

McCormack, who started the half by giving Jayhawk fans back home something to cheer about with an electrifying, signature Jayhawk alley-oop. That play ignited a 20–6 run that brought the Jayhawks within 1 point. In true Kansas fashion, the Jayhawks ramped up their defense and began executing the fundamentals of basketball. Kansans learn in the front driveway and haymounds across the state. The game became a slugfest at that point with KU and North Carolina trading body blows back and forth until McCormack sank one last shot to take the lead with just over a minute left. That shot ultimately sealed this KU team's spot in the history books, brought KU its fourth NCAA national championship, and added to their lead as the winningest basketball program in NCAA history.

For all of us who saw the game, it was clear that this championship lived up to the March Madness hype. Every Kansas basketball fan will remember this team for their ability to share the ball—or as Coach Self says, “to not let the ball stick.” Each game during this tournament seemed to have a different hero, but in this historic championship game, every player was a hero, and everyone's contributions were necessary to win. This Jayhawk team made us all proud to be Kansans and delivered the greatest final game comeback ever.

This group should relish in that fact, and I hope they also understand the enormity of the impact they have made with this title on so many fans, young and old alike. This team gave us hope and entertainment to distract us from a challenging past couple of years. They showed up every day and did their job. With this title, current KU students now have the experience of a lifetime, alumni and fans everywhere are connected forever through this one game, and every little girl and boy across Kansas has learned what hard work, teamwork, and a never-give-up attitude can accomplish.

To the players graduating or heading to the draft, I wish you the best of success and happiness in your future endeavors. To Coach Self and everyone else returning, I look forward to current and future generations of Kansans cheering you on and celebrating the tradition of Kansas Basketball. “Rock Chalk!”

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING RALPH BENNIE “BEN” GRAHAM

• Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to a distinguished lawyer, educator, and loving husband, father, and grandfather, Ralph Bennie “Ben” Graham, Jr. Ben passed away on February 3, 2022. He leaves behind a powerful legacy of public service and dedication to Nevada's criminal justice system and legal community.

A Washington State native, Ben moved to Las Vegas in 1977 and worked

as a prosecutor at the Clark County District Attorney's Office. After 31 years, Ben retired as chief deputy district attorney. Throughout this time, Ben also represented the Nevada District Attorneys' Association, the Nevada Supreme Court, and the Administrative Office of the Courts in the Nevada Legislature. In these roles, he lobbied to improve Nevada's criminal laws and the State's judicial system. Outside the courtroom, Ben taught courses on criminal justice at UNLV's William S. Boyd School of Law and the Community College of Southern Nevada, providing invaluable lessons for our Nation's next generation of lawyers.

Throughout his career, Ben placed a great focus on the well-being of members of Nevada's legal community. In 1986, he cofounded Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers, LCL, a confidential program dedicated to helping members of the Nevada bar recover from substance abuse issues. In large part due to Ben's mentorship, countless attorneys were able to obtain the assistance they needed to heal and move forward in their legal careers. Ben received numerous awards in recognition of his service with the program.

Nevada has benefited immensely from Ben's commitment to the legal profession and community. Earlier this year, Nevada Governor Steve Sisolak recognized Ben's contributions to the State by proclaiming February 17, 2022, as “a day in honor of Ben Graham.” Many in the Nevada Legislature remember Ben for his kindness and generosity, as exemplified through his famous chocolate chip cookies, which he annually gifted to colleagues and friends. Whether it was through his baking skills or charitable efforts, Ben improved the lives of those who knew him in the Silver State.

I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering Ben for his significant impact in Nevada. I celebrate Ben's legacy, and I extend my deepest condolences to his wife, Elana; his children; grandchildren; and his family and friends during this difficult time.●

TRIBUTE TO IDAHO PARALYMPIC ATHLETES

• Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, along with my colleagues Senator Jim Risch and Representative MIKE SIMPSON, we congratulate Idaho-connected athletes Jake Adicoff, Dani Aravich, Jesse Keefe, and Josh Sweeney for their hard work and dedication in representing the United States at the 2022 Winter Paralympic Games. We also congratulate Sam Wood, Jake Adicoff's friend and guide, on his important role in helping to earn three medals.

