

He believed in hopelessly out-of-date stuff that never did anything but win championships. No dribbling behind the back or through the legs. "There's no need," he'd say. No UCLA basketball number was retired under his watch. "What about the fellows who wore that number before? Didn't they contribute to the team?" he'd say. No long hair, no facial hair. "They take too long to dry, and you could catch cold leaving the gym," he'd say.

That one drove his players bonkers. One day, All-America center Bill Walton showed up with a full beard. "It's my right," he insisted. Wooden asked if he believed that strongly. Walton said he did. "That's good, Bill," Coach said. "I admire people who have strong beliefs and stick by them, I really do. We're going to miss you." Walton shaved it right then and there. Now Walton calls once a week to tell Coach he loves him.

It's always too soon when you have to leave the condo and go back out into the real world, where the rules are so much grayer and the teams so much worse. As Wooden shows you to the door, you take one last look around. The framed report cards of the great-grandkids. The boxes of jelly beans peeking out from under the favorite wooden chair. The dozens of pictures of Nellie.

He's almost 90 now, you think. A little more hunched over than last time. Steps a little smaller. You hope it's not the last time you see him. He smiles. "I'm not afraid to die," he says. "Death is my only chance to be with her again."

Problem is, we still need him here.

Mr. MCKEON. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. MCKEON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 411, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. MAJETTE. Mr. Speaker, due to a death in my family, I was unable to cast votes on Friday, November 7, 2003. Had I been present on rollcall 616, I would have voted "yea," on rollcall 617 I would have voted "yea," on rollcall 618 I would have voted "yea," and on rollcall 619 I would have voted "yea."

I was away on official business yesterday, Monday, November 17, 2003, in my district; and I was unable to cast votes on rollcalls 620 and 621. Had I been present on rollcall 620, I would have voted "yea," on rollcall 621 I would have voted "yea," on rollcall 622 I would have voted "yea," and on rollcall 623 I would have voted "yea."

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS FIGHTING ILLINI MEN'S TENNIS TEAM FOR ITS SUCCESSFUL SEASON

Mr. MCKEON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 391) congratulating the

University of Illinois Fighting Illini men's tennis team for its successful season.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 391

Whereas the University of Illinois Fighting Illini men's tennis team concluded its season with a rare Triple Crown, including national championships in the team tournament, singles tournament, and doubles tournament, which were held at the University of Georgia in Athens;

Whereas the Fighting Illini became the first team that used three different players in the singles and doubles tournaments to capture the Triple Crown of college tennis since the current NCAA tennis team championship format began in 1977;

Whereas the Fighting Illini won the first NCAA team championship in the history of the University of Illinois tennis program as well as the first national team title for the university in any sport since 1989;

Whereas the Fighting Illini became the first team, other than the teams of the University of Southern California, Stanford University, the University of California, Los Angeles, and the University of Georgia, to win the national title since the NCAA adopted the current team championship format in 1977;

Whereas the Fighting Illini earned the team's first Intercollegiate Tennis Association National Indoor Championship in February 2003, which propelled the team to the number one ranking where it remained for the entire season;

Whereas the Fighting Illini won their seventh consecutive Big Ten Conference regular-season championship, as well as their sixth Big Ten Tournament crown in the last seven years;

Whereas the Fighting Illini have become the team with the all-time most wins, and the fourth undefeated and untied team in the 84-year history of the University of Illinois men's tennis program; and

Whereas the Fighting Illini team member, Amer Delic, won the first national singles title of the University of Illinois and team members Rajeev Ram and Brian Wilson won the university's second NCAA doubles crown: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) congratulates and recognizes the University of Illinois Fighting Illini men's tennis team, coach Craig Tiley, and associate head coach Bruce Berque for the team's historic, successful, and monumental season; and

(2) directs the Clerk of the House of Representatives to send, upon passage, an official copy of this Resolution to coach Craig Tiley, assistant coach Bruce Berque, and all other members of the 2003 National Championship men's tennis team.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. MCKEON) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. MCKEON).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCKEON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Res. 391.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1845

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 391, a resolution congratulating the University of Illinois Fighting Illini men's tennis team for its successful season; and particularly its rare Triple Crown win.

The mission statement for the University of Illinois Division of Intercollegiate Athletics states that its aim is to "have the highest quality athletics program in all sports that allows the University of Illinois teams to compete for championships in the Big Ten Conference and the National Collegiate Athletic Association."

The men's tennis team accomplished this ambitious and worthwhile goal when, earlier this year, the fighting Illini concluded its season with a national championship win in the team tournament, the singles tournament and the doubles tournament. Since the tennis team championship format began in 1977, no other team has captured the Triple Crown of college tennis by using three different players in the singles and doubles tournaments.

Additionally, deserving of commendation is the Fighting Illini's seventh consecutive Big Ten Conference regular season championship and their sixth Big Ten Tournament crown in the last 7 years.

The Fighting Illini has become the team with the most all-time wins and the fourth undefeated and untied team in the 84-year history of the University of Illinois men's tennis program. The distinction earned by these players and their remarkable repeat victories of the team reflect the dedication of each player, the leadership of Coach Craig Tiley, and the support of family, friends and fans. I thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. JOHNSON) for introducing this resolution and extend my congratulations to each of the hard-working players on each of the Fighting Illini teams, to Coach Tiley, and to the University of Illinois. I am happy to join my colleagues in honoring the success of this team and wish them continued success. I ask my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 391 and commend the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. JOHNSON) for introducing this resolution.

This resolution recognizes the success of the University of Illinois men's tennis team. The Fighting Illini finished off its season with a rare Triple Crown, including national championships in the team tournament, singles tournament and doubles tournament. This marked the first team championship for the tennis team at the University of Illinois. In fact, this is the first national championship for the Fighting Illini in any sport since 1989. I congratulate Coach Craig Tiley and all of