

respected member of the Military Assistant's office. His nature and professionalism served him well, as he capably worked alongside Members of Congress and congressional staffers, executive branch officials, and those in private sector organization. Colonel Mitnaul's accomplishments reflect highly upon himself, the U.S. Air Force, and the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

I am proud that Colonel Henry Mitnaul is a fellow North Carolinian. I am grateful for his lengthy and distinguished career in public service, as I am for all who serve.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DUANE JOHNSON

● Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I first met Duane Johnson when he came on the baseball field at Wilcox County High School in 1965. We were a small school. I was a senior in a class of 30 and Duane, a junior, had just moved to town. Though we had a competitive team, winning our division of the Black Belt Conference that year, we were not particularly talented. While we knew a good bit about baseball, we had not grown up as kids do today, playing well-coached and competitive baseball from elementary school on up. Duane, however, impressed us at once with his skill and knowledge of the game. I liked the way he handled first base and he could hit too. More importantly, he was never showy but played within himself. We were impressed and liked him.

That was quite a few years ago and we have not seen one another since. I don't think. So it was with real pleasure that I read that my old teammate, now the head coach of Patrician Academy in Butler, Alabama, had just completed a sterling season with a 25-7 record, winning the AISA State Championship. Further, Duane was named AISA "Coach of the Year". He has been the head coach at Patrician for 20 years and has been a part of 6 state championships as a Saint. This year's team produced two All-State players, Bo Meeks and Brent Bonner, and an honorable mention, Brandon Mosely. Quick to give credit to others, Duane praised assistant coach Jim Archibald to the Choctaw Sun saying, "We couldn't have done it without him." After graduating from Wilcox County High School in 1966, Duane attended Livingston University, now the University of West Alabama, where he played baseball. He is married to the former Nara Gyles, a Choctaw County native, and has three children. Typical of so many of Alabama's teachers and coaches, Duane was a member of the Alabama National Guard and was a veteran of "Desert Storm". Our country is deeply indebted those civilians who serve in the Guard and Reserve and who are prepared to respond when called upon. Coaches mean a lot to young people and I know that the consistent record of success that Duane has had at Patrician demonstrates his

ability to positively impact these young people. All over this country, coaches give their time and attention to boys and girls, introducing them to the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat. More importantly, they teach them teamwork. Teamwork is a very important strength of Americans. We have the ability to quickly organize ourselves and function as one whether in business or combat. Such character traits are largely developed on the athletic field. Great teamwork comes from great coaches.

Let me close by giving my sincerest congratulations to Coach Johnson and his state championship Saints. They have had a most memorable season and they will be able to savor their achievement for the rest of their lives.●

#### BICENTENNIAL OF THE BIRTH OF HIRAM POWERS

● Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, today, July 29, 2005, is the bicentennial of the birth of Hiram Powers, an American neoclassical sculptor whose works are admired in museums throughout this Nation and in this beautiful Capitol. Yesterday, today, and tomorrow lovers of art and students of history are gathering in Woodstock, VT, the town of Hiram Powers birth and his early years, to celebrate and rediscover his contributions to American art and sculpture.

I sincerely wish I could join the Hiram Powers Celebration Committee in Woodstock this weekend. However, to enjoy Hiram Powers work, I only have to walk a few steps out of this Chamber. At the foot of the East Staircase, just outside the Senate Chamber, stands a statue of Benjamin Franklin sculpted by Hiram Powers. That statue, commissioned by President James Buchanan in 1859, was delivered to its present location in 1862. In the corresponding location in the House Wing of the Capitol stands a statue of Thomas Jefferson, completed by Hiram Powers in 1863. Also here in the Capitol, a bust of Supreme Court Chief Justice John Marshall by Hiram Powers resides, fittingly, in the Old Supreme Court Chamber.

The Smithsonian American Art Museum collection includes 70 works by Hiram Powers. The Corcoran Gallery of Art and the National Gallery of Art, both located here in Washington, also include works by Hiram Powers in their distinguished collections. In other U.S. cities—including New York City, Boston, Cincinnati, and Milwaukee, to name a few—museums of fine arts hold Hiram Powers' works.

Hiram Powers' most well-known sculpture is "The Greek Slave," first completed in 1843. One rendition from 1846 sits today at the Corcoran, and a later rendition from 1873 can be found at the Smithsonian. To quote a curator of American Art at the corcoran, "The Greek Slave," the first publicly exhibited, life-size American sculpture depicting a fully nude human figure, met

with unprecedented popular and critical success. Arguably the most famous American sculpture ever, the Slave not only won Powers enormous international acclaim but also enhanced the overseas reputation of American art and culture." Hiram Powers was an outspoken abolitionist in the decades preceding the Civil War. "The Greek Slave", which depicts a Greek Christian woman, captured during the Greek War of Independence, awaiting her sale in the slave market, became a symbol of the savagery of slavery in the United States. Scholars note that it was the most widely viewed statue of its time thanks to its tour of Eastern and Midwestern States.

Hiram Powers died in 1873, leaving behind the richest legacy of art of, perhaps, any American sculptor. I close today by thanking the Hiram Powers Celebration Committee. I wish them success during this weekend's events to remember Hiram Powers, his contributions to American art, and his Vermont heritage.●

#### TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF L. D. "DICK" OWEN, JR.

● Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a long time friend and lifelong Alabamian who recently passed away. Mr. L. D. "Dick" Owen, Jr. died at the age of 86 following a life dedicated to service, family, his community and his State.

Dick has led a remarkable life. As a war hero, he received six Bronze Stars and an Arrowhead. He served as a U.S. Paratrooper during World War II in North Africa and Europe, and in the Far East during the Korean Conflict. As a public official, he was devoted to the environment, agriculture and education. And as a member of the Bay Minette community, Dick was a dedicated public servant to his hometown and served in numerous volunteer positions throughout his life.

Born in Baldwin County on April 10, 1919, he attended Baldwin County Schools and graduated from the University of Alabama in 1941. Upon college graduation, he was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserve and entered Active Duty on June 27, 1941.

In August 1942, Dick attended Airborne School, and after completion of training at Fort Benning, GA, he was assigned to the 504th Paratroop Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division at Ft. Bragg, NC.

He served overseas from May, 1943, until November, 1945, and it was during his service in Europe that he received six Bronze Stars and an Arrowhead for his participation in the invasions into Sicily, Naples, Rome (Anzio), Rhineland, the Aredenes (Battle of the Bulge) and Central Europe. He was awarded the highest Dutch military decoration, the Militaire Willems Order, and also the Belgium Citation Pour le Merite, while his unit, the 504th, received the Distinguished Unit Citation.