

obstacles and hardships, and yet they were able to overcome the odds to secure the college national baseball championship.

Fresno State University is known for the quality education that it has provided since its founding in 1911. For 97 years, the students of Fresno State, including its student athletes, have illustrated the university's commitment to excellence in education. Now, Fresno State will also be known for its excellence in our national pastime.

The Bulldogs' triumph has highlighted the quality athletic programs of Fresno State. The Bulldogs' baseball team is the only team in NCAA history to win a championship with a regular season record of 47 wins and 31 losses. Additionally, the Bulldogs spent over 40 long days away from home during their trek towards becoming the College World Series champions.

The achievement of the Fresno State baseball team is not just an accomplishment that can be celebrated by Fresno State University, but by all residents of California's Central Valley and by all fans of America's favorite pastime.

The Bulldogs captured baseball fans' hearts as college baseball fever spread Fresno State's colors of cardinal and blue across the Central Valley and the Nation, making this College World Series the most watched of all time according to ESPN. Radio fans tuned in to local Central Valley radio station, KMJ 580, to listen to the game.

My family and I were among those huddled around our TVs, hanging on every pitch, e-mailing the results to our son King who was away at camp. Perhaps next year, when the Bulldogs are playing for back-to-back championships, we will listen to that game on the radio.

As the lyrics in the Bulldogs' fight song state: "So fight and give the best there is in you . . . we'll fight on to victory." And the Bulldogs did just that. With unwavering determination, with complete dedication, the Bulldogs gave their all, and in the end, they were victorious.

It is with great pride that I stand here with my colleagues today supporting H. Res. 1327, congratulating the Fresno State Bulldogs on their College World Series Championship. Go Dogs!

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve.

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I'm prepared to yield back. I'd just like to make a comment or two and I will do so, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would like to thank all of those who were involved in this. Mr. CARDOZA couldn't be here to speak, but I thank him as well for his interest in this.

And I would just like to congratulate everybody involved with Fresno State. I watched some of these games on television. You see a Georgia versus a

Fresno State and your immediate thought is, well, gee, Georgia must be dominant in this situation as they are a very dominant athletic team in the country. But indeed, Fresno State fought to win two out of three of those games and I think deserve a tremendous amount of credit, especially considering the year that they had gone through.

This is an excellent school, and sometimes outside actions cause us to look at other things. And looking at the academics at Fresno State, which include a broad array of offices and services, including over 50 academic departments, eight colleges, a Henry Madden Library, the Division for Graduate Studies, the Division of Continuing and Global Education and dozens of centers and institutes, all these are designed to support the central academic mission of the university, that of creating an environment of engaged, student-centered learning. And they I think deserve to be congratulated for the academic side of what they're doing, as well as their great victory in the NCAA baseball tournament this year.

I congratulate them.

I yield back the balance of my time. Mr. BISHOP of New York. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1327, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mrs. Wanda Evans, one of his secretaries.

RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1088) recognizing and commending the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater for 50 years of service as a vital American cultural ambassador to the world, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1088

Whereas the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater ("AAADT") is widely recognized as one of the world's premier modern dance companies;

Whereas the AAADT is dedicated to promoting the uniqueness of the African-American cultural experience and the preservation and enrichment of the modern dance heritage to people across the globe;

Whereas, over its 50-year history, the AAADT has performed for an estimated 21,000,000 people in 48 States and in 71 countries on 6 continents;

Whereas the AAADT has an extensive touring record;

Whereas the AAADT's signature work, "Revelations", has been seen by more people across the globe than any other work of dance;

Whereas the AAADT performs works by both emerging and established choreographers from throughout the United States and the world;

Whereas the AAADT's home in New York City, the Joan Weill Center for Dance, is the largest facility dedicated exclusively to dance in the United States;

Whereas Alvin Ailey, founder of the AAADT, received the United Nations Peace Medal in 1982;

Whereas President George W. Bush recognized the AAADT and Artistic Director Judith Jamison with the National Medal of Arts in 2001, making the AAADT the first dance company to be honored with this award;

Whereas the AAADT has performed for United States Presidents throughout the company's 50-year history, including in 1968 for President Johnson, at the inaugural gala in 1977 for President Carter, at the inaugural gala in 1993 for President Clinton, and at the state dinner honoring President Mwai Kibaki of Kenya in 2003;

Whereas, over the years, the AAADT has represented American culture with performances at such historic events as the Rio de Janeiro International Arts Festival in 1963, the first Negro Arts Festival in Dakar, Senegal, in 1966, the fabled New Year's Eve performance for the Crown Prince of Morocco in 1978, the Paris Centennial performance at the Grand Palais Theatre in 1989, two unprecedented engagements in South Africa in 1997 and 1998, the 1996 and 2002 Olympic games, the 2005 "Stars of the White Nights" festival in St. Petersburg, Russia, and the 2006 Les étés de la danse de Paris festival in Paris, France;

Whereas the AAADT annually provides more than 100,000 young people from diverse cultural, social, and economic backgrounds the opportunity to explore their creative potential and build their self-esteem through its Arts In Education and Community Programs, including 9 Ailey Camps in cities across the United States;

Whereas Ailey II, the junior company, reaches more than 69,000 people each year through its inspiring performances and outreach activities while touring to smaller communities in more than 50 North American cities; and

Whereas the Ailey School, accredited by the National Association of Schools of Dance, provides the highest quality training consistent with the professional standards of the AAADT, including a Certificate Program, a Fellowship Program, and a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree program in conjunction with Fordham University: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the United States House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes and commends the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater for 50 years of service as a vital American cultural ambassador to the world, during which it has