

both tanker and airborne command post aircraft to Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm. Following action in the Persian Gulf, B-1's were taken off alert, and the world began to settle into the post-cold war era. The 28th Bomb Wing, successful in protecting the United States for five decades began the transition from the strategic role to an all-conventional mission. Once again, the 28th shone brightly as the bomb wing successfully participated in the congressionally directed operational readiness assessment known as Dakota Challenge in 1994. The 77th Bomb Squadron was activated at Ellsworth Air Force Base in April 1997, and the 28th Bomb Wing will continue to stand tall as the "Pioneer of Peace for the 21st Century."

I strongly support the B-1B program and share the view of the Air Force that the B-1B is the backbone of our bomber force. It deserves this reputation because of the versatility, efficiency, and effectiveness of the craft. To the flight crews as well as the ground support, administrative staff, security personnel, base support, and hospital personnel who served and continue to serve as part of the 28th, I salute and commend your efforts. The active duty members, families, and retirees have forged an unbreakable bond with the communities of Box Elder and Rapid City.

Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those associated with Ellsworth and the Air Force for their impressive efforts and for their commitment to South Dakota and the United States. I know they have had an illustrious past, and I know they will continue their success in the future. Their missions will continue, although modified to fit the requirements of the post-cold war world, and I have no doubt that they will continue to be the "first to fight with decisive combat airpower that achieves the aims of the combatant commander's campaign" as their mission states. Best wishes for another 50 years of pride and success.●

INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE OF NEW YORK

● Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, today I am proud to note the accomplishments of the International Rescue Committee of New York.

This week the International Rescue Committee was awarded the Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Prize, in recognition of its relief and resettlement services to millions of refugees. In presenting the award to John C. Whitehead, chairman of the IRC Board, former President Jimmy Carter said, "This year, the Hilton Foundation has fulfilled a vital need in bringing the refugee issue, one that is often overlooked or ignored, to the forefront by honoring the International Rescue Committee."

The Conrad N. Hilton Foundation created the annual award to recognize

outstanding efforts by the best American charitable organization engaged in combating "famine, war, disease, human affliction and man's inhumanity to man." IRC was selected to receive the award by a prestigious international jury that included Dr. C. Everett Koop, former Surgeon General of the United States. It was accorded the Hilton Prize on the basis of its achievements in alleviating suffering, on the sustainability of its programs, and on the extent to which it reaches out and involves others in accomplishing its mission.

I want to congratulate the International Rescue Committee on its fine achievements and salute the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation for recognizing those efforts.●

CELEBRATION OF FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY'S SILVER ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, this month the people of Florida join with faculty, staff, students, and more than 70,000 alumni in honoring Florida International University on its 25th anniversary. For the past quarter century, this outstanding institution's commitment to academic excellence and its constant celebration of diversity has enriched communities throughout Florida, the United States, and the entire world.

This milestone anniversary is particularly special to members of the Graham family. In 1943, State senator Ernest R. Graham—my father—introduced legislation to establish a public university in south Florida. Twenty-two years later, on May 26, 1965, the Florida State senate unanimously passed legislation to fulfill his vision. On September 19, 1972, Florida International University opened its doors for the first time.

That would have been a proud day for my father. When I was growing up in the Miami area, he used to tell my brothers, sister, and I that the best investment he ever made were his Dade County school taxes. He was proud, even enthusiastic, about paying those taxes because they enabled his children to get a strong education in the Dade County public school system. If he were alive today, my father would agree that the time and energy he put into laying the groundwork for a Florida International University was yet another wise educational investment.

After only a quarter-century in existence, FIU has already gained acclaim as one of the most academically challenging and culturally diverse universities in the entire United States. This distinction is a credit to Florida International University's hard-working staff, dedicated faculty, bright student body, loyal alumni, and especially the wise, dynamic leadership of FIU's four presidents—Charles Perry, Harold Crosby, Gregory Wolfe, and Modesto Maidique.

Each of these four outstanding individuals have contributed to Florida

International University's popularity, prestige, and reputation. When Charles Perry took the reins of FIU in 1969, a full 3 years before the university opened, the campus was a run-down airport tower, old empty hangars, and 342 acres of land in west Dade County. His boundless energy and zeal for establishing an outstanding public university in south Florida led to the largest opening day enrollment of any university in American history. On September 19, 1972, nearly 6,000 students started classes at Florida International University.

