

right rather than disallow somebody else to make a point and a position with an amendment?

The Senator didn't hear my speech prior to coming in—

Mr. MCCAIN. I was watching.

Mr. COBURN. These are the worst tendencies of the Senate. I want us to go back to the best tradition. I am not always going to be right, and I certainly hardly ever win, but the fact is, the issues in front of this country are so great that we don't have time for this anymore. And every day we do not work on this small business job-creation bill because people do not want to take tough votes is a day we are not fulfilling the obligations we have as Senators.

Mr. MCCAIN. But if you believe in our great Nation and the democracy and the representative government that it is, over time, you will succeed. It requires tenacity. I do not think the Senator will be elected Mr. Congeniality this year again, either, but I appreciate his efforts on this issue and many others. I look forward to continuing to join him in the fight and following his leadership.

I yield the floor.

PIKEVILLE COLLEGE BEARS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise to congratulate a national championship team that makes its home in Pikeville, KY. This March 22, the Pikeville College Bears men's basketball team triumphed over the West Virginia Mountain State University Cougars in overtime, 83 to 76, to win the school's first NAIA men's basketball championship.

It has been a thrilling season for the Bears, who finish the year with a school-best 30-7 record. They tied for third place in the Mid-South Conference and entered the tournament unseeded and with something to prove. They certainly did that, becoming the first unseeded team in tournament history to defeat five seeded teams on the way to the championship.

The Bears beat defending national champ Oklahoma Baptist, defending national runner-up Azusa Pacific, and top-seeded Robert Morris to get to the semifinals. Facing No. 3-seed Martin Methodist College in the semifinals, the Bears clawed their way out of a 15-point deficit to win by 11 points.

Then it all came down to the final game, played in Municipal Auditorium in Kansas City, MO, against the Cougars from West Virginia. The Bears trailed for most of the way, but by the end of the night it was "My Old Kentucky Home" being played as the Bears cut down the nets.

Trevor Setty of Maysville, KY, tied a career high for scoring in the game with 32 points, grabbed 17 rebounds and was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player. And Head Coach Kelly Wells was named NAIA National Coach of the Year.

The students and faculty of Pikeville College and the people of Pikeville,

eastern Kentucky, and the whole Commonwealth couldn't be prouder of this winning team. They represent the very best of what the Bluegrass State has to offer, and we are honored for them to represent us to basketball fans from across the Nation. I know my colleagues join me in congratulating the Pikeville College Bears men's basketball team for their exciting victory.

Mr. President, the Lexington Herald-Leader recently published an article about the Pikeville College Bears' championship season and what it meant for the school and for eastern Kentucky. I ask unanimous consent that the full article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From Kentucky.com, Mar. 24, 2011]

PIKEVILLE FANS HAPPY TO LOSE VOICES
CHEERING TEAM'S NAIA WIN

(By Dori Hjalmarson)

PIKEVILLE.—As the NAIA Division I Tournament championship game inched to a close Tuesday night, the 200 spectators at a viewing party on the floor of Pikeville's Expo Center rose to their feet. They swelled and deflated with each basket, chanting for "defense" and waving their fingers for free-throws as their team fought for the win more than 580 miles away at Municipal Auditorium in Kansas City, Mo.

Ear-splitting screams rang through the hall as the game went into overtime, and students crowded toward the big screen.

After a slow first half on Tuesday, Pikeville's fans based their hopes on Monday night's game, when the unseeded Pikeville College Bears overcame a 15-point deficit to oust its semifinal opponent, No. 3 seed Martin Methodist College.

"We're down, but (Monday) night proves we're not out of it," said Ravin Fields, director of the dorm that houses the basketball and baseball teams.

And the Bears certainty weren't out of it, battling into overtime for an 83-76 win over West Virginia's Mountain State University and Pikeville College's first NAIA men's basketball championship. The victory created a surge of excitement throughout the crowd in Pikeville.

"I lost my voice cheering," communications professor Chandra Messner said. "We're so proud of those boys."

Said Massner's daughter, Amanda Arts: "Amazing. Unbelievable."

The celebration on campus lasted until 4 a.m., Residence Life Director Kayla Bandy said. On Wednesday, a caravan was planned starting at 8 p.m., from the Mountain Arts Center in Prestonsburg to the college gym, where a rally would welcome the team home. A parade in downtown Pikeville was planned for 4 p.m. Thursday.

