

More and more Americans are turning to golf as a recreational sport. Jenny Chuasiriporn's game is not recreational. Hers is a game of hard work. Jenny and Se Ri went through weeds and water trying to win the tournament. That is not your typical Saturday afternoon golf game. Jenny played tough golf against seasoned professionals for five days, on the tough Blackwolf Run Golf Course in Wisconsin. That does not even count the endless hours she put in at school and home practicing for this day. She takes this game seriously and works hard at being the best.

She went further in the 1998 U.S. Women's Open than any other amateur in 30 years. No one has done what Jenny Chuasiriporn did in 30 years. Once again Jenny, I pay tribute to your achievement, and your amazing concentration, endurance, and hard work. You make Maryland and our Nation proud.●

#### HEALTH CARE

● Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I am pleased to return to my Senate duties today after a relatively brief period of convalescence following by-pass surgery at Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University, one of our nation's great medical institutions.

This experience has again led me to marvel at our health care system and to make me more determined than ever to support federal funding for biomedical research and to make health care available to all Americans.

At Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University, I was the beneficiary of outstanding hospital care and a superbly qualified medical team headed by renowned cardiologist, Dr. Howard Weitz and distinguished surgeons Dr. Richard Edie and Dr. James Diehl. (Dr. Weitz has assisted me for many years going back to his student days when he volunteered for my campaign for Mayor of Philadelphia.)

My concern about health care has long pre-dated my own personal benefits from the MRI and other diagnostic and curative procedures. My concern about health care began many years ago and has been intensified by my service on the Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education which I now have the honor to chair.

As the RECORD shows, I have introduced and cosponsored legislation going back to the 98th Congress designed to provide health care coverage to all Americans. Among my proposals were the Health Care Cost Containment Act of 1983 (S. 2051), the Community Based Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Projects Act of 1985 (S. 1873), the Health Care Affordability and Quality Improvement Act of 1992 (S. 3176), the Comprehensive Health Care Act of 1993 (S. 18), the Health Care Assurance Acts of 1995 and 1997 (S. 18 and S. 24), and the Healthy Children's Pilot Program Act of 1997.

In conjunction with the distinguished ranking member of the Subcommittee, Senator TOM HARKIN, our Subcommittee has taken the lead to increase NIH funding from \$11.3 billion in FY95 to \$11.9 billion in FY96 to \$12.7 billion in FY97 to \$13.6 billion in FY98. This year we are targeting an increase of \$2 billion which will be difficult considering the Subcommittee's other priorities; but, I think, attainable.

I have long been convinced that our Federal budget of \$1,700,000,000,000 could provide sufficient funding for America's needs if we establish our real priorities. The real question is whether we have enough doctors, hospitals, medical personnel, etc. to take care of Americans in need of medical attention. I am convinced that we do. The part which has yet to be accomplished is to work out the financing for the delivery of such health care. As specified in the legislation which I have introduced, I am convinced that sufficient savings are possible within the current system to provide health care to all Americans within the current expenditures.

I return to the Senate today with renewed commitment that every American should have the quality medical care I had at Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University. In recognition of health care providers everywhere in America, I consider it appropriate to identify, compliment and thank members of the medical team which provided my superb medical care at Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University:

Dr. Stephen McNulty, Dr. Michael Savage, Dr. Herbert Patrick, Dr. Beckie Michael, Dr. Geno Merli, Dr. Arnold Greenspon, Dr. A. J. DiMarino, Dr. Rodney Bell, Dr. Phyllis Flomemerg and the following nurses: Leslie Amme, Grace Baillargeon, Tara Baldino, Jenna Briggs, Kathleen Bryan-Donahue, Susan Burton, Joanne Cannon, Mary Cavanaugh, Stephanie Cozzi, Danielle Delpais, Nancy Derivan, Linda Dib, Pam Dioguardo, Tim Dunn, Diane Ellingsworth, Robin Estadt, Marcia Gazdzinski, Debbie Granese, Karen Hartnett, Suzanne Henrick, Kelly Hollenbach, Charles Huckel, Suzanne James-Harmon, Leonida Josue-Peralta, Eileen C. Kelly, Eileen M. Kelly, Matt Kuhar, Kate Kuhns, Tracey Lee, Hermie Lichtman, Esther Loyola, Debra Lynn-McHale, Ida Magee, Nancy McCash, Dennis McFadden, Kathy McGurk, Tricia McNichol, Mark Metropole, Michelle Munday, Tim Peal, Kellyanne Petrone, Don Rank, Tim Schultz, Margaret Shanks, Lori Smith, Meg Smith, Valerie Winn, Mina Yasuoka, Nancy Masterson, Wil Crew, Jason McConomy, Colleen Schuh, Bill Nicholl, Jackie Robinson, Karen Crisfulla, Elly Negron-Lopez, Pauline Heater, Diane Falk, Terry Meehan, Dolly Kowal, Dan Zaborowski, Joyce McGrory, Kathy Peterson, Patty Lynch, Rene Ekeland, Michelle Hellstem, Barb Salapata, Kathy Byrne, Erin Moran, Marlowe Macapagal, Cindy

