

Having been deployed to Iraq earlier this year, Sergeant Cornell made certain he would be allowed to take his 2 weeks' leave in July. He was determined to make it home to Holstein, NE, in time to see his wife Patricia give birth to their third child.

With both his father and grandfather having served in the military, enlisting had always been a top priority for Sergeant Cornell. While at Silver Lake High School in Roseland, no matter what branch of service was making a recruiting visit to his school, Sergeant Cornell was always the first in line to meet with the military recruiter. In addition to his desire to enlist, Sergeant Cornell was also a skilled martial arts student and is remembered by his teachers as a kindhearted and well-meaning individual.

Shortly after graduating from high school in 1999, Sergeant Cornell chose to enlist in the Nebraska Army National Guard. During 4 years with the Guard, he served twice in Bosnia and once in Afghanistan. In addition to his service to his country, Sergeant Cornell also served his community as a volunteer firefighter. Last year he enlisted in the Army; he was deployed to Iraq when called up in February. On March 20, 2007, while serving with the Army's 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry, 4th Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, based out of Fort Riley, KS, Sergeant Cornell passed away when the vehicle he was traveling in was struck by a roadside bomb in Baghdad.

"He did it all for his family," said his wife Patricia. "He was an awesome father, and he just made every sacrifice for us." In addition to his wife Patricia, Sergeant Cornell is survived by his two children, Dameion, 5, and Zoie, 3, of Holstein; mother Patricia Perrie of Holstein; father Larry Cornell of Fairmont, NE; and sisters Jadeen Cornell of Blue Hill, NE, and Janalle Gowlovech, of Sioux Falls, SD.

I offer my sincere condolences to Sergeant Cornell's family. Not only did he sacrifice for his family, he made the ultimate and most courageous sacrifice for his Nation. Every American and all Nebraskans are proud of the service of brave military personnel such as SGT Wayne Cornell.

Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, I rise to express my sympathy over the loss of U.S. Army SGT Wayne Cornell of Nebraska. Sergeant Cornell was killed in Baghdad when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle. He was 26 years old.

Sergeant Cornell grew up in the small town of Holstein, NE. A 1999 graduate of Silver Lake High School, his teachers had little doubt that he would serve his country after graduation. He enlisted with the Army National Guard soon after graduation and was deployed to Bosnia and Afghanistan.

In 2006, Sergeant Cornell decided to continue his career in the Armed Forces and enlisted with the Regular Army. He was deployed to Iraq in Feb-

ruary 2007 with the 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division based at Fort Riley, KS.

Sergeant Cornell was a deeply committed father and husband. He always put his family first in the decisions he made. The Army was his means to provide for his family, as well as serve his country. He and his wife Patricia had two children, Dameion and Zoie, and the family is expecting a third child in July.

In addition to his wife and children, Sergeant Cornell is survived by his father Larry Cornell, his mother Patricia Perrie, and sisters Jadeen Cornell and Janalle Gowlovech.

I ask my colleagues to join me and all Americans in honoring SGT Wayne Cornell.

MARCH MADNESS

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to spend a few minutes talking about March Madness. Millions of Americans are glued to their televisions to watch basketball this time of year, and I want to talk about a No. 1 seed that wasn't closely followed nationwide.

Everyone knows how Florida, Georgetown, UCLA, and Ohio State are faring in their tournament games, but the Winona State Warriors may not be on everyone's radar. Well, they should be. The Warriors set a Division II record by winning 57 straight games over the last two seasons. This breaks the previous record of 52 games which has been intact since 1946. Over this stretch, the Warriors have dominated most teams that they met with the average margin of victory being almost 20 points—including one victory by 81 points. Unfortunately, this streak ended on Saturday as they came just a few points short of winning back-to-back Division II championships when their opponents made a buzzer-beating shot.

I commend Coach Mike Leaf for his accomplishments. In the 9 years he has coached at Winona State, he has lead the Warriors to five regular-season Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference titles, four tournament conference titles, four Division II tournament appearances, and the 2006 national title. He was also named national coach of the year after leading his team to the national championship last year.

It takes a great deal to bring together a championship basketball team. Coach Leaf has done this while serving as an inspiration to his players and the entire Winona community. He has taught his players to work hard and enjoy themselves while winning with class.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Coach Leaf, his staff, his players, the students of Winona State, and all the Warrior fans. I look forward to the continued successes of Coach Leaf and his team next year. Go Warriors!

S. CON. RES. 21

Mr. OBAMA. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the budget resolution that the U.S. Senate adopted last Friday.

Every year, Congress considers a budget resolution, setting the Government's priorities for the coming year. For the past 2 years since my election to the Senate, I have been compelled to vote against budget resolutions that I believed were out of touch with our fiscal realities and national priorities. This year, I was proud to support the resolution.

I commend the outstanding leadership of Chairman CONRAD, who helped to produce a resolution that makes great progress getting our Nation's priorities back on track. Instead of deepening our fiscal hole with irresponsible tax giveaways to the wealthy, this budget makes an important departure from the Republican budgets of the recent past and brings our budget back into balance. Instead of gutting programs that help our most vulnerable citizens and communities, this budget allows these programs—like the State Children's Health Insurance Program, the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, Medicare, COPS, and others—to keep serving those who rely on the important moral commitments our Nation has made. Instead of budget gimmicks and deferred responsibility, this budget brings greater transparency and responsibility back to Washington.

It does so first by reinstating pay-go. In a Democratic Senate, new mandatory spending, just like new tax cuts, must be paid for by offsetting spending reductions or revenue increases. Pay-go will require tough choices and difficult tradeoffs. We will not be able simply to pass along the debt to future generations for the choices we make today. We will have to be accountable for paying our own bills and collecting our own revenue. Pay-go by itself will not bring our budget back to balance, but it will prevent deficits from getting worse. Pay-go by itself cannot resolve our Nation's long-term liabilities, but it will restore the budget discipline that has been lacking in Washington for too long.

When I travel around the country or talk to families in Illinois, I hear about the same priorities again and again. People from all walks of life—farmers and small businesspeople, teachers and veterans, salespeople and service workers, doctors and senior citizens, people prospering and those struggling at the margins—all share a common set of concerns and aspirations. They want affordable health care for themselves and their children. They want a quality education for their children. They want to retire with dignity. They are concerned about our national security and our domestic security.

Unfortunately, many Americans are not convinced that their voices are heard here in Washington. They are not convinced because the President