

A school record for the number of victories in a single season, 25 wins, with three regular season games and the NCAA tournament remaining.

The school's highest national ranking ever, No. 2 in both major polls.

The best road record in memory.

Undefeated at home, in the "Barn", our beloved Williams Arena.

And, if justice prevails, a No. 1 seed in the NCAA tournament.

Coach Haskins, now in his 11th season at Minnesota, has mentored hundreds of true champions. Not all of them have won Big 10 titles, to be sure, but they have been winners in the classroom and they have been winners in our community.

Coach Haskins, who served as assistant coach of the 1996 men's Olympic basketball team, has assembled a very special group of young men in this championship season. They all deserve a tribute for the way they came together to surprise the experts and win the Big 10 title.

All Big 10 guard Bobby Jackson, who ranks among the big 10 leaders in steals, assists, scoring, free-throw percentage, field-goal percentage and rebounding.

Minnesota's other guard, Eric Harris, the defensive specialist and most improved player on offense, to be sure; Eric provided the steady leadership only a 3-year starter can.

Minnesota's own Sam Jacobson, a constituent of mine, one of the great natural talents, with the long, arching outside shots which broke open so many close games. And John Thomas, another native Minnesotan, of the inside force, whose key rebounds and clutch free-throws also won so many nail-biters this season.

The other big man in the middle, Courtney James, a major factor in this glorious title run, with his strong rebounding and scoring in the paint when we needed it the most.

But perhaps the team's greatest asset, Mr. Speaker, is its bench, the players who accept their backup roles and come through in the clutch: Quincy Lewis, with his amazing shooting touch; Trevor Winter of Slayton, MN, with his rebound and baseline jumper; sophomore Charles Thomas, a southpaw whose specialty is the 3-point bomb, and who always comes through when we need it the most; Miles Tarver, another sophomore whose leaping ability ruled the boards when the other players' legs had tired; freshman guard Russ Archambault, who provided fans with many thrills with his speed, ball handling, and his slashing style on the court; also Jason and Jermaine Stanford and Aaron Stauber, who work so hard every day.

Yes, Coach Haskins, you and your team have put Golden Gopher basketball back on the map. Congratulations, Minnesota, on winning the Big 10 Championship, and best of everything the rest of the way. Go, Gophers.

INTRUDER DAY

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

Mr. PICKETT. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow the Navy honors the retirement of an old friend, the A-6 Intruder. Attack Squadron 196 and Attack Squadron 75 will stand down the final two Intruder squadrons in simultaneous ceremonies at Whidbey Island, WA, and Virginia Beach, VA, respectively.

As the backbone of carrier attack aviation for the past 36 years, the A-6E Intruder stood ready to deliver its formidable payload in any weather, day or night. The A-6 put teeth in the term "carrier forward presence." It saw combat in Vietnam, Lebanon, Libya, in the waters of the Arabian Gulf, and over the shores of Kuwait and Iraq. It delivered iron bombs, laser-guided bombs, and every air-to-ground missile available in the Navy inventory for the past three decades.

The Intruder was never the prettiest plane on the flight deck, but it was always the hardest working. The pilots and bombardier/navigators who flew the Intruder affectionately referred to its Grumman ironworks origin. Some swore the aircraft was made of solid steel. Whether the shells and missiles it faced flew from Hanoi or Baghdad, many an A-6 returned to the carrier full of holes, but ready to see combat soon after a few steel patch jobs.

We also honor the thousands of Intruder maintainers, both past and present, who kept this 18-ton bombing machine flying day and night, at sea and ashore. Foreign terms such as fly-by-wire and heads-up display never passed the lips of these hardworking men and women. Metal, pulleys, oil, and hydraulic fluid kept this archetype of attack airborne.

Finally, let us remember the Intruder crews who never returned. In service to our Nation, they paid the ultimate price flying this machine that they loved. We miss them still, and will never forget them. From this day on, the Navy must continue to carry on the spirit of Intruder attack. Whenever the Navy rolls in hot, a bit of Intruder history rolls in with it.

