

top-quality bachelor degree programs in unique, high-demand career niches. Dr. Bascuas brought more than 25 years of experience in higher education to Becker College. In addition to his teaching and leading experiences, he has written and coauthored numerous papers on psychological topics and has presented at symposia and conferences. Dr. Bascuas utilized his great volume of experience and passion for quality higher education in his role as Becker College interim president.

I stand here today to congratulate Dr. Joseph W. Bascuas on the completion of his honorable work as Becker College's interim president. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Dr. Joseph W. Bascuas continued success.

#### VICTORIOUS SENATE PAGES

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, on May 16, 2010, the Senate Pages played the House Pages in an annual ultimate Frisbee game on the National Mall. This year the Senate Pages won the game commandingly 6-3.

Congratulations Senate Pages.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### REMEMBERING WALTER J. HICKEL

• Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, on Saturday morning, May 8, Alaskans awakened to the sad news that our beloved former Governor, Walter J. Hickel, passed away at the age of 90.

While those in my State viewed him as an Alaska legend, students of American political history may recall Governor Hickel more vividly as President Nixon's first Secretary of the Interior. They may recall that Hickel left that position after criticizing President Nixon for his handling of the Vietnam war and the student protests that gripped the Nation over our involvement in Southeast Asia.

In 1970, following what has come to be known as the "Kent State Massacre," Secretary Hickel wrote a letter urging President Nixon to give more respect to the views of young people critical of the war. That letter included the passage, "I believe this administration finds itself today embracing a philosophy which appears to lack appropriate concern for the attitude of a great mass of Americans—our young people."

On November 25, 1970, Governor Hickel was fired over the letter. His firing came days after he told "60 Minutes" that he had no intention of quitting. He said he would only go away "with an arrow in my heart, not a bullet in my back." The Nixon administration was all too pleased to oblige.

If President Kennedy were still alive, he surely would have viewed this series of events as a "profile in courage." To this day, when Alaskans are asked for one word that describes Walter Hickel, the word "backbone" immediately comes to mind.

They may have fired Wally Hickel but they didn't silence him. Governor Hickel left the national political scene following this incident to focus on Alaska and the Arctic, and his independence, his judgment, and his backbone inspired leaders of Alaska for decades to come.

Governor Hickel appreciated that public policy is a team effort, not an individual sport. Two of Governor Hickel's enduring legacies to the State—Commonwealth North, Alaska's leading public affairs forum, and the Institute of the North, a public policy think-tank—continue to shape public discourse today. Governor Hickel would be proud that last week, even as Alaskans grieved his loss, the Institute of the North conducted its annual Emerging Leaders Dialogue in Sitka.

Governor Hickel's life was large, as large as all of Alaska. Alaska is one of the few corners of America in which legends can still be made. And Governor Hickel surely will go down in history as an Alaska legend.

Born August 18, 1919, in Kansas, Walter J. Hickel came to Alaska in 1940 with 37 cents in his pocket. As he sailed into Prince William Sound on the S.S. *Yukon*, overwhelmed by the breathtaking natural beauty, Hickel remarked, "You take care of me, and I'll take care of you."

The words were prophetic. After working as a bartender, a carpenter, and an aircraft inspector, Governor Hickel saved enough money to purchase a half-completed house. He finished building the house, sold it, and then built two more. Eventually, he built several hundred homes.

Long time Fairbanks newspaper columnist Dermot Cole recalls Governor Hickel's success in enlisting community support to build Fairbanks' first modern hotel in 1955. Fairbanks needed a hotel, and Governor Hickel needed financing. He asked the Fairbanks community to invest in its future by purchasing bonds to finance the project, and 583 bondholders invested in the project. The smallest investment was \$10, the largest \$25,000. The project was built in 7 months. The bondholders were paid back by 1960. And that hotel, The Travelers Inn, still greets visitors to Alaska's Golden Heart City. Today, it is known as the Westmark Fairbanks.

