

next week, we hope, a short time left to go, maybe six, seven legislative days. So it would be unrealistic to expect us to be able to move these agreements within that time frame. But if we could resolve, I think, the issue regarding Panama, that might be possible.

Mr. BLUNT. I appreciate that. I'd also say that I was heartened by the good work that Chairman RANGEL and Mr. McCRRERY and others did on the Peru agreement, and certainly, I think I want to continue to reach out to you and the chairman and others who'd like to get things done so these bills could come to the floor.

Colombia is the one that was negotiated next, and because of the Panama complication, it may even be more likely that that could come next.

I would be pleased to yield to Mr. RANGEL for any thoughts he has on that topic.

Mr. RANGEL. Well, it was about the Panama complication, because it was my understanding, to a large extent, that it would be the administration to make the decision or to respond to the answer that you asked of the majority leader. And it's because of the complication that they'll have to decide, politically, as to how they want to handle it, because it goes beyond a trade agreement. It's involved with State Department policy.

And I always get the impression, since the FTA with Korea that's been left out of the discussion with me, that when the administration believes it has completed its negotiation on the executive level, then they too would be coming back to the Congress.

And of course Colombia has its own special problems, which we can talk about at a different time. So I just wanted to say, as it relates to Panama and Korea, it was my impression that the administration has to make some major decisions before we can respond.

Mr. BLUNT. Well, I appreciate that. And I do know that the chairman has worked hard with the U.S. Trade Ambassador and others, and I'm appreciative of that. And the administration, as this process works, will decide whether to send those up, but I know that they will do that in significant consultation with the chairman and ranking member and, I hope, others in the leadership. And these are important discussions.

I thought we had a significant step in the right direction for our neighborhood this week. To have all of the leaders of both parties vote for a trade agreement was a good sign about the future of our relationships with Panama and, I hope, a good sign about how we approach more of these trade agreements.

The other question I had also relates just on the Armenian resolution. I know that a lot of things have happened in regard to that resolution. But I also know that the leader, 3 or 4 weeks ago, maybe it was 4 weeks ago, said that that resolution would be on

the floor by November 16. I know it wasn't announced today. I wonder, has any decision been made on advancing that resolution?

And I would yield to my friend.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for his question. I did say that. He's correct. However, the principal proponents of that resolution, obviously, the relationship with Turkey is a very important one for the United States. It is a critical time in the Middle East. Turkey has been, obviously, a great help in some respects, sometimes. And so the principal sponsors of that resolution have written a letter to the Speaker and myself and asked us not to move forward with that resolution at this time. But it is obviously still a matter of great concern to the Speaker, to myself and, frankly, the majority of this House who are sponsors of this resolution.

But in answer to the gentleman's question, I do not expect it to move forward any time soon.

Mr. BLUNT. I appreciate that. What I believe will be my last question, Mr. Leader, is on Tuesday, knowing this is the last week before there is a break, and we may not stay with the normal procedure, should we expect anything beyond suspension bills on Tuesday? Do you think there's any likelihood, not possibility, but any likelihood of a rule bill as early as Tuesday?

Mr. HOYER. It is possible. And the reason I say it's possible is because a lot of Members, obviously, would like to get out. It's Thanksgiving week. We're leaving. And I'm not sure whether it's a majority of your side or the majority, but I think there's probably unanimity that if we could see our way clear to finishing the business that we have by Thursday, they would prefer to work Tuesday night than they would prefer to work on Friday day. So I want to say to my friend it's possible, to facilitate the work. We're going to be talking about that later on today, and maybe even over the weekend, where we are. So I want to say to the gentleman, it's possible.

Mr. BLUNT. Well, we'd be pleased to be notified as early as you know about it. And I think you're absolutely right, that Members would be pleased to work a little longer days this week to get some time at home with their families during the holidays.

#### ADJOURNMENT TO TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2007

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday next for morning-hour debate.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1400

#### DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

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

There was no objection.