EXERCISING COMITY ON THE FLOOR OF THE HOUSE

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

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I am a little out of breath because I had to run down to the floor. I witnessed, as I was watching my television, what was going on on the floor, a very unfortunate situation, and had I been here I would have probably attempted to take down the words of the gentleman from Texas [Mr. EDWARDS]. He was attacking another gentleman from Texas. I think it is really unfortunate.

Particularly if one Member is going to use the name of another Member, it is usually comity on the floor of the House to at least inform that Member that you are going to talk about him on the floor of the House, and give that Member the opportunity to respond to what is going on.

I feel that what is going on between the two gentlemen from Texas is unfortunate. I would hope that particularly on the eve of trying to bring comity to the House and the Members going to Hershey, PA so we can bring a little bit better discourse to the floor of the House, getting to know each other, that we would find it within the courtesy afforded to each Member to at least talk to the Member.

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Now, I do not know, all I have seen is the reports in the press on this incident. But I would just hope, I see the gentleman from Texas is on the floor now. I appreciate him coming down to the floor of the House because I did inform him that I was about to talk about him. I just ask the gentleman from Texas to realize the tradition of the House and the courtesy of the House, to extend the courtesy to a Member, let him know that you are going to talk about him before you are going to come down to the floor.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. DELAY. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman's suggestion. I think the distinguished whip, for whom I have great respect, knows that in my history in the House, I have not been the type of Member that has gone out and taken gratuitous partisan shots. I am one who will attend the bipartisan retreat and am encouraging other Members to do that. I want to bring civility to this House. But I must in all honesty say to my friend from Texas that, as the Representative that covered or represented the people of the Waco area to whom the Branch Davidian tragedy is a very deep and personal issue, I simply could not sit back and quietly accept the statement that was made yesterday. And I found out about and saw the tape last night, the statement of the gentleman from Texas [Mr. PAUL], lives in fear that the Federal Government is going to bomb them similar to Waco and that these people committed no crime. I would welcome the opportunity to talk to Mr. PAUL and encourage a public debate on that.

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I would just ask the gentleman, did the gentleman call Mr. PAUL to ask him about the context with which that statement was made? Or did the gentleman just go out and make statements based upon what he saw in the press? Or did the gentleman from Texas see the program on which the words were spoken by Mr. PAUL? The reason I am close to the Chamber is we were having lunch,

and Mr. PAUL was very disturbed that the gentleman from Texas had made these kinds of comments. He left the lunch to go call the gentleman from Texas so that you get together and talk this out. As we were leaving the lunch room, we found that the gentleman was down in the well of the House attacking one of his colleagues from Texas.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman from Texas is watching now, I would welcome him to come to the floor of this House. I will be glad to stay here.

I think this is an issue that should receive a public debate. I think the public has a right to know why he fears the Government is going to bomb him and why he thinks David Koresh and his Branch Davidians committed no crimes. He may be offended by what I said in response to his comments. I am more offended by what he said. I think rape, arson, and murder are very serious crimes. I did see the program before I made the comments.

Mr. DELAY. Reclaiming my time, Mr. Speaker, the gentleman is a friend of mine. I think it is unfortunate that we are even having this conversation. Because at least the Texas delegation has always been able to speak to each other privately. And if they could not resolve their differences, they always, they could take the opportunity of going to the press very seldom. In fact, I do not even remember in the 12 years I have been in the House that a Member from Texas attacked another Member from Texas from the well of the House. I appreciate the time.

PATENT TERM RESTORATION ACT

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

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, just to add a little bit or shed a little bit of light on this, we have a wide diversity of opinion here in the House of Representatives just like in the United States of America. We have a wide diversity of opinion. That is one of the great strengths of the United States of America.

I see my friend, the gentleman from New York [Mr. SERRANO], over there. We have a lot of disagreements, but we know that we can respect each other's opinion even though we have some mighty differences of opinions. I happen to agree, interestingly enough, I happen to agree that some of the things that happened in Waco, TX, and some of the actions taken by the FBI have been very questionable and indeed would make honest people worry some about what is going on in the FBI. Expressing that should be no reason, and for other people to sort of think that that is sort of an oddball opinion. That is not an oddball opinion at all.

