

persecution, are clearly and fairly stated exceptions to this one-year filing deadline.

My second concern is that the implementation of the summary exclusion or expedited removal provisions of the new immigration law may prove to be even more harmful to those who flee from persecution and seek refuge in the United States. When this bill was being debated in 1996, Senator LEAHY and I sponsored an amendment that would have limited such expedited removal procedures to only emergency situations. While that amendment passed by one vote in the Senate, it unfortunately did not survive in conference.

I said in May of 1996, and I still believe today, that victims of politically motivated torture and rape are the very ones who are most likely to have to resort to the use of false documents to flee from repressive governments—yet the use of such fraudulent documents subjects them to summary exclusion under the 1996 law.

I also remain concerned that while the INS may instruct its inspectors not to assess the credibility of an asylum claim—but instead refer the claim to an asylum officer—who can say how this process is actually being implemented nationwide at all of our 260 ports of entry? Other outside agencies are not permitted to monitor this process. Some credible cases are being assessed at secondary inspection sites by INS officials who are not trained asylum officers. As a result, I urge the Attorney General to appoint someone from her office to oversee the functioning of secondary inspection sites to ensure that anyone stating a fear of persecution or abuse is not forced onto the next plane back to his or her persecutors.

DOJ oversight could also prevent future inhumane actions—cases of physical and mental abuse that some INS officials have allegedly inflicted on asylum seekers who are shackled to benches at JFK Airport—or at least provide accountability for a process sorely lacking such oversight. A man from Somalia, Mohamoud Farah, who was recently granted asylum, yesterday described his ordeal during a press conference sponsored by the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights. I will ask that his full statement be printed in the RECORD at the conclusion of my remarks, but I will highlight some of it now. While Mohamoud endured 14 and a half hours shackled to a chair at JFK Airport, without food or water or even restroom breaks, he experienced abuse from INS officials and saw them abuse others who had been detained in the secondary inspection waiting area.

Being kicked, cursed at, and shackled to a chair is not how any of us envision proper treatment of people who seek refuge in our great nation—in fact, I imagine that kind of treatment as only occurring at the hands of the persecutors in the very countries from which these refugees flee.

Finally, I am concerned about the consistency with which INS imple-

ments its own rules and regulations in compliance with the 1996 immigration law. For example, in the General Accounting Office's report that was sent to me yesterday, the GAO describes inconsistencies among the eight asylum offices in the process of conducting "credible fear" interviews. Some offices failed to document whether a required paragraph on torture was read to the asylum seeker, or whether questions about torture were asked. I am concerned about these inconsistencies—especially since information about torture would provide a solid basis on which to grant asylum.

INS should also be consistent in allowing for effective representation when an asylum applicant appears before an immigration judge. This means that immigration judges should allow the attorney or representative of the asylum seeker to participate at the hearing by speaking or asking questions.

The right to have a trained asylum officer hear an asylum claim or to have counsel speak during a review hearing before an immigration judge should be a consistent right of all asylum seekers—not just a right that depends on which airport a person lands in or which immigration judge that person ends up appealing to.

In conclusion, Mr. President, the Senate must remain vigilant in its oversight duties if we want to keep our asylum system working. We have to remember that there's a reason for having an asylum system in the first place—and that is to keep the torch of liberty lit for truly oppressed people. This is a basic American value, and America should not turn its back on this fundamental principle.

I ask that the statement of Mohamoud Farah be printed in the RECORD.

The statement follows:

STATEMENT OF MOHAMOUD FARAH
(represented by the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS))

I arrived at JFK airport in New York City on October 31, 1997, on an Egypt Air flight from Cairo. When the plane landed, I informed someone at the airport that I was a refugee without a visa to enter the United States. I overheard this person tell a uniformed INS officer that I was "illegal". This INS officer insulted me, cursed at me, and asked me why I came to the United States. He pushed me backwards, and I fell down. Before I knew what was happening, three or four INS officers were putting shackles on my arms and legs. They bound my wrists and ankles to the legs of a chair. As the shackle was short, I was forced to lean forward in an uncomfortable position. The officers yelled and cursed at me. One of them pulled my ear. I tried to explain that I was a refugee from Somalia, but they just continued to shout. I saw the officers kick some other people, who were then taken away.

I remained shackled to the chair, leaning forward, for fourteen and a half hours. During that time, despite my requests, I was not given any food or water, nor was I allowed to use the restroom. I saw two shift changes take place while I was still bound to the chair. At one point, employees from Egypt Air came with my luggage and ticket and

said they were trying to send me back. I was afraid that if I were sent to Egypt, I might be put in jail. I told them I would rather be in jail in the United States.

