

TRIBUTE TO THE UND ICE HOCKEY TEAM

• Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, my home State of North Dakota has been making the national news lately because of the record-breaking snowfalls and flooding we have been suffering. This will surely be a winter that North Dakotans will remember for a long time to come. However, we North Dakotans will also be able to look back on this winter with fond memories because of the two national championships captured by the University of North Dakota in women's basketball and men's hockey.

I want to pay special tribute to the 1997 National Collegiate Athletic Association's Division I national hockey champions, the University of North Dakota Fighting Sioux. This is the sixth national championship in the long and storied 50-year history of the UND hockey team. In fact, only one other college, Michigan, has more national hockey titles to its credit than UND.

But perhaps this championship is among the most meaningful because of its improbability. Consistently throughout this season, the hockey program has defied the odds-makers with win after win. This team was predicted to finish no better than fifth in the Western Collegiate Hockey Association at the beginning of the season, but I guess someone forgot to tell that to the team and its coaches for not only did they win the WCHA but also the national championship. They closed out the season with a 31-10-2 record, becoming just the sixth team in UND history to win at least 30 games.

To win the national championship, the Fighting Sioux fought back from a 2 to 0 deficit after the first period to score five goals in the second period against Boston University. In the third period, the Sioux's smothering defense took over and the Sioux won by a final score of 6 to 4.

The team's outstanding team accomplishments throughout the year were aided by some notable individual accomplishments. Junior wing player Matt Henderson was named the tournament's most outstanding player. He was joined on the all-tournament team by freshman goalie Aaron Schweitzer, junior defenseman Curtis Murphy, and the team's leading scorer, sophomore wing David Hoogsteen. Sophomore Jason Blake was 1 of 10 finalists for college hockey's top individual player award, the Hobey Baker Award.

But a team needs hard work and contributions from all of its players if it is to reach the pinnacle of a national championship. The Fighting Sioux certainly got that from seniors Kevin Hoogsteen, Toby Kvalevog, Dane Litke, and Mark Pivetz, junior Mitch Vig, sophomores Jesse Bull, Adam Calder, Ian Kallay, Jay Panzer, Tom Phillion, Tyler Rice, Jeff Ulmer, Aaron Vickar, and Brad Williamson, and freshmen Peter Armbrust, Joe Blake, Brad DeFauw, Tim O'Connell, and Jason Ulmer.

Finally, I want to honor the coaches who have led the Fighting Sioux to these levels. Head Coach Dean Blais was named "WCHA Coach of the Year." He is assisted by Scott Sandelin and Mark Osiecki.

Since 13 of the team's 20 members are freshmen or sophomores this year, I am sure we can all look forward to another excellent season. But for now it is more than enough for North Dakotans to bask in the glow of winning yet another national championship in a 10-day period. And hopefully some of the warm feelings will help to melt the snow and dry up the floods.●

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE YEARS OF COLORADO SPRINGS GAZETTE

• Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, one of Colorado's most prominent newspapers, the Colorado Springs Gazette, celebrated 125 years of service to the Pikes Peak region on March 23, 1997.

Although known as the Colorado Springs Gazette-Telegraph since 1947, the newspaper used its 125th birthday as an opportunity to return to its earlier roots as the Colorado Springs Gazette.

Colorado Springs is one of Colorado's most vibrant communities having experienced tremendous growth in recent decades. It is home to some of our Nation's most important military facilities such as Fort Carson Army Base, Falcon Air Force Base, the U.S. Air Force Academy and NORAD, U.S. Space Command, and the Air Force Space Command at Peterson Air Force Base. Most recently, several prominent family values advocacy organizations have located in Colorado Springs.

The founder of the newspaper, Gen. William Jackson Palmer, also is regarded as the founder of Colorado Springs. In fact, as the 125th anniversary edition of the Gazette pointed out, the city and the newspaper literally grew up together.

The colorful history of Colorado Springs has been chronicled for 125 years in the pages of the Colorado Springs Gazette and I join the State of Colorado in wishing its publisher, N. Christian Anderson III and the entire Gazette staff, congratulations.●

TRIBUTE TO THE BARRE-MONTPELIER TIMES ARGUS

• Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the Barre-Montpelier Times Argus on its 100 years of service to its community. From its in-depth statewide political reporting, to its commitment to local news, to its independent editorial page, the "T. A." has played a significant role in central Vermont's history.

