

same amount of money to broadcast around America and the world via satellite as it will in Connecticut. And that began 25 years ago ESPN, the Entertainment and Sports Programming Network, which is today the worldwide leader in sports. It started small and ended big, going strong, and all as a result of hard work and a lot of innovation.

I had the privilege of visiting ESPN's studios in Bristol, CT, last week. It is really a campus now. I had the thrill of touring the ESPN new digital center. This was about as good as it gets for someone who grew up not dreaming of being a Senator but dreaming of being a Major League baseball player, a center fielder, for that matter—not a preference for political inclinations, not a left fielder or right fielder but a center fielder.

The closest I got to that dream is what I did that day sitting at the anchor desk on the brandnew, very impressive sports center studio set with none other than the closest thing the sports world has to Walter Cronkite, the honorable Chris Berman. It was a lot of fun and a great treat. I also got the chance to look at the new studio we will soon be seeing on the NFL programming and then next year on the baseball programming. There is a lot of excitement there.

As we celebrate ESPN's 25th anniversary, I offer my congratulations on a magnificent first 25 years to George Bodenheimer, ESPN's president, and to the almost 3,000 employees of ESPN who have changed our lives as sports fans and changed so much for the better in the life of the greater Bristol community.

Chris Berman, in addition to my comparison—perhaps a little overstated—to Walter Cronkite, has been the great originator of nicknames. The most famous and the one I love best is when he called a particular baseball player Bert "Be Home" Blyleven. I could go on.

I watched the ESPN retrospective on their first 25 years last night. I did notice in the show that one fan held up a sign that kind of got even with Chris Berman, and it said: "Chris, beast of Berman." Let that speak for itself.

In any case, probably the best tribute one could pay to this extraordinary network and the people who work at it is that as you look back at the 25 years, to paraphrase Berman himself, no one could have guessed that this network could go all the way. It has gone all the way, and it will just keep on going for the next 25 years, more successful than the first 25 years, and beyond. So thanks and congratulations to all the people at ESPN.

I think the most fitting one-word tribute I can use to close a celebration on the Senate floor of ESPN's first great 25 years is to say simply and enthusiastically: Booyah.

I thank the Chair, and I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, while the distinguished Senator from Connecticut is still on the floor of the Senate, I commend him for his remarks. The real success, of course, is due to NASCAR. I hope the Senator appreciates that. In any event, I share his sentiments.

#### COMMITTEE ON PRESENT DANGER

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I wish to remark on something Senator LIEBERMAN and I had been hoping to launch and then discuss in a little more detail, a subject on all of our minds, and that is the kind of challenge we face as the leading country in the world in this current war on terrorism.

I am very pleased that Senator LIEBERMAN has joined with me and others, or I with him—I think he was the first and I was the second, to put it that way, to correct the record—in a re-institution of the Committee on Present Danger. This is the third iteration of that committee, twice begun during the cold war—during the first stages of the cold war and then the later stages of the cold war—to ensure that America understood and was willing to face the threat of Communists and communism in a way that would result ultimately in victory.

There were times in the beginning of the war where I think there was an inadequate appreciation of the nature of that threat and how long a struggle it would be and how we prepared and how Americans would have to persevere in order to win that cold war, and then at a midpoint in the war when it seemed as if detente and acceptance of a permanent status of communism was really the only way the United States could ensure we would have peace in the future began to creep into our policy in so many ways that, again, the committee was formed and, under new leadership, said there is an evil in the world—communism—and we cannot co-exist in it. In the end, it will have to face its demise, and we will have to win.

President Reagan embodied that spirit in calling the Soviet Union "the evil empire," in both saying and doing that which enabled people to appreciate there could be a winner and a loser against communism, that it was a failed idea, and that we in the United States and the West generally could defeat it, and we did.

Along comes the war against the Islamic radicals who have committed terrorism across the globe, most recently in Russia. But on 9/11, all of the previous attacks of those terrorists who were brought into focus had been treated as a matter of law enforcement. On 9/11, President Bush understood that something much greater was at stake, an existential threat to the United States specifically and to our civilization generally that had to be met with firm resolve because the enemy was not content to seek some kind of peace negotiations or extract

some temporary commitments, but rather by its own declarations was in a fight to the finish: Either they win or we win; either they die or we die.

