

volunteered to bring hope and life to those in the most desperate corners of the globe.

Mr. Timm has built both a local and national reputation as an effective advocate and distinguished public servant who is a true friend to the poor and vulnerable. This year, Mr. Timm will retire from professional service, ending his distinguished career as the Executive Director of the Oregon Primary Care Association. He will be sorely missed. But given his record of valuable service, I'm confident he will continue to make a difference for Oregonians.

I salute Ian Timm for his record of accomplishment and tremendous legacy of healthy Oregon children and families. He is the definition of a Health Care Hero and an example of compassionate service for all of us here in Congress and across America.

We in the U.S. Senate have a moral obligation to follow Ian Timm's example. In so doing, the 108th Congress can leave its own legacy of healthy children and families. Cover the Uninsured week lasts only 7 days, but I urge my colleagues to continue their personal commitment to this issue throughout their time in public office and beyond. Only with this type of dedication can we truly keep America healthy.

UH-60 BLACKHAWK CRASH AT FORT DRUM, NEW YORK

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I rise today to mourn the loss of 11 brave soldiers killed in a UH-60 Blackhawk crash on the afternoon of Tuesday, March 11, at Fort Drum, New York. This tragic accident occurred as the unit was conducting a routine training exercise. One of the young men on board, Pfc. Stryder O. Stoutenburg, was from Missoula, MT. He was only 18 and was assigned to Charlie Company, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment.

The other 10 young men killed are: Cpt. Christopher E. Britton, 27, from Ohio, assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 10th Aviation Regiment.

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Kenneth L. Miller, 35, from California, assigned to Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion, 10th Aviation Regiment.

Staff Sgt. Brian Pavlich, 25, from Port Jervis, NY, assigned to Charlie Company, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment.

Sgt. John L. Eichenlaub, Jr., 24, from South Williamsport, PA, assigned to Charlie Company, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment.

Sgt. Joshua M. Harapko, 23, from Peoria, AZ, assigned to Charlie Company, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment.

Spc. Lucas V. Tripp, 23, from Aurora, CO, assigned to Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion, 10th Aviation Regiment.

Spc. Barry M. Stephens, 20, from Pinson, AL, assigned to Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion, 10th Aviation Regiment.

Pfc. Shawn A. Mayerscik, 22, from Oil City, PA, assigned to Charlie Com-

pany, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment.

Pfc. Tommy C. Young, 20, from Knoxville, TN, assigned to Charlie Company, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment.

Pfc. Andrew D. Stevens, 20, from Rockingham, NH, assigned to Charlie Company, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment.

In addition, two young men were seriously injured—Spc. Dmitri Petrov and Spc. Edwin A. Mejia, both from Charlie Company, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment.

Each and every one of these young men was a patriot and served their country bravely. My thoughts and prayers go out to the families of these boys. While the cause of the accident remains under investigation, I have asked to be kept informed of any and all developments and am confident that a thorough examination will be conducted.

Our brave military men and women fully know the risk they take in doing their duty and they meet this risk head on, to ensure that the rest of us continue to live with freedom. Tragic accidents such as this one truly remind us all of the high price of freedom.

I will continue working with my colleagues to make sure our troops have the best equipment, instruction, and supplies to ensure their safety not only on the battlefield, but in training exercises as well. May God bless the young soldiers who died training to defend the values of this great Nation.

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE PANTHERS' WELL-PRACTICED TRADITION

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, today I want to bring to the Senate's attention a group of student athletes in Vermont who have an unusual and admirable tradition. For the past 42 years, Middlebury College freshman have helped a Middlebury man with a disability make it to football and basketball games like clockwork. It is another example where students' education extends far beyond the walls of a college classroom.

In the March 10, 2003, issue of Sports Illustrated, well-known sports columnist Rick Reilly took a moment to explain the tradition to his readers. Middlebury College has long been recognized as one of the Nation's finest institutions of higher education. The quality of its faculty, the rigors of coursework, stunning facilities, and the success of its athletic programs are the foundation for Middlebury's storied history and academic reputation. Yet it also is what goes unnoticed that makes this truly a special place—like a tradition that takes place right before the start of every football and basketball game. It is a tradition that has come to exemplify what it means to be a Middlebury College Panther, a Vermonter, and a person in full.

For the past 42 years, the freshman members of the Middlebury College

football and basketball teams have been going to Butch Varno's house before the start of the game and literally giving him a lift. Mr. Varno, who from infancy has contended with cerebral palsy, is confined to a wheelchair and does not drive. On game day, he anticipates the arrival of a small band of Panthers for a ride to the game, which includes lifting Mr. Varno out of bed and getting him to the bleachers.

