

grandchildren and a great grandchild, and by baseball fans across the Nation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate honors the life of Harry Caray.

MEMORIALIZING PENNY SEVERNS

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to say a few words concerning a friend, former colleague, and outstanding public servant, Illinois Senator Penny Severns. Senator Severns, one of the most courageous people I have ever known, lost her long battle with cancer over the weekend at the age of 46. Until the end, she battled for the causes that animated her outstanding political career—a career that began when she was elected as a delegate to the 1972 Democratic National Convention at the age of 20.

After graduating from Southern Illinois University two years later, Penny served in the Agency for International Development and the Illinois comptroller's office. In 1983, she was elected to the Decatur City Council and, three years after that, she won election to the Illinois Senate.

Penny's tenure in the Senate was marked by an unwavering commitment to her beliefs that impressed both her allies and opponents. An unabashed liberal in a politically conservative district, she was beloved because she worked tirelessly on behalf of her constituents the people of Illinois. She had an outstanding record of fighting for Illinois workers, women, and children. At the time of her death, Penny, the 1994 Democratic nominee for lieutenant governor, was the ranking Democrat on the Senate Revenue Committee and was the principal negotiator for Senate Democrats on issues involving the state budget. She was a champion of fiscal reforms, worked to expand Illinois exports, fought for an emergency medical leave law for workers, and sought to establish a mechanism to help the State track down parents delinquent in their child support payments.

Penny spent the final months of her life not only battling cancer, but waging a campaign to become Illinois' next Secretary of State. So strong was her commitment to the people of her State that, last year, after a tumor was removed from her skull, she vowed to "wage two campaigns at once." She said, "The doctors took care of the first battle by removing the tumor. I'll take care of the second battle, which is to continue to serve the citizens * * * and to continue my campaign."

Penny's illness began in 1994 with a diagnosis of breast cancer, a disease that her sisters, Patty and Marsha, both battled as well. Patty is currently in remission, but Marsha died in 1992. Too many families across the United States have been ravaged by this terrible scourge. In the United States in 1997, 180,200 new cases of breast cancer

were diagnosed and 44,000 women died of it. One out of every nine American women will be stricken with the disease during their lifetime. These statistics are unacceptably high. We must redouble our commitment to finding a way to defeat this killer. The nation simply cannot afford to keep losing women like Penny Severns.

Mr. President, a great many people throughout our nation have come to view politics as a cynical game involving giant egos and inconsequential battles. I would suggest that those individuals take a moment to study the life and career of Penny Severns, who was involved in electoral politics for all the right reasons and cared passionately about the welfare of the people she served. Her accomplishments are not only an inspiration to those of us who continue to work on behalf of the causes she championed, but also serve as a reminder to all Americans of the good work that committed public officials throughout this nation do. The State of Illinois and, indeed, our great nation are poorer for her loss.

NATIONAL SAFE PLACE WEEK

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to immediate consideration of Calendar No. 225, which is S. Res. 96.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 96) proclaiming the week of March 15 through March 21, 1998 as "National Safe Place Week."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

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

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the resolution appear at this point in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 96) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 96

Whereas today's youth are vital to the preservation of our country and will be the future bearers of the bright torch of democracy;

Whereas youth need a safe haven from various negative influences such as child abuse, substance abuse and crime, and they need to have resources readily available to assist them when faced with circumstances that compromise their safety;

Whereas the United States needs increased numbers of community volunteers acting as positive influences on the Nation's youth;

Whereas the Safe Place program is committed to protecting our Nation's most valuable asset, our youth, by offering short term "safe places" at neighborhood locations

where more than 2,500 trained volunteers are available to counsel and advise youth seeking assistance and guidance;

Whereas Safe Place combines the efforts of the private sector and non-profit organizations uniting to reach youth in the early stages of crisis;

Whereas Safe Place provides a direct means to assist programs in meeting performance standards relative to outreach/community relations, as set forth in the Federal runaway and homeless youth guidelines;

Whereas the Safe Place placard displayed at businesses within communities stands as a beacon of safety and refuge to at-risk youth;

Whereas currently 34 States and more than 6,000 business locations have established Safe Place programs; and

Whereas increased awareness of the program's existence will encourage communities to establish Safe Places for the Nation's youth throughout the country: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) proclaims the week of March 15 through March 21, 1998, as "National Safe Place Week"; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States and interested groups to promote awareness of and volunteer involvement in the Safe Place organization, and to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

CONGRATULATING NORTH-EASTERN UNIVERSITY ON PROVIDING QUALITY HIGHER EDUCATION FOR 100 YEARS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 183, submitted earlier today by Senators KENNEDY and KERRY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 183) congratulating Northeastern University on providing quality higher education in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for 100 years, from 1898–1998.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

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

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, it is an honor to take this opportunity to congratulate Northeastern University in Massachusetts as it begins its centennial celebration.

Northeastern University began providing higher education in conjunction with the Boston Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) in 1898. Since then, it has been a leader in providing quality higher education to large numbers of students. It currently enrolls 27,000 full-time students and has graduated over 137,000 students over the years.

Northeastern University is also an impressive leader in the current effort to expand access to higher education. It offers the largest cooperative education plan in the country for students to combine work with college. It has also helped educators in other countries develop cooperative education

programs. Thanks to Northeastern's leadership, universities in Africa and Asia now have significant programs in this important field.

