

character flaw. Since the Columbine tragedy, I have tried to stay abreast of the "adult society" debate as to the "why" of these terrible incidents. The adults debate and argue over what constitutes good, . . . and what constitutes evil; what is right and what is wrong. Our nation has always had guns. Our nation has always had children. I believe what our nation hasn't had—is children murdering children—and their parents, . . . and parents murdering their children. The ingredient that has made American different is the last couple of "adult generations" of Americans, and their changes towards what is right & wrong, good & evil. Is God now sending forth demons to America in the form of its children, or have the demons occupied our adult society, by invitation? How are we as kids treated differently than the kids before us? As a generation, we are unique. We have been slaughtered on our way into this world, we are murdered as we live and try to grow in this world, and we are molested, assaulted, sexualized and drugged. The adult society has responded by creating entire new industries and professions to repair their damage to us. Even as I speak to you our adult society is setting the stage to murder us when we become old. We are even taught that we evolved from slime. (An interesting item that the public is not fully aware of is that the two cold-blooded murderers in Littleton used the theory of evolution as their foundation, "Survival Of The Fittest." You've all heard of their uniforms, the black trenchcoats, but the real uniform that day was the T-shirt Eric Harris had on that said "NATURAL SELECTION" Has our adult society banned that?) It appears to me that we have willingly become a culture of death and violence. Some adults blame the jocks like me, the cheerleaders and others, . . . even the trenchcoats, . . . and some even say if our country only offered 9 round ammo clips instead of 10 or more, things would be better.

At the time of the Columbine tragedy, our national leader, the President, stated the youth of this nation need to learn to resolve our differences with words, not weapons. At the time this statement was made, we as a nation, were bombing Yugoslavia. They tell us that the youth of this nation need to be more tolerant, kinder, gentler, more understanding. Yet our entertainment, music, TV, movies, games (and actions of) the adult world provides for our consumption are all too often filled with violence, sex, death and destruction. If I were to take into my life what is provided to me by society, my actions too would violate the Heavenly & Moral Laws my family have taught me. Other solutions to school violence have been nametags to be carried around our neck as millstones, metal detectors, increased video surveillance, etc. It appears to me that our society is confused. The adult world seems as a ship with no rudder being cast around by the wind and storms of our times, with no control or understanding as to why. Many of these storms appear to have been caused by their own accord. It's as if our adult society has no compass, no bearing, no standards for our society. Even at our age, we can discern the difference between what you say and what you do. . . .

In regard to the solution of watching what comes out of us by monitoring closely our world with surveillance cameras, what we say, how we look, etc., our society needs to watch carefully what goes into us. In my bedroom is a picture of the Grand Teton mountain range in Wyoming. Below the picture is the following:

THE ESSENCE OF DESTINY

"Watch your thoughts, for they become words. Choose your words, for they become

actions. Understand your actions, for they become habits. Study your habits, for they will become your character. Develop your character, for it becomes your destiny."

Even before Columbine, my father told me that when a society opens the gates of hell for the pursuit of its' happiness, for its' pleasures and for its' economy, the devil will come out and have his dance with us. We here today were the unfortunate ones who had to dance.

I believe I have found the problem within America. Each and every citizen can too. All they have to do is look into the mirror every day to find the demon. They can also find the solution in that same mirror. Ask yourself daily, "what am I thinking, saying and doing in my life to call out the demons on the youth of my nation?" In the final analysis, a nation is judged on how it treats its' young and its' old. Until we return to respecting life as sacred, prepare yourself for more dances, more heartbreak, more death, and more destruction. It also would be wise to look into the future of America. It's not that hard. The character a nation instills into its youth today, will be the destiny of our nation tomorrow.●

TRIBUTE TO TIM JOHNSON

● Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, today I rise to tell you about a man I have known for many years now who is a credit to his profession and to his community. He is a consummate professional and an even finer human being. Tim Johnson has been bringing the news to Brattleboro, VT and beyond for more than 20 years now. It is clear that Vermonters know a good thing when they hear it.

Tim, now the news director at WTSA, is a Brattleboro institution. In these times of huge media conglomerates and syndicated radio programs, Tim Johnson knows Brattleboro—he is a graduate of Brattleboro Union High School—and residents have come to rely on him for the news they care about. Time, on a typical day, will report on everything from lost pets, to school closings and national affairs. As Vermont's Senator for more than 20 years, I have had the pleasure of working with Tim throughout the years and I have come to appreciate his keen insights and his dogged pursuit of the facts. Tim has demonstrated an unflinching commitment to keeping his community informed and Brattleboro has been the better for it. While we hear so much about what is wrong with the media today, Tim Johnson is a shining example of what is right.

I ask to have printed in the RECORD a profile of Tim Johnson from The Times Argus, dated October 1, 2000.

The article follows:

[From the Sunday Rutland Herald, Oct. 1, 2000]

TIM JOHNSON: RADIO JOURNALIST KEEPS AN EAR ON BRATTLEBORO  
(By Susan Smallheer)

BRATTLEBORO.—The studios of WTSA in Brattleboro are on the second floor of an old Victorian home on Western Avenue. It's Tim Johnson's home away from home, sometimes for as long as 18 hours a day. He's even slept on a pull-out futon at the station.

