The man who knows Slew better than anyone, his groom of 15 years, Tom Wade, says Slew hasn't changed much over the years. He has a touch of arthritis and his back has drooped just a bit. ''But he's a fit horse,'' Wade said. ''You can look at him and see that.''

Now, as the 20th anniversary of his Triple Crown approaches, Judy DeHaan, the exercise rider at Three Chimneys, has noticed something funny about Slew.

''It's almost like he knows,'' she said. ''He's gotten a little spring in his step again. Lately, it's like 'Hold on Judy. We're gonna go.'

''Even at 23, on his good days, he's still got it.''●

PAYMENT OF LEGAL OBLIGATIONS TO THE UNITED NATIONS

● Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I rise today to join with over 1,400 of my constituents from Minnesota who have signed a petition calling for the payment of all of the United States' legal obligations to the United Nations by the immediate payment of all dues in arrears. I agree with my constituents that it is embarrassing that the United States, the richest and most powerful nation on Earth, expects the United Nations to provide peacekeeping and humanitarian aid in response to the world's conflicts but does not honor its financial responsibility to the United Nations.

With several billion dollars of uncollected dues, the United Nations is now in dire straits. Consequently, it must borrow from scarce funds allocated for peacekeeping operations simply to pay staff salaries and to meet its other financial obligations.

Of the unpaid dues approximately half are owed by the United States. Rather than providing other U.N. members with an example of international responsibility, our Nation is doing just the opposite. This makes the United Nations increasingly incapable of carrying out numerous tasks that are clearly in our Nation's interest but that we ourselves are either unable or unwilling to perform.

I ask that the cover letter sent to me by the Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers and the World Federalists Association with the petitions on this important issue be printed in the RECORD.

The cover letter follows:

WORLD FEDERALIST ASSOCIATION,
MINNESOTA CHAPTER,
Minneapolis, MN, April 19, 1997.

Hon. PAUL WELLSTONE,
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR WELLSTONE: We, the undersigned representatives of the Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers and of the Minnesota Chapter of the World Federalist Association, are honored by your willingness to meet with us in respect to some matters that bear closely on your duties as a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. That assignment is, in our view, among the most important that any member of the Senate could receive, given the complex and increasing political, economic, and ecological interdependencies within our ever-shrinking planet.

While the world looks to the United States for leadership in this period of transition to a new post-Cold War era, we believe that, it would like to see such leadership exercised within the context of the United Nations System. However, as you are well aware, the viability of that system has been seriously jeopardized because of the non-payment or late payment of dues by many member nations. The principal debtor, by far, is the United States. This country's failure to meet its legal obligations as a UN member sets a deplorable example for others and is not a proper way to exercise leadership. Rather, it tarnishes the good name of the United States in the international community and diminishes our effectiveness in world affairs. For this reason, among others, we submit to you copies of petitions signed by 1417 Minnesotans calling on the United States to pay its current and back dues to the UN promptly and in full. The collection of these signatures is the result of a local drive by the Minnesota Chapter and a recent national drive by the national organization of the World Federalists Association, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the United Nations. This initiative is consistent with one of the accompanying policy positions adopted by the Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers on November 12, 1996. A copy of those proposals has already been forwarded to your office. The Alliance, be it noted, is a coalition of twenty-seven peace and justice organizations whose combined membership approaches 10,000 concerned and politically active citizens.

We hope and trust that you will weigh our views carefully in the respective proceedings of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and wish you much success and courage in the all important arena of foreign policy.

Respectfully yours,

The Rev. Lyle Christianson, President, Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers; Elsie Evans, Board Member, National World Federalists Assoc.; Evangelos Kalambokidis, Board Member, World Federalists Assoc. National & MN Chapter; Mary White, Vice President, Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers; and Joseph E. Schwartzberg, President, World Federalists Assoc./MN Chapter.●

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF BROOKLYN, NY

● Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, founded in 1847, Plymouth Church of Brooklyn, NY, has made significant contributions to the Nation. The church building, designated in 1963 by the U.S. Department of the Interior as a national historic landmark, was known as the ''Grand Central Depot of the Underground Railroad'' because of the antislavery activities of Rev. Henry Ward Beecher and the congregation.

Reverend Beecher was familiar with the horrors of slavery auctions from his own observation and from experiences of members of his family, including his sister Harriet Beecher Stowe who wrote ''Uncle Tom's Cabin.'' Thus, on several occasions between 1848 and 1860, he conducted well-publicized mock slave auctions at Plymouth Church with the results that the congregation secured the freedom of the slaves and he demonstrated to the Nation the barbarity of selling people who had been created, according to the Bible, ''in the image of God.'' These auctions helped create a pro-abolitionist consensus in the North.

