

saw that was wrong and got in there to fix the problem. He made it a priority and he cleaned it up.

He earned the title of Governor with a quick wit, a sharp political eye, and a gift for speaking. Louie could tell these fantastic stories and everyone would love them, captured by his words.

I have always admired his love of politics and that he always stayed committed to the Republican Party. I know he was proud to see the Republican Party win back the governorship, ending the 32-year drought since he held office in 1971. But I remember Louie for supporting his party in Kentucky through its successes and through its failures. Even when there was no one around to join him, he carried the Republican banner proudly.

And through his perseverance, he left a lasting legacy in Kentucky politics. More than any other person, he taught the people in Kentucky how to win elections and with that, he taught Republicans how to win statewide. He used to tell the story about his father, who was a precinct captain in Kentucky. Every election, his father would work as hard as he could and talk with voters one by one. And every election, they would win his precinct. Louie taught us that is how you won an election, one precinct at a time.

Gov. Louie Nunn was respected by his friends and colleagues on both sides of the aisle. All in the Commonwealth of Kentucky will miss him.

FREE TRADE AGREEMENT STRATEGY SHOULD PRIORITIZE JOBS

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise today to talk about our international trade policy—specifically this administration's selection of free trade agreements.

A year-and-a-half ago, many of us stood on this floor arguing that we should grant the President trade negotiating authority, or fast track. We did so because we believe that good trade agreements can create jobs for American workers and farmers.

I still believe that. And I believe we must move ahead with an aggressive trade agenda—even in an election year.

So what does that mean? Of course, our first priorities should be moving ahead with negotiations in the World Trade Organization and completing the Free Trade Area of the Americas. Those agreements provide—by far—the best opportunities for American workers and farmers.

Unfortunately, both of those agreements are languishing. WTO negotiations broke down last fall in Cancun. And the FTAA has been watered down so much that many are starting to question its value.

The administration, rightly, has chosen not to put all of its eggs in one basket. They have, over the last several years, initiated a number of new free trade agreements.

Now generally, I support this approach. We cannot allow the intran-

sistence of some countries to hold us back from seeking new markets.

But the process by which we select new FTAs is deeply flawed. Initially, there was no process at all. There was no consultation with Congress, no public process, no criteria. To be fair, there's been some improvement—but not much, and only after serious criticism from Congress and the business community.

Mr. President, as a way to try to understand the administration's trade policy, Congressman CAL DOOLEY and I asked the General Accounting Office to assess the criteria and processes that drive the selection of our free trade agreement partners.

Today, GAO is releasing their report, and its findings confirm a number of serious concerns.

First, the criteria themselves are so broad I question whether they are meaningful. GAO finds that the criteria used within the administration to justify the selection of FTA partners have been a moving target. Different sets of criteria were used, for example, when deciding to go forward with the Central American and Australian FTAs than were used for some of the most recently announced FTAs, such as Thailand, the Andeans, and Panama.

Whatever the criteria considered, they are not weighted by importance. Moreover, the criteria are so broad—and their consideration so open-ended—it is hard to imagine any country in the world that couldn't meet them.

Second, to the extent that the existing criteria and review process set priorities, I question whether they are the right ones. GAO finds that strategic and foreign policy goals dominate the FTA selection process.

In my view, this takes our trade policy down the wrong path. I have long believed that trade agreements should be pursued on their own merits—because they create commercial opportunities for our farmers and businesses, and most critically, because they hold out the prospect of more and better-paying jobs for American workers.

These paramount concerns seem largely lost in the selection process, which looks like more of a throw-back to the Cold War—when trade policy was treated primarily as an instrument of foreign policy.

Third, the entire selection process is woefully lacking in transparency and public participation. GAO finds that, at the time this report was requested, there was virtually no formal process at all for selecting FTAs.

The attention focused on this situation by this investigation has clearly contributed to the development of a more formal interagency process for considering potential FTAs. But the process is still a closed one.

There is no notice of countries under consideration for future FTAs until the choice has already been made. There is no formal process for soliciting the views of Congress, the business commu-

nity, or the general public. There is no formal public discussion of how to prioritize negotiating resources.

To my surprise, in fact, the administration has insisted until recently that the selection criteria themselves are classified. Important trade policy decisions like these should not be made in secret based on secret criteria.

