

soldiers. She recently said, "Sometimes it can be monotonous stuff, but if we're talking about nuclear, biological, and chemical gear and we go to war, then this is pretty important stuff."

While the Army recognizes the dedicated efforts of Ms. Bright, her award should also serve to acknowledge the vital role that all civilian employees play in our Nation's defense. As we continue to keep our soldiers deployed all around the world in our thoughts and prayers, I rise to also thank the thousands of civilian employees like Ms. Bright who also serve our Nation.

I congratulate Ms. Bright on her tremendous service to the soldiers of Fort Knox, the entire Army and our great Nation. Thank you, Jeannie.●

CELEBRATION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF MICHIGAN AFSCME COUNCIL 25, AFL-CIO

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, today I commemorate the Michigan American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFSCME, Council 25, AFL-CIO for 25 years of dedication to State and local government employees. On March 14, 2003, members and supporters of Michigan AFSCME Council 25 will gather to celebrate the commitment this organization has shown and the support it has provided to working families in my home State of Michigan.

For over six decades, AFSCME and its members have worked to combat adversity in the workplace. What began as an effort to save civil service jobs expanded to become an adaptive and dynamic collective bargaining organization. AFSCME has thrived throughout its history by creatively meeting the difficult challenges that it and its members have faced. Today, the organization is a national leader among organized labor movements.

For the past quarter century, Michigan AFSCME Council 25 has represented and advocated for public employees throughout Michigan. The organization's membership includes employees of State, county, and municipal governments, school districts, public hospitals, and nonprofit agencies. Since the formation of Michigan AFSCME Council 25 by special convention in March of 1978, it has been a strong force dedicated to improving working conditions and advocating for its members.

Today, Michigan AFSCME Council 25 represents over 60,000 public employees and is organized into more than 300 local unions. Workers of virtually all public service occupations find a specialized voice within AFSCME. Because of the unwavering dedication that Michigan AFSCME Council 25 has shown to its community, working families and public employees have seen their working conditions improve and their voices heard.

I know that my Senate colleagues will join me in offering our congratula-

tions to Michigan AFSCME Council 25 and its members as they celebrate their 25 years of unwavering support for Michigan's working families.●

MONTE MADNESS

● Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise today to express a little home State pride. It was described as "Monte Madness."

For months, Montanans logged on to the Internet to cast their votes. Billboards hailed his name. Communities rallied around him. Montana's political leaders backed him. And our State beamed with pride on January 1 when the University of Montana's Monte the Grizzly was crowned Capital One National Mascot of the Year.

For the first time, mascots across the country competed in an online election for the right to represent their school in national competition. Monte faced stiff competition from mascots like Penn State's Nittany Lion and the University of Florida's Albert the Gator. In the end, Monte won the distinguished title, earning the UM mascot program \$10,000 and a lot of national exposure.

Monte is known for his athletic prowess, his slick dance moves, and his knack for firing up Griz fans. It's easy to understand why Missoula Mayor Mike Kadas declared February 1 as Monte Day.

The highflying mascot is an unsung hero of the University of Montana and a valuable member of the Missoula community. There is no doubt Monte is the hardest working mascot in collegiate athletics. He deserves the national recognition. He is the most spirited, most athletic, hardest hitting, best crowd surfing mascot ever to grace a college campus.

I endorsed Monte during his election because he is a mascot for the right reasons—to win ball games and boost Montana athletics.

But Monte is not only a Montana treasure on the field, he is committed to giving back to our communities. Monte often attends parades, community events, and gives his time to help others. He donated \$1,000 he received from the national exposure to Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Missoula.

Monte makes us all very proud to be Montanans. May he wear his crown for all to see and ride his Griz-colored Harley for many years to come.●

CARROLL COLLEGE

● Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the Carroll College Saints football team and to congratulate them on their NAIA National Championship.

As you can see, Montana has much to be proud of.

Carroll College is a 4-year college located in Helena, MT, and was ranked as the fourth best western regional comprehensive college by U.S. News and World Report.

In a game that became part of Montana sports legend, the Carroll Saints crushed their opponent, the two-time defending national champion Georgetown Tigers 28-7. The Saints pounded the Tigers in Tennessee and the echoes reached living rooms throughout Montana. We love football in Montana and the Saints gave us a team to be proud to cheer for and follow.

Although the game was magical, magic played no part in the Saints' success. Teamwork, amazing leadership from Coach Mike Van Diest, and hard work, in the weight room, on the field, and in the classroom, led this group of honorable young men through a solid season and an incredible string of playoff games.

Montana's college football teams recruit heavily from the state and many Montanan seniors led this legendary team. Darold Debolt from Great Falls, Casey Fitzsimmons from Chester, Nick Garreffa from Billings, Chris Jones from Helena, Luke Lagomasino from Lincoln, Shane Larson from Miles City, Tyler Maxwell from Helena, Cory Perzinski from Billings, Nick Porrini from Helena, and Heath Wall from Belt, all played their part in creating the unity and teamwork that this team displayed throughout the season.

The National Champion Saints' provided inspiration to all who followed them.●

HONORING THE LIFE OF JACK WALDROUP, SR.

● Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life of a fellow Hoosier and a dear friend, Jack G. Waldroup, Sr., who passed away on March 9, 2003.

Those of us who knew Jack were touched by his kind heart and generous spirit. His life was the embodiment of values Americans have cherished since the founding of our democracy: civic involvement, active political participation, and public service.

