

34 years. The challenge for all of us today is to make sure that those doors of opportunity stay open for our granddaughters and great-granddaughters.

As we celebrate the anniversary of this important law, I urge President Bush and Secretary of Education Spellings to protect existing title IX policies and give every young girl in America the chance to experience the roar of a crowd—and not just cheer from the sidelines.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

U.S. ARMY LT SHAW VAUGHN

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, I wish to take a moment of the Senate's time to remember a Coloradan who was lost to us last week in defense of this Nation.

Shaw Vaughan was a loving and supportive son and older brother, an avid hunter and fly fisherman. One of his most prized possessions was his 1969 Jeepster Commando, an off-roading vehicle he had personally rebuilt, affectionately named Hercules. Hercules sits quiet today, its red finish gleaming undimmed in the mountain sun.

U.S. Army LT John Shaw Vaughan, of Edwards, in Eagle County in my State of Colorado, was killed on June 7 in Mosul, Iraq. Lieutenant Vaughan was a young man with his entire life before him: He was a mere 23 years old, and had been in Iraq only a month.

As a middle school student, Shaw Vaughan caught the eye of our military leaders for his regional science fair project: comparing the accuracy of store-bought ammunition with that assembled by him. He graduated Battle Mountain High School in 2001 and attended the prestigious Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, FL. Upon graduation, Lieutenant Vaughan was 1 of only 70 cadets, out of 5,000, to receive a much-sought-after assignment in military intelligence in the infantry. It was a high honor, reflecting his intellect, work ethic, and commitment to our Nation.

Lieutenant Vaughan was stationed in Alaska, a part of our country he had visited with his family years earlier. I guess you could say that Alaska had "hooked" the fisherman in Lieutenant Vaughan, and he was looking forward to his service there after he completed his time in Iraq.

Lieutenant Vaughan was eager to get to Iraq, to serve with his unit. In his e-mails and phone calls back home, Lieutenant Vaughan spoke of how strongly he felt about America's mission in Iraq. He told stories of Iraqi families leading him into their homes, telling him horror stories of their families' sufferings under the brutal regime of Saddam Hussein.

As one newspaper in my home State observed, it seems that every story about Shaw Vaughan was different, and yet, the same: "one of a great guy and a courageous man lost too soon."

In Act III of William Shakespeare's classic Henry V, King Henry says with

pride, "As I am a soldier, A name that in my thoughts becomes me best."

I will think of this today as I bow my head in prayer for the loss of Lieutenant Vaughan, a life of such great promise that was snuffed out too soon. LT Shaw Vaughn took pride in his life as a soldier, and it is truly a name that, in all of our thoughts, becomes him best.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF MILLER, SD

• Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to the 125th anniversary of the founding of Miller, SD. Miller is the county seat of Hand County, and a center of commerce and civic-mindedness. I am proud to recognize Miller on this historic occasion.

The site for the town was selected by Henry Miller in 1881 as he came north from Benton County, IA. An immigrant train was secured from Chicago that brought 22 men to the site. The men drew lots for claims and formed the town plat on a 40-acre area. Shortly a grocery store, hardware store, hotel, and lumber yard were established. A metropolitan hall was also built in order to hold public meetings, dances, and other social events.

Miller is still a thriving community, with two high schools, a public library, Hand County Memorial Hospital, the Miller Press weekly newspaper, many civic organizations, numerous churches, and a variety of stores.

The people of Miller will be celebrating the quasiquicentennial June 30 through July 4. Some of the scheduled events include a stage performance of "\$400, 40 Acres and Fortitude: The Making of Miller," school reunions, softball, a parade, fireworks, and community potluck. These activities will serve to bring this close-knit community even closer together.

I am proud to publicly honor the progressive and innovative community of Miller on this important milestone. Even 125 years after its founding, Miller continues to be a vibrant addition to our wonderful State, and I once again congratulate them on this achievement.●

THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF BALTIC, SD

• Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to the 125th anniversary of the city of Baltic, SD.

Baltic was founded in 1881 by Richard Franklin and Justin Pettigrew. Baltic, originally named St. Olaf, came into being when the Milwaukee Railroad laid down track between Dell Rapids and Sioux Falls. A weigh station was established on the current site of Baltic. This development was quickly followed by the construction of the power dam and the St. Olaf Roller Mill, the latter being the work of the town's

founders, Franklin and Pettigrew. The flour mill was located on the Big Sioux River and used water as its main source of power, producing 120 barrels of flour each day. In 1884, a bridge was built between Sverdrup and Dell Rapids townships over the Big Sioux River. In 1890, the first school house was built and the first church, Baltic Lutheran, was constructed in 1903. In 1907 three lamp posts were purchased in order to light the city streets. Baltic had several population booms, one in early 1900 and another in the 1970s.

Baltic's placement on the Big Sioux River has brought people to the community and increased the town's commercial importance. Today, Baltic is a progressive community of about 900 citizens. They have many thriving businesses including a post office, co-op, seed company, bank, and the Baltic Beacon newspaper. Baltic is also home to the Baltic High School Bulldogs.

Baltic will be celebrating its 125th anniversary on July 1 through July 4 with a number of events, including a community block party.

Even 125 years after its founding, Baltic still exemplifies what it means to be a great South Dakota community. I am proud to publicly honor Baltic on this memorable occasion, and congratulate the people of Baltic on their achievements.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:16 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Brandon, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4890. An act to amend the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to provide for the expedited consideration of certain proposed rescissions of budget authority.