Northeastern also excels in numerous academic fields. It has an outstanding engineering faculty, and excellent engineering centers in electromagnetics, communications, and digital signal processing. With its newly created graduate program in Applied Science and Engineering, Northeastern is poised to engage in breakthrough scientific research.

Northeastern is also a leader in creating partnerships with community organizations, educators, and businesses to deal with critical issues such as domestic violence and women's health. In 1990, Professor Clare Dalton founded the Domestic Violence Institute which works with community agencies to protect women and children who are victims of domestic violence. Recently, the Institute's initiatives were enhanced by a three-year grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for this critically important work.

Northeastern's first hundred years have been filled with outstanding accomplishments and contributions to our state, our country, and the world. I am sure that in the years ahead, Northeastern will continue this proud tradition of excellence, and I congratulate the university on this auspicious centennial anniversary.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the resolution appear at this point in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 183) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 183

Whereas on October 16, 1997, Northeastern University marked the beginning of its centennial celebration;

Whereas Northeastern University began providing higher education in conjunction with the Boston Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) in 1898;

Whereas Northeastern University currently enrolls over 27,000 full time students and boasts an alumni in excess of 137,000 individuals;

Whereas Northeastern University has attained a national reputation for cooperative education that prepares students to transition successfully into the workplace;

Whereas Northeastern University provides access to higher education for students from all backgrounds;

Whereas Northeastern University has achieved growing recognition as a major research institution; and

Whereas the Senate supports Northeastern University's efforts to offer exceptional educational opportunities to individuals from throughout the world: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes and congratulates Northeastern University as an outstanding edu-

cational institution that has produced exceptional alumni during the past 100 years and gives every indication of doing so for the next 100 years; and

(2) wishes Northeastern University a successful and memorable centennial celebration.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1998

Mr. LOTT. I now ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until 10 a.m. on Thursday, February 26, and immediately following the prayer the routine requests through the morning hour be granted and there then be a period for morning business until 11 a.m. with the time equally divided between the two leaders or their designees for debate prior to the cloture votes.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. LOTT. Tomorrow morning there will be 1 hour of morning business, then, to be followed by two consecutive cloture votes. The first cloture vote will begin at approximately 11 a.m. and will be on the McCain-Feingold amendment, to be followed by a cloture vote on the underlying bill, S. 1663. All Senators should be prepared for these two consecutive cloture votes at approximately 11 a.m.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. LOTT. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order following the remarks of Senator DASCHLE.

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

Mr. LOTT. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader.

THE EVOLVING SITUATION IN IRAQ

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I want to address the evolving situation relating to Iraq and talk briefly about the circumstances surrounding the agreement reached between Secretary General Annan and Iraq as we know them now. I am concerned about some of the comments made in the media and on the floor about the situation in Iraq. I think it is important to review the situation as the President, Secretary of State, Secretary of Defense, National Security Adviser and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff have laid out in the last 24 hours.

First, with respect to what we are seeking, from the outset of this crisis the fundamental goal of the United States has been very simple. The goal has simply been to assure that UNSCOM has unconditional and unfet-

tered access to all suspect sites as called for in the U.N. Security Council resolutions. Period; that's it. All we needed was simply an opportunity to visit sites that we think are suspect.

We were denied that, which triggered this whole affair, beginning, as everyone now knows, several months ago. Diplomacy, backed by the threat to use overwhelming force if required, has moved us forward and closer to achieving that goal. There can be no doubt that the presence of a military force of the magnitude that is currently in the gulf had everything to do with the fact that we now have an agreement. General Secretary Annan has said that. Others have noted it. There is no question that the combination of diplomacy and military force gave us the opportunity to bring about this agreement over the last 72 hours.

Iraq precipitated this crisis, as we all know, by trying to avoid its obligations under the Security Council resolutions. It attempted to dictate to the international community where UNSCOM could hold inspections, the manner in which they could be conducted, and the length of time that they would continue. Iraq's effort has failed. We were clear about what we were seeking: Unfettered access. Iraq objected. Iraq obfuscated. Iraq clearly was at fault in not allowing access to the sites in question. Diplomacy was used, force backed up that diplomacy, and the results are now in hand.

Let's look at what we have achieved with this agreement. The government of Iraq has made a written commitment to provide immediate, unrestricted, unconditional access for the UNSCOM inspectors to all suspected sites. So, regardless of the rhetoric, regardless of whether it was framed in exactly the way we might have it framed, what matters is the bottom line. What matters is what is now to be the order. And the order is very clear. The order is to provide immediate, unrestricted, unconditional access for inspectors to all suspected sites. If fully implemented, this commitment will allow UNSCOM to fulfill its mission: First, to find and destroy all of Iraq's chemical, biological and nuclear weapons; second, to find and destroy the missiles that could deliver these weapons; and, third, to institute a system for long-term monitoring to make sure Iraq doesn't do it again.

This commitment applies to all sites anywhere in the country, including eight so-called "Presidential Sites" that have now been precisely delineated, as well as the so-called sensitive sites that until now Iraq has tried to claim were off limits to UNSCOM. Any and all of these sites are subject to repeat visits. There are no deadlines to complete the work. In short, for the first time Iraq has committed explicitly to open every site throughout the country to weapons inspectors. Again, that has been our bottom line. That will continue to be our bottom line. And we now have it in writing that Iraq will agree.