

I read that political partisans at corporate business and insurance organizations have established a "November Fund" of \$10 million to seek to smear JOHN EDWARDS. I hope that before the American people or the media fall prey to these attacks, they consider the facts. In that regard, I urge Americans to read "Four Trials". This extraordinary book is an autobiographical account of JOHN EDWARDS's life and some of the cases in which he represented ordinary citizens who had suffered grievous wrongs. JOHN is rightly proud of his hard work as the lawyer representing E.G. Sawyer, Jennifer Campbell, Josh Howard, Valerie Lakey and so many other middle class and working class families against powerful interests that both harmed them and then refused to acknowledge responsibility for causing that harm.

I wish that those preparing to launch attacks against JOHN EDWARDS and other trial lawyers would read "Four Trials." It has recently been released in paperback, so now for only \$13 they may save themselves millions in negative attack ads. No one who knows the story of JOHN EDWARDS's legal career can have anything other than admiration for what he was able to achieve through hard work, persistence and belief in the American people who serve on our Nation's juries. That faith in ordinary Americans and commitment to justice is what he is now bringing to American voters across the Nation.

My plea may be futile when addressed to the rabid partisans who, again this year, will apparently stop at nothing. Those who will foster and promote attacks on JOHN KERRY's military service and on JOHN EDWARDS's representation of injured, ordinary citizens in need of a voice have likewise savagely attacked JOHN MCCAIN during the Republican primaries 4 years ago and MAX CLELAND 2 years ago.

They promote attacks to divide us. They lessen America by fostering squabbles for partisan gain. I was pleased to see JOHN KERRY and JOHN EDWARDS issue a call at the Democratic nominating convention in August for the Republican ticket and its supporters to abandon negative attacks. I am disappointed that Republican partisans have not risen to that challenge but continue to engage in what is rightfully termed a "smear and fear" campaign. George Bush could have and should have called a halt to the scurrilous attacks upon JOHN KERRY's heroic military service but seems more than willing to see Karl Rove's well-known smear tactics dominate this fall's campaign.

The upcoming wave of attacks against JOHN EDWARDS will be one financed by those who oppose lowering drug prices for seniors, oppose a real patients' bill of rights and oppose accountability for misconduct that shatters the lives of ordinary Americans. Let them tell David and Sandy Lakey that JOHN EDWARDS, and lawyers like

him who fight for victims, should not be allowed to seek justice in America.

I urge fair-minded Republicans and independents as well as Democrats to consider JOHN EDWARDS's life and work and to read "Four Trials." It will make you cry. It will remind you that good-hearted people like JOHN and Elizabeth Edwards do the right thing and seek to help their neighbors. It will make you proud to live in a country where ordinary Americans can take on the powerful with the help of a committed legal advocate and achieve some measure of justice.

I look forward to the days and weeks ahead when more and more of the country will have the opportunity to get to know JOHN EDWARDS. I have every confidence that come the inauguration in January, JOHN will return as President of the Senate as a part of his duties as Vice President of the United States. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to serve with him, and I look forward to working with him on behalf of the American people in the years to come.

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#### PRELIMINARY REPORT OF THE U.S. COMMISSION ON OCEAN POLICY

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise to note the April 20th release of the Preliminary Report of the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy. This comprehensive report, the first of its kind in 35 years, lays out an ocean blueprint for the 21st century for implementation by the Congress and the Administration. The Ocean Commission, led by former Chief of Naval Operations and Secretary of Energy, Admiral James D. Watkins, USN (Ret.), is to be congratulated for its diligence and dedication to its mandate to make recommendations for a comprehensive and coordinated national ocean policy for the United States.

The Commonwealth of Virginia has always had a strong connection to the ocean. From the arrival of settlers in Jamestown in the early 1600's, to the current day when the ports of Norfolk, Portsmouth and Newport News play a vital role in our Nation's economy and security, Virginia has always depended on the oceans. While the Commonwealth has long recognized the importance of the oceans, one of the most valuable contributions of the Ocean Commission's report is its finding that oceans and their resources are important to all States, and that we all have a role to play in their protection and management.

