

and all its players for a very successful season.

My colleagues, the Florida Gators are excellent representatives of both the university and I believe the great State of Florida in their tenacity, spirit, and their willingness to try to succeed. I take great pride in representing the University of Florida and congratulate Coach Urban Meyer and the entire university on this great accomplishment.

The university's accomplishments extend beyond the field or on the courts in the sports arena. UF boasts a 91 percent graduation rate among its athletes, including all of its sports, making it only one of four programs in the National All-Sports Top 10 to achieve a graduation success rates that is above 90 percent. Furthermore, in 2002-2003, UF placed a record 193 student athletes on the SEC academic honor roll, marking six consecutive years UF placed 100 or more UF student athletes on the SEC Honor Roll.

The University of Florida's accomplishments go well beyond athletics. It is ranked fifth among Kiplinger's Top 10 Public Colleges. UF's faculty are among the best and most decorated in the world, winning awards such as the Fields Medal, two Pulitzer Prizes, NASA's top award for research, and the Smithsonian Institution's conservation award.

University of Florida is also the first university in the world to be designated a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary for its agriculture faculty's commitment to environmental and wildlife management.

Enrolling almost 50,000 students annually, UF is home to 16 colleges and more than 150 research centers and institutes. During the 2005-2006 school year, UF was awarded \$519 million in sponsored research. This research includes diverse areas such as health care and citrus production, including the world's largest citrus research center.

My colleagues, one example of this innovative research is veterinarian Julie Levy, who is one of the worldwide leaders of research into a revolutionary, humane drug option for spraying and neutering cats and dogs. As it is now, the only way to permanently sterilized these animals is surgically. What if this process were as simple as a vaccine? Dr. Levy, at the University of Florida, is working on this research project today.

On both the field and in the classroom, the students, faculty, and administration of the University of Florida are champions. I am honored that this world-class university is in my congressional district and I look forward to many great things in the future.

As they say at the university, Go Gators!

Mr. KELLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS).

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolu-

tion 39, to congratulate the University of Florida football team on winning the 2006 national championship.

As a University of Florida graduate born in Gator country, that is Gainesville, Florida, I could not be happier with the outcome of the championship game.

Very few people believed the Gators deserved to beat Ohio State or to get in the championship game, let alone beating Ohio State, a great team. But the SEC did beat the Big 10. They certainly proved the critics wrong.

I also would like to congratulate the University of Florida for becoming the first institution in Division I history to hold both the NCAA men's basketball championship and the football championship simultaneously. And, who knows, there may be another basketball championship in the waning. Right now we are number one.

This achievement, of course, is very historic. Madam Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating a great coach, Urban Meyer, and the fine young men from the University of Florida. And congratulations to Gators everywhere. It is great to be a Florida Gator. Go Gators!

Mr. KELLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I will close by saying that after the winning the national championship in football and basketball, the baseball team has to be feeling some pressure right now down in Gainesville.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H. Res. 39.

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I would thank all of the speakers who participated. I think it is really a great achievement, and I want to commend the sponsor of this resolution, Representative WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, for her outstanding leadership and how much she has done to support that great athletic institution. I would wish the Gators success in the future as they have done in the past.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that Members have 5 legislative days to insert materials relevant to H. Res. 39, and the previous bill, H. Con. Res. 31.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 39, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those voting have responded in the affirmative.

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

COMMENDING THE BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY BRONCOS FOR WINNING THE 2007 FIESTA BOWL AND COMPLETING AN UNDEFEATED SEASON

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 43) commending the Boise State University Broncos football team for winning the 2007 Fiesta Bowl and completing an undefeated season.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 43

Whereas the Boise State University Broncos football team won the 2007 Tostitos Fiesta Bowl, defeating the University of Oklahoma Sooners by a score of 43-42 at the University of Phoenix Stadium in Glendale, Arizona, on January 1, 2007;

Whereas the Broncos have won the last 5 consecutive Western Athletic Conference football championships;

Whereas the Broncos are the Nation's top scoring Division I-A collegiate football team for the last 7 seasons, with an average of over 42 points per game;

Whereas the Broncos are the Nation's 4th winningest Division I-A collegiate football team for the last 7 seasons, with a record of 75-13 and winning percentage of over .850.

