

Wisconsin Family Ties, a non-profit organization that provides information and support to families with children that have mental, emotional and behavioral disorders; as a board member of the Family Violence Center in Green Bay; and as a board member of Legal Services of Northeast Wisconsin, a non-profit organization that provides legal services for the poor.

I have every confidence that William Griesbach will serve with distinction on the Federal district court for the District of Wisconsin.

Mr. KOHL. Madam President, today is a proud day for the state of Wisconsin. For 10 years we have worked to establish the Green Bay judgeship that makes this day possible. And for far longer, Judge Griesbach has developed the ability, gained the experience and cultivated the temperament necessary to be the first Federal judge to sit in Green Bay.

We are confident that Judge Griesbach is the right man for the job. He possesses all the best-qualities that we look for in a judge: intelligence, diligence, humility, and integrity.

The Green Bay community has waited a long time for a Federal judge. When Judge Griesbach is sworn in we think they will find it was well worth the wait.

The lawyers who practice in front of Judge Griesbach agree. In a 1998 survey by the Green Bay News Chronicle, Brown County attorneys ranked Judge Griesbach as the best judge in the area. In fact, he was rated first in every category polled, including: temperament; fairness; legal scholarship; work habits; and decisiveness. That is quite a testament to his ability.

So, it came as no surprise that the bipartisan Wisconsin Federal Nominating Commission concluded that Judge Griesbach would make a fine Federal judge. For the past 23 years, Wisconsin has used a nominating commission to select candidates for the Federal bench. Through a great deal of cooperation and careful consideration, and by keeping politics to a minimum, we always find qualified candidates. Judge Griesbach's selection demonstrates that our process has succeeded once again.

The Commission's reasons for his recommendation became apparent when I met him for our interview. He was candid, humble, and thoughtful. He has impressed everyone. He also made a fine impression during his Senate Judiciary Committee hearing.

Judge Griesbach will inaugurate a tradition of fair and well-respected jurists in northeastern Wisconsin. I support Judge Griesbach's nomination and commend our colleagues for supporting this fine judge.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of William C. Griesbach, to be United States District Court Judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin? On this question, the yeas and nays have been ordered, and the clerk will call the roll.

Mr. NICKLES, I announce that the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 97, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 96 Ex.]

YEAS—97

Akaka	Durbin	McConnell
Allard	Edwards	Mikulski
Allen	Ensign	Miller
Baucus	Enzi	Murkowski
Bayh	Feingold	Murray
Bennett	Feinstein	Nelson (FL)
Biden	Fitzgerald	Nelson (NE)
Bingaman	Frist	Nickles
Bond	Graham	Reed
Boxer	Gramm	Reid
Breaux	Grassley	Roberts
Bunning	Gregg	Rockefeller
Burns	Hagel	Santorum
Byrd	Harkin	Sarbanes
Campbell	Hatch	Schumer
Cantwell	Hollings	Sessions
Carnahan	Hutchinson	Shelby
Carper	Hutchison	Smith (NH)
Chafee	Inouye	Smith (OR)
Cleland	Jeffords	Snowe
Clinton	Johnson	Specter
Cochran	Kennedy	Stabenow
Collins	Kerry	Stevens
Conrad	Kohl	Thomas
Corzine	Kyl	Thompson
Craig	Landrieu	Thurmond
Crapo	Leahy	Torricelli
Daschle	Levin	Voinovich
Dayton	Lieberman	Warner
DeWine	Lincoln	Wellstone
Dodd	Lott	Wyden
Domenici	Lugar	
Dorgan	McCain	

NOT VOTING—3

Brownback	Helms	Inhofe
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The nomination was confirmed.

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, I wanted to make note of a very important fact with regard to judicial nominations. With the confirmation now of the two judges tonight, we have reached an even 50 so far since we have become members of the majority. Forty-one district judges and nine circuit judges have now been confirmed. We have now exceeded the number of judges confirmed in the first year of the Reagan administration, the first Bush administration, and the Clinton administration. We have done that in 10 months, not 12. We will do much more over the course of the next 2 months, but I think it is a record of which we can be very proud. It is a record about which we feel very strongly. It is a record we said we would deliver when we became members of the majority. It is a record I think bears some attention, especially now that we have reached 50 confirmations in this relatively brief period of time.

I yield the floor.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will return to legislative session.

NATIONAL LABORATORIES PARTNERSHIP IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2001

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, I want to take a moment to congratulate, first, the extraordinary effort made by the Chair of the Energy Committee, Senator BINGAMAN. I think he has put more time on the floor in the last few weeks than anybody in recent times. Were it not for his patience and extraordinary willingness to work with all of us, we would not be celebrating the successful conclusion of this work today.