When he's home, though, he's in bed by 10 p.m.—unless there's a close Red Sox game—

and up by 4 a.m., and at the station before 5 to prepare for the morning newscast.

Johnson is the news director of Brattleboro's dominant radio station, WTSA-AM and FM. He works exhausting hours, both locked in the studio and then out on the streets getting the news.

This is a radio newsman who gets a tan. (Well, a little tan.)

Johnson, 43, has been on the air since he was a teenager at Brattleboro Union High School, working at WTSA's cross-town competition, WKVT. He was 17 and making \$1.60 an hour when he started working weekend shifts at the station, and gradually left behind disc jockey chores for the newsroom.

Johnson is a self-taught radio expert who never went to college, whose first broadcast challenge was to overcome a stutter. Friends say he overcame it by simple determination. "The first word I stumbled over was Episcopal," he said. "I mispronounced it three times."

His own name, Arsenault, and the problems he has pronouncing it, helped persuade him to choose something simpler for on-air.

Johnson has been chasing the news in southern Vermont for more than 20 years. No Rolodex for him. He has a memory for telephone numbers, perhaps a 1,000 or more. He goes to house fires, car accidents, board meetings, governor's appearances and homecoming football games.

"It's the personal pride of putting a good product out there," said Johnson, who puts the emphasis on community.

"We're one of the few radio stations that still do lost dog announcements," said Johnson, who fields telephone calls on such topics "Is there softball tonight?" and "Is there school?" and "Is Brattleboro Bowl open tonight?"

He is also the technical wizard at the station, and the 'scanner head.' He taught himself as the station switched to cyber. There is no such thing as a piece of tape in radio now; it's all digital.

The high and mighty came calling at Western Avenue, or rendezvous on the road. His "Live Mike" van allows him to get news on the spot and broadcast it first. In the competitive Brattleboro news market, WTSA rules.

"You don't know how many people call me Mike," laughs Johnson over soup and salad at the Jolly Butcher, a popular see-and-been restaurant a mile from the station.

With his distinctive deep voice, people instantly recognize Johnson, and his relaxed personality invites conversation. "You can't brush anybody off; they might think you're a snob and word gets around fast in a town like Brattleboro," said Johnson, who seems to enjoy the attention.

At The Jolly Butcher, the jolly chef teases Johnson about the station's recent lobster-eating contest, which raised money for the Winston Prouty Center, a school and day care center for handicapped children. As he leaves, Johnson is hugged by Windham County Side Judge Trish Hain, who once worked for him as an assistant news editor at WKVT. Everybody, it seems, knows him.

He's chairman of the board of directors of BCTV, Brattleboro's heavily watched community television station. He's moderator for his hometown, serving Vernon as a steady hand during marathon town meetings. He's also the Windham County director of the emergency alert system, which accounts for the second of two beepers on his belt. And he recently became the moderator for the Brattleboro Union High School district.

He's also a justice of the peace and Vernon's representative to the Windham Regional Commission.

Johnson relishes the pace, but health problems have forced him to scale back to 55-60

hour work weeks. He's devoting more time now to his wife, family, and three grandchildren, not to mention their dog Loretta. Both he and Sue, the activities programmer at the special needs unit at the Vernon Green Nursing Home, were married before, he said, and family means a great deal to both of them.

Johnson divorced in his 20s, and his only child, 3-year-old son Jeremiah, was murdered 18 years ago in Texas by his ex-wife's drunken half-brother. Johnson says his grief almost destroyed him.

But his renewed interest in his Christian religion has made him forgive his former brother-in-law, who is out of prison after serving most of a 10-year sentence. "I forgive him. In God's eyes he's forgiven. But do I think he's a nice person? No.

"I don't believe in the death penalty. I'm a death penalty opponent," he says.

Religion helps him, he says, deal with his personal tragedy and job stress. And he uses his voice—"I sing tenor"—in the choir of the South Vernon Advent Christian Church, where both his grandfathers were pastors.

Back after lunch, Johnson makes a few calls to get the proverbial sound bite to flesh out a story from the AP about an issue in the governor's race relating to homosexuality and public education.

This afternoon, he will even do double duty, cueing up CDs for a missing DJ, expertly flipping through the playlist, selecting a song to fit the time slot and sliding it into the stacked CD players, all with seconds to go.

He dashes between music and news, cueing up disks and editing the sound bites he garnered from Vernon NEA President Angelo Dorta, all at amazing speed.

