

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

OKLAHOMA SOONER WOMEN'S
SOFTBALL 2000 NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

• Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate the Oklahoma Sooner softball team, which on September 19, defeated UCLA by a score of 3-1 to win the first women's national championship at the University of Oklahoma.

The championship game was played at Amateur Softball Association Hall of Fame Stadium in Oklahoma City, where the Sooner softball team closed out the year with a 66-8 record; 8 of these victories were consecutive wins during the NCAA Tournament.

The Sooner women were led to this championship by Patty Gasso, who was recognized as Coach of the Year, along with her assistants, Melyssa Panzer, Tim Walton and Jennifer Jamie, all of whom were recognized as the 2000 Speedline/NFCA Division 1 National Coaching Staff of the Year. Gasso, just finished her sixth season as head of the Sooner softball program. She has guided each of her teams to the NCAA Regional play-offs and won three Big 12 Conference championships.

From the entire State, we want to congratulate the University of Oklahoma women's softball team and their first-class coaching staff on this outstanding achievement.●

IN RECOGNITION OF BERNICE
WILLIAMS

• Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Bernice Williams as she retires after a distinguished 45 year career in the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Throughout this time, she has been of great service to both her nation and her community.

Mrs. Williams' accomplished a great deal during her tenure at the INS. In 1968 she had the distinction of becoming the first African American female officer for the Northern New Jersey office of the Department of Immigration. Since then, she has taken on many important roles in the INS such as serving as manager for EEO and Affirmative Action Programs and Projects as well as the Senior Immigration Examiner on sensitive political asylum cases.

Whether dealing with a timely asylum case or helping those in need in her community, Mrs. Williams has been selfless in everything she approaches. She is a member of the A. Philip Randolph Association and works through the Giblein Association to provide food and clothing to the less fortunate. She has also worked as a tutor for local children, helping to ensure a brighter future for our students. In these and countless other ways, she has given graciously of herself. In every aspect of her life, Mrs. Williams has exemplified the meaning of good citizenship.

The INS and the community of Newark have truly been blessed to have an individual as dedicated, talented and generous as Bernice Williams. It is a privilege to recognize her many accomplishments today.●

TRIBUTE TO JOHN CRADDOCK

• Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the efforts of a dedicated public servant, Mr. John Craddock of Muncie, IN.

As the Director of the Bureau of Water Quality for the City of Muncie for almost 30 years, Mr. Craddock has made a meaningful contribution to improving the quality of life for the people in Indiana and the Nation through his work to improve water quality for our cities.

Mr. Craddock created the Bureau of Water Quality in 1972 and has served as its only Director since its inception. He has transformed the river in Muncie from a polluted waterway to a healthy and beautiful centerpiece of the city.

Mr. Craddock's influence has reached well beyond the city of Muncie. He has been internationally recognized as an authority on environmental management of our rivers and streams. He has been asked by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, the Indiana State Board of Health, and the Environmental Protection Agency to help develop industrial waste limits in state and federal laws and help set Indiana stream water quality standards.

During the past 10 years, Mr. Craddock has made approximately 575 presentations around the world, reaching more than 51,000 individuals who can make a difference in the effort to ensure a fresh water supply. He has been an active participant in United Nations conferences all over the world. His techniques and procedures in controlling industrial waste and sewage overflow have helped influence the methods now being used in Japan, England, Canada, Europe, South America, and many Third World countries where he has shared his knowledge and experience.

Mr. Craddock has dedicated his life to the preservation of our world's precious water resources. In addition to his service to the Muncie community, Mr. Craddock has been an outstanding representative for Muncie, the State of Indiana and the United States during his many world travels. Mr. Craddock also served his country in active duty in the U.S. Coast Guard for 4 years.

Mr. Craddock is a remarkable public servant who has done so much to help strengthen our cities and communities. On this very special occasion of Mr. Craddock's retirement, I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge his many achievements and to thank him for his commitment to our State and to our Nation.●

A TRIBUTE TO STEVEN A. HOOK

• Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I am humbled today to honor the 1-year an-

niversary of the passing of Steven A. Hook of North Providence, RI.

During his 44 years, Steven proved that having a disability does not disable one from leading an active life. At the age of 14, Steve broke the fifth vertebra in his neck in an automobile accident, which left him partially paralyzed. Determined to walk again, Steven endured months of extensive therapy sessions, constantly pushing himself to new limits. During this battle, Steven found an inner-strength, a strength that would allow him to fight to empower people with disabilities.

Steven's desire to help those with disabilities led him to the PARI (People Actively Reaching Independence) Living Center in Pawtucket, RI. He began his career there in 1980 as a volunteer peer counselor and then program director. He was named executive director in 1997.

Steven was a crusader in implementing the landmark Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 in Rhode Island's communities. He participated in two national training programs on the ADA. The programs were conducted by the National Council on Independent Living, Independent Living Research Utilization and the Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund under a grant provided by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the U.S. Department of Justice. He also trained and was certified as a Rhode Island state mediator on Titles I, II, and III of the ADA. Steven was a member of countless other state and local boards, making strong contributions to Rhode Island and its residents.

Today my heart is with Steven's family and friends, mourning the loss of a great citizen of Rhode Island and our Nation. Steven's dedicated service on behalf of those living with disabilities should serve as inspiration for us all to give back to our communities. His life story should serve as a reminder that no matter the obstacles, where there is a will, there will always be a way.●

HONORING DR. JOHN C. CHAPMAN

• Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the remarkable accomplishments of Dr. John E. Chapman, who is today retiring as Dean of the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. Dr. Chapman is not only one of the longest-serving deans in medical school history, but a man who has made a major contribution to medical education in America and around the world.

I had the great honor of serving with Dean Chapman from 1986 to 1994 when I was a member of the Vanderbilt Medical School faculty. Even then, his reputation around campus was legendary—for his compassion for young people, for his scholarship of medicine and history, and for his concern for the future of medical school education—a concern overwhelmingly apparent from even the most cursory glance around his office.