In February of 1860, Abraham Lincoln, then relatively unknown east of the Appalachians, was invited to speak at Plymouth Church. At the last moment, the location of the speech was changed to Cooper Union where Lincoln made an address which introduced him to the eastern United States which, in turn, led to his nomination for the Presidency less than 3 months later. Lincoln worshiped at Plymouth Church on two occasions, the only times he attended church services in New York State.

Following the end of the Civil War, the congregation of Plymouth Church supported the position that women and black men should have the right to vote. Even after the 15th amendment to the Constitution gave newly emancipated black men the right to vote, Plymouth Church continued to advocate for the right of women to vote. Reverend Beecher was the only man ever to serve as president of the American Suffrage Society.

Reverend Beecher left an impact on other areas of American cultural life. He was among the first religious leaders in the United States to embrace Darwin's theory of evolution and Spencer's theories of social evolution. He was an early advocate of Jewish-Christian dialog and of giving public standing to Judaism as a major American faith group.

Because the church was for many years the largest and best known public building in Brooklyn, many notable persons have spoken there, including Wendell Phillips, Frederick Douglass, Booker T. Washington, Clara Barton, and the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Mark Twain, who described Plymouth Church's 1867 grand tour of Europe and the Holy Land in his book ''Innocents Abroad,'' also spoke there.

In 1934, Plymouth Church and neighboring Church of the Pilgrims merged to form Plymouth Church of the Pilgrims. On May 4 of this year, Plymouth Church of the Pilgrims will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the founding of Plymouth Church and the commencement of the ministry of Rev. Henry Ward Beecher. I wish to add my congratulations to the Reverend Sharon Power Blackburn; Frank Decker, president of the Plymouth Council; and the entire congregation of Plymouth Church of the Pilgrims on this most important occasion.●

HONORING THE MICHIGAN FDR MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I rise today to welcome the members and guests of the Michigan FDR Memorial Committee, who will be arriving in Washington for the May 2, 1997, dedication of the new memorial to our Nation's 32d President.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt infused millions of Americans with a spirit of hope during the Great Depression and World War II. Fifty-two years after his death, President Roosevelt continues

to be an inspiration to so many people, including an organization from my home State of Michigan. The members of the Michigan FDR Committee used their time and talents to raise money to send a group of students and senior citizens from Michigan to Washington for the dedication of the Roosevelt Memorial.

The officers of the Michigan FDR Memorial Committee who are leading this delegation are Gerald T. Harris, Kathleen Jansen, Ken Pittaway, Meena Narula, Susan Purdy, Colleen Harris, Dennis Nauss, Cherie Maleyko, Jean Kearney and Charlie Brown. Guests of the committee are Heather Avery, Erik Bardram, Dan Browning, Jennifer Burss, Becki Cadarette, Mrs. D. Cadarette, Jill Carouso, Mary Jane Condon, Joe Cook, Sherrie Goble, Edna Heck, Paul Kuplicki, Jr., Heather Lotter, Rocco Marcola, Shona Narula, Vijay Narula, Deon Pearson, Stephen Rafter, Nehal Raval, Linda Shariak, Mario Smith, Barb Strojny and Cynthia Vlachos.

The presence of the Michigan FDR Memorial Committee delegation at the dedication ceremonies for the memorial is most welcome, and I encourage our colleagues to join me in welcoming them to Washington.●

EDITH PRATT ''PATTY'' MASTERSON

● Mr. ROBB. Mr. President, I rise today to note the passing of Edith Pratt ''Patty'' Masterson. She died Sunday, April 20, 1997, at the age of 75.

Ms. Masterson was very active in Virginia politics, and her contributions to Virginia were noted in the Virginia Pilot newspaper in Norfolk. I ask that a February 16, 1997, article from the Virginia Pilot be included in the RECORD.

As the article indicates, for the past 6 years Ms. Masterson was active in public life as the chief lobbyist for Virginians Against Handgun Violence. Her most prominent victory with that organization was the passage of the one gun per month law in Virginia in 1992. Gun violence is a scourge that threatens the lives of our young people, and simply for her efforts to end gun violence, Ms. Masterson deserved recognition and high praise.

But Ms. Masterson's lengthy and remarkable public life, which began more than half a century ago, also deserves recognition. In the 1940's Ms. Masterson became the first woman to argue a case before the South Carolina Supreme Court, and she won her case. She also raised five children and later she went on to teach for 35 years. John Casteen, now the president of the University of Virginia, stated Ms. Masterson was the ''best teacher I've ever seen.'' Ms. Masterson's participation in a variety of civic and educational organizations continued during her last years, and in 1991 she was named Hampton Roads Pioneer Woman of the Year.

Mr. President, I commend to this body and the American people the life and public service of Ms. Edith Pratt Masterson.

The article follows:

[From the Virginian-Pilot and the Ledger-Star, Feb. 16, 1997.]