Whereas the 2007 Fiesta Bowl is widely considered one of the best games in the history of college football;

Whereas the Broncos are the only Division I-A collegiate football team to complete the 2006-2007 season undefeated;

Whereas Broncos head coach Chris Peterson called some of the most creative and courageous offensive plays in bowl-game history, including the game-saving "hook-and-lateral", game-extending "tailback pass", and game-winning "Statue of Liberty";

Whereas the Broncos are 5-2 in Division I-A collegiate post-season games;

Whereas Broncos quarterback Jared Zabransky was named the Offensive Most Valuable Player of the Fiesta Bowl;

Whereas Jared Zabransky threw for 3 touchdowns and 262 yards in the Fiesta Bowl and completed his college career with a record of 33-5 as a starting quarterback;

Whereas Broncos defensive back Marty Tadman was named the Defensive Most Valuable Player of the Fiesta Bowl;

Whereas Marty Tadman intercepted 2 Sooner passes, including one returned for a touchdown, and had 5 tackles in the Fiesta Bowl;

Whereas Broncos running back Ian Johnson, one of the Nation's most exciting running backs, gained 101 rushing yards, scored 1 touchdown, and scored the game-winning 2-point conversion in overtime of the Fiesta Bowl;

Whereas the entire Broncos team should be commended for its determination, work ethic, attitude, and heart;

Whereas the Broncos are deserving of an opportunity to play for the National Championship;

Whereas the Broncos are building an impressive legacy of excellence in its football program; and

Whereas the Broncos have brought great honor to themselves, their university, the

city of Boise, and the State of Idaho: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) commends the Boise State University Broncos football team for winning the 2007 Fiesta Bowl; and

(2) congratulates the team for completing an undefeated, 13-0 season.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. KELLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for 5 legislative days during which Members may insert into the RECORD any material relevant to H. Res. 43.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend the Boise State University Broncos' victory over the mighty Oklahoma Sooners in the 2007 Fiesta Bowl.

For all of you who watched the game, you know it was an exciting game from start to finish, and anyone who was not a fan of the Sooners had no choice but to cheer for the underdog Boise State as the game progressed into the second half and overtime.

Every player for the Broncos should be commended for their effort throughout the game, and head coach, Chris Peterson, should be commended for making risky calls and preparing his team, a decided underdog, for success and for victory.

Since the Bowl Championship Series began in the 1998-1999 college football season, only two teams from non-BCS conferences have been invited to BCS games. Following the 2004 season, the Utah Utes from the Mountain West Conference defeated the Pittsburgh Panthers in the 2005 Fiesta Bowl, and now the Boise State Broncos from the Western Athletic Conference have become the second non-BCS team to win a BCS game, winning one of the most exciting games ever played.

Boise State's success should not be a shock to anyone who has followed this team over the past 5 years. Their victory in the Fiesta Bowl completes an undefeated season and their second 13-win season in the past 4 years.

Over the past 5 years, they have an astounding 58 wins and only seven losses. There are very few teams during that span of time to have experienced a modicum of success that this State University in Idaho has experienced.

I also want to congratulate the Oklahoma Sooners for battling their way back in this very exciting ball game. They fell behind by 18 early in the second half, but showed tremendous poise

and character by coming back in the game and even taking the lead very late in the game.

However, after it was all said and done, the Broncos, led by quarterback Jared Zabransky, executed a tremendous hook and ladder for a touchdown to send the game in overtime. In overtime, Boise State, down one, went for a two-point conversion, and called the patriotic Statue of Liberty play, run by Ivan Johnson, to complete the 43-42 victory.

I congratulate Boise State University's president, Dr. Bob Kustra, Coach Chris Peterson, and the Boise State University's football team for a wonderful season and for being the only undefeated major division college football team in the Nation.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KELLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 43. This resolution recognizes the stellar undefeated season of the Boise State Broncos, as well as their dazzling 43-42 win over the University of Oklahoma Sooners at the 2007 Bowl Championship Series' Fiesta Bowl.

Boise State was wisely considered the underdog going into the game and walked away with an impressive victory. Many considered it to be the best college football game ever played. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON), and I ask unanimous consent that he be allowed to control that time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Idaho is recognized.

