

1997 was a year of recognition for the Contways. Bruce was named the Indian Arts and Crafts Association (IACA) Artist of the Year and was also awarded the steer wrestling and bareback riding bronze commissions during the 1997 Calgary Stampede Trophy Bronze Competition. Kathy was awarded the envy of all artists participating in the Stampede competition—the Chuckwagon Race Outriders bronze. Mr. President, bronze artists everywhere understand the significance of these honors.

The work of Bruce and Kathy indicates a strong pride in their Native American heritage. Their remarkable talent combined with modest self-recognition is an inspiration to young artists across our country. And their desire to pass on their legacy and pride is a tribute to all Montanans.

Among their peers, Bruce and Kathy are considered world-class artists. Among their neighbors, Bruce and Kathy are considered friends. The Contways are very involved in the local community. Accomplished high school and college rodeo stars, they enjoy working with local students in the high school's rodeo club.

Last December, the front page headline of the Whitehall Ledger read, 'Contway art "Stampedes" to great year'. The article was a fitting tribute to two of Montana's best. Artists with this kind of talent are difficult to find, and you can bet that a Contway bronze will be a treasured work of art on any lucky owner's mantel.●

THE CONGRESS-BUNDESTAG EXCHANGE

● Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, since 1983, the United States Congress and the German Parliament have conducted an annual exchange program for senior staff members from both countries. The program gives professional staff the opportunity to observe and learn about each other's political institutions and convey Members' views on issues of mutual concern. The program is now in its 15th year and has strong support and participation from federal agencies as well as corresponding support from the German government.

A staff delegation from the United States Congress will be chosen to visit Germany March 22 to April 4 of this year. During the two week exchange, the delegation will attend meetings with Bundestag Members, Bundestag party staff members, and representatives of numerous political, business, academic, and media agencies. Cultural activities and a weekend visit in a Bundestag Member's district will complete the schedule.

A comparable delegation of German staff members will visit the United States for three weeks this summer. They will attend similar meetings here in Washington and visit the districts of Congressional Members.

The Congress-Bundestag Exchange is highly regarded in Germany, and is one

of several exchange programs sponsored by public and private institutions in the United States and Germany to foster better understanding of the politics and policies of both countries. The ongoing situation in Bosnia, the future expansion of NATO and the proposed expansion of the European Union, as well as plans for a single currency will make this year's exchange particularly relevant.

The U.S. delegation should consist of experienced and accomplished Hill staff members who can contribute to the success of the exchange on both sides of the Atlantic. The Bundestag sends senior staff professionals to the United States.

Applicants should have a demonstrable interest in events in Europe. Applicants need not be working in the field of foreign affairs, although such a background can be helpful. The composite U.S. delegation should exhibit a range of expertise in issues of mutual concern in Germany and the United States such as, but not limited to, trade, security, the environment, immigration, economic development, health care, and other social policy issues.

In addition, U.S. participants are expected to help plan and implement the program for the Bundestag staff members when they visit the United States. Participants are expected to assist in planning topical meetings in Washington, and are encouraged to host one or two Bundestag staffers in their Member's district over the July Fourth break, or to arrange for such a visit to another Member's district.

Participants will be selected by a committee composed of U.S. Information Agency personnel and past participants of the exchange.

Senators and Representatives who would like a member of their staff to apply for participation in this year's program should direct them to submit a resume and cover letter in which they state why they believe they are qualified and some assurances of their ability to participate during the time stated. Applications may be sent to Kathie Scarrah, in my office at 706 Hart Senate Building, by Thursday, February 12.●

TRIBUTE TO THE GALLATIN AMERICAN LEGION POST 17 SOFTBALL TEAM

● Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, as a physician I have long advocated maintaining a healthy lifestyle. I'm always amazed when individuals prove that exercise and eating right are simple requirements for remaining healthy and staying young at heart. The Gallatin American Legion Post 17 Softball team is just such a group that is having fun staying healthy and exercising regularly.

