

When the University of Colorado Buffaloes men's basketball team played in creaky, sweat-spiced Balch Fieldhouse, raucous silver-and-gold partisans routinely turned out, and longtime coach Walseth's scrappy squads seldom disappointed.

Under Walseth from 1956 to 1976, the CU men's squads captured three conference titles—including their last, in 1969—and three NCAA invitations in an era when they were much harder to come by.

And from 1980-83, he coached the CU women, winning two conference championships and orchestrating an astounding 43-game home-court winning streak.

But what's most impressive was that he did it all with plenty of home-grown talent. Few players under his tutelage failed to improve.

Personally, he was beloved by many who knew him from as far back as his playing days for the Buffs in the 1940s. He was blunt, friendly and colorful, and his friends have literally hundreds of tales to tell about him. Sox Walseth died Wednesday of cancer at home in Boulder. He was 77.

NASA'S MARS ROVER AND SPACE EXPLORATION

HON. LAMAR S. SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 2004

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, few scientists write as well as Seth Shostak, senior astronomer at the SETI Institute in Mountain View, California. This column he wrote about the Mars rover for the San Jose Mercury News offers compelling arguments for pursuing scientific discoveries and exploring space.

[From the San Jose Mercury News, Jan. 7, 2004]

GEOLOGIST ON WHEELS TAKES HUMAN CURIOSITY TO MARS

OUR DRIVE TO EXPLORE LEADS TO BETTER LIVES
(By Seth Shostak)

One hundred million miles away, the mechanical innards of NASA's Spirit rover have begun to hum in the brittle cold of the Martian air. The rover is a synthetic geologist on wheels, small enough to fit in your kitchen, and the space agency is reveling in the fact that Spirit has managed to elude the silent death that has claimed so many of humankind's envoys to the Red Planet.

The boost to NASA's confidence, badly eroded by the loss of the shuttle Columbia, is surely a good thing. If Spirit and its sister rover, Opportunity, perform well, the Bush administration may support a major new space initiative, perhaps a return to the moon or a human expedition to Mars.

Those would also be good things, but such judgments, coming, from a scientist, may seem obvious and self-serving. American taxpayers will rightfully ask why it's important to shell out \$800 million to send a pair of cybernetic skateboards to another world.

MARTIAN CHARISMA

One answer is the interest and value of the science. For two centuries, Mars has beguiled us with its Earth-like appearance. Venus is closer, but Mars is charismatic; it is sufficiently similar to our own planet to warrant the hope that it once spawned life. And the possibility of discovering life beyond Earth is a siren song to anyone with curiosity, even if, as is surely the case for Mars, that life is no more sophisticated than bread yeast.

NASA's approach to learning whether microbes ever populated the Red Planet is to look for signs of ancient lakes, rivers or oceans. Spirit will explore a flat-bottomed crater that may once have held a body of water half the size of Lake Erie. Its mission is to find evidence for this erstwhile lake by examining the rocks littering the crater floor.

SIGNS OF LIFE?

If Spirit discovers that water once ebbed and flowed on Mars, the next questions are: For how long? Long enough to germinate life? NASA will send a string of robot explorers to address this question, and to ultimately seek out microscopic Martians. The carrot that hangs before us is deliciously seductive: If another world—the next world out from the sun—is proved to have supported life, that would imply that the cosmos is drenched with living things. We could conclude that planets with life are as common as phone poles.

That's the science, and it's exciting. But science is no more than curiosity imbued with logic. Surely, in a world awash in political upheaval, epidemics and poverty, curiosity is a dispensable luxury.

It's not. Curiosity is hard-wired into our behavior because it has survival value. For 300 millenniums, it has driven us to exploration and understanding. The former has encouraged the discovery of new resources, and the latter allows us a comfortable life in a pitiless world.

Curiosity is the silent motor of progress, without which we are condemned to a steadily worsening existence as we burn through our resources.

ANSWERING QUESTIONS

Humans display many behaviors that separate us from the beasts. Art, music, poetry . . . the list is easily formulated. Curiosity, neither incidental nor trivial, is on that list. In simpler times, it drove our ancestors to wander across the mountains and, on occasion, to find a valley that was better than where they started. Today, scientific curiosity turns up answers to questions that previous generations could barely ask.