I think we can respect each other, for I know that some people have come to

me from the minority communities over the years and have expressed to me that law enforcement is attacking them in a different way than they would be attacking people in the majority Caucasian community. I have to admit some of the times I have dismissed some of those criticisms. But I will have to admit also that there are some things that have happened in recent years that have sort of given me a different point of view to take some of those charges a little more credibly and to listen to them and to think maybe there is something to these criticisms.

So let us hope that in things as volatile as this, where life and death matters are being discussed, we do maintain a civility.

One major issue that is going to be happening here in Congress and we are involved in right now deals with the patent issue. I am fighting a major fight along with 50 other Members of the House who have cosponsored my bill to maintain a guaranteed patent term for the American people and to ensure that our patent rights are not diminished in order to create some global trading system. Some people want to create a global trading system at the expense of the rights of the American people because they think everybody is going to be better off because of it. That is their point of view.

The American people better understand that we have got these globalists who are trying to eliminate the right, certain patent rights that the American people have enjoyed since the founding of our country. H.R. 400 is a bill that is coming through Congress right now, I call the Steal American Technologies Act, which greatly diminishes the patent rights of the American people and thus in the long run will make America technologically inferior, undercut our prosperity, and our national security.

Our technological superiority is what has made us a prosperous and secure country. I am asking my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring H.R. 811, which is my bill to restore the patent rights of the American people, and to oppose H.R. 400, the Steal American Technologies Act, which, among other things, get this, H.R. 400 does this: mandates that every patent application, whether it has been issued or not, will be published for the entire world to see after 18 months.

That means every copycat, every one of America's competitors and adversaries will have every one of our secrets, all the details. They will probably be into production of our new technology ideas even before the patent is issued to our own inventors. This is lunacy.

Yes, some people have a right to the other opinion because maybe it is a good thing in order to create a global market, but they are trying to create a global market over the well-being and prosperity of the American people and diminishing the rights of the American people. I ask my colleagues to join me

in supporting H.R. 811, the Patent Term Restoration Act, and opposing the Steal American Technologies Act, H.R. 400.

Mr. Speaker, I believe when the American people understand this move by the multinational corporations to diminish our patent rights in order to create a global marketplace, the people will rise up. They will call their Congressman and they will call their Senator to ensure that, if you want a global market, do not do it by diminishing the guaranteed rights we have had since the founding of our Nation and that has ensured us to be the technological leader of the world.

This is a big fight. It is the little guy versus the big guy. But also when we have a debate like this, it is important for us to sit down here and slug it out on the issues. In this particular case, should we have a guaranteed patent term, H.R. 400, the Steal American Technologies Act, says no. Should we have the right of confidentiality so when a man submits a patent, whether it is confidential, H.R. 400 says no, they are going to publish it for the whole world to see.

Should we have a strong working patent office as part of our Government, which H.R. 400 would corporatize.

Defeat the Steal American Technologies Act, H.R. 400. Support H.R. 811, the Patent Term Restoration Act.

BALANCING THE FEDERAL BUDGET

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

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of both the balanced budget and the balanced budget amendment. It is important to distinguish between those two subjects because often in our debates in the House, we confuse the two.

We really are talking about two individual issues. First, are we going to have a balanced budget? Second, are we going to write in the Constitution the obligation of the Federal Government to do what virtually every State in this country has to do, and certainly every family in this country must do?

I was touched a few minutes ago by the litany of speeches from my colleagues on both sides when the subject of children was brought up. As the father of two 4-year-old twins who are sitting at a television set not too far from this Chamber listening to their father's maiden speech on the floor of this House, I certainly am very proud to be a dad, and am moved as a policymaker to do what is good for my children and the children of our country. But as proud as I am to have my 4-year-olds able to watch me as a Member of the House address this body today, I take no pride in the fact that on the day they were born 4 years ago,