

record in the three-team competition between Army, Navy and Air Force. I am proud to say this is the fourth year in a row the Air Force Academy has captured the trophy and they have won 10 of the last 12 seasons.

The most important aspect of the 2000 Air Force Academy Football Team is each athlete on this team is a student first, and an athlete second. They play the game of football not to become an NFL star one day, but because they love the game of football.

Their leader is a modest southern gentleman named Fisher DeBerry whose life is driven not by football, but by his Christian faith and his family. In his 17 seasons as head football coach at the Air Force Academy he has guided his teams to an overall record of 135-72-1. He has won more football games than any other coach in service academy history and has taken the "fighting falcons" to an amazing 11 bowl games. In 1996, he served as president of the prestigious American Football Coaches Association.

The 2000 Air Force Academy football team demonstrated that hard work can overcome any obstacle. Despite being picked to finish in the lower half of their conference, they finished with an overall record of 9-3 and won a thrilling victory over Fresno State in the 2000 Silicon Bowl. Their perseverance is an inspiration to all us.

I commend the Superintendent of the Air Force Academy, General John Dallager and the Director of Athletics, Colonel Randy Spetman, along with all the coaches and players of the 2000 Air Force Academy football team for a job well done. You have set a standard of excellence that all of us should strive to achieve.●

#### TRIBUTE TO JIM O'NEIL

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Jim O'Neil of Merrimack, NH, on the occasion of his 30th anniversary as Superintendent of Schools in Merrimack, NN.

As a former teacher myself, I commend Jim's commitment to the young people of New Hampshire and the nation. Jim has been a dedicated member of the educational community for many years, beginning his teaching career in 1963. He has contributed selflessly to the betterment of education in New Hampshire, serving in teaching, athletic coaching and administrative positions for many years.

An exemplary community contributor, Jim has been actively involved in many educational associations and organizations. He has been a board member for the National Elementary Principal's Association, the New Hampshire School Administration Association, the New England Association of School Superintendents and was a member of the Governor's Commission on Public Education. He has also been faithful volunteer in Pop Warner football and Babe Ruth baseball in Merrimack, serving as a coach.

Jim received a Bachelor of Science degree from Boston College in Chestnut Hill, MA, and later earned a Master of Education degree from the State College at Boston.

Jim and his wife, Reggie, have four children and two grandchildren and have resided in the town of Merrimack, NH, for over thirty years.

It is an honor and a privilege to serve Jim O'Neil in the U.S. Senate. I wish him and his family Godspeed in his retirement and in all of their future endeavors.●

#### JUDGE WALTER M. HEEN—A LIFETIME OF ACHIEVEMENT

● Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I rise today to share with my colleagues the contributions of a fine jurist, tireless community leader, and native son of Hawaii. Nearly 50 years of public service excellence have made Walter Meheula Heen an acknowledged leading citizen, a "special treasure" of the State of Hawaii.

Judge Heen's dedicated drive to build a better Hawaii was awakened as a law student at Georgetown University in the mid-1950s. The seeds of his commitment and service were planted in childhood by his father and his uncle, Ernest and William Heen, respectively, two patriarchs of social reform in plantation-era Hawaii. It was the Heens, along with Johnny Wilson and David Trask, Sr. Who formed the core of the early Democratic Party in Hawaii.

Walter Heen's career as an elected official, state judge and U.S. district court judge includes remarkable accomplishments and historically significant achievements. Elected to the Territorial House of Representatives in 1958, the year before Statehood, Judge Heen served in the Hawaii legislature as a Representative until 1964 and was elected to the State Senate in 1966.

The "Democratic Revolution of 1954" was more than a headline or a slogan, is accurately conveyed the significant legislative agenda the new majority was committed to enact to affect fundamental changes to improve the social and economic character of the islands. Land reform, anti-trust, "Green Belt" land use, collective bargaining, and workers' compensation were to become the battle zones that would change the face of politics, legislation and the administration of justice across Hawaii. Walter Heen was on the front lines of those struggles. His cause, together with those whom he served, was to level the playing field of social and economic opportunities for all, regardless of race, class or religion.

Walter Heen served as a member of the Honolulu City Council from 1969 to 1972, including his selection as Council Chair in 1969-70. He left elective office in 1972 accepting an appointment to the State District Court, and then State Circuit Court in 1974-78.

