

projects and programs related to the Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve. In addition, he has been very active and helpful in the creation and early beginnings of our newest park units in Louisiana, the New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park and the Cane River National Historical Park and Heritage Area.

Mr. President, Jean Lafitte is a very unique park unit. It's like a wheel with many spokes. Jean Lafitte consists of a French Quarter unit; the Barataria marsh unit, Chalmette, the site of the Battle of New Orleans in 1815; and two Cajun cultural centers in Eunice and Thibodaux, LA, that interpret Cajun history. This type of park is very difficult to administer. It takes a dedicated person of many interests, skills, and talents to bring together these diverse elements and resources into a coherent whole. Not only has Bob managed to accomplish this difficult task, but he has done it with flair and good humor.

Over the years, Bob Belous has always been available to provide assistance to me and my staff here in Washington as well as my offices in Louisiana, especially my New Orleans office. He has always provided us with sound professional advice and counsel. I know I speak for many people in Louisiana and all over the country when I wish Bob well in his retirement from the Park Service and thank him for his many contributions to our National Park System.●

SALUTE TO OKLAHOMA GIRL SCOUTS

● Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, today I salute 10 outstanding young women from Oklahoma who have been honored by Red Lands Council of Girl Scouts in Oklahoma City, OK. Each has received the prestigious Girl Scouts of the USA Gold Award.

They were honored April 25, 1996, for earning the highest achievement award in Girl Scouting. The Girl Scout Gold Award symbolizes outstanding accomplishments in the areas of leadership, community service, career planning, and personal development. The Girl Scout Award can be earned by girls aged 14-17 or in grades 9-12.

Girl Scouts of the USA, an organization serving more than 2.5 million girls, has awarded more than 25,000 Girl Scout Gold Awards to Senior Girl Scouts since the inception of the program in 1980. To receive the award, a Girl Scout must fulfill five requirements: Earn four interest project patches, earn the Career Exploration pin, earn the Senior Girl Scout Challenge, and design and implement a Girl Scout Gold Award project. A plan for fulfilling the requirements of the award is created by the Senior Girl Scout and is carried out through close cooperation between the girl and adult Girl Scout volunteer.

As members of the Red Lands Council of Girl Scouts, these young women

began working toward the Girl Scout Gold Award in 1995, and all completed their projects in the areas of leadership and community service.

The earning of the Girl Scout Gold Award is a major accomplishment deserving of special public recognition and commendation.

I salute the following girls for their accomplishments and for their service to their community and their country: Melanie Brockman of Girl Scout Troop 55. She helped design, organize, and carry out a Special Kids Day. This was a program for the special education students in the community. The children were divided by age and abilities to provide them an opportunity to participate in normal activities. This very successful program gave each special education student a chance to feel good about themselves.

Kansas Conrady of Girl Scout Troop 569. She designed an overnight lock-in for sixth grade Junior Girl Scouts and Cadette Girl Scouts to discuss the contemporary issues of substance abuse, facing a family crisis, youth suicide, and teen pregnancy. Professionals were brought in to speak and share their knowledge with the girls, and the girls then participated in activities from the Contemporary Issues Program for Girl Scouts in a round robin format.

Melanie Foglesong of Girl Scout Troop 17. She undertook the massive project of cleaning and painting the Wichita Lodge at Camp Red Rock. She organized a work crew, collected supplies, and directed the cleanup from washing walls and windows through the painting of all the interior of the lodge.

Leslie Hooks. She planned a program to help Junior Girl Scouts through Senior Girl Scouts know the joys of sailing by learning the fundamentals of sailing and culminating in a hands-on sailing event.

Andrea Johnson of Girl Scout Troop 569. She created an informative video of Camp Red Rock and Camp Cookieland for the use of Red Lands Council of Girl Scouts to introduce the camp properties to prospective campers.

Danette Kniffin. She planned a program to teach girls of the community the art of canoeing. The program is designed for both beginning and intermediate canoers and included a basic water safety program.

Kimmie Kohl of Girl Scout Troop 55. She designed, organized, and carried out a Special Kids Day. This was a program for the special education students in the community. The children were divided by age and abilities to provide them an opportunity to participate in normal activities. This very successful program gave each special education student a chance to feel good about themselves.

Amanda Newman. She organized the first active Youth Red Cross Chapter in Blaine County. The goal of the organization is to be trained to help meet the emergencies of their community.

Ambra Prestage of Girl Scout Troop 55. She helped design, organize, and

carry out a Special Kids Day. This was a program for the special education students in the community. The children were divided by age and abilities to provide them an opportunity to participate in normal activities. This very successful program gave each special education student a chance to feel good about themselves.

Nicole Robertson of Girl Scout Troop 127. She organized a Girls' Day Out to introduce the girls to the joys of being a Girl Scout. She also worked with the In-School Program for Red Lands Council Girl Scouts and helped bring the Scouting program to numerous girls.●

TRIBUTE TO MS. DANETTA FAITH FISHER-RAINING BIRD

● Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a young Montanan. Ms. Danetta Faith Fisher-Raining Bird has been awarded a Rockefeller Brothers Fund Fellowship, as 1 of 25 outstanding minority students entering the teaching profession.

The Rockefeller Brothers Fund is in their fifth year of awarding these fellowships and I am proud that Danetta joins with four other native Americans from Montana who have received this award since the award began. With the stiff competition nationwide, it took a very strong commitment to the education of minorities and to improving teaching in public schools to be selected. No doubt Danetta met that challenge.

This award will allow Danetta to take part in a summer project and to go on to graduate school to pursue further training in education or a related field. And once she begins teaching, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund will help with loan repayments. This is exactly the type of private sector involvement that our education system needs. And it is exactly what students like Danetta depend on in order to succeed these days.

I congratulate Danetta on this achievement. I know she will put this award to good use and I am hopeful that she will not only continue her studies in our great State, but use her valuable training to improve the education for other native Americans. I am proud of her as a Montanan and as a representative of our future and I wish her all the best.●

URI DEBATE TEAM DOES WELL IN LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATE

● Mr. PELL. Mr. President, the University of Rhode Island debate team was honored last week at the Rhode Island State House, where the team members received citations for their recent outstanding performance at the National Forensics Association [NFA] Individual Events Nationals at Western Illinois University.

I understand that this competition, which was one of the largest in the history of NFA, drew 2,000 competitors