The Ocean Commission's preliminary report represents the culmination of 2½ years of work, including 15 public meetings around the country, 17 site visits to gather more detailed information, and input from 445 witnesses, resulting in nearly 1,900 pages of testimony. The report is over 400 pages long and contains almost 200 recommendations designed to improve the Federal governance structure, enhance and in-

crease ocean science and research, improve coastal water quality, sustain our Nation's fisheries, and improve the stewardship of our oceans through an expanded education and outreach program.

An overarching theme of the report is the need at the Federal, regional and State levels to move toward an ecosystem-based management approach that acknowledges the complexities of both ecosystems and human needs. This approach recognizes the relationships among all ecosystem components and requires fundamental changes in governance and greatly improved science and education. Through its active participation in the Chesapeake Bay Program, Virginia understands the many advantages to be gained by developing regional, ecosystem-based approaches to address the complex interrelationships of activities in many States that impact the Bay.

As the former Chief of Naval Operations under President Reagan, Admiral Watkins well knows the role oceans have played in protecting United States national security interests. The Ocean Commission's preliminary report, while not focused primarily on national security issues, contains recommendations on ports and marine transportation, vessel operations, increased ocean research and exploration, improved management of our ocean resources, and accession to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea—all of which will contribute to our Nation's security and future well-being.

As the Commission finalizes its report I look forward to working together with the administration and my associates in this body and in the House as we take advantage of the opportunity presented by the work of the Ocean Commission to implement a new vision for the future of our Nation's oceans.

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#### POSTAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND ENHANCEMENT ACT

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I take a few moments to comment on S. 2468, the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act, which will reform the postal laws of the United States to guarantee its success into the 21st century. The United States Postal Service faces several long-term financial challenges unless something is done. In the last 5 years alone, the first-class mail, which accounts for over half of all postal revenue, has dropped dramatically. The continued downward spiral of the Postal Service is linked to the increased use of faxes and e-mails to communicate. As these different ways of communicating and doing business increase, it is important to preserve delivery to every address—making it a universal service—which this bill guarantees. As a rural State, Montana is a primary example of a State that needs this assurance. The Postal Service is the only service provider available in

many parts of Montana and allows Montana residents to stay in contact with the rest of the country and the world.

Additionally, the Postal Service faces such problems as reacting to needed price changes. Currently, the Postal Service takes 18 months to react to price changes, which makes it impossible to respond to market conditions. The Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act would allow the Postal Regulatory Commission the power to institute emergency price increases due to unexpected circumstances. An Anthrax attack, that recently occurred, is an example of this circumstance. In addition, this bill would free up \$78 billion over a period of 60 years by repealing the provision of the Public Law 108-18, which states that overpayment to the Postal Service must be kept in an escrow account. By releasing these funds, the Postal Service would be able to diminish rate increases, help pay off the debt owed to the U.S. Treasury and help fund health care liabilities for their employees. These funds are also need to be put toward employee salaries and benefits, which make up 76 percent of the Postal Service costs.

One Montanan wrote me recently saying, "Postal Reform is critical to the nearly 3000 Postal Employees in Montana and the thousands of others who rely on the USPS as a foundation for their occupation." I could not agree more. I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act of 2004.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO PAUL MOLITOR

• Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, it is truly an honor and a privilege to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Paul Molitor, an incredible individual and a tremendous baseball player from the city of Saint Paul, MN. Paul will forever be remembered as one of the greatest to ever play the game, but most of all he will be remembered as a hometown hero to many Minnesotans. In recognition of his achievements and dedication to the sport, Paul has been inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY. This is a tribute not only to his abilities on the field, but also to his commitment to the community. It is my great privilege to highlight his accomplishments before the United States Senate and this Nation.

Paul's humble beginnings were that of many young Minnesotans. At the age of four, it was clear that a passion for baseball was developing in the heart of this young Midwestern boy. Every where he went, Paul would carry his mitt with him. He shined as a star athlete for the Raiders of Cretin-Derham Hall High School in Saint Paul. For his college education, he stuck close to home and became a

Golden Gopher by attending the University of Minnesota. At the U of M, Paul was a three-year starter and a two-time All-American before he made the decision to sign with the Milwaukee Brewers as the third overall pick in the 1977 Major League Baseball draft.