Mr. President, at a time when manufacturing and other jobs are increasingly moving offshore, we need a trade policy that helps U.S. companies create and keep good jobs in this country. We need to bring the focus of our trade agenda back to commercial benefits and, most importantly, to jobs. We need to have a public dialogue on how choices are made and how resources are allocated. I urge the administration to engage with Congress to address the issues raised by this report.

I yield the floor.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNITION OF ANNIE LEE COONEY ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

• Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise today with the distinct privilege of recognizing one of St. Louis's most outstanding citizens, Mrs. Annie Lee Cooney on the occasion of her 100th birthday February 25, 2004.

Mrs. Cooney was born in Indianola, MS, as the third youngest of seven girls and two brothers. As the granddaughter of slaves and the daughter of active participants in the African-American community, Annie Lee was instilled at an early age with values and character that remain strong to this day. Her parents, Indiana and Oliver Jarman were active in the African-American community in her hometown. Her father, Oliver Jarman, was a high ranking official in the Prince Hall Masons in Mississippi and was also instrumental in founding a Penny Bank in Greenville, MS.

In 1922, after attending the Tuskegee Institute, in Tuskegee, AL, Annie Lee moved to St. Louis to live with her sister and helped with her new baby. But it was in St. Louis where Annie Lee's life changed when she met and fell in love with Roy Cooney. The young couple were married in 1924 and Roy and Annie Lee Cooney soon became the loving parents to thirteen children—seven girls and six boys, all of whom went on to attend college.

Mrs. Cooney has been very active in the Black Catholic Community in St. Louis since the early 1930s. Some of Mrs. Cooney's professional achievements include being named President of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament alumni in the 1960s and Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Mother of the Year in 1980. Mrs. Cooney has been an active member of the National Council of Negro Women, the Council of Catholic Women, the Legion of Mary, the Catholic Knights of America, the Cairo Social Club, charitable works and scholarships to Black youth, and the Seminars Club, spiritual and financial

aid to Black Catholic Seminarians. She was also a member of the Cook Avenue Block Unit Association, and a strong force in her neighborhood—with her home often serving as a gathering place for youth and young adults. Perhaps Mrs. Cooney's greatest display of goodwill was in her frequent visits to Homer G. Phillips Hospital with the Helpers of the Holy Souls. For over forty years Mrs. Cooney visited the sick and hospitalized and would provide them with candy, toiletries, and prayer.

Mrs. Cooney has traveled the world extensively, and has brought goodwill to wherever she has been. She has remained true to her motto: "If I can help somebody as I travel on, then my living will not be in vain." On behalf of the people of St. Louis and the State of Missouri, I extend my most sincere gratitude to Mrs. Annie Lee Cooney for her years of dedicated community service and the goodwill. I wish her all the best on this most important occasion, her one-hundredth birthday. ●

REMEMBERING ELROY "CRAZY LEGS" HIRSCH

● Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, today I honor an incredible athlete and a hero of University of Wisconsin athletics, Elroy "Crazy Legs" Hirsch.

Not many Wisconsin Badger fans can forget the 1942 football season, the only season "Crazy Legs" spent playing for the University of Wisconsin football team. By running, passing, and catching for over 1,400 yards, the Wausauborn Hirsch led the Badgers to a second-place finish in the Big Ten with an 8-1-1 record and a No. 3 ranking in the final Associated Press poll.

Hirsch's football career at Wisconsin was cut short when he joined the Marines and was ordered to Michigan for basic training in 1943. Hirsch continued his illustrious career at the University of Michigan and then professionally with the Chicago Rockets of the All-American Football Conference and then the Los Angeles Rams of the NFL. Hirsch was instrumental in the Rams' 1951 championship season by leading the league in catches, receiving yards and receiving touchdowns. Hirsch was inducted into the NFL Hall of Fame in 1968.

Hirsch's on-field legacy will forever be remembered, as his number 40 is one of only 4 numbers that has been retired by the Badgers. But his legacy off the field at the University of Wisconsin was just as important. He served as athletic director from 1969 to 1987. His tenure saw a rise in football attendance and a hockey program that reached national prominence.