#### U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY FOOTBALL TEAM'S HISTORIC VICTORY OVER NOTRE DAME

(Mr. SARBANES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge an historic victory that occurred over last weekend, when the United States Naval Academy football team, for the first time in 43 years, upset the University of Notre Dame.

As we recognize the accomplishments of this Midshipmen football team, we also recognize the commitment that each middie has made to our country. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Midshipmen for their historic victory over the Fighting Irish.

It is in this spirit that I submit further remarks for inclusion in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD as well as an editorial from the Baltimore Sun recognizing the extraordinary accomplishment of these young men.

And also for the record, I would like to say, Go Navy. Beat Army.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the United States Naval Academy Football Team for Saturday's thrilling victory over the University of Notre Dame.

The Midshipmen defeated the Fighting Irish 46–44 in triple-overtime, marking the first Navy victory in the annual match-up since 1963.

A tradition since 1927, the Navy-Notre Dame series is the longest uninterrupted inter-sectional series in Division I college football. This year's installment of this great football rivalry was, for the first time, tied at the end of regulation and featured 90 combined points, the most ever in the 80-year-old series.

The Midshipmen victory in the third overtime snapped Notre Dame's 43-year win streak in harrowing fashion. Navy made what appeared to be its last stand against the Fighting Irish Offense, stopping a Notre Dame attempt at a two-point conversion to tie the game. A controversial pass interference call allowed Notre Dame one more chance to force a fourth overtime. It looked as though the streak was destined to continue.

But the Midshipmen again held their ground and defeated Notre Dame. On this Saturday, the disadvantages that a service academy team has to overcome relative to its "Big Name" Division I competition did not matter. The Naval Academy does not have an exclusive television contract. Its recruiters cannot promise top-tier high school seniors access to a network of NFL scouts and alumni.

When the United States Naval Academy beat the University of Notre Dame, a team of

young men celebrated an athletic victory that had escaped two generations of Midshipmen—two generations of Academy graduates who led our Navy and our country through the Cold War and into the twenty-first century.

As we recognize the accomplishment of this Midshipmen Football team, we also recognize the commitment that each Middie has made to our country.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Midshipmen for their historic victory over the Fighting Irish. It is in this spirit that I submit for inclusion in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD this editorial from the Baltimore Sun recognizing the extraordinary accomplishment of these young men. For the record, "Go Navy. Beat Army."

[From the Baltimore Sun, Nov. 6, 2007]

#### ONE FOR THE MIDDIES

Please forgive the irrepressible grins, the sunny outlook and the other outward signs of deep satisfaction displayed this week by fans of U.S. Naval Academy football. Navy's 46-44 triple-overtime victory over the Fighting Irish on Saturday in South Bend, Ind., was bound to have a lasting effect. Beating a rival once every 43 years will do that.

The Notre Dame-Navy match-up is one of the more lopsided annual events in college football. One fields a team of high school all-Americans, the other with future Navy and Marine Corps officers. Unless Roger Staubach is behind center taking snaps (as he was for Navy in 1963), the results are generally predictable.

But the combination of a solid Navy team with a potent offense and postseason ambitions opposed by a Notre Dame squad mired in a losing season of record-setting proportions helped turn the unthinkable into the wonderful—at least from the Midshipmen's perspective.

No doubt coach Paul Johnson will tell his players that this was just one victory and Navy needs more wins to get to another bowl game. And, of course, their fans will expect them to beat a certain military academy from the Hudson River Valley next month. No season would be complete without a win over West Point.

Nevertheless, this is a moment to savor. Even a Notre Dame fan has to admit it's nice to see an underdog come out on top once in a while. Navy still needs a 60-year winning streak to even its career record against the Irish. That's not likely, but at least it doesn't seem quite as improbable today.

