

In memory of Bill's dedication to public service, his friends, with his family's support, have established a scholarship endowment at the University of Alabama National Alumni Association.

#### NEAL BERTE'S 20 YEARS AT BIRMINGHAM-SOUTHERN COLLEGE

Mr. HEFLIN. Mr. President, Dr. Neal R. Berte recently celebrated his 20th year as president of my undergraduate alma mater, Birmingham-Southern College. He has been, and continues to be, an outstanding spokesman, administrator, and scholarly leader of one of the Nation's very best liberal arts colleges.

A native of Ohio, Dr. Berte and his wife, Anne, have four grown children and two grandchildren. He obtained his bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees all at the University of Cincinnati. A member of Phi Beta Kappa honor society, he also holds honorary doctoral degrees from Birmingham-Southern and Cincinnati. He served as an associate professor at the University of Alabama from 1970 through 1974 and as the university's vice president for educational development from 1974 until 1976. He also served as dean of the university's New College from 1970 until 1976 when, on February 1, he became president of Birmingham-Southern College.

Dr. Berte is recognized as one of the most accomplished, successful educational professionals of our time. Under his stewardship, Birmingham-Southern's endowment has increased from \$14 million to \$82 million and its student population, made up of some of the brightest high school graduates in the State and Nation, has more than doubled. Acceptance of its graduates to medical and law schools is among the highest in the South and its outstanding faculty has increased by 66 percent during his tenure as president. He has also overseen the construction of eight new campus buildings.

The campus of Birmingham-Southern, known as The Hilltop, has an atmosphere of learning and of intellectual achievement. This atmosphere is reflected in the fact that the school is consistently recognized as one of the top national liberal arts colleges by such prestigious publications as U.S. News and World Report, National Review, Money Magazine, the Insider's Guide to the Colleges, Southern Magazine, and the Princeton Review.

The National Review's College Guide has said, "An ambiance of graciousness, a tradition of academic excellence, and close student-faculty relations have made Birmingham-Southern College one of the standout liberal arts colleges in the South \* \* \* U.S. News calls it a " \* \* \* trailblazer for higher education of the future." These kinds of accolades are a direct reflection of the school president's strong commitment, total dedication, and superb leadership skills.

Birmingham-Southern College's graduates of all ages speak often of the

deep pride and affection they have for their alma mater. Indeed, the school enjoys an uncommonly strong level of support among its loyal and generous alumni. Even those of us who were students there long before Dr. Berte's arrival 20 years ago have enjoyed a renewed sense of pride in Birmingham-Southern since he became president.

Birmingham-Southern does not have a football program, but its basketball team has won two National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics [NAIA] championships in the past 7 years, most recently in 1995. Its baseball team has advanced to the NAIA World Series on three occasions.

Dr. Berte's many honors and awards include his induction into the Alabama Academy of Honor; his selection as Birmingham's Citizen of the Year; his selection as one of the 100 Most Effective College Presidents by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education; and his recognition as one of America's Leaders in Higher Education by the American Council on Education.

Birmingham's morning newspaper, the Post-Herald, carried a front-page feature on his life and career on February 6 and an editorial on his tenure at Birmingham-Southern the next day. I ask unanimous consent that the text of these articles be printed in the RECORD.

I want to commend and congratulate Dr. Neal Berte for his impeccable leadership, clear vision, and total dedication to the field of higher education in general and to Birmingham-Southern in particular. As a proud alumnus of the college, I have no doubt that his next 20 years there will be just as productive and vibrant as his first. It could not be in more capable hands.

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

[From the Birmingham Post-Herald, Feb. 6, 1996]

#### BERTE LOOKS TO THE FUTURE AT BSC

(By Michaelle Chapman)

When you ask Neal R. Berte about his future, expect him to talk about his goals for Birmingham-Southern College.

Berte celebrated his 20th anniversary as president there Thursday.

He has had plenty of opportunities to go elsewhere but said, "I feel sort of content."

That's not to say Berte has no goals for the small liberal arts school he helped build into one of the best of its kind in the nation.

But he really can't envision a job offer good enough to persuade him to leave the Hilltop and the city he has come to call home.

At 55, Berte is a slim and energetic man who puts those in his company at ease with his friendly but earnest manner.

While many college presidents confine their interests to campus, Berte's voice is heard far beyond the gates of Birmingham-Southern.

Berte is an example to his students, whom he expects to get involved in the community.

He's chairman of Leadership Birmingham and the Birmingham Business Leadership Group, made up of the chief executive officers of 45 of Birmingham's largest businesses.

His past positions have included chairman of the Birmingham Area Chamber of Commerce and campaign chairman and president of the United Way of Central Alabama. He's also been Birmingham's Citizen of the Year and been inducted into the city's Distinguished Gallery of Honor.

Birmingham-Southern students follow in Berte's footsteps in their amount of community involvement. "Every year, over half of our students and faculty are out in service to others," Berte said.

"We've been here long enough that I've seen them go out and make a difference in terms of their careers but also make a difference as far as their civic involvements, in the life of the communities where they live, in the life of their churches."

Berte said he gets to know the names of most students. "We work at trying to treat each student as an individual. . . . I think somehow knowing someone's name does make a difference, so I work at it," he said.

Students who get up early to exercise can find Berte in the college's old gym at 6 a.m. either running or doing weight training. He's in his office by about 8:15 a.m. and spends many evenings at on-campus functions or events around town.

Ed LaMonte, a Birmingham-Southern professor who is on leave while serving as interim superintendent of Birmingham schools, said Berte is an excellent example of leadership.

"He has simply stepped forward time after time to play a very important role in what is in the best interest of the city. . . . He has, on occasions, played a role that has cost the college a bit in terms of support but has served the community well," LaMonte said.