I salute the Times Argus for not only reaching this important milestone, but for inviting the entire central Vermont community to participate in its 100th anniversary celebration. The paper has scheduled an open house and guided

tour of its facility and is sponsoring numerous theatrical and sports events this summer. In addition, later this year the Times Argus will be printing a centennial edition and is soliciting contributions from its readers about the history and personal impact of the newspaper and the community it covers. I know that I plan to take part in that endeavor.

While much in the newspaper industry has changed since the Times Argus was formed on March 16, 1897, the one constant has been the newspaper's commitment to its readers and community. Again I congratulate the Times Argus on 100 wonderful years of service and wish another 100 years of continued success.●

THE DEATH OF CORRECTIONAL OFFICER SCOTT WILLIAMS

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I rise today in real sadness to report to my colleagues about the senseless murder last Thursday of Scott Williams, a decorated correctional officer at the Lompoc Federal Penitentiary.

Scott was just 29 years old when he was attacked savagely by an inmate with a makeshift knife. The stabbing occurred during a time of day when inmates walk freely through Lompoc's corridors. He is the only officer killed in the line of duty in the prison's history. My heart goes out to the family Scott Williams leaves behind—to his wife, Kristy, and their two young daughters, Kaitlin and Kallie.

Scott was a model officer, much admired by his colleagues at Lompoc, where he had been employed for only 4 years. But in those 4 years this young man had been promoted once and had received six awards for outstanding service. Scott Williams was as admired for his professionalism and commitment to duty as he was for his kind manner.

Sadly, Scott's training and commitment were not enough to sustain him in the terrifying and deadly moments of the attack, for he was unarmed. Four other officers—Mark Stephenson, Marcos Marquez, Scott Ledham, and Scot Elliott—were injured as they rushed to his side and finally subdued the attacker.

This tragic episode highlights the very real dangers that confront correctional officers across the country. And such incidents are on the rise throughout the Federal prison system. Nowhere is the record for attacks on guards worse than at Lompoc.

Few of us can appreciate the perils faced daily by our correctional officers. The job is fraught with danger, and it takes a special person to come through each day with one's spirit and confidence intact. But Scott Williams was such a man, and now his family and friends must go on without him.

I grieve for the family that is no more: for the husband and wife who can no longer dream of growing old together, for the young daughters denied

a lifetime of their father's love and affection. I grieve for the people of Lompoc, and Los Alamos—Scott's hometown, still stunned and shocked by this murder in their midst.

I intend to initiate some inquiries concerning the appropriate way to prevent such acts of senseless savagery from happening in the future. As a proper testament to the life of Officer Scott Williams, it is incumbent upon us to do no less.●

TELEMARKETING FRAUD PREVENTION ACT

● Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I rise to comment on the Telemarketing Fraud Prevention Act of 1997. I am pleased to sponsor this bill, which directs the U.S. Sentencing Commission to increase penalties for those who purposefully defraud vulnerable members of our society and those who cross international borders to evade prosecution. I thank Senator REID for his sponsorship of this bill, and his leadership in combating telemarketing fraud.

Current penalties for this crime are not tough enough to deter the problem and they leave the victims without restitution. Penalties for bank, wire, radio, and television fraud are at least two-thirds higher than the penalty for telemarketing fraud. Too often, telemarketing fraud felons receive a sentence of fewer than 5 years in prison. The toughest penalty to date is 10 years. These are small penalties considering that many telemarketing fraud criminals have stolen the life savings of retired senior citizens.

Mr. President, thousands of Americans lose billions of dollars a year from telemarketing fraud. According to Maryland Attorney General J. Joseph Curran, Jr., telemarketing fraud is probably the fastest growing illegal activity in this country. An Associated Press story reported that top prosecutors in Arizona and 9 other States filed lawsuits or took other legal action against more than 70 telemarketers nationwide 2 years ago in an attempt to crack down on fraud that costs consumers more than \$40 billion a year.