Judge Heen's star continued to rise with his appointment as U.S. Attorney, District of Hawaii for 1978-80, and as

U.S. District Court Judge, District of Hawaii in 1981. He retired from a distinguished judicial career in 1994 after 12 years as Associate Judge of the State Intermediate Court of Appeals. During that period, Heen authored several opinions on important Hawaiian issues and had occasion to sit and add his voice to the deliberation of the State Supreme Court.

Always an active contributor to community affairs, Walter Heen was a founding member of the renaissance Democratic Party revolution beginning in 1950. It was a significant political movement that focused on changing the traditional unequal and unfair distribution of opportunities available to Hawaii's minority communities. Judge Heen carried this passion for leveling the playing field throughout his career of public service. More recently, Heen added his hand to exposing improper management and unethical practices at the Bishop Estate, a charitable trust charged with the responsibility of providing children of Hawaiian ancestry with educational opportunities and achievement. While controversial, his joint authorship of the milestone piece entitled "Broken Trust", successfully led to court ordered reviews of trust operations, and the ultimate improvement and accountability of the charitable trust.

Judge Heen's volunteer activities are broad and diverse, spreading across Hawaii's community concerns. As early as 1962, Walter was singled out as the Honolulu Junior Chamber of Commerce "Outstanding Young Man of the Year." Virtually at the same time, he was Chair of the State Bar Association Ethics Committee 1961-63, President of the University of Hawaii Alumni Association, and President of the Honolulu Hawaiian Civic Club. As a member of its Founding Board of Directors, Heen launched the Big Brothers of Hawaii program that has made an enormous contribution to supporting and mentoring thousands of youth in Hawaii.

Upon his retirement from the bench, Walter Heen has continued his public service. He served as a Director of the Native Hawaiian Bar Association, Advisor to the Native Hawaiian Advisory Council, co-counsel for Hawaiian water rights in the Waiahole Ditch dispute, member of the Public Access Shoreline Study Group, 1997-1998, and member of the Governor's Economic Revitalization Task Force. Currently, Heen is the acting Executive Director of the Office of Mauna Kea Management, lending a "community voice" and oversight to the maintenance and development of the University of Hawaii's astronomical facilities at Mauna Kea's summit.

In 1996, Walter Heen was tapped to serve as the Chairman of the Hawaii Democratic Party. It was a turbulent time for a political party that has dominated Hawaii's political scene for more than 50 years. Heen led us forward in a hotly contested gubernatorial election in 1998 and then a

host of targeted races in our State Legislature's lower house in 2000. Resources were scarce, and some would say that so were our passions and drive. Walter Heen has done a fine job under trying circumstances. He was a team player and a leader. He was the point, and the man in the background.

I believe the greatest legacy Walter Heen leaves Hawaii's Democratic Party is a growing, committed group of young Democrats, impatient and anxious to make improvements and changes, to make Hawaii the best place to raise a family, excel in a career, and enjoy the most beautiful environment and lifestyle in the world. He has worked diligently to establish and empower a new army of passionate young people to carry the Democratic torch forward.

Judge Walter Heen, and his family leaders before him, have played a pivotal role in helping to shape the Hawaii of today. It is leaders like Heen who have helped to chart a collective course for Hawaii's future, one that has allowed our island to take full advantage of high technology, while not forsaking our spirit of aloha.

I rise today to commend my dear friend, Walter Meheula Heen, for his lifetime of service.●

#### TRIBUTE TO SUSAN MEIDINGER

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the many contributions and services of Susan Meidinger of Aberdeen, SD. Susan is being honored this week as South Dakota's Small Business Advocate of the Year, an honor for which she is very deserving.

Susan is a valuable asset to her community. She is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the South Dakota Society of CPAs and the Northeast Chapter of CPAs.

While raising three children, she took on the challenge of starting her own accounting firm. Through her commitment and dedication to her clients, the firm flourished. Susan measures her achievements not necessarily in the success of her business, but moreover, by the measure of how she can help her fellow businesses and clients achieve their own personal successes. It is not surprising, therefore, that her services are sought after.

Despite the demands of balancing the work of raising a family and owning a business, Susan is an active participant in her community. By regularly putting her skills and talents to work on behalf of local organizations, she strengthens local establishments and helps to promote growth and opportunity in the area.

