

AMERICAN LEGION SENIOR BASEBALL TEAM PADUCAH POST 31

• Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, today I honor Paducah Post 31 American Legion Senior Baseball Team, of Paducah, Kentucky for making it to the American Legion World Series. In December 19, 2004 this team will be gathering to award each team member the World Series Ring to Commemorate their accomplishments. I congratulate the Paducah post 31 American Legion Senior Baseball Team on their accomplishments and look forward to seeing their continued success in the future.

This band of gifted athletes and team players has consistently fielded team after team in their region. Their competition was intense and they have distinguished themselves just as much by their own skill, as by the skill of those they defeated. They began their season as just one team among 5,400 others from all over the United States and Puerto Rico competing to be in the American Legion World Series. They ended it as one of eight teams from all over the United States and Puerto Rico, that actually did compete in the American Legion World Series.

As a baseball player I am especially proud of the accomplishments of this team from my own State of Kentucky. I know what it means to have played the good game, fought the good fight and won. The feeling that you have done the right thing by trying your hardest is payback enough. But Post 31's baseball team did that and much more, they not only tried their hardest, they also made it to the American Legion World Series.

I am proud of a team that when it does its best, makes it all the way to the World Series Eight. That is a great accomplishment of which they too should be proud.●

IN RECOGNITION OF ADMIRAL RICHARD TRULY

• Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, in January the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden, CO, will have to say goodbye to the man who has been their director since 1997. Admiral Richard Truly has brought a great deal to NREL and I would like to take a moment to recognize him for his many impressive achievements, and to thank him for his service to NREL, to Colorado, and to the Nation.

Admiral Truly has a biography that is as diverse as it is interesting. For many being the director of a national lab, and managing an annual research budget of about \$200 million, would be the crowning highlight of a career. And such may be the case for Admiral Truly. But with all of the other experiences he has had, there would be tough competition.

If you ask the Admiral how he first became interested in the issue of energy and technology development the story would probably start something like, "when I was orbiting Earth in the

space shuttle . . ." Few people have had the experience of orbiting the Earth, and that experience has obviously widened the field of how he views problems. One often hears him relate the fact that seeing the Earth from space helped him to see that issues that may seem isolated to a distinct region, are really the results of a larger global challenge.

Admiral Truly piloted the Space Shuttle *Columbia* in 1981 and commanded the *Challenger* in August and September, 1983. He left to become the first commander of Naval Space Command in 1983, and served as the Administrator of NASA from 1989 to 1992, under the first President Bush. After the tragic *Challenger* accident, he led the accident investigation and was vital in rebuilding the Space Shuttle program. He also won the approval of President Reagan and Congress to build *Endeavor*, which replaced the *Challenger*. Under his direction NASA finalized plans for building the Space Station and implemented a number of streamlining reforms.

During Admiral Truly's tenure at NREL there have been many strides and innovations in the research done there. In the last 7 years the scientists at NREL have been able to improve wind technology, the fastest growing source of electric energy; increase the efficiency, and decrease the cost of solar energy; and advance the technology of bio-energy, which converts plant and animal waste to energy. These technological advancements provide great benefits to our economy, while also benefiting the environment.

However, the economy and the environment are not the only beneficiaries of Truly's work. Because he has helped NREL to become one of the premier research laboratories in the world, Colorado is the home to world-class scientists and researchers. Coloradans have a direct exposure to the newest, most up-to-date technology in the renewable industry. Numerous individuals, businesses and communities have benefited from partnerships with NREL which have produced new technological processes. Admiral Truly was instrumental in leading the lab down the path of success.

He has been the recipient of numerous awards, including the Presidential Citizen's Medal which was awarded by President Reagan in 1989. But one can see the personal side of Admiral Truly when he is around his staff, and others in the community. He is an unassuming and sincere person, with a ready smile for everyone he sees. He has a real instinct for what is best for the institution, but seems to balance that with what is best for the individuals. He also gives much of his time to community activities. In Colorado he has been an active advocate for the scientific and academic communities, and is a member of the Colorado Governor's Commission on Science and Technology, The Regis University Board of Trustees, and the Advisory Board to

the Colorado School of Mines Board of Trustees. He has also served on the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory Advisory Council, the Board of Visitors to the U.S. Naval Academy, the Defense Policy Board and the Army Science Board.

