

In 1996, Swanson went to work as general manager for WNBC, NBC's flagship station in New York. The station was running second to longtime market leader WABC-TV, but needed a creative spark to put it over the top. As he had done in L.A. and Chicago, Swanson focused on providing viewers with high-quality community programming. He convinced network executives to broadcast the Christmas tree lighting at Rockefeller Center live during prime time. It was a huge hit. True to form, the station under Swanson broadcast other community events, such as the St. Patrick's Day Parade and the Puerto Rican Pride day parade, ensuring that many New Yorkers who were unable to attend the parades could still feel like part of the festivities. When Swanson left WNBC in 2002, the station, like those he left in Chicago and Los Angeles, was the ratings leader for its market.

After leaving WNBC, Swanson served as executive vice president and chief operating officer of Viacom Television Stations, Inc., where he oversaw 39 television stations throughout the country. While his tenure there was brief, having left for FOX in 2005, at the time of his departure Viacom's stations in New York and L.A. were increasing in market share, as were several stations in smaller markets. He now is in charge of FOX's 35 local television stations.

For all the success he has had, focusing solely on Mr. Swanson's professional success doesn't even allow one to scratch the surface of his rich life. Far from the apocryphal career-obsessed television executive of popular lore, for him serving the community was not just a strategy for increasing television ratings but a way of life. He has served on the boards and advisory committees of various organizations, including the Broadway Association, Inc., the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, the Committee for Hispanic Children and Families, Inc. and the Ireland-United States Council for Commerce and Industry. He has also been active in efforts to promote minority voices in the media, serving as chairman of the Emma L. Bowen Foundation for Minority Interests in the Media since its founding in 1991.

Those who know him best say Mr. Swanson has two passions: his family and the U.S. Marine Corps. Having served in the Marines as an officer in the early 1960s, he often credits the corps with helping make him the man he is today. He has given back, raising millions for the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation and the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund.

But first and foremost for Mr. Swanson is his family. Despite his busy schedule, he strives to spend as much time as possible with Kathy, his wife of 46 years, their three children and nine

grandchildren. He makes it a point to be with them for every holiday and special event. All of his grandchildren have their grandfather attend their events, whether they are hockey games in Connecticut at 6 a.m. or theatrical plays and lacrosse games in northern Virginia or ballets and soccer games in southern California; Dennis is always there for them.

When looking upon all that Mr. Swanson has accomplished both professionally and personally, it is difficult to imagine that there is more that he can do. Yet his dedication and creativity have proven resilient over the years, so one can only expect bigger and better things from him. I look forward to seeing what kind of new and innovative ideas he develops in the future.

Happy birthday, Dennis Swanson. May your 70th year be your best one yet.●

TRIBUTE TO LOUIE KROGMAN

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I honor Louie Krogman from White River, SD. On December 20, 2007, Louie scored his 2,826th point to become South Dakota's all-time leading boys basketball scorer.

Louie broke the former record of 2,825 points when he sank a free throw in the first half of White River's game against Pine Ridge during the Lakota Nation Invitational Tournament in Rapid City, SD. The 5,000 fans in attendance rose to their feet and honored him with a standing ovation. Before the game continued, the Lakota Nation honored Louie with a Lakota name and serenaded him with a Lakota honor song while he donned a traditional Native quilt. When the game resumed, Louie continued his dominance and led the Tigers to a decisive victory. Louie broke the 50-year-old record notably early in the 2007-2008 season, which leaves him plenty of time to continue to build on an amazing high school career.

This prestigious achievement is a direct result of the hard work and dedication that Louie has demonstrated throughout his career at White River High School. During his career, Louie was twice selected to the all-state basketball first team, named all-conference first team four times, named the Argus Leader player of the year, and chosen for the State "B" Tournament All-Tourney team. Through his hard work, leadership, athletic abilities, and a great supporting cast Louie has helped the Tigers become one of South Dakota's top basketball teams.

Mr. President, it gives me great honor today, along with Louie's friends, family, and the State of South Dakota, to congratulate him on this impressive accomplishment.●

TRIBUTE TO DON MEYER

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I honor Don Meyer, the head men's basketball coach at Northern State University, NSU, in Aberdeen, SD. Coach Meyer recently won his 880th coaching career victory and currently has the most wins of any active coach in men's basketball. This accomplishment places Coach Meyer in second place on the collegiate all-time win list, trailing only Bobby Knight.

Coach Meyer began coaching at NSU in 1999 and has led the Wolves to 178 victories. Prior to coming to Aberdeen, he coached for 24 seasons at David Lipscomb University in Nashville, TN, and three seasons at Hamline University in Minneapolis, MN.

