, and personal development. Additionally, a Girl Scout must earn the Career Exploration Pin, four interest patches, the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award, and complete a Gold Award Project of her own creation.

Molly has made outstanding contributions in each of these areas. As a senior at Estes Park High School and a devoted member of Girl Scout Troop 642, Molly completed numerous projects throughout the year. For her Gold Award Project, Molly was an active member of the Death-Day Program at her high school which recognizes those who have died in drinking and driving accidents. She took this issue a step further by making public service announcements on the radio about drinking and driving awareness.

Molly truly exhibits concern for her community and a desire to improve the world around her. She is an excellent role model for all youth and displays