

following year I was through a 3-year course in less than 2 years. But I couldn't keep up with John. He was in a bigger rush, passing the bar exam before graduation, teaching at the university and forming a law partnership.

I used to kid him that I was catching up when in one election he was running for the State Senate and I was running for Lieutenant Governor. I carried Kershaw County by 1,200 votes and he became the Kershaw County Senator by three. John was more or less my lawyer when I was Governor. As a young Governor I needed help. My strong suit was that I knew the general assembly intimately, having been the presiding officer in both houses, so I had a three-man committee in the house with Floyd Spence, Rex Carter and Bob McNair, and a three-man committee on the senate side with Billy Goldberg, Marshall Parker and John West. West was astute and could immediately point the conflicts in a different way to get things done. This house-senate group would, off the record, vet all of my initiatives. Working together, most all of them got done and not a single veto was overridden in that 4-year period.

When West ran for Governor, South Carolina faced its toughest and most heated political choice. The school discrimination decision had hit with full force and so had racial politics. The school busses were being overturned. I had already been elected twice to the U.S. Senate and so I could give my schoolhood friend some help. South Carolina was lucky that John West became the Governor. He didn't mind using his political capital to get things done. John moved immediately to set a course for racial harmony in South Carolina with the appointment of James Clyburn as the head of the Human Relations Committee. The Clyburn decisions on the most sensitive situations had the full force and support of Governor West. A new day and a new direction for the State was set. The same was true with labor. A flood of industry had commenced by 1971 and the resistance of national labor was hitting the work force and communities of the State. Again, Governor West responded with the appointment of Ed McGowan, backing him up 100 percent. In the field of mental health, Governor West again set the tone and direction of mental illness treatment in South Carolina. Working with his brilliant wife, Lois, the cottage system in mental health clinics was launched, which today still makes South Carolina a forerunner in mental illness treatment.

But I guess it was John's appointment as Ambassador to Saudi Arabia that brought out the unique combination of personality and brilliance. I know the Arabs I—invaded Algeria and Tunisia in World War II and the tribal way of life was next to impossible. To form national policy and protect the United States interests with one of these countries isn't easy. The King-

dom felt that not only was John West close to President Carter, but he was almost family. He handled the knottiest problems with the greatest of ease. I used to kid him on several occasions, as he handled difficult problems, that that was the Arab blood in him.

At the end of all these important political offices John didn't retire. He maintained a vital interest in everything effecting the State of South Carolina. Like me, many would continue to call on him to see what John thought about a situation and he readily gave of his time and leadership. He had instituted a Chair in International Studies at the Citadel, continued to instruct political science at the University of South Carolina and on national problems was always conversant and wise. Many at home didn't realize the events of Washington, but John was my best read friend as well as my best friend. The truth is, he is the best friend that South Carolina ever had.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

CLINT D. FERRIN, U.S. ARMY

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, some ask what is the hardest duty that a Senator faces. This is that task. Today, I rise with heavy heart to pay tribute to another son of Utah who has made the ultimate sacrifice so that others may be free. This patriot's name was SSG Clint Ferrin, he was a member of the elite, the 82nd Airborne Division. To all that knew him he exceeded, in every way, his division's motto: He was truly an "All American."

We, the citizens of the State of Utah, had the privilege of knowing Sergeant Ferrin as he grew up in Garland and Ogden. His commitment to service started at a young age when he became an Eagle Scout. That commitment to service, to helping others and truly making a difference was reflected in his choice to become a soldier. But he was not just a soldier, he was a paratrooper, knowing full well that when a challenge faced our Nation he would be one of the first to be called. This was reflected in where he served: Afghanistan, Kosovo, Bosnia, Africa, and finally Iraq.

These will be trying times for his wife, his son, age 7, and his daughter, age 3. But they should know this: though we can do little to alleviate your loss, we will always honor Sergeant Ferrin, he was a true "All-American" and a hero when his Nation needed them most.

And so, another name has been added to Utah's List of Honor: SSG Clint D. Ferrin of the Army's 82 Airborne Division. His name and the service he performed is something that I shall never forget. I shall always honor him and his family.

