

But I think the people who are obviously going to miss him most will be his wife, Tracy, and his two wonderful children, Chelsea and Aaron. Our hearts go out to them, to Payne's family. He was a great man, a great golfer. His life ended in tragedy, but he gave so much to so many.

Although we continue to mourn the loss of Payne Stewart and his contributions to the world of sports, his community and to his family, we are blessed to have been influenced by his enthusiasm and love for life, which none of us will soon forget. Payne Stewart is husband, father, golfer and friend who will be long remembered and long cherished.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, Payne Stewart transcended the game of golf and will always be a timeless symbol of athletic talent, spirited competition, and a role model as a Christian gentleman.

That's why I'm proud to join my colleague from Missouri, Congressman BLUNT, in sponsoring H. Res. 344, a resolution recognizing and honoring Payne Stewart, and expressing the condolences of the House of Representatives to his family, and the families of the other victims who perished in the October 25th plane crash.

At the age of 42, and while experiencing the best year as a professional golfer in his life, U.S. Open Champion Payne Stewart, a devoted father and husband, tragically was killed in a plane crash along with Van Arden, Stephanie Bellegarrigue, Bruce Borland, Robert Fraley, and Michael Kling.

Payne Stewart, attired in plus-fours and a tam o'shanter hat was one of the most indomitable personalities in the game of golf.

He made history when he won his second U.S. Open sinking the longest putt ever to win the U.S. Open in the tournament's 105-year history.

As a member of the U.S. Ryder Cup team, he displayed his patriotism and pride for his country, and his sportsmanship in helping lead the U.S. team to victory.

Payne Stewart was more than just a role model to many aspiring athletes in the United States.

He truly recognized the joy of giving and making a difference in the lives of children.

He donated his winner's check from the 1987 Bay Hill Invitational to the Florida Hospital Circle of Friends to aid the families of cancer patients.

Just last year, Payne Stewart and his wife donated \$500,000 to the first Foundation, the fundraising arm of the First Baptist Church of Orlando, to be used for the expansion of a Christian school.

In the most recent years of his life, Payne Stewart devoted his life to his family and his faith in God.

Payne Stewart's love for America was a great credit to the game of golf and to our country.

I urge my colleagues to join me in extending the House of Representatives' deepest condolences to Payne Stewart's family, and to the families of Robert Fraley, Van Arden, Michael Kling, Stephanie Bellegarrigue, and Bruce Borland.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GIBBONS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida

(Mr. MILLER of Florida) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, House Resolution 344.

The question was taken.

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE THAT JOSEPH JEFFERSON "SHOELESS JOE" JACKSON BE APPROPRIATELY HONORED FOR OUTSTANDING BASEBALL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 269) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Joseph Jefferson "Shoeless Joe" Jackson should be appropriately honored for his outstanding baseball accomplishments.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 269

Whereas Joseph Jefferson "Shoeless Joe" Jackson, a native of Greenville, South Carolina, and a local legend, began his professional career and received his nickname while playing baseball for the Greenville Spinners in 1908;

Whereas "Shoeless Joe" Jackson moved to the Philadelphia Athletics for his major league debut in 1908, to Cleveland in 1910, and to the Chicago White Sox in 1915;

Whereas "Shoeless Joe" Jackson's accomplishments throughout his 13-year career in professional baseball were outstanding—he was one of only seven Major League Baseball players to ever top the coveted mark of a .400 batting average for a season, and he earned a lifetime batting average of .356, the third highest of all time;

Whereas "Shoeless Joe" Jackson's career record makes him one of our Nation's top baseball players of all time;

Whereas in 1919, the infamous "Black Sox" scandal erupted when an employee of a New York gambler allegedly bribed eight players of the Chicago White Sox, including Joseph Jefferson "Shoeless Joe" Jackson, to throw the first and second games of the 1919 World Series to the Cincinnati Reds;

Whereas in September 1920, a criminal court acquitted "Shoeless Joe" Jackson of the charge that he conspired to throw the 1919 World Series;

Whereas despite the acquittal, Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis, baseball's first commissioner, banned "Shoeless Joe" Jackson from playing Major League Baseball for life without conducting any investigation of Jackson's alleged activities, issuing a summary punishment that fell far short of due process standards;

Whereas the evidence shows that Jackson did not deliberately misplay during the 1919 World Series in an attempt to make his team lose the World Series;

Whereas during the 1919 World Series, Jackson's play was outstanding—his batting average was .375 (the highest of any player from either team), he set a World Series record with 12 hits, he committed no errors, and he hit the only home run of the series;

Whereas because of his lifetime ban from Major League Baseball, "Shoeless Joe" Jackson has been excluded from consider-

ation for admission to the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame;

Whereas "Shoeless Joe" Jackson died in 1951, and 80 years have elapsed since the 1919 World Series scandal erupted;

