

Whereas, Dr. Hector P. Garcia graduated from the University of Texas Medical School in 1940, and later joined the United States Army;

Whereas, Dr. Hector P. Garcia served as an infantryman, a combat engineer, and a medical doctor during World War II, and earned the Bronze Star medal with six battle stars for his distinguished service;

Whereas, Dr. Hector P. Garcia founded the American GI Forum in 1948 to fight for equal treatment of Mexican-American veterans, including proper medical treatment and educational benefits;

Whereas, in 1949, Dr. Hector P. Garcia secured a burial with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery for Pvt. Felix Longoria after a Texas funeral home refused to hold a wake for Pvt. Longoria, a U.S. soldier killed during World War II, for the sole reason that he was Hispanic;

Whereas, President Lyndon Johnson made Dr. Hector P. Garcia the first Mexican-American to serve as an ambassador to the United Nations;

Whereas Dr. Hector P. Garcia was the first Hispanic to serve on the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights;

Whereas, in 1984, President Ronald Reagan bestowed upon Dr. Hector P. Garcia the Presidential Medal of Freedom;

Whereas Dr. Hector P. Garcia devoted his life to fighting for civil rights and educational access for Mexican-Americans;

Whereas this nation has benefited from Dr. Hector P. Garcia's legacy of generosity and commitment to equality: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate honors the life of Dr. Hector P. Garcia, a selfless physician, decorated World War II veteran, dedicated family man, and civil rights hero, and joins in the celebration of his birthday, January 17.

COMMENDING THE APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY MOUNTAINEERS OF BOONE, NORTH CAROLINA

The resolution (S. Res. 412) commending the Appalachian State University Mountaineers of Boone, North Carolina, for winning the 2007 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Football Championship Subdivision (formerly Division I-AA) Championship was considered and agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 412

Whereas, in 2005, Appalachian State University became the first team from North Carolina to win a National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) football championship with its victory over the University of Northern Iowa;

Whereas, in 2006, Appalachian State University defeated the University of Massachusetts football team to win its 2nd straight championship;

Whereas, in December 2007, the Appalachian State University Mountaineers won their 3rd straight NCAA Division I national title by winning the Division I Football Championship Subdivision (formerly known as the Division I-AA Championship), the first Football Championship Subdivision team in history to accomplish this feat, beating the University of Delaware (Delaware) Blue Hens by a score of 49-21;

Whereas, in the 2007 championship game, senior tailback Kevin Richardson opened the scoring with a 19-yard touchdown reception on a screen pass from Armanti Edwards;

Whereas Delaware responded by driving the ball to the Appalachian State 1-foot line, where the Mountaineers stonewalled the Blue Hens with an impressive defensive stand;

Whereas, on the ensuing possession, sophomore Devon Moore extended the lead to 14-0 in a touchdown run that capped a 5-play, 99-yard drive to set an Appalachian State school record for longest scoring drive;

Whereas Appalachian State extended the lead to 21-0 with 10:22 remaining in the 2nd quarter as freshman tight end Daniel Kilgore recovered a fumble in the endzone for the touchdown as the Mountaineers scored on their 1st 3 drives of the game;

Whereas Delaware broke into the scoring column with only 1:10 remaining in the 1st half, in a play that was originally ruled incomplete, but upon official review was ruled a touchdown to cut the Appalachian State lead to 21-7;

Whereas Appalachian State answered the score 26 seconds later as Armanti Edwards threw a 60-yard touchdown pass to senior Dexter Jackson, in his 4th touchdown pass this season to Dexter Jackson for more than 59 yards;

Whereas Appalachian State opened scoring in the 3rd quarter to extend their lead to 35-7;

Whereas Delaware countered to cut the Appalachian State lead to 35-14;

Whereas Kevin Richardson then ran the lead to 42-14 with a 6-yard touchdown for his 2nd score of the game, in which he posted a total of 111 yards rushing and 27 yards receiving with touchdowns both on the ground and by air;