Governor Hickel went on to build Anchorage's Captain Cook Hotel, as a show of confidence in the economy of Southcentral Alaska following the 1964 earthquake. Today, the Captain Cook Hotel offers 547 rooms, in 3 towers, and is Alaska's member of the Preferred Hotel Group.

Alaska sure took care of Wally Hickel, and Governor Hickel more than fulfilled his promise to take care of Alaska, proving that economic development and environmental conservation are not mutually exclusive concepts. His life demonstrates that a developer can be a conservationist and a conservationist can be a developer. One

is left to wonder which title he preferred.

Governor Hickel believed that economies can be grown through big projects. He certainly was not one who shared the view prevalent in some circles of the Lower 48, that Alaska should be locked up as a museum to compensate for poor land use decisions made elsewhere in America. During a 1978 interview, he referred to Alaska as a "happy, young, vibrant country." Blunt and honest, he lamented those who argued, "Don't walk here. Don't walk there. Don't step on the dandelions. You can't use this." He referred to this kind of thinking as "What a bunch of bull."

Yet this is the same Walter Hickel who dispatched legions of Interior Department employees to commemorate the first observance of Earth Day in 1969; the same Walter Hickel who told the National Petroleum Council in 1970, "The right to produce [petroleum] is not the right to pollute. America must prove to itself as well as to others worldwide that it has the ability to clean up the garbage it has left in its wake."

He insisted that those who benefited from the development of Alaska's resources pay Alaskans their due. And during Governor Hickel's second stint as Governor during the 1990s, the major oil companies were persuaded to pay the State more than \$4 billion in disputed back taxes and royalties. Historian Stephen Haycox refers to this as "a very significant legacy . . . because he forced the oil companies to acknowledge that they had a debt they owed to Alaska." In the wake of the Exxon Valdez oil spill, Governor Hickel used settlement funds to purchase land for Kachemak Bay State Park and Afognak State Park.

I could go on all day about the life of Wally Hickel. A man who constantly struggled with dyslexia, he authored several books and monographs and many articles. A self-educated individual, he received numerous honorary degrees and befriended foreign heads of state.

A fighter for Alaska's statehood, Hickel attended the birth of the State of Alaska. And history will remember that very little of significance happened in Alaska in the ensuing 50 years that Walter J. Hickel was not involved in. It is no overstatement to suggest that Governor Hickel had a substantial hand in Alaska's start, its present, and its future.

During Alaska's 50th anniversary of statehood celebration last year, I marveled at the fact that so many of the people who made our history are still alive and available to inspire succeeding generations of Alaskans as we continue to grow our State. I would like to think that giants such as Wally Hickel could live forever.

On behalf of all of our Senate colleagues, I extend condolences to Governor Hickel's wife Ermalee, his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. Thank you for sharing this

great American with Alaska and our Nation.●

#### TRIBUTE TO WALTER SCOTT, JR.

● Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Mr. President, on the occasion of his 79th birthday, I want to take this opportunity to honor fellow Nebraskan Walter Scott, Jr. for his exceptional business and civic leadership and his significant contributions to the telecommunications, construction, and mining industries, as well as his community, State, and country.

Walter began his distinguished career at Peter Kiewit Sons' Inc., formerly Kiewit Construction, working during the summers for Kiewit's construction operations, where his father also worked. In 1953 after earning his civil engineering degree from Colorado State University, he became an engineer for Kiewit in Omaha. A year later, Walter joined the U.S. Air Force as an air installation officer, inspecting military construction projects. Upon returning to Kiewit after his service, Walter excelled in the company, being elected to the board of directors, then becoming vice president in 1964. In 1979 Walter was named president and, later that year, succeeded Peter Kiewit as chairman of the board.

