

That is what we will do. Then I will report to the Senate next week upon our return.

MIAMI HURRICANES

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, yesterday at the time of what we call a quorum call, what others in the street lingo might say is a recess, I took to the floor and with levity in my words spoke about some of the recent college bowl games, of which the State of Florida played such a prominent part, having three of our major teams in major bowls, all three of which were successful.

I am going to take the occasion today of offering a resolution for the national champion, the national champion, University of Miami Hurricanes, in college football. It is now a university that is quite accustomed to national championships, having won so many of them in the past, but it is now a university that is led by a person who is near and dear to the hearts of many in Washington, including the Presiding Officer. Dr. Donna Shalala is the new President.

She took over the reigns in June of the University of Miami. She has been so well accepted so quickly and is so loved in the Miami community. And then no sooner does she take the reigns and is so immediately successful in her leadership of the university, but that her team wins the national championship undefeated for the season.

I thank the Chair for the opportunity.

HONORING DAVE THOMAS

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I rise today to support the Senate resolution honoring Dave Thomas, founder of the successful Wendy's restaurants. His death is a loss to the business and entrepreneurial world, the most powerful engine in the American economy. He opened doors for thousands of young people who used Wendy's as entry-level employment that launched their future. He was a symbol and shining example of leadership that one could be proud to be associated with. But this man was more than Wendy's. The sign that carried Wendy's logo stood for more than just tasty, square hamburgers. The little freckled-faced girl represented much more.

I knew Dave through the Shrine of North America. As a Shriner, he exhibited his dedication to children across this country by supporting the 22 Shriners Hospitals for Children and the three Shrine Burn Centers. He was a living example of the phrase, "No man stands so tall that stoops to help a kid." He had a passion for thousands of children who are caught in the circumstance of adoption. He was an adopted child and he never forgot his roots or the wonder of parental love.

As an adopted child himself, Dave served as a credible spokesman for both Republican and Democrat White House

administrations on numerous adoption initiatives between 1990 and 2000. Using proceeds from two books and many speaking engagements, Dave founded the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption in 1992 to work with families wishing to adopt children. Dave also worked with national adoption agencies to raise awareness about children who are waiting for adoption. Dave went on to create the Dave Thomas Center for Adoption Law to facilitate the adoption process through education and research.

Dave was also a driving force in persuading corporate America to reshape their policies to help cover the adoption expenses of employees. Thanks to his efforts, three out of four of the Fortune 1000 companies now offer adoption benefits to employees.

Yesterday was the anniversary of the Supreme Court's landmark decision in the Roe v. Wade case. As everyone knows, I support the rights of America's unborn. I recognize, however, that in today's society, unwanted pregnancies will continue to occur. Rather than taking an innocent life, I urge Americans to embrace adoption as an alternative to abortion.

Dave never forgot his good fortune and he willingly gave his time and financial resources to make us, as Americans, aware of the less fortunate. All for a kid. We who know him are better for it. Thousands of kids find themselves in better circumstances because of him and the passion that lived deep in his heart. What a legacy.

Along with the sponsors of this resolution, I simply want to thank Dave for making the world a better place for thousands of adopted children and also to send my sympathy to his family.

PROJECT ALPHA

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, during consideration of the Defense appropriations bill on Friday, December 7, my distinguished colleagues, the chairman of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, Senator INOUE, and Senator HARKIN, a member of that subcommittee as well as the chairman of the Agriculture committee, engaged in a colloquy regarding the George Washington University's, proposed Project Alpha. I support this unique effort to deal with potential terrorist threats to the U.S. food supply. I have been working with GWU since May on this project. In July, Iowa State University joined the consortium at my request. I want to point out that support for this very worthwhile program and requests for its expeditious implementation come from both sides of the aisle. I am glad that Iowa State University can contribute its expertise in this area as a major partner in this effort and that the National Animal Disease Center will also be a key player.

An important component of the Project Alpha formula is its "National Decision Assessment Immersion Center," to be located in existing facilities

at the Virginia Campus of the George Washington University and to serve as a model for replication by those wishing to pursue individual variations of this new approach to complexity management in national security.

As was pointed out in the December 7 colloquy, Project Alpha is a proactive approach to terrorist threats to U.S. national security, a concept initiated and developed long before the tragic events of 9-11. It utilizes advanced technology in complexity-analysis techniques designed to help us both predict and prevent or ameliorate critical situations before they can become real-world disasters. Project Alpha combines sophisticated information-gathering and data-mining methodologies with high-performance data analysis, professional-level subject and issue expertise, decision support systems of proven efficacy, and state-of-the-art technology for communication and information dissemination.

Project Alpha offers the opportunity for exploration of the broadest range of threat possibilities, available options and their effects and ultimate consequences, especially those that would normally remain unforeseen and unpredicted. The program will allow rapid exploration of a massive range of relationships and interactions that are beyond the ability of our liner-reductions minds alone to follow or foresee. Project Alpha provides a mechanism for complexity consequence-projection of far greater scope, magnitude and immediacy than has ever before been available. The crucial element that makes this possible is the rapidly expanding supercomputing technology that has not yet been harnessed for this purpose. Through its use, Project Alpha can facilitate direct encounters with the unexpected and the unintended in order that potential terrorist events may be anticipated and rendered preventable, manageable and unsurprising. The purpose of Project Alpha is to help us learn more what we don't know in ways that we might never imagine, so that real-life catastrophes can be avoided. Protecting the U.S. food supply is high on the list of national security priorities, and the application of Project Alpha to this critical need can be of significant public benefit in dealing with the threat of agroterrorism now and in the future.

THE NEED FOR GUN LEGISLATION

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, at end of the First Session of this Congress, as I have before, I urged my colleagues to debate and pass sensible gun safety legislation. Since that statement, we have seen three separate incidences of gun violence in our Nation's schools. In New York City, a teenager walked into a high school and seriously wounded two other students. In Grundy, VA, a man walked into a law school and shot and killed three people. In Raymond, MS, a 17-year-old student who had just been suspended, returned to school and