This is no ordinary softball team, these ladies are sixty-years of age and older. This special team is comprised of women from all over middle Tennessee.

The team was formed in 1994. They practice each Monday in Gallatin and in the winter they keep up their stamina by using the Gallatin Sports Complex for their weekly softball practices. That same year they participated in the State tournament and won. Since then they are proud to be a force to reckon with on the Senior's Softball circuit.

This past spring the team traveled to Tucson, Arizona to participate in the International Senior Olympic Games. The competition drew more than 12,000 seniors over sixty-years-old from all over the world who competed in a variety of athletic events. The Gallatin American Legion Post 17 Softball team, with 13 players and two coaches, faced competition from nine teams across the United States and Canada. These ladies played hard and their dedication and determination paid off when they came home with the gold medal. They won each of the six games in which they played and outscored their Olympic competitors 122-10.

Since winning the International Olympics gold medal these women have not rested on their laurels. They're back on the field practicing and playing the game. Because of the increase in interest in women's softball for seniors, leagues have cropped up across the country, and they gather for yearly tournaments. The ladies of Gallatin American Legion Post 17 maintain their busy schedule with practices and games to defend their international title.

This newly developed enthusiasm for senior athletic groups is truly inspiring. These women serve as role models for younger generations and encourage participation from other seniors. They are living examples of the happiness that seniors can find in exercising and maintaining a healthy lifestyle. I want to congratulate the Gallatin American Legion Post 17 Softball team not only for winning the gold medal at the International Senior Citizen's Olympics but for also winning in the game of life. These ladies are active and healthy, taking advantage of their older years rather than letting old age take care of them. I wish them the best of luck in the future.●

TRIBUTE AND THANKS TO AL ALM

● Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, in just a few days, the Department of Energy will lose one of its best, most able and selfless public servants. Al Alm, Assistant Secretary for the Department of Energy's Environmental Management program, is leaving federal service on January 31.

Al epitomizes the best in public service. Integrity and responsibility are his hallmarks. He has left those marks throughout the government, in academia, and in private industry. Al's government service has included positions in the Atomic Energy Commission, the Bureau of the Budget, the Council on Environmental Quality, the

Environmental Protection Agency, and two stints in the Department of Energy. He has been a tireless advocate for the programs in which he has been involved, most notably for me, cleanup of our nation's most polluted former defense nuclear production sites.

I personally found Al to be the most accessible and helpful assistant secretary in the administration. He worked closely with me, other members of the Washington congressional delegation, our staffs, and our constituents to ensure Hanford's most important programs received adequate funding and support. Al's steadfast support for Hanford, in the face of so many competing needs, has been outstanding. Whether it is safety, funding, expediting work, or employee concerns, he has been out in front. I will sorely miss Al.

Al has accomplished a lot in the 20 months in which he has served as the leader of Environmental Management. He has led the charge in revitalizing management and focusing energy on getting sites—and programs—closed, or well on their way to closure, by 2006. The billions of dollars and decades of time saved are extraordinary in themselves, but the public health and environmental protection are the real, tangible results of his efforts. He has helped us develop a goal and start moving toward that goal.

Mr. President, I want to say a big thank you to Al Alm on behalf of myself and my Senate colleagues. We will miss him and his leadership of a very difficult, complex and controversial program. We wish him all the best in whatever endeavors he undertakes and hope he leaves knowing how much we have appreciated his enthusiasm and hard work.●

RECOGNITION OF STEVEN MILLER

● Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Steven Miller whose dedication to Missouri athletics has earned him a place in the Missouri State Track and Cross Country Coaches Hall of Fame. For more than 20 years Coach Miller has strived to make his Francis Howell High School team in St. Charles, Missouri one of the best.

