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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O Thou great God, who made us in Your image. Thank You for creating us but little lower than the angels. Enable us to see Your divine image in every human being. Help us to look beyond poverty and pathology to the goodness even in the unlovely. Teach us to look beneath superficial differences of accents, of language, of color, and of position to see the true worth of all people.

Bless Your servants in the legislative branch of Government. Bring to the surface the goodness within each of them. As they think together and work together in the Chamber, in committee rooms, and in their offices, help them to treat others with the reverence, respect, and kindness that You desire for all of Your children.

We pray for our military men and women. Keep them safe. Give them the will to pursue mercy as well as justice. We also pray for our enemies and their loved ones. Lord, give all of us insight into Your will and the courage to do it. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a

period for the transaction of morning business for up to 60 minutes, with the first half of the time under the control of the majority leader or his designee, and the second half of the time under the control of the Democratic leader or his designee.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, we will begin today's session with a 1-hour period of morning business. Following that time, the Senate will resume debate on the emergency supplemental appropriations bill. Last night we agreed to a time limit of 40 minutes with respect to the pending Durbin amendment relating to the National Guard. If we are able to yield back some of that debate time, we would have a vote on the Durbin amendment by 10:50 this morning. If the debate continues past that point, then we will likely delay the vote on the amendment until sometime after noon today, after discussion with the Democratic leader. There are two additional pending amendments at this time, and we anticipate other amendments being offered throughout the day. Chairman COCHRAN will be here this morning to prepare to have the Senate debate and dispose of these amendments during today's session. I expect we will make considerable progress on the appropriations bill with rollcall votes as necessary over the course of the day.

Just as a reminder to our colleagues, the Secretary of State will be giving a briefing to Senators today from 3 to 4 this afternoon for those interested.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Democratic leader is recognized.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Through the Chair to my distinguished colleague, are we expected to work through the Condoleezza Rice hour?

Mr. FRIST. Through the Chair, our expectation is to work through that hour. As the Democratic leader knows, and as our colleagues should know, we are trying to do briefings on a regular basis to make the opportunity available for people to come to these briefings. We do not need to stop action on the Senate floor. So we will be working through that period.

TRIBUTE TO POPE JOHN PAUL II

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I wish to comment on the passing of Pope John Paul II last week. A number of us had the opportunity to represent the United States, represent this body in Rome. It was a moving experience, an emotional experience, and one that I briefly want to share.

The passing of Pope John Paul II was moving. It was a historical event that riveted the world. Millions of Catholics and non-Catholics alike were touched and influenced by this great man. He leaves an extraordinary legacy that all of us have reflected upon over the last week.

In his 26-year reign as head of the Catholic Church, the third longest pontificate in history, Pope John Paul was seen by more people than any other individual in history. He influenced more lives than many kings and presidents before him.

Together with Ronald Reagan and Margaret Thatcher, Pope John Paul helped vanquish the Soviet Union, expose the brutality of communism, and free hundreds of millions of people around the world.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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