We in Vermont are proud of the student athletes who make this happen before each game. Whether they know it or not, they represent the very best of our Nation's college students. They are learning, playing hard and, most importantly, caring for others in their community.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of Rick Reilly's column be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From Sports Illustrated, Mar. 10, 2003]

EXTRA CREDIT

(By Rick Reilly)

The best college tradition is not dotting the i at Ohio State. It's not stealing the goat from Navy. Or waving the wheat at Kansas.

It's Picking Up Butch at Middlebury (Vt.) College.

For 42 years Middlebury freshman athletes have been Picking Up Butch for football and basketball games. It's a sign-up sheet thing. Carry the ball bags. Gather all the towels. Pick Up Butch.

Basketball players, men and women, do it during football season. Football players do it during basketball season. Two hours before each home game, two freshmen grab whatever car they can get and drive a mile off campus to the tiny house where 54-year-old Butch Varno lives with his 73-year-old mother, Helen, who never got her driver's license. And they literally Pick Up Butch, 5'3" and 170 pounds, right off his bed.

They put him in his wheelchair and push him out of the house, or one guy hauls him in a fireman's carry. They pile him into the car, cram the wheelchair into the trunk, take him to the game and roll him to his spot in the mezzanine for football games or at the end of the bench for basketball.

Butch always smiles and says the same thing from the bottom of his heart: "CP just sucks." Cerebral palsy. While his fondest dream has always been to play basketball, it'll never happen. There is little that he can physically do for himself.

"At first, you're a little nervous; you're like, I don't know," says freshman wide receiver Ryan Armstrong. "But the older guys say, 'We did it when we were freshmen. Now you go get him. It's tradition.' So me and my buddy got him the first week. He's pretty heavy. We bumped his head a couple of times getting him into the car. He's like, 'Hey! Be careful!' But he loves getting out so much that afterward you feel good. It's fun to put a smile like that on somebody's face."

And the kids don't just Pick Up Butch. They also Keep Butch Company. Take Butch to the Bathroom. Feed Butch. "He always likes a hot dog and a Coke," says 6'8" Clark Read, 19, a power forward. "It's kind of weird at first, sticking a hot dog in his mouth. The trick is to throw out the last bite so he doesn't get your fingers."

Thanks to 42 years of freshmen, Butch hardly ever misses a Middlebury game. Not that he hasn't been late.

"One day this year, the two guys were calling me on their cell," says Armstrong, "and

they're going, 'We can't find Butch!' And I'm like, 'You lost Butch? How can you lose Butch?' Turns out they just couldn't find his house."

Nobody at Middlebury remembers quite how Picking Up Butch got started, but Butch does. It was 1961. He was 13, and his grandmother, a housekeeper at the dorms, wheeled him to a football game. It started snowing halfway through, and afterward she couldn't push him all the way back home. A student named Roger Ralph asked them if they needed a ride. Ever since then, Butch has been buried in the middle of Middlebury sports.

Sometimes he gives the basketball team a pregame speech, which is usually, "I love you guys." He holds the game ball during warmups and at halftime until the refs need it. He is held upright for the national anthem. Once in a while, just before tip-off, they put him in the middle of the players' huddle, where they all touch his head and holler, "One, two, three, together!" When the action gets tense, the freshmen hold his hands to keep them from flailing. After the games some of the players come back to the court and help him shuffle a few steps for exercise, until he collapses back in his chair, exhausted. Then it's home again, Butch chirping all the way.

And it's not just the athletes at Middlebury who attend to him. Butch is a campus project. Students come by the house and help him nearly every day. Over the years they taught him to read, and then last year they helped him get his GED. Somebody got him a graduation cap and gown to wear at the party they threw in his honor. During his thank-you speech, Butch wept.

"These kids care what happens to me," Butch says. "They don't have to, but they do. I don't know where I'd be without them. Probably in an institution."

But that's not the question. The question is, Where would they be without Butch?

"It makes you think," says Armstrong. "We're all young athletes. Going to a game or playing in a game, we take it for granted. But then you go Pick Up Butch, and I don't know, it makes you feel blessed."

Now comes the worst time of the year—the months between the end of the basketball season, last week, and the start of football in August. "It stinks," Butch says. He sits at home lonely day after day, watching nothing but Boston Red Sox games on TV, waiting for the calendar pages to turn to the days when he can be one, two, three, together again with the students he loves.

On that day the door will swing open, and standing there, young and strong, will be two freshmen. And, really, just seeing them is what Picking Up Butch is all about.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REGARDING THE RETIREMENT OF TALBERT O. SHAW AS PRESIDENT OF SHAW UNIVERSITY

• Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. President, I am pleased today to pay tribute to a remarkable North Carolinian, Talbert O. Shaw.

