

SENATE—Monday, July 12, 1999

The Senate met at 12 noon and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Dear God, omnipresent Lord of all life, we do not presume to invite You into this Chamber or into the deliberations of this week. You are already here. This is Your Nation; this historic Chamber is the sanctuary for the sacred work of government. All the Senators are here by Your choice, and all of us who work to support their leadership have been led here by Your providence.

The one place You will not enter without our invitation is our soul. You have ordained that we must ask You to take up residence in our inner being and to control our thinking, desires, vision, and plans. The latch string to our hearts is on the inside. You stand at the door of each of our hearts, persistently knocking. We open the door and receive You as absolute Sovereign of our lives. Just as You reign as Sovereign of this Nation and our ultimate Leader to whom we relinquish our own will and control, may Your very best for your beloved Nation be accomplished through what is debated and decided this week. You are our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator ROBERTS from Kansas is now designated to lead the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Honorable PAT ROBERTS, a Senator from the State of Kansas, led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The acting majority leader is now recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, today the Senate will immediately proceed to a period of morning business until 1 o'clock. By previous consent, at 1 p.m. the Patients' Bill of Rights will be the pending business. Amendments to that legislation are possible. However, any votes ordered will not take place until

tomorrow at a time to be determined by the two leaders. Following this week's debate on health care, the Senate will resume consideration of the remaining appropriations bills. It is imperative that these funding bills be completed prior to the next legislative break.

As a reminder to all Senators, a cloture vote on the pending lockbox amendment to S. 557 is scheduled to take place on Friday, July 16.

MEASURE PLACED ON CALENDAR

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk due for its second reading.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1218) to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit taking minors across State lines in circumvention of laws requiring the involvement of parents in abortion decisions.

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, I now object to further proceedings on this matter at this time.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The bill will be placed on the calendar.

Mr. ROBERTS. I yield the floor.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, it is my understanding we are now in the hour of morning business. Is that true?

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator is correct.

TITLE IX

Mr. REID. Mr. President, this past Saturday we watched a very interesting spectacle. It was an athletic contest. There were no arguments with referees. There was no vile language. There were no lewd gestures. There were no demands by the participants for more money. There were no pleas from any of the players that they didn't get a fair opportunity to play, that they should have had more opportunities to shoot for a goal. It appeared to be a real team effort, a team effort by daughters and mothers.

We watched a great athletic contest between the United States and China for the World Cup soccer championship. The U.S. women's soccer team won on penalty kicks. There could not have been a more exciting game.

I have had the opportunity to watch many soccer games, as my youngest boy played on three national cham-

pionship soccer teams at the University of Virginia. It is a great sport. Certainly the sport was exemplified in the work of these women last Saturday. Throughout the tournament, the U.S. team emphasized what it means to play as a team. This was a team effort. It was team spirit that helped them win on Saturday.

There were really no standouts, even though there are great athletes on both sides. The final penalty kick was by Brandi Chastain, but she was just one of the players that day. Briana Scurry made her most crucial save against China's third penalty kicker, Liu Ying, by diving to her left based particularly on instinct. Kristine Lilly saved what looked to be China's winning shot with a header while standing at the goal line in the first overtime. Mia Hamm, who is a superstar, the Michael Jordan of women's athletics, led the attack. While she failed to score, she kept pressure on the Chinese for most all of the game. Michelle Akers, at 33 the oldest team member, a woman who suffers from Epstein-Barr, or chronic fatigue syndrome, played as if she would never be fatigued until the last minute of regulation play. She literally was carried off the field, succumbing to dehydration and exhaustion. She was certainly a stalwart of this team effort.

This team has captured America's heart. A crowd of over 90,000 people watched that game. Cumulative attendance for the U.S. team's 6 victories was 412,486, an average of almost 70,000 a game. The 90,000-plus that watched this game was the largest crowd to watch an athletic contest among women. This team, that averaged 70,000 people watching each of its contests, was a constant reminder that this event was seen as a bellwether for women's athletics in America. Could women's teams fill stadiums? Could they draw advertising and television viewers in a nonolympic event? The answer to each of those questions was a resounding yes.

While most of their success is a result of the hard work and dedication of each team member to the sport of soccer, their brilliant play on the field, and their personalities off the field, they were aided even more in the fact this came about as a result of title IX.

There are many heroes in bringing about title IX. We could name Molly Yard, who more than four decades ago started talking about why women deserve to be treated equally in athletics. We could talk about Senators Birch Bayh from Indiana and George McGovern of South Dakota who led the way in the Senate against sex discrimination in higher education programs.