

excellent, thought provoking, relevant, entertaining and presented from an African-American perspective." That is how Lou Bellamy, Penumbra's founder and artistic director, runs this nationally recognized theatre. Under Bellamy's leadership, the Penumbra has received numerous honors, including the Jujamcyn Theaters Award for the development of artistic talent.

As the Dean of the University of Minnesota General College, David Taylor does what he loves, assisting educationally disadvantaged students. He is also a scholar of African-American Studies whose greatest influences have been his mother and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Taylor, who grew up in the Summit-University neighborhood of St. Paul, is often called upon to provide an historical perspective on Minnesota's African-American community.

These are just a few of the Minnesotans, past and present, who exemplify the struggle for attainment of human dignity, justice, and self-determination. As we celebrate Black History Month, we can look to them as models of leadership, making Minnesota and this country all that it should be for all our citizens.

VERMONTERS TAKE FIRST GOLD AT 2002 WINTER OLYMPICS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, my colleagues sometimes may wonder whether we Vermonters will ever run out of examples to illustrate the pride we take in our beautiful State and its people. Not today, we won't.

Today I rise to describe two of Vermont's finest athletes representing all Americans at the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City.

Vermont's cold winters and plentiful snow breed true winter athletes. We need not look any further than this year's Olympic roster to see this. At least 21 of America's competitors can claim ties to Vermont. Some of them have lived in the Green Mountain State for their entire lives, while others have come to our mountains to attend one of our schools or universities.

During the last two days, two of these Vermonters swept the Olympic snowboarding halfpipe competitions, winning America's first two gold medals of the 2002 Winter Olympics. Vermont is famous for its firsts. Many of snowboarding's newly formed roots reach deep into the Green Mountains of our State. It is fitting that two Vermont snowboarders have shown the world how it is done.

On Sunday, February 10th, 18-year-old Kelly Clark of West Dover, VT, became the first American to win a gold medal in the 2002 Winter Olympics, scoring a 47.9 out of 50 points in the women's halfpipe competition. Then on Monday, Ross Powers, 23, of South Londonderry, Vermont, took gold in the men's halfpipe competition, winning America's second gold medal of this year's Winter Games.

Since the fourth grade, Kelly Clark has been riding the slopes of Vermont. Her parents own a small restaurant

near the beautiful resort of Mount Snow. It was on our Green Mountains that Kelly exerted herself beyond belief, pushing the limit, jumping higher and attempting new moves. She succeeded because she refused to let danger, fear, and exhaustion keep her down.

Kelly is no stranger to winning. Only two short months ago she won the gold medal at the Winter X-Games in Aspen, CO. On Sunday, not only did she win the gold medal, but she managed to do it under great pressure. As the last competitor of the event, she only had one last chance to show the world what she could do, and she rose to the challenge.

The day after Kelly introduced herself to the world, Ross Powers won his second Olympic medal adding to a collection of medals he began during the 1998 Nagano Games when snowboarding made its Olympic debut. All the more remarkable is the fact that Ross led America in a medal sweep of a winter event for the first time in nearly half a century. He impressed the judges and spectators by shooting off the snow 15 feet into the air, landing flawlessly and performing trick after trick.

His family and friends back at Vermont's Bromley Mountain and Stratton Mountain resorts watched Ross, as a child snowboard prodigy, work hard and push himself from the time he first strapped a snowboard to his feet at age five. Three years later he began competing.

Recognizing the hard work, determination and financial backing it takes to become a world-class athlete, Ross formed the Ross Powers Foundation. This non-profit program gives talented and hard-working children the financial support they need to follow their winter sports dreams.

I am sure many more of my fellow Vermonters will find their way onto our sports pages before the Olympics leave Salt Lake City. I know that the country shares our pride in the accomplishments of these courageous Olympic athletes. We Vermonters join all Americans in thanking Kelly and Ross, and all Olympic athletes, for their hard work and devotion to competition and to their country.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING ROY LEWIS

• Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I rise today in order to respectfully recognize the selfless actions of Roy Lewis, a long-time resident of Ashland, KY.

For the last 10 years, Mr. Lewis, 91 years-young, has been the man who every Monday evening hands out tickets at the Community Kitchen in Ashland, KY. Mr. Lewis has been a dedicated and loyal member of the First Baptist Church in Ashland since 1936 and fulfills his ticket duties at the Kitchen only after honoring his commitment as a member of the church teller committee, which counts and prepares the church's Sunday offering to be deposited in the bank. He also

regularly teaches Sunday School and serves as the church clerk.

I ask my fellow Members of the Senate to furthermore join me in congratulating Mr. Lewis for being named Deacon Emeritus and Trustee Emeritus last year, and for his 53 years of diligent and undaunted service to the church and the community.

Instead of enjoying his retirement from Ashland Oil by playing golf or traveling, Roy Lewis has chosen to give back to the community and people he has so dearly loved for 91 years. I praise Mr. Lewis for his willingness to put other's needs ahead of his own and thank him for having such a strong character and heart.●

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF HADASSAH

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I ask that the Senate join me today in congratulating Hadassah upon its 90th anniversary. Originally founded in 1912 by Henrietta Szold as a woman's study circle, Hadassah has grown into an organization with over 300,000 members involved with 1,500 chapters across the country. Today, Hadassah is not only the largest woman's group in the country, but also the largest Jewish membership organization in the United States.

Since its inception, Hadassah has been an advocate on behalf of women, Israel and the Jewish diaspora. However, Hadassah has done more than advocate on behalf of these issues, it has taken concrete steps to help people throughout the world. In particular, Hadassah is to be lauded for its provision of world class health care to the people of the Middle East, irrespective of race, religion or nationality. Every year, more than 600,000 patients are treated at the centers operated by the Hadassah Medical Organization, HMO, which includes two hospitals, 90 outpatient clinics, and numerous community health centers. Under the auspices of the HMO, Haddassah also provides medical training during international health crises, including the recent events in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Rawanda.

Though Hadassah's medical efforts are primarily in the Middle East, the organization also has other important initiatives. One of the most notable is a nationwide breast cancer detection and awareness campaign conducted by the Women's Health Department. This campaign includes the Check it Out high school program which strives to educate teens about the dangers of cancer and how to screen oneself for early signs. In addition, Hadassah produces quality educational programs that help Jewish families learn about and celebrate their Jewish culture and heritage.

Hadassah is also affiliated with numerous other programs which provide such services as technical and vocational training and environmental