

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the resolution as follows:

H. RES. 231

Whereas Jimmy "Wink" Winkfield was born on April 12th, 1882 in Chilesburg, Kentucky, the youngest of 17 in a family of sharecroppers;

Whereas Wink was born in an era when African American jockeys dominated the sport of horse racing, to the extent that African American riders won 15 of the first 28 Kentucky Derbies and in the first Kentucky Derby in 1875, 13 of the 15 jockeys were African American;

Whereas the African American jockey Oliver Lewis won the first Derby by two lengths, and the African American jockey Alonzo "Lonnie" Clayton, at age 15, is the youngest rider ever to win the Derby;

Whereas Wink worked by shining shoes, moved up as a stable hand, then as an exercise rider, and rode his first race at the age of 16;

Whereas at the age of 22, Wink won back-to-back Kentucky Derbies in 1901 (on His Eminence) and 1902 (on Alan-A-Dale), and placed second in 1903 (on Early);

Whereas Wink is one of only 4 jockeys ever to accomplish this back-to-back feat, and he was the last African American jockey to win the Kentucky Derby;

Whereas during his career Wink was known as king of the Chicago race tracks;

Whereas unfortunately, segregation eventually forced African American jockeys off the race track and often into exile;

Whereas Wink left the United States by buying a steamer ticket to Europe and settled down in Czarist Russia, where he became a wealthy and dominant athlete in Russia's national sport;

Whereas Wink went on to win the Russian national riding title an unheard of 3 times, won the Moscow Derby twice, the Russian Derby three times, the Grand Prix de Baden (in Germany), the Poland Derby twice, and the Grand Prix de la Republique (in France);

Whereas the Bolshevik Communist Revolution in 1917 forced Wink to flee Russia, and he led 200 jockeys, trainers, and owners over treacherous mountain terrain into Poland;

Whereas Wink eventually settled down in France and retired in 1930 after accumulating 2,600 racing victories in 10 countries, and turned to raising and training horses on his farm outside of Paris;

Whereas in 1940, when the Nazis invaded France and commandeered his stables for their own horses, Wink defended himself and his farm with a pitchfork, only to eventually flee Nazi-occupied territory;

Whereas after decades of exile, Wink returned to the United States one last time in 1961, 60 years after winning his first Kentucky Derby, when he was invited to a pre-Kentucky Derby banquet at the historic Brown Hotel in Louisville as a 2-time winner of the Derby;

Whereas Wink and his daughter Lillian were denied entrance through the front door, but after a long delay were eventually admitted, and spent most of the evening with a white jockey named Roscoe Goose, an ex-competitor from their own Kentucky Derby days 60 years earlier, who sat with Wink for the evening and for the Derby the following afternoon;

Whereas Wink returned to his home in Paris, where he died in 1974 at the age of 94 still homesick for the Kentucky bluegrass of his boyhood, his death virtually unnoticed in the United States; and

Whereas in 2003, Wink was admitted to the National Racing Hall of Fame and joined two other African American Hall of Fame jockeys, 3-time Kentucky Derby winner Isaac

Murphy and 2-time winner Willie Simms: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) celebrates the remarkable life and accomplishments of one of the truly great American athletes, Jimmy "Wink" Winkfield, who continuously overcame racism and other significant obstacles during his lifetime; and

(2) recognizes and celebrates the significant contributions and excellence of African American jockeys and trainers in the sport of horse racing and in the history of the Kentucky Derby.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 231 that honors the Kentucky Derby and particularly the success that African-American jockeys have enjoyed during the race's history. I am pleased that the House is considering this resolution before the 131st Run for the Roses at Churchill Downs on Saturday.

The resolution reminds us that African-American jockeys have greatly influenced the history of the Kentucky Derby. Thirteen of the fifteen riders in the first derby in 1875 were African-American. African-American horsemen won 15 of the first 28 derbies.

Jimmy "Wink" Winkfield, whom the resolution recognizes specifically, remains the last African-American jockey to win the Kentucky Derby. He is one of only four jockeys in Kentucky Derby history to win back-to-back races. He was victorious riding His Eminence in 1901 and Alan-A-Dale in 1902. He also came in second the following year when he entered the race as the favorite on Early in 1903.

Mr. Speaker, on a Saturday in May each year, the Kentucky Derby provides us with many outstanding moments, many of which go down in sports history. Champion horses such as Secretariat, Seattle Slew, Alysheba, and last year, Smarty Jones, have captivated the Nation during the race that is known as the "greatest two minutes in sports." We know this year's derby will be a spectacular show as well.

