

enormous difference to me in developing programs that are targeted at forging that link. One such program is the Manufacturing Extension Partnership, which facilitates the transfer of manufacturing technology directly from the laboratory to the operations of the small- and medium-sized firms that carry out the bulk of U.S. manufacturing. Thanks in large part to Pat's tenacity in working to steadily improve the program, there are now locally run and cost-shared manufacturing extension centers in South Carolina and throughout the Nation that provide essential technical assistance to thousands of small manufacturers.

Another such program is the Advanced Technology Program [ATP], overseen by the National Institute of Science and Technology within the Department of Commerce. ATP recognizes the intense investor pressure on American companies to cut costs and spend limited research dollars on projects with short-term payoffs. It is a peer-reviewed, industry-led undertaking that provides matching funds for the development of advanced technologies—in areas like electronics, information technology, robotics, advanced materials, and biotechnology—that will be central to the formation of new industries in the 21st century. Pat spearheaded the creation of ATP in the late 1980's, and now that ATP is beginning to bear fruit, he has fought tirelessly against efforts to undercut its effectiveness.

During his 17 years of Senate service, Pat has earned wide respect and affection from Members of Congress and staff, administration officials, and the scientific community for his commitment to the development of sound science and technology policy. He has an extraordinary capacity to digest large amounts of highly technical information in a number of scientific fields and communicate it clearly to decisionmakers. Further, in spite of his intense dedication to achieving his legislative goals, Pat has made loyal and enthusiastic friends among allies and adversaries alike.

I have no doubt that in his new surroundings Pat will find ways to further his splendid contributions to our Nation's industry and technological progress. He has certainly been everything I have wanted, and more, as a staff professional, and I thank him for his excellent work.

I wish Pat, Arati, and little Katie the best of fortune in all their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO JACKIE AND RACHEL ROBINSON

• Mr. DODD. Mr. President, this past Tuesday, more than 34,000 baseball fans, including President Clinton, came to Shea Stadium in New York to honor Jackie Robinson on the 50th anniversary of his breaking the color barrier for major league baseball. For all Americans, and especially for African-

Americans, Jackie Robinson's historic achievement was a source of inspiration, and it forever changed the face of our society.

Jackie Robinson's legacy is of particular importance to the State of Connecticut, because Jackie Robinson's family retired to Stamford in 1956. Among those in attendance at Shea Stadium on Tuesday were 640 children from Stamford, who are participants in the Jackie Robinson Park of Fame project. The project's goal is to celebrate Jackie Robinson's life and instill our young people with courage and confidence.

Hopefully, these children will learn about Jackie Robinson's heroic feats on the baseball diamond, and, most of all, the grace with which he overcame the many obstacles that were placed in his path as he sought to almost single-handedly integrate our national pastime. More important, I hope that these children and all Americans will learn about Jackie Robinson's sacrifices away from baseball and his undying commitment to uplifting his race and his country.

For anyone who saw Jackie Robinson play, they would probably be surprised to learn that some believe baseball was Jackie's worst sport. He was UCLA's first-ever four-sport letterman, starring in football, basketball, and track, as well as baseball. While there were many Negro League players who were talented enough to play in the major leagues, Jackie Robinson was a special person whose intelligence, character, and athleticism uniquely qualified him to become major league baseball's first African-American player.

When Brooklyn Dodgers' President Branch Rickey signed Jackie Robinson to break baseball's color line, Jackie had to agree that, for two full seasons, he would turn the other cheek no matter what abuse was directed at him by opposing players and fans. Jackie Robinson withstood a seemingly endless barrage of verbal, physical, and psychological assaults and was still able to excel in nearly every facet of the game with an uncommon dignity. When Robinson would slide into second base with an easy double, the opposing shortstop would sometimes slam Jackie in the face with his glove so hard that you could hear it in the dugout. In response, Jackie Robinson would simply stand up, dust himself off, and then steal third on the very next pitch.

Jackie Robinson's quiet humility and devotion to principle stand in sharp contrast to today's pro athletes who seem more interested in corporate sponsorships and performance bonuses than in giving back to their communities. For Jackie Robinson, baseball was about more than individual statistics and lucrative contracts. It was about breaking down barriers and instilling others with a sense of hope.