Jake Adicoff, of Sun Valley, with Sam Wood, earned three medals in Nordic skiing. They were instrumental in earning a gold medal in cross-country skiing for the U.S. 4x2.5-kilometer mixed relay team. They also earned two silver medals: one in long-distance cross-country skiing and one in sprint

cross-country skiing. These were the third Paralympic games for Jake Adicoff, who also won a silver medal in the 2018 Winter Paralympic Games. Jake, now a four-time Paralympic medalist, graduated from Wood River High School before Bowdoin College and earned three medals in cross-country skiing in the 2021 World Championships: gold in middle-distance, silver in sprint, and bronze in long-distance.

Boise native Dani Aravich competed in Nordic skiing in her second Paralympics. She finished eighth in the sprint cross-country, ninth in the middle-distance cross-country, 11th in the middle-distance biathlon, and 13th in the sprint biathlon. Dani graduated from Bishop Kelly High School in Boise, where she competed in cross-country running and track and field, and later she competed in these events at Butler University.

In his Paralympics debut, Jesse Keefe, of Bellevue, competed in multiple Alpine skiing events. He placed ninth in the slalom, 15th in the super combined and giant slalom, and 22nd in downhill. Jesse, an avid outdoorsman who started skiing at age 2 and won his first race at age 3, placed first in the 2021 U.S. National Championships in the giant slalom and slalom and placed third in the super-g.

Retired U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Josh Sweeney, who received a Purple Heart for his service in Afghanistan, competed in Nordic skiing in his second Paralympics. He earned 16th in the long-distance cross-country, 19th in the sprint cross-country, and 24th in the middle-distance cross-country. Josh Sweeney is originally from Arizona and currently a Boise resident. He also earned a gold medal in the Paralympic Winter Games Sochi 2014 on the U.S. sled hockey team. From 2010–2013, he played on the San Antonio Rampage, a club sled hockey team made up entirely of injured military athletes, and he played on the Dallas Stars club team in 2012, helping the Stars earn the 2012 USA Hockey Sled Classic title.

These athletes have pushed themselves remarkably far to compete in their respective events. Their examples of strength and triumph serve to inspire fellow Americans and people around the world. As we share in congratulating them on their achievements, we are reminded of the remarkable work it has taken each of them to reach their goals.●

REMEMBERING BRETT THOMAS BOSS

• Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize Albert Lea Fire Lieutenant Brett Thomas Boss, who passed away on February 5, 2022, at the age of 38 after a decade-long battle with stage 4 Ewing's Sarcoma.

Brett was born to Karen Boss on November 30, 1983, in Fargo, ND, and was later adopted by Todd Boss in 1992. From a young age, he demonstrated a clear drive to help others. In high

school, he participated in the local Fire Explorers program, which gave him both the skills to save lives in his community and a dedication to public service that guided his entire life.

Brett's 17-year firefighting career was nothing short of extraordinary. As an EMT, a hazmat technician, a fire investigator, and a firefighter instructor, he worked every day to keep the people of Albert Lea safe. Deputy Fire Chief Jeff Laskowske put it best: Brett was a true hero.

Brett's heroism only became clearer following his diagnosis. In the words of his loving family, he "fought cancer like a boss." But Brett didn't just fight for himself; following an alarming string of cancer cases among firefighters in Albert Lea and Austin, he became a fierce advocate for his brothers and sisters in the field. He played a key role in passing State legislation that secured funding for equipment to keep firefighters safe from carcinogens as well as a grant program for firefighters living with cancer or heart disease. In 2018, we held an event together in support of legislation to create a national firefighter cancer registry, and days later, the President signed it into law. Brett also collaborated with the Firefighter Cancer Support Network, a group of firefighters that worked to provide resources, support, and education to first responders in need.

While Brett had a lot to be proud of in his career, he was even prouder of his family. He married his wife Danielle in 2006, and they went on to have two great kids, Jaelyn and Aiden. Brett could often be found cheering them on from the sidelines of sporting events or sharing with them his love of camping and fishing.

While it is hard not to feel like Brett's life was cut short, his legacy as an incredible firefighter, advocate, son, husband, and dad will last forever. He changed lives; he saved lives; and he made the world a better place.●

WEST KENTUCKY VETERAN AND PATRIOT MUSEUM

● Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, stories of the past and the memorabilia and photos that often accompany them serve many important purposes in our culture. They can entertain us and provoke laughter and joy. They can reinforce the values that were important to our parents and grandparents. And they can teach difficult or even painful lessons from our history. The West Kentucky Veteran and Patriot Museum, now celebrating its 10th year, is a place where such stories can be discovered.

