

goal came earlier, but the game was no less a cliff-hanger.

Deion Branch, a wide receiver of the Patriots, was a special hero in the game. He tied a Super Bowl record by catching eleven passes, and was named the Super Bowl's Most Valuable Player. Quarterback Tom Brady, as usual, was outstanding. There were many other heroes as well on both offense and defense, and it took all their skill and great teamwork to put points on the scoreboard. In fact, they sacked the quarterback four times and had three interceptions, two by Rodney Harrison.

Much of the credit in the victory also goes to Bill Belichick and his two outstanding Assistant Coaches, Romeo Crennel and Charlie Weiss, who made sure that the team was well prepared with the strongest possible game plan every week throughout the season, and especially for the playoffs and the Super Bowl.

Finally, I congratulate Patriots owner Bob Kraft for his strong support of the team, and for his very generous tribute to all the Patriots fans as well. He was right when he said this Super Bowl victory would not have been possible without the strong support of millions of Patriots fans throughout New England.

The pending resolution commends the Patriots for their dramatic victory. I urge the Senate to approve it, and I hope very much we'll be back here in 2006 to pass a similar resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and the preamble be agreed to en bloc, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc, that any statements related to the resolution be printed in the RECORD at the appropriate place as if read, without intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 41) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 41

Whereas, on Sunday, February 6, 2005 the New England Patriots defeated the Philadelphia Eagles 24-21 in Super Bowl XXXIX, in Jacksonville, Florida;

Whereas this victory is the second consecutive Super Bowl championship for the New England Patriots and their third Super Bowl championship in the past four years;

Whereas all three Super Bowl victories by the New England Patriots were cliffhangers and were won by three points in each game;

Whereas the New England Patriots have set a National Football League record this season by winning 21 consecutive games;

Whereas Head Coach Bill Belichick and Assistant Coaches Romeo Crennel and Charlie Weiss of the New England Patriots brilliantly created successful game plans throughout the season;

Whereas wide receiver Deion Branch of the New England Patriots tied a Super Bowl record by catching eleven passes and was named Most Valuable Player in the Super Bowl;

Whereas extraordinary efforts by other players of the New England Patriots, includ-

ing Tom Brady, Troy Brown, Teddy Bruschi, Corey Dillon, David Givens, Rodney Harrison, Willie McGinest, Richard Seymour, Adam Vinatieri, and Mike Vrabel, also contributed to the Super Bowl victory;

Whereas the offensive linemen of the New England Patriots, Matt Light, Joe Andruzzi, Dan Koppen, Stephen Neal, and Brandon Gorin deserve great credit for protecting quarterback Tom Brady and blocking for running back Corey Dillon in the Super Bowl; and

Whereas owner Bob Kraft of the New England Patriots deserves great credit for his strong support of the team, and for his gracious acknowledgement that the Super Bowl Championship would not have been possible without the strong support of the millions of fans throughout New England.

Resolved, That the Senate of the United States congratulates the New England Patriots on their dramatic victory Super Bowl XXXIX.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY,
FEBRUARY 8, 2005

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, February 8. I further ask that following the prayer and the pledge the morning hour be deemed to have expired, the Journal of the proceedings be approved to date, the time for two leaders be reserved, and the Senate begin a period of morning business for up to 1 hour, with the first 30 minutes under the control of the majority leader or his designee, and the second 30 minutes under the control of the Democratic leader or his designee; provided that following morning business, the Senate resume consideration of S. 5, the class action bill. I further ask unanimous consent that the Senate recess from 12:30 to 2:15 for the weekly party luncheons.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, tomorrow following morning business, the Senate will resume consideration of the class action bill. The chairman and ranking member will be here as we resume debate. We expect to begin the amending process tomorrow morning. Rollcall votes are expected during tomorrow's session. No votes are expected prior to the party luncheons.

Several Senators have expressed an interest in offering amendments, and we want to encourage all Senators who have amendments to contact the managers and get about offering them.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator DURBIN for up to 5 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Illinois is recognized.

DEFENDING SENATOR REID

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, Barry Goldwater was a proud, conservative Republican. Many credit him as being the father of the modern conservative movement in this country.

He defended his conservative ideas and ideals vigorously. But he didn't attack his political adversaries personally. And he didn't like it when others did.

Barry Goldwater once said of the radical right, "If they disagree with you one bit, you're a no-good S.O.B." That is Barry Goldwater's world.

Something tells me Barry Goldwater would dislike very much the character-assassination campaign being waged by the Republican National Committee against the Democratic leader of this Senate, HARRY REID.

This morning, the Senate began debate on a controversial plan proposed by our Republican colleagues, under a time agreement negotiated by Senator REID—Democrats are not filibustering this proposal. We came to work this morning to discover this article.

The lead story in this morning's Roll Call is "RNC Turns up Heat on Reid."

The RNC is sending out a 13-page "research document" on Senator REID to 1 million journalists, donors, and grassroots activists" accusing Senator REID of obstructionism and other imagined grievances. Despite the fact that every nominee of the President has gone through this Chamber, and I believe we have only had two record votes and both of those cleared the Chamber, they are arguing that Senator REID is guilty of obstructionism.

The RNC Communications Director is quoted as saying, "This is the initial salvo in the upcoming discussion that we are going to be having with Senator REID." This is not a discussion they're planning. This is an effort to try to intimidate political opponents into silence—and it is shameful.

HARRY REID is the walking definition of moderate. I have served with him in the House and Senate.

Why is the RNC doing this now? Because they do not want to debate their radical proposals on the merits.

They don't want to debate their radical proposals on the merits. They don't want to talk about the details of Social Security privatization, which is becoming increasingly unpopular in America. They don't want to talk about the budget they released today, which will make deep cuts in health care, veterans care, and education. They want to silence everybody and anybody who dares to question any part of the agenda.

That is not what America is about. It is not the way this Senate is supposed to work.

I say to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, is there one amongst us who could withstand this type of