

away each application so that the Committee would have a file of precedents on which to refer.

It was in the defense of those EPW Committee rules that Mike became a small legend. In particular, he staunchly defended the Committee rule that prohibited the naming of public buildings for any living individual under the age of 70. But, lest you think Mike is perfect, even his best oratorical skills and most reasoned argument in defense of the rule were never a match for the political imperative involved in a naming bill. Mike lost every single one of those arguments.

When I took over as the chairman of the Senate Finance Committee in 2001, Mike moved over as the Deputy Chief of Staff and General Counsel. Once again, Mike took responsibility for updating the Committee rules and establishing a record of precedents.

Mike not only mastered committee rules, he mastered the Senate rules. On his last day in the Senate, the Senate Parliamentarian noted that Mike was always prepared when he made a parliamentary inquiry. And, for the record, I have to warn the Senate Parliamentarian that Mike prepared comprehensive, annotated references for the Finance Committee staff and provided what is now affectionately known as "The Mike Evans' Procedure Seminar."

Ironically, despite his respect of the rules, last year he was thrown off the Senate floor with a bipartisan gaggle of Finance Committee staff for being too noisy. I believe Senator DAYTON presided over the ouster.

I have always respected a person who can manage both the demanding responsibilities of Senate staff while also caring for a growing family. And Mike has certainly done both. We were fortunate to be part of Mike's life as his family expanded from two—he and his wife Maureen—to six, with the addition of their four beautiful children: Sean, Christopher, Aselefech and Adanech. We have watched their children grow up and every step has been a reflection of their incredible parents.

Mike also found time to be one of the best read staffers I have ever known. I have no doubt that his counsel has been greatly strengthened by his acquaintanceship with thoughts and history beyond the reach of a single individual. And his literary interests are not limited to reading. He is a most prolific author. As with most staff, he has done more than his share of floor statements. And as a lawyer, he has drafted the occasional law review article. But his talents also extend to poetry, including the occasional rhyming remembrance of triumphs and things best left unsaid when a staff member departs.

Suffice it to say, Mike fancies himself a music impresario. He feels it is his duty to bring music to "the people." Some of that music is even good. Mike has been known to wear Bob Marley T-shirts in the office over the

weekend and sing Bruce Springstein lyrics at the drop of a hat. In fact, when he discovered that one of the Finance Committee interns house-sat for Bob Dylan, the intern was suddenly spending more time in intense discussions with Mike.

Mike truly believes in the dignity and responsibilities of public service. He understands that when it comes to working in the Senate, as Bruce Springstein would say, "the door's open but the ride ain't free." So, while he leaves the Senate staff to return to private practice at Preston Gates, I know that he will retain his commitment to service, to his family, to his colleagues, and to his country.

Every President, every member of Congress, every staff person in the United States Congress must first swear to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic, to bear true faith and allegiance to the same and to faithfully discharge the duties of the office. Mike Evans lived by this oath every day of his public service in the Senate.

Mike follows the rules: The Senate rules. The Committee rules. And the rules by which he lives his life—loyalty, diversity, fairness, honesty, and compassion, coupled with an unexpected, yet sharp sense of humor.

I thank Mike for his dedication and the nearly two decades for which I have been fortunate enough to benefit his counsel and friendship. May we all follow his example, to have the wit to discover what is true and the fortitude to practice what is good.●

POPCORN

● Mr. TALENT. Mr. President, in 1996 the Congress promised agriculture producers that they would no longer be penalized for heeding market signals and raising crops the market demanded.

Two-hundred farmers in my home State of Missouri responded to strong domestic and foreign demand and planted acres of popcorn. Now, with the passage of the 2002 farm bill, these producers are greatly disadvantaged compared to farmers that stayed with traditional program crops.

Under the provisions of the 2002 farm bill, producers who opted to grow popcorn since 1996 on acreage traditionally dedicated to program crops or soybeans are severely penalized if they attempt to update their program acreage history or yield history.

Unless corrected, this will cause a substantial, potential loss to both farm income and land value. I believe that this problem should be corrected in the most expeditious manner, as the April 15 deadline for signup into the new farm programs is quickly approaching. Senator LUGAR and I have introduced an amendment to allow producers to include popcorn in their program base acres. I am grateful to managers on both sides for addressing this issue in a managers amendment.