#### REMEMBERING OUR VETERANS

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, the Good Book tells us if you owe debts, pay debts; if honor, then honor; if respect, then respect. And this weekend, Sunday specifically, millions of Americans will gather in places large and small in this country to pay a debt of gratitude that we owe to the American soldier. And I rise today like all of those who will gather in ceremonies and parades, surrounding people wearing mothballed uniforms and gray hair, to celebrate Veterans Day. Memorial Day is that day in the spring when we remember those who did not come home; Veterans Day is the day in the fall when we remember those who did.

A close friend of my late father, a combat veteran, said to me once poign-

antly, I think your dad never got over the guilt of coming home. While we remember those who served and fell this weekend, we will remember those who carry the burden of veterans; who fired shots in anger; who wore the uniform of the United States of America; and who, every day of their lives thereafter, carry the burden of that poignant service and significant loss.

To veterans all across America and especially those in eastern Indiana, we will remember you this Veterans Day.

#### THE TEMPORARY TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2007

(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, I am very proud to have been one of those today to support the Temporary Tax Relief Act of 2007.

Let me call the roll so we will understand what this bill does.

First of all, I am gratified that 1,270 million projected AMT returns by the State of Texas, those who will file their returns will get a benefit in my State because this bill has been passed today.

I am equally delighted that this bill looks out for a lot of America's taxpayers. Twelve million children will be helped by expanding the child tax credit. Eleven million families will be helped through the State and local sales tax deduction, and that is a bunch of families in the State of Texas. 3.4 million teachers will be able to deduct their classroom expenses, and that will help a lot of Texas teachers. And we will provide thousands of American troops in combat with tax relief under the earned income tax credit. In addition, some \$8 billion will be utilized to help the real estate industry as well.

The Temporary Tax Relief Act of 2007 is the right thing to do to help pay for the AMT reduction.

#### HONORING OUR VETERANS AND CALLING FOR A VETERANS FUNDING BILL

(Mr. WELDON of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our veterans.

This Sunday is Veterans Day. As a veteran myself and the son of a combat-wounded veteran, I believe it is very, very important that we as a nation take time and honor those who have served in our armed services.

It is a fact that we all understand that freedom comes at a price and that it is those who put on the uniform and serve that preserve freedom for us and so many others around the world.

It's unfortunate that I have to rise as well and express my concern over our failure to move a veterans bill through this body to fund the Department of

Veterans Affairs. Thanksgiving is less than 2 weeks ago, and as a physician who volunteers his time in a veterans clinic in his congressional district, I can say that I know that we can put our partisan differences behind us, put them aside, and we can come together and finally pass a veterans funding bill. I regret that we have not been able to do that today so late in the year right before Veterans Day.

Let's see if we can get that work done next week.

#### GARDNER-WEBB UNIVERSITY

(Mr. MCHENRY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, what a proud day for the Bulldogs of Gardner-Webb University.

My constituents, the Bulldogs, defeated the seven-time national champs Kentucky Wildcats in basketball just the other night by 18 points. Gardner-Webb University, a school of 4,000 students located in Boiling Springs, North Carolina, in my district, showed no fear in front of 23,000 cheering and hostile Wildcat fans in Kentucky's famed Rupp Arena. What a great night.

I come to the floor to congratulate Gardner-Webb University; the basketball team at Gardner-Webb University; the Bulldogs, generally speaking, the great students there at Gardner-Webb; and the president of the college, Frank Bonner; as well as the coach, Rick Scruggs, for their momentous basketball victory.

Let me tell you something. The Bulldogs have proven once again that with enough hard work and dedication, any obstacle can be overcome. And it also proves that no basketball team from North Carolina is ever really the underdog.

With that, I congratulate the Bulldogs. I congratulate Gardner-Webb University and the great basketball team and the students that they have.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PERLMUTTER). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, 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 Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

#### CONGRESS MUST ACT TO HELP BRING ABOUT THE REDEPLOYMENT OF OUR TROOPS OUT OF IRAQ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.