

people and ideas, attracting students from all 50 States and more than 100 foreign countries. In fact, USC is ranked as one of the most diverse private research universities in the Nation. As an educator, I am inspired by USC's commitment to academic excellence. The university's dedication to the highest standards is also reflected in its sports programs, which consistently produce some of the best student-athletes in the nation.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the first three teams in USC's history to win championships in the same fall season. Incredibly, all three squads also feature coaches who are National Coach of the Year honorees.

The USC Trojan football team has shown unique skill, charisma, dedication and love for the sport. The Trojans accumulated a 12–1 record while competing against some of the best programs in the country. The football team secured its second consecutive Pac-10 title, won the Rose Bowl, its 21st Rose Bowl win, and was awarded the national championship by the Associated Press, its ninth national title, and first in 25 years. Five USC football players were selected as first team All-Americans and nine team members were selected to the All-Pac-10 first team. Football coach Pete Carroll also received two more national championship trophies from the Football Writers Association of America (The Grantland Rice Trophy) and The Sporting News.

The Women of Troy volleyball team capped an undefeated (35–0) season to capture its second consecutive NCAA crown, the first time in the history of USC women's volleyball, and its sixth national championship. The team also became the first repeat champion to go undefeated. Many consider this year's women's volleyball team to be one of the greatest teams to have played the game.

The USC men's water polo team, with a 24–3 record, won its second-ever NCAA title. Three of the water polo team members were selected as first team All-Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate USC President Steven Sample, Athletic Director Mike Garrett, Coach Pete Carroll, USC football, Coach Mick Haley, USC women's volleyball, and Coach Jovan Vavick, USC men's water polo, for a season to remember.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to the order of the House of Tuesday, February 3, 2004, the resolution is considered read for amendment and the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONGRATULATING GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY LAKERS FOOTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING 2003 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION DIVISION II FOOTBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the order of the House of February 3, 2004, and as the designee of the majority leader, I call up the resolution (H. Res. 498) congratulating the Grand Valley State University Lakers

football team for winning the 2003 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II Football National Championship, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of House Resolution 498 is as follows:

H. RES. 498

Whereas on December 13, 2003, the Grand Valley State University Lakers football team won the 2003 National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II Football National Championship by defeating the University of North Dakota Fighting Sioux by a score of 10 to 3;

Whereas the 2003 Championship was the Lakers' second consecutive national title and third straight championship game appearance;

Whereas the Lakers are only the sixth team in NCAA Division II football history to win consecutive national titles;

Whereas the Lakers finished the season with a record of 14 wins and 1 loss;

Whereas the Lakers have compiled a total of 41 wins and 2 losses over the last three years;

Whereas 14 members of the Lakers football team earned All-Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference honors, 8 of whom were selected to the first team;

Whereas Lakers football team members Scott Mackey, Keyonta Marshall, David Hendrix, Michael Tennessee, and Lucius Hawkins were honored as All-Americans for the 2003 season by the Internet website D2Football.com;

Whereas the Lakers set a Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference single-season record for attendance, drawing 52,225 total fans in the 2003 season;

Whereas the Lakers won their 240th game in school history with their victory in the 2003 championship game; and

Whereas the Lakers' display of strength, ability, and perseverance this season has made the State of Michigan proud: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) congratulates the Grand Valley State University Lakers football team for winning the 2003 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II Football National Championship;

(2) recognizes the achievements of the players, coaches, and staff of the Lakers football team and invites them to the United States Capitol to be honored in an appropriate manner;

(3) requests that the President recognize the accomplishments of the Lakers football team and invite the team to the White House for a ceremony in honor of their National Championship; and

(4) directs the Clerk of the House of Representatives to transmit a copy of this resolution to Grand Valley State University for appropriate display.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of Tuesday, February 3, 2004, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HOEKSTRA) is recognized for 1 hour.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Res. 498.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Grand Valley State University Lakers football team who, on December 3, 2003, defended their NCAA Division II national football championship by defeating the University of North Dakota Fighting Sioux 10 to 3.

The 2003 national champions fought through the playoffs with a tight defense that limited its final three playoff opponents to a field goal each. The title match-up was a close, dramatic contest that pitted the 14 and 1 GVSU Lakers against the 12 and 2 Fighting Sioux. Ultimately, the Lakers emerged victorious after intercepting North Dakota in the shadow of their own end zone with 20 seconds remaining in the fourth quarter, spoiling a last-minute, come-from-behind attempt.

Grand Valley State picked up its 240th win in school history with a victory over the Fighting Sioux. Before a national audience, Grand Valley State University avenged its heartbreaking 17–14 loss to the same Fighting Sioux in the 2001 title match-up.

Finally, I would like to congratulate the students, alumni, faculty, and nearly 5,000 fans of Grand Valley State who trekked to Braly Municipal Stadium in Florence, Alabama, to cheer on their Lakers during a cold and rain-soaked afternoon.

Mr. Speaker, I will include for the RECORD the full roster of this national championship team and their coaching staff.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS).

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 498, to honor the players, coaches, and staff of the Grand Valley State University football team, which won its second consecutive NCAA Division II national championship on December 13, 2003.

Rising to the top of one's field of endeavor, whatever that endeavor is, is an accomplishment worthy of praise in and of itself. However, repeating that accomplishment is an even more difficult achievement. When you attempt to maintain that top spot, everyone else has you in their sights. You are the focus of their efforts to wrest the trophy from your grasp. That is what makes the achievements of the 2003 Lakers football squad all the more impressive.

Coach Brian Kelly and his staff led their squad of young men through a difficult nonconference and conference schedule, then marched through the playoffs to face the University of North Dakota in the NCAA Division II championship game, a game they lost to the University of North Dakota just 2 years previously.

This time, the Lakers, led by All-American selections Scott Mackey, Keyonta Marshall, David Hendrix, Michael Tennessee and Lucius Hawkins,

defeated the Fighting Sioux 10 to 3, to complete what arguably could be called the most successful 3-year run for a college football team in the State of Michigan. GVSU has rolled up a 41-2 record in three seasons, reaching the national championship game each year and winning the championship twice.

Congratulations to the players, the coaches and staff, the students and the faculty of Grand Valley State University. This jewel of a school, with campuses in Allendale in the district of the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HOEKSTRA), and Grand Rapids in my district, is a wonderful institution, not only for its athletic achievements, but also for its academic pursuits. Its contributions to the West Michigan community are too many and too far-reaching to enumerate here today, but we commend University President Mark Murray and the Grand Valley State University Board of Trustees for providing stellar leadership for this wonderful public institution.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to the order of the House of Tuesday, February 3, 2004, the resolution is considered read for amendment and the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONGRATULATING UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE MEN'S FOOTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION I-AA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the order of the House of February 3, 2004, and as the designee of the majority leader, I call up the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 355) congratulating the University of Delaware men's football team for winning the National Collegiate Athletic Association I-AA national championship, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of House Concurrent Resolution 355 is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 355

Whereas on Friday, December 19, 2003, the University of Delaware Blue Hens men's football team won its sixth national title;

Whereas the University of Delaware won the championship game by defeating the Colgate University 40-0;

Whereas the Blue Hens swept through the Division I-AA playoffs, outscoring opponents by a combined score 149-23 in victories over Southern Illinois, Northern Iowa, and Wofford;

Whereas the Blue Hens captured their seventh Atlantic 10 Football Conference title, were named winners of the Lambert Cup as the top team in the East for the 18th time and were named Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Team of the Year for the 10th time;

Whereas the University of Delaware team was led by co-captains Mike Adams and Jason Nerys and All-American quarterback Andy Hall;

Whereas the roster of the University of Delaware team also included Dominic Santoli, Germaine Bennett, G.J. Crescione, Roger Brown, Antwan Jenkins, David Boler, Brian Ingram, Justin Long, Ryan McDermond, Ryan Carty, T.J. DiMuzio, Zach Thomas, Terry Kelly, Brad Michael, Dave Camburn, Joe Bleymaier, Mike Weber, Ryan Trask, Brad Shushman, Sean Bleiler, Leon Clarke, Brent Steinmetz, Ben Cross, Lawrence Jones, Jamie Rotonda, Nicos Chivis, Lonnie Starks, Drew Kisner, Kyle Campbell, Jeremy Kametz, Jeffrey Robinson, Maguell Davis, Bryan Tingle, Lou Samba, Andy Snapp, Anthony Cinelli, Niquan Lee, John Nauss, Rashaad Woodard, John Mulhern, KeiAndre Hepburn, Kevin Pulley, Sidney Haugabrook, Dominic Madigan, Antoine McClure, Jeffrey Thompson, Blake Anderson, Mark Moore, Craig Browne, Marquez Davis, Nick Iarrobino, Mike Buchman, Mondoe Davis, Andrew Wilson, Marco Kristen, George Potts, Mike Bingnear, Mark Ciavarella, Greg Benson, Brett Wharton, Brendon Morfe, Rich Beverley, Tom Parks, Chris Edwards, Scott Conley, Chris Korkuch, Trip DelCampo, Brian Sims, Jared Wray, Paul Thompson, Bobby Delacy, Joe Cordrey, Jesse O'Neill, Brian Jennings, Vince Mumford, Michael Taylor, Steve Selk, Rick Lavelle, Richard Washington, Nat Bell, Chris Mooney, Shawn Johnson, Bubba Jespersen, Sean Sweeney, and Randall James;

Whereas second-year head coach K.C. Keeler enjoyed one of the most outstanding seasons in college football by setting a school record for wins in a season with a mark of 15-1;

Whereas Coach Keeler and his coaching staff, including Kirk Ciarrocca, Dave Cohen, Bryan Bossard, Kyle Flood, Paul Williams, Rob Neviasser, Rick Brown, Brian Ginn, Craig Cummings, Frank Law, Brandon Walker, Mike Marks, Russell Barbarino, Dr. Vincent Disabella, Keith Handling, Joan Couch, deserve much credit for the outstanding determination and accomplishments of their young team;

Whereas fans across the State of Delaware have supported the team over the course of the season and more than 6000 Delawareans traveled to Tennessee to watch the championship game;

Whereas the Blue Hen football program encompasses all the facets of university life, including growth of character, academic involvement, campus involvement, and graduation; and

Whereas the students, alumni, faculty, and supporters of the University of Delaware are to be congratulated for their commitment and pride in their national champion men's football team: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) congratulates the University of Delaware men's football team for winning the 2003 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I-AA football national championship;

(2) recognizes the achievements of all the team's players, coaches, and support staff;

(3) directs the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make available enrolled copies of this resolution to the University of Delaware for appropriate display and to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to each coach and member of the 2003 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I-AA men's football national championship team.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of Tues-

day, February 3, 2004, the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE) is recognized for 1 hour.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Con. Res. 355.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to some very impressive Delaware athletes, the University of Delaware Fighting Blue Hens football team, which on December 19, 2003, beat Colgate University to win the NCAA Division I-AA national championship at Max Finley Stadium in Chattanooga, Tennessee. As I was there, I can tell you it was about 28 degrees and blowing and snowing during the entire game.

This was the first national championship for the University of Delaware since 1979 and its very first in Division I-AA.

Throughout the season, the Blue Hen team impressed, inspired, and awed Delawareans by their dedication, hard work, and immense talent. In my opinion, this was a perfect ending to an absolutely stellar season, led by head coach K.C. Keller and his fine group of athletes. Each and every person who contributed to this win deserves to be recognized, obviously the coaching staff led by Coach Keller and all the others for their leadership and encouragement of these athletes. And, of course, the players who worked so very hard as a team, inspiring each other to reach the goal they set for themselves.

There are so many really great players on the team, so many great coaches, and the same is true of this whole division of I-AA football, and particularly the University of Delaware football team. I know all Delawareans join me, because I know all Delawareans follow this football team and join me in congratulating them on what they have done.

The families and friends, who come from as far as California and other places in the country to follow the team, also deserve a tremendous amount of credit. As one who attended practically every home game, the Navy game, when they beat Navy, and a few other games even away, I will tell you that it was a wonderful season of great significance to the people of my small State and to the wonderful University of Delaware.

And they won by big scores, Mr. Speaker. It almost looks like a dynasty in the making, by much bigger scores than anything else we have seen in the course of this year. For that reason, we have great hopes for next year and into the future for this great heartwarming experience of the University of Delaware Fighting Blue Hens football team.