Tribute to 1998 Air Force Academy Football Team

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of the 1998 United States Air Force Academy Football Team.

The 1998 “Falcons” may go down in history as one of the greatest football teams in Academy history. Their 12-1 record included an outright Western Athletic Conference Championship, a bowl victory over the University of Washington, and the Commander-in-Chief’s Trophy, which is the most prized possession of the three service academies.

This team of over-achieving young men was lead by their Head Football Coach Fisher DeBerry, and his assistant coaches Richard Bell, Todd Bynum, Dee Dowis, Dick Enga, Larry Fedora, Jimmy Hawkins, Jeff Hayes, Cal McCombs, Tom Miller, Bob Noblitt, Jappy Oliver, Chuck Peterson, and Sammy Steinmark. They are recognized as one of the finest coaching staffs in the country.

On offense, the team was lead by seniors Mike Barron, Joe Cashman, Spanky Gilliam, Ryan Hill, Frank Mindrup, Blane Morgan, James Nate, Dylan Newman, Matt Paroda, Brian Phillips, Barry Roche, Jermal Singleton, Matt Waszak, and Eric Woodring.

The defense was lead by seniors Tim Curry, Bryce Fisher, Billy Free, Jeff Haugh, Jason Sanderson, Mike Tyler, and Charlton Warren.

Special team seniors Jason Kirkland and Alex Wright took care of the punting and place kicking duties.

The most impressive thing about these outstanding young men is that following their graduation from the Academy they will all be moving on to serve our country as 2nd Lieutenants in the United States Air Force. They are true student athletes who play the game for the enjoyment of the sport. These young men are tremendous role models for the youth of our country, and our nation can take pride in their accomplishments.

I commend the Superintendent of the Air Force Academy, Lt. General Tad Oelstrom, and Athletic Director Randy Spetman for their leadership in developing an outstanding group of young men. They clearly possess the “right stuff.”

A Tribute to Two Great Naval Heroes

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the wartime heroism and distinguished military service of Commander David H. McClinktock and Captain Bladen D. Claggert. They were instrumental in the defeat of the Japanese heavy cruiser Maya.

In October of 1944, Commander David H. McClinktock of the U.S.S. Darter discovered the Japanese main fleet and fired the first shots of the Battle for Leyte Gulf, sinking the Japanese Flagship Atago, and crippling the Japanese heavy cruiser Takao. Captain Bladen D. Claggert of the U.S.S. Dace was also involved in the battle and sank the Japanese heavy Cruiser Maya.

In attempting to close on the crippled cruiser, the Darter ran aground. The Darter’s entire crew was rescued by the Dace, which ran the risk of grounding herself during the rescue.

The actions of these two brave men and their crews will be remembered forever, not only because of the heroics involved, but because they played a major role in preventing a disastrous defeat of the landing force at Leyte Gulf.


I extend my sincerest congratulations to Captain David H. McClinktock and Captain Bladen D. Claggert, who will be present at a ground-breaking ceremony May 29th, 1999, to establish an exhibit at the Marquette Maritime Museum commemorating their most heroic deeds.

Tribute to Ida Klaus

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, just days ago Ida Klaus, properly described as a “labor law pioneer,” died at the age of 94. I had the great privilege of working with her in the Kennedy Administration in 1961 when she advised us on the development of Executive Order 10988, “Employee-Management Cooperation in the Federal Service,” a defining event in the history of federal employment.

She was a brilliant person, warm and concerned for others in a way that made possible her great achievements.

Mr. President, I ask that her obituary from The New York Times of May 20, 1999 be printed in the Record.

The obituary follows:

IDA KLAUS, 94, LABOR LAWYER FOR U.S. AND NEW YORK, DIES

(By Nick Rau)

Ida Klaus, a labor law pioneer who became a high-ranking New York City official in the 1960’s and who wrote the law that gave city employees the right to bargain collectively, died on Monday at her home in Manhattan. She was 94.

Ms. Klaus was a lifelong labor advocate whose sympathy for the working classes was instilled in her by her mother. As a young child growing up in the poor section of Brooklyn, she helped give free food from the family grocery to striking factory workers.

She organized her first union while still in her teens. She was one of three college women working as a waitress in the summer...