our families, our friends, and those close and important to us very proud as well. So let us always remember this day, May 21, 2000 as our day of days—our historic day. And very soon will all embark on separate journeys and begin a new and exciting chapter in our lives.

In doing so, let us not forget the famous words of Tennyson who wrote, ‘That which we are, we are not will cease, and all things of this mortal nature which give us our existence, and make us what we are, will fade, and die, and crumble into dust. But not all will be lost...’ The hearts, made weak by time and fate, but strong in will, to strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield.

And for the class of 2000, the world now awaits and the best is yet to be. Good Luck and Congratulations.

TRIBUTE TO EZRA KOCH

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, ever since the days of the Oregon Trail, my state has been blessed with citizens dedicated to the spirit of ‘neighbor helping neighbor,’ and I wish to strengthen the Oregon tradition of neighbor helping neighbor, and I wish to pay tribute to him today.

After over half a century of service as one of McMinnville’s and Yamhill County’s most respected businessmen, Ezra is retiring as President of City Sanitary and Recycling. A native Canadian, who immigrated to Oregon nearly eight years ago, Ezra and his family have truly lived the American dream.

Under Ezra’s leadership, City Sanitary and Recycling, and its parent company KE Enterprises, has become one of Oregon’s leading sanitary companies—leading the effort to increase recycling long before it became a national cause. Ezra was the driving force behind the creation of the Oregon Refuse and Recycling Association, and served as president of the National Solid Waste Management Association.

Ezra’s love of his community can truly be seen in his volunteer and philanthropic efforts. The list of organizations and causes that have benefitted from his leadership and generosity include Linfield College, the McMinnville School District, Rotary International, the McMinnville Chamber of Commerce, and the United Way.

Ezra credits his family with inspiring the values he has lived throughout his life. And his words are ones we should all take to heart. ‘Even though we were a big family with poverty everywhere, we never lacked for enough to eat and share with others. A great tradition was born in our family of sharing what we have with those that are less fortunate, and that continues today.’

I salute Ezra Koch for all he has done to strengthen the Oregon tradition of neighbor helping neighbor, and I wish him many more years of health and happiness.

FOUR BEARS BRIDGE

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I commend the leadership of the Appropriations Committee, and particularly subcommittee chairman Senator Lautenberg for their work on the Transportation appropriations bill that the Senate passed yesterday. However, I am gravely concerned about the omission of an item included in the President’s budget request for the Three Affiliated Tribes on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation in North Dakota.

The President included $5 million for the design and preliminary engineering of the Four Bears Bridge on Fort Berthold Reservation. This bill makes no reference to this funding request. I am concerned that this will provide the federal government with yet another excuse for not replacing a bridge that is seriously approaching replacement.

This bridge, originally constructed in 1934 on another part of the reservation, was erected at its current site by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1952 during construction of the Garrison Dam. Because of the Garrison Dam project, the reservoir created a permanent flood in the form of Lake Sakakawea on the Fort Berthold Reservation, the bridge became necessary to connect the west and the east sides of the Reservation.

Mr. President, Senator Campbell, chairman of the Indian Affairs Committee, shares my concerns that the Four Bears Bridge was not included in the bill as requested by the Administration. The reason that this bridge is necessary is because the federal government created a lake bisecting the Reservation. Now there’s a situation on Fort Berthold where emergency vehicles, school buses, police and general local traffic are forced to cross a bridge that is only 22 feet wide. This kind of a bridge was built in the 1930s—not for the large vehicles common today. It is also important to note that this bridge is one of the few crossing points along the Missouri River in North Dakota, making it a vital connection for all traffic—including large truck traffic—moving across the state.

Mr. INOUYE. I, too, am concerned about the situation on the Fort Berthold Reservation. In the Indian Affairs Appropriations bill for 1998, I included $5 million for the design and preliminary engineering of the Four Bears Bridge in this bill as requested by the President is vital to addressing the emergency needs on the Fort Berthold Reservation.

Mr. President, this is clearly a Federal responsibility. A Federal project created Lake Sakakawea and flooded a significant portion of the reservation, thus creating the need for this bridge. In 1992, Congress accepted the recommendations of the Joint Tribal Advisory Commission, which studied the impact of the Garrison Reservoir, created by the Pick-Sloan Missouri River Project, on the Three Affiliated Tribes. The Commission found that the Three Affiliated Tribes are entitled to replacement of infrastructure lost by the creation of the Garrison Dam and Lake Sakakawea. The Federal Government has a responsibility to the Three Affiliated Tribes to play a major role in providing for the infrastructure necessitated by the permanent flood created by this project.

Mr. President, will the Chairman of the Subcommittee also support funding this bridge as recommended by President Clinton?

