

tooled down a lot-of-highways, often with Lee at the wheel, to some memorable assignments where usually he'd run into a friend or perhaps an unknown admirer. One or the other nearly always surfaced.

I suppose we had quite a bit in common, the Coach and I. In many respects, football was the centerpiece of our respective careers. We both believed mightily in a man named Wallace Wade. We could both sing the praises of Wade's renowned single wing and the wide-tackle Six. And it might be of some small significance to note that we were both transplanted Yankees who fell in love with and found a home in North Carolina. Down at Clemson, where Randleman-born Bob Bradley was ever the thoughtful host. . . . they even taught us to eat catfish.

I suppose all of you, each in his or her own private moment, will eulogize Lee Jay Stone far better than I . . . in ways more meaningful to you. Perhaps you will come up with something better to say that he was "something else" or "one of a kind." You must certainly know of Lee's love for God and Country.

Whatever the words you choose, whatever the memories you have of Lee Stone, you are likely to conclude that this man of monumental stature has had a profound influence on this community and every player, coach, student, educator, fellow citizen, friend . . . on anybody who enjoyed even the most casual relationship with him. Those who were closest to him . . . his beloved daughters, Frances and Susan, his son-in-law Joe, his wonderful grandchildren . . . only they can calculate fully the tremendous void left by his passing.

We all know Lee Stone ran the race well . . . maybe beginning in the Yale Bowl where he set prep school records in track. We know Lee fought the good fight right down to the end Tuesday morning.

As for me . . . of all the moments I was privileged to share with Lee, the one that lingers is that which occurred the night he presented me for membership in a local civic club.

Coach Stone put his arm around me and told the Kiwanians: "I love him like a brother!" The feeling, Coach, was mutual; the compliment, immeasurable.

I know full well I was scarcely alone in this world as somebody Lee Stone loved. I had plenty of company. Brotherly love was something he bestowed generously.

We all are richer for it.

Again, in the words of his admiring friend . . . one of the Good Ole Boys who went on ahead . . . Lee Jay Stone was "something else." The man was one of a kind.

And, oh, yes . . .

I shall not soon forget the last real conversation I had with Coach Stone in the final phases of his gallant fight.

It was at Clapp's . . . where the attendants came to love the Coach and give him such compassionate care.

I had started away from his chair, heading for the parking lot, when he sort of barked at me as only he could.

"Hey", he said, with his best practice field emphasis.

"When I get out of there in a few days, we'll have to make another of our trips."

This trip is one the Coach makes pretty much on his own.

But I am convinced that there awaits a glorious journey's end where, whenever legendary coaches gather in the larger life, Lee Jay Stone will be joining the likes of Wade and Neyland and Lee's fellow Hall of Famer, Bob Jamieson, in extolling the virtues of the single wing and the wide tackle Six. Their praises will be sung into eternity.

Safe journey, Lee. Catch up with you later.

HONORING LITHUANIA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 1998

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the people of Lithuania as they celebrate their independence day.

Lithuania has known a long history both brave and tragic. Despite a proud past, the people of Lithuania endured the forcible incorporation of the homeland into the former Soviet Union. After fifty one years of Soviet domination, Lithuania successfully overcame these oppressive efforts, and declared its independence on March 11, 1990.

Independence did not come easily. Ten months after this restoration of independence, the newly free Lithuania withstood a bloody and lethal assault from a stronger Soviet Union, an end to its supply of Soviet oil and gas, and 15 protesters killed in Vilnius by Soviet troops. These acts, however, were not enough to subdue the spirit of the Lithuanian people. The fire of freedom was fueled by the will of the people, and by the brave leaders of the region.

Since Lithuania regained its independence on March 11, 1990, the United States has played a critical role in helping it implement democratic and free market reforms and solidify its position as a European democracy. Together, the United States and Lithuania have worked to maintain strength and security throughout Europe.

Earlier this year, the United States and Lithuania signed the Baltic Charter. The Charter recalls this region's tragic history, and underscores that the U.S. has a "real, profound, and enduring" interest in the security and independence of all three Baltic countries. In hope it is sign of the deepening of mutual cooperation and shared interests between our two countries for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Lithuania committed themselves to take a stand against repression and communism. And today, they celebrate the fruits of that commitment on their independence day. I comment the people of Lithuania for their courage and perseverance in using peaceful means to regain their independence, and I hope you will join me in wishing them the best on this historic day.

CELEBRATING LITHUANIA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 1998

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, as a proud descendant of Lithuanian immigrants, it is my honor to pay tribute to this day in Lithuanian history. On this day eight years ago, a 51-year foreign occupation of the country as a result of the Nazi-Soviet Pact ended, allowing for the establishment of a new democratic state.