As I close, I wish to extend my thanks, but also the thanks of the people of Colorado and the Nation. Admiral Truly has given a large part of his life to public service and helping to better the world around him. I congratulate him on his retirement after a long and prosperous career, and wish him luck and happiness as he embarks on the next phase of his life.●

HONORING THE LIFE OF MILTON D. STEWART

• Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to pay tribute to a champion of this Nation's small businesses and to honor the work, dedication and life of Milton D. Stewart, the first Chief Counsel for the Office of Advocacy at the U.S. Small Business Administration. Mr. Stewart passed away at the age of 82, following an extensive and diverse career that included entrepreneurship, government, service to small businesses, law, journalism, and academia.

One of the most highly successful innovations of the House and Senate Small Business Committees came with the creation of the Office of Advocacy within the Small Business Administration. This office was established to represent and advance small business interests before other Federal agencies and the Congress. Congress recognized the importance of small business to the competitiveness of the American economy and understood that government sometimes can get in the way of small businesses doing what they do best—creating jobs.

Over the years, the Office of Advocacy has had a great deal of success and its hand has been strengthened by further congressional action, such as the Regulatory Flexibility Act in 1980 and the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act in 1996. The actions of the office have resulted in billions of dollars in regulatory cost savings for small entities, reducing barriers to market entry and promoting entrepreneurship.

This success is due in no small part to the solid beginnings of the Office of Advocacy under the leadership and through the vision of the very first Chief Counsel for Advocacy, Milton D. Stewart. Milt, in his tenure as Chief Counsel from 1978 to 1981, laid the groundwork for the Regulatory Flexibility Act, the first White House Conference on Small Business, the Small Business Innovation Development Act, and many other initiatives that are now considered part of the core small business policies within this country.

Formerly a small business owner and financier, Milt brought a level of commitment and passion for fostering the

entrepreneurial spirit. Early in his life, in a family-owned small business begun and managed by his parents, he acquired great respect for the skill and courage of small business entrepreneurs. During his tenure in service to small businesses, Milt served as President of the National Small Business Association, the National Association of Small Business Investment Companies and the Small Business High Technology Institute.

Milt also had significant government service beginning with the Office of War Information during World War II. He also served as special counsel to Governor Harriman of New York and to the New York State Thruway Authority, a Presidential delegate to the second White House Conference in 1986 and Special Counsel to the third White House Conference Commission in 1995. While he was Chief Counsel, his charisma and vision inspired many of those who worked with him and helped develop sound small business policy for our Nation.

His involvement in and dedication to the small business community has made a difference in the lives of millions of entrepreneurs. Thanks to him, small firms now have a greater voice in the creation and implementation of the regulations that govern the way they do business. His family and friends can take pride in that legacy and in Milt's tremendous public service.

My condolences go out to his wife, Joan, and to his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren on their loss. Together, we mourn the departure of a great man who embodied the American entrepreneurial spirit. He will be greatly missed.●

NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY

● Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I wish to recognize National Adoption Day which is this Saturday, November 20. National Adoption Day is a collaborative effort to raise awareness about the thousands of children in foster care waiting to be adopted. There are an estimated 542,000 children in foster care in the United States, and over 126,000 of them are waiting to be adopted.

This day is meant to celebrate and honor all those loving parents who adopt children and to bring attention to the children in foster care waiting to be adopted. On Saturday, an unprecedented number of courts throughout the nation will finalize the adoption of thousands of children from foster care. For the last 4 years, local adoption agencies, courts, and advocacy organizations have come together on National Adoption Day to help children in need of a permanent home.

The number of children in foster care has nearly doubled since 1987, and the average time a child remains in foster care is 3 years. Sadly, almost 20,000 children in foster care age out of the system each year without ever being placed with a permanent family. If only one out of every 500 Americans

adopted, all foster children would be placed in homes.

As a father of two adopted children, I know the love and joy that comes from adoption. I commend the National Adoption Day partners for their efforts and their dedication in working toward a day when all children will have a permanent, loving family to call their own.●

WHRI-AM AND WRHM-FM

● Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize WHRI-AM and WRHM-FM for their combined 100 years of service to Rock Hill, York County, and the State of South Carolina.