Whereas recently, Major League Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig took an important first step toward restoring the reputation of "Shoeless Joe" Jackson by agreeing to investigate whether he was involved in a conspiracy to alter the outcome of the 1919 World Series and whether he should be eligible for inclusion in the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame; and

Whereas it is appropriate for Major League Baseball to remove the taint upon the memory of "Shoeless Joe" Jackson and honor his outstanding baseball accomplishments: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that Joseph Jefferson "Shoeless Joe" Jackson should be appropriately honored for his outstanding baseball accomplishments.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. TERRY) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) will each control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. TERRY).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation, House Resolution 269.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 269. I would like to thank my distinguished colleagues from South Carolina, the delegation, for their interest in American baseball history and their sense of justice in attempting to restore Shoeless Joe Jackson's place that his performance on the field earned him.

I would also like to thank the chairman of the Committee on Government Reform, who recognized the timeliness of this measure and expedited this opportunity for consideration before the House today.

The resolution is presented 80 years after the World Series in which the Chicago White Sox lost to the Cincinnati Redlegs. During that series, Joe Jackson had the highest batting average on either team, set a World Series record by collecting 12 hits, including the only home run on either team, and was not charged with a single error on the field.

Shoeless Joe Jackson remains an American icon, a perennial symbol of a young man who unknowingly became involved in the intrigues that surrounded his activities. On the field, Shoeless Joe Jackson's records speak for themselves. Only Ty Cobb and Rogers Hornsby's surpassed his 356 lifetime batting average. His 13-year career with the Philadelphia Athletics and the Chicago White Sox provided a background of consistent accomplishments.

Shoeless Joe Jackson was never convicted of a crime. In fact, found not guilty. Nevertheless, when Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis became Commissioner of Baseball, he used Shoeless Joe Jackson and his seven teammates to demonstrate the firmness of his commitment to the integrity in our national pastime. He imposed a lifetime ban from baseball where the courts could not act.

Shoeless Joe Jackson died in 1951, having endured more than 30 years the exile that baseball imposed upon him. His records remain on the books and his level of accomplishments far exceed the feats that earn today's baseball players millions of dollars.

Americans are people whose fairness can allow them to recognize these great accomplishments without in any way compromising the standards of excellence and integrity that we must demand at the highest levels of any profession. Shoeless Joe Jackson has earned a place among the immortals of the baseball world, and this resolution provides a fitting opportunity for this House to remember the accomplishments of his excellent career.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, it is interesting to hear the tales that have been spun about Shoeless Joe Jackson. Called one of the saddest figures ever to play baseball, Joe Jackson was reported to be an illiterate country boy who only knew how to play baseball.

As it turns out, Joe Jackson died a successful businessman at age 61, earning between \$50,000 to \$100,000 a year. During an interview, Jackson is quoted as saying, "All the big sports writers seemed to enjoy writing about me as an ignorant cotton-mill boy with nothing but lead where my brains ought to be. That was fine with me. I was able to fool a lot of pitchers and managers and club owners I wouldn't have been able to fool if they'd thought I was smarter."

How and why Shoeless Joe Jackson got his name is exaggerated. One day, after getting blisters from his new baseball cleats, Jackson played one game in his stocking feet. One game. Not a season and not because he could not afford to buy cleats, as is widely reported.

Then, there is the well-known refrain, "Say it ain't so, Joe," that supposedly took place after Jackson was arrested for conspiring to throw the 1919 World Series. As the story goes, a boy approached Joe and pleaded, "Say it ain't so Joe," and Joe replied, "Yes, kid, I'm afraid it is." As Jackson would later tell it, that tale is just that. There was no kid, and no arrest. Charlie Owens, a reporter with the Chicago Daily Times made the story up and published it.

What is the truth about Joe Jackson? He was a rising baseball star until he was banned from baseball for allegedly

participating in the 1919 Chicago White Sox gambling scandal. In 1921, Jackson was acquitted of all charges and left the courtroom an innocent man. However, despite three attempts by his home State of South Carolina, Joe Jackson was never reinstated.

The only interview Joe Jackson conducted regarding the Chicago White Sox scandal was in the 1949 edition of Sport Magazine. In the article, entitled "This Is the Truth," Joe Jackson maintains his innocence and states, "I have never made any request to be reinstated in baseball, and I have never made any campaign to have my name cleared in the baseball records. This is not a plea of any kind. This is just my story. I am telling it simply because it seems 30 years after the World Series, the world may want to hear what I have to say." He goes on to say, "Baseball failed to keep faith with me. When I got notice of my suspension 3 days after the 1920 season, it read that if found innocent of any wrongdoing, I would be reinstated. If found guilty, I would be banned for life. I was found innocent, and I was still banned for life." It would seem that you are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law, but not in baseball.