RICHARD BRIAN WILSON

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a departing staff

member who has worked with me in my Washington office for the last 5 years. Richard Brian Wilson, who has served as my legislative assistant, is departing my staff this week to return home to Mississippi. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank him for his dedicated serve and to wish him the very best as he pursues new career opportunities.

Those who know Brian know of his keen interest in State and local politics. A native of Macon, MS, he has been involved in politics since high school. In fact, his fellow staff members have jokingly referred to him as a "walking encyclopedia of Mississippi politics." I have no doubt this expertise will serve him well as he returns home to Mississippi.

Brian graduated from the University of Mississippi in 1998 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and History. Throughout his tenure at Ole Miss he was involved in numerous extracurricular activities where his leadership abilities became apparent. For instance, he served as Vice President of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, Student Body Vice President, and Student Body Senator. In recognition of his contributions to the university, I understand Brian was once named Student Body Senator of the Year. He also spent a great deal of time during his college years volunteering on political campaigns throughout the State.

During the fall of 1998, Brian served as an intern in the district office of Congressman Chip Pickering. Immediately following his internship, in January 1999, Brian came to work for me in my Washington office. Throughout his service on my staff, Brian has grown in his ability to help me service my constituents and address a wide variety of needs and issues for Mississippians. He has handled issues ranging from appropriations to homeland defense, as well as environment and public works, agriculture, natural resources and interior, small business, rural development, and Indian affairs. Through his work on appropriations bills, such as Energy and Water Development, Agriculture, Interior, and VA-HUD, Brian has helped me steer millions of dollars in Federal funding to large and small communities all across Mississippi. In the process, we have improved infrastructure, created hope and opportunity in communities where none existed before, and provided a better quality of life for Mississippians throughout the State.

For example, Brian has helped me secure Federal funds to improve water and wastewater systems in areas of Mississippi, such as DeSoto County, Jackson County, Fayette County, the city of Gulfport, Hancock County, and Madison County. He has worked to improve the infrastructure at our State's ports including the Port of Pascagoula and the State port at Gulfport. He was instrumental in helping me secure the initial funding for an environmental

infrastructure pilot program in Mississippi which has since helped fund numerous environmental infrastructure projects around the State. Brian also worked to help me secure the final funding necessary to complete construction of a new Federal courthouse in Gulfport. Of course, one of the things of which I know he is most proud is our work to help his hometown, the city of Macon. Through expansion of their water and sewer systems and a new multi-purpose facility to be constructed, we have begun to bring hope to this poverty-stricken area of our State.

Brian is truly one of those unique individuals who has a thirst for knowledge about the issue areas he is assigned. He has spend countless hours over the past 5 years reading news articles, books, papers, academic journals, and industry publications to keep himself apprised of the latest events, issues and concerns relative to his assigned issues. In fact, I would venture to guess that he knows as much as just about anyone with regard to the many historic properties and places in Mississippi that he has worked hard to help me protect and provide resources for. Properties such as the Battle of Corinth Interpretive Center in northeast Mississippi, L.Q.C. Lamar's home in Oxford, and General Pemberton's headquarters at Vicksburg are just a few of those.

Although Brian is leaving Washington, I have no doubt the knowledge he has gained through his work here will serve him well in his new capacity as Special Assistant to the Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources. In this position, Brian will serve as liaison for the Department with the Federal and State legislatures, as well as local governments throughout Mississippi and particularly along our Gulf Coast.

While we all certainly will miss Brian, I know he is looking forward to returning to our home State and particularly to the warm climate of the Mississippi Gulf Coast. And although fresh seafood, the warm gulf climate, and unlimited fishing opportunities certainly justify Brian's move home, I know this move was compelled by his desire to be closer to family and friends, particularly his younger sister in whom he has expressed enormous pride throughout his stay in Washington.

I wish to thank Brian for 5 years of dedicated service to me and to the people of Mississippi. I wish him the absolute best in this transition and in all of his future endeavors.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2003

• Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. On May 1, 2003, Sen-

ator KENNEDY and I introduced the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act, a bill that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

On April, 2000, in Keene, NH, a 19-year-old was sentenced to 3 years of probation for carving antigay epithets into a student's back the preceding year.