Whereas Kevin Richardson is Appalachian State's all-time leading rusher, closing his college career with 4,797 yards on the ground;

Whereas sophomore quarterback Armanti Edwards had 198 yards passing, 89 yards rushing and 3 passing touchdowns, and finishes the season with 1,948 yards passing and 1,587 yards rushing, falling just short of becoming the 1st player in NCAA history to pass for 2,000 yards and rush for 1,000 yards twice in his career;

Whereas Corey Lynch finishes his career with 52 pass breakups, capturing the NCAA Division I record for career passes defended;

Whereas the team's championship victory finished off a remarkable season for the Mountaineers, who, on September 1, 2007, in their 1st game of the 2007 season, beat the University of Michigan Wolverines, ranked 5th nationally at the time, by a score of 34-32 in front of 109,000 spectators at "The Big House" in Ann Arbor, Michigan, marking the 1st time a Division I-AA team has ever beaten a nationally ranked Division I-A team;

Whereas the Mountaineers finished off this impressive 2007 season with a 13-2 record;

Whereas the Appalachian State Mountaineers 2007 All-Americans include Kerry Brown, Corey Lynch, Kevin Richardson, Armanti Edwards, Gary Tharrington, and Jerome Touchstone; and

Whereas the Mountaineers enjoy widespread support from their spirited and dedicated fans as well as the entire Appalachian State University community: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) applauds the Appalachian State University Mountaineers football team for its historic season and National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Football Championship Subdivision title;

(2) recognizes the hard work and preparation of the players, head coach Jerry Moore, and the assistant coaches and support personnel who all played critical roles in this championship; and

(3) requests the Secretary of the Senate to transmit an enrolled copy of the resolution to—

(A) Dr. Kenneth E. Peacock, Chancellor of Appalachian State University;

(B) Charles Cobb, Athletic Director of the University; and

(C) Jerry Moore, Head Coach.

COMMENDING WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY DEMON DEACONS

The resolution (S. Res. 413) commending the Wake Forest University Demon Deacons of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, for winning the 2007 National Collegiate Athletic Association Men's Soccer National Championship was considered and agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 413

Whereas the Wake Forest Demon Deacons beat the Ohio State Buckeyes 2-1 to win the finals of the 2007 College Cup;

Whereas, in the 11th minute, Demon Deacon goalkeeper Brian Edwards blocked a close-range shot and defender Lyle Adams cleared the net to prevent the Buckeyes from attempting to score on the rebound;

Whereas Brian Edwards was named the Most Outstanding Defensive Player at the College Cup after making 12 saves in the NCAA Championships and allowing only two goals in five postseason games;

Whereas, in the very next possession, Ohio State's Roger Espinoza scored in the 13th minute;

Whereas Marcus Tracy had the tying goal in the 66th minute, his third of the 2007 College Cup, finishing a run from sophomore Cody Arnoux;

Whereas Zack Schilawski scored the game-winning goal in the 74th minute by taking a cross from Marcus Tracy and firing the center shot from 10 yards out;

Whereas for seniors Julian Valentin, Pat Phelan, Brian Edwards, and Alimer Gonzales, the game marked the end of their college careers;

Whereas Marcus Tracy was named the Most Outstanding Offensive Player at the College Cup after scoring both goals in the 2-0 semifinal win over Virginia Tech, scoring the game-tying goal in the finals against Ohio State, and assisting on the game-winning goal by Zack Schilawski;

Whereas Sam Cronin, Zach Schilawski, and Cody Arnoux were all named to the College Cup All-Tournament Team;

Whereas Wake Forest was represented on the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA)/Adidas All-America team by defender Pat Phelan (first team), midfielder Sam Cronin (second team) and forward Cody Arnoux (third team), and was the only school to have a representative on the first, second, and third All-America teams;

Whereas defender Julian Valentin was named to the All-Senior All-America team sponsored by Lowe's;

