

Qosh hosted the championship soccer tournament of the season. For the event, army engineers cleared an area adjacent to the orphanage to create a soccer field.

Seven teams from around the region, along with their families, gathered at the new field, cheering and blowing kazooes as the Screaming Eagles faced off against the Iraqi Sharafeya team. The Screaming Eagles won 2 to 1, and the crowd of spectators ran onto the field with cheers and laughter.

Among the happy fans were children from the orphanage wearing personalized soccer uniforms. Earlier in the summer, the 101st had given each child their own soccer uniform with the child's name printed across the back, and "Screaming Eagles" in Arabic emblazoned across the front. I suspect those uniforms will be treasured for years to come, and that is what this struggle is all about—the years to come. We have undertaken an extraordinary task to change the course of history, to bring peace and democracy to Iraq. We know that democracies do not export terror. Tyrannies do. So, we have toppled a despotic, terror-sponsoring regime and set out to transform a brutalized nation.

It is an ambitious undertaking worthy of a great country. America is a great country, and through the noble efforts of men and women like those of the 101st, Iraq is on the road to freedom.

Not too long ago, President Bush signed the historic \$87 billion wartime supplemental that will help the Iraqis realize their dream. He also gave a very important speech to remind us of the fundamental nature of democracy, and America's role in the world.

He said:

The advance of freedom is the calling of our time; it is the calling of our country. We believe that freedom is not for us alone, it is the right and the capacity of all mankind. The establishment of a free Iraq in the heart of the Middle East will be a watershed event in the global revolution.

President Bush has set a brave and courageous course. And I am confident that twenty years from now, Iraqis will fondly recall moments, like the Al Qosh championship soccer match of 2003, with the special pride of having been there when the liberation came.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

VISION 100—CENTURY OF AVIATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT—CONFERENCE REPORT

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate

proceed to consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2115, the Century of Aviation Reauthorization Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2115), to amend title 49, United States Code, to reauthorize programs for the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes, having met, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate and agree to the same with an amendment and the Senate agree to the same, signed by a majority of the conferees on the part of both Houses.

(The text of the Conference Report is printed in the proceedings of the House in the RECORD of October 29, 2003.)

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. FRIST. To my understanding, we are unable to reach a time agreement on this conference report. I now send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to report the motion to invoke cloture on the conference report to accompany H.R. 2115, the Vision 100—Century of Aviation Reauthorization Act.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the conference report to accompany H.R. 2115, the Flight 100—Century of Aviation Reauthorization Act.

Bill Frist, John McCain, Conrad Burns, Ben Nighthorse Campbell, A. Wayne Allard, Jeff Sessions, M. Crapo, Larry E. Craig, Kay Bailey Hutchison, John E. Sununu, George Allen, Saxby Chambliss, Rick Santorum, Norm Coleman, Craig Thomas, Pat Roberts, Trent Lott.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The minority leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, if I could just intercede for a moment, I have been discussing this matter with the distinguished majority leader. It is regrettable that, at least at this point, we have not reached a time agreement on the FAA conference report. A lot of work has gone into the bill on both sides. A lot of negotiation has gone into the conference agreement itself.

Because there is no public assurance on the part of the administration that they are not prepared to at least examine the impact of privatization, we are unable to reach agreement with regard to the time on the FAA conference report at this time. I am still hopeful that perhaps before the time we reach the cloture vote, the scheduled time for the cloture vote on Monday, the administration will at least give additional thought to a proposal that has been made now on both sides of the

aisle that they simply join with us in examining more carefully the implications of privatization prior to the time it is decided.

A 1-year moratorium, an examination of the ramifications of privatization is what we are seeking. With that assurance I think we could get a vote of 100 to 0, perhaps, on this bill. I am very hopeful that is still within the realm of possibility. If it were not for that, I think we would have agreement this afternoon. So I only note that, given the fact that we still have time before next Monday to come to some agreement with regard to how to proceed on privatization.

I thank the majority leader for his intervention. I will await further word. I yield the floor.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, the Democratic leader and I were just talking about that prior to my taking the floor. I will discuss this with the appropriate people, as well as Senator LOTT, who has worked very hard on the conference report.

Mr. DASCHLE. I thank the majority leader.

Mr. FRIST. I now ask, notwithstanding rule XXII, this vote occur at 5:30 on Monday, and that the time from 4:30 to 5:30 be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees for debate prior to the vote. Finally, I ask the quorum under rule XXII be waived.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to executive session for the consideration of Calendar Nos. 237 and 238, en bloc.

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

The nominations will be stated.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Thomas C. Dorr, of Iowa, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Thomas C. Dorr, of Iowa, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

CLOTURE MOTIONS

Mr. FRIST. This nomination was reported by the Agriculture Committee on June 18. We have been unable to reach a consent on its consideration. Therefore, I send two cloture motions to the desk and ask they be reported consecutively.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motions having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motions.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the

Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on Executive Calendar No. 237, the nomination of Thomas Dorr to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development:

Bill Frist, Thad Cochran, Saxby Chambliss, Rick Santorum, Norm Coleman, Craig Thomas, Jeff Sessions, Pat Roberts, Kay Bailey Hutchison, George V. Voinovich, Charles Grassley, Wayne Allard, Michael B. Enzi, Elizabeth Dole, John E. Sununu, Sam Brownback, John Warner.