Miller, Susan Cook, Angela Dages, Nicki Hoffman, Bill Hepner, Chuck O'Toole, Dan Cifelle, Rose Shaffer, Selina Frazier and Mary Seals.●

#### TRIBUTE TO SHERRIE M. SUZUKI

● Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Sherrie M. Suzuki of Hawaii Baptist Academy in Hawaii for winning first place in the 11th Annual National Peace Essay state-level competition. More than 5,000 participants from various countries around the world, including the United States and U.S. territories entered this contest. Each student wrote on issues concerning war crimes and human rights violations in various international conflicts.

Miss Suzuki's essay entitled, "Cleansing the Wounds of War", sheds light on an ongoing issue concerning how war criminals should be brought to justice. Her solution examines the United Nations' tribunal expected to be permanently implemented in 1998. She writes "an international tribunal is one logical solution" to the problem of making war criminals pay for their atrocities. Her essay discusses the positive outcomes of the Nuremberg trials and the negative effects of Rwanda's mistakes.

Mr. President, it is inspiring to witness the active role that young people play in enhancing their understanding about peace relations. Ms. Suzuki is proof that young students today are getting more involved in activities that address peacemaking issues. I am proud that Ms. Suzuki has received such a prestigious award. Her determination to expand her knowledge of peace and conflicts that arise in a changing global environment is admirable. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a young woman of outstanding potential and achievement.●

#### 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR EMPLOYER SUPPORT OF THE GUARD AND RESERVE

● Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (NCESGR)—its 4,200 volunteers and DoD staff—marking 25 years of service to this Nation.

The National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve was established in 1972, the year the United States ended the Selective Service System and established an all-volunteer military force. The Department of Defense realized that a loss of support from employers and communities could be a roadblock to maintaining Reserve component membership. NCESGR was created to obtain employer and community support for the National Guard and Reserve and to promote the role of Reserve forces in the national defense.

NCESGR has lived up to that task and accomplished much more. Since

1972, with the help of the Advertising Council, Inc., NCESGR has benefited from more than \$591 million in pro bono advertising reaching the six million employers with one or more employees in the United States.

Employers have, in turn, signed NCESGR Statements of Support, publicly committing to support the National Guard and Reserve. The former Chairman of the Board and CEO of General Motors, Mr. James H. Roche signed the first Statement of Support in the Office of the Secretary of Defense on December 13, 1972. The next day, President Richard Nixon signed a Statement of Support covering all Federal civilian employees. Since the inception of this program, Presidents Ford, Carter, Reagan, Bush and Clinton have all signed Statements of Support, along with hundreds of thousands of employers. To date, over 300,000 employers have signed statements of support.

NCESGR offers Ombudsman services designed to provide information to employers and Reservists regarding their rights and responsibilities under the law and to resolve conflicts through informal mediation. This program is operated in cooperation with the Department of Labor, which is responsible for conducting formal investigations. Hundreds of thousands of hours and dollars are saved through the use of community volunteers.

Mr. President, the National Committee for Employer Support of the National Guard and Reserve is smart government in action. The small National Committee staff in Washington, DC, under the direction of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, provides guidance and support to a network of 4,200 volunteer business, civic, and community leaders.

These volunteers educate employers on their rights and obligations under the law and recognize employers who actively support employee participation in the National Guard and Reserve. Volunteers also educate members of the National Guard and Reserve regarding their rights and responsibilities and the value of employer support. Committees can be found in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Guam.

With the end of the Cold War, the Reserve components have been called upon with increasing frequency. During the Gulf War in 1990-91, more than 250,000 Reserve component members were called to active duty to support military operations in the Persian Gulf. Last year, National Guardsmen and Reservists contributed nearly 13 million mandays in support of Active duty operations and exercises.