The people of Lithuania endured many years of imposed communist dictatorship and cultural genocide while trying to accomplish their strive to independence. During this time, they engaged in non-violent movement in sup-

port of their cause for change politically and socially. Working faithfully towards democracy through protest and perseverance, the people of Lithuania held their first democratic elections in Lithuania in more than half a century in 1990—restoring their independence on this day eight years ago.

Less than a year later, in January, 1991, foreign troops launched a bloody and virulent assault on the people and government of Lithuania. Again, the Lithuanians had to defend themselves against this oppressive regime and were able to once again bring about democratic reforms.

Nine months later, Lithuania became a member of the United Nations. Additionally, Lithuania participates in other international organizations such as the Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe, the North Atlantic Cooperation Council, and the Council of Europe. It has applied to join NATO and is an associate member of the EU, waiting for negotiations for future membership.

As a man who nobly represents the United States and strongly supports Lithuania, I commend the people of Lithuania for their courage and tenacity in their use of peaceful means to regain their independence. I unite with the Lithuanian people in celebrating their independence day and look forward to the day when we can all celebrate their entrance into NATO.

NATIONAL ARTS ADVOCACY DAY

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 1998

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, today is National Arts Advocacy Day, a time to focus on the fact that American creativity is driven by the arts. The most creative aspect of American art springs from our diversity. The history of the United States is depicted by the arts—paintings, photography, dancing, music, poetry, theater, literature, architecture.

National Arts Advocacy Day is a day in which we can realize the importance of the arts to our culture and economy. It is a day to remember that the arts are an integral part of our lives in both rural and urban communities. San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York City all revolve around the arts. Where would those cities be without such enthusiasm for the world of art and the revenue derived from public support of the arts?

We are working in the U.S. Capitol, a living museum of art and history that tells the story of democracy in the United States. Yet today, more than ever, what this building demonstrates is the creative talent of this country displayed in priceless paintings, photographs, works of sculpture in Statuary Hall, and in the very architecture of the building which is the symbol of the greatest democracy in the world.

We must invest more money in the arts to perpetuate creativity in future generations. The return on every federal dollar invested in the arts is phenomenal. Every \$1 of federal support for the arts—local ballets, music concerts, theater—generates an average of \$12 in matching funds. For the past two years the National Endowment for the Arts has requested \$136 million dollars from Congress to

fund their organization. For fiscal year 1998, Congress budgeted only \$98.5 million. The arts are not a frivolous, disposable commodity. They represent a significant part of our economy.

On National Arts Advocacy Day, let us remember the importance of intellectual development that the arts foster. Let us remember how it not only enhances the beauty of our country, but the economy as well. I support all Americans involved in arts from children doing finger paintings, to the design of new monuments in Washington, D.C. that will remind all Americans of their history. Let us celebrate together the importance of arts by supporting a strong Federal role in their promotion.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 1998

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, we are now less than two weeks away from your promised date for a vote on campaign finance reform, yet we have no direction from you about what will or will not be considered.

There are plenty of bills that have been drafted that begin to address the overwhelming amount of money being spent on our elections. I have been active with my freshman colleagues in drafting the Bipartisan Campaign Integrity Act, I think it is a good bill, but there are others. The question Mr. Speaker is, what kind of vote will we be allowed to take. Will the vote be a clean vote which clearly shows who supports campaign finance reform and who doesn't or will the vote contain poison pills that will cloud the issue. It is incumbent upon us as Members of Congress to make clear our position on this important issue.

We are counting on you, Mr. Speaker, to allow a fair, clean vote on campaign finance reform so the people of this nation know where we stand, once and for all. The people of my district will not accept "no" for an answer.

SHIFT IN INS'S BORDER FOCUS

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 1998

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, the U.S./Mexico border in San Diego County, California is the nation's busiest corridor for illegal immigration activity. However, yesterday, Immigration and Naturalization Service Commissioner Doris Meissner declared that this entry is under control. While the INS decided to deploy 1,000 new border patrol agents, not one of them is headed to San Diego.

The 48th District of California lies just north of this high-traffic passage, and, Mr. Speaker, neither my constituents nor I would tell you that illegal immigration in this area is under control. Mrs. Meissner cites a 40% drop in border apprehensions in San Diego as proof that no additional agents are needed at this border. It is important to note that this figure does not take into account remote areas that are currently experiencing added strain as a

result of the greater presence of agents and the San Diego entry point.