I know I speak for all Senators and congratulate him and commend him for the work and leadership he has shown and for the tremendous contributions he has made to public policy in energy today. I am grateful for his friendship, but I am especially appreciative of his leadership, and I think that ought to be recognized.

I also congratulate the ranking member, the Senator from Alaska, for his efforts as well. I know there may not be any more important legislation from the Senator from Alaska than this one. He has demonstrated a resolve and an extraordinary persistence, and were it not for his efforts and the work he has done, especially in recent weeks, we would not be here as well. So he also deserves special commendation and recognition for the remarkable job he has done.

Finally, as is the case in so many instances, the distinguished assistant Democratic leader deserves recognition. He does not like it when I do this, but I do think it is important for the historical record to note that his constant presence on the floor, his willingness to work with Senators in working through the amendment logjams on so many occasions was absolutely invaluable. So I thank him as well for his constant effort on the floor, but in particular on this bill.

I thank all of our colleagues, and I appreciate very much the work that has been done.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Madam President, before the majority leader leaves, let me return the compliment. This was the Daschle-Bingaman bill we passed in the Senate. It was his leadership that was absolutely essential in getting this to the floor and his continuing leadership in keeping it on the floor. He has devoted 6 weeks of Senate floor time to this bill, and at many crucial points he made absolutely essential decisions to get us to closure.

Let me also indicate what everyone in the Senate knows, and that is without the superb work that Senator REID, our assistant floor leader, does, without his tremendous effort, we could not possibly have completed this work. He was present every day, every hour, moving this bill forward, working with

Senators on both sides of the aisle. To the extent we have succeeded, he deserves the lion's share of the credit.

Let me also acknowledge the great work Senator MURKOWSKI has done. He has been committed to getting an energy bill through the Senate for a very long time. He had strongly held views on certain aspects of that bill, with which we are all familiar. He was very committed also, though, to work with those of us on this side of the aisle to see to it that we got a bill through the Senate. So I compliment him.

I did want to also thank and compliment the excellent staff we had on the Energy Committee. First, I thank Bob Simon, who is the staff director for the Democratic side in the Energy Committee. He did a superb job working on every aspect of this.

I have a long list of folks to thank. I will run through the list. I acknowledge the tremendous contribution each one has made: Vicky Thorne, who is central to our activity, John Watts, Bill Wicker, Patty Beneke, Jonathan Black, David Brooks, Shelley Brown, Mike Connor, Deborah Estes, Kira Finkler, Sam Fowler, Amanda Goldman, Leon Lowery, Jennifer Michael, Shirley Neff, Malini Sekhar. All of those staff people on our Energy Committee did an absolutely superb job. My personal staff, James Dennis, John Epstein, and John Kotek, all made a great contribution.

The floor staff the cloakroom staff did a tremendous job, Lula and Marty and all the others who have worked on this bill. They work day in and day out on the floor and do a superb job. I appreciate their good work.

Senator DASCHLE's staff, Eric Washburn, Peter Umhofer, and Senator REID's staff, Peter Arapis, all did a wonderful job, and I appreciate the good work. Those of us who are elected to these jobs get to take the credit, but we know who actually does the work.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Briefly, I note the contribution of our staff. As is always the case, we could not do what we do were it not for them. On this particular bill, I think their contribution will never be fully calculable, but it was invaluable. I thank our floor staff profusely for their effort. As Senator BINGAMAN noted, Eric Washburn from my staff has been a remarkable contributor to our effort. Were it not for his daily counsel, I would not have been able to accomplish what we have.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I thank the majority leader for his comments, and I thank my good friend Senator BINGAMAN. I think it is noteworthy that we are at the end of a long road towards a comprehensive energy policy. I, too, want to thank all of those who worked so tirelessly on the legislation that helped make this momentous achievement possible. I think it was nearly 7

weeks that we have been on this bill. We have lost a little track of time.

Indeed, the staffs of both the majority and the minority of the Energy Committee have done a tremendous job, and we owe them a debt of thanks. I think we have had over 400 amendments we have reviewed and dispensed with over the course of this period of time.

I, of course, thank my own team for their dedication and work. To those on the other side, I thank them as well for their work, their cooperation, their professionalism, and that of the professional staff. They can be very proud of their efforts.

I am appreciative of my relationship with Senator BINGAMAN and his commitment to proceed with this bill. He has truly proceeded as a gentleman during the debate.

I think the recognition of Senator REID is most noteworthy because Senator REID has been very cooperative in moving this process along, and Senator DASCHLE, without his overall support and commitment to stay with the bill, the bill may have been pulled at previous times or anywhere along the way. That was not the case. I think we both recognize that this bill came about in a rather unusual manner, but I think we worked diligently through the amendment process to come up with something of which we can be proud.