Senior citizens appear to be the most vulnerable to chicanery of this kind. Fred Schulte, an investigating editor for the Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel and an expert on telemarketing fraud, has pointed out that senior citizens are often too polite or too lonely not to listen to the voice on the other end of the line. The risk of being taken advantage of, I believe, increases with age. According to Attorney General Reno, it is not uncommon for senior citizens to receive as many as five or more high-pressure phone calls a day.

As one telemarketing con man who has worked all over the country put it: "people are so lonely, so tired of life, they can't wait for the phone to ring. It's worth the \$300 to \$400 to them to think that they got a friend. That's what you play on." Mr. President, malicious criminal activity like this must be punished appropriately.

These criminals prey on the vulnerable of our society. In one case, Nevada authorities arrested a Las Vegas telemarketer on a charge of attempted theft. The telemarketer was accused of trying to persuade a 92-year-old Kansas man who had been fraudulently declared the winner of \$100,000 to send \$1,900 by Western Union in advance to collect his prize. Another example: a Maine company showed real telemarketing creativity. For \$250, the so-called Consumer Advocate Group offered to help consumers recover money lost to fraudulent telemarketers—but it provided no services, according to Wisconsin Attorney General James Doyle, who sued the Maine firm plus four other telemarketers.

Mr. President, the Association of Attorneys General has supported similar consumer protection efforts in the past. As Minnesota Attorney General Hubert H. Humphrey III put it last year: "In the hands of a con artist, a phone is an assault weapon."

I would, at this time, like to highlight one specific provision of the bill. Section 2 requires that an offender forfeit any real or personal property derived from proceeds obtained as a result of the offense. The proceeds shall be used, as determined by the Attorney General, for the national information hotline established under the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. The proceeds of the fraud will be returned to help the victims. I believe that it is important to pay attention to victims' rights in this area.

Last year, more than 400 individuals were arrested by law-enforcement officials working on Operation Senior Sentinel. Retired law-enforcement officers and volunteers, recruited by AARP, went undercover to record sales pitches from dishonest telemarketers. Volunteers from the 2-year-long Operation Senior Sentinel discovered various telemarketing schemes. Some people were victimized by phony charities or investment schemes. Others were taken in by so-called premium promotions in which people were guaranteed one of four or five valuable prizes but were induced to buy an overpriced product in exchange for a cheap prize. One of the most vicious scams preyed on those who had already lost money. Some telemarketers charged a substantial fee to recover money for those who had been victimized previously—and proceeded to renege on the promised assistance. By the time the dust settled, it took the Justice Department, the FBI, the FTC, a dozen U.S. attorneys and State attorneys general, the Postal Service, the IRS, and the Secret Service to arrest over 400 telemarketers in five States, including my home State of Arizona.

Clearly telemarketing fraud is on the rise. It is estimated that 8 out of 10 households are targets for telemarketing scams that bilk us of up to \$40 billion annually. The telemarketing industry rakes in more than \$600 billion in annual sales. There are many sen-

iors in my State and across the country who must be protected against this type of fraudulent activity. That is why I have sponsored this bill. The House of Representatives passed a bill similar to mine in the 104th Congress, which has been reintroduced during this Congress by Representative GOODLATTE. It already has 47 cosponsors and the support of the 60 Plus Association and the National Consumers League. I urge my colleagues to join us and cosponsor the Telemarketing Fraud Prevention Act.●

MEASURE READ FOR THE FIRST TIME—S. 522

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, under rule XIV, I understand Senate bill 522, which was introduced today by Senator COVERDELL, is at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill for the first time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose civil and criminal penalties for the unauthorized access of tax returns and tax return information by Federal employees and other persons, and for other purposes.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask for its second reading and object to my own request on behalf of Senators on the Democratic side of the aisle.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

OROVILLE-TONASKET CLAIMS SETTLEMENT AND CONVEYANCE ACT

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 412, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 412) to approve a settlement agreement between the Bureau of Reclamation and the Oroville-Tonasket Irrigation District.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, today, the Senate will take up and pass H.R. 412, legislation authorizes a settlement between the Bureau of Reclamation and the Oroville-Tonasket Irrigation District in Washington State. Senator MURRAY and I introduced identical legislation on this subject earlier this month.

The reason for the speedy passage of this legislation is directly related to the settlement entered into between the Bureau of Reclamation and the irrigation district. This legislation will authorize a carefully negotiated settlement between the BOR and the