Marine Corps nominations (117) beginning WILLIAM A. ARTHUR, and ending DOUGLAS P. YUROVICH, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of February 27, 2001.

Navy nomination of Edward Schaefer, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of February 27, 2001.

Navy nominations (12) beginning ANTHONY C. CREGO, and ending TERRY W. BENNETT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of February 27, 2001.

Navy nomination of James G. Libby, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of March 8, 2001.

Navy nomination of Anthony W. Maybrier, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of March 8, 2001.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now return to legislative session.

PEACE TALKS ON NAGORNO KARABAGH

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I want to offer my hope for the successful resolution of the Nagorno Karabagh negotiations. On April 3, the presidents of Azerbaijan and Armenia will meet in Key West, FL, to continue their dialogue on the Nagorno Karabagh region, an area that is essential for the continued stability of the Caucasus.

President Heidar Aliyev of Azerbaijan and President Robert Kocharian of Armenia started a direct dialogue in 1999 and have met over a dozen times in an attempt to bring peace and stability to the region of the Caucasus. Their upcoming talks in Key West are a continuation of the most recent set of meetings that included French President Jacques Chirac. My hope is that the United States, France, and Russia—working directly with the two presidents—can increase the potential for resolving the conflict over Nagorno Karabagh.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Thursday, March 29, 2001, the Federal debt stood at $5,770,774,722,962.15, Five trillion, four hundred sixty-nine billion, one hundred ninety-three million, one hundred seventy-six million, seven hundred forty-one thousand, nine hundred sixty-six dollars and fifteen cents.

One year ago, March 29, 2000, the Federal debt stood at $5,733,652,000,000, Five trillion, seven hundred thirty-three billion, seven hundred forty-one thousand, five hundred ten, fifty million

Five years ago, March 29, 1996, the Federal debt stood at $5,117,786,000,000, Five trillion, one hundred seventeen billion, seven hundred eighty-six million.

Ten years ago, March 29, 1991, the Federal debt stood at $3,465,189,000,000, Three trillion, four hundred sixty-five billion, one hundred eighty-nine million.

Twenty-five years ago, March 29, 1976, the Federal debt stood at $600,421,000,000, Six hundred billion, four hundred twenty-one million, two hundred fourteen thousand, six hundred eight dollars.

Thirty years ago, March 29, 1961, the Federal debt stood at $93,342,000,000, Ninety-three billion, three hundred forty-two million.

One hundred eighty-nine million dollars during the past 25 years is at the heart of our democratic process. Harold Burson has helped create a profession that has brought credibility and integrity to the practice of influencing public opinion. People who have worked with Mr. Burson and have had him as a mentor are leading the public relations industry today and will do so in the future. Thanks to Mr. Burson’s good health and robust spirit at the milestone, celebrated with good health and good humor by Mr. Burson along with his family and many friends, is especially noteworthy to the people of Tennessee because he is one of our most distinguished native sons. Harold Burson was born in Memphis on February 15, 1921. Despite a lifetime of accomplishment and honors on a global scale, he has never forgotten his Tennessee roots. Likewise, Mr. Burson’s lifetime of professional achievement has earned him the deep respect of his fellow Tennesseans.

I ask that a series of letters written in tribute to Mr. Burson on the occasion of his 80th birthday be printed in the RECORD. These letters from President Bush and others demonstrate that Harold Burson’s contributions have meaning not just to folks in Tennessee, but to all Americans.

Thanks to the legacy of Harold Burson, public relations is a more respected and honored profession. Those of us who have the privilege of holding public office know that public opinion is at the heart of our democratic process. Harold Burson has helped create a profession that has brought credibility and integrity to the practice of influencing public opinion. People who have worked with Mr. Burson and have had him as a mentor are leading the public relations industry today and will do so in the future. Thanks to Mr. Burson’s good health and robust spirit at the milestone of 80, his legacy is still being written.

When the last century was coming to a close, PRWeek, an industry publication, named Harold Burson the most influential figure in public relations in the twentieth century. The publication cited Mr. Burson’s career as a counselor, advisor and mentor, and described him as “the most complete PR professional in history.”
I know other Americans join me in wishing Harold Burson many more years of health, happiness and fulfillment.

The letters follow.

U.S. SENATE

Mr. HAROLD BURSON,
Founding Chairman, Burson-Marsteller,
New York, NY.

DEAR MR. BURSON: It is a privilege for me to join your friends and relatives in saluting you on your eightieth birthday.

For half a century, you have been a pioneer in the public relations profession. The respected firm you founded has set a high standard as a result of your close attention to integrating integrity and credibility. Your lifetime of good works and professional achievement has earned you the respect of your native state of Tennessee.

Please accept my personal best wishes and warmest regards.

Sincerely,

FRED THOMPSON,
U.S. Senator.

THE WHITE HOUSE,

Mr. HAROLD BURSON,
Founding Chairman, Burson-Marsteller,
New York, NY.

DEAR MR. BURSON: Congratulations as you celebrate your 80th birthday surrounded by family and friends.

