The Senate met at 10 a.m., and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

God of all nations, Lord of all life, we thank You that You place within all of us the pursuit of excellence. The longing to be our best is stirred in us as we watch the creative competition of the Olympics in Atlanta. It is inspiring to see men and women press the limits as they go for the gold. Whether it is the 100-meter short run for lasting fame, or the daring high dive with no splash, we look on with renewed desire to live at full potential in our own responsibilities and relationships. We admire the dedication, the sacrifice, the indefatigable practice, the mastery, the joy of the Olympic athletes. Today we join the Nation in cheering Tom Dolan’s gallant victory over physical limitations to win the swimming 400-meter individual medley.

Then we wonder about our own discipline in prayer, spiritual growth, and character development. What could happen in our lives if we had the commitment of these runners, gymnasts, swimmers, and team players have to their sport and their nation. Today we want to run the race of our lives, stretching every part of our being toward the high calling of serving You with excellence in our work in Government. Bless the men and women of this Senate and all of us called to work with them as we make this a day to go for the gold of glorifying You with all the intellect of our minds, the passion of our hearts, and the strength of our souls. Through our Lord and Savior. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able chairman of the Budget Committee, Senator DOMENICI, is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. DOMENICI. This morning the Senate will immediately resume consideration of the reconciliation bill until the hour of 2 p.m. Any Senator still intending to offer an amendment to that bill must do so prior to that time. Under the consent agreement reached on Friday, all previously ordered votes on amendments as well as votes ordered today will begin at 9:30 a.m. tomorrow morning. No roll call votes will occur today. However, all Senators should be notified that there will be a lengthy series of roll call votes on Tuesday morning. Also, at 2 o’clock today the Senate will begin the Agriculture appropriations bill, and once again any votes ordered in relation to that bill will occur following the stacked votes at 9:30 a.m. tomorrow morning.

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY, WORK OPPORTUNITY, AND MEDICAID RESTRUCTURING ACT OF 1996

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill. The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1956) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 202(a) of the concurrent resolution on the budget for the fiscal year 1997.

The Senate resumed consideration of the bill.

Pending:
Faircloth amendment No. 4905, to prohibit recruitment activities in SSi outreach programs, demonstration projects, and other administrative activities.
Harkin amendment No. 4916, to strike section 1253, relating to child nutrition requirements.

D’Amato amendment No. 4927, to require welfare recipients to participate in gainful community service.
Exon (for Simon) amendment No. 4928, to increase the number of adults and to extend the period of time in which educational training activities may be counted as work.
Feinstein-Boxer amendment No. 4929, to provide that the ban on supplemental security income benefits apply to those aliens entering the country on or after the enactment of this bill.
Chafee amendment No. 4930, to maintain current eligibility standards for Medicaid and provide additional State flexibility.
Roth amendment No. 4932 (to amendment No. 4931), to maintain the eligibility for Medicaid for any individual who is receiving Medicaid based on their receipt of AFDC, foster care or adoption assistance, and to provide transitional Medicaid for families moving from welfare to work.
Chafee amendment No. 4933 (to amendment No. 4934), to maintain current eligibility standards for Medicaid and provide additional State flexibility.
Conrad amendment No. 4934, to eliminate the State food assistance block grant.
Santorum (for Gramm) amendment No. 4935, to deny welfare benefits to individuals convicted of illegal drug possession, use or distribution.
Graham amendment No. 4936, to modify the formula for determining a State’s family assistance grant to include the number of children in poverty residing in a State.
Helms amendment No. 4939, to strengthen food stamp work requirements.
Graham (for Simon) amendment No. 4938, to preserve eligibility of immigrants for programs of student assistance under the Public Health Service Act.
Shelby amendment No. 4939, to provide a refundable credit for adoption expenses and to exclude from gross income employee and military adoption assistance benefits and withdrawals from IRA’s for certain adoption expenses.
Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, let me summarize where we are for Senators and staffers. We have used approximately 16 of the 20-hour statutory time. Amendments can be offered and debated today between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. The amendments have to be on the general list of amendments agreed to last Thursday.