There was no objection.

Mr. SIMPSON. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to congratulate the Boise State University Broncos football team on an exceptional football season and a great victory in the 2007 Fiesta Bowl.

I listened with interest to the last resolution congratulating Florida and the Florida Gators and their national championship game. They truly deserved it. The Florida Gators went into the game against Ohio State as significant underdogs in the minds of most of the media, and so did the Boise State Broncos against the Oklahoma Sooners enter that game as significant underdogs. Nobody really gave them a chance.

□ 1600

But when the Broncos defeated the University of Oklahoma in the 2007 Fiesta Bowl on New Year's Day, they completed the only, and I will repeat, the only undefeated season of any Division I-A collegiate football team in the 2006-2007 season. More than that, they showed the country what thousands of Boise State fans, known as the Bronco

Nation, already know; the Boise State Broncos can play with the best.

Some have suggested that maybe Boise State doesn't have as tough a schedule as some other teams. I will tell you that on their schedule this year I think they played six teams that were in bowl games in post season. They had a pretty tough schedule, and they beat them all.

The 2007 Fiesta Bowl will go down in the books as one of the best and most exciting games in the history of college football. Both teams played with talents and heart, unwilling to let mistakes or shifts in momentum force their hands. And when, with only moments left in regulation, it looked like it was all over, the Broncos knew otherwise and turned to the back of their playbook.

Plays like the "hook-and-lateral" and the now famous "Statue of Liberty" required creativity, skill and guts. The talented Broncos executed them perfectly, winning the game in the heart-stopping last seconds of overtime. Head Coach Chris Peterson and his players should be commended for their courage, resolve and ability.

Last week Coach Peterson was awarded the Paul "Bear" Bryant Award and was named 2006 National Coach of the Year. He and his talented coaching staff will continue striving to make a winning program even better.

The BSU Bronco football program has taken gifted, big-hearted young men and created an impressive legacy in the making. The Broncos have won the last five consecutive Western Athletic Conference football championships and, with the Nation's top scoring Division I-A football team for the last seven seasons.

Their roster includes such talents as quarterback Jared Zabransky, the game's Offensive Most Valuable Player, who completed his college football career with a 33-5 record as starting quarterback; Marty Tadman, Defensive MVP of the game; and Ian Johnson, one of the Nation's most exciting running backs, who scored the game-winning two-point conversion in overtime, and after the game proposed to his fiancée, now a Boise State cheerleader. I don't know if I would have had that much courage, quite frankly, to propose to someone on national television. But it just shows the heart and courage of this team.

These stars are just a few examples of the determination, talent and heart that make up the whole Bronco football team. The entire team should be commended for both its success on the field and the character displayed by each individual.

The Boise State Broncos football team has made us proud; has made the State of Idaho, the City of Boise proud, and I am glad that we have this chance to recognize them today.

And in case anybody wonders if this is just about football, I will tell you, in talking to the President of the University, he said that after the Bronco season, the number of applications for the

postgraduate program has skyrocketed. So this is more than just about football. It is about national recognition for a team and a school, and the outstanding character of that school and the educational opportunities it provides to people from all over this country.

Madam Speaker, I thank you for allowing me to speak on this and for bringing this to the floor today. This Saturday they have a parade and a day of recognition for the Boise State team, and I am sure that they will be very honored to have this.

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, let me thank the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON). And there is no question that he has every right to be very proud of the Boise State Broncos.

As a matter of fact, I think that because it is a small school, because it is a school that is not the perennial schools that finish up top, say, the last 50 years, for the last 8 or 10 years Boise State has had a difficult time trying to prove its worth. Even though they beat top contenders, they will say it was a fluke; it was some mistake, it was just by luck. And I think that by their continuing winning, by them moving up and winning the national championship, I believe that they will finally have the naysayers saying that this is really an outstanding team.

We found the same situation in the great State of New Jersey, where Rutgers University, a State university that has had a terrible football program for years and years and years, although it played one of the first football games in the country in 1897 against Princeton, when Princeton and Rutgers played. They have now, finally, been able to, after last year wasn't a fluke, this year losing only two games and going to a major bowl.

