

Tate scored a touchdown and the game, as it is often said and this time never more true, was history.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague, the gentlewoman from Nevada [Mrs. VUCANOVICH], for graciously honoring our friendly wager by awarding our team this Nevada Wolf Pack sweatshirt, which I intend to present to the team at an appropriate moment, for it was they who won it fair and square.

Mr. Speaker, I want to say to the Rockets, because I know many of them are listening, and as this particular T-shirt indicates over here, are undefeated champs of the mid-American conference. Our newspaper had a complete front page headline: "Toledo Rockets Win Vegas Bowl." We are so extremely proud of them and their hard work.

Go Rockets and Go Toledo and thank you, Mrs. VUCANOVICH.

NOW IS NOT TIME FOR BUSINESS AS USUAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Arizona [Mr. HAYWORTH] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Speaker and I thank many of our colleagues for joining us here on the floor today.

Mr. Speaker, I listened with great interest to the gentlewoman from Ohio [Ms. KAPTUR], and indeed would offer in the spirit of bipartisanship, congratulations to the Toledo Rockets for their great victory. I am sure I am speaking for my colleagues from the great State of Nevada. She was more than happy to supply the Tee-shirt and she is equally proud of the Wolf Pack of Nevada, Reno, even though they came up on the short end of the score.

Mr. Speaker, again, on that bipartisan remark, let me address the remarks of my colleague from Ohio and other remarks in this Chamber earlier today with reference to what is transpiring here in Washington, DC, and indeed throughout the country.

There has been a plea from the other side of the aisle, a request to go back to business as usual. Indeed, this morning, my dear friend from New Jersey, who is also here on the floor, basically said that in his opinion, what is transpiring now is not the way a majority should govern in the United States.

□ 1515

Let me simply offer these thoughts. It is precisely because of business as usual and the constant drumbeat of taxing and spending and spending a little more and making special accommodations and spending more and more and more and more that we never come to grips with the central issue we must confront. And that is we are committing fiscal suicide upon this Nation and upon future generations if we fail to stand now and respond to the clarion call of the American people who say enough is enough. Balance the Federal

budget now. Put into place the framework today is that in 7-years time we can have a balanced budget and start to eliminate this national debt that will suffocate generations to come.

There is nothing moral about taking the money from generations still to come simply because they do not have a vote. Good people may disagree, and my good friend from Massachusetts is here on the floor, and I am sure he will get a chance to speak here in a few moments. Good people may disagree on how money may best be spent. But for the executive branch of this Government to walk away from a public commitment and, moreover, a public law, signed 30 days ago by the Chief Executive, committing this Nation, committing this Government as terms of the previous continuing resolution to use the framework of a commitment to a balanced budget in 7 years using the honest numbers of the Congressional Budget Office, but for the President to walk away from that statement, to walk away from that public law is absolutely patently wrong.

Now, others may try to massage the wording, and there may be countervailing philosophies, but the undergirding part of that public law was a commitment to work for a balanced budget within 7 years using the honest, non-partisan numbers of the Congressional Budget Office.

Are there differences in philosophy? Of course, but there should be no difference on that board bedrock of principle.

Mr. Speaker, I freely acknowledge that good people can disagree and, indeed, we are here to debate those differences. But surely, certainly the bounds of common decency suggest, that, even though good people may disagree, there should be a basic framework upon which to work out the disagreement. Now this White House and this administration and regrettably some others in this Chamber want to walk away from that basic agreement.

Much is made of the holidays. Much is made of the hardship that many Americans face. But again, Mr. Speaker, the greatest Christmas present that we can give the American people is to make sure that we have a Nation fiscally sane and sound, morally responsible for generations to come, saving the health care system for our grandparents, ensuring fiscal responsibility and no to business as usual, trying to find a way to always tax and spend and spend some more.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COBLE). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. KIM] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. KIM addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

TRIBUTE TO AARON FEUERSTEIN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Massachusetts [Mr. KENNEDY] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, as we face a kind of conflagration in Washington, a meltdown, a fire storm that seems to be taking place both on the House floor and in Washington in general tonight, the truth is that there was a real fire that took place in the State of Massachusetts last week that I think can act as kind of a moral for all of us in this Chamber to take some advice and some lessons from.

I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable man in Aaron Feuerstein. Aaron is the owner of the Malden Mills in Methuen, MA. He saw his family business go up in flames last week. Over 2,400 families worked in that company.

Against all odds, Aaron Feuerstein built up a company in Massachusetts that has for the last several decades lost tens of thousands of mill jobs to other countries. Tens of thousands of mill jobs have moved down to the South and have left Massachusetts because of high wages, because of the high cost of energy. But while others were abandoning the State, Aaron Feuerstein was building up the State. He pays union wages. Ron Alman, the head of the International Ladies Garment Workers, has nothing but kind words to say about Mr. Feuerstein.

Mr. Feuerstein, at a time when his company and his life savings were burning, stood and made a commitment to his workers that he would continue to pay them through the Christmas season, would continue to pay them on into next month and committed himself to rebuilding that plant. Maybe the Congress, maybe the President, maybe the House and Democrats and Republicans can learn a little something about Mr. Feuerstein's commitment to this country, to his community.

This is an individual who employs immigrant workers as well as people that have lived in this country for generations. He has invested in their education. He spent millions of dollars of his own funds to teach people English, to give people job training. He has worked with the Government. It is through that kind of partnership and commitment that he has built up his company. He has made a recommitment to making certain that we in this Nation can have the kind of high wage, high skilled jobs that mean the future of America is going to be safe.

Yet, as that goes on in Methuen and Malden and other parts of the State of Massachusetts, what we see is divisiveness and name calling and a tearing apart of the future of this country. We are saying, as this guy is standing in Boston making certain that his workers, when he has no income, are going to get paid. We are saying, we are going to cut off the workers in this country today.

There should be a lesson that we all take about how we can try to get