"I hope a lot of people come out to support them," Bandy said as she painted signs and hung streamers in the men's locker room. She knows what she's talking about: Bandy was on the 2008 national champion bowling team, the school's only other title-winning sport. Now an assistant coach, she wears her championship ring daily.

"It's such a big deal for these guys," Bandy said. "From the kids texting from Kansas City it was not like anything they were expecting."

REMEMBERING CONGRESSWOMAN GERALDINE A. FERRARO

Ms. LANDRIEU. On March 26, 2011, after 12 years of battling multiple

myeloma, our country lost one of history's political trailblazers, the Honorable Geraldine Anne Ferraro. Ferraro served as a Congresswoman for the 9th District of New York from 1979-1985. At a time when less than two dozen women served in Congress, Geraldine Ferraro was a consistent voice for equality and unrelenting advocate for women's rights.

In 1984—64 years after passage of the 19th amendment granted women the right to vote—Ferraro made history as the first female Vice Presidential candidate from a major U.S. political party, running alongside Walter Mondale. I vividly remember her words as I watched her speak during the 1984 Democratic National Convention in San Francisco, "If we can do this, we can do anything." Millions of women and girls watched that speech, inspired by the fact that a woman was one step away from holding the second highest office in America. Although the Mondale-Ferraro ticket did not win the White House, Ferraro's words, leadership and courageous spirit would forever change the way women were viewed in American politics. Her candidacy had successfully shattered the glass ceiling for the office of the Vice Presidency. Two decades later, a Congresswoman from the same city where Ferraro accepted the Vice Presidential nomination would go on to become the first female Speaker of the United States House of Representatives. Geraldine Ferraro's journey to the precipice of the Vice Presidency helped pave the way for Congresswoman NANCY PELOSI's historic achievement. In addition, her nomination would help pave the way for Hillary Clinton's historic bid for the Democratic Presidential nomination.

Geraldine Ferraro will always be remembered for her passion and dedication to women's issues. The daughter of Italian immigrants, Ferraro began her career as a prosecutor for New York City focusing on sex crimes, child abuse, and domestic violence. Ferraro carried that passion with her to the U.S. House of Representatives, quickly becoming a leader among her congressional colleagues. During her three terms as a Congresswoman, she served on a number of committees including: the Select Committee on Aging, the Public Works and Transportation Committee and eventually the House Budget Committee.

In addition to her work in Congress, Ferraro remained a devoted wife and loving mother to three children. After leaving public office, she remained in the field of public policy serving as a fellow at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University's Institute of Politics from 1988-1992 and as a U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights during the Clinton administration from 1993-1996. She also authored three autobiographical books about her political career. She once again entered the

world of politics in 2008, serving on Hillary Rodham Clinton's Presidential campaign.

The life and accomplishments of Geraldine Ferraro opened the doors of American politics and the hearts and minds of thousands of women seeking to make a difference. She was an inspiration to me and thousands of women considering the challenge of a future in politics and government. Our country will always be grateful for her leadership. She will surely be remembered for her unique leadership, and her belief that, "America is the land where dreams can come true for all of us."

1-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF HEALTH REFORM LAW

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. President, as we pass the 1-year anniversary since health care reform was signed into law, I rise to recognize how much it has benefitted thousands in my State. South Dakotans now have a fair shake when it comes to buying health coverage and increased protections from some of the worst abuses of the health insurance industry.

I have heard from far too many who thought they were protected by their health insurance, only to find they faced arbitrary annual or lifetime limits on benefits. Some were even dropped entirely from their coverage when they needed it the most. Health reform has already put an end to these practices, and is giving hard-working Americans the security of reliable coverage.

Commonsense changes that had been supported by Republicans and Democrats in Congress for years are also now in effect. Children are no longer at risk for being denied coverage due to a preexisting condition like asthma or diabetes. Young adults are now able to stay on their parent's health care plan until age 26, extending coverage as many transition from education to the workforce.

Over 129,000 South Dakota seniors are already seeing improvements to Medicare, including eliminated copayments for preventive care like immunizations and annual wellness visits. Last year over 11,945 Medicare beneficiaries in our State reached the gap in prescription drug coverage, known as the donut hole, and received a one-time \$250 rebate to help pay for prescriptions. These beneficiaries will continue to receive deep discounts until the donut hole is completely closed in the years ahead.

