

field athlete whose events include the 400m, 800m, 1500m, 1600m, and the 3,200m. Over the course of her high school career, Christina earned nine State champion titles; three of those titles were earned while running with a broken elbow.

On June 5, Christina attended the Payton Jordan Invitational at Stanford and completed the 1500m in 4:11.24. Competing in a packed race with multiple professionally sponsored runners, this 18-year-old surprised everyone in attendance. On June 12, at the Portland Track Festival, Christina defied expectations yet again and set a national record of 4:09.27, becoming the third fastest 1500m high schooler in history, while simultaneously qualifying for the Olympic time trials. This weekend, she will compete in the Brooks PR Invitational in Renton, WA, where she holds the record for the 800m at 2:04.00. Christina will also attend the Olympic time trials in Oregon on July 1, 2016.

Christina represents the youngest of the Aragon track and field legacy. Her father was the first Notre Dame runner to break the 4-minute mile in 1981. Her mother competed in her third Olympic time trial in 2004, and her older sisters, Danielle and Alexa, hold multiple State champion titles and run together as All-Americans at Notre Dame. Christina will attend Stanford University this fall and continue her track and field career.

When asked about the Olympic time trials, Christina commented, "I'm obviously going to be pretty nervous, but I'm just going to try to channel that nervousness into more excitement because that's just an awesome opportunity and I'm really lucky to be able to have that so I'm just going to go out there and have fun and run fast, hopefully."

William Shakespeare wrote, "Though she be but little, she is fierce," a quote that I feel resonates all too well with this determined and fearsome young lady. I ask that you join me in wishing Christina the best of luck in the coming weeks. I have no doubt that she will continue to make her family and Montana proud.●

TRIBUTE TO BRENDA KADRMAS

● Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize a Havre Police Department dispatcher, Brenda Kadrmas. Originally from Conrad, Brenda is a 10-year veteran to the department. She acted in a swift and steadfast manner during a terrifying situation and put her extensive training to work in order to prevent a suicide.

Brenda has taken full advantage of training opportunities—thankfully, she did; she was able to save a life. Thank you, Brenda, for your commitment to the department and the city of Havre. You have shown tremendous leadership and dedication, and for that, I am proud of you. Keep up the great work, and thank you for your service.●

TRIBUTE TO DAVE WICHMAN

● Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Dave Wichman, superintendent and assistant professor of agronomy at Montana State University. He has dedicated 35 years of his life working in the agricultural research centers for the State of Montana.

Dave has worked with Montana Agricultural Experiment Stations since 1976, serving at both the Southern Ag Research Center in Huntley and Central Ag Research Center in Moccasin, MT. Dave has impacted forage crops, pulse crops, oil seed crops, cereal agronomy, and foundation seed.

Dave, thank you for your passion, your knowledge, and your dedication. Montana thanks you for a job well done and wishes you the best.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. STEPHEN WELLS

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Dr. Stephen Wells for his service with the Desert Research Institute, or DRI, after being a significant team member for 16 years. It gives me great pleasure to recognize his years of hard work and commitment to making this institute the best it can be.

Dr. Wells earned his master's degree and doctorate in geology from the University of Cincinnati in Ohio. He later served as a professor of geomorphology and chair of the graduate program in the Department of Earth Sciences at the University of California, Riverside, jumpstarting his academic career. In 1976, he joined the University of New Mexico, serving as chair of the Department of Geology from 1989 to 1991. In both roles, Dr. Wells built internationally recognized research and graduate programs and enrolled 34 students into the programs.

Beginning in 1995, Dr. Wells began his lengthy tenure with the DRI as executive director of the Quaternary Sciences Center. Throughout the next 16 years, he worked diligently to climb the ladder and became president of DRI, one of the world's largest multidisciplinary environmental research organizations, located in our great State. The institute has 500 scientists, technologists, students, and other staff working to further develop nationally recognized research. Dr. Wells led the institute with three core divisions and four interdisciplinary science centers, which serve Nevada and regions across the globe with innovative research. Dr. Wells also helped to build the institute to a \$50 million per year operation, compared to the \$23.8 million in 1998. Residents across the State are fortunate to have had someone of such dedication working on behalf of the institute.

During his time in Nevada, he emerged as a true leader within our community. Dr. Wells served as a graduate faculty member in the hydrological sciences program and the

Department of Geological Sciences at the University of Nevada, Reno. He also served as a board member of the Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada and the Nevada Development Authority. In addition, he spearheaded various initiatives in unmanned aircraft systems technology, as well as helping position Nevada as a frontrunner in advanced technologies. I have worked with him personally on various Nevada priorities and am thankful to have had him as an ally in these initiatives.

Dr. Wells has received three national awards in recognition of his work: the Geological Society of America Kirk Bryan Award, the Gladys Cole Award, and the Geological Society of America Farouk El-Baz Award. These accolades are a tremendous honor, and without a doubt, Dr. Wells' work warrants this recognition.

I ask my colleagues and all Nevadans to join me in thanking Dr. Wells for his dedication to DRI throughout the past 16 years. He exemplifies the highest standards of leadership and service and should be proud of his meaningful career. I wish him well in all of his future endeavors and in his new role with the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology.●

TRIBUTE TO AMBER PARSONS

● Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Amber Parsons, an outstanding and accomplished young woman from Wheeling, WV.

Amber, a recent graduate of Wheeling Park High School, graduated in May with honors and with an outstanding 4.0 GPA. She has received numerous Presidential Award Scholarships because of her outstanding effort and hard work and also attended the Global Youth Leadership Conference last summer with individuals from more than 30 countries.

The Global Youth Leadership Summit is both an academic and professional opportunity for young men and women to not only enhance their academic abilities, but grow personally and professionally as well. The summit immerses students in various cultures and gives them the opportunity to interact with policy officials, lobbyists, journalists, and other industry leaders. It is a wonderful opportunity for young men and women to learn and grow on a professional and personal level.

Amber is the only individual ever from West Virginia to be selected to attend this prestigious conference. While being selected from 3,700 applicants is an accomplishment in itself, she was also selected to return again this year. Less than 10 percent of previous attendees are asked to return, and Amber was included in that small percentage.

Aside from her outstanding academic work, Amber also helped to establish