The South Carolina delegation recently sent a letter to baseball commissioner Alan Selig to have outfielder Joe Jackson posthumously reinstated. They have also introduced this resolution, expressing the sense of the House to appropriately honor Joseph Jefferson Jackson. I urge my colleagues to join me and the South Carolina delegation in supporting this resolution. It is time for the truth to be told.

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

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. DEMINT), the author of this resolution.

Mr. DEMINT. Mr. Speaker, I thank both gentlemen for their wonderful remarks.

Mr. Speaker, some might ask why, with all the important issues, problems, and challenges that this Congress faces, why consider and vote on a resolution about a man who played baseball 80 years ago and who has been dead almost 50 years? Why is he important to me today and why should he deserve the attention of the American people today?

I am speaking of Joseph Jefferson Jackson, Shoeless Joe to those who are familiar with baseball. He is important because he is here today in spirit asking for justice. America has learned the hard lesson that when injustice can prevail upon one of us, it is a threat to all of us. So our consideration today is not only about injustice against one man, it is about protecting justice for everyone.

And while we believe that our efforts today will be good for baseball, America's favorite pastime, we are equally convinced that our efforts will protect the American Dream, the dream that

even the poorest American, with hard work, can end up at the top of the world.

Shoeless Joe worked his way from being a poor, illiterate mill worker, which is where he started, to becoming one of the best baseball players of all time. No one who has lived that American dream and achieved so much should be stripped of his honor and his dignity and his livelihood without due process, even without a hearing. When this can happen to one of us, it can happen to any one of us.

Mr. Speaker, I introduced House Resolution 269, along with the entire South Carolina delegation, earlier this summer. This resolution simply states that Shoeless Joe Jackson should be appropriately honored for his outstanding baseball accomplishments. This resolution has gathered broad support from both political parties. It is fitting that even in the tension of these last days in Congress that we pause and find common ground in paying tribute to a hero of our great national pastime.

While there are important issues to consider and to complete before we finish Congress' session, it is worthy of this body to take a few minutes to stand up for fairness and to right an old wrong by honoring a baseball legend. As most baseball fans know, Shoeless Joe Jackson was one of the greatest baseball players ever to play the game.

The people of my district are very familiar with Shoeless Joe, since he grew up playing baseball in the mill leagues in Greenville, and he spent the last part of his life in that city as well. While he could not read or write early, and he only learned to sign his name later in life, as has already been pointed out, Shoeless Joe was very smart, in addition to being a great baseball player. Throughout his life he never tired of teaching kids to play the game he loved. There is even a baseball park named after him in Greenville where kids play his game today. There is also a revitalization effort in a poor neighborhood in my town named in his memory to improve everyone's life there. And if anyone would like to see some of his memorabilia, we have some pictures and other information in my office.

Those unfamiliar with Shoeless Joe have heard some of the facts, but let me recount some of his amazing accomplishments. Of his hitting, Babe Ruth once said, "I decided to pick out one of the greatest hitters to watch and to study, and Jackson was good enough for me." Joe Jackson batted 408 his rookie year, a feat which has never been equaled. He has the third highest batting average of all time, behind only Ty Cobb and Roger Hornsby's .689. Over a 10-year period, he never hit below .300.

□ 1615

His fielding skills in the outfield were legendary, and his glove was named "the place where triples go to die."

Unfortunately, while these are Hall of Fame numbers, Shoeless Joe is not in the baseball Hall of Fame. His bat is there. His uniform is there. His shoes are there. But he is not. This is because, in 1920, "Shoeless" Joe was banned from playing baseball for life by the Commissioner for allegations that he took part in the infamous "Black Sox" scandal, allegedly throwing the 1919 World Series. In that Series, a group of New York gamblers bribed a number of players on the Chicago White Sox to throw the Series to Cincinnati.

When the news came out in 1920, the new Commissioner of Baseball, Commissioner Landis, acted swiftly. In a summary judgment, without an investigation, the Commissioner banned 8 players on the White Sox from ever playing Major League baseball again. "Shoeless" Joe was included in the ban.

While he insisted on his innocence all the way to his death bed, "Shoeless" Joe served out his sentence with dignity and honor and without rancor.

Recently, a number of baseball heroes, including Ted Williams, Bob Feller, and Tommy LaSorda have taken up the cause of restoring the honor of "Shoeless" Joe. This is a cause that has long been championed in "Shoeless" Joe's hometown of Greenville.

I had a chance this morning to talk with Ted Williams myself. What a thrill. He said he will continue to fight for "Shoeless" Joe until his last day, and he thanked all of us in Congress who are going to bat for Joe today.