The correction is simple. Popcorn is simply treated as a variety of the traditional corn for the purposes of determining bases and yields. I urge my colleges to support my amendment and allow the Department of Agriculture to consider popcorn equivalent to corn for the purpose of computing base acreage. There are 278,000 acres of land nationwide normally devoted to production of popcorn. We should not penalize those who farm this land because they believed the promises of the 1996 act. Popcorn growers in Missouri and across the Nation deserve equitable treatment when determining base acres.●

TRIBUTE TO MR. CLAY SWANZY

● Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I want to take a few moments today to make some remarks in appreciation for the Alabama Congressional delegation's most senior staff member, Mr. Clay Swanzy. Originally from Greensboro, AL, one of Alabama's most charming towns, Clay retired in November after 31 years of service to the U.S. Congress.

Mr. Swanzy has served on the congressional staff of three different distinguished Alabama congressmen: former Congressmen Jack Edwards of Mobile and Bill Dickinson of Montgomery, and most recently Congressman TERRY EVERETT of Enterprise. He was known on the staff of each congressman for his hard work, dedication to duty, and loyalty. In 1971, former Congressman Jack Edwards hired Clay away from his position as a political reporter for the Mobile Press Register to become his press secretary in Washington. Clay remained with Congressman Edwards until Congressman Bill Dickinson of Montgomery offered him a position as his chief of staff. In 1993, when Congressman Dickinson retired, Clay remained in Washington as the chief of staff for Dickinson's successor, Congressman TERRY EVERETT.

After managing Congressman EVERETT's office for 10 years, Clay decided to retire from public service in Washington and return to Alabama.

Clay always enjoyed working behind the scenes, outside the glare of the political spotlights. His departure is a loss for the Second Congressional District and the State of Alabama. All who knew and worked with him will miss him.

On more than one occasion I have sought and received good advice from Clay. During his years of service he has learned much. He never panics, and always thinks clearly and with compassion for those involved. He is a strong leader, but one who leads by wisdom, thoughtfulness, insight and grace rather than threats or bluster. The people of Alabama have benefited greatly from his leadership. I, as well as many other government officials, have benefited greatly from his service. Clay has always been a leader among Alabama's delegation staff. They have valued his judgment, insight, and experience.

We will certainly miss Clay, but he has earned his retirement. As proof

that his long tenure in Washington has not turned his head, I am pleased to note that he has chosen to make his retirement home, back in Alabama, in beautiful Baldwin County. Clay, we thank you for your friendship and service and wish you Godspeed.●

IN RECOGNITION OF PEG BRADLEY'S BIRTHDAY

● Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of Peg Bradley upon her fiftieth birthday. She is a woman with a kind heart, diverse interests and great abilities. She is one of the most remarkable people with whom I served in State government. In a State as small as ours, her dedication and tenacity have become legendary. She truly embodies the best of Delaware. I consider it a privilege to have known her and an even greater privilege to have worked closely with her on Delaware's education reforms in the decade of the 1990s.

Just 50 years ago, Peg was born in Kansas to O. Wayne and Wilma Gordon. While her journey to Delaware took her many places in the years preceding it, when she arrived at the University of Delaware in the late 1960s, she found her true home. With her diploma in hand, Peg embarked upon a career that would set the tone for education innovations throughout the State of Delaware and across the Nation.

The proud mother of three children, Kirsten, Carrie and Cort, and the grandmother to 4-year-old Xavier, Peg lives her life through the eyes of children.

While Peg learned and honed her craft teaching elementary school children, she really made her mark when she opened and became the first Director of the Preschool at Concordia Lutheran Church. Then, in 1992, Peg ran for State Representative as a Democrat in the most Republican District in the State of Delaware and won. During her 2 years in the State House, she sponsored legislation that dramatically expanded Head Start opportunities for Delaware youngsters and began drawing attention to the important role that the first few years of a child's life play in their ability to learn and go on to live productive lives.

Peg served as my education adviser during most of my 8 years as Governor. She was instrumental in helping me work my education reform proposals through the legislature, through the education community, and through the public from their infancy to implementation. She worked tirelessly to ensure that the reforms we made reflected what was best for Delaware's children. Today, Delaware has rigorous academic standards, the ability to measure objectively student progress toward those standards, and real accountability, in no small part because of Peg Bradley's stewardship and persistence. Part of her legacy is the consistent improvement in academic performance at all grade levels in Delaware in core sub-

jects like math, English, language arts and science.

Together, along with the support of the legislature, the business community, many parents and educators, we amassed a record of innovative accomplishments, including unprecedented support for charter schools and public school choice; standards-based education, statewide testing and accountability. She even persuaded me to support a public school choice bill written by a certain State Senator named Rick Hauge. Just last week they celebrated their first wedding anniversary.

Peg helped me win battles that seemed daunting. In doing so, she won the grudging respect of more than a handful of cynics along the way. More than almost anyone else, Peg Bradley helped shape the legacy of my administration and change the face of education in Delaware.