After only a short time in the minor leagues, Paul earned a role as the starting shortstop and leadoff hitter for the Brewers. This position would be one of many that this versatile athlete would play throughout his record-breaking career. Paul reached many milestones that few players would ever meet. He is one of only five players with over 3,000 hits and over 500 steals, the others being legendary players Ty Cobb, Honus Wagner, Eddie Collins, and Lou Brock. Paul is in the top ten all-time in at-bats, hits, singles, and doubles, and in the top twenty all-time in runs scored, triples, and stolen bases. Paul also tops the list as the only player in Major League Baseball history with 3,000 hits, 500 stolen bases, and 200 home runs. All of these are great accomplishments, but perhaps his greatest feat came in 1993, when the Toronto Blue Jays won the World Series and Paul was recognized as the most valuable player.

Outside of baseball, Paul is well-known as one that actively gives back to his community. In 1998, he was honored with the Branch Rickey Award, which is given to baseball players that show unparalleled devotion to serving their community. In addition to this, Paul was also recognized for his strength of character when he was awarded the Lou Gehrig Memorial Award, given to those who best exemplify the giving character of Lou Gehrig, another hall-of-famer.

Paul Molitor has come a long way from the sandlots of Saint Paul to the ballparks of Major League Baseball. In twenty-one seasons, Paul played with three major league clubs, before coming back home to play for his hometown team, the Minnesota Twins, in 1996. It is quite clear that Paul Molitor is a person whose dedication and hard work brought him to the pinnacle of Major League Baseball. His talent, commitment, and love for the game have led to his selection into the National Baseball Hall of Fame. It is my distinct pleasure to recognize his achievements before the United States Senate, and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

Paul, you have made many proud—your fans, teammates, and the State of Minnesota. You are a true hometown her. Congratulations on your induction into the National Baseball Hall of Fame.●

##### HONORING ROY SNYDER

• Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I honor a great public servant, Roy Snyder. Roy Snyder is retiring after 27 years of providing exemplary service to America. His career began in 1962, with the Bu-

reau of Land Management. He then served our Country for over 10 years in the United States Army where he attained the rank of Captain. He then turned his abilities to Corps of Engineers. For the last 15 years, it has been Montana's fortune to have Roy as Operations Manager at Fort Peck Lake. He assumed this position with the determination to make changes that would benefit the public. He accomplished that mission. Fort Peck Lake saw many positive changes under Mr. SNYDER's oversight. Without his support and encouragement, Fort Peck would still be a little known and little used recreation site.

It has been my honor and privilege to work with him on significant projects that have benefited not just Montanans, but all recreational users of Fort Peck. With Roy's help the roads around Fort Peck have been improved, the campgrounds have been improved, there is a breakwater, Lewis and Clark sites, fishing access sites, a fish hatchery, the Interpretive Center. All of these are due in large part, to Roy's tenacious ability to make things happen.

Even more important, he has created relationships between users that never existed before. People who didn't realize they had anything in common are now working together. He has worked to turn a lack of communication into an open line that benefits everyone who uses Fort Peck.

Even in times of adversity, Roy has been a stalwart supporter of the recreational users. He put the public's need before all others and worked to ensure they had the chance to make the most of Fort Peck Lake. It is my honor to commend Roy Snyder for his 27 years of service. It is even more of an honor for me to refer to Roy as my friend. Roy, thank you for everything you have done to make Fort Peck Lake what it is today. We will all miss you.●

##### HONORING THE LIFE OF J. IRWIN MILLER

• Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life of my fellow Hoosier, Joseph Irwin Miller, who died on Monday, August 16, at the age of 95. J. Irwin Miller was a leading industrialist who used his business success as an opportunity to give back to his community by helping Hoosiers in need, advancing greater social change through example and turning Columbus, IN, into an architectural landmark.

Joseph Irwin Miller was a fourth-generation Hoosier, born in 1909 to Hugh and Nettie Miller. He graduated from Yale University in 1931 and joined his family's bank 3 years later. His family also owned Cummins, a local diesel maker that Miller would transform into a Fortune 500 company recognized around the world. On his watch, Cummins increased its sales five times over, to \$100 million by 1955. From a small-town company with 60 employees, J. Irwin Miller grew Cummins into