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No. 26

Senate

(Legislative day of Thursday, February 14, 2008)

The Senate met at 10 o'clock and 2 seconds a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the Honorable SHELDON WHITEHOUSE, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island.

APPOINTMENT OF THE ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, February 15, 2008.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of Rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable SHELDON WHITEHOUSE, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

NATIONAL DRUG PREVENTION AND EDUCATION WEEK

• Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I speak today in recognition of National Drug Prevention and Education Week. One of the most serious issues facing our youth in rural America and throughout the United States is drug use and abuse. Drug abuse and addiction is a problem that never seems to go away and prevention and education are two of the most important steps that we can take to ensure the welfare of our next generation while preserving our current generation. As a nation, we cannot sit idly by and watch the trend of substance abuse grow.

We, as a community, must continue fighting the challenges imposed by

drugs on our communities. We have to face the fact that cocaine, marijuana, and heroin remain a constant threat. We cannot ignore the rapidly increasing use of meth or the abuse of prescription drugs in our rural communities across South Dakota and throughout the Nation. I will continue to seek funding for organizations and programs like South Dakota's Glory House Methamphetamine Addiction Treatment Center and Martin Addiction Recovery Center to help those addicted to drugs and alcohol. We cannot afford to let these and other programs disappear from lack of funding. As we all know, the devastating effects of drug addiction do not just affect those who are addicted, but everyone around them. The services they provide to addicts and families of addicts are irreplaceable in communities in South Dakota. We have a responsibility to our citizens, our State, and our Nation to continue the fight against drug use, abuse and addiction.

Education and prevention are the first steps in this fight against substance abuse. For that reason, the Senate passed S. Res. 434, a resolution designating this week as National Drug Prevention and Education Week. We urge local communities, schools, friends, youths and parents to carry out drug education and drug prevention activities not only throughout this designated week, but throughout the year so we can continue to beat back the horrible tide of drug use and abuse to preserve the health of our Nation for years to come.●

BLACK ENGINEER OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNERS

• Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I speak today to honor the public service of four great Ohioans—Dr. Woodrow Whitlow, Jr., Jo Ann Charleston, Dr. Rickey Shyne, and Dr. Yolanda Hicks.

I am proud to honor these four NASA Glenn engineers for their achievements in the fields of science, engineering, and technology.

On the Shores of Lake Erie, just outside the city of Cleveland, OH, world class scientists and engineers at the NASA Glenn Research Center are conducting world class research. Dr. Wilson, Ms. Charleston, Dr. Shyne, and Dr. Hicks, each of whom has contributed meaningfully to NASA Glenn's important work, are rightfully being honored at this year's Black Engineer of the Year Awards ceremony.

It is the pragmatic, yet creative, approach taken by researchers like Dr. Whitlow, Ms. Charleston, Dr. Shyne, and Dr. Hicks that will allow this country to remain at the forefront of aerospace and space exploration technology. It is the work of the many dedicated scientists and engineers like them that drives our economy and ensures our country's future prosperity.

I am proud to honor these great Ohioans, the work of the NASA Glenn Research Center, and the many other award recipients at the Black Engineer of the Year Awards ceremony. In this new global economy, American innovation in the fields of math, science, and engineering is critical. The hard work and dedication of these four serve as an inspiration for the next generation of American innovators.●

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

• Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, another 2 months have passed, and more American troops lost their lives overseas in Iraq and Afghanistan. It is only right that we take time in the Senate to honor them.

Since last memorializing the names of our fallen troops on December 19, the Pentagon has announced the deaths of 79 troops. They lost their lives in Iraq and in Operation Enduring

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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Freedom, which includes Afghanistan. They will not be forgotten. Today I submit their names into the RECORD:

SGT Corey E. Spates, of LaGrange, Georgia
 SSGT Javares J. Washington, of Pensacola, Florida
 PFC Jack T. Sweet, of Alexandria Bay, New York
 SP Michael T. Manibog, of Alameda, California
 SGT Timothy P. Martin, of Pixley, California
 SSG Gerald A. Whisenhunt, of Orrick, Missouri
 SGT Gary D. Willett, of Alamogordo, New Mexico
 PO1 Luis A. Souffront, of Miami, Florida
 SSG Bradley J. Skelton, of Gordonville, Missouri
 CPL Miguel A. Baez, of Bonaire, Georgia
 SGT John C. Osmolski, of Eustis, Florida
 SGT Timothy R. Van Orman, of Port Matilda, Pennsylvania
 SSG Donald T. Tabb, of Norcross, Georgia
 SSG Rafael Alicea Rivera, of Bayamon, Puerto Rico
 CPO Michael E. Koch, of State College, Pennsylvania
 CPO Nathan H. Hardy, of Durham, New Hampshire
 SP Christopher J. West, of Arlington, Texas
 SSG Chad A. Barrett, of Saltville, Virginia
 SGT Matthew F. Straughter, of St. Charles, Missouri
 CAPT Michael A. Norman, of Killeen, Texas
 CAPT David E. Schultz, of Illinois
 SGT James E. Craig, of Hollywood, South Carolina
 SSG Gary W. Jeffries, of Roscoe, Texas
 CPL Evan A. Marshall, of Athens, Georgia
 SP Brandon A. Meyer, of Orange, California
 PFC Joshua A.R. Young, of Riddle, Oregon
 SGT Mikeal W. Miller, of Albany, Oregon
 MAJ Alan G. Rogers, of Hampton, Florida
 SSG Robert J. Wilson, of Boynton Beach, Florida
 SFC Matthew R. Kahler, of Granite Falls, Minnesota
 CPL Duncan C. Crookston, of Denver, Colorado

SGT Tracy R. Birkman, of New Castle, Virginia
 SSG Robert J. Miller, of Iowa City, Iowa
 PFC Billy M. MacLeod, of Cheboygan, Michigan
 SGT Michael R. Sturdivant, of Conway, Arkansas
 LCpl James M. Gluff, of Tunnel Hill, Georgia
 SPC Richard B. Burress, of Naples, Florida
 SPC Jon M. Schoolcraft III, of Wapakoneta, Ohio
 SSG Justin R. Whiting, of Hancock, New York
 PFC Danny L. Kimme, of Fisher, Illinois
 PFC David H. Sharrett II, of Oakton, Virginia
 SPC John P. Sigsbee, of Waterville, New York
 LCpl Curtis A. Christensen Jr., of Collingswood, New Jersey
 PFC Keith E. Lloyd, of Milwaukee
 LTC Richard J. Berrettini, of Wilcox, Pennsylvania
 CPL Todd E. Davis, of Raymore, Missouri
 SSG Jonathan K. Dozier, of Rutherford, Tennessee
 SSG Sean M. Gaul, of Reno, Nevada
 SGT Zachary W. McBride, of Bend, Oregon
 SFC Matthew I. Pionk, of Superior, Wisconsin
 SGT Christopher A. Sanders, of Roswell, New Mexico
 SGT David J. Drakulich, of Reno, Nevada
 SGT David J. Hart, of Lake View Terrace, California
 PFC Ivan E. Merlo, of San Marcos, California
 PFC Phillip J. Pannier, of Washburn, Illinois
 MAJ Michael L. Green, of Chagrin Falls, Ohio
 SGT James K. Healy, of Hesperia, California
 PFC Timothy R. Hanson, of Kenosha, Wisconsin
 CPL James D. Gudridge, of Carthage, New York
 POSC Menelek M. Brown, of Roswell, New Mexico
 CPL Jason F. Lemke, of West Allis, Wisconsin
 MAJ Andrew J. Olmsted, of Colorado Springs, Colorado

CAPT Thomas J. Casey, of Albuquerque, New Mexico
 SPC Joshua R. Anderson, of Jordan, Minnesota
 SSG Ryan D. Maseth, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
 SGT Shawn F. Hill, of Wellford, South Carolina
 FCGEN P. Douglas, U.S. Navy, of Newcomb, Tennessee
 SGT Reno S. Lacerna, of Waipahu, Hawaii
 PFC Brian L. Gorham, of Woodburn, Kentucky
 PFC Joseph R. Berlin, Jr., of Chelsea, Alabama
 POFC Victor W. Jeffries, of Honolulu, Hawaii
 CAPT Rowdy J. Inman, of Panorama Village, Texas
 SGT Benjamin B. Portell, of Bakersfield, California
 SGT Bryan J. Tutten, of St. Augustine, Florida
 SGT Peter C. Neesley, of Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan
 SrA Nicholas D. Eischen, of Sanger, California
 PFC George J. Howell, of Salinas, California
 1LT Jeremy E. Ray, of Houston, Texas
 CPL Robert S. Ferrell, of Dallas, Texas

We cannot forget these men and women and their sacrifice. These brave souls left behind parents and children, siblings, and friends. We want them to know the country pledges to preserve the memory of our lost soldiers, who paid the ultimate price, with the dignity they deserve.●

RECESS UNTIL 11 A.M., TUESDAY,
 FEBRUARY 19, 2008

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 11 a.m. on Tuesday, February 19, 2008.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 10 o'clock a.m. and 35 seconds, recessed until Tuesday, February 19, 2008, at 11 a.m.