I am not going to debate whether or not the Commissioner's verdict was the right thing to do. He made his decision and never reviewed it, despite the fact that Jackson was acquitted of participating in the fix twice, once in 1920 by a friendly Chicago jury, and once in 1924 by an impartial jury in Milwaukee.

In fact, the jurors in Milwaukee were asked in a special interrogatory whether "Shoeless" Joe had conspired or participated in the fix of the Series. The answer was an emphatic no.

I am also not going to debate if Jackson was given money. According to the story, "Shoeless" Joe's roommate, Lefty Williams, left \$5,000 for Jackson on his bed. Whatever the debate, four things are clear.

First, "Shoeless" Joe tried to give the money back before the Series started but was rebuffed.

Second, "Shoeless" Joe tried to inform the owner of the White Sox of the fix, but the owner refused to see him.

Third, "Shoeless" Joe offered to sit out the Series but was again rebuffed.

Fourth, and most notably, "Shoeless" Joe played to win. He led all players by hitting .375, and he had the only homerun in the Series. His fielding was flawless, throwing out several men at home plate. He set a World Series record with 12 hits, and he combined with Buck Weaver, the other player who was unfairly punished, for 13 hits, a record that stood for 60 years.

I have no doubt of "Shoeless" Joe's innocence. In the end, he proved his in-

nocence in the only way he could, with his bat and glove.

For my colleagues' information, Fox News did an excellent two-part review of the case just a month ago. I have a copy of the tape if anyone would like to see it.

In July, Ted Williams, Tommy LaSorda, and Bob Feller filed a petition with Commissioner Selig. That petition does not ask Major League Baseball to exonerate "Shoeless" Joe or even to endorse his candidacy in the Hall of Fame. To quote the petition: "Those issues are moot as he served a very difficult sentence over a long period. The Commissioner of Baseball is merely asked to acknowledge that 'Shoeless' Joe has fully paid his debt to society and to the game, that he satisfied the sentence of the first Commissioner with dignity and humility and without rancor. Because he has fulfilled his sentence, Baseball has no further call or jurisdiction over 'Shoeless' Joe."

I believe this petition provides Major League Baseball with a graceful and dignified way to finally let the issue rest and to let "Shoeless" Joe receive the honor he has long deserved.

Today, the Mayor of Greenville, Knox White, added his support by sending to the Commissioner a petition with 10,000 names signed from my home district, all pleading with the Commissioner to give Joe his rightful due.

The resolution which I have placed before the House today on behalf of the people in my district and baseball fans everywhere simply states that "Shoeless" Joe Jackson should be appropriately honored for his outstanding baseball accomplishments. Commissioner Selig has agreed to review the matter, and I have been following the review process carefully.

I appreciate the Commissioner's willingness to review this matter, and I understand a decision is imminent. I am absolutely confident that a fair and impartial review will result in "Shoeless" Joe finally being allowed to receive the honor he has long deserved and which he displayed throughout his life.

Mr. Speaker, on his death bed, "Shoeless" Joe said, "I am about to meet the biggest umpire of them all, and he knows I'm innocent."

Fifty years after his death and 80 years after the infamous Series, and after the most unfair judgment, it is time for Baseball to right a wrong and restore the honor of a good man.

I was born in Greenville, South Carolina, the same year "Shoeless" Joe died just about a mile from where he died. I am glad to be a small part in this process today, and I hope all of my colleagues will join me in supporting this resolution.

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. DEMINT) for his comments in shedding additional light on the life of "Shoeless" Joe Jackson.

I think the thing that comes through clearly, Mr. Speaker, is that the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr.

DEMINT) and the South Carolina delegation and many others merely want to right a wrong and give someone their due.

And clearly, "Shoeless" Joe Jackson has earned, has earned, the right to be appropriately honored as the resolution states.

So I want to thank the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. DEMINT) and I want to thank the South Carolina delegation because I think what we are attempting to do here today sends a clear message that, when we see wrong, we will do what we can to right it. It may be many, many years later, but we can bet our bottom dollar that there is someone who is looking at what we are doing and saying that they admire us for taking up the time, we can be doing a whole lot other things, but they are taking up the time to make sure that a wrong is made right.

And so, with that, I want to thank the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON), chairman of our committee, and the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN), our ranking member, and I want to thank the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. TERRY), and I want to thank certainly the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SCARBOROUGH) in his absence, the chairman of our subcommittee.

The fact is that I think that this is a very, very good resolution. I urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 269 provides a fitting commemoration of his accomplishments as a professional baseball player. We applaud the stellar performance of Joseph Jefferson Jackson on the field and call upon all Americans to recognize his 13 years of excellence.

In a generous spirit, we encourage professional Baseball to provide "Shoeless" Joe Jackson the honors he fully deserves.

I ask the full support of all Members of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GIBBONS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. TERRY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 269.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6 p.m.