WHRI first signed on the air in the Rock Hill community in December 1944. During its 60-year history, the station has remained dedicated to providing quality programming and has been a committed partner in community development.

WHRI operates under a principle established by its founder, Jim Beaty: "Never underestimate the audience." In doing so, the station provides coverage of local and national news, sports, and events.

WHRI remains an active participant in the community, the station and its staff contribute time and talent to numerous service projects. One of WHRI's greatest success stories has been their involvement with the Shrine Bowl. When this all-star football game featuring high school athletes from North and South Carolina came to Rock Hill in 2001 there were only a handful of stations that carried the game. Three years later the network has been expanded to 50 stations. This increased exposure has also helped bring greater awareness to the cause of the Shriners and helped them raise additional funds for their hospitals.

WHRI has remained dedicated to serving the community in which they live. In keeping with their commitment to service, WHRI purchased WRHM in 1987. WRHM signed on the air in Lancaster more than 40 years ago in July 1964. After a 3-year station upgrade in the late 1980's, WRHM grew to serve a large region of South Carolina. Today, WRHM is broadcast to more than 15 counties in North and South Carolina, and continues the same tradition of excellence and regional service inspired by the success of their sister station.

I wish WHRI and WRHM continued success for years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO BOB AND BETH KENNETT

● Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I would like to commend the work of Bob and Beth Kennett. The Kennett's own the Liberty Hill Farm in Rochester, VT, where Beth runs a bed and breakfast on the farm, and Bob oversees the dairy operation of 70 cows. The Kennett's

demonstrate to their guests that dairy farming in Vermont is more than a job or an industry; it's a way of life. Vermont's landscape is defined by the green pastures and silos that dot the hills. Our agricultural economy depends on the hundreds of millions of dollars dairy farmers bring to the State every year. Through the Kennett's combination of agri-tourism and dairying they are helping to ensure farming is not only a part of Vermont's past, but a vital part of Vermont's future.

I ask that a recent article about the Kennett's be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows:

[From the Burlington Free Press]

JUST ASKING TO SURVIVE

(By Erin Kelly)

Twenty-five years after they bought their small dairy farm in Vermont's picturesque White River valley, Bob and Beth Kennett find themselves alone.

"When we moved here, there were 11 farms shipping milk," said Beth Kennett, who helps her husband run a farm of 70 milk cows in Rochester, VT. "We are now the last dairy farm in our valley."

Small dairy farms like the Kennetts' are disappearing throughout America. In the last half-century, the percentage of U.S. farms with milk cows has plunged from nearly 62 percent in 1954 to 4 percent in 2002, according to the Department of Agriculture.

Farmers say that number will keep dropping if a federal dairy subsidy expires as scheduled in October 2005.

At stake for the farmers is a way of life that in many cases dates back generations. Suburbanites and urban dwellers also have something to lose, farmers warn.

If the farms go, their green pastures will be replaced with shopping malls and housing tracts. Fresh milk produced locally could be replaced by milk shipped by tanker truck thousands of miles from mega-dairy farms in the West.

"The consumer is not going to benefit if all the milk is produced in just a few places," Beth Kennett said. "Why not have local milk for local markets?"

Small dairy farmers won a victory last month when the Senate Appropriations Committee approved a plan to extend the federal dairy subsidy to at least 2007, when it could be renewed again as part of a new farm bill. The plan, pushed by Sens. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt.; Herb Kohl, D-Wis.; and Arlen Specter, R-Pa., still must be approved by the full Congress.

An effort to attach the subsidy to a Homeland Security bill failed this past weekend, but lawmakers vowed to try again this year.

The subsidy, which has cost taxpayers about \$2 billion since its passage in 2002, sends payments to dairy farmers whenever the price of milk drops below a certain level, basically guaranteeing farmers a minimum price. Small farmers, those with about 130 cows or fewer, benefit most.

While some are pushing for the short-term extension of a tax subsidy for dairy farmers, other dairy state lawmakers want a different, long-term solution one that could raise the price of a gallon of milk for consumers.

Instead of a taxpayer subsidy, the National Dairy Equity Act would require milk processors to pay farmers a minimum price for their milk.

If the proposal becomes law, consumers could pay as much as 20 cents more per gallon of whole milk, warns the International Dairy Foods Association, which represents