Mr. SHELBY. I recognize that the Four Bears Bridge is being given high priority for my colleagues and I will work with Senator Dorgan, Senator Conrad, Indian Affairs Committee Chairman Campbell, and Indian Affairs Committee Vice Chairwoman Inouye to identify funding for the bridge in the Transportation appropriations bill when it goes to conference.

TRIBUTE TO THE SAVANNAH STATE UNIVERSITY BASEBALL TEAM

Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the most successful college baseball regular season in history. This year, the Savannah State University, SSU, Tigers set a new National Collegiate Athletic Association record for the most consecutive wins—an incredible 46. Led by their coach, Jamie Rigdon, a former Savannah State graduate, the Tigers played with all their heart despite the knowledge that they would not be able to participate in NCAA Regional Playoffs because they are in the process of moving from NCAA Division II to Division I.

The historic season began with twelve straight victories over their fellow Division II rivals. In February, the Tigers defeated Florida A&M in what would become the first of many Division I opponents to meet their match in Savannah State. As the season wore on, the Tigers were rewarded for their efforts with an amazing 34th consecutive victory, thereby breaking the NCAA record. However, Savannah State’s celebration was cut short when it learned that a Division III school in Ohio reported that it won 40 consecutive games the season before but had failed to notify the NCAA’s official record keepers. While the media and officials debated which team held the record, the Tigers kept winning. In the end, the Savannah State University baseball team had won an astonishing 46 consecutive game, shattering every record in the
books and laying indisputable claim to the most successful regular season in college baseball history.

In addition to their consecutive win streak, the Tigers compiled many impressive statistics this year. For example, each SSU starter batted over .330 for the season, the starters fielding average was .947, and the team’s earned run average was an incredible 2.39 for the entire season.

I recognize each Tiger player from the record setting team: Brett Higgins, captain; Torrie Pinkins; Derrick Street; Jarvis Johnson; Robert Settle; Rodgers; Marcus Griffin; Mike Eusebio; Lamar Leverett; Marcus Johnson; Richard Castillo; Guy Thigpen; Chris Cesario; Charles Brown; Isaiah Brown; James Runkle; Jeremy Batayias; J.J. Stevens; James Greig; and Shanton Dew.

Savannah State University President, Carlton E. Brown, spoke highly of the student athletes saying that, “the members of the Savannah State University baseball team are not just extraordinary athletes, they are exceptional students and model citizens. Even without the prospect of post-season play, the team put its heart and soul into each game. The team exemplifies the Savannah State University motto, which is ‘You can get anywhere from here.’” I agree with President Brown that these young men can get anywhere with their education from Savannah State just as they went from the baseball diamond and into the record books. While I do not doubt that the Tigers could have been very successful in the playoffs, I hope their tremendous season is simply one remarkable achievement in a life where they make history, on and off the field.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting a withdrawal and sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:13 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following: with amendment:

S. 2722. An act to authorize the award of the Medal of Honor to Ed W. Freeman, James K. Okubo, and Andrew J. Smith.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-9238. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, a notice relative to a retirement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-9239. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the transmittal of the certification of the proposed issuance of an export license to Sweden; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-9240. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the transmittal of the certification of the proposed issuance of an export license to the Republic of Korea; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-9241. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the transmittal of the certification of the proposed issuance of an export license to Norway, Sweden, Greece, and Turkey; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-9242. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the transmittal of the certification of the proposed issuance of an export license to Canada; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-9244. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the transmittal of the certification of the proposed issuance of an export license to Japan; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-9245. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the transmittal of the certification of the proposed issuance of an export license to Ecuador; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-9246. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the transmittal of the certification of the proposed issuance of an export license to the United Kingdom; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-9247. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the transmittal of the certification of the proposed issuance of an export license to the United States; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-9248. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the transmittal of the certification of the proposed issuance of an export license to Canada; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-9252. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the transmittal of the certification of the proposed issuance of an export license to India; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-9253. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “25 CFR Part 170, Distribution of Fiscal Year 2000 Indian Reservation Revenue to Tribes” (RIN1107–AA52) received on May 15, 2000; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-9254. A communication from the Deputy Administrator, Bureau of Prisons, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Federal Tort Claims Act” (RIN1120–AA94) received on June 5, 2000; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-9255. A communication from the Deputy Administrator, Bureau of Prisons, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Small Business Size Standards; Help Supply Services” (RIN3245–AE17) received on June 14, 2000; to the Committee on Small Business.

EC-9258. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of Size Standards, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Small Business Size Standards; Help Supply Services” (RIN3245–AE17) received on June 14, 2000; to the Committee on Small Business.

EC-9259. A communication from the Acting Director, Defense Procurement, Office of Defense Procurement, Office of the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “NAFTA Procurement Threshold” (DFARS Case 2000–D0008) received on June 5, 2000; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-9260. A communication from the Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Transactions Other Than Contracts,