

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Hartnett. Senator Robinson.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Madam President, members of the body, it's a pleasure to talk about Richie Ashburn. Of course, he joins the Hall of Fame with the other great Nebraskans that have played base...been in the Hall of Fame of baseball, including the great Grover Cleveland Alexander from St. Paul, Nebraska. Alba, he says. And then the great Wahoo Sam Crawford, and, of course, Wahoo Sam Crawford is from Wahoo, and the great Bob Gibson, from Omaha. It was my pleasure to have played basketball against Richie Ashburn, so he "reffed" for Cap and Paul coached when he was there, and then I actually played against Richie Ashburn in I think it was four different games. Don't ask me how we come out. It's my pleasure. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Robinson. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President and members of the Legislature, I'd like to ask Senator Dierks a question.

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Dierks.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Dierks, I've heard the name of Richie Ashburn, but is he yet among the living, or has he departed to the great dugout in the sky?

SENATOR DIERKS: He's very much alive. He does radio broadcasts now for major league baseball.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: The reason I ask, everybody has spoken of him in the past tense, so I didn't know whether he was still with us. Did you hand this article around from the Lincoln Star?

SENATOR DIERKS: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: The headline said, Ashburn had, in the past tense, had passion, had wit, had brains. Does he no longer have those things?

SENATOR DIERKS: I suspect that he still does, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, and the only reason I said it, I did see all these things in the past tense. But sometimes when people put headlines on articles, and Senator Dierks is not the one who wrote the headline, by the way, they can indicate that