

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

UGA WOMENS GYMNASTICS 2007 CHAMPIONS

• Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate the women's gymnastics team from my alma mater, the University of Georgia, for winning the 2007 NCAA championship for the third straight year.

The Gym Dogs celebrated their threepeat championship and eighth national title as they earned the highest score of the finals in Salt Lake City, UT, on April 27, 2007, and completed their season with a final record of 31-2-1.

As an alumnus of this distinguished university, I am extremely proud of these talented women for all of their hard work and dedication that contributed to the championship scores that sealed their victory. I congratulate all of the team members and the women of the senior class, Adrienne Dishman, Kelsey Erickson and Ashley Kupets, who gave 4 years of excellence to the Gym Dogs. Their leadership and talents will surely be missed. In addition, sophomore Courtney Kupets won her second straight National Individual All-Around title, and Courtney Kupets, Megan Dowlen, Marcia Newby, Tiffany Tolnay, Katie Heenan, Grace Taylor were all named first team All Americans. This is a remarkable program that will carry on its winning tradition with the outstanding strength of the remaining juniors, sophomores, and freshman members. Furthermore, I would like to extend my appreciation to all the families and fans for their continual support of the Gym Dogs throughout the season.

The success of the team could not have been achieved without the exceptional coaching staff, led by legendary head coach Suzanne Yoculan, the 2006 NCAA Coach of the Year. Coach Yoculan has been the head coach of the Gym Dogs since 1983 and has won 8 national championships, 15 conference championships, as well as being named National Coach of the Year four times.

Congratulations again to all of these young women for their great accomplishments and hard work.●

RETIREMENT OF DR. JAMES A. LAKE

• Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I wish to acknowledge a special milestone in the career of one of the truly great nuclear energy luminaries of our time. I am speaking of the retirement of Dr. James A. Lake of Idaho National Laboratory.

During his nearly quarter-century of service to Idaho National Laboratory—and by extension, to all of America—Dr. Lake has applied his exceptional technical and managerial expertise to some of this Nation's highest priority research and development initiatives in the nuclear energy arena. From leading the design team that developed

an innovative ultra-high-flux research reactor concept early in his Idaho career, to guiding the establishment of the U.S./Russian International Centers for Environmental Safety later on, Dr. Lake's contributions have had an extraordinary impact.

As the elected president of the American Nuclear Society at the start of the 21st century, Dr. Lake did much to usher in the nuclear renaissance now sweeping the globe. In a single year, he personally visited 11 countries, a dozen universities, and more than 20 nuclear powerplants and nuclear facilities around the world. He also gave countless interviews with major television, newspaper, and magazine journalists—representing CNBC, the Wall Street Journal, the Washington Post, BusinessWeek and others—to help them better understand nuclear power's unique abilities to dependably generate massive amounts of electricity—around the clock, rain or shine—with-out generating any of the greenhouse gases that are now of such global concern.

Beyond his contributions to INL and the American Nuclear Society, Dr. Lake has also left his indelible mark of excellence on countless other organizations and activities ranging from the American Association of Engineering Societies to the International Nuclear Societies Council. He holds patents on "An Inherently Safe Fast Breeder Reactor" and other key nuclear technologies and has more than 35 publications in refereed journals and conference proceedings.

Dr. James A. Lake—scientist, research leader, nuclear energy visionary, and gentleman—leaves a legacy of growth, safety, and success in the nuclear programs at INL, for which the laboratory, the great State of Idaho, and the Nation will be forever grateful. I extend my best wishes to Dr. Lake as he retires from INL and moves on to the next chapter of his remarkable life.●

HOLLOWMAN AIR FORCE BASE ANNIVERSARY

• Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, today I would like to commemorate the 65th anniversary of the founding of Holloman Air Force Base near Alamogordo, NM, on June 10, 1942.

Established 6 months after the entry of the United States into the Second World War, Holloman served as a training center for B-17, B-24, and B-29 bomber crews for the duration of that conflict. Over the course of the war, 20 bomber groups trained at Holloman before serving in the European and Pacific theaters of the war.

