

home state. What is unusual in this case is that a Drill Team, Color Guard, JROTC unit from such a remote community won the national championship.

You see, Bethel is a moderate-sized town by Alaska standards, but small by anyone else's definition. Located along the Kuskokwim River in Southwest Alaska—roughly 400 miles west of Alaska's largest town, Anchorage—the community has a current population of 5,471. The Bethel Regional High School contains 250 students, smaller than some classes in many high schools. The school draws mainly Yupik Eskimo students from dozens of smaller villages such as Akiachak, Akiak, Tuluksak, Napakiak, Kasigluk and Tantutuliak to name just a few. The majority of the team, 11 of 13 members, are Alaska Natives.

It is truly heart warming to see students from a small Alaska town do so well in the national competition. At Daytona, the Bethel team competed against more than 70 schools from across the nation, as well as against Department of Defense schools from Japan to Puerto Rico.

Practicing drill formations in Alaska's "Bush" is a bit more difficult than in Southern California or Florida. Teams need to practice indoors, a lot, since the average January temperature is 6 degrees Fahrenheit. It also is a tad dark in winter, Bethel getting only about five and one-half hours of daylight a day in winter.

But more challenging practice conditions didn't stop the students from Bethel Regional from competing and winning in the national competition. Let me mention the members of the Unarmed Regulation Inspection Drill Team that finished first in their competition: Curtis Neck, Michael Carroll, Wallen Olrun, James Miles, Christina Smith, Paul Anvil, Justin Lefner, Mark Charlie, Kimberly Cooper, Jocelyn Tikiun, Jason Noatak, Michael Glore and Lisa Typpo. The team was led by Commander Dexter Kairaiuak.

I'd like to also name the members of the Color Guard that finished in fourth place in its individual competition: Nation Colors, Commander Curtis Neck, State Colors Dexter Kairaiuak, Nation Guard Michael Carroll and State Guard Wallen Olrun.

The Unarmed Regulation Drill Team, containing the same members as the championship inspection team, also competed and took 12th place in its competition. The 10-member Unarmed Exhibition Drill Team took third place in the national competition. It included: Commander Curtis Neck, Michael Carroll, Wallen Olrun, Dexter Kairaiuak, Christina Smith, Lisa Typpo, Justin Lefner, Mark Charlies, Kimberly Cooper and Jocelyn Tikiun.

I also want to publicly thank Army Instructor MSG (Retired) Barbara W. Wright, who was the Army Instructor and Coach of the team this year. She did a wonderful job training her students and helping them to their cham-

pionship and deserves the thanks not just of the students and their parents, but of all Alaskans for her dedication and commitment. I also want to thank the chaperones who accompanied the students to the competition: Major (RET) Carl D. Bailey, assistance coach; Mr. Scott Hoffman and Mrs. Donna K. Dennis.

To be national champions at any endeavor requires long hours of practice and sacrifice. It requires dedication and true commitment. I know all members of the U.S. Senate will join me in honoring these students and their faculty advisors for a job very well done. All Alaskans—all Americans—honor you today for your hard work and your accomplishments.●

RETIREMENT OF DR. JAMES LARE, OCCIDENTAL COLLEGE

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, On the occasion of his retirement, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the outstanding accomplishments of Dr. James Lare during his tenure as a professor at Occidental College.

Dr. Lare's commitment to Occidental College goes back more than 50 years, when he was an undergraduate student at the college. In 1962, he became a faculty member and has now served the college for 40 years. Many of Dr. Lare's colleagues can attest to his extraordinary years of service and contributions to the college and its students.

An expert in American government, European comparative politics, public administration, urban politics and public policy, Dr. Lare has served as a mentor and inspiration to his students, many of whom have flourished on Capitol Hill and in local government. His work on many different projects and on many different committees has strengthened the school and has touched the lives of his colleagues and students.

In addition to his professional career, Dr. Lare is a model community leader. He is a member of many diverse organizations, including CORO Associates, the Public Affairs Internship Support Group; the Sierra Club; the Los Angeles World Affairs Council and he serves as Treasurer of the California Center for Education in Public Affairs, Inc. Dr. Lare also served our Nation in the United States Army Reserve.

