

p.m. to hold a closed business meeting on intelligence matters.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure be granted permission to conduct a hearing Thursday, March 6, at 9:30 a.m., hearing room SD-406, on the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act and innovative transportation financing, technology, construction, and design practices.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OCEANS AND FISHERIES

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Oceans and Fisheries and Science, Technology and Space Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on March 6, 1997, at 10 a.m. on review of NOAA's fiscal year 1998 budget request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

FARMING THE NEW FRONTIER

• Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate a group of young Indiana students who have shown great educative achievement. I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues the winners of the 1996-97 Eighth Grade Youth Essay Contest which I sponsored in association with the Indiana Farm Bureau and Bank One of Indianapolis. These students have displayed strong writing abilities and have proven themselves to be outstanding young Hoosier scholars. I submit their names for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD because they demonstrate the capabilities of today's students and are fine representatives of our Nation.

This year, Hoosier students wrote on the theme, "Farming the New Frontier." Students were encouraged to consider and creatively express the role of Indiana agriculture in our country and in the world marketplace. I would like to submit for the RECORD the winning essays of Shannon McArtor of Monroe County and Kyle Roth of Pulaski County. As State winners of the Youth Essay Contest, these two outstanding students are being recognized on Friday, March 7, 1997, during a visit to our Nation's Capitol.

The essays are as follows:

FARMING THE NEW FRONTIER

(By Shannon McArtor)

Vegetables that grow in water? Seedless watermelon? Miniature cobs of corn? Hearty soybeans? American farmers are boldly going where no one has gone before!

Biotechnology is going through major changes that will affect our lives as we approach the 21st century. Biotechnology will help farmers grow more, and better, crops such as corn, beans, alfalfa, and wheat. The

future is bright for forage producers, due in part to new technology that allows industries to grow bigger, tastier, and better vegetables and grains.

Biotechnology has created a hybrid of soybean that can withstand certain harmful herbicides. The STS gene protects soybeans from sulfonylurea herbicides only. Soybean varieties with resistance to certain herbicides are now available. The farmer has a choice in selecting programs to control weeds.

Because of advances in biotechnology there are corn hybrids that can resist the harsh substance called glufosinate-ammonium which is the active ingredient in New Liberty herbicide. Biotechnology has also helped to find hybrids that can resist the European corn borer. These hybrids produce a gene that contains a protein that protects these plants from damage caused by ECB (European corn borer). This gene originated from a bacterium and originally placed in the corn inbred line using techniques of biotechnology. The addition of B+ gene enhances protection of crops because the plants will achieve levels of insect resistance which are not possible using traditional breeding methods.

These new discoveries in farming will keep our nation healthy in more than one way. It will give us an ample supply of corn and beans on less acres. It will protect the vitamins contained in grains and vegetables thus providing better foods to eat. Biotechnology is going to make life better!

FARMING THE NEW FRONTIER

(By Kyle Roth)

Hello! Welcome to Bio Tech Laboratories. My name is Dr. Bio. Tech and I will be your tour guide today as we take a walk through my laboratory. Follow me while I show you just a few of the interesting things we have been working on. You know, biotechnology research wants to make a crop production more efficient and also create new varieties of crops.

Take a look at the tomato and potato. We have genetically transferred a gene from an Arctic fish to the tomato increasing its freeze tolerance. The potato has been crossed with soil bacteria to make it insect resistant.

As we go outside, Keep in mind that the world population is increasing and valuable farm ground is being gobbled up by land developers. We try to help farmers by developing seeds that will be resistant to weeds, insects, and disease. Every number that you see by this corn test plot has a different "specialty". This one is drought resistant. Another one has long full ears. That one prefers a certain soil type. Because farmers feed the world, we want them to have access to global positioning-farming by computer-so that they will produce more food.

Trying not to be scientific, I must say genetic engineering is a very powerful tool in biotechnology. We are developing new traits into crops and livestock. Vegetable crops can be altered to produce vegetables that taste and look better. Don't those green beans look appetizing? They also have improved nutritional quality.

Feast your eyes on that bread! The yeast has been altered to make the bread taste better. With the wide variety of food we have to offer, consumers can have a greater choice; and because we have improved the quality and nutrients, these food products are also healthier. Thanks for stopping by, and try a slice of our great tasting bread on your way out!