Presidents Harold Crosby and Gregory Wolfe continued the outstanding work that president Perry had begun. President Crosby placed special emphasis on fulfilling the international vision espoused by FIU's founders, hiring faculty members from a number of foreign countries and establishing the multilingual, multicultural center. President Wolfe led Florida International through its critical transition from 2- to 4-year university.

For the last 10 years, Florida International University has had the good fortune to be guided by a dedicated, hard-working leader with an eye for excellence, a passion for education, a keen insight into bringing town and gown together in support of academic success, and a determination to make FIU second to none in preparing students for the United States' future in an increasingly international economy and society.

It might have been destiny that brought President Modesto "Mitch" Maidique to Florida International University. He has helped to mold FIU in his own image—president Maidique's own background contains the same ethnic and cultural diversity, financial savvy, and academic excellence that have come to characterize south Florida's preeminent public university.

The son of German-Czech emigrants who settled in Cuba during the early 1800's, president Maidique was born in Havana in 1940. At the end of his formal education, he had earned three degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology—bachelor of science, master of science, doctor of electrical engineering—and another from the business program at MIT's Cambridge neighbor, Harvard University. By the time he assumed Florida International University's presidency in 1986, he had added professor and distinguished businessman to his résumé, teaching at prestigious institutions like Harvard and Stanford and lending his scientific knowledge and business know-how to several prominent firms.

Success followed president Maidique to Florida International. His decade of leadership has spurred a number of impressive academic, financial, and cultural achievements. In academics, U.S. News & World Report consistently ranks Florida International University as one of the top 150 national universities in the United States. Money magazine says that it is among America's best public commuter universities.

Perhaps Florida International University's greatest academic achievement is the fact that it so earnestly works to provide an outstanding education to all students, regardless of socioeconomic background. Thanks in part to low tuition rates, and to the work ethic and frugality of FIU administrators, faculty, and staff, its students are the fifth least indebted in the Nation. U.S. News & World Report rates it as one of the 10 best educational buys in the United States.

Finally, Florida International University is one of the most diverse colleges in the United States that is increasingly benefited by its ethnic diversity. For the last 25 years, it has been training young adults to live, work, and succeed in a world that speaks multiple languages and celebrates a variety of cultural achievements. More than half of its student body is Hispanic, and the university produces more Hispanic graduates than any other university in America. All in all, it has 70,000 alumni that represent all 50 States and more than 146 countries.

Mr. President, I join with all Floridians in congratulating president Modesto Maidique and every past and present member of the Florida International University community on its historic 25th anniversary. As the university prepares to begin its next quarter-century, its abiding commitment to academic excellence, affordability, and diversity is leading the United States into the 21st century.●

TRIBUTE TO LESLIE LORD AND SCOTT E. PHILLIPS

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the memories of two brave New Hampshire State Troopers killed in the line of duty. Leslie Lord, 45, of Pittsburg and Scott E. Phillips, 32, of Colebrook both bravely gave their lives trying to protect others and stop a man wielding an automatic rifle throughout the town of Colebrook, New Hampshire on August 19th. Vickie Bunnell, a Colebrook District Court judge, and Dennis Joos, editor of the Sentinel newspaper, were also innocent victims in the shooting spree.

Leslie Lord was a 1974 graduate of Pittsburg High School and the next year graduated in the 25th class at the New Hampshire Police Academy. Later, Lord became the chief of police in his hometown, until January 16, 1987, when he resigned to become a state highway enforcement officer. After working as a state highway truck inspector, Lord became a state trooper for the Granite state in 1996.

Lord, who was not only a husband to Beverly, was also a father to two teenage boys, Cory and Shawn.

Scott Phillips was a 1984 graduate of White Mountain Regional High School in Whitefield and also a veteran of the U.S. Army. He served with the military police, including a tour of duty in Pan-

ama. In 1990, as a member of the 90th class at the State Police Academy, Phillips graduated an impressive 14th in a class of 38.

Phillips lived in Colebrook with his dear wife, Christine, their young son, Keenan, 2½, and their 1-year-old daughter, Clancy.