Mr. President, it is clear that Dr. Lare has been an outstanding teacher and is an exceptional citizen who has enhanced the lives of those privileged to cross his path. I extend my very best wishes to him as he begins his much deserved retirement.●

HONORING ANNA MICHELLE MILES

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a truly exceptional member of the Kentucky nursing community. Mrs. Anna Michelle Miles (Missy) of Covington, Kentucky was recently nominated for the Florence Nightingale Award by two of her supe-

riors for her selfless devotion to her co-workers, community, and patients.

The Florence Nightingale Award, presented by the University of Cincinnati Medical Center, honors excellence in the delivery of direct patient care. During her lifetime, Florence Nightingale reformed and basically created the modern profession of nursing, establishing an educational system where women could properly learn about medicine and patient care. During the Crimean War, she bravely and selflessly volunteered her services for the front line. Her request was granted and along with 38 nurses, she was able to greatly reduce the mortality rate among the sick and wounded. Her combination of medicinal knowledge and compassion is what this award is founded upon.

Nurse Miles and the seven other nominees for this year's award represent the best of what nursing has to offer. They place patient care as their top priority and always know how to cheer a patient up by making them smile or just simply listening to them. They may not always have a physical cure for a patient's particular condition, but they will continually work to ensure that each and every patient is cared for in a loving and compassionate manner.

In terms of what Nurse Miles has done for her patients and fellow co-workers, I do not believe any award or statement could properly honor her. While a nurse at St. Elizabeth Medical North in Covington, KY, Nurse Miles has been an invaluable and irreplaceable resource. She helped start the Sunshine Fund in the ER in an effort to bring about a positive and warm atmosphere for doctors, nurses, families, and patients. She regularly volunteers to cover other floors when they are low on staffing and picks up extra shifts whenever she has the opportunity. As a social worker once wrote about Nurse Miles, "My personal feeling is that Missy treats all her patients with dignity and respect. She is a true nurse in all the roles she fulfills." She has also been very active in aiding those less fortunate individuals residing in the Covington community; collecting food for the shelters and food kitchens as well buying hats and gloves with her own money to distribute to children for those long, cold nights. Her patients adore and co-workers cannot imagine life without her.

I kindly ask that my fellow colleagues join me in thanking Anna Michelle Miles for her endless love and enduring commitment to her patients. She is a tribute to the memory of Florence Nightingale.●

THE DIABETES EPIDEMIC

● Mrs. CLINTON. Mr. President, I want to tell you about a remarkable young man I met two years ago. His name is Cullinan Williams, he is 10 years old and he lives in the beautiful little town of Cazenovia in upstate New York.

When Cullinan was 6, he was diagnosed with diabetes. He gives himself injections of insulin and pricks his finger to test his blood glucose level several times a day. Unless we find a cure for diabetes, he will need to do this for the rest of his life. Diabetes is a very serious disease but Cullinan is not sad or defeated. Quite the opposite: Cullinan is a strong advocate for increased diabetes research funding. I first met Cullinan when he asked my husband and me to sponsor him in America's Walk for Diabetes. This year he served as the American Diabetes Association's National Youth Advocate. He traveled all across the country talking to patients, providers and legislators. Every year he lobbies Congress and he tells other young people that they too can have a voice on Capitol Hill and in the halls of their state legislatures.

Cullinan has important things to say. There are 17 million Americans with diabetes; 6 million don't even know they have it. The prevalence of diabetes in the U.S. has grown by 50 percent since 1990; the Center for Disease Control has called it an epidemic. At the current rate, by the year 2010, 10 percent of all Americans will have diabetes.

Diabetes is a very serious disease. Life expectancy for people with diabetes is reduced by 15 years. People with diabetes have health problems. Many go on dialysis or need a transplant because their kidneys fail. Some lose their limbs and others lose their sight. Many have a heart attack or a stroke. More than 200,000 people die of diabetes every year. It is the fifth leading cause of death by disease and it is the third leading cause of death for some minority groups.

Diabetes costs a lot. In addition to human pain and early death, the financial cost exceeds \$100 billion every year. Fourteen percent of all of our health care dollars goes to caring for people with diabetes; 25 percent of medicare expenditures goes to diabetes care. If the epidemic of diabetes continues, the expenditures for diabetes care will become astronomical and bankrupt our healthcare system.

Diabetes can be stopped but we need research to do it. While deaths attributed to diabetes have increased by 40 percent since 1987, the proportion of the NIH budget that goes to diabetes research has decreased by 20 percent.