They eventually sent me to another office where someone from INS began to take a statement from me about why I left Somalia. This statement would be used by the Immigration Judge in my proceedings. I was expected to discuss very painful experiences with the same people who were being abusive to me. This interview took a long time, as there was another shift change, and a new officer had to finish the statement. After they took the statement, I had to wait in that office for three more hours. I still was not allowed water or given permission to use the restroom. Finally, I was transported to the detention facility, near the airport in Queens, NY, at about 3:30 a.m. At that point, I was finally able to have some water and use the restroom, but received no food until lunch the next day. In the detention center, I began the process of applying for asylum in the United States. I was represented by Olga Narymsky, an attorney with the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS). After 101 days in detention, on February 9, 1998, I was granted political asylum.

I never expected that I would be treated this way in the United States. I know America is a great nation and that the way I was treated is not normal. I hope that by telling my story, I can help prevent anyone else from having to endure what happened when I arrived seeking refuge in this country.

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EXTENSION AND EDUCATION REFORM

• Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I am here to support the Senator from Iowa in asking that we be allowed to vote on S. 1150, so that we may provide crop insurance to the farmers in this country and begin to restore food stamps to some legal immigrants who lost eligibility under welfare reform. It is a bill financed primarily by funds from reducing the federal dollars for the administration of food stamps and provides the perfect opportunity to start correcting the mistakes made under welfare reform in denying legal immigrants access to the food stamp program. In addition it could allow full funding for crop insurance for next year and beyond. The only way Congress could avoid leaving farmers exposed in this way, would be to provide significant increases to crop insurance during the appropriation process. It will be incredibly difficult to increase crop insurance through the appropriations process because of the tight discretionary caps and the tremendous pressure on all programs.

As currently drafted, S. 1150 would provide just over \$800 million for FY1999-FY2003 to restore benefits to approximately 250,000 people. That is less than a third of those who lost their eligibility under welfare reform. It is a step in the right direction and we as the Senate should have the right to vote on this legislation.

We are not a country built on denying food to children and their parents. Yet that is essentially what we did when we passed Welfare Reform. Estimates suggest that around 900,000 legal

immigrants lost their eligibility. In addition, 600,000 citizen children with legal immigrant parents have seen their family's food stamps reduced. Denying access to nutrition will indeed affect children. It might be in terms of reducing children's food or it might be in terms of family dynamics, job performance or children's accomplishments. The reality is food is a basic need that if lost or reduced has rippling effects on a family.

The legislation that has been stopped would, if passed, begin to return food stamps to the neediest of those immigrants who lost eligibility under welfare reform: children, elderly and disabled. In addition it extends eligibility of asylees and refugees from 5 to 7 years to allow them the time required to apply for citizenship. The remaining \$1.1 billion would ensure the much needed funding for crop insurance and increase the much needed funds for agriculture research. Agriculture research funds are critical to improving food safety and providing a better quality food supply for all consumers. I encourage the President to allow the Senate to vote on this legislation so that we may improve food stamp eligibility to legal immigrants and ensure crop insurance to our farmers.●

CONGRATULATING TUBBY SMITH

● Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate a native son of Southern Maryland, Tubby Smith, who, as a first year head coach, led the Kentucky Wildcats to victory in this year's NCAA Basketball Tournament. This event is a historic one as Tubby Smith becomes only the third African-American to coach an NCAA men's championship basketball team at an institution that, at one time, did not allow African-Americans students to participate in basketball. It is for these reasons that I am particularly proud to congratulate Tubby Smith, a fellow small-town Marylander, on behalf of athletes and citizens nationwide who appreciate the value of opportunity and victory. Mr. President, I ask that an article on Tubby Smith, his family and life in Scotland, St. Mary's County, Maryland from the April 1, 1998 edition of the Washington Post be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows:

[From the Washington Post, Apr. 1, 1998]

IN ST. MARY'S, A CHAMPION'S FAMILY CELEBRATES

(By Jessie Mangaliman)

In the modest one-story cinder-block home in Scotland near St. Mary's County's southernmost point, Tubby Smith's large family—he has 16 brothers and sisters, 10 of whom still live in Southern Maryland, and 38 nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews—gathered yesterday at the family home to celebrate a victory by one of their own.

It was family-style: in the kitchen over a cup of coffee or in the den in front of a television tuned to a sports channel.

But in some ways, this victory encompasses a larger family. That's because Tubby

Smith, the winning coach of the NCAA champion University of Kentucky Wildcats, was the first African American coach of a school that once barred blacks from playing on its basketball team. On Monday, he brought honor to that school and the country when his team, which included his son, Saul, won the national basketball title, defeating Utah 78-69.

"I think he's proved them all wrong," said his jubilant sister Ramona Smith, who lives in Scotland, the tiny farming community of several hundred people six miles from the Chesapeake Bay. "He's made a believer out of everybody. His coaching record speaks for itself; he just happens to be black."

"Yes, my God, we are proud of Tubby Smith," declared Frank Dove, manager of the Mixx Lounge and Grill in Dameron, a nearby community, where more than 100 of Smith's friends gathered Monday night to watch the game and toast him in his victory. A sign outside the lounge on Route 235 proclaimed: "Congratulations, Tubby Smith."