1996-97 DISTRICT WINNERS

District 1: Kyle Roth, Melissa Lichtenbarger

District 2: Ryan Johnson, Heather Butts
District 3: Ryan Frey, Julia Pokorney
District 4: Shawn Smith, Trisha Penner
District 5: Timothy Heck, Marni Yeagley
District 6: Cory Bohlander, Melissa

Winebarger

District 7: Brandon Roe, Shannon McArtor

District 8: Thomas Naylor, Christine Jeffrey

District 9: John Saalweachter, Christa Rentchler

District 10: Allen Haberthier, Katrina Maden

1996-97 COUNTY WINNERS

Bartholomew: Peter Reichenbach, Christine Jeffrey

Boone: Timothy Heck, Charlotte Orr

Cass: Shawn Baker, Julia Pokorney

Carroll: Lance Hofmann

Dearborn: Nathan Lehn, Claire Cradler

Decatur: David Stewart

Delaware: Joel Rossol, Melissa Winebarger

Fayette: Thomas Naylor

Fulton: Johanna Martin

Gibson: Carolyn Moseley

Hamilton: Sam Tischfield, Natalie Templeton

Hancock: Jimmy Asher, Heather Hobbs

Henry: John Sweigart

Huntington: Nathan Scheiber, Jennifer Stetzel

Jackson: Christopher Lambring, Cheyenne Hackman

Jay: Dustin Knipp, Tarra Rothburn

Kosciusko: Isaac Wildman, Heather Butts

Lake: Wesley Gordon, Mary Owen

Madison: Cory Bohlander, Jessica Landess

Marion: Bob Cook, Christy Utnage

Miami: John Einselen

Montgomery: Wes Ambrose, Marni Yeagley

Newton: Ryan Haste

Porter: Bryan Martinez, Allison Payer

Posey: John Saalweachter, Jennifer Symanski

Randolph: Wade Chalfant

St. Joseph: Andrew Callan, Melissa Lichtenbarger

Spencer: Carmen Dominquez

Vanderburgh: Bradley Painter, Leslie Rudolph

Wabash: Shawn Smith, Trisha Penner

Warrick: Benfamin Baker, Christa Rentchler

Wells: Jenni Mason.●

NATIONAL SPORTSMANSHIP DAY

• Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise in honor of National Sportsmanship Day, which was observed on March 4, in over 8,000 schools in all 50 States and 75 countries throughout the world.

National Sportsmanship Day was conceived by the Institute for International Sport, located in my home State of Rhode Island. The Institutes slogan, "Dare to Play Fair," challenges athletes, coaches, administrators, and parents to reflect on the true meaning of competition and to discuss the importance of ethics and fair play in sport, the classroom, and everyday life.

The centerpiece of this years National Sportsmanship Day was a seminar and town meeting at the University of Rhode Island discussing the issue of violence in sport. This day long event included panels composed of professional athletes, coaches, and journalists who discussed the many different aspects of this issue.

In addition, the Institute has enlisted the help of several Sports Ethics Fellows, including the winner of baseball's

Roberto Clemente Man of the Year Award and 10 time All-Star for the Minnesota Twins, Kirby Puckett, Rhode Island's own Brad Faxon, one of the top golfers on the PGA tour and the cofounder of the Billy Andrade-Brad Faxon Charities for Children Program. These men and women are wonderful role models who can be admired for more than just their athletic prowess. They have consistently demonstrated an interest in furthering the principles of honesty and integrity in sport and society.

Indeed, the Sports Ethics Fellows are helping to teach the important lessons of National Sportsmanship Day by writing articles on sportsmanship and developing programs for National Sportsmanship Day. Through competition, young athletes can learn that while winning is a worthy goal, honor, discipline, and hard work are more important. Indeed, these values will guide them in all aspects of everyday life.

Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports and the Rhode Island congressional delegation in recognizing this day and the principles it embodies.●

HOME OFFICE TAX DEDUCTION

● Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, as an original cosponsor of the home office tax deduction bill introduced today by Senator HATCH, I rise in strong support of this measure and urge its expeditious passage in the Senate.

Today, home-based business is the new workplace. The new workplace is interactive video, the Internet, and digital documents. Telecommuting is now common, saving travel costs and time. But it's not just a matter of cost, it's a matter of lifestyle. With technology, the new workplace means you can live anywhere you want and still make a living doing what you love. And spend a few extra hours with the kids. In my State of Montana, where there's a lot of dirt between light bulbs, those extra hours really add up.

Back in 1993, shortly after the Supreme Court's Soliman decision, I introduced the home office tax deduction bill, and I've been pushing for it ever since. We must allow a tax deduction for essential activities, such as billing, performed in the home when that is the only available place for such activities. As the law now stands, workers like Dr. Soliman who spend 15 hours per week doing billing in an exclusive home office are denied the deduction. That's not right. Home offices that are used regularly and solely for business purposes—whether it's by physicians, salespeople, or mothers working at home—should be an allowable deduction.

