

the opportunity to throw pies at teachers. This innovative program encouraged family reading time and motivated students to read independently. The students enthusiastically accepted the challenge and worked very hard to meet their goal. They succeeded in their endeavor, a magnificent achievement by some motivated young people in my State.

Mr. President, we all know reading is an essential skill that enables children to communicate and convey ideas more effectively. Children who acquire good reading skills will be better equipped to compete in today's dynamic world that demands an education as a prerequisite for self-sufficiency and participating in a highly skilled work force. Illiteracy is a problem that plagues West Virginia as well as the Nation, and too many children reach adulthood lacking abilities they need for a secure future. Programs like the million pages project are consistent with goals set by the Department of Education. They also complement the goals of the National Commission on Children, a bipartisan group of policymakers, educators, and individuals that I led in looking for ways to strengthen families and better the lives of tomorrow's leaders.

The million pages project is a step in the right direction, going beyond basic classroom instruction to develop a love of reading and encourage the development of these vital skills. Programs such as the million pages project are helping to fight the battle of illiteracy and giving West Virginia's children a better chance for a bright future. This program serves as a fine example of what happens when people come together to promote a worthy cause, and I hope others will learn from the Meadows challenge.

Achieving this goal of 1 million pages is a great honor, and again, Mr. President, I sincerely congratulate the Meadows Elementary community. I applaud Jeannie Riley for working so hard to initiate the million pages project, the teachers of Meadows Elementary for embracing it with enthusiasm, the parents for reading to their children and supporting this initiative, and the students for their tremendous effort and persistence in reaching their goal.●

#### SALUTING THE MICHIGAN PARTICIPANTS IN THE 1996 SUMMER OLYMPIC GAMES

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, every 4 years, for 2 weeks the collective attention of the world falls upon those exceptional men and women who possess the drive, ability, and character to compete as Olympians. From July 19 to August 4, 1996, the centennial anniversary of the Modern Olympic Games will be held in Atlanta, GA. On this occasion, America's greatest athletes will face their counterparts from 197 countries.

All of our Nation's citizens have a vested personal interest, and deserv-

edly so, in the accomplishments of our athletes and coaches. However, it is the families, friends, and neighbors of these individuals who are especially qualified in their pride. Olympic talent cannot be attained overnight, it takes years to hone and develop; undoubtedly an impossibility without the support and encouragement provided by local communities.

At least 30 individuals with distinct ties to my State of Michigan will take part in the upcoming centennial Games. Whether native born and raised, to attend school, to train, or to coach, they all share some sort of affiliation to the Great Lakes State. While the following men and women will participate in the Olympics first and foremost as Americans, I would like to take a moment to recognize them also as Michiganians:

Bob Allshouse, Birmingham, team leader, table tennis.

Frankie Andreu, Dearborn, men's road, cycling.

Thomas Carlton Bruner, Ann Arbor, 1,500m free, swimming.

Pam Bustin, Haslett, defender, field hockey.

David DeGraaf, Lansing, circle runner, team handball.

Tom Dolan, Ann Arbor, 400m free, 200m, 400m IM, swimming.

Greg Giovanazzi, Ann Arbor, assistant coach, volleyball.

Charlie Greene, East Lansing, assistant team leader, track and field.

Grant Hill, Detroit, forward, basketball.

Mora Kanim, Ann Arbor, assistant coach, volleyball.

Al Kastl, Mount Clemens, team leader, Greco-Roman wrestling.

Mike King, Grand Rapids, head coach, archery.

Charles Karch' Kiraly, Jackson, beach volleyball.

Tom Malchow, Ann Arbor, 200m fly, swimming.

Ann Marsh, Royal Oak, women's foil, Fencing.

Floyd Mayweather, Grand Rapids, featherweight, boxing.

Al Mitchell, Marquette, head coach, boxing.

Eric Namesnik, Ann Arbor, 400m IM, swimming.

Connie Paraskevin-Young, Detroit, women's track, cycling.

Suzanne Paxton, East Lansing, women's foil, fencing.

Jeffrey Pfaendtner, Detroit, men's lightweight four, rowing.

John Piersma, Ann Arbor, 200m, 400m free, 800m FR, swimming.

Annette Salmeen, Ann Arbor, 200m Fly, 800m FR, swimming.

Kent Steffes, Ann Arbor, beach volleyball.

Todd Sweeris, Grand Rapids, men's doubles, table tennis.

Sheila Taormina, Livonia, 800m FR, swimming.

Kirk Trost, Ann Arbor, assistant coach, wrestling.

Jon Urbanek, Ann Arbor, assistant coach, swimming.

MaliVai Washington, Ann Arbor, men's doubles, tennis.

Eric Wunderlich, Ann Arbor, 200m breast, swimming.

The founder of the modern Olympic games, Baron Pierre de Coubertin, is credited with having written the Olympic Creed, which is as follows: "The most important thing in the Olympic Games is not to win but to take part, just as the most important thing in life is not the triumph but the struggle. The essential thing is not to have conquered but to have fought well."

It is inevitable that next month in Atlanta records will be broken, heroes will be born, and Olympic legends will be created. However, before the first event gets underway and the medal counts begin, each and every athlete and coach deserves our respect and admiration. For in the spirit of the Olympic Creed, the dedication to undergo the years of intense training and preparation necessary to become an Olympian, is a significant victory in itself.

To be chosen to represent one's country, and State, is an awesome responsibility; and I have full faith and confidence our athletes and coaches will perform with distinction. I salute these extraordinary men and women for their achievements thus far, and look forward to news of even greater successes on their part in the days ahead.●

#### RECOGNIZING THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION FOR 50 YEARS OF LEADERSHIP AND ACHIEVEMENT IN SUPPORT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

● Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, today I have the distinct honor of recognizing the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC] for 50 years of activities dedicated to protecting the public health of the people of the United States. What began on July 1, 1946, as the Communicable Disease Center has expanded its purview to include a wide range of efforts in research and prevention of disease, disability, and injury. In service to humankind, our Nation and the world, CDC employees have distinguished the agency and themselves through their efforts in the laboratory, the office and the field at the Atlanta headquarters, several sites nationwide and locations spotting the globe.

In 1996, the activities of the CDC reflect the wide range of issues and activities necessary to promote the public health. The CDC is still a center of activity to combat infectious disease, but today, it is much more. The CDC's Epidemic Intelligence Service, established in 1951, continues to train doctors to solve the most complex medical mysteries and as the original focus of the CDC has expanded, new divisions devoted to occupational safety and health, chronic disease prevention and health promotion, injury prevention, health statistics, and environmental health have been established. The components of the CDC also reflect the diversity of society; currently there are