

Mr. President, tomorrow night, at a dinner in New York City, the International Midway Memorial Foundation, will celebrate the 90th birthday of Dick Best and honor him for his selfless and courageous conduct in the Battle of Midway. While I am unable to be present, I certainly extend my gratitude and respect for his incredible heroism that day.

HONORING THE DEDICATION OF RICE-TOTTEN STADIUM, MS VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I rise to recognize the importance of this weekend in my home State of Mississippi. On March 25th, Mississippi Valley State University (MVSU) will rededicate and rename its football complex. Formerly known as Magnolia Stadium, the Rice-Totten Stadium will honor two of MVSU's great athletes and two ambassadors for the Itta Bena school.

Jerry Rice is a legend—not only in Mississippi, but throughout the world. After completing an extraordinary career at Valley, Jerry went on to become the greatest professional wide receiver ever. During his time with the San Francisco 49ers, Jerry dazzled fans with his ability to make the impossible look easy, broke numerous NFL reception records, and led his team to multiple Super Bowl Championships.

Willie Totten is one of collegiate athletics's greatest competitors. From 1983-1986 Willie led Valley to the top of Division I-AA football. He also raised the bar by which all college offenses are now judged. Today, almost every college football team utilizes a strong pass-oriented offense game plan, but that hasn't always been the case. Football fans have Willie to thank for showing us how exciting passing over 50 times a game can be. Following a solid career with the Buffalo Bills, Willie served the future of competitive athletics as a college and high school coach.

I believe it's only fitting that MVSU recognize and honor Jerry Rice and Willie Totten for their accomplishments and achievements by naming Magnolia Stadium after them. Although I will not be able to attend the rededication ceremony, I wish MVSU, Jerry Rice, Willie Totten, their families, and those associated with the University they celebrate this occasion.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Wednesday, March 22, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,727,734,275,348.06 (Five trillion, seven hundred twenty-seven billion, seven hundred thirty-four million, two hundred seventy-five thousand, three hundred forty-eight dollars and six cents).

One year ago, March 22, 1999, the Federal debt stood at \$5,642,227,000,000 (Five trillion, six hundred forty-two billion, two hundred twenty-seven million).

Five years ago, March 22, 1995, the Federal debt stood at \$4,844,513,000,000 (Four trillion, eight hundred forty-four billion, five hundred thirteen million).

Ten years ago, March 22, 1990, the Federal debt stood at \$3,022,412,000,000 (Three trillion, twenty-two billion, four hundred twelve million).

Fifteen years ago, March 22, 1985, the Federal debt stood at \$1,708,934,000,000 (One trillion, seven hundred eight billion, nine hundred thirty-four million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$4 trillion—\$4,018,800,275,348.06 (Four trillion, eighteen billion, eight hundred million, two hundred seventy-five thousand, three hundred forty-eight dollars and six cents) during the past 15 years.

KEEP OUR PROMISES TO AMERICA'S MILITARY RETIREES ACT OF 2000

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I rise today in support of S. 2003, Keep our Promises to America's Military Retirees Act of 2000.

This is an important step in providing the men and women who serve our nation with a benefit our government promised them when they entered the military and, a promise that our government broke. It is our duty to restore these benefits.

There are still a few of us who serve in the Senate that wore our country's uniform in time of war and in time of peace that know of the hardships placed on the military people and their families. We also know, first-hand, of the promises made by our government to our service men and women. This bill is just a small step in restoring one of those most important promises—health care for military retirees. There are military retirees in my State of Montana that drive hundreds of miles to get their health care. There are some living a few miles from Malmstrom AFB, who cannot get an appointment on base. Mr. President, these are the folks that we promised to take care of if they spent 20 years of their lives defending our freedom.

We have a long way to go and much more to be done for our military personnel, active duty, retired, as well as our veterans. As chairman of the Appropriations subcommittee on Military Construction, I place a high priority on providing the active duty men and women and their families with adequate homes and facilities to work and live in. Mr. President, we have the best trained and the most highly educated military in the world—we must make a commitment to provide them with the tools necessary to do their jobs, with the salaries and benefits to recruit and retain them and with adequate homes and facilities to live and work. Just as these people honor their country with their commitment, this country must honor our commitment to them. With anything less, we lose these valuable people.