The Spirit rover is a small actor in a long play with a large cast. It is aptly named, for it represents not only the best of our enterprises, but also an essential quality of our being. Spirit is mechanical in construction only. It is quintessentially human.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING MARGARET AND STAN PLANTON

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 2004

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Margaret and Stan Planton have provided years of dedication to improving their community, including Margaret's service as the Mayor of Chillicothe; and

Whereas, Margaret and Stan Planton, along with members of their community, arranged a letter-writing campaign to help convince United States Enrichment Corporation (USEC) to build its uranium centrifuge plant in Piketon, Ohio; and

Whereas, Stan Planton worked tirelessly to gather information about USEC's plans and convey the information to Members of Congress and other legislators; and

Whereas, on January 12th, 2004, Piketon, Ohio, was selected as the site for USEC's

centrifuge plant, bringing an estimated 500 permanent high-paying jobs into the area; and

Whereas, Margaret and Stan Planton were an integral part in Southern Ohio being chosen as the site for USEC's plant;

Therefore, I join with Members of Congress and the entire Eighteenth Congressional District of Ohio in thanking Margaret and Stan Planton for their dedication to this project and their continued efforts to improve their community.

ACKNOWLEDGING THE SERVICE OF SHARON VIGIL

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 2004

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge an important leader in the business community of Colorado. Ms. Sharon Vigil, president and chief operating officer of the Denver Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, will be leaving her post after 14 years of service.

Established in 1978, the Denver Hispanic Chamber of Commerce has proven to be an outstanding member of the Colorado business community. Whether through influencing legislation, providing technical assistance to Hispanic businesses and professional associations, or strengthening the network of Colorado businesses as a whole, the Denver Hispanic Chamber of Commerce has been an exceptionally effective organization.

Sharon Vigil was born in Walsenburg and raised in Pueblo, later attending school in Boulder at the University of Colorado. As an active member of the civil rights movement during the 1970s, she developed an early reputation as a leading voice in support of equal opportunity for minorities and women in business. She has a long history of exceptional and diversified management skills and is well-regarded for her experience in the fields of marketing and public relations. But above all, she is a motivated woman who uses both her mind and heart in working for the Hispanic community.

In the early 1990s Ms. Vigil brought her considerable skills to the Denver Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, becoming President and Chief Operating Officer in 1995. Under her guidance, membership grew to more than 1,300, elevating the Chamber's success and positioning the organization as the largest and most influential minority chamber in the state.

I met Ms. Vigil early in my career as a legislator and was immediately impressed by the enthusiasm she brought to the job of promoting economic opportunities in the Hispanic community. One of my fondest recollections of her is the pride and joy she had in showing me the Hispanic Chamber's facility in Denver. She walked me through several floors of offices and made sure I met and spoke to all the vendors and officers.

As a dedicated leader, Ms. Vigil has diligently worked to assist countless Hispanic business owners throughout Colorado and the Denver Metropolitan area. It is that admirable and distinguished service that motivates me to acknowledge this remarkable community leader.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ms. Sharon Vigil and in wishing

her success in all her future endeavors. It has been a true privilege to work with her.

TRIBUTE TO KENDALL WINGROVE

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 2004

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of Mr. Kendall Wingrove of East Lansing, MI, who will be honored this month by the National Foundation of Women Legislators when they present him with their 2004 Media Excellence Award at special ceremonies in Washington, DC.

A native of Michigan's St. Clair County, Kendall is the proud descendant of a long line of milkmen, with his father and grandfather alike holding down milk routes in Macomb County. Kendall married Molly Hull in 1992 and they have two children, Ethan, 8, and Catherine, 6. A devoted father and husband, Kendall lavishes much attention on his family.

Kendall's path to Lansing started off at St. Clair Community College, where he worked on the school paper, then later attended Central Michigan University, where he received his B.A., followed by Michigan State University to earn his M.A.

Kendall's master's thesis was on the role of women in journalism on the American frontier during the 19th century.

In 1982, Kendall began work in the Republican Communications Office in the Michigan House of Representatives. During his more than two decades of service, Kendall has turned out scores of award-winning projects that have served the members of the House and the people of Michigan. Kendall has worked as a writer, a media strategist and department director. He has counseled members on media and legislative term issues. In an era of term limits, Kendall's work has helped hundreds of members of the Michigan House navigate the difficult waters of media relations and State politics.

Kendall also has never been too busy to impart a wise word of advice or to patiently explain the workings of the legislature or the potential outcomes of a media event to House staff.

Kendall has always had an interest in government and politics. During the 1968 campaign, he reported to his 5th grade class that he had seen Presidential candidate Richard Nixon say "Sock it to me?" on "Laugh In." While his teachers and fellow students did not believe him, he was correct.

Kendall's knowledge of the history of American politics is extensive and he can speak knowledgeably on a broad variety of topics related to things political, ranging from the Vice Presidency of Garret Hobart to Harry Truman's 1948 Labor Day whistle stop trip through Michigan. Kendall also is an expert on the pets owned by our chief executives and their children.