PATTY MASTERSON: A VIRGINIA-MADE ACTIVIST

(By Margaret Edds)

The volume is thick as a phone book and appropriately covered in red. ''Only in Virginia—1996,'' the title reads, calling to mind the state's proud promotional slogan, ''Made in Virginia.''

But the handiwork recorded in this fresh-off-the-copying-machine document is no cause for civic pride. The 200-page compilation is of 1996 Virginia newspaper clippings that feature guns and bloodshed. The sampling of Virginia murders, woundings, accidents and suicides is representative but incomplete.

Pages contain up to five clippings each, gathered by volunteers across the state. Virginians Against Handgun Violence oversaw the project. The League of Women Voters helped. The Center to Prevent Handgun Violence in Washington contributed. It is a chilling work.

''When it was clear last year that we were going to have absolutely nothing (in terms of gun-control legislation), it occurred to me that if you could clip all the events involving bloodshed by firearms, not the burglaries or the robberies, it might make an impression,'' said Patty Masterson, a retired Norfolk Academy English teacher who conceived the volume and last week helped distribute it around Capitol Square.

She was right. The page-after-page drumbeat of tragedy is first startling, then compelling, then exhausting. One of the women who provided clippings from the Richmond area recently quit. It was too disspiriting an exercise, she said.

This is the sixth winter since Masterson, then newly retired from the classroom, adopted the cause of handgun control and moved from Virginia Beach to a Richmond hotel room for a two-month vigil. As a volunteer lobbyist for Virginians Against Handgun Violence, she has become a fixture in the legislative halls, brightening committee rooms with her white hair, knit sweaters and welcoming smile.

In this role, Masterson has brought to bear all the skills that have sustained her through an adventurous 74 years—creativity, passion, good sense. The combination helped make her one of the first female attorneys in South Carolina, a Navy wife and enthusiastic mother of five, a popular teacher for 35 years and the force behind a series of seminars on how children learn.

But those characteristics have yet to penetrate the mass consciousness in the Virginia General Assembly. Masterson's most thrilling moments in Richmond were among her first. In the 1992 session, with then-Gov. L. Douglas Wilder leading the charge, lawmakers limited over-the-counter handgun sales to one per person per month.

''We did nothing to create it,'' Masterson said recently of the law, ''but we had the fun of surfing in with it.'' Since then, Masterson and her gun-control colleagues have learned both the importance of having a governor in your corner and the frustration of going up against a lobby as entrenched as the National Rifle Association. Last year, all of the major legislation they supported died. This year, two of the three bills Masterson cared most about were not even heard in committee.

Her response, like a schoolmarm with a class of sluggards, has been to search for new ways to make lawmakers sit up and take notice. ''Only in Virginia'' is one result. Masterson believes anyone who takes time to peruse its headlines—''Father Shot on Way Home,'' ''Boy, 5, Shoots Mother With Father's Rifle,'' '''My Only Son,' Mother says after Slaying,''—must be moved to act.

Her commitment does not blind her to the limitations of gun control. ''Even if the sale of handguns to civilians were stopped here and now, we'd still have problems because of the millions of handguns out there,'' Masterson acknowledged. But she also recognizes the consequences of inaction. ''It can only get worse if we do nothing.''

Not surprisingly, the shootings that Masterson most deplores are those involving domestic violence and children who accidentially set off guns. Such deaths or woundings ''seem so unnecessary,'' she said. ''To me, they are products of a proliferation of handguns.''

At a minimum, she believes, gun sales should be limited to storefront transactions or—with private sales—to law-enforcement offices; purchasers should be required to take gun-safety courses, and trigger-locks should be required on guns.

As a student of human development, she also believes that society should do much more to guard against the eruption of violence. Gun-control advocates are ''dealing with the tippity, tippity, tip of the iceberg,'' she said. Those working with preschool education and domestic relationships are closer to the core of the problem.

Legislative victories or no, what keeps her going is ''a passion for living, for learning, learning, learning,'' she said. It's an attitude that qualifies Masterson as a state treasure, Made In Virginia.●

CYBER-CHATS

● Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, over a year ago, I began having online computer chats with students from around my home State of Vermont. These chats have been a lot of fun and very informative. The questions that the students have asked me reflect not only their interest in government and current events, but also the advantages that they have in terms of access to knowledge via the information superhighway.

Just 3 or 4 years ago, I could not have imagined coming back from a vote on the Senate floor, sitting down in front of my computer and having a conversation with a group of young Vermonters over 500 miles away. The advances in technology have amazed me, but so have the understanding students have about technology and what it means for all of our futures.

Students' questions have ranged from my legislation to protect the privacy of our online communications to United States policy toward Iraq to how to get them out of their next period math test. While I will never be able to help a student skip a math test, these discussions have convinced me of the thirst of our children for the opportunities these technologies represent and our responsibility as leaders to help provide them

Last week, I had the unique opportunity to chat with students from one of the Nation's oldest running one-room schoolhouses in Granville, VT. I