The University of Wisconsin and fans from all over the State will be forever grateful for Elroy's devotion to UW athletics. My thoughts go out to his wife Ruth and his family. "Crazy Legs" was a tremendous asset to the University of Wisconsin, both on and off the field, and he will be greatly missed. ●

ELLEN KAY YORK, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

● Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the exemplary career of Ellen Kay York, who retired in January after 28 years of public service and returning to her home in St. Robert, MO.

Since November 2000, Ellen has served as the executive secretary to the Army's Chief of Engineers and Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. As the senior office manager for the Executive Office, Ellen has been a valuable member of the Corps' team. In addition to her outstanding management of the Chief of Engineers' schedule, correspondence, and daily office operations, Ellen responded to a variety of requests for information from the public and the Congress, providing answers and information on behalf of the Chief of Engineers. Her skill and sensitivity have gained the respect, gratitude, and confidence of the senior leaders throughout the world-wide, 36,000-person organization.

Throughout her tenure with the Corps, Ellen Kay York has been a mentor to junior employees, spending countless hours and personal time to advise and counsel them. She has been active as well with Toastmasters International, as the Area 13 governor and as the president of the Corps' chapter, the Castle Toastmasters.

I know that the team at the Corps will miss her, particularly the so-called superior officers. I am sure that she managed and protected on too many occasions to site. But we are delighted that she is returning to God's country where she will be rewarded for and liberated from her dedicated public service. Today I congratulate this outstanding public servant for her many years of selfless and faithful service to the Nation. ●

RECOGNITION OF COLONEL ROBERT C. KING

● Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to commend a remarkable Iowan. COL Robert C. King retired from his duties as Public Affairs Officer for the Iowa National Guard in December 2003 and will retire from the National Guard at the end of the year. Colonel King has been a member of the Iowa National Guard since 1968 and has worked tirelessly to break new ground in the area of communication between the Iowa National Guard and outside media outlets. It goes without saying, his service is appreciated beyond words.

In his job as Public Affairs Officer, Colonel King cultivated a media relationship with the National Guard when none existed before. He served during some of the highest profile activities since World War II including the crash of United Flight 232, Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, the floods of 1993, as well as Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Colonel King has represented the Iowa National Guard and its thousands of members at a variety of functions throughout the State. He has held several command-directed assignments and served as the commander of the State Area Readiness Command in addition to his role as Public Affairs Officer. He handled this dual assignment with remarkable ease and showed his dedication through his willingness to take on such a committed role. While under his command, the Iowa National Guard Headquarters received Superior Unit Awards every year. Colonel King served as the 34th Rear Area Operations Center training administrator and executive officer. Colonel King also served as the administrative-supply technician for the 186th Military Police Company. He has been a valuable connection for me personally, providing information for me to stay abreast of what is going on with the Iowa National Guard. I am proud of Colonel King and the contributions he has made to Iowa. He tapped previously underutilized or noticeably absent avenues within the media relations field for the Iowa National Guard. His devotion to the soldier, the National Guard, Iowa and this country is beyond reproach.

Again, I would like to congratulate Colonel King on his retirement as Public Affairs Officer for the Iowa National Guard. He has proven to be a remarkable officer and I thank him for his inexhaustible dedication to Iowa and to America. ●

RECOGNIZING SANDPOINT, IDAHO AS A SUNSET MAGAZINE "BEST SMALL TOWN"

● Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, Idaho is known as the Gem State. I rise today to recognize a diamond among our community gems that has gained the attention of Sunset magazine. Every year, Sunset selects a group of neighborhoods, cities, and towns which readers have nominated as "best places to live." I am proud to say that Sandpoint, ID, a small community in the panhandle has earned the distinction of "Best Small Town" in January 2004.

Sandpoint sits tucked away in the Selkirk Mountain Range, approximately 50 miles south of the Canadian border. It borders Lake Pend Oreille, the largest freshwater lake in Idaho, and is 9 miles from the well-known ski resort, Schweitzer Basin. Sandpoint is a diverse community of about 7,500 people who have occupations ranging from retail businessperson, logger, doctor, attorney, vintner, millworker, herbalist, teacher, and builder. Tourism, timber, and a thriving arts community call attention to the complexity and wonderful character of Sandpoint.

This honor bestowed by the readers of Sunset magazine indicates the efforts Sandpoint residents have made to work together to create a warm, inviting community which upholds values of