This existential threat would have to be faced by a nation that was willing to engage in the fight as long as it took with whatever it took, regardless of the costs, because nothing more or less than our survival was at stake.

So this third iteration of the Committee on Present Danger was formed. Senator LIEBERMAN and I have been honored to be the honorary chairmen of this effort, to remind Americans and to educate the rest of the world to the seriousness of this threat, to the fact that this is a war, and in war everyone must make sacrifices.

We send brave young men and women to do military missions that could cost their lives. A couple of my colleagues were on the floor earlier lamenting the cost of this war and the casualties among those who have served. Indeed, each one of us grieves for each one of those casualties, and the families and friends of all involved.

But the President has reminded us that in this case our security is not free and that sacrifices will have to be made.

The point of this committee is to remind everyone what is at stake, how difficult the battle will be, how, although we Americans are generally very impatient people who see a problem, want to get on it, solve it and move on, in this case, as with other wars, we have to be in it until the end, whatever the cost. In this case, like the cold war specifically, it is probably going to be a long conflict that will test our patience and our resolve, but that in the end ironically it is patience and resolve demonstrated to the enemy that are most likely to create the condition for our victory.

In this case, being in some respects a battle of ideas and resolve, if the enemy views us to be a weak horse, as Osama bin Laden has called us, then they will be emboldened to continue the battle and to bring it to the United States. On the other hand, if they view us as a strong horse, then they may appreciate the fact that in the end they cannot prevail. That will, more than anything else, permit us to win this war.

So with Senator LIEBERMAN, I point out to my colleagues that in the ensuing weeks we will be engaged in this discussion in an effort to lay out all of the facts about the enemy that we face and the kind of war that we are going to have to be prepared to fight and the sacrifice that is going to be required not just of the men and women whom we place in harm's way for their military mission but the people involved in all of the other contexts of this battle, whether it be military, intelligence, law enforcement, and even right at home. There are many things Americans can do to help win this war.

My last point is simply this: The best thing that Americans can do to win

this war is to demonstrate our resolve not only to the enemy but also to our friends and allies, and most importantly to the people in harm's way, our men and women in the military and others who we have put on the front lines of the battle, to demonstrate to them that as a nation, while we may have some disagreements about the specifics of how we proceed with this conflict, we are united as a people in believing one main thing, and that is that the battle is worth it. So that whatever casualties do exist no one ever need be in doubt, be it the families, the friends, the colleagues in arms, or the service men and women, that their sacrifice was worth the price, whatever that price is.

If we ever begin to create the idea that this is not a war worth winning, that it is not a war worth sacrifice by Americans, then we will have done a great disservice not only to our overall war effort, because the enemy will surely pick up those signals, but also to the families and to the people in the military who are laying their lives on the line. They must continue to know that all of us believe this is a sacrifice worth making and that their sacrifice will not have been in vain.

I hope as time goes on, in debating the nuances of how we proceed with this conflict, all of my colleagues, Republicans and Democrats and everyone else in this great Nation, will understand the importance of reaffirming to those we have put in harm's way that whatever sacrifice they make, it is worth the sacrifice for the security of the people back home, for the opportunities they are creating for others and for the defeat of this insidious foe. That is something we will be talking about, especially as we move into the final phase of this legislative session and fund our homeland security effort, reform our intelligence community and our congressional oversight of that community, and do whatever we can do right now to help win this war, that we ensure that all Americans understand how they can contribute to the victory. Right now their biggest contribution can be to support the effort so the people who we have sent in harm's way will appreciate that their sacrifices, whatever they may be, are not in vain.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

#### RAVAGES OF TROPICAL STORM GASTON ON VIRGINIA

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. President, before I begin my comments, I rise to commend the words of Senator KYL of Arizona and Senator LIEBERMAN. Senator LIEBERMAN was commending ESPN's 25 years as a wonderful station, great entertainment, and something that means a lot to our family.

I bring to my colleagues' attention something that is very important to Virginia, and Florida as well. These hurricanes and disasters that have been hitting our country, particularly

in Florida, which has naturally gotten the most attention, but also Tropical Storm Gaston that had such a terrible impact in the Richmond area.