CLOTURE MOTION

We the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on Executive Calendar No. 238, the nomination of Thomas C. Dorr, of Iowa, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation:

Bill Frist, Thad Cochran, Norm Coleman, Charles Grassley, Wayne Allard, Jim Bunning, Conrad Burns, Mitch McConnell, John Cornyn, Lamar Alexander, Larry Craig, Richard G. Lugar, Peter Fitzgerald, George Allen, Don Nickles, John Ensign, James M. Inhofe.

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

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

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate immediately proceed to the consideration of the following nomination on today's Executive Calendar: Calendar No. 461. I further ask unanimous consent that the nomination be confirmed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then return to legislative session.

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

The nomination was considered and confirmed as follows:

Zalmay Khalilzad, of Maryland, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will return to Legislative Session.

ADOPTION INCENTIVES REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2003

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Finance Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3182 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title. The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3182) to reauthorize the adoption incentive payments program under part E of title IV of the Social Security Act, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, today, the Senate is taking bipartisan action to pass the Adoption Promotion Act of 2003, which will extend and improve the adoption bonuses created as part of the 1997 Adoption and Safe Families Act. For many years, the Senate has taken a bipartisan approach to adoption and child welfare policy. I am very proud to be one of the lead advocates for this legislation that rewards states which promote adoption and invest in child welfare.

Throughout this year, a bipartisan group, led by Finance Chairman GRASSLEY met to forge consensus on extending the adoption incentives, and doing more to focus attention on the needs of older children. President Bush highlighted the need to do more to promote adoptions for children nine years old or older, and Congress agreed. The list of cosponsors, including Senators LANDRIEU, BUNNING, CRAIG, BAUCUS, DEWINE, LEVIN, INHOFE, NELSON, LINCOLN, CLINTON, and JEFFORDS, demonstrates the broad coalition that can be achieved when we take a bipartisan approach.

As I noted, our legislation builds on the foundation set with the 1997 Adoption and Safe Families Act. Since its passage, adoptions from foster care have nearly doubled nationwide and over 900 West Virginia children have a permanent home. By extending and expanding this law, we hope to continue to promote permanent homes, and place a new focus on older children.

Despite our success in recent years, across this nation 126,000 children are waiting to be adopted. Children over the age of 9 represent almost half of the children awaiting adoption yet these children spend the most time in the system and have a difficult time finding permanent homes. The Adoption Promotion Act of 2003 will especially help these children by offering incentives to states that successfully place older children in adoptive homes.

This bill rewards states for moving children into permanent homes from the foster care system and further rewards states for moving special needs, and older children from foster care to permanent placements. This bill is particularly important for my state. In West Virginia, over 70 percent of the children in foster care are over age 9. This act will help older children find much needed, permanent homes.

This legislation is a positive way we can strengthen our child welfare system, but we also know that more must be done to help vulnerable children. The bipartisan spirit that helped ensure this legislation passage is the same spirit needed to deal with the rest of the child welfare system as we continue to push the basic goal of a child's health and safety being paramount, and every child finding a permanent home.

Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Mr. President, I rise today in support of H.R.

3182, legislation to reauthorize the adoption incentive program. I would like to thank Senator GRASSLEY for his leadership on this issue. He has been a friend to American families for his entire tenure in this body and his work has made it even easier for more families to come together through adoption.

As an adoptive parent myself, I know firsthand how adoption can complete a family and how it can give new beginnings to both adoptive parents and children. And as a member of the Adoption Caucus, I have worked to make it easier for other families to experience the joy my family did through adoption.

This legislation will help that process by removing financial obstacles to adopting a child. As anyone who has been through an adoption knows, it can often be a very long, expensive process and for some families; the costs are so high as to be prohibitive. This legislation will help ensure that a family is not prevented from adopting a child simply because of the high costs involved.

The Adoption Incentives Program has already had been a tremendous success. Now this reauthorized and amended version of the program can help even more children and families for years to come. I stand wholeheartedly behind the goals of this bill and I look forward to working with Senator GRASSLEY on this issue again in the future.

ABUSED AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN

Mrs. CLINTON. Mr. President, first I want to thank Senator GRASSLEY for the leadership that he has shown in addressing the needs of abused and neglected children. Together with Senator LANDRIEU and Senator BUNNING, Senator GRASSLEY has worked tirelessly and I know that this work comes from the heart. It is not an issue that gets in the headlines unless something goes wrong. It's an issue that one champions only because he or she cares. I also want to acknowledge the longstanding commitment of my friend Senator ROCKEFELLER who is well known as the greatest ally of needy children in this esteemed body.

Mr. GRASSLEY. I too want to thank Senator LANDRIEU, and I would like to recognize Senator BUNNING's efforts on this legislation.

Today we are passing the Adoption Incentives Reauthorization Act of 2003. It is particularly appropriate that we are doing so during National Adoption Month. Since the original Adoption Incentives Act was passed in 1997, the number of adoptions has doubled in 33 states. I am proud of this achievement and pleased that we are today continuing the authorization of this effective program.

Mrs. CLINTON. I too am pleased to reach this milestone. When my husband and I worked to establish the program in 1997, we hoped that this program would become half the success that it has. My husband set a goal of