

in the Indian movement to working with those influential people, as they encouraged a new breed of activists.

For the past 4 decades, Dr. Deloria has been a voice of influence in Indian history, writing more than twenty books and countless articles and lectures. His works stimulated political thinking and discourse among Indian activists. As Wilma Mankiller, former Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation, said of Dr. Deloria, "No writer has more clearly articulated the unspoken emotions, dreams and lifeways of contemporary Native people."

Now a retired professor of political science from the University of Arizona and retired professor emeritus from the University of Colorado, Dr. Deloria is still writing and inspiring young activists from his home in Tucson, Arizona. In fact, Time magazine recognized Deloria as one of the 11 most influential religious thinkers of the twentieth century. As Indian Country Today notes, "Vine Deloria Jr. provided enormous perception, guidance, strategy and sheer analytical heft to the struggle for respect and justice for American Indians."

Dr. Vine Deloria, Jr., is an extraordinary pioneer and supporter of Native American rights and the honor of winning the American Indian Visionary Award is one he highly deserves. He is a man of great scholarship and knowledge, and will continue to shape history for years to come. Dr. Deloria has never sought honors or recognition, but his scholarship has brought him well-deserved accolades. It is an honor for me to share his accomplishments with my colleagues and to publicly commend Dr. Deloria on his talent and commitment to history, understanding, and education.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. DAVID A. AUSTIN

• Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. David A. Austin, an extraordinary man who touched many lives but passed away on November 4, 2004.

Dr. Austin lived a life full of vitality and enthusiasm. He had an accomplished career, always helped others without thought for himself and made his family the center of his life.

Dr. Austin was born in Brattleboro, VT, where he graduated from St. Michael's High School and received his Bachelor of Science from St. Michael's College. From there he went on to medical school at the University of Vermont where he began his lifelong career of healing and helping others.

After receiving his Naval Medical Officer commission, he continued his education, graduating from the Naval Deep Sea Diving School here in Washington, DC and the School of Submarine and Undersea Medicine in New London, CT.

After completing his active duty and residency at St. Albans Naval Hospital in New York, Dr. Austin opened his

medical practice in Rutland in 1970. When not practicing medicine, he was busy serving the community as a member of the Christ the King Elementary School Parent-Teacher Association and the Mount St. Joseph Academy school board, on both of which he served as president for a time.

Later in life, when many people his age were settling into retirement, he was called up during the first Gulf War to Bahrain to serve his country once again, after which he was awarded the Presidential Meritorious Service Medal.

But one of his greatest honors came last April when his peers in the medical community awarded him the Physician of the Year Award. A better man could not have been recognized.

Dr. Austin will be missed by family, friends and all those he touched with his healing hand.●

TRIBUTE TO ADAM GARDNER, YILEI YANG, ASHLEY SMITH, JACK HARTZ AND BENJAMIN GOWAN

• Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to Adam Gardner, Yilei Yang, Ashley Smith, Jack Hartz and Benjamin Gowan as five truly outstanding students from the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

The National Honor Society organizes a Scholar's Bowl to foster a spirit of aspiration and hard work in America's students. These Scholar Bowls include testing of each student in five different categories: English, math, science, social studies, and general knowledge. The tests are rigorous and they require a longstanding history as a good student.

Being recognized by this organization is truly an honor and I am pleased to hear that these five students from Kentucky have become the National Honor Society's Scholar Bowl Champions. The four students from duPont Manual High School in Louisville, KY successfully defended their school's title as National Honor Society National Scholar's Bowl Champions. They are Adam Gardner, Yilei Yang, Ashley Smith, and Jack Hartz. One student, Benjamin Gowan, from Nelson County High School in Bardstown, KY, took first place in the test on the individual science subject category. Thanks to the hard work of these young men and women, four out of five of the top scoring students at last year's Scholar's Bowl were from the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

In their letter to me, the National Honor Society informed me that "these Kentucky students truly exhibited superlative performance." I congratulate these five students for their hard work and their achievement.●

CELEBRATING WILLIAM BEAUMONT HOSPITAL'S FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator STABENOW and myself, I con-

gratulate the William Beaumont Hospital on 50 years of dedicated service to the Michigan community.

William Beaumont Hospital opened its doors in Royal Oak in 1955 as a result of a survey in southeast Michigan which showed an overwhelming need for medical assistance in the area. The survey was quickly proven correct. Within its first week of operation, the hospital performed over 40 major surgeries and delivered over 30 babies. As the need continued to grow, Beaumont opened a second hospital in 1977 in Troy.

In the past 50 years, Beaumont has grown significantly, logging nearly 1.7 million inpatient admissions and nearly 3.3 million emergency visits. It works closely with several universities in Michigan to provide premier residency and fellowship programs and the Beaumont Research Institute conducts more than 800 active studies funded by grants.

Today, Beaumont is ranked among the top hospitals not just in Michigan but in the Nation. With staff representing over 90 different medical and surgical specialties, Beaumont has been honored with numerous awards including AARP's "Top 50 Hospitals," one of "America's Best Hospitals" by U.S. News and World Report, a "100 Top Hospitals—National Benchmarks for Success" by Solucient, and one of Michigan's "Best Places to Work" by Crain's Detroit Business.

