

of college women participating in competitive athletics has gone from fewer than 32,000 to over 110,000 in 1994-95. Before title IX, fewer than 300,000 high school girls played competitive sports. By 1996, that number had climbed to almost 2.4 million.

Today, women across America are taking bats, lacrosse sticks, and javelins to the glass ceiling—shattering the myth that there are “men’s” sports and there are “women’s” sports. But a quarter-century after title IX’s enactment, there is still much more to be done. According to a recent NCAA study, only 23 percent of all current college athletic budgets are allocated to women, and women receive only 38 percent of athletic scholarship dollars. Only 27 percent of funding spent to recruit new athletes target women. In high-school athletic competitions, there are two boys to every one girl participating.

The Fair Play Act, which we introduced to mark the 25th anniversary of Title IX, is designed to strengthen this important legislation and therefore enhance women’s athletic and educational opportunities. Under current law, colleges and universities are required to compile information about their men’s and women’s athletic programs, including participation rates, operating and recruitment budgets, the availability of scholarships, revenues generated from athletic programs, and coaches’ salaries. They are required to update this information annually and make it available to prospective students and others upon request. Because there is no central repository for this information, however, it is difficult for students to obtain and evaluate it or put it into context.

The Fair Play Act is designed to correct this by directing colleges and universities to send information they already collect on their men’s and women’s athletic programs to the Department of Education, and directs the department to publish an annual report and make this information widely available by distributing the annual report to high schools, and establishing a toll free number and a web site. This bill will give students and families access to the kind of information they need to make informed decisions about where to go to school, and will help the Department of Education enforce title IX compliance in the area of athletics.

The first 25 years of title IX have been an enormous success. Now, it’s time for us to help millions of other girls and women get off the bleachers, the sidelines, and the viewing stands and onto the fields, the pitchers’ mounds, and the courts. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and look forward to seeing what the next 25 years hold for women’s accomplishments in sports.●

MARVIN H. POPE

● Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, our age has lost a scholar of epic achieve-

ment and range with the passing of Marvin H. Pope of the Yale Divinity School. A Biblical scholar of unsurpassed originality and range, he died at age 80 in the First Church of Round Hill, Greenwich, CT, just after he and his wife Ingrid had read a passage from the Bible for the congregation. He was an effervescent member of the American Schools of Oriental Research, where he will be mourned as well as celebrated.

As was said about Job, it could be said of Marvin H. Pope: “. . . thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.” I ask that an article on Marvin Pope, from the New York Times be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows:

[From the New York Times, June 1997]

MARVIN POPE, 80, PROFESSOR AND AUTHORITY ON ANCIENT UGARIT

(By Holcomb B. Noble)

Marvin H. Pope, a retired Yale professor who was one of the world’s leading authorities on Ugarit, the ancient city in Syria where excavations shed important light on the ancient Scriptures, died on Sunday at First Church of Round Hill in Greenwich, Conn. He was 80.

He and his wife had just finished reading passages from the Bible to the congregation and returned to their pew when he collapsed.

Mr. Pope was a professor of Near Eastern languages and civilizations from 1949 to 1986 and taught at the Yale Divinity School and in the religious studies department.

In addition, he helped prepare the first major revision of the King James Version of the Bible, the Revised Standard Version, in the 1940’s. In the 1980’s he worked with others advising the National Council of Churches on the New Revised Standard Version, which removed some traditional language regarded as sexist. These are the two versions used in most Protestant churches.

Many of Mr. Pope’s contributions to the study of the Hebrew text of the Bible and to modern English translations stemmed from a day in 1928 when a farmer plowing a field in northern Syria struck what he thought was a stone. It emerged, instead, as part of the extensive remains, uncovered by archeologists over the next year, of a cosmopolitan city on the Mediterranean that had thrived in 2000 B.C. but had been ransacked and burned in about 1200 B.C.

Among the discoveries were Ugaritic art and clay tablets whose language was similar to biblical Hebrew, of which Mr. Pope, over the years, became a major translator. They added significant new meanings, nuances and detail to the early writings of the Old Testament and the culture of their time. The tablets were traced to a period from 1500 B.C. to 1180 B.C.

Mr. Pope’s work on the tablets resulted in his retranslations from the ancient Hebrew of the entire books of Job and the Song of Songs, and a lengthy commentary about them both, published in 1973 and 1977 by the Anchor Bible Series. Robert R. Wilson, a professor of religious studies at Yale, said those two translations were “the brilliant works of a master scholar” and added to the general understanding of an age and its poetry.