Over the next decade, Walter used his leadership and keen insights to advance Kiewit and develop the company to its full potential. Foreseeing the needs of society, Walter began diversifying the company's investment to include mining, energy, and telecommunications interests. By 1992 this expansion had led to the division of Peter Kiewit Sons' Inc. into two major subsidiaries: Kiewit Construction Group, continuing the company's historical excellence in construction and mining; and Kiewit Diversified Group, later renamed Level 3 Communications, focusing on high-speed fiber optics networks and geothermal powerplants. Kiewit is now a Fortune 500 company and is a recognized industry leader.

To this day, Walter remains engaged in the industries he helped to shape, continuing as director and chairman emeritus at Kiewit and serving as chairman of the board at level 3. Walter's numerous contributions to business have been acknowledged with dozens of accolades, including the Horatio Alger Award, the Golden Plate Award from the American Academy of Achievement, and induction into the Nebraska Business Hall of Fame.

Beyond his notable accomplishments in business, Walter's civic service and philanthropic contributions have enriched Nebraska and left a lasting impact on our home State. In 1996 Walter helped create the Peter Kiewit Institute, working with the University of Nebraska to provide tomorrow's leaders in information science, technology, and engineering with an unparalleled education. Walter has also given his service to numerous community and

nonprofit organizations, including Creighton University, Joslyn Art Museum, Boys & Girls Club of the Midlands, Omaha Development Foundation, Omaha Zoological Society, and Nebraska Game and Parks Foundation. Additionally, I have had the pleasure of serving with Walter as a member of the Open World Board of Trustees, providing international leadership and building multi-national relationships to effect positive change in Eurasian countries.

In closing, Walter Scott's illustrious leadership and generous service has strengthened his community, state, and country. On behalf of our fellow Nebraskans and Americans, I thank Walter for his innovation and leadership and wish him the best for the future.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

(The nomination received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:06 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 959. An act to increase Federal Pell Grants for the children of fallen public safety officers, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5014. An act to clarify the health care provided by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs that constitutes minimum essential coverage.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 268. A concurrent resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Women's Health Week, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that pursuant to Executive Order No. 12131, and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the President's Export Council: Mr. REICHERT of Washington and Mr. TIBERI of Ohio.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 301 of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1381), as amended by Public Law 111-114, the Speaker and Minority Leader of the House of Representatives

and the Majority and Minority Leaders of the Senate jointly reappoint on May 13, 2010, the following individuals to a 5-year term on the Board of Directors of the Office of Compliance: Ms. Barbara L. Camens of Washington, DC, as Chair and Ms. Roberta L. Holzwarth of Illinois.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 13101 of the HITECH Act (Public Law 111-5), and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Speaker reappoints the following member on the part of the House of Representatives to the HIT Policy Committee for a term of 3 years: Mr. Paul Egerman of Weston, Massachusetts.

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The PRESIDENT pro tempore (Mr. BYRD) announced that he had signed the following enrolled bills, which were previously signed by the Speaker of the House:

S. 1067. An act to support the stabilization and lasting peace in northern Uganda and areas affected by the Lord's Resistance Army through development of a regional strategy to support multilateral efforts to successfully protect civilians and eliminate the threat posed by the Lord's Resistance Army and to authorize funds for humanitarian relief and reconstruction, reconciliation, and transitional justice, and for other purposes.

S. 3333. An act to extend the statutory license for secondary transmissions under title 17, United States Code, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 959. An act to increase Federal Pell Grants for the children of fallen public safety officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 268. Concurrent resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Women's Health Week, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

#### ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, May 17, 2010, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 1067. An act to support stabilization and lasting peace in northern Uganda and areas affected by the Lord's Resistance Army through development of a regional strategy to support multilateral efforts to successfully protect civilians and eliminate the threat posed by the Lord's Resistance Army and to authorize funds for humanitarian relief and reconstruction, reconciliation, and transitional justice, and for other purposes.

S. 3333. An act to extend the statutory license for secondary transmissions under title 17, United States Code, and for other purposes.