

## SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the following hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on National Parks of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

The hearing will be held on Thursday, February 5, 2004, at 2:30 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the following bills: H.R. 1446 and S. 1306, to support the efforts of the California Missions Foundation to restore and repair the Spanish colonial and mission-era missions in the State of California and to preserve the artworks and artifacts of these missions, and for other purposes; and H.R. 1521, to provide for additional lands to be included within the boundary of the Johnstown Flood National memorial in the State of Pennsylvania, and for other purposes.

Because of the limited time available for the hearings, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send two copies of their testimony to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, SD-364 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

For further information, please contact Tom Lillie at (202) 224-5161 or Pete Lucero at (202) 224-6293.

## PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Governmental Affairs will hold a hearing entitled "DOD Contractors Who Cheat on Their Taxes and What Should Be Done About It." The Subcommittee's hearings will examine Department of Defense (DOD) contractors who are abusing the Federal tax system by either failing to file tax returns or not paying their taxes. A recently completed General Accounting Office review of DOD contractors found that 27,100 contractors owed \$3 billion in back taxes. The purpose of the hearing is to identify the corrective actions that can be taken to ensure that DOD contractors pay the taxes they owe the Federal Government.

The hearings will take place on Thursday, February 12, 2004, at 9:30 a.m., in Room 342 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. For further information, please contact Raymond V. Shepherd, III, Staff Director and Chief Counsel to the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, at 224-3721.

## SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS AND FORESTS

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests for the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will be held on Thursday, February 12, at 2:30 p.m. in Room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on S. 1421, to authorize the subdivision and dedication of restricted land owned by Alaska Natives; S. 1466, to facilitate the transfer of land in the State of Alaska, and for other purposes; S. 1649, to designate the Ojito Wilderness Study Area as wilderness, to take certain land into trust for the Pueblo of Zia, and for other purposes; and S. 1910, to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out an inventory and management program for forests derived from public domain land.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send two copies of their testimony to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

For further information, please contact Dick Bouts 202-224-7545.

## AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

## COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet in open Executive Session during the session on Monday, February 2, 2004; to reconsider, pursuant to a unanimous consent agreement on October 1, 2003 the Chairman's Mark entitled, National Employee Savings and Trust Equity Guarantee Act. The Committee will also consider a Chairman's Mark entitled, Extension of Highway Trust Fund Provisions; and, S. 882, the Tax Administration Good Government Act of 2004.

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

## PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. INHOFE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to grant floor privileges to the following fellows for the duration of floor consideration of the bill:

Gregory Murrill, Heideh Shahmoradi, Laura Berry, Mitch Surrent, John Stooddy, Wendy Parker, and William Boyd.

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

## CONGRATULATING THE NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, on behalf of the leader, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 295, submitted earlier today by Senators KENNEDY, KERRY, REED, and CHAFEE.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 295) congratulating the New England Patriots on their victory in Super Bowl XXXVIII.

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

(At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

• Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, backed by the heartiest fans in the world, the New England Patriots are once again the greatest football team in the Nation. I want to join so many others in commending the Patriots for their marvelous and miraculous season, in which the team overcame injuries and a slow start to end up with a fifteen-game winning streak and a second Super Bowl championship in three years. From the wise stewardship of Bob Kraft and Bill Belichick to the Tom Brady-led offense and the Ty Law-led defense, the Patriots are a team in the fullest sense of the word. Congratulations also to the Carolina Panthers, who mad Super Bowl XXXVIII one of the most memorable season-ending games in U.S. professional sports history. •

(At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

• Mr. REED. Mr. President, on February 1, 2004, the New England Patriots defeated the Carolina Panthers, 32-29 in what has been already called one of the most exciting Super Bowls of all time. I commend the Patriots players, coaches and management for a thrilling victory. These Patriots have been a testament to successful teamwork, setting a wonderful example of self-sacrifice and unity, and showing us all what is possible when we work together, believe in each other, and collaborate for the greater good. The Patriots' embodiment of the team concept was needed to overcome the tenacious Carolina Panthers, who came back again and again in a spectacular effort.

The hard-earned victory in Super Bowl XXXVIII, the second in 3 years for the Patriots, was also their 15th consecutive win, putting the team in elite company as one of the greatest teams in NFL history. Amazingly, once again the New England region, and indeed, the entire country, were held on the edge of their seats as the Patriots kicker, Adam Vinatieri, won the game on a last second field goal. Indeed, Vinatieri has been a friend to my home State of Rhode Island, active in the Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence, D.A.R.E., and as a spokesperson for the Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island's Teen Anti-Smoking Contest.

This Patriots team was led all season by their coach, Bill Belichick, who has masterminded victory after victory by stressing preparation, team work and adaptation. In the championship game the Patriots defense, arguably the team's best asset, was led by Ty Law,

Mike Vrabel, Tedy Bruschi and the veteran Willie McGinest. Vrabel was particularly impressive as an "Ironman" playing on the offense and scoring a touchdown.

The Patriots offense was led by the Super Bowl MVP Tom Brady who time after time led his team back until finally placing them in position to win. Brady was helped on offense by clutch performances from Troy Brown, Deion Branch, Kevin Faulk and Antowain Smith. Ultimately it was the Patriots offense, cool under the pressure, that brought them a hard earned victory.