So I congratulate everyone on a job well done. I think it is fair to say that the passage of this bill culminates my almost 22 years in the Senate. It is not all I had wished for, but, by the same token, the glass is either half full or half empty. Today, as far as the Senator from Alaska is concerned, it is a little more than half full. Around here sometimes those are pretty good odds.

We did get the gas line provision in; we got a heavy oil provision, both of which are very important for my State as well. So as we look to the conference and the conferees, we look to proceeding with the work ahead.

I also thank the Republican leader, who has been with us in this entire matter. Senator LOTT, at the beginning of the 107th Congress, declared that getting an energy bill passed would be one of the Republicans' top five priorities. He stood by us side by side at the extended press conferences that we have had for over a year. He has always been supportive. Once the energy bill came to the floor this year, the leader established an energy task force and held daily meetings directing our efforts each morning at 9 a.m. I am not sure where we will go at 9 a.m., we are so programmed.

He promised, although we had reservations, it was our ticket to conference and we would work to improve it on the floor and get to conference. That is what has happened. Now, hopefully, the report will be forthcoming and we will get a bill to the President. We thank Senator LOTT for his leadership.

We made significant progress in many aspects. They speak for themselves: CAFE, electricity, renewables, and so forth.

I recognize the efforts of our Commander in Chief, President George W. Bush. Today is a great victory for George W. Bush and his programs. We all recognize the world is a different place today than it was when the effort started more than a year ago. We have seen the tragic events that reshaped our national focus. But we underscore the need for a national energy policy. Now more than ever we need an energy policy with solutions, solutions that begin at home.

The administration's national energy policy has served as a legislative blueprint for the energy debate that has taken place in the Congress. This is what we have had. We have had a committee process more or less on the floor of the Senate. We have made it work. Between the House-passed H.R. 4 and the Senate bill, nearly every one of the President's initiatives have been adopted. The President has been a true leader on this issue. Today marks a great victory for him. I am pleased to have been a part of this success.

Our work is not done. There is more to do. The Senate goes into conference with NASA programs dealing with ethanol, renewable portfolio standards, the Alaska gas issue, electricity, climate change, and ANWR is in the House bill. These provisions will have to be worked out in what will likely be a very difficult conference. We are up to the challenge and we look forward to working with our House Members and Chairman TAUZIN. I believe the House leadership and the administration certainly are up to it. Working with our colleagues on the other side, I think we can get a bill to the President this year.

In closing, remember, we must get a plan to the President not because it is the President's legislation or his priority, and not because it is the Senate's legislation or the Senate's priority, but because it is the people's priority. That is our obligation—reliable affordable energy supply that powers this Nation. It is up to us to deliver this comprehensive bill. Without such a stable energy supply, our security is threatened, whether it is economic security, personal security at home, at work, or our national security on the world stage. Energy means security.

I thank the staff director, Brian Malnak, for his tireless work; Jim Beirne, chief counsel; Bryan Hannegan, staff scientist. I thank staff assistants Dan Kish, Christine Drager, Mike Merge, Howard Useem, Colleen Deegan, David Woodruff, Joe Brenckle, Frank Gladics, Jack Phelps, Jim O'Toole, Josh Bowlen, Julia Gray, Shane Perkins, Jared Stubbs, Macy Bell, and Dick Bouts; our personal office staff: Alexander Polinsky, Joel Gilbertson, Chuck Kleeschulte, Charles Freeman, Isaac Edwards, Chris Eyler, Kristin Daimler, Julie Teer, Sarah Berk,

Carrie Lehman, and Jerry Ritter. They have done a magnificent job.

If I left anybody off the payroll, I apologize.

I congratulate my good friend, Senator BINGAMAN, and Senator REID for making this possible.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators allowed to speak for a period not to exceed 5 minutes each, with the exception of Senator BIDEN, who wishes to speak for 20 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Delaware.

SAUDI ARABIA

Mr. BIDEN. Madam President, today the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, Prince Abdullah, met with President Bush in Crawford, TX. Based on the reports from that meeting, there were several items on the agenda, one of which was the conflict between the Israelis and Palestinians, and the other was the nature of the Saudi-U.S. bilateral relationship.

A report this morning in the New York Times said that the Crown Prince intended to deliver a "blunt message" to President Bush. Apparently, a Saudi official indicated after that meeting that oil would not be used as a weapon. Earlier, an unnamed Saudi official said that we, the United States, may face a "strategic debacle" unless we alter our relationship with Israel.

There is nothing wrong with blunt messages and blunt talk between friends. I am confident the President of the United States was equally blunt in the message he delivered. No doubt the Crown Prince discussed ways to advance his initiative with regard to Israel, a breakthrough that I publicly stated several times in recent weeks has not been fully appreciated by the world.

The Saudis had endorsed unanimously at the Arab League meeting last month in Beirut a plan that holds out hope for normal peaceful relations between Arab States and Israel. However, laying down that plan is not enough. It is time for more mature leadership.