After the war, Holloman became the primary Air Force base for the testing and development of guided missiles and unmanned aircraft. Holloman was also the site of several notable events, including a 1954 rocket-propelled sled test that reached speeds of 632 miles per hour and earned Dr. John P. Stapp

the title of "Fastest Man Alive." Additionally, Holloman was the location of CPT Joseph W. Kittinger, Jr.'s, 102,800 feet skydive in 1960 that broke four world records and it was there that ENOS, the chimpanzee who made the first American animal orbital flight, received his training.

In 1968, a new era at Holloman began with the arrival of the 49th Tactical Fighter Wing. For the last 39 years, the 49th has called Holloman home and has flown F-4 Phantom IIs, F-15 Eagles and in 1992 became the only Air Force unit equipped with the F-117 Nighthawk, also known as the stealth fighter. Holloman also serves as the home to the German Air Force Tactical Training Center.

Today, Holloman is preparing for another major transition. As the F-117 is retired, the 49th will begin to receive new F-22 Raptors. Since its founding, Holloman has played an important role in the development of new technologies and has been home to the world's most advanced aircraft. Most importantly though, I believe it is the men and women who serve at Holloman who make it one of this country's premier military installations. I would like to thank all those who served and continue to serve at Holloman for their hard work and dedication. I have no doubt the work done at Holloman will continue to contribute to the national security of the United States for another 65 years.●

HONORING ROBERT M. LA FOLLETTE

• Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, today I honor the extraordinary life of Robert M. La Follette, Sr. This week, on June 14, people around my home State of Wisconsin will mark the 152nd anniversary of La Follette's birth. Throughout his life, La Follette was revered for his tireless service to the people of Wisconsin and to the people of the United States. His dogged, full-steam-ahead approach to his life's work earned him the nickname "Fighting Bob."

Robert Marion La Follette, Sr., was born on June 14, 1855, in Primrose, a small town southwest of Madison in Dane County. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin Law School in 1879 and, after being admitted to the State bar, began his long career in public service as Dane County district attorney.

La Follette was elected to the House of Representatives in 1884, and he served three terms as a Member of that body, where he was a member of the Ways and Means Committee.

After losing his campaign for reelection in 1890, La Follette returned to Wisconsin and continued to serve the people of my State as a judge. Upon his exit from Washington, DC, a reporter wrote, La Follette "is popular at home, popular with his colleagues, and popular in the House. He is so good a fellow that even his enemies like him."

He was elected the 20th Governor of Wisconsin in 1900. He served in that office until 1906, when he stepped down in order to serve the people of Wisconsin in the Senate, where he remained until his death in 1925.

As a founder of the national progressive movement, La Follette championed progressive causes as Governor of Wisconsin and in the Congress. As Governor, he advanced an agenda that included the country's first workers' compensation system, direct election of Senators, and railroad rate and tax reforms. Collectively, these reforms would become known as the "Wisconsin Idea." As Governor, La Follette also supported cooperation between the State and the University of Wisconsin.

His terms in the House of Representatives and the Senate were spent fighting for women's rights, working to limit the power of monopolies, and opposing pork-barrel legislation. La Follette also advocated electoral reforms, and he brought his support of the direct election of Senators to this body. His efforts were brought to fruition with the ratification of the 17th amendment in 1913. Fighting Bob also worked tirelessly to hold the Government accountable and was a key figure in exposing the Teapot Dome scandal.

La Follette earned the respect of such notable Americans as Frederick Douglass, Booker T. Washington and Harriet Tubman Upton for making civil rights one of his trademark issues. At a speech before the 1886 graduating class of Howard University, La Follette said:

We are one people, one by truth, one almost by blood. Our lives run side by side, our ashes rest in the same soil. [Seize] the waiting world of opportunity. Separatism is snobbish stupidity, it is supreme folly, to talk of non-contact, or exclusion!