Scholars said that one of the difficulties in translating the early tablets was that the words had been crammed onto the surfaces with less regard for their legibility than whether they would fit. It was often difficult to determine, as a result, which line of poetry followed which. Mr. Pope was able to ar-

range the lines in proper sequence and poetic form.

Another difficulty was that the meanings of the first lines of the verses tended to be echoed in the second lines but with rarer language. Mr. Pope was one of the few able to capture the meaning of the rarer passages.

He visited the site of the 1929 excavations, near the modern town of Latakia, north of Damascus, though most of his studies took place in Paris, where the hundreds of tablets were put on display.

A man whose wit made him popular among generations of Yale students, he said that one of his findings was that Baal, chief god of the Ugarits, was not always chief, as scholars had thought, but had maneuvered to take over from the god El, whom he kicked further upstairs.

Marvin Hoyle Pope was born on June 23, 1916, in Durham, N.C., the son of Charles and Bessie Cleveland Sorrell Pope. He earned a bachelor’s degree in 1938 at Duke University, where he was signed up by mistake for a course in Hebrew. He remained in the course, which led him to a master’s degree in Semitic languages and literature in 1939. He received a doctorate from Yale in 1949.

His first wife, Helen Thompson Pope, died in 1979.

In addition to his wife, Ingrid Bloomquist Pope, he is survived by a son, Marvin Jr., and a daughter, Beverly, both of New Haven; three stepchildren, Dennis Bloomquist of Great Falls, VA, Diane B. Connelly of Shaker Heights, OH, and Laurel B. Shields of Austin, TX.; a sister, Mary Gladys Hodges of Durham, NC and eight grandchildren.●

BIOMATERIALS ACCESS ASSURANCE ACT

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise to speak today on Senate bill 364, the Biomaterials Access Assurance Act, which I am proud to cosponsor. I have long been a proponent for civil justice reform and other legislative measures relating to product liability. As an original cosponsor of product liability reform legislation (S. 648), I have long supported the biomaterials liability reform provisions contained in it. I am also pleased to cosponsor those provisions as a separate measure, although in my view we need both general product liability reforms and biomaterials liability reforms.

This Nation’s tort system is in dire need of repair. To maintain the status quo is not only costing consumers millions of dollars each year but also many lives will be lost if change does not occur soon. The Biomaterials Access Assurance Act approaches the subject of tort reform from a different perspective—the perspective of millions of Americans who face life-threatening diseases. These are the people who have the most to gain and everything to lose if Congress refuses to listen to their pleas.

The purpose of this act is straightforward. S. 364 attempts to gain a foothold on our legal system’s slippery slope by shielding companies who supply raw materials to manufacturers of life-saving medical devices. The Biomaterials Access Assurance Act will prevent the impending shortage of biomaterials suppliers by permitting these companies to be quickly dismissed from a lawsuit provided they had no part in the manufacture or selling of a

device and all contractual specifications had been met. Currently it is common practice for suppliers to be dragged into costly litigation even though these companies are not involved in the creation or marketing of a product. In fact, in almost every case thus far, biomaterials suppliers are not found liable in these type of lawsuits. S. 364 squashes illegitimate attempts for windfall profits and more importantly, ensures these life-saving medical devices will be in abundant supply.

Right now, the escalating expense suppliers unfairly incur defending their product continues to drive many out of the U.S. market. As a result, it is becoming increasingly more difficult for manufacturers of medical devices to find biomaterials suppliers with the raw materials necessary to produce their products. Replacement heart valves, pacemakers, and brain shunts are but a small selection of the devices which rely on raw material suppliers.

My colleague from Arizona, Senator McCAIN, mentioned in an earlier statement that 13 biomaterial supply companies have been driven out of business due to concerns about the risk of unwarranted litigation. Sadly, the people whose lives depend on these raw materials for survival are the ones who will pay the ultimate price. Unfortunately a family living in my home State of Michigan illustrates my point.

Recently Mr. and Mrs. Traxler of Fremont, MI, told me of their family's desperate need to find help for their young daughter, Sarah. The parents explained to me when Sarah was 2 months old she experienced a traumatic brain injury. As a result of the injury, Sarah now requires a shunt that drains fluid away from her brain.

The shunt will need replacing soon and her parents are deeply worried that if medical manufacturers are forced into bankruptcy, the shunts keeping Sarah alive will no longer be available. In their letter, Sarah's parents explain, "Because of the recent lawsuits involving breast implants and other medical devices, many biomaterials manufacturers have discontinued supplying the raw materials used to make medical devices. Because the sale of these raw materials represent such a small percentage of their total revenues, they do not feel it is worth the risk of having to defend themselves in court and they have discontinued supplying these materials to medical device manufacturers."