"He's the personification of the word 'leader,'" said Don Newton, president of the Chamber of Commerce. "I have never seen him tackle anything that he didn't complete the task."

Herbert A. Sklenar, chairman of the Birmingham-Southern Board of Trustees, believes Berte's involvement in the community is part of the reason why the school is doing so well.

"He took an institution that had a great tradition and history but was faltering somewhat and has turned it around and, by all kinds of measurements, turned it into a success," Sklenar said.

Twenty years ago, Berte said, "There were some large problems . . . that probably were reflective of many colleges and universities across the country. . . . We had a declining enrollment. We were operating on a deficit budget. I think it's fair to say the general public did not have a real positive attitude about the value of liberal arts education."

But the trustees were committed, the faculty was outstanding and the students were capable, he said.

Berte pulled all those forces together and began improving the school, which had about 827 students. Today, 1,562 students are enrolled at Birmingham-Southern.

Other things are changing at Birmingham-Southern as well—much of it as part of the Toward the 21st Century Campaign, a \$64 million fundraising effort that began last May. Pledges for \$46 million have been received so far.

Berte is proud that the endowment has grown to \$82.2 million from \$14 million.

In the past few years, Birmingham-Southern has gotten considerable national recognition from magazines, publications and foundations that rate colleges and universities.

"That is good for Birmingham-Southern . . . but I'd like to believe it also is good for Birmingham and for Alabama," Berte said.

[From the Birmingham Post-Herald, Feb. 7, 1996]

#### 20 YEARS OF LEADERSHIP

Twenty years ago, the future looked dim for many small, private liberal arts colleges. Declining enrollments and troubled financial conditions forced many such schools out of existence. Others survived by abandoning much of their distinctiveness through merger into other colleges and universities or becoming taxpayer-funded institutions. People were even questioning whether a liberal arts education still had any value.

Among the colleges in trouble was Birmingham-Southern College. Enrollment was down significantly, the college had a budgetary deficit and the college presidency had changed hands several times in a very short period.

Then, on Feb. 1, 1976, Neal Berte became college president. Under his leadership, the Methodist institution enhanced what were still strong academic programs, rebuilt its finances and reversed the erosion of a tradition of community involvement.

If Berte had done nothing more in the past 20 years than restore Birmingham-Southern's standing as one of the best liberal arts colleges in this part of the country, he would deserve high praise. But as anybody who follows public life in this community must know, he has done much more.

There is hardly a facet of civic life that has not been affected—for the better—by Berte. He holds or has held chairmanships in several organizations. But even more important has been his ability to bring other leaders and potential leaders together in ways that improve Birmingham for all of us. He has been a much-needed catalyst for change.

Anybody seeking an example of what being a leader means need look no farther than the Birmingham-Southern hilltop campus and the office of Neal Berte.

#### REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE RADIATION CONTROL FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY ACT FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1994—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 135

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

##### *To the Congress of the United States:*

In accordance with section 540 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 360qq) (previously section 360D of the Public Health Service Act), I am submitting the report of the Department of Health and Human Services regarding the administration of the Radiation Control for Health and Safety Act of 1968 during calendar year 1994.

The report recommends the repeal of section 540 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act that requires the completion of this annual report. All the information found in this report is available to the Congress on a more immediate basis through the Center for Devices and Radiological Health technical reports, the Radiological Health Bulletin, and other publicly available sources. The Agency resources devoted to the preparation of this report could be put to other, better uses.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, March 27, 1996.

#### REPORT ON THE TRADE AGREEMENTS PROGRAM FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1995 AND THE TRADE POLICY AGENDA FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1996—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 136

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

##### *To the Congress of the United States:*

As required by section 163 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2213), I transmit herewith the 1996 Trade Policy Agenda and 1995 Annual Report on the Trade Agreements Program.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, March 27, 1996.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:14 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.J. Res. 158. Joint resolution to recognize the Peace Corps on the occasion of its 35th anniversary and the Americans who have served as Peace Corps volunteers.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 146. Concurrent resolution authorizing the 1996 Special Olympics Torch Relay to be run through the Capitol Grounds.

H. Con. Res. 147. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the fifteenth annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Service.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.J. Res. 158. Joint resolution to recognize the Peace Corps on the occasion of its 35th anniversary and the Americans who have served as Peace Corps volunteers; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

Pursuant to the order of February 9, 1996, the following measure was placed on the calendar:

H.R. 849. An act to amend the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 to reinstate an exemption for certain bona fide hiring and retirement plans applicable to State and local firefighters and law enforcement officers; and for other purposes.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with

accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-2189. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, the report of the texts of international agreements, other than treaties, and background statements; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2190. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a Secretary of State Determination relative to Israel; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2191. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on agency compliance with respect to unfunded mandates reform; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2192. A communication from the Administrator of the General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to cost of travel and privately owned vehicles of federal employees; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2193. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the implementation of its administrative responsibilities during calendar year 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2194. A communication from the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Freedom of Information Act for calendar year 1995; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2195. A communication from the Vice President and General Counsel of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Freedom of Information Act for calendar year 1995; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2196. A communication from the Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Freedom of Information Act for calendar year 1995; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2197. A communication from the Board Members of the Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation to amend the Railroad Retirement Act to conform the statute of limitations with respect to the creditability of compensation under that Act to the statute of limitations with respect to the payment under the Railroad Retirement Act and for other purposes; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-2198. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, Commonwealth of Virginia, transmitting, pursuant to law, the final report on the I-66 HOV-2 Demonstration Project; to the Committee on the Environment and Public Works.

#### PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-523. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

“SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 1014

“Whereas, separation of powers is fundamental to the United States Constitution and the power of the federal government is strictly limited; and