I encourage my colleagues to support S. 2003.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

DAY OF HONOR OBSERVANCE

• Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I rise today to wholeheartedly support a resolution to designate May 25 as "Day of Honor 2000," to recognize African American and other minorities who fought so valiantly during World War II. I would like to take this opportunity to encourage nationwide participation in this Day of Honor Observance.

African Americans and other minorities fought and died in World War II to protect the freedom and liberty that we so often take for granted. Too often during the war and in years since, these brave men and women were subjected to unfair discrimination and have never received the recognition they deserve.

In 1941, we lived in an era in which African Americans could not eat at a lunch room counter with others, or drink from the same water fountains. Yet, we felt no hesitation in asking these same Americans to fight for democracy. As a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, I see firsthand the sacrifices that our men and women in the armed forces make to preserve America's freedom. How much harder must it have been to make these same sacrifices fifty years ago. We owe them more than we can ever repay, and for this reason I wholeheartedly support a resolution and encourage nationwide participation in recognizing those African Americans who helped to preserve the liberty that has made our country great.

Pittsburgh will be joining cities across the nation who will host a "Day of Honor Observance" on March 15, 2000, as part of the effort to recognize these citizens to whom we owe so much. I will be participating in this observance and I encourage you to join me in honoring those who put their lives on the line so that we might be free.●

JOHN AND MICHAEL DONOGHUE—FATHER & SON NEW ENGLAND PRESS ASSOCIATION HALL OF FAMERS

• Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, today I am pleased to recognize two outstanding Vermont journalists, both affiliated with my alma mater, St. Michael's College, and both recently elected to the New England Press Association Hall of Fame. This prestigious honor recognizes lifetime achievements in journalism. I am well acquainted with the work of both, and know that this recognition is well deserved.

The late John D. Donoghue was the first Public Relations/Sports Information Director at St. Michael's, the first chairman of the Journalism Department there, was a music and arts critic for 35 years at the Burlington Free Press, and Executive Editor of the Vermont Catholic Tribune. During his

tenure as professor and journalist, John Donoghue worked through his association with the New England Press Association and Vermont Press Association to improve professionalism within the industry, and fought for the public's right to know. He was a trailblazer among journalists from my home state, and his legacy continues in Vermont, across the United States, and in the foreign press, through his students who have successfully pursued journalism careers.

Michael Donoghue has served Vermonters for three decades as a journalist at the Burlington Free Press, and in the tradition of his father, teaches journalism at St. Michael's College. During Mike's tenure at the Free Press, he has been at the center of efforts to improve reporters' access to information, thus increasing Vermonters' access to their government. Mike helped lead the effort to allow cameras into Vermont courts, was a leader in efforts to improve the Vermont Public Records Law, has successfully fought to keep court records open, and recently was one of four Americans invited to Ireland to make presentations on Freedom of Information after that country adopted such a law. He is a past President of the Vermont Press Association, and active in several national journalism organizations. At the Burlington Free Press, he has proven to be among Vermont's most versatile reporters, covering everything from sports to politics to the court beat with expertise.

In honor of this outstanding father and son duo, I ask that the article *Dedication Runs in the Family for Donoghues*, from the Saturday, February 12, issue of the New England Press Association Daily News, be printed in the RECORD.

[From the NEPA Daily News, Feb. 12, 2000]

DEDICATION RUNS IN THE FAMILY FOR
DONOGHUES

(By Jaclyn Tammaro)

They have always said "like father like son," and NEPA board member Mike Donoghue and his late father, John D. Donoghue, are a perfect example.

Both were honored by NEPA last night for their strong commitment and contributions to community journalism.

Mike Donoghue, who lives in Vermont, has written for the Burlington Free Press for 30 years, covering a variety of news. Recently, he began specializing in sports reporting.

In what Donoghue calls his "spare time," he teaches journalism classes at St. Michael's College in Vermont. In 10 of the 15 years he has taught there, he has been a co-adviser to the award-winning student newspaper, *The Defender*.

Aside from his work with NEPA, the Burlington Free Press and St. Michael's College, Donoghue has also served as an officer of the Vermont Press Association for 20 years, mainly pressing the issue of camera use in Vermont's courtrooms.

The last 13 years, he has taken the position of volunteer executive director. In this seat, he ran meetings and dealt with newspaper comments.

"I've tried to improve professionalism in Vermont and move it to the rest of New England" Donoghue said.

On a national level, Donoghue is state chairman of Project Sunshine, a society for professional journalists. As chairman, he has testified for the release of public records and has tried to improve various laws.

