

so many hopes and dreams dashed, so many families grieving, the country was heartbroken, my wife and I were heartbroken, and we are still. I wish we could offer more than our thoughts and our prayers and the thoughts and prayers of our fellow Minnesotans.

We cannot turn back time. We cannot bring back the lives we have lost. But if there is something we can do today in this Chamber—this week in this Chamber—to save lives in our communities tomorrow, to make it more likely that boy will be coming out of the school, then I think we should do it.

Thank you.

I ask unanimous consent that the time for debate only be extended until 8:30 p.m. and that at 8:30 p.m. the majority leader be recognized.

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

Mr. FRANKEN. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order for the Manchin-Toomey amendment No. 715 to be set aside and the following amendments be in order to be called up: Grassley substitute amendment consistent with the summary, which is at the desk; Leahy-Collins amendment No. 713, trafficking; Cornyn amendment No. 719, conceal carry; Feinstein amendment No. 711, assault weapons-clip bans; Burr amendment No. 720, veterans-guns; Lautenberg-Blumenthal amendment No. 714, high-capacity clip ban; Barrasso amendment No. 717, privacy; and Harkin-Alexander amendment relative to mental health, the text of which is at the desk; that following leader remarks on Wednesday, April 17, the time until 4 p.m. be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees to debate the amendments concurrently; that at 4 p.m., the Senate proceed to vote in relation to the Manchin amendment No. 715; that upon disposition of the Manchin amendment, the Senate proceed to votes in relation to the remaining pending amendments in the order listed; that all amendments be subject to a 60-affirmative vote threshold; that no other amendments or motions to commit be in order to any of these amendments or the bill prior to the votes; that there be 2 minutes equally divided prior to each vote, and all after the first vote be 10-minute votes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we now proceed to a period of morning business, and Senators be allowed to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

RECOGNIZING DARN TOUGH VERMONT

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, Vermont is known for many of its great businesses and products. Among those successful companies is Darn Tough Vermont, whose brand represents the commitment to quality and excellence that defines Vermont. For nearly a decade, Darn Tough Vermont has been making the type of quality products our Nation has grown to expect from Vermonters.

Darn Tough was launched in 2004 by Ric Cabot, whose family founded Darn Tough's parent company in Vermont 35 years ago. For three generations, the Cabot family has stayed true to their roots and committed to the Northfield community. While other clothing manufacturers have outsourced their labor, the Cabots carry on where they began—manufacturing in New England, keeping faith with their customers and their 120 employees.

Darn Tough has a local feel to those who visit its factory and know its operators, but the company's name brand is known across the country and around the world wherever people appreciate a high-quality wool hiking and athletic sock, and its products are even worn overseas by our troops in combat. And as with other Vermont companies that equip and outfit our military, taxpayers can rest assured our troops are in good hands when their feet are in quality goods made by Darn Tough.

The Burlington Free Press recently paid tribute to Ric Cabot and all of the employees at Darn Tough for their hard work that continues to benefit our troops and the Vermont economy. I ask unanimous consent that a copy of the recent Free Press article entitled "Rebuilding American textiles, one sock at a time: Darn Tough measures success," be printed into the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD as follows:

[From Burlington Free Press, Apr. 4, 2012]

REBUILDING AMERICAN TEXTILES, ONE SOCK AT A TIME: DARN TOUGH MEASURES SUCCESS

(By Dan D'Ambrosio)

In Northfield, about 50 miles north of White River Junction where Ibex makes its home, Cabot Hosiery Mills, Inc. has been

making private label socks not only in America, but in Vermont, since 1978. Third generation owner Ric Cabot, who launched the company's own label—Darn Tough Vermont—in 2004, says one of the secrets to Darn Tough's success is the deceptive difficulty of making a good sock.

"People think socks are easy to do, it's just a pair of socks, how hard could it be?" Cabot said. "I guess that allows people to come into the market, but the staying power of companies that don't produce their own product is very short. There are so many people that are doing it well, it's hard to maintain a presence."

Perhaps the best symbol of Cabot's fastidiousness when it comes to socks is the 18-inch ruler projecting incongruously out of his back pocket when he greets visitors at the front door of the plain metal building that houses Darn Tough.

Cabot sat on the ruler and broke it about 20 years ago. He had one of Cabot's maintenance workers glue it back together, giving it the look of a broken bone that has healed well. There are certain things, Cabot says, you don't want to replace.