A few weeks ago the Senate Small Business Committee, of which I am a member, held a hearing on women-owned and home-based businesses. We heard from small businesspeople who expressed their frustration with Fed-

eral tax laws that hinder their ability to succeed. Some of today's largest companies started as home businesses, and the potential for job and economic growth is unlimited, provided the tax code is not a barrier to that growth.

I thank Senator HATCH for introducing this measure today.●

HONORING THE WOMEN'S BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, I want to take a moment to recognize the achievements of the Women's Business Development Center [WBDC]. Today, they are celebrating their 10th anniversary, and I truly wish I were able to join their celebration in person.

Currently, there are over 8 million women-owned businesses in the United States, generating \$2.3 trillion in sales. In my home state of Illinois alone, there are over 350,000 women business owners. Women business owners across the country employ one of every four U.S. company workers, and women in business are contributing to economic growth both at home and abroad. The story of women in business is one of unqualified success, and that success is thanks in no small part to organizations like the Women's Business Development Center.

For the past decade, the WBDC has dedicated itself to providing services and programs that support and accelerate women's business ownership and strengthen the impact of women on the economy. Founded in 1986 by Carol Dougal and Hedy Ratner, the WBDC is currently active in six States—Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Florida, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania, and has served over 30,000 women business owners. The highly successful programs and services of the WBDC are many in number, including counseling, workshops, entrepreneurial training, the women's business finance programs, the women's business enterprise initiative, the entrepreneurial women's conference and women's business and buyer's mart.

I wish to commend the WBDC for their vital role in the growing economic impact of women business owners on our Nation's economy. I am proud that the WBDC was founded in Illinois, and that the effects of their good works are felt far beyond the borders of my State.●

PARTIAL BIRTH ABORTION BAN ACT OF 1997

● Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I rise to express my strong support for S. 6, the Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act of 1997. As a cosponsor of this bill, I want to take a moment to discuss why it is so important that we act on it as soon as possible.

Mr. President, as my voting record shows, I have always voted pro-life on issues concerning abortion. However, my support for S. 6 and my vote on the

partial birth abortion ban during the 104th Congress was not simply a moral judgment on abortion. This debate is not about reproductive choice; it's not even about abortion. Partial birth abortion is a cruel procedure and is abhorrent to most Americans. In fact, most physicians believe it is never medically necessary. This procedure is far beyond human decency.

Mr. President, it is shocking to me that the debate over partial birth abortion is even necessary. A procedure whereby a child is partly delivered and then its brains are suctioned out has no place in a civilized society. It certainly has no place in America. Let's join together, pro-life and pro-choice, and do the right thing. Let's put an end to this cruel procedure.●

HONORING THE GLEANERS COMMUNITY FOOD BANK OF GREATER DETROIT

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I have the distinct honor of paying tribute to the Gleaners Community Food Bank of Greater Detroit, which this year celebrates its 20th year of providing food to needy people in southeastern Michigan.

On March 12, 1997, the Gleaners annual Women's Power Breakfast will bring together more than 200 of southeast Michigan's civic, professional, and corporate leaders to help lead the fight against hunger. The power breakfast was created 4 years ago by Gleaners board member Dulcie Rosenfeld and is led this year by honorary co-chairs Michelle Engler and Judge Trudy Archer, and by breakfast co-chairs Irma Elder, Barbara Levin, Helen Love, and Amanda Van Dusen. Knowing the considerable talent and commitment of these women, I have no doubt that breakfast participants will meet their challenge of raising money and awareness to help Gleaners find solutions to hunger in southeastern Michigan.

Gleaners Community Food Bank was founded in 1977 with a mission of bringing together food, resources, and manpower into a single collection, storage, and distribution center to help feed southeastern Michigan's hungry. Since its creation, Gleaners has collected surplus food from the region's farmers, food distributors and processors, supermarkets, grocery stores, and individuals. Each year, this vital organization collects, stores, and distributes more than 12 million pounds of food to more than 200 agencies, including soup kitchens, church pantries, and shelters for homeless or battered women.

Since its inception, Gleaners has been able to rely on the generosity of the people of southeastern Michigan. Each Saturday, approximately 100 volunteers from church groups, schools, unions, and corporations come together to assemble food packs for distribution to various agencies. Food drives, fundraising events, corporate donations, foundation grants, and donations from individuals contribute greatly to Gleaners success.