our families, our friends, and those close and important to us are very proud as well. 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, as we are made of the immortal heart, 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 him many more years of health and happiness.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, Senator CAMPBELL, or Senator DORGAN, Senator CONRAD, with Senator DORGAN, Senator CONRAD, and the Subcommittee also support funding for the Four Bears Bridge on Fort Berthold Reservation. This bridge will be named after the late Ezra Koch.

Mr. SHELBY. I recognize that the Four Bears Bridge is a high priority for my colleagues and I will work with Senator DORGAN, Senator CONRAD, Indian Affairs Committee Chairman CAMPBELL, and Indian Affairs Committee Vice Chairman 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 McMinnville’s and Yamhill County’s most respected businessman, Ezra Koch, 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, have 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 Chair Senator DUFEE and Senator LUTENBERGER 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 clearly needs a complete 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 the Garrison Dam project 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 for the small cars of 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 and I struggle with how to meet the many responsibilities that the federal government has to Indian tribes across the nation. There is a mounting crisis in Indian country in a range of areas and transportation is among the critical needs of tribes. Including 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 for this bridge as recommended by President Clinton?

Mr. SHELBY. I recognize that the Four Bears Bridge is a priority for my colleagues and I will work with Senator DORGAN, Senator CONRAD, Indian Affairs Committee Chairman CAMPBELL, and Indian Affairs Committee Vice Chairman INOUYE to identify funding for the bridge in the Transportation Appropriations bill when it goes to conference.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, Senator CAMPBELL, or Senator DORGAN, Senator CONRAD, with Senator DORGAN, Senator CONRAD, and the Subcommittee also support funding for the Four Bears Bridge on Fort Berthold Reservation. This bridge will be named after the late Ezra Koch.

Mr. SHELBY. I recognize that the Four Bears Bridge is a high priority for my colleagues and I will work with Senator DORGAN, Senator CONRAD, Indian Affairs Committee Chairman CAMPBELL, and Indian Affairs Committee Vice Chairman 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 kept playing hard every day and on March 19 they 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