

to an antiquated system under which our institutions are pitted against each other for State and Federal dollars. The Board of Regents, on the other hand, has fostered a system of cooperation between our colleges and universities, reduced duplication of programs, and ensured fairness in funding. We must continue that sprit of cooperation if we are to meet the needs of our institutions and achieve our ultimate goals: creating world-class programs, attracting quality faculty and students and ensuring our schools can compete with the nation's best for research dollars. In that spirit, I support Senator GRAHAM's efforts to preserve the Board via constitutional referendum.

I applaud the Florida Voter League and other organizations that have chosen to speak out on this important issue. Insuring our State's next generation of leaders receive a quality college education is an issue we can't afford to ignore.●

IN RECOGNITION OF SUGARBUSH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, 1ST PLACE WINNER IN THE NATIONAL CHILDREN'S SET A GOOD EXAMPLE COMPETITION

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I would like to honor the students at Sugarbush Elementary School, in my home state of Michigan. These motivated students will be honored on June 6th of this year for winning first place in the 18th Annual American Set A Good Example Competition.

Too often we hear about all the negative influences facing our youth. Much has been made of the many problems facing our children. While we hear about the threats posed by drugs, violence and illiteracy, too little is made of the positive steps that our youth are making to fight these terrible problems. This year, students from thousands of schools participated in the National Children's Set A Good Example Competition in an effort to address these problems. This competition is an innovative program that takes students' ideas seriously, and encourages them to develop and design projects that combat problems facing them every day.

Everybody truly wins when children are given the chance to express themselves and improve their communities, but the students at Sugarbush Elementary School received special notice when they were awarded 1st place in the National Children's Set A Good Example Competition. Their project encourages children to avoid drugs, respect people and protect the environment—values that people of all ages should live by.

Winning first place in a contest that includes over 10,000 schools is a significant accomplishment, and the students, faculty and parents at Sugarbush Elementary School have every reason to be proud of this accomplishment. I am sure that my Senate colleagues will join me in honoring the

students at Sugarbush Elementary School for Winning 1st place in the National Children's Set A Good Example Competition, and more importantly for their hard work, idealism and commitment to strong values.●

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF JULIAN JAY HENDRICKS

● Mr. REID. Mr. President, on behalf of myself and Senator ENSIGN, I rise today to pay tribute to a young Nevada who touched the lives of those around him and created a sense of family in the small one-room schoolhouse where he was a student.

Julian Jay Hendricks, who celebrated his 7th birthday on February 25, 2001, became a student in the Duckwater Elementary School one-room schoolhouse last fall, and quickly adapted to life in the 9 student community. Julian's contagious smile and joyful disposition became a welcome presence to his Duckwater classmates and teacher.

Inside the classroom, Julian was an excellent math student, and enjoyed the task of learning how to read. On the playground, the young boy enthusiastically played basketball and volleyball with his friends and classmates. Like many adventurous boys, he loved skateboarding and rollerblading with his friends. Another favorite pastime of his was challenging his friends to a game of checkers; a game he was almost always the victor!

Tragically, Julian's life and the life of his grandmother, Jeanette Lankford, were cut short in an automobile accident on March 4, 2001.

For too short a time, this young Nevada brought great happiness and friendship into a tiny schoolhouse in rural Duckwater, Nevada. We rise today to offer this tribute to Julian's life not only on our behalf, but on behalf of his teacher, Lynn Anderson, and all his friends and classmates at Duckwater Elementary School.

In conclusion, I submit to the RECORD a poem written in memory of Julian by his friend Amber Hoy.

I really didn't know Julian too well, but his beautiful smile that stretched across his rosy chubby cheeks was quite contagious to all of us.

I knew him just well enough to know he enjoyed his life and all of the wonders in it.

I am just deeply disappointed that I didn't get to know him as well as I would like to.

I find myself selfishly wishing Julian was back here with us now.

Although we think of his death as a tragedy, Julian's future is much brighter in heaven with Jesus than it ever would have been here on Earth.

It was God's will to take Julian to a wonderful place where he can live the rest of his life safe in peace.

Secretly I ask myself what would Julian have been like in ten or maybe twenty years from now?

But I believe he will always be the small friendly boy, who attended the small friendly Duckwater School.

Even though Julian's body is gone, his spirit lives on in our hearts and the joyful sound of his happy laugh will forever ring in our ears.

At first I wished that I would have gotten to say good-bye to Julian, but maybe that last unforgettable smile and the last slight wave of his little hand as he stepped off the bus; was good-bye.

Good-bye, Julian. . .

Julian will always be in our thoughts and prayers.

Love always, Amber Hoy.

I add the thoughts and prayers of myself and Senator ENSIGN to those of Amber Hoy. Julian and his grandmother will be missed.●

WESTPORT VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE

● Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today to commend the Westport Volunteer Emergency Medical Service. Next week, the Westport Volunteer EMS will receive the EMS Magazine "Gold Award" in recognition of the extraordinary vision, professionalism, and dedication of Westport's volunteer emergency medical service providers.

By awarding WVEMS the "Gold Award," EMS Magazine is confirming what many of us have long known: community spirit is alive and well in Connecticut and it still changes lives for the better. The men and women of the Westport Volunteer EMS are true heroes—not only because they save lives—but because they are willing to do the yeomen's work that must be done to ensure that our communities are prepared to respond when the unthinkable happens.

More than 120 Westport volunteers respond to more than 2,000 9-1-1 calls each year. These volunteers make a huge difference in the lives of their fellow citizens. They respond to emergencies night and day. They provide comfort and assistance to people in distress and they save lives. But they also make an enormous difference in less dramatic ways. They teach safety and emergency preparedness classes to hundreds of school-aged children and adults. They host conferences. And nearly every weekend, somewhere in the community a volunteer EMS team provides coverage at a local school athletic event or community gathering. This is the true essence of community spirit—the willingness to spend time working with your neighbors to protect and service the greater good.

The Westport EMS was formally incorporated in 1979 and continues to serve the community as a division within the Westport Police Department, with on-site, standby crews 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 52 weeks a year. Last year, Westport's volunteers logged 26,000 hours of community service.

The entire Northeast region recently had a chance to see the Westport EMS at work when Westport hosted a regional disaster drill in the form of a simulated Amtrak train wreck at the Westport train station. More than 400