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PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Byars. Senator Preister.

SENATOR PREISTER: Thank you, Honorable President. I wish to extend my condolences to Senator Lynch and to the county folks, because it's their loss that we're going to experience with the two retirements at the same time. Norma has certainly served, not only the constituents and the residents of District 13 that Senator Lynch represents, but she's been available to many of us and to our staff to help with other constituent issues across the state. I think of the two of them, just as Senator Chambers said, as ambassadors. They bring a touch of class, a touch of style, a real dignification and dignity to, not only the positions that they represent, but to any place that they grace with their presence. They are truly a class act. They have contributed immensely to the legislative process, to the county process, to our state, and to all of the citizens of this state. I wish them well as they go onto other things, probably dealing with grandchildren and, hopefully, a little time to enjoy each other's company outside of the political arena. They have enriched my life and I'm grateful to both of them for that and for...and in behalf of all of the citizens of the state for what they've done for Nebraska. Thank you, Jack and Norma.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Preister. Senator Hilgert, followed by Senators Hudkins, Janssen, Brashear, and Thompson.

SENATOR HILGERT: Thank you. When I was appointed in 1995, I missed out on the senator orientation that most of the new senators get to go through, and Jack was there with a lot of advice. He's been there for me with a lot of advice. And one thing I will always take with me and endeavor to live by is the fact that sometimes I...most of us make mistakes, I certainly do, and...and I'd bump into Jack afterwards and he would be there with a firm sense of encouragement, you know, put it behind you, go on, and just, you know, work through it. And that encouragement was always appreciated by me, and I just want to then echo everything that everyone else has said; both of them are very fine people. And my father said, well, the best compliment you can call someone is a gentleman, and Jack Mills is truly a gentleman. Thank you.