Dr. Shaw is retiring this year as president of Shaw University after a groundbreaking 15 years in which he helped this noble institution regain its footing and once again become a beacon of knowledge, opportunity and service for the people of North Carolina and beyond.

Dr. Shaw was born in Jamaica, the ninth of 10 children. He served as a

minister in Jamaica and the Bahamas before moving to the U.S. in the 1950s. After earning his master's degree and doctorate in ethics from the University of Chicago, Dr. Shaw taught religion and ethics for 10 years before becoming interim dean of the Howard University Divinity School in Washington D.C. He then served as dean of arts and sciences at Morgan State University for 11 years.

Dr. Shaw left his comfortable position at Morgan to heed an urgent call from Shaw University, the oldest historically black university in the South. The University had fallen on hard times and was in dire financial trouble. The school had no endowment, there was not enough money to pay day-to-day expenses. Enrollment was down. No one would have blamed him if he had passed up this challenge. But he didn't pass it up—he took it on.

Rallying students, faculty, and the community with his slogan "Strides to Excellence: Why Not the Best," Dr. Shaw worked tirelessly to turn around the school's fortunes. And thanks to his leadership, Shaw University is once again a shining light. Enrollment is up, debts are paid and the endowment is now \$15 million. Seventy percent of the faculty have Ph.Ds. Because of his belief that "education of the heart is just as important as the education of the heads and hands," he has incorporated values and ethics into the Shaw curriculum. Thanks to the efforts of Dr. Shaw and his outstanding faculty and staff, Shaw students are receiving an education second to none.

Dr. Shaw has also found time to contribute to the community. Among other things, he serves on the board of the Wade Edwards Learning Laboratory, an after-school program that my wife and I started and has offered invaluable service to the young people we serve.

We are sorry to see Dr. Shaw leave but we in North Carolina wish him and his wife, Marlene, many, many years of happiness and health as they take on future challenges together.

In striving for excellence, Dr. Shaw asked, "why not the best?" Fortunately, that's just what he gave us. Thank you, Dr. Shaw, for a job well done. You are an inspiration to us all.●

COMMENDING THE HUMANITARIAN WORK OF JOHN VAN HENGEL

• Mr. McCAIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a great American, a man whose tireless efforts on behalf of needy people everywhere are an inspiration to us all. February 21 of this year marked the 80th birthday of my constituent, John van Hengel, who has become known as the "Father of Food Banking." His vision for feeding the hungry and his work making that vision a reality has made a tremendous difference in the lives of millions of people.

John van Hengel's work is a testament to the ability of one person to

change the world for the better. In 1965, John was a businessman who volunteered some of his spare time to the St. Vincent de Paul Society in Phoenix, AZ. In the course of his volunteer work, John saw there was a need for additional food for the Society's soup kitchen. In the course of his work, John met a woman who had to collect food from grocery store garbage bins to feed her 10 children. That needy mother told John that there should be a place where surplus food could be stored and available to people who needed it, instead of being thrown out and wasted. As he looked around for ways to better serve the needy people he met, John noticed that fruit was being left unpicked on suburban backyard trees around Phoenix. John recruited volunteers to gather fruit that remained in area fields after harvesting. He then delivered these much needed fruits and vegetables to various local churches. With John's leadership, one of the Nation's first "gleaning" projects became a reality.

John recruited the local grocery stores and asked them to donate surplus food. John also approached his local church, and the church responded by loaning John \$3,000 and an abandoned building. In 1967, John van Hengel founded the world's first food bank, named St. Mary's in honor of the church that housed it. Thus was born the first food bank and the concept of food banking—a central source for food donations and distribution to a wide range of local charitable agencies that feed the hungry.

After the creation of the St. Mary's Food Bank, John founded Second Harvest in 1976. With the help of private donations and State and Federal grants, John helped to set up and develop Second Harvest food banks in other nearby communities in Arizona, California, and other States. The success of these new food banks led to Second Harvest becoming formally incorporated in 1979. Today, it is known as America's Second Harvest, the Nation's largest hunger relief charity and a nationwide network of more than 200 regional food banks and good rescue organizations that provide food and other services to more than 50,000 local charitable agencies.

In 1982, John van Hengel stepped down from his full-time role at Second Harvest to pursue his work of spreading food banking internationally. In 1984, John van Hengel founded Food Banking, Inc., a nonprofit food bank consulting organization. John helped spread the notion of food banking and volunteerism in an international capacity, first in Canada through the creation of the Canadian Association of Food Banks, then to France, and to Belgium. Today, the Federation of European Food Banks meets regularly to discuss experiences and ways to expand the work of its members. Recently, the idea of food banking has spread to Brazil, Israel, Mexico, and Japan. John van Hengel's vision, first articulated