"You can't help but smile to think that Tubby, who is liked by everyone here, came from being a farm boy to what he is now. We are proud," said Dove, who opened the lounge, usually closed on Mondays, to Smith's friends and family.

"You want to talk about the coach of the year? He's my coach of the year . . . for life," said William Smith, one of Tubby Smith's younger brothers who joined the crowd at the Mixx.

"He's the greatest!" said Guffrie Smith Sr., Smith's father, who worked three jobs while helping to raise his family: He drove a school bus, fired boilers at Patuxent River Naval Air Station and barbered.

Guffrie, 79, and Parthenia, 72, still live in the five-bedroom home where Tubby grew up. Guffrie, with the help of his uncle, a share-cropper, built that house in 1963 so that the family could move out of a farmhouse that lacked indoor plumbing.

The Kentucky coach might be known as Tubby—the young boy who liked sitting in his grandmother's wash bin so much that he didn't want to leave—but his given name is Orlando.

"He was an obedient child," Parthenia Smith said. "Weekdays he went to school, and on Sundays he went to church. He was not allowed to play ball on Sundays."

But he was also a hard-working child, said Dove, who has known Tubby since he was an infant. Even at a young age, he helped his father plant fruits and vegetables on the family's five acres of land.

"The whole family is like that—a church-going, hard-working good family. That's the bottom line," Dove said. Yesterday afternoon at the Smith home, there was only one subject of conversation: Tubby.

"Every time Tubby came on, somebody hollered, 'Tubby's on!'" said Ramona Smith, a guidance counselor at Great Mills High School. "We're still flying high, and we haven't quite calmed down yet."

Neither Guffrie nor Parthenia finished high school, but from the beginning, education was one of the family's most important values, the parents said. It paid off, Guffrie Smith Sr. said yesterday, for most of his 17 children have college degrees, including Tubby.

"He called last night after the game, and he said, 'Hey, Mama, did you see me on TV? I told him, yeah and I thanked the Lord [for the win] because I was so nervous,'" said Parthenia Smith, who conceded that she could not stop smiling in disbelief.

At Great Mills High, Tubby Smith scored 1,000 points in three seasons before graduating, helping unite a racially divided school in 1967 with his athleticism, according to his brother Odell, who was in Texas to watch the game Monday night.

Tubby Smith played for four years at High Point University in North Carolina. Then he coached in high schools, including at Great Mills. One of his college coaches, J.D. Barnett, later hired him as an assistant at Virginia Commonwealth University. Barnett went on to the University of Tulsa, where he was fired as head coach and replaced by Smith in 1991.

Under Smith's coaching, Tulsa went to the middle rounds of the NCAA tournament. He went to the University of Georgia in 1995, leading his teams to two NCAA tournaments.

Last year when Smith became the first African American coach of the men's team at the University of Kentucky, a paper there published an open letter from a black staff member warning him that the school was not ready for a black coach. "I fear for your safety," she wrote.

"There are good and bad people everywhere you go," Parthenia Smith said. "I told him that I didn't like what she said. But that made me nervous more than anything else."

"He's a good man," Smith's father said. "The boys believe in him."

Guffrie Smith, who has had multiple bypass surgery, said he had no doubt his son would come through a champion, but the thrill of Monday night's game was too much for his heart.

At halftime, when the Wildcats were behind 10 points, Guffrie Smith stood up, paced around the living room and the shut himself in the bedroom. He came out only after the Wildcats had won.

After the game Monday night, Tubby Smith said: "It's obviously something that is special. It's probably the most noteworthy thing that has happened in our family as far as family achievements."

Smith said he plans to visit his family in St. Mary's County in the next several days.

On national television, he thanked his relatives in St. Mary's because he knew they were watching. The family gathered at the Mixx lounge hooted and hollered, toasting with champagne.●

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN WOLVERINES

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate the University of Michigan Wolverines on the completion of a perfect 1997 football season. In September, the Wolverines began one of the toughest schedules in the Big Ten. The team was prepared to play some of the strongest teams in NCAA football. From their first victory against Colorado (27-3) to their last game of the season against Ohio State (20-14), Michigan dominated the field, surrendering few touchdowns with their top-rated defense. By November, the Wolverines had finished their regular season undefeated, with a Big Ten Championship, a Rose Bowl berth and their first chance at a National Championship in fifty years.

In January, the Michigan Wolverines faced the Washington State Cougars in the 1998 Rose Bowl. Although the University of Michigan has more Rose Bowl appearances than any other Big Ten school, the Wolverines were appearing in Pasadena for the first time in five years. Senior quarterback Brien Griese led the team with 18 for 30 passing for 251 yards and three touchdowns. The Wolverines celebrated a 21-16 victory over Washington State, giving