Outside of his work with the legislature, Kendall has written extensively about the history of Michigan and the men and women who built the State. His historical work has been published in the Detroit News, the Detroit Free Press, Michigan History magazine, and a host of other publications throughout Michigan. Kendall has personally interviewed scores of

older Michigan residents as he works to chart the history of Michigan.

Kendall is skilled at his chosen profession, an excellent public servant, a chronicler of history, and a good and loyal friend and family man.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Kendall Wingrove who is well deserving of the special honor he receives from the National Foundation for Women Legislators. He truly merits our respect and admiration.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING DAVID JONES

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 2004

Mr. NEY, Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, David Jones has been in the auctioneer business for nearly 40 years and was recently named to the Ohio Auctioneers Association's Auctioneers Hall of Fame; and

Whereas, David has been a long time member of the Ohio Auctioneers Association (OAA) and the National Auctioneers Association (NAA), serving in multiple capacities on the OAA board for over 20 years including President in 1994; and

Whereas, David has conducted more than 1000 auctions throughout Ohio, Iowa, Missouri, Indiana, and West Virginia; and

Whereas, David has used his experience to help benefit auctioneers throughout Ohio, establishing relationships with members of virtually every community, including the Ohio legislature;

Therefore, I join with the entire 18th Congressional District in congratulating David Jones for being named to the Auctioneers Hall of Fame.

TRIBUTE TO THE SUNDANCE INSTITUTE AND SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 2004

Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Sundance Institute and Sundance Film Festival for the many contributions the Institute and Festival have made to the arts and art education. The Institute and Film Festival are world renowned and have expanded the appreciation of arts while also providing encouragement and new venues for emerging young talent. It is a cherished, exciting and vibrant part of the American arts and humanities landscape, and I hope it will continue to thrive for many years to come.

Founded by actor and director Robert Redford in 1981, the Institute is dedicated to the development of artists of independent vision and the exhibition of their new work. The Institute nurtures emerging screenwriters and directors and provides a supportive environment to explore path-breaking and innovative themes. It is guided by the primary aim of supporting artists whose work reflects an original, compelling vision.

Since its creation, the Sundance Institute has become most known for its annual film festivals in Park City, Utah. Over the years, the Festival has become one of the most prestigious and important of all film festivals. Its selections and award winners have achieved wide acclaim, notoriety and artistic prominence. As a result, the Festival's influence on filmmaking has been extensive.

However, the Sundance Institute has become much more than a catalyst for the Film Festival. It has expanded its scope to include a range of programs all designed to promote innovative filmmaking. It provides workshops for screenwriters and filmmakers so that they can expand their thinking and hone their craft in a creative environment away from the pressures of the marketplace and with the guidance of respected, veteran filmmakers.

It has also established a Native American Program which supports new work by both emerging and established Native writers, directors, and producers. The commitment of the Sundance Institute to supporting Native American cinema is woven throughout its history and resides side-by-side with its contributions to American cinema. Rooted in the recognition of a rich tradition of storytelling and artistic expression by Native Americans, the Institute's Native American Initiative is a means of supporting the development of Native filmmakers and exhibiting their work.

Today, the Native American Initiative maintains its full commitment to Native cinema in a multi-tiered effort that tracks and provides support to two to four projects and four producers each year, as well as programming the Native Forum at the Sundance Film Festival. More recently, the Native American Initiative has broadened its efforts to scout for Native playwrights, music composers, and non-fiction arts writers to participate in the Institute's other developmental programs and to include indigenous artists from all of North America and the South Pacific in its initiative. At its core, the Native American Initiative supports the creative control of indigenous artists in filmmaking and other art forms supported by the Institute programs.

The Institute also holds professional conferences for film producers focusing on the professional and business aspects of independent film production such as marketing, financing, and distribution. It also has a long history of supporting documentary filmmakers through a year-round program which encourages the exploration of innovative nonfiction storytelling, and promotes the exhibition of documentary films to a broader audience. And it supports the growth of a more thoughtful and incisive body of writing about the arts through its screenwriting program. Now in its second year, the Program offers writers of creative nonfiction the opportunity to immerse themselves in Sundance Labs in the U.S. and abroad, and at the Sundance Film Festival, in order to more deeply understand and articulate the nature of the creative process in a range of art forms.

When choosing Fellows for its programs and films for the Festival, the Institute is committed to encouraging the recognition of diverse voices—Native American, African American, Asian, Latino, and women filmmakers, among others. The films and plays developed or premiered by Sundance over the past two