Founded by Sandy Hart, whose husband, Ray, served in the U.S. Marine Corps and then went on to serve others as a pastor and foreign missionary, the museum houses an eclectic collection of personal objects, records, photographs, and narrative stories curated by Sandy and displayed in a red brick building in tiny Wickliffe, KY, which is

located on the Mississippi River in far west Kentucky. While most of the donated materials are from servicemembers and their families in the Purchase Region of the Commonwealth, the visitors—the men and women you are likely to encounter when you stop by—are from all 50 States and beyond. Sandy loves to sit and talk to them and hear their stories, memories that are often stirred up as they wander through the displays in the museum.

The vision for the West Kentucky Veteran and Patriot Museum was born when Sandy and others in the community helped organize a convoy of over a dozen buses and 800 people to visit the World War II Memorial here in our Nation's Capital. This outpouring of interest compelled Sandy to create a place that honored our veterans year-round—and not just those who served in the Second World War.

I have visited with Sandy at the museum and watched her at work. She is tireless in her devotion to our veterans and in capturing and memorializing their stories so that we can learn from, laugh with, and be thankful for our men and women in uniform throughout our history.●

RECOGNIZING TOTAL EQUINE SERVICES

● Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Kentucky small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize the small business, Total Equine Services of Falmouth, KY, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

The breeding, training, and of course racing of horses is an integral component in the history and culture of our beautiful State. Many refer to Lexington, KY, as the Horse Capital of the World, with their 1,200-acre Kentucky Horse Park in addition to the hundreds of horse farms operating in the area. Moreover, as of 2019, the Kentucky equine industry had an economic impact of \$3.4 billion and supplied 80,000 direct and indirect jobs. Needless to say it is a leading industry in our state. For that reason I am delighted to honor a business so involved in that iconic industry, Total Equine Services, founded by Steve Thomas and his wife Patti Thomas.

When it comes to raising Quarter Horses, Steve Thomas is a seasoned veteran. He and his wife founded Total Equine Services 15 years ago, but he has over 20 years' experience caring for this breed under his belt. Together, they opened the business which initially offered only an arena where one could come and ride horses. They quickly expanded to provide a variety of services ranging from boarding, breeding, and training horses. In addition to that same arena, the Thomas' constructed a Foaling Barn and 16 enclosed stalls where owners can board

their horses. The Thomas' also offer nutrition and feed balancing services as well as a full tack shop where one can satisfy all their riding equipment needs. When it comes to the care and maintenance of horses, Total Equine Services offers a full package.

With parents like Steve and Patti, it is no wonder that their son Jason Thomas grew up with a love for horses. He and his wife Nikki Thomas have joined the team at Total Equine Services. Nikki was a natural addition to the team since, just like her in-laws, she has an extensive background in raising Quarter Horses. Moreover, Nikki is seasoned in training horses in the art of barrel racing and pole bending. Pole bending is a timed event where a rider must direct their horse in a speedy serpentine path around six poles arranged in a line. Meanwhile, barrel racing is an event where the horse and rider must attempt to run a cloverleaf pattern around preset barrels in the fastest time possible. Needless to say, training of this sort requires meticulous repetition and a keen eye for detail, which Nikki gladly brings to the arena. And with all the exercise and activity that their stock see, the Thomas' make sure to keep their horses properly shod, with Jason being a certified farrier, a blacksmith that creates horseshoes, who keeps their fleet equipped with the proper horseshoes they need.

The Thomas' have developed a reputation for covering every need a horse owner or rider might have, but they are also highly regarded for their breeding services. Their current stud horse, Redneck Jettin Down, has not only won several local shows, he has placed at national competitions held through the American Quarter Horse Association. In 2014, Redneck Jettin Down placed fourth at the All American Quarter Horse Congress, placed 6th at the AQHA World show in Jr Pole Bending, and placed fifth at the North American Live Stock Show. It goes without saying that Redneck Jettin Down is an asset to Total Equine Services.

Whether they grew up in the heart of our big cities or in our smallest of towns, every Kentucky citizen has heard about the glamour of Keeneland and Churchill Downs. The equine industry plays an active part of the Kentucky identity, and it is businesses like Total Equine Services that retain the respect and renown of that industry by taking special care of their breeds. Moreover, the Thomas' and families like them play a vital role in our State's economy, as they support commerce within our more rural communities.

Congratulations to Steve, Patti, Jason, and Nikki Thomas and the rest of the team at Total Equine Services. I wish them the best of luck and look forward to watching their continued growth and success in Kentucky.●