H.R. 5638. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the unified credit against the estate tax to an exclusion equivalent of \$5,000,000 and to repeal the sunset provision for the estate and generation-skipping taxes, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 409) commemorating the 60th anniversary of the ascension to the throne of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 5638. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the unified credit against the estate tax to an exclusion equivalent of \$5,000,000 and to repeal the sunset provision for the estate and generation-skipping taxes, and for other purposes.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. GRASSLEY, from the Committee on Finance:

Report to accompany S. 3525, a bill to amend subpart 2 of part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to improve outcomes for children in families affected by methamphetamine abuse and addiction, to reauthorize the promoting safe and stable families program, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 109-269).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. DEWINE, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 3561. A bill to amend the Mandatory Victims' Restitution Act to improve restitution for victims of crime, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mr. SALAZAR):

S. 3562. A bill to allocate a portion of the revenue derived from lease sales in the 181 Area to the land and water conservation fund for use by State and local governments for conservation purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BURNS (for himself and Mr. BAUCUS):

S. 3563. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct studies to determine the feasibility and environmental impact of rehabilitating the St. Mary Diversion and Conveyance Works and the Milk River Project, to authorize the rehabilitation and improvement of the St. Mary Diversion and Conveyance Works, to develop an emergency response plan for use in the case of catastrophic failure of the St. Mary Diversion and Conveyance Works, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SANTORUM (for himself, Mr. TALENT, and Mr. ISAKSON):

S. 3564. A bill to provide for comprehensive border security and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. FRIST (for himself and Mr. REID):

S. Res. 520. A resolution to authorize the production of records, testimony, and legal representation; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 707

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 707, a bill to reduce preterm labor and delivery and the risk of pregnancy-related deaths and complications due to pregnancy, and to reduce infant mortality caused by prematurity.

S. 1035

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BURNS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1035, a bill to authorize the pres-

entation of commemorative medals on behalf of Congress to Native Americans who served as Code Talkers during foreign conflicts in which the United States was involved during the 20th century in recognition of the service of those Native Americans to the United States.

S. 1353

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1353, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment of an Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Registry.

S. 1687

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1687, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide waivers relating to grants for preventive health measures with respect to breast and cervical cancers.

S. 3548

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3548, a bill to authorize appropriate action if negotiations with Japan to allow the resumption of United States beef exports are not successful, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 89

At the request of Mr. GREGG, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 89, a concurrent resolution honoring the 100th anniversary of the historic congressional charter of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. DEWINE, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 3561. A bill to amend the Mandatory Victims' Restitution Act to improve restitution for victims of crime, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, today I am joined by Senators GRASSLEY, DURBIN, DEWINE and COLLINS in introducing legislation called the Restitution for Victims of Crime Act of 2006. This legislation will give Justice Department officials the tools they say are needed to help them do a better job of collecting court-ordered restitution and other federal criminal debt.

Over the past several years, the Government Accountability Office conducted at my request and the request of others a study of the amount of federal criminal debt owed victims and the reasons why much of it is still uncollected. The GAO's findings revealed what many victims already know, that the current system for collecting restitution and other federal criminal debt is failing those it is intended to help.

Let me describe what criminal debt is. You go to court. Someone is convicted of a crime, and a fine is levied. The question is, Is that fine being paid? Or you go to court and the judge assigns guilt to a defendant and says: You must make restitution. So that becomes a debt.

The problem is that the amount of uncollected restitution and other federal criminal debt has spiraled upward while the percentage of that debt ultimately recovered for crime victims has plummeted. The amount of uncollected federal criminal debt skyrocketed from \$6 billion in 1996 to over \$41 billion by the end of fiscal year 2005. That's a nearly sevenfold increase in uncollected criminal debt owed to the victims of federal crimes. Some \$15 million in criminal debt ordered by federal courts in North Dakota remained uncollected at the end of 2005, according to information from the Justice Department.

The percentage of debt that is collected or recovered for crime victims in the form of restitution has fallen to embarrassingly low levels. According to the GAO, Federal criminal justice officials collected an average of just 4 cents on every dollar that has been ordered in restitution and other criminal debt. This is restitution ordered by the courts to be paid to crime victims from those who perpetrated the crime.

The victims of crime deserve better. At the very least, crime victims should not be concerned that their prospects for financial restitution are being diminished because criminal offenders are frittering away their ill-gotten gains on lavish lifestyles and the like.

There is plenty of blame to go around for our failure to aggressively tackle this criminal debt problem. Some of the Nation's top law enforcement officials did not pursue a number of major recommendations made by the GAO in 2001 and again in 2004 and 2005 to boost our embarrassingly low criminal debt collection rate. These officials only started to take this matter seriously after I added language to an omnibus spending bill that required the Attorney General to establish a joint federal task force to develop a strategic plan for improving federal criminal debt collection. Second, Congress has not yet held extensive hearings about the federal government's recent track record on criminal debt collection and the related GAO reports.

I understand that criminal debt collection can be a tough job. It may be impossible to collect the full amount of restitution owed to victims in some cases. Clearly criminal debt collections may be more difficult in cases where convicted criminals are in prison, ill-gotten gains are already gone or these criminals are without any other financial means to pay their full restitution. However, GAO's work also made clear that more financial assets could be recovered.

Let me tell you why I and my colleagues have introduced this legislation. I had the GAO review a number of