Again Mr. Speaker, I am pleased the House is considering this timely resolution that honors the significant contributions and excellence of African-American jockeys. The gentleman from Illinois, Congressman BOBBY RUSH, deserves the commendation of all Members for his efforts on House Resolution 231.

I also recognize the resolution's lead co-sponsor, my distinguished colleague from Kentucky, Congressman ED WHITFIELD, to whom I know the adoption of the resolution means a great deal. I urge all Members to agree to the resolution.

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, as the world's attention turns to the 131st running of the Kentucky Derby, frequently called the most exciting two minutes in sports, I would like to turn the House's attention to Jimmy "Wink" Winkfield, who is a Kentucky Derby legend. Jimmy Winkfield overcame adversity throughout his life to become one of the greatest jockeys of all time. Not only did Wink win the Kentucky Derby back-to-back in 1901 and 1902, but he is the last African-American jockey to win the derby. For his accomplishments, Wink was inducted into the National Horse Racing Hall of Fame in 2004.

Wink was born in Chilesburg, KY, and won his derbies on Kentucky horses. In 1902, His Eminence carried Wink to victory in the 27th running of the Kentucky Derby. His Eminence

was bred in Kentucky by O.H. Chenault. In the 28th Run for the Roses, Wink was carried to victory riding Alan-a-Dale, a beautiful horse that was also Kentucky bred by T.C. McDowell.

Jimmy "Wink" Winkfield was truly one of the great jockeys of all time and achieved great success despite discrimination and numerous setbacks.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1415

CELEBRATING CHARLIE WILSON'S WAR AND THE END OF THE SOVIET EMPIRE

(Mr. LEWIS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to notify Members of the House that the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) and I are sending out invitations by way of an event that will take place in the Committee on Appropriations on May 16. The title is "Celebrating Charlie Wilson's War and the End of the Soviet Empire."

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of our former Members and a stalwart on the House Appropriations Committee, whose ability to work behind the scenes and across the aisle helped speed the downfall of the Soviet empire. Those who are interested in the past impact of one Member concentrating himself upon the Soviet empire and the effect he had should be a part of this celebration.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today pay tribute to one of our former Members, and a stalwart on the House Appropriations Committee, whose ability to work behind the scenes and across the aisle helped speed the downfall of the Soviet empire.

I am referring to former Congressman Charlie Wilson, who was renowned for providing top-notch representation for his east Texas constituents. Many of you will remember my good friend Charlie for that, and for a dashing and debonair style that was perhaps unequaled during my time in the House. But I would like to recount something Charlie did quietly about two decades ago that may have changed the course of world history.

In the early 1980s, foreign policy was for the most part a bipartisan affair. The Soviet Union seemed unshakable in its anti-American strength, and the evil stain of communism continued to spread around the world. Those of us who served on the Intelligence Committee and the Defense Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee heard constant reports of our Nation's efforts to counteract that tyranny and oppression.

I served on those committees with Charlie Wilson, a former Navy lieutenant who was known outside the House as a connoisseur of the good life. Those of us who served with him were well-aware of his insight and keen intellect. When Charlie spoke about world affairs, we always listened.

Longtime members of the Appropriations Committee develop a unique perspective on

Congress's ability to influence national policy. We have seen time and again that one Member, who has developed an expertise in a subject and a commitment to change, can influence colleagues on both sides of the aisle to provide support and get a program moving that might spend years languishing in bureaucratic review.

Perhaps the most dramatic example of this was how Charlie Wilson found a way to fund the rebels in Afghanistan, which eventually led to the defeat of the Soviet Union's efforts in that country, which was the beginning of the disintegration of the Soviet empire. As CIA Director James Woolsey later said: "The defeat and breakup of the Soviet Union is one of the great events in world history. There were many heroes in this battle, but to Charlie Wilson must go a special recognition."

Charlie was amazed that the Afghan rebels seemed to be holding the Soviets at bay with rocks and knives, and urged appropriators to provide covert funding to get them more sophisticated weapons. The committee agreed to a few million in the first year, and Charlie persuaded his colleagues to increase spending in succeeding years. Ultimately the rebels began shooting down Soviet planes and helicopters with Stinger missiles. By 1988, the Soviets were on the run. By 1990, the Berlin Wall had fallen and the breakup of the Soviet empire was under way.

Mr. Speaker, many of my colleagues will recognize this tale from George Crile's marvelous "Charlie Wilson's War: The Extraordinary Story of the Largest Covert Operation in History." I urge everyone to read this highly entertaining book, and I am happy to say that it may soon be produced as a motion picture.