Health reform also expands Medicare beneficiaries' access to care by providing a 10-percent Medicare bonus payment for primary care providers and for general surgeons practicing in health professional shortage areas. It also puts in place important changes to our health care delivery system to ensure we are paying for the quality of patient care and health outcomes, rather than quantity of tests and procedures performed.

Not only has this law benefited South Dakotans, but these improvements have taken place without harming our economic recovery. Since the President signed the Affordable Care Act into law a year ago, the economy has grown at an average rate of 2.7 percent, and nearly 1.4 million private sector jobs have been created.

As Congress looks for ways to get our deficit in line, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office recently estimated that reform will reduce the deficit by a total of \$210 billion over the next 10 years and by more than \$1 trillion over the next 20 years.

We must be realistic about this law in that it cannot fix all the problems with our health care delivery system overnight. But I supported reform to give our Nation the best chance at improving the system while reigning in costs. There is room for improvements, and if there is a good idea out there, I want to hear it.

What we cannot afford, however, is to turn back the clock on all the improvements the American people have seen in the last year, and will continue to experience as this law is fully implemented in the coming years.

REMEMBERING JOE ANTONIO SILVERSMITH

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, the Navajo Code Talkers were a small group of marines who contributed to the American victory in the Pacific during World War II. Their language and their bravery made victory possible and helped save Allied soldiers' lives.

These Navajo warriors have one less man among their ranks today. My home State of New Mexico and the Navajo Nation lost a great man on February 28, 2011, when Joe Antonio Silversmith passed away at the age of 86. I would like to take a few moments to honor Mr. Silversmith's memory and his service to our country.

In 1943, as a young man of only 18, Mr. Silversmith heeded the call of duty and enlisted in the 297th Marine Platoon. He served in the South Pacific until 1946.

Mr. Silversmith and the 45,000 other Native Americans who enlisted to serve our country in World War II had only been recognized as citizens of the United States for 17 years when World War II began. Approximately 400 of these men, including Mr. Silversmith, served as Code Talkers—turning their native language into a powerful code, unbreakable by the Japanese.

In 2001, Mr. Silversmith finally received the recognition he deserved for his heroic World War II service when he and his fellow Code Talkers received the Congressional Gold Medal.

For Mr. Silversmith, his service to others did not end with his military career. A man of strong personal faith, he eventually became a full-time minister after returning to New Mexico.

For those who knew him, Mr. Silversmith's devotion to his flocks—dem-

onstrated through his dedication to his congregation and, more literally, his love of herding of sheep—will be remembered fondly.

A man of courage, a hero to his family and the American people, and a role model to young Navajos, Mr. Silversmith stood up for his ideals. He encouraged those he knew to pursue their dreams, but to never forget their roots.

We owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. Silversmith, his fellow Code Talkers, and all those who have sacrificed in service to our country. Let's honor Mr. Silversmith by heeding his advice to keep our roots close to our hearts while striving to achieve our own lofty goals for the widest influence of good.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF WESTMINSTER, COLORADO

• Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the 100th anniversary of the city of Westminster that lies along Colorado's Front Range. The city of Westminster will observe this significant milestone on April 4, 2011.

Westminster is the seventh most populous city in the State of Colorado. It has had a rich history since the first homesteaders arrived in 1870, shortly after the discovery of gold in the South Platte River Valley. The Land Act of 1862 encouraged many settlers to make Colorado their home instead of heading on to California.

The population of the town gradually increased over several decades, and by 1910, public services such as water access were needed to support the community. The village of Harris, named after C.J. Harris, was incorporated as the town of Westminster, CO, on April 4, 1911, by a citizen vote of 29 in favor and 6 opposed. The town was named for Westminster University, which was built in the 1890s on Crown Point.

The town of Westminster continued to grow and soon became the center for some of the largest apple and cherry orchards in the country. Northwest of Denver, Westminster remained a quiet rural town until the 1950s when the Colorado State Highway Department constructed the Denver-Boulder Turnpike, bisecting Westminster and contributing to the town's growth.

A 21-member charter Westminster convention was elected to draft and review a new charter, which was approved by voters in January of 1958.

Providing a safe and adequate water supply has been at the forefront of Westminster's growth since incorporation. The town took a proactive approach to dealing with the community's rapid growth by creating the Growth Management Plan in 1977 that called for allocating service commitments as a method to manage water and other key resources.

Westminster has balanced growth with the establishment of an open space program. In 1986, the town sought