Whereas Wake Forest's run to the national championship included a second round win over Furman (1-0), a third round win over West Virginia (3-1), a quarterfinal round win over Notre Dame (1-0), and a semifinal round win over Virginia Tech (2-0);

Whereas Wake Forest finished with a 22-2 record on the season;

Whereas Wake Forest was the number two seed in the tournament and making its second consecutive College Cup appearance;

Whereas the Demon Deacons have been to 12 NCAA Tournaments including seven straight;

Whereas Wake Forest was ranked first or second in the major soccer polls for the vast majority of the 2007 regular season;

Whereas the NCAA title is the eighth national championship for Wake Forest athletics; and

Whereas the university also holds three titles in field hockey (2002, 2003, 2004), three titles in men's golf (1974, 1975, 1986) and a title in baseball (1955): Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) applauds the Wake Forest University Demon Deacons men's soccer team for its historic season and championship title;

(2) recognizes the hard work and preparation of the players, head coach Jay Vidovich, and the assistant coaches and support personnel who all played critical roles in this championship; and

(3) requests the Secretary of the Senate to transmit an enrolled copy of the resolution to—

(A) Dr. Nathan O. Hatch, President of Wake Forest University;

(B) Ron Wellman, Director of Athletics at the University; and

(C) Jay Vidovich, Head Coach.

NATIONAL STALKING AWARENESS MONTH

The resolution (S. Res. 414) designating January 2008 as "National Stalking Awareness Month" was considered and agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 414

Whereas an estimated 1,006,970 women and 370,990 men are stalked annually in the United States and, in the majority of such cases, the person is stalked by someone who is not a stranger;

Whereas 81 percent of women who are stalked by an intimate partner are also physically assaulted by that partner, and 76 percent of women who are killed by an intimate partner were also stalked by that partner;

Whereas 74.2 percent of stalking victims report that being stalked interfered with their employment, 26 percent of stalking victims lose time from work as a result of their victimization, and 7 percent of stalking victims never return to work;

Whereas stalking victims are forced to take drastic measures to protect themselves, such as relocating, changing their addresses, changing their identities, changing jobs, and obtaining protection orders;

Whereas stalking is a crime that cuts across race, culture, gender, age, sexual orientation, physical and mental ability, and economic status;

Whereas stalking is a crime under Federal law and under the laws of all 50 States and the District of Columbia;

Whereas rapid advancements in technology have made cybersurveillance the new frontier in stalking;

Whereas national organizations, local victim service organizations, prosecutors' offices, and police departments stand ready to assist stalking victims and work diligently to craft competent, thorough, and innovative responses to stalking; and

Whereas there is a need to enhance the criminal justice system's response to stalking and stalking victims, including through aggressive investigation and prosecution: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) the Senate designates January 2008 as "National Stalking Awareness Month";

(2) it is the sense of the Senate that—

(A) National Stalking Awareness Month provides an opportunity to educate the people of the United States about stalking;

(B) the people of the United States should applaud the efforts of the many victim service providers, police, prosecutors, national and community organizations, and private sector supporters for their efforts in promoting awareness of stalking; and

(C) policymakers, criminal justice officials, victim service and human services agencies, nonprofit organizations, and others should recognize the need to increase awareness of stalking and the availability of services for stalking victims; and

(3) the Senate urges national and community organizations, businesses in the private sector, and the media to promote awareness of the crime of stalking through observation of National Stalking Awareness Month.