We will be voting shortly on H.R. 5005, which is an emergency supplemental disaster relief appropriations measure. On behalf of the people of Virginia, and also Floridians, I thank my colleagues and also President Bush for acting to assist in this disaster relief, which is so necessary.

I was down in Richmond yesterday inspecting businesses that have been flooded out by this unique flash flood that hit the Shockoe Bottom, which is a historic area of Richmond. There are a lot of small shops there, small stores, restaurants. There are people who have lived there since the renovation of Shockoe Bottom. There are a lot of manufacturers up into the Shockoe valley that were also devastated. In Chesterfield County, an overflowing creek came through and they actually had to demolish two big apartment areas and residences. Just in Chesterfield County alone, 47 people's lives were saved by the firefighters and police. There were eight people who lost their lives from Tropical Storm Gaston in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

In addition to lives lost, which of course is the worst thing to happen, people lost all of their possessions, photographs of loved ones, their important documents and files. People lost all of their clothing from the mud slides that came in and the water that rose so quickly.

There was one fellow at the disaster relief center that opened up yesterday afternoon. He had pants that were covered with paint and a T-shirt covered with paint. Those were the only clothes he had. All the rest of his clothes had been ruined. He was a painter. That is why he had so much paint on him. We saw others who were wondering where they were going to live and where they could get assistance. We saw small businesses—there were 35 businesses, 25 restaurants, hundreds of residences that were made uninhabitable.

One of the best things I saw of the evidence of how this flood came in, particularly in the Shockoe Bottom area, was a person who had a laptop and on it was a videotape of the flood waters coming in. Within 15 minutes, it had gone from nothing on the floor in the restaurant—this was at Bottoms Up Pizza—and it went up to well over 5 feet just in 15 minutes. People did not have time to do much of anything other than get up on different places to get out of the water.

The cleanup is going to be painstaking. A lot of work has been done. A lot of efforts have been made. It is a lot to clean out that mud, to disinfect, to dry it out and get back in business. In some of the places all the elevators, of course, were wrecked. In one facility, they had to take mud out of the basement by buckets and take it up steps. They did a phenomenally good job doing it but that gives us the sense of what has to be done.

In another small restaurant they were taking all the screws apart of a coffee roaster to make sure they could be dried off and oiled. Of course, all the furniture is wrecked. As far as the restaurants are concerned, they also have to make sure all the walls are sanitary and cleaned out for health reasons.

We saw trucks and vehicles all wrecked. There is one Virginia Guardsman who is actually over in Kosovo, his truck was swamped and of course made useless as well.

The point is, FEMA needs money. They need a lot of money because of these disasters. The President has acted. This country is going to provide billions of dollars to make sure FEMA has the money. In addition, when you talk about small businesses, they get assistance from SBA for very low interest loans. Those low-interest loans can help a lot of those businesses get back on their feet.

There is a lot of work, a lot of despair. Yesterday I was with Melanie Sabelhaus, who is the Deputy Administrator for the SBA. You see people's eyes light up for the opportunities they will receive.

I know the time has expired. May I speak in that time for 3 minutes?

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have no objection to the distinguished Senator from Virginia speaking as long as the time for the vote does not change.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business has expired.

Mr. ALLEN. I ask unanimous consent to speak for an additional 3 minutes and have that time allocated to the Republican side for the debate on judges so the vote continues at 5:30.

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

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. President, again, this is important in that this bill we will be voting on after the judge votes, H.R. 5005, provides \$2 billion to replenish FEMA's disaster relief account. Included in there, which is very important, as Melanie Sabelhaus said, we are making promises of loans to folks, and we have run out of funds. So it is important we all work as quickly as possible to make sure these funds are there because there is an allocation in here of up to \$30 million which may be transferred to the Small Business Administration's efforts to carry out disaster loans authorized by section 7(b) of the Small Business Act.

The point is, we have a lot of people hurting in this country, in Florida, and obviously I am talking about Virginia. It is important we all come together quickly, efficiently, and as expeditiously as possible to assist these individuals who have a lot of pain, a lot of work to do, but also a great deal of spirit. In the Shockoe Bottom, what encouraged me the most was folks cleaning and going through all that work—which is very tedious work. The smells and the mold and all that is almost overwhelming at times. But there is a great deal of history in the Shockoe Bottom of Richmond. It is one