Jackie Robinson's silence did not last forever, and his actions after retiring from baseball are often overlooked but

equally deserving of praise. Many would argue that, by integrating baseball, Jackie Robinson had done more for the cause of racial justice than any other individual of that era. But Jackie Robinson did not view his baseball career as the peak of his life, and his greatest contributions to American society may have come after his retirement.

Whereas his fame and wealth would have allowed him to enjoy a very comfortable retirement, Jackie Robinson remained committed to the fight against racism and social injustice until his death. He helped to establish the Freedom National Bank in Harlem, which provided loans to African-Americans trying to start their own businesses. He also founded his own construction company which built housing for low-income families in New York.

Jackie Robinson was also active politically. He spoke throughout the country in support of civil rights, participated in protest marches, and raised large sums of money for civil rights organizations. He also worked actively for several politicians who promoted the cause of racial equality.

Despite all the sacrifices in his life, Jackie Robinson always maintained that there was more work to be done. Hence, he entitled his autobiography, "I Never Had It Made." He wrote, "I am grateful for all the breaks and honors and opportunities I've had, but I always believe I won't have it made until the humblest black kid in the most remote backwoods of America has it made."

Unfortunately, 50 years after the fall of baseball's color barrier and 25 years after Jackie Robinson's death, America still has a long way to go if it hopes to ever meet Jackie Robinson's vision of what America should be. But while we still have not evolved into a society that is completely free from prejudice and social injustice, there are countless visible signs of Jackie Robinson's impact on this country.

Last week, we all witnessed a true testament to Jackie Robinson's legacy as we watched 21-year-old Tiger Woods become the first person of color to win the Masters—golf's most prestigious tournament. But perhaps the most encouraging aspect of Tiger Woods' performance came during his acceptance speech. Tiger Woods specifically credited Lee Elder, Charlie Sifford, and Teddy Rhodes, the first African-Americans to ever compete at Augusta, for opening doors for him. He acknowledged that, without the sacrifices of trailblazers like these men and Jackie Robinson, very few of today's minority athletes would know the success that they have grown accustomed to. This is why we must celebrate the achievements of Jackie Robinson and other pioneers, because the lessons that they taught us are as relevant today as they were decades ago, and we must heed their words and actions or we will cease to be a progressive society.

Tuesday night's event at Shea Stadium had many special moments, but

the most touching came when Rachel Robinson, Jackie's widow, spoke in honor of her husband, and the audience gave her the warm ovation that she so richly deserved. Her sacrifices were as great as her husband's, and too often we forget that Jackie Robinson, who was described as the loneliest man in sports, endured and prevailed only with the support of his partner Rachel, who was always by his side.

Rachel Robinson sacrificed her own personal aspirations during Jackie's playing career and dedicated herself to raising their children and supporting her husband. But upon their retirement to Connecticut, she earned her master's degree in psychiatric nursing at Yale. She later operated a day clinic for acutely ill psychiatric patients, taught at Yale's School of Nursing, and served as director of nursing for the Connecticut Mental Health Center. Despite her own personal success, Rachel Robinson again displayed tremendous selflessness after Jackie's death in 1972.

Upon his passing, it would have been easy for Rachel Robinson to continue the pursuit of her own career, but instead she gave up her medical career and dedicated her life to preserving the legacy of her husband. In 1973, she formed the Jackie Robinson Foundation, which has awarded more than 450 college scholarships to minority and disadvantaged students who have exhibited leadership potential and shown a commitment to community service. Throughout his life, Jackie Robinson always stressed the importance of education, and for a man whose life was dedicated to creating opportunities for others, providing young adults the chance to go to college is perhaps the most fitting tribute one could ever pay to this great man. I am proud to say that Rachel Robinson still resides in my home State of Connecticut, and we are truly fortunate to call her one of our own.

While many glorious words have been spoken in honor of Jackie Robinson, I truly believe that the greatest tribute that we could ever pay to this man would be through our actions. As Rachel Robinson eloquently said, "This anniversary * * * has given us an opportunity to reassess the challenges of the present. It is my passionate hope that we can take this reawakened feeling of unity and use it as a driving force so that each of us can recommit to equality of opportunity for all Americans." I hope that America will listen to the words of Rachel Robinson and work together to fulfill Jackie's and her dream.