This special occasion is an excellent opportunity for all who know you to salute your many contributions to the field of public relations and to public service. I hope the future brings you good health and continued success. Laura joins me in sending best wishes.

Sincerely,

GEORGE W. BUSH,
City of New York,
Office of the Mayor,

DEAR MR. BURSON: My best wishes to you on the wonderful occasion of your 80th birthday.

May this be a truly joyous and special day as family and friends gather to celebrate this day.

May you live many more years as your native state of Tennessee.

Your lifetime of good works and professional contributions to the public relations industry and the New York City community as well are a true pioneer in your field.

Congratulations. On behalf of the residents of New York City, I wish you continued health and happiness.

Sincerely,

RUDOLPH W. GIULIANI,
Mayor.

HONORING GLENN E. SLUCTER AND THE 551ST PARACHUTE INFANTRY BATTALION

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the heroic efforts of Mr. Glenn Slucter, a Michigan veteran of the 551st Parachute Infantry Battalion. He and approximately 50 other veterans who served with him received a Presidential Unit Citation on February 23, 2001, at the Pentagon for their heroism during World War II. It is certainly fitting that Mr. Slucter and his fellow veterans are now being recognized for their brave and exemplary service. Although it has been more than fifty years since the war ended, it is important that their heroic role in the battles at Normandy-Francois and the Battle of the Bulge is finally being acknowledged and honored. This ceremony was a wonderful reminder of the critical part our veterans have played in protecting and preserving our life of freedom.

Mr. Slucter and four of his children traveled to Washington, DC to attend the ceremony. How thrilling it must have been for him and the other members of his unit to renew old friendships and receive the recognition in front of their families and friends that they so richly deserve. I am sure this was an opportunity to reminisce as well as express sorrow for the many members of their battalion who did not make it home.

It is my privilege to join the United States Army in paying tribute to a man who has given so much to his country. I applaud Glenn Slucter for his bravery and his selfless acts during World War II. We should all be proud and grateful for the efforts of Glenn Slucter and the members of the 551st Parachute Infantry Battalion.

WE THE PEOPLE

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I rise today to commend fifteen students from Orofino High School in Orofino, ID: Zach Ammen, Hannah Brandt, Joshua Corry, Diana Dangman, Nathan Dobyns, Emily Hall, Harmony Haveman, Jessica Hill, Piper Hope, Stacy Ray, Sarah Spaulding, Heather Veeder, Jessica Weeks, Brian Wilks; and Sam Young.

These students will be in Washington, DC on April 21–22, 2001 to compete in the national finals of the “We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution” program. These young scholars have worked diligently to reach the national finals and through their experience have gained a deep understanding and understanding of the fundamental principles and values of our constitutional democracy.

I also like to recognize their teacher, Cindy Wilson, for helping prepare these young students.

“We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution” is one of the most extensive educational programs in the country. It has been developed specifically to educate young people about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The three-day national competition is modeled after hearings in the United States Congress and consists of oral presentations by high school students before a panel of adult judges. The students’ testimony is followed by a presentation by the simulated congressional committee. The judges evaluate students on their depth of understanding and ability to apply their constitutional knowledge.

The 250th anniversary of James Madison’s birth in 1751 offers an appropriate opportunity to examine his contributions to American constitutionalism and politics. To this end, the Center for Civic Education has collaborated with James Madison’s home, Montpelier, to produce a supplement to “We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution.” The national finals will include questions on Madison and his legacy.

Administered by the Center for Civic Education, the “We the People . . .” program has provided curricula materials at upper elementary, middle, and high school levels for more than twenty-six and a half million students nationwide. The program provides students with a working knowledge of our Constitution, Bill of Rights, and the principles of democratic government. Members of Congress are committed to enhance the program by discussing current constitutional issues with students and teachers and by participating in other educational activities.

The class from Orofino High School is currently conducting research and preparing for the upcoming national competition in Washington, DC. I wish these young “constitutional experts” the best of luck at the “We the People” national finals.

UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO
LADY LOBOS BASKETBALL TEAM

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I rise today to salute a team of special women who are champions in the eyes of the residents of my home State of New Mexico. I am paying tribute to the University of New Mexico’s Lobo Women’s basketball team for the one point short of winning the Women’s National Invitation Tournament last night.

The Ohio State Buckeyes’ team battled the Lady Lobos on their home court, at “the Pit” in Albuquerque, one of the most phenomenal basketball sites in the country. There, the Lady Lobos and the Buckeyes wowed the fans with an exciting 62–61 game. Despite the heartbreaking end, the Lobo women had a fantastic year worthy of any trophy and our admiration.

This team has helped to move women in this sport forward by leaps and bounds, providing an outstanding example of dedication, talent and hard work for young girls in my State. Their hard work in the NIT tournament builds on a distinguished history of collegiate women’s basketball. Back in 1972 President Richard Nixon signed into law title IX, which stated that no person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in any educational program or activity that receives federal assistance. That same year, the