While increasing the number of border patrol agents at the San Diego County borders might decrease movement at these sites, it only intensifies the influx at the neighboring border in Imperial County. The Border Patrol Chief at the Imperial County gateway noted that daily apprehensions have risen dramatically since 1996, from 150 to the current rate of over 900. Neglecting this corridor, while adding agents in Texas and New Mexico and maintaining the number of agents in San Diego, will only intensify this already acute problem.

Southern California suffers from the increasing flood of illegal aliens. Mrs. Meissner's denial to provide us with an adequate number of border patrol agents to handle this dilemma is detrimental to our state and to our nation.

Mr. Speaker, as we continue the battle against individuals who opt to enter the United States illegally, I commend our border patrol agents for their hard work and dedication. No matter how hard they work, though, we need more of these committed men and women at our high-traffic borders if we are to have any hope of curtailing illegal immigration. I support efforts to strengthen our border in states like Texas; however, we must not pursue that goal at California's expense. The INS should take a closer look at the continuing penetration of our borders in Southern California and reconsider its strategy.

RECOGNIZING HARRY STATHAM

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 1998

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great basketball coach and a great man.

Harry Statham, the athletic director of McKendree College in Lebanon, Illinois, is the NAIA's winningest active basketball coach. On Saturday, January 10, 1998, the McKendree Bearcats defeated Barat College. That game marked the 700th win of Coach Statham's long and successful career at the college.

Statham began his coaching career while he was still an undergraduate as the boys basketball coach at O'Fallon Junior High. After graduating from McKendree College in 1960, he enrolled at the University of Illinois at Champaign. While earning a master of science degree in physical education at U of I, Statham served as a graduate assistant for the men's basketball and track teams. He coached at two high schools in Southern Illinois before returning to McKendree College in 1968 as the athletic director and men's basketball head coach.

Coach Statham has led the Bearcats to 27 post-season appearances, including five trips to the NAIA National Championships. Last season the Bearcats finished in the NAIA's "Elite Eight," the best tournament finish in the school's history. In 1988 the Bearcats established an NAIA record for most points scored by two teams when they prevailed over Huron College 124-107. This record of 231 total points scored still stands today. McKendree also holds the record for successful free throws in one game when they shot 39 of 39

in 1979. In the 1986-87 season, McKendree led the nation in scoring with a 105-point per game average.

Forty-one of the men who have played under Coach Statham have received post-season honors, including four All-American athletes. Two of Coach Statham's players have been drafted into the professional ranks. Dale Haverman was drafted by the Seattle Sonics in 1977 and Paul Funkhouser was drafted by the Chicago Bulls and the Carolina Cougars of the American Basketball Association in 1970.

Coach Statham, who lives in Belleville, Illinois with his wife, Rose, was inducted into the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 1987. He has been named the NAIA-IBCA Coach of the Year six times and the NAIA District 20 Coach of the Year six times. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that this month Coach Statham will be inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Coach Harry Statham for an impressive career.

TRIBUTE TO ARTHUR V. HODGES, AN AMERICAN HERO

HON. TERRY EVERETT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 1998

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to inform this House of an Alabamian who personifies the best traditions of American military heroism, and whose proper recognition for meritorious service has finally been received after five decades of official oversight.

Late in World War II as this nation focused its military might on Japan, Private Arthur Hodges of Dothan, Alabama was a scout in a rifle squad with the U.S. Army's 306th Infantry Regiment in the Western Pacific. On April 20, 1945, the 306th was called to assault Legusugu on the Island of Ie Shima, just south of Okinawa.

The island was incredibly fortified and honeycombed with Japanese defenses. Enemy resistance to the landing American forces was severe. Hostile mortars, anti-tank guns, automatic weapons, and small arms covered the approaches with devastating fire delivered from concealed pill boxes and caves. Here's an excerpt from Private Hodges' war record:

Private Hodges led his platoon's assault. When he discovered a small group of the enemy in foxholes, he disregarded the heavy fire which swept the area and worked his way forward to a position within a few yards of the Japanese position. Accurately throwing grenades into the foxholes, he killed all four of the enemy. As he started forward again he was fired upon by two enemy riflemen. He took cover behind a rock and killed both of them with rifle fire. When he arrived at the peak of the mountain, he located an enemy machine gun which was blocking the advance of his unit. He promptly attacked this position, destroyed the gun, and killed its crew of two. As he returned to the top of the mountain, he killed two more of the enemy attempting to flee. Private Hodges' fearless aggressiveness and courage were an inspiration to his comrades and were in keeping with the highest military traditions.

Private Hodges went on to become a Staff Sergeant and a squad leader in charge of 12 men. Among his many decorations, Sergeant