Both Troopers Lord and Phillips were known as dedicated, hardworking, and well-liked individuals by members of their respective communities.

Mr. President, the state of New Hampshire as well as the families of these fine state troopers have suffered a tremendous loss. I would like to commend the efforts of both men, for their actions were nothing short of heroic. I would also like to extend to the families of not only Lord and Phillips, but also of Vickie Bunnell and Dennis Joos, my deepest heartfelt sorrow and I pray that God watches over them. The memories of Leslie Lord and Scott E. Phillips will live on in all of the lives they have touched, for they were two remarkable and beloved individuals.●

TRIBUTE TO CONRAD RICHARD GAGNON, JR. AND MAUREEN E. CONNELLY

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Conrad Richard Gagnon, Jr. and Maureen E. Connelly who were named finalists in the second annual Samsung American Legion Scholarship Program.

The scholarship program is funded by a \$5 million endowment from the Samsung Group, an international company based in South Korea, and is administered by the American Legion, the world's largest veterans organization. Only direct decedents of U.S. wartime veterans are eligible for the scholarships.

Conrad and Maureen are among many other outstanding young Americans named as finalists to compete for one of ten college scholarships, each worth \$20,000. The students were judged on the basis of their involvement in their school and community, and for their academic achievements.

Conrad is a native of Bedford, New Hampshire and is currently in his senior year of high school. He is the son of Conrad and Gisele Gagnon, and has three bothers: Brian, Tim and Dan. His grandfather, Richard Adalard Gagnon, is a World War Two veteran.

Conrad has distinguished himself by achieving excellent grades, as well as being involved in numerous and varied activities. He is an associate editor of his school year book, a member of his school's math team, and French club. He has been awarded the Boy Scouts Order of the Arrow, and will travel to California and Japan this summer on the Sony Student Abroad scholarship. Conrad also participates in community service activities such as peer tutoring, food drives, and was involved in organizing an effort to place over one hundred of his peers in volunteer positions. He would like to study engineering and law in college.

Maureen is a resident of Greenland, New Hampshire. She attends Portsmouth High School. She is the daughter of Mark and Marian Connelly, and she has a sister Carolyn and a brother Steven. Her grandfather, Quentin Dante Halstead, served on active duty in World War Two, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War.

Maureen has earned outstanding grades in honors and advance placement classes. She is also very active on her school's field hockey team and track team. In addition she is a member of student government, serving in the capacity of treasurer, as well as a member of the school newspaper staff. Maureen volunteers her time to teach young children field hockey, and she maintains a job as a lifeguard. She is a senior in high school and would like to be a doctor.

Young men and women such as Conrad and Maureen are a valuable asset to New Hampshire and the future of the United States. I congratulate them on all their hard work and wish them success in their future endeavors.●

IN MEMORY OF CHAD WARREN

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today in memory of Chad Warren, a young, thoughtful and motivated man who recently passed away. Chad was only 25 years old when he unfortunately lost his life, only months away from his 26th birthday. He is an example to us all because of his sheer dedication to his job and his unconditional love for his family.

Working at the Goodhue Hawkins Navy Yard for the past six years, Chad became an invaluable employee and was also known as a friend to all. Hard working and dedicated are only mere words to epitomize Chad as a person. He started out as a boat washer and dockboy and soon progressed to a boat rigger and forklift operator. He then achieved certification as a boat mechanic. Mr. President, I admire Chad not only for his dedication but also for the heart he put into his service at the Navy Yard.

Prior to his employment, Chad was in Steve Durgan's Junior High Geography and U.S. History classes at Kingswood Regional Junior/Senior High School. Steve, a close personal friend of mine, described Chad as quiet, shy and thoughtful.

At such a young age, Chad was surrounded by many close, loving people. Besides his mother, Linda Morrill of Wolfeboro, New Hampshire, and his father, Paul Warren of Ashburnham, Massachusetts, Chad leaves his dear wife Sherri Warren and their young beloved children Corbin, 5 years old, Shane, 8 years old, and Amber, 12 years old. Chad was blessed to have these valuable people in his life.

Mr. President, to lose any life is a sad event. But to lose a young life, one full of energy, life, hopes and dreams is a tragedy. My heart and prayers go out