

and strength to John and their family. I know that she and their two children P.J. and Michael are incredibly proud of John and the superior and important work that he has done over the course of his career.

John Brown is a leader of integrity and total dedication. He has served his country well and I wish him all the best.●

SOUTH DAKOTA SCHOOL OF MINES AND TECHNOLOGY TAKE FIRST PLACE IN ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL CONCRETE CANOE COMPETITION

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology on earning first place for their remarkable display of ingenuity and design at the 2002 Rocky Mountain Regional Concrete Canoe Competition in Logan, UT.

Under the supervision of their advisor, Dr. Marion Hansen, the team earned their 14th first place regional win within the last 16 years. This win qualifies the team for the National Concrete Canoe Competition hosted by Drexel University in June. South Dakota School of Mines and Technology's American Society of Civil Engineering program has a strong record of finding ingenious solutions to complex problems, and has placed in the top five in the National Concrete Canoe Competition five times as well as winning the over all national competition in 1995.

Based on appearance, weight, presentation, and sprint and endurance races for men, women, and co-ed squads, the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology team defeated teams from Wyoming, Utah, and Colorado for their first place win. To effectively implement their strategy, students worked as a whole and within centralized teams, such as hull design, mix design, construction, and paddling, to bring the project together as an award-winning canoe. This win reflects the work ethic and dedication that is so visible in the state of South Dakota.

I want to acknowledge Dr. Richard J. Gowen, president of the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, as well as Dr. Marion R. Hansen, for their guidance and support to help make this year's team so successful. I also want to congratulate all of this year's team members: Steve Lipetzky, Andy Coats, Ryan Hamilton, Dave Lowe, Eric Gassland, Jen Pohl, Mandy Kost, Katie Zeller, Tarar Boehmer, Wade Lein, and Marshall Cassidy.

Again, congratulations to the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology on winning their 14th regional concrete canoe competition.●

JIM WILDING

● Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a friend and an outstanding citizen of the Commonwealth of Virginia, James A. Wilding, on the

occasion of his retirement from the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority. In the 25 years I have had the opportunity to serve in this body many Senators have come and gone. The faces of industry and its leaders have changed as well. In changing times Jim Wilding has been constant—always a trusted advisor to me and others for the more than 40 years he has served the Nation's capital airports.

In his role at the Authority, Jim is responsible for the management of two of our most important airports in the country—Washington Dulles International Airport and Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport. He has managed them through rapid growth, the transition away from Federal operation, and now into the new post 9/11 security paradigm. His vision is the result of strong knowledge, experience, and dedication to his craft.

Mr. Wilding began his career with the Federal Aviation Administration soon after graduating from the Catholic University of America in 1959 with a graduate degree in civil engineering. At the FAA, he participated in the original planning and development of Washington Dulles International Airport. I remember when that airport was being built—many scoffed at the idea. They questioned the need for a facility of that magnitude and objected to the seemingly rural location. Today we applaud the foresight that went into Dulles. Our transportation system relies on the balance between Dulles and Reagan. Jim Wilding has been an integral part of this visionary leadership.

Following the opening of Dulles in 1962, Mr. Wilding held progressively responsible positions in all phases of engineering for the two federally owned airports, eventually becoming the organization's chief engineer. He served as chief engineer until becoming the airports' deputy director in 1975, and then its director 4 years later.

Mr. Wilding served as the director of the FAA's Metropolitan Washington Airports organization from December 1979. In June 1987, the airports were transferred to the newly created Airports Authority, where he assumed his current position as president.

During his tenure as president and CEO of the Airports Authority, the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority passenger activity at National and Dulles Airports nearly doubled to 31 million passengers in 2002. With this growth, he has overseen and managed a massive capital development program at both airports totaling well over \$3 billion dollars. Under his leadership, Reagan National Airport was modernized with a new terminal building in 1997 which brought major improvements to airport traffic management and Metro system connections. At Dulles, he directed the expansion and construction of new concourses, the building of the airport's first parking garages, and is now managing a \$3.2 billion capital improvement project. In

addition, the Smithsonian will open its new Air and Space Museum later this year located at Dulles Airport.

Mr. Wilding's career is highlighted with many accolades, which, along with his outstanding performance, have earned him a national and international reputation as an aviation industry expert.

I wish to extend my sincerest congratulations to Mr. James A. Wilding on the occasion of his retirement. I am honored to recognize his many accomplishments to our region, applaud his service to our entire Nation's aviation transportation system, and to call him a friend.●

HONORING HENRY S. SCHLEIFF, CHAIRMAN AND CEO OF COURT TV NETWORK

● Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, on April 1, 2003, Henry Schleiff, chairman and CEO of Court TV, was awarded the Cable Television Public Affairs Association, CTPAA, President's Award. CTPAA is a national organization that focuses on public affairs issues within the cable industry. I can think of no better person to be honored with this award considering the efforts Mr. Schleiff has put forth to serve his industry and the public community.

His career has featured an impressive array of both private and public service. Since his career began with HBO, Mr. Schleiff has moved up the ranks of the entertainment industry—from senior vice president of business affairs and administration for HBO and head of HBO Enterprises in the 1980s, to executive producer for Viacom International Inc. and CEO of Viacom's Broadcast and Entertainment Groups in the early 1990s, to executive vice-president for Studios USA in the late 1990s. Mr. Schleiff has been the CEO of Court TV since December 1999 and has been the catalyst for its revival. Under his leadership, Court TV has become one of the most successful basic cable networks in the industry, growing from 30 million subscribers to nearly 80 million in just 4 years.

Equally impressive are Mr. Schleiff's efforts for the public community. He is vice chairman of the board of directors for the International Radio & Television Society Foundation, Inc. IRTS, and he serves on the board of directors of the International Council, The Creative Coalition, and Theatreworks. Court TV's Choices and Consequences education program, already in more than 100,000 schools, encourages children to make responsible decisions and positive contributions to society. The "Everyday Heroes" program honors brave and courageous individuals who made personal sacrifices or significant contributions.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a copy of Mr. Schleiff's award acceptance speech be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows: