

Sanford	Spence	Watts (OK)
Scarborough	Sweeney	Weldon (FL)
Schaffer	Taylor (NC)	Weller
Scott	Tiahrt	Wexler
Shadegg	Turner	Wilson
Shuster	Vento	Young (AK)
Slaughter	Watkins	Young (FL)

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So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendments were concurred in.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 3, I was inadvertently detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present for rollcall vote No. 3. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 3.

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 3, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 3, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, due to district business, I was unable to be present at votes that occurred today. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 2. H. Con. Res. 244, and "yea" on rollcall 3, H.R. 2130.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTENTION TO OFFER MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 2990, QUALITY CARE FOR THE UNINSURED ACT OF 1999

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 7(c) of rule XXII, I hereby announce my intention to offer a motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 2990.

The form of the motion is as follows:

I move that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 2990 be instructed (1) to take all necessary steps to begin meetings of the conference committee in order to report back expeditiously to the House; and (2) to insist on the provisions of the Bipartisan Consensus Managed Care Improvement Act of 1999 (Division B of H.R. 2990 as passed by the House), and within the scope of the conference to insist that such provisions be paid for.

AIR QUALITY AND AIR POLLUTION IN THE STATE OF TEXAS MUST BE ADDRESSED

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this evening the environmental agency of the State of Texas will hold a meeting to address the question of air quality and air pollution in the City of Houston in the State of Texas. I rise to the floor to

ask my constituents and the State of Texas to take seriously the devastation that we have experienced with poor air quality. Many of my constituents are already suffering from a high degree of respiratory illnesses. Houston has been noted as the number one city with air pollution.

In addition, we have not come up with solutions that can address the concerns and remedy the problem.

Tonight, although I will not be able to join my constituents in this meeting, I am pleading that we work with the Environmental Protection Agency; that we work with our State environmental agency; that we ask the governor of the State of Texas to join with us to expeditiously formulate a plan that will address the concerns that are devastating our community, poor air quality, poor health conditions; and that this evening we will have an open and vigorous debate and discussion that real solutions can come about at the meeting being held at the Houston-Galveston council tonight at 7:00 p.m. in Houston, Texas; and that we will realize that the Environmental Protection Agency is there to help and not to hurt; and that we will have a plan that will help to enhance the quality of life of all Houstonians in the State of Texas.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STEARNS). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. PICKERING) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PICKERING addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

THE TITANS ARE TRULY TENNESSEE'S TEAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. CLEMENT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because of a great game that took place last night that we know of as the Super Bowl that not only captures the hearts and minds of the people in the United States but worldwide, because football is definitely a worldwide sport.

I am from the State of Tennessee. I represent the 5th Congressional District, Nashville, Tennessee, that is known as Country Music U.S.A., the Athens of the South; but we also have something that we are awfully proud of and we just completed a stadium that the Tennessee Titans, who used to be called the Houston Oilers, now play in. We are awfully proud of our team, the Tennessee Titans.

The Titans got their name from Nashville being known as the Athens of the South. We have a replica of the Parthenon in Nashville, Tennessee. So it seemed to make a lot of sense when we talk about why it was named Titans, because of Greek gods and Greek mythology. I might say that the Tennessee Titans rose to the occasion, and what a season they have had.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the American Football Conference Champion Tennessee Titans from the 5th Congressional District of Tennessee. The Titans finished their inaugural season at the Adelphia Coliseum in Nashville with an all-time best 13-3 record, and then went on to defeat their foes the Buffalo Bills, the Indianapolis Colts, and the Jacksonville Jaguars, Mr. Speaker, that you supported, in outstanding play-off games, becoming the undisputed champions of the AFC.

The Titans then completed the year with a 16-4 overall record, playing in the football world championship, the Super Bowl, for the first time in the history of the franchise. The entire Titan team is to be commended for their courage, strength, and valor in this inaugural season in Nashville. They have faced adversity over the years, but now they can truly say they have come home to Tennessee.

I also want to congratulate owner Bud Adams, along with coach Jeff Fisher and the entire Titans' coaching staff for steering this team to victory after victory, as well as the Tennessee Titans' fans for being named the best fans in the NFL.

Tennessee may not have won the Super Bowl trophy, but the Titans played their hearts out down to the very last second and made every Tennessean proud. The Titans are truly Tennessee's team. On behalf of Titans' fans everywhere, I want to thank the team for giving us the best season we could have ever dreamed of and for letting the world know that Tennessee is a force to be reckoned with both on and off the field.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to congratulate the St. Louis Rams. What a great season they have had. I want to congratulate Kurt Warner. He is not only the quarterback for the St. Louis Rams but a great man, with great character and great vision who led them to victory last night.

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I also want to say, on behalf of the people of Tennessee, we are pleased to have a professional football team in our great State. In a lot of ways, we thought Memphis deserved it a lot more than Nashville because Memphis had worked so hard for so many years to capture a team. It happened to fall our lot to have the Tennessee Titans, which we consider a State-wide team, not just a local or regional team. But the Tennessee Titans have truly shown that they have a lot of courage. They are going to have great years ahead of

them as well, because we know that they are coming back and getting that much stronger.

I want to congratulate our quarterback, too, our quarterback for the Tennessee Titans and Eddie George and Al Del Greco, and we can go on and on with the great players we have had, and Marcus Robertson, who was hurt in the game before, who was decent enough through his foundation to give us or send four young people to Washington, D.C. to a youth violence event.

Those are the kinds of examples we need in the future, not just football players but football players with courage, football players with character that will set an example to our young people as we move into the 21st century and prepare for the future.

ELIAN AND FREEDOM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, there are those who doubt the argument that returning Elian Gonzalez to Cuba actually means returning a 6-year-old boy to the Castro regime. There are those who question the importance or relevance of the sacrifice that Elian's mother made to ensure that he would live in freedom. There are still others who would question Elian's ability to express his own desires and to help determine his own fate.

However, those who have lived under totalitarian rule do not doubt. They know what it means to live in fear, in fear of persecution, in fear of arrest, in fear of torture and even death because of one's belief. They have suffered enslavement and subjugation by Communist regimes which not only stole their present but destroyed their future by exerting absolute control over their children's lives. Someone once said, it is easy to take liberty for granted when you have never had it taken from you.

I ask those who seek to oversimplify this case by advocating Elian's immediate return, without a court hearing and without following U.S. law, not to make that mistake. I ask them to hear the pleas of the members of organizations such as the Americans for Human Rights in Ukraine, who are appealing to Congress to act in Elian's case.

They write: "We know from recent past experience that Communist regimes are dangerous to the health and spirit of people under its control." For this reason, this group has asked us "to use our good offices to help a little boy to live in freedom."

I ask Members to listen to Vietnamese-American refugee advocate Hai Tran, who reminds us of how many Vietnamese mothers wiped off their tears and sent their children away to a seat on that rickety boat so that they might have a future, how many Vietnamese mothers and their children died

at sea in search of freedom away from that bamboo gulag. Because he knows the value and the sanctity of freedom, Hai Tran believes it is Elian's right to life and liberty here in the United States.

I ask those who support INS's unilateral decision to return Elian to Cuba to heed the questions proposed by Susan Rosenbluth in her editorial for the newspaper Jewish Voice and Opinion. She writes, "Imagine a Jewish father in Addis Ababa circa 1983, or Moscow circa 1987, or Damascus circa 1990, or Tehran right now.

Imagine the boy's mother finds a way to escape with the child. In the midst of the plan, something goes wrong and she dies, but miraculously, the little boy makes it. When he wakes up, he finds himself in Tel Aviv surrounded by his family, but the father is still in the country where dictators have the last word. Would the boy be returned to whatever totalitarian nightmare his mother had rescued him from?"

Susan Rosenbluth continues, in the Jewish Voice and Opinion, "If our hearts know the right answer for the hypothetical Jewish child in that story, then we must understand that Elian Gonzalez, the little boy whose mother died trying to rescue him from Cuba, belongs in the U.S., and that if his loving father could speak freely, that is what he would say, too.

After focusing on these statements, it is difficult to discount the importance of considering the environment that Elian would be exposed to in Cuba. It becomes readily apparent that a forum must be provided where the mother's wishes and ultimate sacrifice are also evaluated. This can only take place, justice can indeed only be served by allowing a court of law to hear the case.

The INS disagrees because it is applying Cuban law to the case. Congress, however, must be guided by U.S. laws and international standards requiring due process.

President Harry Truman once said, you know that being an American is more than a matter of where your parents come from. It is a belief that all men are created free and equal, and that everyone deserves an even break.

That is my belief, and I know it is my colleagues', as well. I ask that we live up to our commitment to uphold and protect the rights endowed to all human beings, and that we search our consciences before making a summary judgment to send Elian back to Castro's Cuba.

We have an opportunity to make a difference in this little boy's life; to demonstrate, through our actions, our adherence to the principles that are the rubric of our democratic society; to send a message from our resolve on behalf of oppressed men, women, and children everywhere. Let us not squander it.

TRIBUTE TO KURT WARNER, A REAL AMERICAN HERO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to talk about a tribute to a very special person. President Reagan once observed that those who say there are no more American heroes, well, they just do not know where to look.

Paul Simon asked a haunting question in his song many years ago, "Where have you gone, Joe DiMaggio? A Nation turns its lonely eyes to you." America has always wanted heroes, and too often in sports we have found counterheroes.

I want to pay tribute tonight to a real American hero, a gentleman by the name of Kurt Warner. The Warner story has been documented in the last week or so by many sports scribes, and I do want to ultimately submit for the RECORD an article which was written by the sports editor of our local newspaper, Bob Brown in the Rochester Post Bulletin.

I guess I have a special feeling for Kurt Warner for a lot of reasons. First of all, his grandparents are from Faribault, Minnesota, which is in my district. Second, he went to the same college that I did, the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls, Iowa. Third, he worked for the Hy-Vee grocery store in Cedar Falls, Iowa, and so did I. Fourth, I guess I would have to say, his wife, Brenda, spent several of her formative years living in a home on West Ninth Street in Cedar Falls, Iowa, right next to my parents.

So I guess I have had a fairly special relationship, even though Kurt Warner and I have never met. But I have followed his career from the time he was at UNI, and I have come to appreciate not only his talents on the field, but the kind of human being that he really is. We saw that yesterday, and we have seen it as his career has developed.

He has kept his head on straight. He has kept his focus on the things that were important in his life. The story is just such a powerful story. It could not have happened to a nicer individual.

The story of Kurt Warner is one that every American should be proud of. He went to college and was red-shirted his first year, spent 3 years on the bench, and finally got his chance to play at the University of Northern Iowa. He led his team to the midconference championship. He was not drafted by anybody in the NFL, but he was allowed to come to the Packers' training camp. He was cut. After he was cut by the Packers he returned to Cedar Falls and worked at that Hy-Vee grocery store I talked about earlier.

The great thing about Kurt Warner is that he never lost his faith. Like the parable of the talents in the Bible, he understood that almighty God had given him special talents, and he was expected to make the most of them, so he stuck with those talents long after