Peg was an invaluable advisor, mentor, and resource to me throughout the last decade. She takes pride in her work and has made hundreds of educators and parents proud to work alongside of her. During the time that I was chairman of the National Governors' Association, we focused a good deal of our attention on raising student performance. Peg's assistance to me during that stressful time was invaluable and afforded her with an opportunity to play a significant role on a national stage.

Today, I rise both to celebrate this milestone moment in Peg's life and to shine a spotlight on her momentous commitment and countless contributions to the community. She is living proof that a life filled with good works is a good life indeed. I thank her for her friendship, congratulate her on her first 50 years and wish her and her husband Rick only the very best in the years that lie ahead.●

CHAMPIONS OF GOLF—THE FORD FAMILY

● Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I want to share with my colleagues an article in *Golf Journal* about the Ford family from my hometown of Charleston, South Carolina. Since 1927, the Ford family has won a number of golf tournaments including 10 Azalea Invitationals, 10 South Carolina or Carolina Amateur crowns, 20-some city titles and 50 club championships. I am proud to recognize this talented family, and I ask that this article be reprinted in the RECORD.

The article follows:

[From *Golf Journal*, Jan.–Feb., 2003]

MODEL TEE FORDS

(By Rich Skyzinski)

The Fords of Charleston, S.C., much like the Kennedys of Massachusetts or the Baldwins of Hollywood, have a family tradition. For nearly a century, one generation after another has been reared by a philosophy handed down much like an old family recipe. The motto on the family crest ought to read, "If you want to be good at something, play golf."

Role models have never been lacking. If any Ford demonstrated a desire for golf, he or she didn't need to look far for inspiration or instruction. Good golf genes have blessed generations, dating most notably to the second of five men named Frank Cordes Ford. Now 98, Frank Sr. (actually the second FCF) was the most accomplished of the Fords, and he can prove it. He can still rattle off a lot of the stories, in rapid-fire fashion: the games with Bob Jones, Harry (Lighthorse) Cooper, Henry Picard and Craig Wood; how he won a dollar bill (signed and framed) from Horton Smith; the day he one-upped the great Ben Hogan by hitting a 4-wood to within eight inches of the hole after Hogan hit a 3-wood shot to eight feet from virtually the same fairway location.

If ever a forebear set a standard for his progenies to shoot at, it's Granddaddy (Frank Sr.). He made sure any challenger was in it for the long haul. How else could you top his record of seven South Carolina Amateur crowns (and three runner-up finishes), four Azalea Invitational victories, 11 Charleston City titles and 18 Country Club of Charleston championships?

"The Ford family is known, certainly in the city and probably around the state, because of golf," says Bert Atkinson, 1991 U.S. Mid-Amateur runner-up and a C.C. of Charleston member. "I think it's probably always been that way."

If you are a Charleston golfer, at one time or another, a Ford has beaten you. Since 1927, family members have won 10 Azaleas, 10 South Carolina or Carolinas Ams, 20-some city titles and 50 club championships, give or take a few. An extra room would be needed for all the junior, mid-amateur and team trophies.

How did this all start? Tommy Ford, one of Granddaddy's three sons, claims it was not planned.

"No family ever gets together and says, 'Here is what we're going to do,'" says the 58-year-old. "It comes to you; you deal with it. If you become good, you try to live up to it. When you play well, the headlines start to reinforce this idea that you're living up to your dad's records. And all of a sudden you are, not that you ever tried. But you're fulfilling a pattern that started 60 years ago."

Granddaddy speaks from the other side of the equation. "I think they saw the fun I got out of golf," he allows, "and maybe some of them wanted to play because they thought it would be fun. Most of them worked pretty hard at it."

It isn't "a guy thing," either. Granddaddy's mother, Anne (Sissie) Ford, who moved to Charleston following her husband's death in 1918, won the C.C. of Charleston Women's championship in 1927. A year later, she lost in the final to her daughter, Anne Ford Melton.

And family members also are quick to credit Granddaddy's wife, Betsy. She was a caring, nurturing mentor who made the game what it should be for kids: fun. She also was an accomplished player, collecting a half-dozen club championships and two city titles.

Betsy, who died in 1998, and her husband played different roles in advancing the family tradition. She had a deep love for the game and passed it down to scores of youngsters. She helped her three sons and any grandchildren or great-grandchildren who wanted to play the game and was involved in many club and city youth programs. Once a youngster became proficient enough to break 80, Granddaddy would begin to share his passion and try to light their competitive fires.

"I don't remember any pressure or push, other than the brilliance of a mother, who believed that we should know a little about the game at the age we were," Tommy says.