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sports clubs, and such. So there was a very distinct, wide group of people. But I did also want to share with you, Senator Bourne and also Senator Chambers mentioned, well, what is the economic impact of irrigation to our state? And I remember reading an article last September in our local paper, and it was written by a Cheryl Stubbendieck, with...from the Nebraska Farm Bureau, and it was a weekly column that she has. And it talked about, whenever a resource is limited, whether it's time, money, energy, water, or whatever, it's useful to consider the value returned from the use of that resource. And she took a farmer that lived in Daykin. And he calculated the value of irrigation for his farm, to the local government, and also the health of rural communities. This farmer expects to make a profit--and that was last September--of \$37 per acre from his irrigated corn that year, compared to taking a \$56 loss on his dry land corn. That's a \$93 spread. So I believe the irrigation is good for farmers, but it's also good for the businesses in its local community. He will spend a \$156 more per acre for his irrigated fields. And in addition to irrigated-related costs, he'll spend more for seed. He'll buy more fertilizer, herbicides, and he'll pay more interest on his operating loan. Machinery repairs, depreciation, and insurance will also cost him more and he'll also pay more property taxes on his irrigated land. But they're also talking about the communities that are surrounded by irrigated land. You'll find some new homes, prosperous businesses on main street, whereas some nearby towns are dying where they do not have the opportunity to irrigate. Between 8 million and 10 million of Nebraska's 19 million crop acres are irrigated. So let's just assume that we take the actual number of about 9 million and assume further that this farmer's \$93 dollar income difference between his irrigated and dry land acres is reasonably representative for the state. Do the math and irrigation returns \$837 million in value to the state of Nebraska, and that's without calculating the multipliers that occur when the money is turned in the state's economy several times. So irrigation is a kind of an irr...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR STUHR: ...kind of an insurance for farmers and certainly in the drought years it has become very important.