Under Coach Miller's guidance, The Francis Howell track team has won 22 out of 39 Conference titles and the Cross Country team has won 10 out of 18. Even more impressive are the individual accomplishments by his former athletes. Coach Miller has coached one pole vaulter who proceeded to the 1996 Summer Olympics, a woman distance runner who became a two-time NCAA Division I All-American, more than 50 athletes who have become coaches, 14 state champions and a girl's cross country team who won the state championship in 1987.

High school athletics is an area that I believe helps to teach very important values to young people and it is always encouraging to learn of a coach with the drive and commitment to excellence shown by coach Miller. Coaches,

athletes and parents at Francis Howell High School are fortunate to have such an inspirational role model and educator.

I congratulate Coach Miller for his hard work and success. Additionally, I commend his undying energy throughout his many years of coaching and wish him continued success at Francis Howell High School.●

TRIBUTE TO WATO RADIO

● Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I would like to congratulate WATO radio in Oak Ridge, Tennessee for 50 years of radio broadcasting excellence. WATO got its start in 1948 when it was commissioned by the Department of Energy (DOE), which in those days was known as the Atomic Energy Commission.

WATO was the first radio station established on a military reservation. It was created as a service to the growing community that resulted with the establishment of the DOE Oak Ridge Reservation in the early 1940's. Over the years, WATO has kept Oak Ridgers in touch with the DOE and other government related entities. The station has also made the community an important part of their programing, through its coverage of local events. Whether it be educational activities, athletic events or providing the community with important service announcements, WATO is very much involved in the Oak Ridge community.

Mr. President, WATO has become a familiar voice to area residents. Their support of the Oak Ridge community and their close relationship with DOE, the areas most prominent employer, have made WATO a vital part of the community. I commend the time and commitment that WATO has invested over the past 50 years in their programing and their relationship with the people of Oak Ridge. I wish them another 50 years of success.●

1997 YEAR END REPORT

The mailing and filing date of the 1997 Year End Report required by the Federal Election Campaign Act, as amended, is Saturday, January 31, 1998. Principal campaign committees supporting Senate candidates file their reports with the Senate Office of Public Records, 232 Hart Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-7116.

The Public Records office will be open from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. on the filing date to accept these filings. For further information, please contact the Public Records office on (202) 224-0322.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—NOMINATIONS OF ANN AIKEN, BARRY SILVERMAN AND RICHARD STORY

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, on behalf of our distinguished majority leader, Senator LOTT, as in executive ses-

sion, I ask unanimous consent that at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, January 28, the Senate proceed to executive session to consider en bloc the following nominations on the executive calendar: No. 454, Ann Aiken; No. 486, Barry Silverman; No. 488, Richard Story.

I further ask unanimous consent that there be a total of 2 hours for debate, equally divided between the chairman and ranking member.

I further ask consent that at 2:15 on Wednesday the Senate proceed to 3 consecutive votes on the confirmation of the nominations. I finally ask consent that following the votes, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 1575

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator LOTT, I understand that S. 1575, which was introduced earlier today by Senator COVERDELL, is at the desk. I now ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1575) to rename the Washington National Airport located in the District of Columbia and Virginia as the "Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport."

Mr. SPECTER. On behalf of Senator LOTT, I now ask for a second reading and object to my own request on behalf of the other side of the aisle.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will be read on the next legislative day.

RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE DENVER BRONCOS AND THEIR QUARTERBACK JOHN ELWAY

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator LOTT, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate immediately proceed en bloc to the consideration of Senate resolution 166 and Senate resolution 167, which were submitted earlier today by Senators CAMPBELL and ALLARD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolutions, en bloc.

A resolution (S. Res. 166) recognizing the outstanding achievements of the Denver Broncos in winning Super Bowl XXXII.

A resolution (S. Res. 167) recognizing the outstanding achievement of the Denver Broncos' quarterback, John Elway, in the victory of the Denver Broncos in Super Bowl XXXII.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolutions?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles agreed to, the motions to reconsider be