had an agreement going into this Final Four and who will be all too happy, I am sure, to don the Duke jersey and the Duke cap. And I also want to read a script which they have agreed to deliver in homage to the Duke Blue Devils and their national championship.

Let me say, before I yield to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), that I am a former Duke fan. I am a former contestant in the Duke National Championship. We had a good team that year. We made it to the Final Four. But we did not win. We were left out of the picture.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my remarks be expunged from the record as soon as they are made.

Mr. Speaker, but for the fact that the rules prohibit it, I would wear this jersey during the course of my remarks; but our Parliamentarian would have a heart attack and think that I had stepped egregiously on the rules. So only because the Parliamentarian wants me to take off the Duke shirt do I do so. But I will hold it up.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair appreciates the gentleman’s cooperation.

Mr. HOYER. I thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will put my jacket back on. I cannot be totally inoffensive.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HAYES) are recognized for 5 minutes each.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. KOLBE) and to our Duke Blue Devils who exhibited team work, sportsmanship, scholarship and a family of young men and women working together that achieved remarkable things.

Congratulations to the Blue Devils.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

REGARDING THE RE-REGULATION OF THE AIRLINE INDUSTRY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI) are recognized for 5 minutes each.

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, before I get into my Special Order, since the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) is still here, I simply want to say that the reason the Duke Blue Devils won the NCAA championship is because the referees managed to foult out almost every Big 10 player that was in the tournament, and the second reason is the fact that the coach of the Blue Devils happens to be of Polish-American heritage from the city of Chicago.

American Airlines’ acquisition of TWA, which declared bankruptcy in January, is nearly complete. The American-TWA transaction was approved in March by a U.S. bankruptcy court judge. The Department of Justice issued a statement declaring that the agency would not challenge the merger, in essence, approving it.

Transportation is currently working on the transfer of TWA’s certificates and international routes to American Airlines. Although American Airlines must still survive some legal challenges during the bankruptcy appeals process, and, more importantly, gain approval from its unions, it will, by the end of this month, acquire 190 TWA planes, 175 TWA gates at airports throughout the Nation, 173 TWA slots at the four slot-controlled airports, TWA’s hub in St. Louis, and 20,000 TWA employees.

As a result, American Airlines will now enjoy the title of the world’s largest airline with a 20 percent share of the U.S. domestic market.

Unfortunately, American Airlines’ quest to become bigger does not end here. American Airlines has also joined in the fray of the proposed United-USAirways merger.

Last summer, United Airlines announced plans to purchase USAirways for a total of $11.6 billion. Now American Airlines plans to pay United Airlines $1.2 billion for 20 percent of the