We also have to promote a healthy lifestyle across all ages. Obesity is reaching epidemic proportions in our country and is one of the reasons why Type 2 diabetes, the most common form of diabetes, is increasing. Type 2 diabetes used to be diagnosed in older adults. Now we see it in overweight children. This form of diabetes can be prevented by eating a healthy diet, getting regular exercise, and maintaining a normal weight. As a society, we must face the fact that our sedentary lifestyle, fast food, and "super size" portions are killing us. Stopping Type 2 diabetes means we must make a com-

mitment as a nation to encouraging and supporting a healthy lifestyle in our families, our communities and our work environment.

Cullinan does not have Type 2 diabetes. He has Type 1 diabetes. However, both Cullinan and I know that Type 1 diabetes can be prevented or cured through research. Science has produced many recent breakthroughs in our understanding of this disease. We know how to identify the genes that put children like Cullinan at-risk for diabetes. Scientists are now searching for the environmental triggers that cause diabetes in genetically at-risk children. Once they identify those triggers, prevention of Type 1 diabetes will be possible. Scientists also understand that Type 1 diabetes is an autoimmune disease; the body destroys its own insulin producing islet cells. Scientists are now studying ways to transplant islet cells or to regenerate islet cells. This will cure diabetes in people with the disease. We need to provide these scientists with the research funding they need to make a difference in Cullinan's life and to stop Type 1 diabetes in future generations.●

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF FONTANA

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to reflect on the 50-year history of the City of Fontana, which is celebrating its official 50th anniversary on Tuesday, June 25.

Incorporated in 1952, the City of Fontana has every reason to be proud of its rich history. One can just look at its intricately detailed city seal for a glimpse of Fontana's heritage. On the right side of the seal appears a vineyard, representing the time when Fontana had one of the largest vineyards in the world. Also illustrated are chicken ranches and citrus groves, reminding us of the agricultural community Fontana once was.

Although land in the Fontana area was secured as early as 1813, it was not actively developed until the early 1900's, when the Fontana Development Company acquired it and began a community called "Rosena." The name was changed to "Fontana" in 1913.

In 1913, A.B. Miller founded the townsite of Fontana, and made it into a diversified agricultural community. Nearly 30 years later, as America geared up for World War II, Fontana was selected as the site for a West Coast steel mill and soon became Southern California's leading producer of steel and other related products. The mill operated until 1984. Today, Fontana is a growing community and is the home of the California Speedway, a world class track for auto racing.

Mr. President, it is clear that the City of Fontana has truly thrived since its early beginnings. Its population has grown from 13,695 to 139,100, and the city provides a full range of valuable services to its residents.

I am proud to serve the people of Fontana, and wish them all a wonder-

ful anniversary celebration and many more years of prosperity.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-256. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming relative to wolf reintroduction in the State of Wyoming; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 3

Whereas, the federal government is responsible for the reintroduction of wolves in the state of Wyoming;

Whereas, elk, moose and deer are important to the recreational and economic interests of the people of the state of Wyoming;

Whereas, the use of elk feed grounds provides positive benefits for the people of the state of Wyoming by maintaining elk population objectives at different locations in the state;

Whereas, the introduction of wolves creates a negative impact on habitats for moose and deer, and wolves kill and displace moose and deer, thereby posing a threat to the maintenance of moose and deer population objectives in the state;

Whereas, wolves kill and displace elk, moose and deer, thereby posing a threat to the maintenance of elk, moose and deer population objectives in the state and the habitats of moose and deer and the use of elk feed grounds;

Whereas, wolves kill approximately three hundred thirty (330) elk annually in Wyoming, costing the owner of those elk, the state of Wyoming, an estimated one million three hundred twenty thousand dollars (\$1,320,000.00);

Whereas, the state of Wyoming does not have jurisdiction to regulate wolves while they remain on the federal list of threatened species. Now, therefore, be it

Resolved By The Members of the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

Section 1. That the Wyoming state legislature recognizes the importance of elk, moose and deer to the people of the state and the use of elk feed grounds and the importance of habitats for moose and deer to maintain elk, moose and deer population objectives at various locations in the state of Wyoming.

Section 2. That the federal authorities responsible for the management of wolves in the state of Wyoming must manage wolves in a manner consistent with maintaining elk, moose and deer population objectives, preserving the habitats of moose and deer and the use of elk feed grounds, as determined by state wildlife officials.