

during the session of the Senate on Thursday, October 4, 2001, to conduct an oversight hearing on "Transit Safety in the Wake of September 11."

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AUTHORITY FOR INTRODUCTION OF COUNTERTERRORISM BILL

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the adjournment of the Senate today it be in order for a bipartisan counterterrorism bill to be introduced today by Senators DASCHLE and LOTT and others and that it be considered as having had its first reading, with an objection to the second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONGRATULATING AND HONORING BALTIMORE ORIOLE CAL RIPKEN, JR.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 168, submitted earlier today by Senators SARBANES and MIKULSKI, and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 168) congratulating and honoring Cal Ripken, Jr., for his amazing and storybook career as a player for the Baltimore Orioles and thanking him for his contributions to baseball, the State of Maryland, and the United States.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I submitted S. Res. 168 with my colleague, Senator MIKULSKI, honoring Cal Ripken, Jr.

On Saturday October 6, 2001, at Oriole Park at Camden Yards, not far from my home in Baltimore, Cal Ripken, Jr. will play in his final baseball game. Cal Ripken's career will have spanned 21 seasons in the major leagues, every one of them with the Baltimore Orioles. In fact, beginning with Cal's father, Cal Ripken, Sr., there has been a Ripken in the Orioles organization for 45 consecutive years. Over the past 21 years, Cal Ripken, Jr. has built what will be a lasting legacy not only as one of the greatest players in the history of professional baseball, but as a true ambassador of the game and a shining example of sportsmanship, character, and the American work ethic.

An entire generation was born and grew up watching Cal Ripken play baseball every day the right way. Many of my constituents in Maryland have rooted for the Orioles knowing beyond a shadow of a doubt that Cal Ripken would be playing, first at Memorial Stadium and then later at Camden

Yards, and that they would be able to see Cal give that one game everything that he had. Not only will the city of Baltimore miss Cal's number 8 on the left-side of the infield and in the heart of the line-up, but all residents of Maryland, and millions of Americans, from die-hard baseball fans, to those who have only seen one game, will always associate the Baltimore Orioles with their legendary shortstop, Cal Ripken.

Cal Ripken's achievements on the field of play are legendary: Ripken is one of only seven players in history to record both 400 home runs and 3,000 hits and along with fellow Oriole, long-time teammate, and good friend, Eddie Murray, they are the only infielders to accomplish this feat. Simply put, Cal redefined the position of shortstop in every respect: offense, defense, durability, consistency, and popularity.

Listing all of Cal's baseball accomplishments could go on forever, but there is one record for which he is best known, and that in Maryland is simply referred to as "The Streak." For 17 straight years, Ripken played in every single game on the Baltimore Orioles' schedule, never succumbing to injury or weakness, always willing to do his best to help the Orioles over an amazing 2,632 consecutive games. It is this consistency and work ethic that has so endeared him to the American public, and was so stirringly celebrated on the evening of September 6, 1995, the day that he played his 2,131st consecutive game, surpassing the record set by the "Iron Horse," Hall-of-Famer Lou Gehrig. I will repeat what I said on this very floor on September 7, 1995: throughout both "The Streak" and the rest of Cal's storybook career, Cal played baseball for one reason and one reason only: because he loves the game. And, Cal, the game loves you.

When Cal was approaching Mr. Gehrig's record in 1995, it was a turbulent time in the history of Major League Baseball; the sport was trying to recover from the damage done by a players' strike in the 1994 season that canceled the World Series for the first time in history. There was a breach of trust between the sport and its fans, but there is no doubt in anyone's mind that Cal Ripken's journey toward this great record was a focus point in the healing process that ultimately restored much of the good will lost for America's pastime.

Ripken, over the course of 21 consecutive seasons, spent hours before and after games signing autographs for countless fans. There were jokes in the Baltimore clubhouse that if anything were to end "The Streak," it would be an injury to his right hand from signing too many autographs. But it is this willingness to go the extra mile, to not treat his fame and influence as a burden but to welcome his responsibility to the public, particularly to children,

as a role model that distinguishes Cal Ripken from even the greatest athletes and enables him to transcend his sport.

Unlike so many of our modern athletes, Cal Ripken embraced his status as a role model. With his wife Kelly by his side, the Ripkens engaged in charity work ranging from literacy programs to fighting Lou Gehrig's disease, as well as working tirelessly to promote the game of baseball to all children, especially those that are disadvantaged. Fittingly, one of the many tasks that Cal will devote himself to in his retirement is the Cal Ripken Little League Division of Babe Ruth Baseball, which has over 700,000 children learning the fundamentals of baseball. Another project that Cal will be working on is that of building Inspiration Field in his home community of Harford County, Maryland. Cal has always been devoted to his Maryland roots, but beyond that is his devotion to his family, his mother Vi, his late father Cal Ripken, Sr., his wife Kelly, and his children Ryan and Rachel. Cal has shown this devotion countless times, and I know that in his retirement, Cal, will have more time to enjoy the loving family that we are all proud to know simply as the Ripkens.

But here, as with the statistics and records, listing Cal's charitable programs and donations and noting his loving role as son, husband, and father, can not fully capture the phenomenal manner in which Cal Ripken has lived his life and given back to his community. Cal was born in Havre de Grace, MD, and was raised in the neighboring City of Aberdeen. He was drafted by the Baltimore Orioles organization in 1978, and spent every year of his professional career, except one, playing baseball in the State of Maryland. Cal Ripken's career has been the fulfillment of the childhood dream of so many of us, to become an athletic superstar and play your entire career for your hometown team. And beyond that, Cal Ripken has lived this dream with the dignity, honor, humility, charity, passion, and pure love of baseball that make myself, the City of Aberdeen, the City of Baltimore, the State of Maryland, and the United States of America proud to call Cal a legend and a role model for us all. I urge my colleagues to join us in honoring and congratulating Cal Ripken's amazing and storybook career by saying thank you Cal.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate the life and career of Cal Ripken. He has given us 21 glorious years—and I know that we have seen nothing yet. The resolution that I am introducing with Senator SARBANES seeks to commemorate one of the great careers in baseball—and one of the great role models of our time.

Most Marylanders will confess to some sadness about what will happen this weekend. We will see the Iron Man