Despite his many accomplishments, Don Meyer has remained extremely humble. He is always quick to praise his assistant coaches, players, and fans for the invaluable role they play in his accomplishments. This humility has earned him the respect and admiration of his players. His excellent example of leadership and teamwork has even inspired one of his former players to write a book chronicling his time playing for Coach Meyer.

Coach Meyer is truly an example of the dedication and inspiration that is found in South Dakota's coaches. He has given the young people of South Dakota a fine example of what it means to be leader both on and off the court. On behalf of the State of South Dakota, I am proud to commend Coach Meyer on this impressive accomplishment and wish him and the Wolves all the best for their continued success.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD) announced that on today, February 12, 2008, he had signed the following enrolled bill, which had previously been signed by the Speaker of the House:

H.R. 3541. An act to amend the Do-not-call Implementation Act to eliminate the automatic removal of telephone numbers registered on the Federal "do-not-call" registry.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 5:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 781. An act to extend the authority of the Federal Trade Commission to collect Do-Not-Call Registry fees to fiscal years after fiscal year 2007.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mrs. McCASKILL (for herself and Mr. BOND):

S. 2622. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11001 Dunklin Road in St. Louis, Missouri, as the "William 'Bill' Clay Post Office"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. NELSON of Nebraska:

S. 2623. A bill to amend title 37, United States Code, to authorize travel and transportation allowances for mobilized members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces on leave for suspension of training or to meet minimal staffing requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. INOUE, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 2624. A bill to regulate political robocalls; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. HARKIN:

S. 2625. A bill to ensure that deferred Department of Veterans Affairs disability benefits that are received in a lump sum amount or in prospective monthly amounts, be excluded from consideration as annual income when determining eligibility for low-income housing programs; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. VOINOVICH (for himself and Mr. BROWN):

S. 2626. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 160 East Washington Street in Chagrin Falls, Ohio, as the "Sergeant Michael M. Kashkoush Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. ISAKSON (for himself and Mr. CHAMBLISS):

S. Res. 447. A resolution honoring Friendship Force International and recognizing March 1, 2008 as World Friendship Day; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MCCONNELL:

S. Res. 448. A resolution making minority party appointments for the 110th Congress; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SMITH (for himself, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. COLEMAN, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. DOLE, and Mr. MARTINEZ):

S. Res. 449. A resolution condemning in the strongest possible terms President of Iran Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's statements regarding the State of Israel and the Holocaust and calling for all member States of the United Nations to do the same; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 400

At the request of Mr. SUNUNU, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr.

HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 400, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that dependent students who take a medically necessary leave of absence do not lose health insurance coverage, and for other purposes.

S. 430

At the request of Mr. BOND, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 430, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to enhance the national defense through empowerment of the Chief of the National Guard Bureau and the enhancement of the functions of the National Guard Bureau, and for other purposes.

S. 1577

At the request of Mr. KOHL, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1577, a bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to require screening, including national criminal history background checks, of direct patient access employees of skilled nursing facilities, nursing facilities, and other long-term care facilities and providers, and to provide for nationwide expansion of the pilot program for national and State background checks on direct patient access employees of long-term care facilities or providers.

S. 1627

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1627, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and expand the benefits for businesses operating in empowerment zones, enterprise communities, or renewal communities, and for other purposes.

S. 1734

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1734, a bill to provide for prostate cancer imaging research and education.

S. 1738

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1738, a bill to establish a Special Counsel for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction within the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, to improve the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, to increase resources for regional computer forensic labs, and to make other improvements to increase the ability of law enforcement agencies to investigate and prosecute predators.

S. 1889

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1889, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to improve railroad safety by reducing accidents and

to prevent railroad fatalities, injuries, and hazardous materials releases, and for other purposes.

S. 2059

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2059, a bill to amend the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 to clarify the eligibility requirements with respect to airline flight crews.

S. 2119

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2119, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of veterans who became disabled for life while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States.

S. 2186

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2186, a bill to permit individuals who are employees of a grantee that is receiving funds under section 330 of the Public Health Service Act to enroll in health insurance coverage provided under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program.

S. 2279

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2279, a bill to combat international violence against women and girls.

S. 2322

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS) and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2322, a bill to amend the International Center Act to authorize the lease or sublease of certain property described in such Act to an entity other than a foreign government or international organization if certain conditions are met.

S. 2347

At the request of Mr. OBAMA, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2347, a bill to restore and protect access to discount drug prices for university-based and safety-net clinics.

S. 2389

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2389, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the alternative minimum tax credit amount for individuals with long-term unused credits for prior year minimum tax liability, and for other purposes.

S. 2433

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2433, a bill to require the President to develop