La Follette ran for President three times, twice as a Republican and once on the Progressive ticket. In 1924, as the Progressive candidate for President, La Follette garnered more than 17 percent of the popular vote and carried the State of Wisconsin.

La Follette's years of public service were not without controversy. In 1917, he filibustered a bill to allow the arming of U.S. merchant ships in response to a series of German submarine attacks. His filibuster was successful in blocking passage of this bill in the closing hours of the 64th Congress. Soon after, La Follette was one of only six Senators who voted against U.S. entry into World War I.

Fighting Bob was outspoken in his belief that the right to free speech did not end when war began. In the fall of 1917, La Follette gave a speech about the war in Minnesota, and he was misquoted in press reports as saying that he supported the sinking of the *Lusitania*. The Wisconsin State Legislature condemned his supposed statement as treason, and some of La Follette's Senate colleagues introduced a resolution to expel him. In response to this action, he delivered his seminal floor ad-

dress, "Free Speech in Wartime," on October 16, 1917. If you listen closely, you can almost hear his strong voice echoing through this chamber as he said:

Mr. President, our government, above all others, is founded on the right of the people freely to discuss all matters pertaining to their government, in war not less than in peace, for in this government, the people are the rulers in war no less than in peace.

Of the expulsion petition filed against him, La Follette said:

I am aware, Mr. President, that in pursuance of this general campaign of vilification and attempted intimidation, requests from various individuals and certain organizations have been submitted to the Senate for my expulsion from this body, and that such requests have been referred to and considered by one of the Committees of the Senate.

If I alone had been made the victim of these attacks, I should not take one moment of the Senate's time for their consideration, and I believe that other Senators who have been unjustly and unfairly assailed, as I have been, hold the same attitude upon this that I do. Neither the clamor of the mob nor the voice of power will ever turn me by the breadth of a hair from the course I mark out for myself, guided by such knowledge as I can obtain and controlled and directed by a solemn conviction of right and duty.

This powerful speech led to a Senate investigation of whether La Follette's conduct constituted treason. In 1919, following the end of World War I, the Senate dropped its investigation and reimbursed La Follette for the legal fees he incurred as a result of the expulsion petition and corresponding investigation. This incident is indicative of Fighting Bob's commitment to his ideals and of his tenacious spirit.

La Follette died on June 18, 1925, in Washington, DC, while serving Wisconsin in this body. His daughter noted, "His passing was mysteriously peaceful for one who had stood so long on the battle line." Mourners visited the Wisconsin Capitol to view his body and paid respects in a crowd nearing 50,000 people. La Follette's son, Robert M. La Follette, Jr., was appointed to his father's seat and went on to be elected in his own right and to serve in this body for more than 20 years, following the progressive path blazed by his father.

La Follette has been honored a number of times for his unwavering commitment to his ideals and for his service to the people of Wisconsin and of the United States.

During the 109th Congress, I was proud to support Senate passage of a bill introduced in the House of Representatives by Congresswoman TAMMY BALDWIN that named the post office at 215 Martin Luther King, Jr., Boulevard in Madison in La Follette's honor. I commend Congresswoman BALDWIN for her efforts to pass that bill, and I am pleased she is introducing House companion measures of the legislation I am introducing today in the Senate.

The Library of Congress recognized La Follette in 1985 by naming the Congressional Research Service reading room in the Madison Building in honor

of both Fighting Bob and his son, Robert M. La Follette, Jr., for their shared commitment to the development of a legislative research service to support the Congress. In his autobiography, Fighting Bob noted that, as Governor of Wisconsin, he:

made it a . . . policy to bring all the reserves of knowledge and inspiration of the university more fully to the service of the people. . . . Many of the university staff are now in state service, and a bureau of investigation and research established as a legislative reference library . . . has proved of the greatest assistance to the legislature in furnishing the latest and best thought of the advanced students of government in this and other countries.

He went on to call this service "a model which the federal government and ultimately every state in the union will follow." Thus, the legislative reference service that La Follette created in Madison served as the basis for his work to create the Congressional Research Service at the Library of Congress.

