

still holds the record for the most points and rebounds in a career. Once he completed his collegiate career, he went on to a successful career in the NBA.

After his retirement from professional basketball, Coach "K" moved to the other side of the bench and became an assistant coach. Eventually he found himself back home, as coach of the Griz. As head coach, Coach "K" instilled in his team that being a college athlete is about more than just playing a sport, it is about being a role model for a community. Nothing exemplifies this mentality more than when Coach "K" himself offered to have his head shaved in order to show support to a friend who had recently been diagnosed with cancer and to raise money for children who were battling the disease.

I want to take this opportunity to publicly congratulate each player on the roster, the coaching staff, Coach "K", and the entire University of Montana community for their magical season.

I ask that the list of coaches and team members be printed in the RECORD.

The information follows:

2005-2006 UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

Coaches: Larry Krystkowiak, Head Coach; Andy Hill; Brad Huse; and Wayne Tinkle.

Players: Mike Chavez; Kevin Criswell; Matt Dlouhy; Bryan Ellis; Jordan Hasquet; Matt Martin; Virgil Matthews; Stuart Mayes; John Seyfert; Kyle Sharp; Greg Spurgetis; Andrew Strait; Austin Swift; and Eric Van Vliet.●

TRIBUTE TO VICTOR FONTANEZ

● Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Mr. Victor Fontanez of Platte City, MO. Mr. Fontanez is a World War II veteran who served with distinction in Europe from 1942 to 1945.

Mr. Fontanez joined the Army in January of 1941, 11 months before the attacks on Pearl Harbor. He recognized the need for soldiers to answer the call, and swiftly volunteered for service wherever he could be used. Joining Company B, 47th Infantry Battalion, 9th Division, Mr. Fontanez was quickly shipped to North Africa where he participated in the larger Battle of Tunisia against German Field Marshal Erwin Rommel's vaunted Afrika Korps.

In April of 1943, near the town of El Guettar, his battalion was given orders to go over the top of an important hill. As he ran down the hill towards the enemy, a mortar shell exploded close to him, sending shrapnel into the left side of his body. Despite profuse bleeding, he continued on to the bottom of the hill and took cover near a large rock. Another mortar hit the rock, sending concussions through his body and making it difficult to breathe. After the attack, his fellow heroes helped him back to the headquarters, where he was patched up quickly and evacuated to an American hospital in Oran.

For the wounds he suffered that day, he was awarded the Purple Heart.

After his recovery, he was assigned to the 36th Infantry Division as a combat engineer. He was a crucial part of the landing forces at Salerno Bay, Italy. After securing their positions, they were given orders to help reinforce the Anzio beachhead, and then to take Velletri, one of the key cities that the Germans used in the defense of Rome. After the Nazis fell, his division marched through the streets of Rome to a hero's welcome. After the liberation of Rome, his division was sent off on ships to another crucial mission: the invasion of southern France.

It was during Operation Dragoon on the beaches of France that Mr. Fontanez would earn his highest award for valor. While the troops advanced inland from the landing area, a low-flying plane dropped a bomb onboard one of the ships in the bay, causing explosions and major fires.

After seeing a number of badly burned men jump from the ship with their clothes on fire—and with total disregard for his own safety—he entered the water and was able to swim several safely to shore.

For this selfless act of bravery, he was awarded the Soldier's Medal.

Later he rejoined his company and was able to help drive the Germans out of Cannes and Grenoble. Moving through the cold snow, they rested where they could. As Christmas 1944 approached, the 36th was hoping for a lull in fighting, but German forces launched an attack to the north. After successfully defending their positions, the 36th renewed the offense and crossed the Rhine River into Germany in late March 1945. It was shortly after this that Mr. Fontanez got his well-deserved rest, and was expedited home for extended leave.

Like so many of his generation, Mr. Fontanez's success extended beyond the battlefield. He fathered two children: a son, Victor, Jr., who is now a retired military officer; and a daughter, Edith, who currently lives in Platte City and works with Support Our Troops & Vets.