He's in his element.●

#### SUGAR BEETS

● Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I rise today to bring attention to a disaster facing many Eastern Montanans. As you are aware, Montana has faced wildfires and drought this summer. Another type of disaster has struck the upper Yellowstone Valley. This region grows and processes about one million tons of sugar beets a year. Sugar beets must be harvested before the ground freezes to ensure the quality of the product. On October 4, 2000, temperatures dropped very low and a heavy frost impacted the area. The growers who are under contract to Holly Sugar are now left without a viable crop that, under normal conditions, would bring \$40 million to the area. This is the major cash crop for this part of Montana. Without this revenue, futures, jobs, and businesses will be in jeopardy. I bring this important matter to your attention today, so that you will be prepared to assist me in getting the necessary financial help to these producers whose very future may hinge on the help we can provide.●

#### TO COMMEMORATE THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF HAWAII

● Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, the year 2000 marks an occasion that is worthy of recognition by the Senate. The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii celebrates its sesquicentennial, marking

the 150th anniversary of its first meeting, on October 15, 1850, of a group of Honolulu businessmen at the behest of Hawaii's King Kamehameha III. They founded the Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce, an organization that would lead the Hawaiian Islands' growth in trade, commerce, economic and social development through the years. The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii is the second-oldest chamber of commerce west of the Rockies, and the only American chamber founded under a monarchy.

The history of The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii includes many, many accomplishments. I wish to provide a glimpse of their more notable achievements which I believe merit recognition.

In 1867, The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii initiated negotiations for the first treaty of reciprocity in trade between the United States of America and the Kingdom of Hawaii.

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii authored the Hawaiian National Banking Act of 1884, allowing the establishment of the banking system that has evolved into Hawaii's current system.

In 1898, The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii began its successful advocacy for a Hawaii-San Francisco Trans-Pacific cable.

The Hawaii Visitors Bureau, today known as the Hawaii Visitors and Conventions Bureau, was founded by the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii in 1903. This agency has led the development of Hawaii's visitor industry, which today is the largest sector of Hawaii's economy.

In 1907, The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii conducted a survey of the Pearl River to facilitate the construction of a harbor and dry dock that is now Pearl Harbor. The United States Pacific Command today provides a strong, forward based U.S. defense in the Asia-Pacific region from this great harbor.

In 1919, The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii founded Aloha United Way, Hawaii's leading charitable organization which annually collects millions of dollars for the needy in Hawaii.

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii became the trustee of Hawaii's Public Health Fund in 1923. The Public Health Fund provides seed money for approximately 20 public health projects each year.

In 1928, The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii's aviation committee sought out airlines to provide the first inter-island air service.

In 1929, The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii drafted a plan to increase the depth of Honolulu Harbor to accommodate modern ships and facilitate international trade. Today, Honolulu Harbor is our primary port of entry for the vast majority of all goods to Hawaii.

In 1941, The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii founded the Blood Bank of Hawaii. Later that year, the services of the Blood Bank helped to save many lives when Pearl Harbor was attacked on December 7th, 1941.

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii was an active and vocal advocate for

statehood for Hawaii. In 1959, The Chamber joined other local advocates in celebrating Hawaii's statehood.

In 1978, The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii played a leading role in Hawaii's State Constitutional Convention.

Throughout its 150-year history, and continuing today, The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii has helped to support a strong U.S. economic and military presence in the Asia-Pacific region. As the economies of the region grow, The Chamber's continued support for a strong, forward based military presence that provides the stability prerequisite to prosperity will be important. The Chamber's continued work to promote economic development in the region will play a vital role in aiding the goals and interests of Hawaii and the United States in the Asia-Pacific region.

Congratulations to The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii on its 150th anniversary, and best wishes for continued success in the years ahead.●

#### TRIBUTE TO EDMUND F. BALL

● Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, Hoosiers have been remembering and celebrating the remarkable life and achievements of one of our greatest citizens, Edmund F. Ball. I want to share with the nation a most appropriate tribute published in the Muncie Star Press of October 3, 2000 by Phil Ball.

The article follows:

Ed Ball took his last flight Sept. 30. This was an unscheduled flight but with a good pilot who probably let Ed handle the controls for some of the trip.

This was a flight into history—a flight into legend.

Ed died in Ball Memorial Hospital. Just across the street is the Edmund F. Ball Medical Education Center. And a half-mile away stands the Edmund F. Ball Building on the Ball State campus. A mile and a half away in Community Civic Center (once the Masonic Temple) is an assembly room named the Edmund Ball Auditorium. Those are just a few of the monuments to this most important citizen who has ever lived in our hometown of Muncie.

But Ed's life and times and image and achievements and generosity were his most important monuments.

Ed wasn't one to brag. Those who knew him knew his modesty and his tendency toward self-deprecating humor. One of Ed's witticisms was to say that after his life was over, all he had done was "to cross the street." To explain this, he pointed out that he was born on East Washington Street and when he died he would be laid out and prepared for burial at Meeks Mortuary across the other side of East Washington Street.

But in almost 96 years between those two events, Ed accomplished more than any 10 people and became a legend in his own time, although he would be the first to deny any such words of grandiloquence. This hometown of his and mine and yours has been the beneficiary of countless works of his mind and his generosity.

The last time I saw Ed was when he was hospitalized in June 1999 with a minor problem—heart trouble. I am glad that at that