that by passing this legislation, we can change hearts and minds as well.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business Friday, May 18, 2001, the Federal debt stood at $5,655,505,213,567.79, five trillion, six hundred fifty-five billion, five hundred five million, two hundred thirteen thousand, five hundred sixty-seven dollars and seventy-nine cents.

One year ago, May 18, 2000, the Federal debt stood at $5,672,936,000,000, five trillion, six hundred seventy-two billion, nine hundred thirty-six million.

Twenty-five years ago, May 18, 1976, the Federal debt stood at $605,757,000,000, six hundred five billion, seven hundred fifty-seven million, which reflects a debt increase of more than $5 trillion, $5,049,658,213,567.79, five trillion, forty-nine billion, six hundred fifty-eight million, two hundred thirteen thousand, five hundred sixty-seven dollars and seventy-nine cents during the past 25 years.

ADDITIONALL STATMENTS

TRIBUTE TO BILL ELLISON

• Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate the life of Bill Ellison, a courageous and heroic man from my home State of Ohio, who died on March 20, 2001, at the age of 38. Bill was a paramedic and firefighter who died of burn injuries he incurred while fighting a house fire in Miami Township, OH. I am honored to recognize him today for his heroism and his commitment and dedication to his local community and State.

Since 1997, Bill Ellison served as a full-time firefighter for Anderson Township, OH, as well as a part-time firefighter for Miami Township. He also worked for the Western Joint Ambulance District. Bill began dedicating himself to his community early on, when, at age 16, he first volunteered for the Melbourne, OH, Fire Department. His exceptional commitment to protecting his community deserves our respect and thanks.

On March 8, 2001, Bill left the Miami Township fire station to respond to a nearby house fire. Upon learning of a possible victim trapped in the house, he joined other firefighters to search for the individual. During the search, Bill fell through the first floor of the home into the basement, where he was knocked unconscious and sustained serious burn injuries. Nearly two weeks after the fire, he passed away as a result of these critical injuries.

Bill's many friends and colleagues often called him ''Doc,'' because he was constantly reading medical texts. They will remember ''Doc'' for his warm and generous heart and his sense of humor. As the father of two daughters, Maryssa and Michaela, and husband to Victoria, Bill Ellison and his legacy will live on through his family and his work.

It is the work of people, like Bill Ellison, that provides us with peace of mind, with the knowledge that there are people who we can count on in case of an emergency. These individuals, who often make grave sacrifices on our behalf, are role models for our communities. I cannot adequately emphasize how important their work, and the work of Bill Ellison, are to our society.

Today, I express my deep gratitude to Bill Ellison, his colleagues, and his family and friends. He did not die in vain, he died in the line of duty to his fellow man. And for that, we will always remember his sacrifices and his life with great respect and admiration.•

HUSKER BASEBALL'S BIG 12 SWEEP

• Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Mr. President, I would like take this opportunity to commend the University of Nebraska baseball team for winning a third-straight Big 12 Conference Series Championship. Yesterday, in what has become a typical display of terrific teamwork and fierce talent, the Huskers defeated Texas A&M to sweep the series.

The University of Nebraska baseball team boasts a 45–14 record, and now, thanks to their dominance at the Big12 tournament, they will likely earn a top-eight seed on the national level. To add to the excitement, the Huskers will play next month at the College World Series in Omaha, which President Bush is scheduled to attend.

In fact, to honor the President's upcoming trip, I have considered seeking an appropriation for the repainting of Air Force One in Husker Red and putting the block ''N'' on the tail of the plane; however, should that scheme fail, I have an alternate plan to ensure that the President roots for the home team.

Last week, I personally delivered a Huskers baseball cap to the President, and I intend to accompany him aboard Air Force One to make certain he wears it as he disembarks the plane in Nebraska. The College World Series is always exciting, but this year, with our terrific team, the President will have the opportunity to see college baseball at its best.

Again, I offer my heartiest congratulations to each member of the team, and I applaud Coach Dave Van Horn for his leadership. I wish them the very best as they continue to play ball.•

TRIBUTE TO DORIS CASEY

• Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, a recently released study from Duke University found that older Americans are enjoying a more vigorous old age. Fewer people over the age of 65 require nursing home care and more are living on their own, with little or no outside help.

The image of a ''senior citizen'' is dramatically different than it was just a generation ago. Since 1963, the month of May has helped the Nation focus on the contributions and achievements of America's older citizens. Older Americans Month honors the leadership of older persons in our families, workplaces and communities. One of these leaders is an 81-year-old woman from Reinbeck. Doris Casey is a champion for Iowa's older citizens. Through her initiative, concern, and commitment, she has touched the lives of seniors in Reinbeck and throughout northern Iowa.

When the Casey's moved to Reinbeck in 1967, the family planned to stay for only six weeks. As a way to get to know neighbors and make friends, Mrs. Casey began volunteering at the local nursing home once a week and played cards with the residents. Thirty-four years later, Mrs. Casey still lives in Reinbeck. She worked at that nursing home for 17 years and has become a treasured resource in the community for her knowledge and action on senior-related issues. Mrs. Casey has been a member of the Grundy County Commission on Aging for 28 years. She played a key role in starting the county's congregate meal program sixteen years ago. Although the program has since changed to home-delivered meals, Mrs. Casey is still involved. She does the books, takes orders and solicits deliverers. In addition, Mrs. Casey helps coordinate a community meal for approximately 40 seniors in Reinbeck each month.

For the last 27 years, Mrs. Casey has been an active volunteer with the Hawkeye Valley Area Agency on Aging and until recently was a member of their board of directors. The staff at Hawkeye Valley call her a godsend. She volunteers in the administrative office, helps with special projects and answers the hotline for those alleging Medicare fraud and abuse under Operation Restore Trust. Mrs. Casey works hard to ensure that seniors in her community have the latest information on issues affecting their lives. She is a monthly presenter at the county nutrition site and writes a weekly column for her local paper. She provides assistance to those applying for Medicaid and low-income heating assistance, and she serves on the State's consumer Medicare committee. People know that if Mrs. Casey doesn't have the answer on a particular senior issue, she will likely know the person who does.

Last but certainly not least, Mrs. Casey is a caregiver. When her late husband, John, was suffering from Alzheimer's Disease, she served as his full-time caregiver. Mrs. Casey is currently a guardian for a senior with a disability. And, she still visits the local nursing home to share devotions with the residents a few times a year. Mrs. Casey carries out each of these activities with joy, determination and humility. Even a recent hip surgery won't