I believe that Government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act is a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.●

DR. NORMAN BORLAUG

• Mr. BOND. Mr. President, it is my distinct privilege to rise today to pay special tribute to the one of the world's foremost physiologists, Dr. Norman Borlaug. Dr. Borlaug is widely credited as the father of the 1960s Green Revolution, a movement that has continued to cure hundreds of millions of people around the globe from starvation. It is very likely that Dr. Borlaug is directly responsible for saving more lives than anyone else in the twentieth century.

Born in Cresco, IA on March 25, 1914, Dr. Borlaug was raised on livestock farm before attending the University of Minnesota as a biology student and a member of the University's wrestling team. After graduation, in addition to being inducted to the University's Hall of Fame for his wrestling record, Dr. Borlaug carefully balanced teaching while successfully working on the development of several new strains of disease-resistant wheat. The new strand of wheat went on to be widely utilized in Mexico, Pakistan, and India and led to dramatic increases in food production, in turn earning Dr. Borlaug the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970. The Dallas Morning News attests his lifelong dedication to physiology to growing up among the food shortages of the Great Depression: "The sight of farm failures, sheriff's sales and hungry children would stay with him and influence his choices for the rest of his life." Dr. Borlaug added in his own words, "I saw all that unfold. And I think that had something to do with how things turned out."

Dr. Borlaug has certainly earned the right to slow down after his many years of hard work, but he continues, even at age 90, to be a leader in the development and implementation of new technologies, in effect, ensuring the world's most needy adequate food supplies. He often travels to Asia and Africa, Europe and Latin America to help the public understand the value and potential of new biotechnology, while respecting and preserving the environment. In addition to his efforts globally, Dr. Borlaug is helping farmers make a living by leading the fight

against wealthy and well-fed anti-technology protectionists in Europe.

Some would rest after a Nobel Peace Prize and many others would certainly take the opportunity to reward themselves and their family—deservedly—by answering lucrative offers from the private sector. In a world where 800 million children are hungry and even more live on less than one dollar a day, Dr. Borlaug has never stopped fighting, teaching, inventing, or caring. It is clear that Dr. Borlaug is inspired by the rewards his efforts yield for others.

Missouri's renowned plant scientist, George Washington Carver words are appropriate when used to describe Dr. Borlaug: "No individual has any right to come into the world and go out of it without leaving behind him distinct and legitimate reasons for having passed through it." So very few of a talented world, billions strong, have met this test to the extent that Dr. Borlaug has. He has selflessly and tirelessly developed his gifts from God on behalf of millions and billions of desperate people he does not know, and who will never know whom to thank.

I also thank Mrs. Borlaug and the rest of the Borlaug family, on the behalf of the people of the State of Missouri, America, and throughout the world, for sharing Norman's attention for all these years.

Dr. Borlaug will soon gain status as the world's youngest 90 year old. I speak for all in thanking him for his lifelong dedication to agriculture and I sincerely wish him a happy birthday. The world owes Dr. Borlaug endless amounts of gratitude and we will look forward to celebrating his achievements again on his 100th birthday.●

NATIONAL AGRICULTURE WEEK

• Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, in my home State of South Dakota and across America, hardworking men and women tirelessly contribute to the production of our Nation's food supply. These men and women consistently preserve the safety and wholesomeness of the commodities they produce, ensuring America's food security and contributing substantially to our overall well-being. During National Agriculture Week, I would like to take this opportunity to thank and celebrate our Nation's farmers for producing plentiful and healthful harvests, and in the face of so many challenges.

While agriculture can be a very rewarding endeavor, a farmer experiences myriad challenges outside of their control which affect their bottom line. Regardless of commodity or region, today's family farmer is affected by weather conditions, market concentration, fluctuating prices, uncertain foreign markets, and an ever-changing landscape in the agricultural industry. Family farms in my home State of South Dakota, and across America, not only labor to produce our Nation's food supply, but also to preserve our rural heritage. Agriculture is an economic