He is the proud grandfather of six grandchildren and great-grandfather of four, and counts a military chaplain, two Army soldiers, a Guardsman, an attorney, and a social worker in his lineage. Nearing 90 years of age, Victor Fontanez is a proud member and example of our "greatest generation," and should be commended for his bravery in helping secure the freedoms we all enjoy. On this day, I encourage my colleagues to stand with me in praising the service of this true hero, Victor Fontanez.●

IN MEMORY OF MARCO ANTONIO FIREBAUGH

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, California has lost a fine, young leader. Marco Antonio Firebaugh, former California Assembly majority floor leader,

representing the 50th assembly district, and chair of the California Latino Legislative Caucus, recently passed away. I would like to take a few moments to recognize Marco Antonio Firebaugh's many important accomplishments and the tremendous impact he made as a leader in California.

Born in Baja California, Mexico, Firebaugh served three terms as a member of the California State Assembly and one term as the majority floor leader. In 1998, he was first elected to the California State Assembly, representing the 50th assembly district. During his tenure, he fought for the rights of all Californians, including immigrants and their children, with passion and great success. Under his leadership, the California State Assembly passed legislation that focused on increasing the availability of education to all California residents.

He led the effort to appoint more qualified Latinos and Latinas to high-level positions in State government, including the appointment of only the second Latino to serve on the California Supreme Court, the first Latina to serve as chancellor of a University of California campus, and two additional Latino presidents at the California State Universities at Fresno and Sacramento.

Firebaugh worked strenuously to protect and defend the dignity of his constituents, regardless of their immigration status, and remained involved in community affairs after his departure from the California State Assembly. He served as a visiting professor and policy fellow at the UCLA School of Medicine, Center for the Study of Latino Health and Culture. Most recently, he decided to reenter public life, as a candidate for the California State Senate, 30th district, and gained the support of many local community leaders, including current 30th district State senator Martha Escutia. His dedication to his fellow Californians will be missed.

I invite all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing and honoring Marco Antonio Firebaugh for his guidance and leadership in fighting to improve the lives of all Californians. He is survived by his mother, Carmen Ramos Garcia; his children, Ariana and Nicolas; brothers, Carlos and Jesse; and sisters, Cecilia and Esmeralda.●

TRIBUTE TO MARGARET SULLIVAN WILSON

● Mr. DODD. Mr. President, today I rise to honor one of Connecticut's finest educators: Margaret Sullivan Wilson.

Peg Wilson is a lifelong resident of Norwich, CT. Throughout her life, she has been dedicated to serving the people of her native city, as well as improving educational opportunities for children in Connecticut and, indeed, in America.

A 1944 graduate of Willimantic State Teachers College—now Eastern Connecticut State University—Peg received a bachelor's degree in education. She also attained a master's degree from the University of Connecticut. Between 1945 and 1950, she taught at Norwich Elementary School and was a reading supervisor in the Greenwich Public Schools. Returning to Eastern in 1950, Peg devoted herself to improving early childhood education.

In particular, Peg has dedicated herself to changing the way young students are taught. She advocated providing an individual approach to early childhood education, which was considered radical by many educators in the early 1950s. However, over the ensuing decades this approach has become widely accepted as the best method of preparing young children for success in school and life.

Peg Wilson was ahead of her time in recognizing the importance of providing children a comprehensive and demanding curriculum that considers each child's strengths and weaknesses. Her determination to improve early education was the driving passion of her career. As both a teacher and administrator, Peg imparted her "radical" theory to thousands of prospective teachers and parents during her nearly 40 years at Eastern. This knowledge undoubtedly improved the lives of even more children in Connecticut and throughout the country. For that, we should all be grateful.

During, and after her illustrious career at Eastern, Peg remained active in her community. While working at Eastern, Peg served on the Norwich Board of Education for 18 years. In addition, she is an original cofounder of the Norwich Historical Society, which is dedicated to promoting the history of that great New England town. In addition, she remained active in local politics, even running for city council president and State senate. Her contributions to her community have long been acknowledged; Peg received the Norwich Citizen of the Year Award in 1970.