Mr. President, thousands of employers, local and State government officials, Active and Reserve component leaders, and military members from across the Nation and around the world request NCESGRs employer support expertise on a daily basis. When National Guardsmen and Reservists return home

following mobilization, ESGR committee members are there to provide information and support services to those in need.

The U.S. Congress passed the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, (USERRA) of 1994, and updated it in 1996. This law completely revised the Veterans Reemployment Rights Act of 1940. USERRA articulates the rights and responsibilities of the Reservist with regard to job protection and explains employer rights under federal law. NCESGR helps employers and Reservists understand this law and helps them informally resolve any employment conflicts that may arise.

Mr. President, again, I want to congratulate NCESGR and its 54 ESGR committees on their 25 years of service and commend this network of over 4,200 volunteer patriots for their time and talent. They are serving their country and maintaining the much needed support of our employers and communities for the Guard and Reserve. Through the efforts of people like Mr. Robert J. Cameron, the State Chair of the Great State of Idaho, we can call on our Reserve forces to answer our Nations call without the fear of job loss. Thank you Mr. President, and thank you, NCESGR.●

#### TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL ROBERT A. MCINTOSH

● Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, today I want to recognize Major General Robert A. McIntosh for his distinguished service to our Nation. General McIntosh epitomizes our Air Force Reserve citizen-airman. He has demonstrated exceptional leadership as chief of Air Force Reserve, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C., and commander, Air Force Reserve, Robins Air Force Base, Georgia for the past three and a half years.

General McIntosh served as the principal advisor to the Chief of Staff of the Air Force and to the Secretary of the Air Force on all Air Force Reserve matters. As commander of the Air Force Reserve Command, he had overall responsibility for the command, control, and supervision of all U.S. Air Force Reserve units around the world.

General McIntosh performed outstanding service and exhibited exceptional commitment to the Air Force Reserve. His in-depth knowledge of Air Force and Reserve Component issues was a tremendous asset to the Congress as we deliberated the major national defense issues impacting both our Active and Reserve Forces. His insight into Reserve issues was also instrumental in his well-deserved selection to this new position as the Assistant on Reserve Matters to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Commissioned through the Reserve Officer Training Corps Program at Ohio University in 1966, General McIntosh's early training prepared him well for his later assignments com-

manding Reserve fighter units in Louisiana, Missouri and Texas. Ultimately, he rose to command the more than 70,000 member Air Force Reserve.

He is a highly-decorated Vietnam veteran for his extraordinary aerial achievement and devotion to duty while assigned as an A-37 pilot with the 604th Special Operations Squadron at Bien Hoa Air Base in South Vietnam.

General McIntosh separated from active duty in August 1971 to join the air reserve technician program as a full-time civil service employee with active participation as an Air Force reservist. He is a command pilot with more than 4,000 flying hours in the A-10, A-37, C-130 and F-4. His military awards include the Distinguished Service Medal; Legion of Merit; Distinguished Flying Cross; Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster; Air Medal with 18 oak leaf clusters; Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster; and Vietnam Service Medal with three service stars.

Throughout his distinguished career, he has commanded an Air Force Reserve wing, two Reserve numbered Air Forces, served as the vice commander of the Air Force Reserve, and his most recent position as the chief of the Air Force Reserve and commander of the Air Force Reserve Command—a dual hatted position.

General McIntosh's outstanding leadership, sense of purpose and singular dedication to duty was crucial in the continuing successful integration of the Air Force Reserve into the total Air Force, culminating in the Congressionally-directed activation of Air Force Reserve Command as the service's ninth major command.

Through initiatives he has sponsored, the Air Force Reserve has successfully entered new mission areas during his service as the chief of the Air Force Reserve, including the Reserve instructor pilot program; Space Command Group; Fighter Reserve Associate Test; Airborne Warning and Control System; and Combat Camera.

In today's environment of shrinking budgets, downsizing and the increased role the Reserve Component plays in the national defense of our country, General McIntosh has provided us with a clear and concise view of the contributions and the versatility of our citizen-airmen. In that regard, he has provided us with a full spectrum of Air Force Reserve issues which helped in our decision making process.

The United States is indebted to General McIntosh for his many contributions to this Nation. As his hallmark, he left a stronger Air Force Reserve. We thank Bob and his wife, Susie, for their selfless service to the men and women of the Air Force Reserve, and wish him the best in his new challenging position on the Joint Chiefs of Staff and their future endeavors.●