HONORING THE LIFE OF WILLIAM KARNET "BILL" WILLIS

The resolution (S. Res. 415) honoring the life and recognizing the accomplishments of William Karnet "Bill" Willis, pioneer and Hall of Fame football player for both Ohio State University and the Cleveland Browns was considered and agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 415

Whereas William Karnet Willis ("Bill") was born on October 5, 1921, in Columbus, Ohio;

Whereas, in 1942, Bill Willis began playing college football for the Ohio State University's Buckeyes and was a member of the 1942 National Championship team;

Whereas Bill Willis earned All-American honors at the Ohio State University in 1943 and 1944, becoming the first African American All-American at the Ohio State University;

Whereas Bill Willis was twice chosen to play in the College All-Star Game, in 1944 and in 1945;

Whereas, on August 7, 1946, Bill Willis was the first of a pioneering foursome to sign a contract to play professional football for the Cleveland Browns, forever ending the race barrier in professional football;

Whereas Bill Willis was named 3 times an All-America Football Conference all-league player, named 4 times a National Football League all-league player, and was named to the first 3 Pro Bowls;

Whereas, in 1950, Bill Willis was a member of the National Football League champion Cleveland Browns and was named the team's Most Valuable Player;

Whereas, in 1971, Bill Willis was inducted into the National Football Foundation's College Football Hall of Fame;

Whereas, in 1977, Bill Willis was inducted to the Pro Football Hall of Fame;

Whereas Bill Willis was synonymous with his number 99 jersey in the Ohio State University community, and that number was retired on November 3, 2007;

Whereas Bill Willis dedicated his life to helping others and served his community honorably on the Ohio Youth Commission;

Whereas Bill Willis was a beloved community leader, husband, and father; and

Whereas Ohio has lost a beloved son and a trailblazing pioneer with the passing of Bill Willis on November 27, 2007: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the life and accomplishments of William Karnet "Bill" Willis, a dedicated family man, civil servant, and football legend; and

(2) respectfully requests the Secretary of the Senate to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution for appropriate display to the family of Bill Willis.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

The resolution (S. Res. 416) recognizing the 60th anniversary of the United States Air Force as an independent military service was considered and agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 416

Whereas President Harry S Truman signed the National Security Act of 1947 on July 26, 1947, to realign and reorganize the Armed Forces and to create a separate Department of the Air Force from the existing military services;

Whereas the National Security Act of 1947 was enacted on September 18, 1947;

Whereas the Aeronautical Division of the United States Army Signal Corps, consisting of one officer and two enlisted men, began operation under the command of Captain Charles DeForest Chandler on August 1, 1907, with the responsibility for "all matters pertaining to military ballooning, air machines, and all kindred subjects";

Whereas in 1908, the Department of War contracted with the Wright brothers to build one heavier-than-air flying machine for the United States Army, and accepted the Wright Military Flyer, the world's first military airplane, in 1909;

Whereas United States pilots, flying with both allied air forces and with the Army Air Service, performed admirably in the course of World War I, participating in pursuit, observation, and day and night bombing missions;

Whereas pioneering aviators of the United States, including Mason M. Patrick, William "Billy" Mitchell, Benjamin D. Foulois, Frank M. Andrews, Henry "Hap" Arnold, James "Jimmy" H. Doolittle, and Edward "Eddie" Rickenbacker, were among the first to recognize the military potential of air power and courageously forged the foundations for the creation of an independent arm for air forces in the United States in the decades following World War I;

Whereas on June 20, 1941, the Department of War created the Army Air Forces (AAF) as its aviation element and shortly thereafter the Department of War made the AAF co-equal to the Army Ground Forces;

Whereas General Henry H. "Hap" Arnold drew upon the industrial prowess and human resources of the United States to transform the Army Air Corps from a force of 22,400 men and 2,402 aircraft in 1939 to a peak wartime strength of 2.4 million personnel and 79,908 aircraft;

Whereas the standard for courage, flexibility, and intrepidity in combat was established for all Airmen during the first aerial raid in the Pacific Theater on April 18, 1942, when Lieutenant Colonel James "Jimmy" H. Doolittle led 16 North American B-25 Mitchell bombers in a joint operation from the deck of the naval carrier USS Hornet to strike the Japanese mainland in response to the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor;

Whereas President Harry S Truman supported organizing air power as an equal arm