Although Peg Wilson retired from Eastern in 1989 as vice president for administration and fiscal affairs, her dedication to early childhood development has continued undiminished. Never losing sight of her dream of individualized, comprehensive education for young children, Peg returned to Eastern as an assistant to the president. In this role, she spent nearly 4 years attempting to gain support for a facility on Eastern's campus dedicated to early childhood development. Her hard work, alongside that of the president and senior staff of Eastern, finally paid off. On February 28, 2006, Eastern University dedicated the Margaret S. Wilson Child and Family Development Complex. This new complex currently serves 14 children, ages 3 and 4, in a new comprehensive preschool, implementing many of the ideas Margaret Wilson has espoused for almost 60

years. As the center grows, a limited number of infants and up to 60 toddlers will be served. In addition, the center will eventually offer onsite services such as health, education, and financial services to the participating families. Peg's vision of comprehensive child development is truly being realized.

I would be remiss if I did not mention Peg's family: her late husband, W. Robert Wilson; her daughter, Margaret-Ellen Wilson; and her son, Dr. William Wilson, a recipient of Norwich's Native Son Award in 1999. Their love and support has been instrumental in allowing Peg to devote her career to promoting early childhood development.

As a Senator and a father of two young daughters, I am reminded every day of the importance of providing quality education early in a child's life. Throughout my career, I have strived to ensure that our country makes early childhood development a national priority. Today, I am honored to praise the work of someone who shares that commitment with me.

Margaret Wilson has played an integral role in improving thousands of young students' lives and reshaping early childhood education. The Margaret S. Wilson Child and Family Development Complex stands as a testament to one of Connecticut's most admired and visionary educators. This complex will help ensure that future generations of Connecticut children are provided with a quality education early in life, which is critical for our Nation's future. On behalf of a grateful state and nation, I say thank you, Peg Wilson, for all that you have done and continue to do for the children of America.●

CELEBRATING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. VINCENT HEALTH

● Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I am pleased to rise today in order to join my fellow Hoosiers in celebrating the 125th Anniversary of St. Vincent Health. Over the span of those 125 years, St. Vincent Health has grown into one of the largest health care systems in the State of Indiana, with 16 facilities serving 45 counties.

April 26, 2006, marks Founder's Day, the culmination of a year-long celebration which began on November 29, 2005, during which the 11,500 associates of St. Vincent and the communities they serve will commemorate this important milestone. This year Founder's Day will include the unveiling of a statue to commemorate the four Daughters of Charity who came to Indianapolis to start what is now known as St. Vincent Indianapolis Hospital and the 125 years of service that resulted from their remarkable work.

Like so many of my fellow Hoosiers, I am grateful for the important services that the associates of St. Vincent Health provide each day to Hoosiers in their time of need.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-6378. A communication from the Director, Regulations and Disclosure Law, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Port of Entry at New River Valley, Virginia, and Termination of the User-Fee Status of New River Valley Airport" (CBP Decision 06-10) received on April 18, 2006; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6379. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Center for Medicare Management, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Program: Medicare Graduate Medical Education Application Provisions for Teaching Hospitals in Certain Emergency Situations" (RIN0938-AO35) received on April 18, 2006; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6380. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Office of Financial Management, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Program, Requirement for Providers and Suppliers to Establish and Maintain Medicare Enrollment" (RIN0938-AH73) received on April 24, 2006; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6381. A communication from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Bureau of Labor Statistics Price Indexes for Department Stores—February 2006" (Rev. Rul. 2006-23) received on April 24, 2006; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6382. A communication from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "April-June 2006 Bond Factor Amounts" (Rev. Rul. 2006-14) received on April 24, 2006; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6383. A communication from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "2006 Section 29 Inflation Adjustment Factor (for calendar year 2005)" (Notice 2006-37) received on April 24, 2006; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6384. A communication from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the