Jack loved Indiana. Throughout his days, he always remained close to his beloved home of Knox County. Jack graduated from Oaktown High School in 1946 and then spent time working on his family farm. He also served his community as a Chief Deputy in the Knox County Sheriff's Department. Soon after, Jack assumed his longtime position as a contract administrative assistant at United Engineers and Architects.

Jack's service to his party never faltered, and he became known in Indiana as "Mr. Democrat." Jack served ably as Knox County Democrat Chairman from 1970 to 1984, helping to cultivate and guide countless careers in public service. He could always be counted on for sound advice, and you could be sure he would give it to you straight—without any sugar coating. Jack's keen understanding of the political process coupled with his loyalty and honest advice led him to become a fixture in statewide Indiana politics, and a must-

see for anyone seriously seeking to serve in public office.

Over the years, many leaders came to rely on Jack's wisdom and guidance. His good judgment and invaluable counsel was always appreciated and will be greatly missed.

When we reflect upon the lives of men such as Jack Waldroup, Sr., we are reminded that we live in a country where the true power to shape the destiny of government is vested in the people. We will all miss Jack deeply, but his memory will serve as a beacon and his life as an example of the virtues of civic involvement. He was my friend, and I shall miss him.●

HONORING HAYS HIGH SCHOOL

● Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate some hard-working students who are paying attention to a neglected area of all of our education—our own history and founding.

Fortunately, there are programs such as "We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution program," which is the most extensive educational program in the country, and was developed specifically to educate young people about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. This program, which is administered by the Center for Civic Education and funded by the U.S. Department of Education by act of Congress, finally addresses this woeful lack of knowledge in a systematic and thorough way.

In fact, on April 26, 2003, more than 1,200 students from across the United States will visit Washington, D.C., to compete in the national finals of the "We the People" program. What an experience!

I am especially proud to announce that the class from Hays High School from the town of Hays will represent my home State of Kansas in this national event. These young scholars have worked diligently to reach the national finals by participating at local and statewide competitions. As a result of their experience, they have gained much—including a deep knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles and values of our constitutional democracy.

The three-day "We the People" national competition is difficult, yet true to life as it is modeled after hearings in the United States Congress. These hearings consist of oral presentations by high school students before a panel of adult judges on constitutional topics. The students are given an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge while they evaluate, take, and defend positions on relevant historical and contemporary issues. Their testimony is followed by a period of questioning by the judges who probe the students' depth of understanding and ability to apply their constitutional knowledge.

The "We the People" program—which provides curricular materials at upper elementary, middle, and high school levels—not only enhances stu-

dents' understanding of the institutions of American constitutional democracy, but it also helps them identify the contemporary relevance of the Constitution and Bill of Rights. At the same time, critical thinking exercises, problem-solving activities, and cooperative learning techniques help develop participatory skills necessary for students to become active, responsible citizens.

Independent studies done by groups as diverse as the Educational Testing Service, Richard Brody at Stanford University, and researchers at the Council for Basic Education discovered that participants outperform comparison students, develop a greater commitment to democratic principles and values and are more enthusiastic about their work. Clearly this is a deserving program!

The class from Hays High School is currently preparing for their participation in the national competition in Washington, D.C. It is inspiring to see these young people advocate the fundamental ideals and principles of our government, ideas that identify us as a people and bind us together as a nation. It is important for future generations to understand these values and principles which we hold as standards in our endeavor to preserve and realize the promise of our constitutional democracy. I wish these young "constitutional experts" the best of luck at the "We the People" national finals.●

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

● Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, today, with great admiration and as a proud alumnus, I congratulate the University of Wisconsin in Madison men's basketball team for their victory over the University of Illinois this week. This victory allowed the Badgers to claim the Big Ten conference title outright for the first time since 1947. As a lifelong Badger, I am proud of their accomplishment and I look forward to their play in the postseason.

In this, the 105th season of men's basketball at UW-Madison, the players and the coaching staff won their first consecutive conference crown since the 1923 and 1924 seasons. For the second year in a row, Badger basketball has made the people in Madison and around Wisconsin and the country proud to be Badgers. With this win, Coach Bo Ryan becomes only the third coach in Big Ten history to win titles in his first two seasons as coach. With this championship, UW-Madison continues its long tradition of dominance in Big Ten athletics.

As a graduate of UW-Madison, I take great pride in commending our men's basketball team, and I wish Coach Ryan and his Badger team all the best in postseason play. Wisconsin is behind you, and we wish you all the luck. Go Badgers.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

REPORT PROVIDING A PLAN FOR SECURING NUCLEAR WEAPONS, MATERIAL, AND EXPERTISE OF THE STATES OF THE FORMER SOVIET UNION AND REPORTS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THAT PLAN DURING FISCAL YEAR 2002—PM 22

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 1205 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002 (Public Law 107-107) and section 1205 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2003 (Public Law 107-314), I am providing a report prepared by my Administration which presents a plan for securing nuclear weapons, material, and expertise of the states of the Former Soviet Union and reports on implementation of that plan during Fiscal Year 2002.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 11, 2003.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-1496. A communication from the Acting Deputy Principal Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Rubber Tire Manufacturing (FRL 7463-2)" received on March 6, 2003; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1497. A communication from the Acting Deputy Principal Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Surface Coating of Metal Furniture (FRL 7462-1)" received on March 6, 2003; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1498. A communication from the Acting Deputy Principal Associate Administrator,