The La Follette Reading Room was dedicated on March 5, 1985, the 100th anniversary of Fighting Bob being sworn in for his first term as a Member of Congress.

Across this magnificent Capitol in National Statuary Hall, Fighting Bob is forever immortalized in white marble, still proudly representing the State of Wisconsin. His statue resides in the Old House Chamber, now known as National Statuary Hall, among those of other notable figures who have made their marks in American history. One of the few seated statues is that of Fighting Bob. Though he is sitting, he is shown with one foot forward, and one hand on the arm of his chair, as if he is about to leap to his feet and begin a robust speech.

When then-Senator John F. Kennedy's five-member Special Committee on the Senate Reception Room chose La Follette as one of the "Five Outstanding Senators" whose portraits would hang outside of this chamber in the Senate reception room, he was described as being a "ceaseless battler for the underprivileged" and a "courageous independent." Today, his painting still hangs just outside this chamber, where it bears witness to the proceedings of this body—and, perhaps, challenges his successors here to continue fighting for the social and Government reforms he championed.

Mr. President, to honor Robert M. La Follette, Sr., during the week of the anniversary of his birth, today I am introducing two pieces of legislation. I am pleased to be joined in this effort by the senior Senator from Wisconsin, Mr. KOHL; the senior Senator from Massachusetts, Mr. KENNEDY; and the junior Senator from Ohio, Mr. BROWN.

I am introducing a bill that would direct the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins to commemorate Fighting Bob's life and legacy. The second bill that I am introducing today would authorize the President to posthumously award a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Robert M. La Follette, Sr. The

minting of a commemorative coin and the awarding of the Congressional Gold Medal would be fitting tributes to the memory of Robert M. La Follette, Sr., and to his deeply held beliefs and long record of service to his State and to his country. I hope that my colleagues will support these proposals.

Let us never forget Robert M. La Follette, Sr.'s character, his integrity, his deep commitment to progressive causes, and his unwillingness to waver from doing what he thought was right. The Senate has known no greater champion of the common man and woman, no greater enemy of corruption and cronyism, than "Fighting Bob" La Follette, and it is an honor to speak in the same Chamber and serve the same great State as he did.●

HONORING PHILIP M. KAISER

• Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to honor the memory of Philip Kaiser, a dear family friend who was also an outstanding public servant. In a career that spanned four decades, he served as an ambassador to four countries and as Assistant Secretary of Labor for International Affairs. He was a man of tremendous accomplishment who was sought out by U.S. Presidents, from Truman to Carter, for his unparalleled diplomatic skills.

While he served as Ambassador to Senegal in the early 1960s, he brokered a critical agreement with the Senegalese President that prevented Soviet aircraft from refueling there during the Cuban Missile Crisis, in case the Soviets tried to use aircraft to break the blockade. Later, when he served as Ambassador to Hungary during the Carter Administration, he negotiated the return of a powerful national symbol in Hungary, the Crown of St. Stephen, to the Hungarians after it had been held for safekeeping in the United States after World War II.

Ambassador Kaiser received his undergraduate degree at the University of Wisconsin and then studied at Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar. Those experiences undoubtedly influenced his career, and, as it turns out, they influenced my career as well. It was because Philip Kaiser went to the University of Wisconsin that he met my father, Leon Feingold. They became, and always remained, good friends. As I grew up, I got to know Ambassador Kaiser, and heard so much about him from my father. As a young man with an interest in public service and foreign affairs, I looked up to Ambassador Kaiser. In fact, one of the reasons I applied for a Rhodes Scholarship was because Ambassador Kaiser had been a Rhodes Scholar himself.

I am proud to have known Ambassador Kaiser and proud of his connection to my family. I am deeply saddened by his passing, and my thoughts are with his wife, his children and grandchildren, and his many friends during this difficult time. He left a

lasting mark on this country and the world, and it is an honor to pay tribute to his memory today.●

HONORING KAY AND MARY KRAMER

• Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I wish to honor two remarkable Iowans. Kay and Mary Kramer of Clive, IA have served their local community, our great State of Iowa, and America well. They have set an example of civic service that all people should be proud to follow.