Senator STABENOW and I are delighted to have the opportunity to thank the former and current staff of Beaumont Hospital for their enormous contributions to the State of Michigan and to congratulate them on reaching this significant milestone.●

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 appropriate committees.

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

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of committee was submitted:

By Mr. CRAIG for the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

* Jim Nicholson, of Colorado, to be Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

* Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to

respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. GREGG (for himself, Mr. FRIST, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. McCONNELL, and Mr. DEMINT):

S. 3. A bill to strengthen and protect America in the war on terror; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SANTORUM (for himself, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. FRIST, and Mr. McCONNELL):

S. 6. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide permanent family tax relief, to reauthorize and improve the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families and to improve access to quality child care, and to provide incentives for charitable contributions by individuals and businesses, to improve the public disclosure of activities of exempt organizations, and to enhance the ability of low-income Americans to gain financial security by building assets, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KYL (for himself, Mr. FRIST, Mr. DEMINT, and Mr. McCONNELL):

S. 7. A bill to increase American jobs and economic growth by making permanent the individual income tax rate reductions, the reduction in the capital gains and dividend tax rates, and the repeal of the estate, gift, and generation-skipping transfer taxes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ENSIGN (for himself, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. KYL, Mr. FRIST, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. COBURN, Mr. DEMINT, and Mr. McCONNELL):

S. 8. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit taking minors across State lines in circumvention of laws requiring the involvement of parents in abortion decisions; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ENZI (for himself, Mr. FRIST, and Mr. McCONNELL):

S. 9. A bill to improve American competitiveness in the global economy by improving and strengthening Federal education and training programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Mr. REID, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. INOUE, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. REED, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. DAYTON):

S. 11. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to ensure that the strength of the Armed Forces and the protections and benefits for members of the Armed Forces and their families are adequate for keeping the commitment of the people of the United States to support their service members, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BIDEN (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. BINGAMAN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 12. A bill to combat international terrorism, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Mr. REID, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. INOUE, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SARBAKES, and Mr. DAYTON):

S. 13. A bill to amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to expand and enhance health care, mental health, transition, and disability benefits for veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. REID, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. INOUE, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. DAYTON):

S. 14. A bill to provide fair wages for America's workers, to create new jobs through investment in America, to provide for fair trade and competitiveness, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. REED, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. DODD, Mr. HARKIN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. INOUE, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SARBAKES, and Mr. DAYTON):

S. 15. A bill to improve education for all students, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. REID, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. INOUE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. DODD, Mr. PRYOR, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 16. A bill to reduce to the cost of quality health care coverage and improve the availability of health care coverage for all Americans; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DODD (for himself, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 17. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to protect voting rights and to improve the administration of Federal elections, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. DAYTON (for himself, Mr. REID, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. INOUE, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. DODD, Mr. SARBAKES, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 18. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to make improvements to the medicare program for beneficiaries; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CONRAD (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. FEINGOLD, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. INOUE, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. DODD, and Mrs. CLINTON):

S. 19. A bill to reduce budget deficits by restoring budget enforcement and strengthening fiscal responsibility; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. REID (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. KERRY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. HARKIN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. INOUE, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. LEVIN, Mr.

KENNEDY, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. WYDEN, and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 20. A bill to expand access to preventive health care services that help reduce unintended pregnancy, reduce the number of abortions, and improve access to women's health care; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. HUTCHISON:

S. 24. A bill to establish an emergency reserve fund to provide timely financial assistance in response to domestic disasters and emergencies; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. CHAMBLISS:

S. 25. A bill to promote freedom, fairness, and economic opportunity by repealing the income tax and other taxes, abolishing the Internal Revenue Service, and enacting a national sales tax to be administered primarily by the States; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself, Mr. FRIST, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 27. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the deduction of State and local general sales taxes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 29. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to limit the misuse of social security numbers, to establish criminal penalties for such misuse, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SARBAKES (for himself, Mr. CORZINE, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. DODD, Mrs. BOXER, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mr. REID):

S. 31. A bill to amend the Electronic Fund Transfer Act to extend certain consumer protections to international remittance transfers of funds originating in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. DAYTON (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. CORZINE, and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. 32. A bill to enhance the benefits and protections for members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces who are called or ordered to extend active duty, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. FEINGOLD):

S. 33. A bill to prohibit energy market manipulation; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. LIEBERMAN:

S. 34. A bill to provide for the development of a global tsunami detection and warning system, to improve existing communication of tsunami warnings to all potentially affected nations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CONRAD:

S. 35. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the credit for production of electricity from wind; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. INOUE:

S. 36. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to recognize the United States Military Cancer Institute as an establishment within the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, to require the Institute to promote the health of members of the Armed Forces and their dependents by enhancing cancer research and treatment, to provide for a study of the epidemiological causes of cancer among various ethnic groups for cancer prevention and early detection efforts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.