Cabot is never without his ruler as he roams the knitting floor and quality control departments of Darn Tough, handling socks, and measuring them.

"I sweat quarter-inches," Cabot says. "The first thing I do when I pick up a sock, is it the right length? If a sock is the right length, that means a lot of people are doing their jobs."

Later, at a quality audit station, Cabot picks up a sock, a men's large.

"Socks that made it this far, there's not going to be a huge hole, or wrong color, but the sizing should be right," he says. "This should be at or on 10¾ inches."

It's dead on. Socks, Cabot explains, are a math problem, "like most things in life." Among the numbers you have to work out are the size and gauge of the needles used to knit the socks. The gauge of the needle is basically how many needles you can fit in a circumference, because socks are knit in a circle.

"Those needles are in a cylinder," Cabot says. "You have to take into account needle size, cylinder size, what's the right weight of wool, nylon and Lycra? How are you going to reinforce it? How many stitches per inch? Where are you going to put the terry, the cushioning?"

Once you answer all of these many mathematical questions, Cabot says, you have the "DNA" of a Darn Tough sock. Then that DNA has to be expanded to hiking socks, running socks, cycling socks. Every sock has more in common, mathematically, than they don't have in common with other Darn Tough socks.

"That's the math of it, the durability story, the comfort story, the fit story," Cabot said.

But all those stories, he said, are trumped by another story when it comes to marketing Darn Tough socks: The Vermont story. Darn Tough employs about 120 people in Northfield, maintaining the New England tradition of textiles that once included hundreds of towns.

"You got to remind people, they know it, but you tell them nobody ever outsourced anything for quality," Cabot said. "That's the key."

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO RAMBLERS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, last Monday, college basketball fans crowned their newest champion, the Louisville Cardinals. I wish to take a

moment to congratulate another historic college hoops team.

The NCAA recently announced that the 1963 NCAA Men's Basketball Champions, the Loyola University Chicago Ramblers, would become the first team ever enshrined into the National Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame.

In an era when racism gripped the game, Loyola Coach George Ireland assembled the first predominately black team to win an NCAA Championship. Loyola's starting lineup featured four African Americans. This was unheard of in those days.

Despite hateful comments from the public and threatening letters from the Ku Klux Klan, Loyola lost only two games all season and marched through the Final Four. In the championship game they faced Cincinnati, a team which had been ranked No. 1 all season and had won the tournament the 2 previous years. If this wasn't pressure enough, the 1963 NCAA championship was also the first nationally televised NCAA title game.

Les Hunter, starting center for Loyola, remembered it as an opportunity to show "that the brand of black basketball was exciting and it provided for more exposure and recruiting for future players."

The championship game was an uphill battle for Loyola. After missing 13 of its first 14 shots, they trailed by 15 points with less than 15 minutes to play. Then, with only 9 seconds left and the score tied, Walter Vic Rouse tipped in a missed shot to put the Loyola Ramblers ahead by 2 points. When the final buzzer sounded, the Loyola University Chicago Ramblers were national champions.

To this day, Loyola remains the only school from Illinois to have won the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championship.

To most players, winning the NCAA championship would be unquestionably the highlight of the season.

As Ramblers point guard and All-American Jerry Harkness says, now that he has gotten older he is even more proud of a game Loyola played earlier in that championship season.

On March 15, 1963, Loyola and Mississippi State played a game the NCAA calls The Game of Change. It was a game which changed college basketball forever—and helped change race relations in America.

Mississippi State had won their conference for the past 3 years, but it appeared they would be unable to compete in the 1963 NCAA tournament because of an unwritten State law barring the team from competing against teams with black players. Rather than forfeit their place, Mississippi State's president and coach decided to defy Governor Ross Barnett's vow of "segregation now and forever." They snuck their team out of town under the cover of darkness to avoid being served an injunction barring them from leaving the State.

Loyola won The Game of Change, but both teams, together, made history.

The Game of Change altered college basketball and became a watershed event in the civil rights era. Three years later, for the first time in NCAA history, Texas Western, with an all-black starting lineup, won the championship. The 1963 Loyola University Chicago Ramblers helped make this possible.