We have been asked by the rest of the world and the Crown Prince to take an active role in supporting this plan. That is fine. However, I add, I hope the President discussed what active role the Saudis should take in dealing with peace in the Middle East. When the Crown Prince goes home, what concrete steps will he take to move the process forward, to create a new environment that builds trust and hope for a political settlement?

I am troubled by the apparent disconnect between the initiatives for

peace taken by the Crown Prince and his nation and the contradictory behavior that is prevalent in Saudi Arabia and its policies. For example, in March the Saudi newspaper, Al-Riyadh, carried a vile, anti-Semitic article by someone claiming to be a professor. The article resurrected the centuries-old blood libel that civilized people would have thought was a thing of the past. This Saudi professor, in a leading Saudi newspaper, wrote for the Jewish holidays: "Blood must be taken from a non-Jew, dried, and mixed with dough to make pastries." It goes on to say that using human blood in pastries was a "well-established fact historically and legally throughout the history of mankind and that this was one of the main reasons for the persecution of Jews and the exile of Jews in Europe and Asia at different times."

Finally, the article says: "The needles enter the body extremely slowly causing immense pain that gives the Jewish vampires extreme pleasure and they closely monitor this bloodletting in detail with pleasure and enjoyment that is beyond comprehension."

That is printed in a leading Saudi newspaper. The editor of that paper says that he was out of town when this article appeared, and later wrote that it was unworthy of publication.

Forgive me if I have a hard time believing that the article simply slipped through the cracks and that it was a fluke. I can believe many things about Saudi Arabia, but freedom of the press is not one of them. This article was published because no one who saw it believed that it contained anything offensive or untrue.

Imagine the outrage in Riyadh, in Cairo, in Amman, in the United Nations, and elsewhere if a Jewish professor published an article in an American paper saying that Muslim holiday feasts were prepared with the blood of ritualistically sacrificed Jews? Can anyone imagine what the Saudis would expect of the President of the United States, what the Saudis and the rest of the civilized world would rightly expect of all United States Senators who had nothing to do with it being published, but saw it published? The civilized world would demand of us, as they would have a right to, that we, the leaders of this country, stand up one at a time and disavow these vile, vile diatribes.

What did people expect of us, and what did our President do, when a group of mostly Saudi citizens killed thousands of Americans on the 11th? The President did the right thing. He stood up and he said: This is not about Saudi Arabia, this is not about Muslims. He did the right thing.

I wonder what would have happened had it been the reverse. I wonder what would happen.

It is time for some mature leadership here. It is not enough just to lay down a good plan—and it is a good plan the Saudi Crown Prince laid down and which was adopted in Beirut. What

would the Saudis expect us to say, though, were the roles reversed? What action would they demand of the President if in fact such vile lies were printed about Muslims and Saudis in an American paper? And what would the rest of the world have us say about such slander, in a country where there is freedom of the press, the United States?

Another example of this disconnect that baffles me is the recent telethon, ordered by King Fahd, which, according to press reports, raised over \$85 million for families of so-called Palestinian martyrs. According to the Saudi Government, these people are defined as people "victimized by Israeli terror and violence." But in the common parlance of the region, this term often refers to suicide bombers.

In the aftermath of September 11, in which 15 Saudis engaged in the most deadly suicide attacks in history, one would hope the Saudi Government might think twice before offering financial incentives for so-called martyrdom.

Imagine if the President of the United States and the Members of the Congress contributed to a telethon for someone who walked into a hotel in Riyadh and killed 100 Muslims. What would we say? What would we be expected to say? What would we think? What would happen if the President of the United States said: We condemn it, but we understand the frustration of the Saudi people, in having no democracy? We understand the frustration of the Jewish people, being victims of suicide bombing? It would be an outrage, an outrage. And the whole world would say: Where is the moral leadership of the United States?

But the Saudi support for the cult of martyrdom is not restricted to offering financial incentives. Recently the Saudi Ambassador to the United Kingdom wrote a poem entitled "The Martyrs." The poem appeared in Arabic language newspapers and praised Palestinian suicide bombers, particularly a young deranged Palestinian woman from a refugee camp who killed herself and two Israelis on March 29. The Ambassador refers to her as "the bride of loftiness."

This is written by the Saudi Ambassador to the United Kingdom.

She embraces death with a smile
while the leaders are running away from death . . .

He goes on to say:

We complained to the idols of a white house
whose heart is filled with darkness.

Given the opportunity to renounce this poem, a Saudi spokesman said on United States television:

The ambassador is a very well known poet . . . he was expressing the anger and frustration people feel.

Give me a break. That is not good enough. I personally met with this spokesman, who is a fine man. I expected more from a man as educated and sophisticated as Mr. Al-Jubeir. If an American diplomat wrote a poem—