This is a sad commentary on the state of this Nation's legal system. Clearly, reform is needed and must be implemented soon to help protect the life of Sarah Traxler and countless others like her. For this reason, I ask my colleagues many of whom are parents themselves, to support this critical legislation.●

TRIBUTE TO KARIN ELKIS WEINSTEIN

● Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, today I want to congratulate Karin

Elkis, who is being honored on June 30, 1997 as the Sid Levy Memorial Volunteer of the Year by the Jewish Community Center of South Jersey. This annual award is presented to the volunteer who best captures the JCC's commitment to community service and self-giving. Karin is in charge of the Lautenberg Senate office in South Jersey and it is of no surprise to me that she is receiving this honor. Karin gets more done in one hour than most people accomplish in a single day. She is energetic, caring, selfless, and always thinking about others. She brings the same commitment and concern to her volunteer activities that she brings to her work to serve the people of New Jersey.

Despite a more than full time job, three young children, and other family responsibilities, Karin has found time to make a major contribution to the JCC by chairing its Festival of Arts, Books and Culture this year. Further, she's served as a liaison to the Early Childhood Department, a member of the Budget Committee, chaired the Camp Committee and been a member of the Executive Committee. If I listed all of her activities at the JCC over the past few years, this statement would be longer than a James Michener novel.

Through her work, Karin has touched the lives of many. She is truly an extraordinary person, with many talents, enormous energy and drive, and a compassionate heart. I am proud to have Karin on my staff and to include her as a friend. She makes an enormous contribution to the South Jersey community, through her work as a Senate employee and her work as a volunteer.

Mr. President, I again congratulate Karin on this well deserved recognition. I know that she will continue to serve the people of New Jersey in many ways for years to come and that our pride in her accomplishments will continue to be justified.●

CLEANING THE AIR

● Mr. LAHEY. Mr. President, for the past 5 months, we have been engaged in a troubling debate on how best to protect the health of our children, our elderly and our environment. Since the Environmental Protection Agency announced the proposed new standards for air quality, we have witnessed an unprecedented campaign by industry to block these new standards. Opponents instantly attacked the goals rather than sitting down to work with Congress and the administration on how to achieve these goals in a reasonable and cost-effective timeframe. I applaud EPA Administrator Carol Browner for standing up against the onslaught of industry backlash on the new standards. Today, President Clinton showed equal commitment by supporting the thrust of Administrator Browner's recommendation. This decision will reduce the smog and soot that drifts into Vermont from outside the State. I congratulate President Clinton for stand-

ing up for the health of our children and our environment. We can now begin the process of finding the most cost-effective means of implementing these standards.

In Vermont, we recognize the benefits of high environmental standards. Over the years, conservationists and the business community have worked together to protect the environment. Vermonters know that a healthy environment promotes a healthy economy. Yet despite our commitment, Vermont and other Northeastern States have become the dumping ground for pollution that seeps across our borders each night with the wind. The new ozone standard makes the biggest polluters accountable and will reduce the burden on States in the Northeast in their battle to maintain our high standards for air quality. Acid rain taught us that tough State environmental standards were not enough to protect us. We saw some of our healthiest forests die off from pollution borne from outside our region. This situation demands tough national environmental standards to ensure a level playing field.

The new air standards will address two central issues: Where the smog and soot is landing and how to use new scientific evidence to continue improving efforts to protect public health. We learned from the acid rain debate that emissions from dirty coal-fired powerplants in the Midwest can be transported farther than 500 miles. More than 40 percent of the pollution in Vermont is from outside the state. We also know that utility restructuring will encourage increased generation at the powerplants in the Midwest. The new standards proposed by EPA will reduce the smog and soot that drifts into Vermont from these powerplants. Today's decision is a clear victory for the Northeast because we now have a standard that will reduce air pollution at its source.

Since the passage of the Clean Air Act we have made considerable strides in reducing some pollutants. The level of lead pollution we and our children breathe today is one-tenth what it was a decade ago. That figure by itself is a tribute to the success of the original Clean Air Act. If we learned one thing from the acrimonious debate in Congress last year on environmental issues, it is that the American people do not want to halt the progress we have made and merely rest on our environmental laurels. Americans want to keep moving forward on cleaning up our environment. Unfortunately, as I listen to the debate on the Clean Air Act this Congress, I fear that we are not heeding their call. Instead of looking at ways to strengthen the Clean Air Act, we are trying to undercut the existing regulations.

Today, the President recognized the 130 million Americans in 170 major cities who continue to breathe unhealthy air. Congress should listen as well and approve the standards. I will work with my colleagues in the