Loyola's basketball team was led by Coach Ireland and Assistant Coach Jerry Lyne, and featured starters John Egan, Jerry Harkness, Les Hunter, Ron Miller, and Vic Rouse, as well as reserves Dan Connaughton, Jim Reardon, Rich Rochelle, and Chuck Wood. All of those individuals are members of the Loyola Athletics Hall of Fame, and each of the five starters has also had his jersey number retired.

I congratulate the 1963 Loyola University Chicago Ramblers on their accomplishments and look forward to their induction ceremony in the National Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame on November 24, 2013.

HONORING MILDRED MANNING

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, today I honor the legacy of Mildred Manning, the last surviving American female WWII POW, who died March 8 at age 98. Mrs. Manning's heroics in Bataan and Corregidor are an enduring example of the bravery of American servicemembers and of nurses' dedication to caring for patients. I wish to share her amazing story.

Mrs. Manning, born in 1914 on a poor Georgia farm, aspired to escape the poverty which surrounded her. She attended nursing school during the Depression, and in 1939 she joined the Army Nurse Corps. Wishing to see the world, she requested assignment in the Philippines.

Weeks after Mrs. Manning arrived in Manila, Japanese forces attacked Pearl Harbor in Hawaii and a U.S. air base near Manila. During the months-long Battle of the Philippines which forced an American retreat to the peninsula of Bataan and the island of Corregidor, Mrs. Manning was one of a handful of Army and Navy nurses who braved the relentless attacks to treat wounded and dying soldiers. When Americans surrendered in May, 1942, Mrs. Manning was one of 77 Army and Navy nurses who were captured and spent the rest of the war in harrowing imprisonment.

The prison, built on the grounds of Manila's Santo Tomas University, held nearly 4,000 people in squalid conditions. There were no showers, beds, or kitchens. Hundreds of people were forced to share a single toilet. Food was so scarce prisoners suffered severely from malnutrition.

Despite these trials, Lieutenant Manning and her fellow nurses remained fiercely dedicated to providing medical care to those around them. For 2½ years, they maintained strict order, wore uniforms, and cared for their fellow prisoners. For their efforts, she and her fellow nurses earned the moniker,

"Angels of the Pacific." Upon their return to the U.S. in 1945, Mrs. Manning and her fellow nurses were honored by President Roosevelt with the Bronze Star Medal and a Presidential Unit Citation.

We are all so grateful for Mildred Manning's service. Her legacy will live on in our Nation's history, reminding us of the horrors of war and of the bravery of the special people who persevere by helping others. Mrs. Manning's unwavering dedication to serving our Nation in the midst of hardship continues to inspire me, and I am honored to commemorate her today.

ISRAEL'S 65TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today I wish to express my congratulations to Israel on the 65th anniversary of its independence.

Today, America's closest ally in the Middle East, Israel, commemorates its Independence Day, Yom Ha'atzmaut—one day after its Memorial Day, Yom Hazikaron, and one week after Holocaust Remembrance Day, Yom HaShoah.

While Independence Day is a celebration for the people of Israel, this Memorial Day was marked by somber ceremonies and national grief over the loss of their soldiers. Nationwide sirens and moments of silence emphasize the sacrifices Israelis have made to protect their thriving, free and democratic state. These intensely personal losses in such a small country underscore the continuing threats faced by Israelis, the scale of their efforts and the importance of a Jewish homeland. And Yom HaShoah reminds Israelis of the terrible devastation of the Holocaust that happened to the Jewish people in a time before they could celebrate the existence of the modern State of Israel.

As we celebrate Israel's Independence Day, we must continue to reduce the key threats to Israel's security. We must focus on opportunities for peace in the Middle East. Israel has always been prepared to pursue those opportunities and make peace with its neighbors. Over the past six decades, despite diplomatic gestures, multiple Arab countries have repeatedly attacked Israel. We should not forget that it was Palestinian, not Israeli, leaders who walked away from the negotiation table at Camp David in 2000, on the eve of what would have been a historic breakthrough for peace.

Today, it is Israel who continues to acknowledge the necessary framework for any peace agreement—a two state solution. While Israel has shown willingness for direct negotiations, the Palestinians continue to be an unreliable partner in moving toward peace. It is vitally important to stress the importance of the Palestinian Authority's close security cooperation with Israel. If peace is to be possible, the Palestinian Authority also needs to confront the recent surge in violence in the