America is a better place because of Jackie and Rachel Robinson, and I want to thank both of them for their courage and sacrifice.●

BABY TALK

● Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a group of citizens in Decatur, IL, who noticed a serious problem in their community, band-

ed together to develop a solution to this problem, and then saw this practical solution through with a strong sense of commitment and compassion.

All over this country, communities like Decatur are responding to the realization that the experiences of the earliest years of life have a powerful influence on how human beings develop. Research indicates that young children are developing brain patterns which will affect everything they do for the rest of their lives. The way they process information, the way they relate to other people, their abilities in every domain—these important human functions are being written on the minds of children at a time in their lives when basic needs often go unmet. We often realize the importance of this time only when it is too late to go back and fill in the gaps—when these children fail in school or commit a crime or become a burden to society.

The people of Decatur, IL realized that the most important resource every child must have is a loving adult who cares for them, understands their needs, and makes that child a priority. How can we encourage parents to nurture their own children? How can we take advantage of this wonderful window of opportunity for young children by making sure they are loved and encouraged to develop?

My friends in Decatur pondered these very questions in 1986 and the result is Baby Talk. Baby Talk is a community collaboration that reaches out to all parents of very young children and gives them the support that they need. This project is a joint effort of schools, hospitals, libraries, health clinics, Head Start, literacy projects, and local government. Baby Talk establishes a relationship with every family who has a newborn child in order to offer encouragement and support for the most important task they will ever undertake—raising a child.

Baby Talk delivers programs where parents and children already are. In this way, Baby Talk reaches the entire population of child raising families casting a net of support over the community. Every parent of a child born in one of Decatur's two hospitals, receives a personal visit from Baby Talk to learn about their newborn's abilities and needs. Parents receive a book and advice about how to read aloud with their child. They also receive a magnet with the Baby Talk telephone number to call for assistance.

Information about predictable challenges and encouragement for parents are provided at child clinics and through letters sent to families every 2 to 3 months through the child's first 3 years. "Baby Talk Times" and "Lapsit" groups meet weekly at many locations where parents and children play, sing, read books, and share their challenges and achievements.

Parents who did not finish high school participate in Baby Talk's Even Start program where comprehensive family literacy programming is offered

at the health department and Head Start.

Baby Talk makes 4,000 contacts monthly with parents and children of different backgrounds and income levels. Fortunately, this service does not exist only in Decatur. Professionals from 30 States and Canada have received training and materials from the Baby Talk organization to serve families in their communities.

Baby Talk has been recognized by the U.S. Department of Education for meeting Goal One of the America 2000 Strategy: "That by the year 2000, all children will start school ready to learn."

Recently, Baby Talk celebrated its 10th anniversary with the announcement that it has served the families of 20,000 babies. I would specifically like to commend the efforts of Claudia Quigg who was the initial pioneer of this effort and currently acts as Baby Talk's executive director. Through the efforts of Ms. Quigg and many other dedicated Baby Talk staff members, the city of Decatur is investing in its future and putting into practice their belief that a stitch in time saves nine.

We are looking forward to the years ahead when thousands of Baby Talk children grow up to be caring, successful, and productive citizens. I present Baby Talk as an example of what can be accomplished when a community pulls together and stays committed to an important goal. I am very proud to have this organization performing their good works in my State and I hope others can learn from the accomplishments that Baby Talk has had in Illinois.●

APPOINTMENTS BY THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to Senate Resolution 105, adopted April 13, 1989, as amended by Senate Resolution 280, adopted October 8, 1994, announces the following appointments and designations to the Senate Arms Control Observer Group:

The Senator from Alaska [Mr. STEVENS] as majority administrative co-chairman;

The Senator from South Carolina [Mr. THURMOND] and the Senator from Indiana [Mr. LUGAR] as cochairs for the majority;

The Senator from Rhode Island [Mr. CHAFEE];

The Senator from Mississippi [Mr. COCHRAN];

The Senator from North Carolina [Mr. HELMS];

The Senator from Arizona [Mr. KYL];

The Senator from Mississippi [Mr. LOTT];

The Senator from Oklahoma [Mr. NICKLES];

The Senator from New Hampshire [Mr. SMITH];

The Senator from Maine [Ms. SNOWE]; and

The Senator from Virginia [Mr. WARNER].