

Pinnacles is home to 20 endemic species holding special Federal or State status, and is also the ancestral home range of the California condor. Pinnacles is the only National Park site that releases and maintains this extremely endangered bird species and is critical to the overall condor recovery effort. Pinnacles is also located within the Pacific Flyway migratory route and contains the highest concentration of nesting prairie falcons of any national park in the country.

Only 100 miles from the urban centers of San Francisco and San Jose, Pinnacles National Monument remains a haven of solitude for nature enthusiasts and offers a stunning reflection of California's rural history and heritage. For 100 years, Pinnacles National Monument has served as a recreational escape for hikers, outdoor enthusiasts, and those seeking a glimpse of California's rich history. It is a powerful reminder of the beauty of nature and the importance of conservation efforts.

I commend the National Park Service staff and volunteers for maintaining the natural beauty and historical significance of Pinnacles National Monument. I look forward to future generations having the opportunity to study and enjoy this unique piece of our State and national history for another 100 years.●

#### LEADERSHIP AT KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

● Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I wish today to applaud my alma mater, Kansas State University, and three of its students. Recently, three Kansas State University students and a student from the University of Delaware teamed up to win first place in a student case study competition at the ninth annual International Leadership Association conference in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Members of the winning team from Kansas State were Chance Lee, senior in sociology and political science with a minor in leadership studies, Manhattan, KS; Lauren Luhrs, senior in human ecology and mass communications-public relations with minors in leadership studies and business, Overland Park, KS; and Anthony Carter, senior in sociology with a minor in nonprofit leadership, Colorado Springs, CO.

The Leadership Studies Minor at Kansas State University has been a tremendous success. The mission of the Leadership Studies at Kansas State University is to develop knowledgeable, ethical, caring, inclusive leaders for a diverse and changing world. Mr. President, this program is doing just that. I am proud of this program, my alma matter, and the three students who represented Kansas State University so well.

In the competition participating teams were given a 23-page document from the Harvard Business School which detailed specifics for leadership

development at Goldman Sachs. The document provided key details for the case study, including the purpose of the leadership development program to be created. It also gave six factors that were essential in the design of the program: form and location, faculty, content and format, method, target audience, and governance and sponsorship.

I again congratulate these three students for their success.●

#### TRIBUTE TO CHARLES M. EVERS

● Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I am honored to publicly recognize an Idahoan who has received one of our Nation's highest military honors, the Silver Star Medal. United States Marine Corps SSG Charles M. Evers, of Lewiston, ID, was awarded this medal for "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against the enemy while serving as Platoon Commander, 3d Platoon, India Company, 3d Battalion, 5th Marines, Regimental Combat Team, 1 Marine Expeditionary Force Forward in Support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from 8 June to 12 June 2006." Over the course of a 4-day firefight, Sergeant Evers led his platoon in withstanding and repulsing a platoon-sized enemy attack that, on the third day, included a massive truck bomb that burst through the entry control point at an observation post the Marines were defending. During this fight, approximately 60 well-trained insurgents attempted, but were unable to take the observation post held by Evers' 22 marines, a fight in which no Americans perished. Citing repeated decisive combat leadership under intense and sustained machine gun and small arms fire, General James T. Conway, Commandant of the Marine Corps, recognized Sergeant Evers' "resolve" and "refusal to submit to the enemy's will" in the Silver Star Medal Citation.

As you know, the Silver Star is the Nation's third highest combat medal behind the Medal of Honor and the Navy Cross, Distinguished Service Cross or Air Force Cross. Sergeant Evers' extraordinary achievement recognizes his unflinching commitment to our Nation, his fellow soldiers and the mission for which he was trained. Sergeant Evers' courage and skill rivals his humility: when given the Silver Star, he said, "I was just doing my job. I'm proud of my Marines. I led them and they did their job."

I am honored and proud to call Sergeant Evers a fellow Idahoan, and I thank him for his bravery, patriotism and commitment to and support of the military mission of the United States of America. Most of all, I thank him and his fellow Marines for continuing to defend my freedom and that of my family.●

#### HONORING OLIN SIMS

● Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, Wyoming lost a beloved member of its agricultural community this weekend to a

tragic accident. Olin Sims, a fourth generation rancher from McFadden, WY, and president of the National Association of Conservation Districts served his community with a great passion for conservation, agriculture, and family values. Olin provided this body with sound advice and testimony on a number of occasions regarding the natural resource needs of our Nation. Although his life ended early, his contributions to our State and Nation will never end. The good he has done will benefit generations to come. He did what all of us should strive to do—leave this world a better place. Diana and I offer our thoughts and prayers to the family, friends, and colleagues of Olin Sims.●

#### CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS

● Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, it is with the greatest pleasure that I rise today to honor the University of Central Arkansas for its 100th anniversary. The university is located in Conway, AR, which lies in the central part of my State.

The University of Central Arkansas began as the Arkansas State Normal School under the leadership of John James Doyne in 1907. In 1909, the first commencement ceremony was held to recognize 10 graduates. The school conferred its first baccalaureate degree in 1922 and was renamed Arkansas State Teachers College in 1925.

The school was renamed State College of Arkansas in 1967, but was granted university status and renamed as the University of Central Arkansas in 1975. Since then, UCA has continued to excel by establishing the State's first Honors College, joining the National Collegiate Athletic Association, NCAA, and beginning its first doctoral program in 1998. Currently, the University of Central Arkansas has more than 100 undergraduate courses of study, 33 master's degree programs, and 3 doctoral programs.

Arkansas has always made education a top priority and the University of Central Arkansas has a proud history of scholastic progress. The university is an integral part of the Arkansas community and the educational opportunities available provide graduates with the skills needed to succeed in today's workforce.

Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me today in congratulating the University of Central Arkansas on its 100th anniversary and in wishing the university another 100 years of success.●

#### MAINE MUTUAL GROUP INSURANCE COMPANY

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, today I recognize Maine Mutual Group Insurance Company, MMG, a premier regional property and casualty insurance company that continues to grow and flourish. I am particularly pleased that