Susan's work with the Small Business Development Center is an excellent example of why she is being honored for her work on behalf of Small Businesses. By volunteering her time and expertise, she helps entrepreneurs to achieve their aspirations and avoid

cumbersome pitfalls or missteps in their accounting practices. She offers advice, counseling, and mentorship that enhances opportunities for business growth and job creation which has had a positive impact on many families.

It is with great appreciation that I join with the community, the businesses, the customers, and those who know Susan Meidinger, to congratulate Susan for being honored as a Small Business Advocate of the Year. I wish Susan enduring good fortune and prosperity in the continued pursuit of excellence.●

#### IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT O. ANDERSON

● Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, the Institute of the North recently held a ceremony to honor Robert O. Anderson and his lifetime of achievements. I, too, would like to add my appreciation for his many contributions to our Nation. Robert O. has earned renown as a petroleum executive, an environmentalist, a diplomat, a rancher, and a community leader. He began his career in the oil industry shortly after he graduated from the University of Chicago in 1939. In 1941, he and his family moved to my home State of New Mexico after he acquired an interest in a small oil refinery in Artesia. Within six months, he had more than doubled the production of the refinery. Though his innovation and experimentation was greeted with skepticism by many within the industry, Robert O. persevered and soon moved on to larger refineries, eventually becoming Chairman and CEO of Arco, the Atlantic-Richfield Company, all the while bringing robust economic development and hundreds of jobs to New Mexico.

At Arco, Robert O. was instrumental in bringing Alaska into the twentieth century. In fact, Alaska's history is closely intertwined with Arco and with Robert O. Anderson. Under his leadership, Arco discovered one of Alaska's greatest natural resources: the Prudhoe Bay oil field. As Arco developed the Prudhoe Bay, Robert O. surprised the environmental community by working with them to ensure that the pipeline was completed in an environmentally responsible manner. Throughout his career, Robert O. Anderson has brought economic prosperity to Alaska, while respecting and preserving its natural treasures.

In fact, the United States owes Robert O. Anderson a special debt of gratitude in our current era of energy crises. The U.S. depends heavily on the Prudhoe Bay oil field, which provides 25 percent of our domestic oil supply. When Prudhoe Bay was first discovered, skeptics claimed that the U.S. could do without its oil supply. They also claimed that the local wildlife would be irreparably harmed. And now, three decades later, the Prudhoe Bay area provides us with over 1.4 million barrels of oil a day. And virtually

every study has concluded that not one of the local species of wildlife has declined. Rather, every single species has thrived. Imagine the position the U.S. would be in if Robert O. had listened to these skeptics. Everyone agrees that we are too dependent on foreign sources of energy, but imagine how dependent we would be if it were not for Robert O. Anderson.

In addition to oil, Robert O. Anderson's other business interests have included cattle ranching, mining and milling, and general manufacturing. He has served on the board of directors of the National Petroleum Council since 1951 and has received numerous honors and titles recognizing his extensive charitable and community work. He has also served on the Board of Regents of the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology and currently serves on the National Advisory Board of the University of New Mexico Anderson Schools of Management, two fine institutions in my home state. Robert O. Anderson also founded the International Institute for Environmental Development to further his lifelong passion of preserving and protecting the environment.

Once again I thank Robert O. Anderson for his years of service to our State of New Mexico and to our Nation. He has a true American story. His hard work and determination have produced a proud legacy of accomplishments and public service.●

#### THE POSTAL EMPLOYEES OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE PERFORMANCE CLUSTER

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the Postal Employees of the New Hampshire Performance Cluster, a group of dedicated public servants who have been recognized for exemplary performance of service duties. On April 3rd of this year, The Postal Employees of the New Hampshire Performance Cluster were recognized with the Postal Service's highest award, the Chief Operating Officer Award for overall excellence in the area of customer satisfaction.

I was proud to have attended the awards ceremony in New Hampshire last weekend, and was inspired by the dedication and commitment of the award recipients.

New Hampshire Postal Employees have been honored along with four other districts in the nation receiving the Order of the Yellow Jersey Award for Excellence in customer service. This prestigious award is based on the percentage of residential customers who rated the postal service employees as excellent in four areas: overall performance, courteous and friendly clerks, consistency of mail delivery and accuracy of mail delivery.

The Postal Employees of the New Hampshire Performance Cluster have provided dedicated service to the citizens of our state. The people of our