What you as members will see in this story is that a single voice, heard with respect and supported by House colleagues, can initiate the kind of program that can change the world. I know that Charlie Wilson is gratified to have been given that respect and support, and I am proud in the knowledge that I have been privileged to serve with Charlie in this House and on that committee.

Mr. Speaker, Charlie Wilson retired from Congress in 1996, but he is only now leaving Washington. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in thanking him for giving us the opportunity to take part in history, and to wish him well as he heads home to Texas.

IMMIGRATION

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I too rise to wish our mothers across America a happy Mother's Day, and I also rise and honor Cinco de Mayo.

But, Mr. Speaker, unfortunately I had to cast a "no" vote on the previous bill because of the ill-conceived provisions dealing with immigration. I am not for a national ID card. Unfortunately, without the input of States and hearings, that is what this body voted for, a database, subjected to the FBI, investigation of your personal matters, along with everyday hackers finding out information about Americans that do not keep the homeland safe.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I announce the introduction of the Save America Com-

prehensive Immigration Act of 2005 and I will be presenting this legislation to my colleagues. This actually deals with reforming immigration, increasing the allocation of family-based visas, legalization for long-term residents, real border security, employment-based immigration where an employer would have to attest to the fact that no American had the opportunity to take this job before a job could be given to an undocumented individual.

This is real reform. I hope my colleagues will accept the challenge. Save America Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act of 2005.

JUDICIAL NOMINEES

(Mrs. BLACKBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, before we all leave town for the weekend and to celebrate Mother's Day, I wanted to say just a little bit about the President's judicial nominees. They deserve an up-or-down vote in the Senate. That really is a matter of common sense here in Washington and something that needs to be addressed. Unfortunately, right now, common sense does not seem to be prevailing.

For more than 200 years, the Senate deliberated and voted on judicial nominees that were sent up by the President. During those 200 years, the process has not been circumvented by a minority political party in the Senate. Yet today we have a first—judicial nominees that are being held hostage by misuse of a rule preventing the full Senate from voting either to accept or to reject them.

Mr. Speaker, it is not fair, it is not right, and it is not in keeping with our system. The liberals over in the Senate know this. Yes, the Constitution grants the Senate the ability to make its own rules on procedure, but to twist that right in order to subvert the Senate's constitutional role is wholly inappropriate.

SOCIAL SECURITY REFORM

(Mr. MACK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for two pieces of legislation that will reform, protect and improve Social Security for generations to come.

H.R. 1776, introduced by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. RYAN), and H.R. 530, introduced by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SAM JOHNSON), ensure Social Security's permanent solvency without raising taxes. For those individuals 55 and older, both bills guarantee there will be no changes to their Social Security.

For workers under 55, both plans provide an option for them to remain in the current Social Security system or to have a portion of their Social Secu-

rity payroll taxes fund their own individual personal savings accounts. At the same time, both plans will yield substantial new savings, new investment and new economic growth, ensuring our children and grandchildren have the freedom, security and prosperity they deserve.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to take an active role in tackling Social Security's problems by supporting one or both of these bills, and I look forward to the House's active consideration of these proposals.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize that it is the National Day of Prayer and to ask my colleagues to join me in giving thanks to God for His many blessings.

This day is significant because it reminds Americans to humbly ask God for His wisdom in our daily lives. Prayer is an extremely powerful tool because it allows us to acknowledge that we are all God's children and that we must rely on Him to guide our lives in the right direction.

National days of prayer have been an important part of our country's heritage since the first one was declared by the Continental Congress in 1775. This day reminds us of how our Founding Fathers sought the Lord's guidance while they were forming our country. The unanimous passage of a bill establishing the National Day of Prayer as an annual event demonstrates that prayer is just as important today as it was at the founding of our country. Prayer unites and gives comfort to people of all faiths.

Today, I ask my fellow Americans to join me in praying for our brave men and women in uniform for fighting to protect our freedoms and to spread freedom throughout the world. I also ask that we pray that God help our leaders to make the right decisions and have the strength and resolve as they meet the challenges ahead.

PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK—DEBORAH MONETTE

(Mr. PORTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, this week is Public Service Recognition Week, a time when we honor government employees at the Federal, State, county and local levels. We cannot thank our public servants enough for the job that they do for this country day in and day out. The Federal Government simply cannot function properly without good employees and the managers who are committed to the work of our Nation.

As the chairman of the House Subcommittee on Federal Workforce and Agency Organization and a member of the Congressional Public Service Caucus, I would also like to honor one Nevadan who is making a difference for