Athletes from New Jersey now are staying in New Jersey, and that is what made the difference. New Jersey athletes have made other States' teams great, and now that they are staying in the State, we will certainly expect to see Rutgers University, perhaps, play Boise State next year for the national championship.

So with that, Madam Speaker, I, again, congratulate the Boise State Broncos.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. SOLIS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 43.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those voting have responded in the affirmative.

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further

proceedings on this question will be postponed.

COMMENDING THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA GATORS FOR THEIR 2006 BOWL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES VICTORY

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

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 39, the Wasserman Schultz-Stearns resolution commending the University of Florida Fighting Gators for their victory in the 2006 Bowl Championship Series and for winning the national college football title.

Madam Speaker, after a hard-fought football season, the Florida Gators proved victorious on January 8 with a dazzling 41-14 triumph over the Ohio State University Buckeyes.

While many critics expressed doubt about the Gators' chances for victory, Florida's Congressional Delegation and all of the students, alumni and friends in the Gator Nation stood by the Orange and Blue.

Led by senior quarterback Chris Leak, the MVP of the game, and Florida's impenetrable defense, Florida Gators dominated the game when the stakes were the highest.

This season, as Florida's football program celebrated its 100th anniversary, the University of Florida made history by winning national titles in both men's basketball and football in the same season.

Congressman STEARNS and I would like to extend special congratulations to Florida's head coach, Urban Meyer, who trained this football team to be the best in the country.

The Florida players, coaches, faculty, students and alumni all pulled together with hard work and dedication to help the team win. All of the student athletes are shining stars for the University, and deserve our highest praise.

The Gator Nation's academic reputation is stellar, our sports teams are number one, and our fans are like none other.

Madam Speaker, it is great to be a Florida Gator.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 7 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. THOMPSON of California) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H. Res. 61, by the yeas and nays;

H. Res. 39, by the yeas and nays;

H. Res. 43, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

OBSERVING THE BIRTHDAY OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution, H. Res. 61.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 61, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 418, nays 0, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 24]

YEAS—418

Abercrombie	Burgess	Diaz-Balart, L.
Ackerman	Butterfield	Diaz-Balart, M.
Akin	Camp (MI)	Dicks
Alexander	Campbell (CA)	Dingell
Allen	Cannon	Doggett
Altmire	Cantor	Donnelly
Andrews	Capito	Doolittle
Arcuri	Capps	Doyle
Baca	Capuano	Drake
Bachmann	Cardoza	Dreier
Bachus	Carnahan	Duncan
Baird	Carney	Edwards
Baker	Carson	Ehlers
Baldwin	Carter	Ellison
Barrett (SC)	Castle	Ellsworth
Barrow	Castor	Emanuel
Bartlett (MD)	Chabot	Emerson
Barton (TX)	Chandler	Engel
Bean	Clarke	English (PA)
Becerra	Clay	Eshoo
Berkley	Cleaver	Etheridge
Berman	Clyburn	Everett
Berry	Coble	Fallin
Biggert	Cohen	Farr
Bilbray	Cole (OK)	Fattah
Bilirakis	Conaway	Feeney
Bishop (GA)	Conyers	Ferguson
Bishop (NY)	Cooper	Filner
Bishop (UT)	Costa	Flake
Blackburn	Costello	Forbes
Blumenauer	Courtney	Fortenberry
Blunt	Cramer	Fossella
Boehner	Crenshaw	Fox
Bonner	Crowley	Frank (MA)
Bono	Cubin	Franks (AZ)
Boozman	Cuellar	Frelinghuysen
Boren	Culberson	Garrett (NJ)
Boswell	Cummings	Gerlach
Boucher	Davis (CA)	Giffords
Boustany	Davis (IL)	Gilchrest
Boyd (FL)	Davis (KY)	Gillibrand
Boyda (KS)	Davis, David	Gillmor
Brady (PA)	Davis, Jo Ann	Gingrey
Brady (TX)	Davis, Lincoln	Gohmert
Brale (IA)	Davis, Tom	Gonzalez
Brown (SC)	DeFazio	Goode
Brown, Corrine	DeGette	Goodlatte
Brown-Waite,	DeLahunt	Gordon
Ginny	DeLauro	Granger
Buchanan	Dent	Graves