Let me also acknowledge a Rhode Island native on the New England team. A former Boston College standout, running back Mike Cloud, was an important part of the Patriots' winning season, scoring five touchdowns and making critical plays. Cloud is a former Rhode Island Player of the Year and long before he helped the Patriots win their second Super Bowl, he helped lead Portsmouth High School to three consecutive Rhode Island Class A Championships. I am proud that he has had the opportunity to represent our State and play an important role in this victory.

Once again, my congratulations to the New England Patriots and their fans on their Super Bowl victory. •

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and preamble be agreed to en bloc; that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate; and that any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 295) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 295

Whereas, on Sunday, February 1, Adam Vinatieri of the New England Patriots kicked the winning field goal with seven seconds remaining in the game to defeat the Carolina Panthers by the score of 32-29 in Super Bowl XXXVIII in Houston, Texas;

Whereas this victory is the second Super Bowl championship won by the Patriots in the past three years;

Whereas quarterback Tom Brady led the Patriots to victory in both those years, and was named Super Bowl Most Valuable Player in both years;

Whereas both of the Super Bowl victories were earned by the Patriots in the final seconds of the game on a field goal by Mr. Vinatieri;

Whereas the Patriots tied an NFL record by winning 15 consecutive games in the recent season;

Whereas Patriots Head Coach Bill Belichick and Assistant Coaches Romeo Crennel and Charlie Weiss brilliantly created successful game plans throughout the season, and Mr. Belichick was named the Coach of the Year in the National Football League;

Whereas extraordinary efforts by other Patriots players including Deion Branch, Troy

Brown, David Givens, Ty Law, Willie McGinest, Richard Seymour, Antowain Smith, Mike Vrabel, and Ted Washington also contributed to the Super Bowl victory;

Whereas the New England Patriots offensive linemen, Matt Light, Joe Andruzzi, Dan Koppen, Russ Hochstein, and Tom Ashworth deserve great credit for protecting quarterback Tom Brady and for allowing no sacks of the quarterback in the Super Bowl game or in any of the other games in the post-season playoffs; and

Whereas Patriots owner Bob Kraft deserves great credit for his strong support of the team, and for his acknowledgement that the Super Bowl victory would not have been possible without the strong support of the millions of fans from New England.

*Resolved*, That the Senate of the United States congratulates the New England Patriots on winning Super Bowl XXXVIII.

### NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING WEEK

#### NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged en bloc from further consideration of S. Res. 292 and S. Res. 294, and that the Senate proceed to their consideration en bloc.

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

The clerk will report the resolutions by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 292) designating the week beginning February 2, 2004, as National School Counseling Week.

A resolution (S. Res. 294) designating January 2004 as National Mentoring Month.

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

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions and preambles be agreed to en bloc, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc and that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD, the above occurring with no intervening action or debate, with the consideration of these items appearing separately in the RECORD.

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

The resolutions (S. Res. 292 and S. Res. 294) were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

The resolutions, with their preambles, read as follows:

#### S. RES. 292

Whereas the American School Counselor Association has declared the week beginning February 2, 2004, as "National School Counseling Week";

Whereas the Senate has recognized the importance of school counseling through the inclusion of elementary and secondary school counseling programs in the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965;

Whereas school counselors have long advocated that the American education system must leave no child behind and must provide opportunities for every student;

Whereas personal and social growth results in increased academic achievement;

Whereas school counselors help develop well-rounded students by guiding them through their academic, personal, social, and career development;

Whereas school counselors were instrumental in helping students, teachers, and parents deal with the trauma of terrorism inflicted on the United States on September 11, 2001, and its aftermath;

Whereas students face myriad challenges every day, including peer pressure, depression, and school violence;

Whereas school counselors are usually the only professionals in a school building that are trained in both education and mental health;

Whereas the roles and responsibilities of school counselors are often misunderstood, and the school counselor position is often among the first to be eliminated in order to meet budgetary constraints;

Whereas the national average ratio of students to school counselors of 485 to 1 is more than double the 250 to 1 ratio recommended by the American School Counselor Association, the American Counseling Association, the American Medical Association, the American Psychological Association, and other organizations; and

Whereas the celebration of "National School Counseling Week" would increase awareness of the important and necessary role school counselors play in the lives of the Nation's students: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*,

#### SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING WEEK.

(a) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that the President should designate the week beginning February 2, 2004, as "National School Counseling Week".

(b) PROCLAMATION.—The Senate requests the President to issue a proclamation—

(1) designating the week beginning February 2, 2004, as "National School Counseling Week"; and

(2) calling on the people of the United States and interested groups to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies and activities that promote awareness of the role school counselors perform within the school and the community at large to prepare students for fulfilling lives as contributing members of society.

#### S. RES. 294

Whereas mentoring is a strategy for motivating and helping young people succeed in life, by bringing them together in structured and trusting relationships with caring adults who provide guidance, support, and encouragement;

Whereas mentoring offers a supportive environment in which young people can grow, expand their vision, learn necessary skills, and achieve a future that the young people never thought possible;

Whereas a growing body of research shows that mentoring benefits young people in numerous ways, through improvements in school performance and attendance, self-confidence, attitudes and relationships with adults, and motivation to reach their potential;

Whereas mentoring is an adaptable, flexible approach that can be tailored to focus on helping young people with academics, social skills, career preparation, or leadership development;

Whereas over 15,000,000 young people in this Nation still need mentors, falling into a "mentoring gap";

Whereas mentoring relies principally on volunteer mentors, so mentoring programs