Mary has a distinguished record of service to our country. She was the U.S. Ambassador to Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean. Additionally, she served on the White House Commission on Presidential Scholars, honoring outstanding high school seniors each year for both their academic and artistic achievements.

Mary has also served her home State of Iowa well. She has done this through her work in the Iowa Senate where she was elected and reelected for more than a decade. While serving in the senate, Mary was chosen by her fellow senators to be President of the senate. Her election to this position of leadership is a testament to the respect Mary has earned from those who know her best.

Mary and her husband Kay make a great, civically-minded team. Kay was named as a West Des Moines Citizen of the Year and is an active volunteer in his community. He served on the West Des Moines Board of Human Services and is still active as an officer with the West Des Moines Rotary Club.

I am proud to call Kay and Mary Kramer friends, and I am happy to honor both of them here today. I appreciate their tireless efforts to serve Iowa and America. I hope that their good work, and lifetime of service, does not stop any time soon.●

HONORING CLAIRA MONIER

• Mr. SUNUNU. Mr. President, the senior Senator from New Hampshire, JUDD GREGG, and I wish to recognize the considerable achievements of Claira Monier, a Goffstown resident who recently announced her retirement after leading the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority for nearly two decades.

Claira is a gold standard public servant. A New Hampshire native, she has devoted her life to improving her community, State and Nation. Moreover, in what limited spare time she has, Claira is someone to whom Senator GREGG and I can turn for steady counsel on policy—housing tax credits, bond caps, affordable housing—and politics. She is a rare and irreplaceable friend.

Whether in the classroom or leading efforts to expand access to housing or health care, Claira has demonstrated the highest commitment to service over a 40-year period. Although her record of achievement is well-known in

New Hampshire, it is worth repeating here on the floor of the Senate.

From 1967 to 1974, she held teaching and administrative positions at New Hampshire College and St. Anselm College. Claira subsequently served for 5 years as the director of the New Hampshire State Council on Aging, completing her tenure in 1981.

Having demonstrated uncommon competence and creativity in these roles, Claira was selected as Region I Director of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. In 1988, she began her legendary career as executive director of the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority—an organization on which she has left an indelible mark.

While working by day to support affordable housing and home ownership initiatives in New Hampshire, Claira managed to simultaneously bring her leadership skills to a number of non-profit boards.

She served as a Director of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston from 1990 to 1992 and was a member of its Affordable Housing Advisory Council. She also found time to serve for 2 years as chairman of then-Governor Gregg's Commission on Health Care Costs and Availability, leaving the panel in 1991. Claira was board president of the National Council of State Housing Agencies and served as cochair of the Fannie Mae Housing Impact Advisory Council.

The list goes on: past chair of the Manchester Red Cross; former Southern New Hampshire University trustee; 2003 chair of the Heritage United Way Campaign; former chair of the New Hampshire Main Street Center; chair of New Hampshire's chapter of the American Lung Association; chair of the West High School endowment fund; member of the Dartmouth Hitchcock Healthcare System's assembly of overseers; and so on.

It is not exactly clear when, or if, Claira had time to sleep.

But this much is known: Claira is one of those special people who looks at her community and is able to see how she can make it better. She is not prone to idle thoughts. Rather than stand on the sidelines saying how the order of the world should be, Claira enters the arena with vigor and inspires people to achieve difficult objectives.

The results of her work can be seen across New Hampshire. For first-time homeowners in our State—or those who thought they might never be able to own a place of their own—it is likely that Claira's leadership at New Hampshire Housing had something to do with their securing a piece of the American dream. It is difficult to imagine work that is more hopeful.

There is no question that Claira leaves behind a rich legacy at New Hampshire Housing. Her successors, no doubt, share her commitment to that organization's mission and will continue the important work she has started. It should be noted, though,