His job as journalism educator at St. Michael's College has allowed him to become a member of the Journalism Education Committee.

A member of NEPA since 1996, Donoghue has served as chairman of the Publications Committee, and has chaired the legislative and membership services committees.

"NEPA is a vital organization," he said. "Approximately 1,500 people come to Boston each winter to hear topnotch speakers and to see the best work in six neighboring states being honored. The convention is a tribute to the organization and a highlight of New England journalism each year."

Donoghue said he is strongly motivated by his wife, Ann Marie. "If it wasn't for her, I wouldn't be doing this," he said.

Donoghue shared some memories about the contributions of his father, John D. Donoghue. A former NEPA board member, John Donoghue was an arts and entertainment critic for the Burlington Free Press for 35 years. He also worked as an editor for the Vermont Catholic Tribune for four years, before retiring.

Involved in journalism education like his son, John Donoghue served as the first chairman of journalism at St. Michael's College.

Both father and son have shown a strong dedication to the field of journalism and their contributions have been recognized by NEPA's Hall of Fame.●

ANNIVERSARY OF JONESBORO
TRAGEDY

• Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, tomorrow, March 24, is the 2-year anniversary of the day on which Natalie Brooks, Paige Ann Herring, Stephanie Johnson, Britteny Varner, and Shannon Wright were the victims of senseless violence at the Westside Middle School in Jonesboro, AR. Today, I rise simply to offer my condolences to their families and friends and to the other victims of that tragedy. They are, and will continue to be, in my thoughts and prayers.●

COMMEMORATION OF GREEK
INDEPENDENCE

• Mr. REED. Mr. President, I am honored to rise today to acknowledge and celebrate the 179th anniversary of Greek Independence. On March 25, 1821, courageous Greeks, poorly armed but imbued with an ancient calling for democracy, initiated a revolution that would successfully end 400 years of oppression by the Ottoman Empire. I am proud to join my distinguished colleagues as a cosponsor of Senator SPEC-TER's Senate Resolution 251 which designates Saturday "Greek Independence Day: A National Day of Celebration of Greek and American Democracy."

The achievements of Greek civilization in art, architecture, science, philosophy, mathematics, and literature became legacies for succeeding generations living around the world. But it was the idea of democracy, born in Athens over two thousand five hundred years ago, that signaled the beginning

of a lasting revolution to which we as Americans are eternally grateful.

As citizens of the United States, we are proud to recognize the contributions of Greek culture in the creation of our great nation. The Founding Fathers, deeply inspired and influenced by Hellenic ideals, developed our representative democracy from the example of the ancient Greeks. As U.S. democracy flourished, its principles inspired citizens in other nations, sparking revolutions across time and space, from France in 1789 to Portugal in 1974.

As vital as the culture of ancient Greece was to the formation of our nation, modern Greek culture continues to enrich our society today. I can speak firsthand of the significant contributions that Greek-Americans make in my home state of Rhode Island. They serve our communities in many professions and continue to contribute to the state through their hard work and active citizenship.

Greece's commitment to democracy has been essential in fostering stability and supporting the ideals of freedom and equality among its neighbors in the Balkans and in the Mediterranean region. Today, the United States supports Greece in its call for fellowship and peace in the Balkan peninsula and on the divided island of Cyprus. I applaud the Greek people for their commitment to the protection of democratic principles in these regions.

Therefore, on the day marking the 179th anniversary of the revolution for independence, I congratulate all Greeks and Greek-Americans and express my appreciation for their contributions and those of their ancestors.●

IN RECOGNITION OF TC DRAYTON

• Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to recognize one of Charleston, South Carolina's finest and feistiest community activists, Thelma "TC" Drayton. People who have known my friend TC over the years will tell you that nothing, and I mean nothing, stands in her way in spurring the East Side community to action. Thanks in large part to TC's hurricane-force commitment, the at-risk neighborhood where she has lived for 53 years is cleaner, safer and more in control of its destiny. Last week, the community acknowledged her many contributions when Agape Ministries established the TC Drayton Award for volunteerism to be presented each year.

Volunteers in search of encouragement during tough times need look no further than TC's example. Like Charleston's East Side, which developers have begun to acquire an appetite for, TC Drayton is up against a formidable foe these days. She is fighting her battle against lung cancer with characteristic force and optimism. She hopes to retire from her job as community liaison with the city of Charleston and devote more time to volunteer