

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 9, 2008

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday, July 9, 2008.

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

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF HON. STENY H. HOYER AND HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN TO ACT AS SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE TO SIGN ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS THROUGH JULY 8, 2008

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

June 26, 2008.

I hereby appoint the Honorable STENY H. HOYER and the Honorable CHRIS VAN HOLLEN to act as Speaker pro tempore to sign enrolled bills and joint resolutions through July 8, 2008.

NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the appointment is approved.

There was no objection.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 5353

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 5353.

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

There was no objection.

LET REGULAR ORDER PREVAIL ON AIR FORCE TANKER SELECTION

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

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, today one of our colleagues introduced the KC-X Recompete Act, and its message is clear: If the warfighter wants a new tanker to replace its aging fleet anytime soon, it has but one choice, the Boeing KC-767. This act would tell the warfighter to take the 767; take it or leave it, or face years of delay if you have to have a new competition.

Boeing's 767, mind you, is judged second best to the more capable, more

modern, Northrop aircraft, an aircraft that I am proud would be built in my home State of Alabama.

Yes, the GAO noted procedural errors in the source selection process, but it did not rule on the merits of these two aircraft. And there is no equivocation in terms of which plane the Air Force wants and desperately needs, the KC-45.

Some have tried to preempt regular order and take this decision away from the warfighter. Let's not preempt the voice of the men and women who will take this plane into harm's way. We owe them that much.

INVOLVE ALL IMPACTED BY MASS TRANSPORTATION DECISIONS

(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 wanted to rise again today to again commend the Transportation Committee, the full committee Chair Mr. OBERSTAR and Ranking Member MICA on H.R. 6052. I wanted to discuss very briefly an amendment that I offered, part of which was included in the manager's amendment, and it has to do with promoting education, but as well to address the question of involving all of those impacted.

It reads that "public transportation stakeholders should engage local communities in the education and promotion of the importance of using public transportation in cities and counties, and in the planning, development and design of transportation routing lines."

This is particularly of interest to constituents in Houston as we build a new metro system. Today they broke ground in the east end. I congratulate them. But as we look to make sure that we are involving all of the participants, the stakeholders need to address the question of routing.

The only way that you will provide mass transit as a system for all the people is they must buy into it. We have a situation in Houston where we are looking to reroute from Wheeler, and I hope that this bill will get this understanding. Promote education of mass transit and get the stakeholders and communities to buy into it.

EXPRESSING PLEASURE THAT THE USE-IT-OR-LOSE-IT BILL DID NOT PASS

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

ALPHABETIZED ROSTER

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I am so pleased that the Democrats' use-it-or-lose-it bill did not pass this House this afternoon. We have been saying for weeks that this is a sham. Use-it-or-lose-it is already the law of the land. Thankfully, enough people here, including 19 Democrats, voted with almost all the Republicans to turn back this sham against the people of the country.

What we need to be doing is we need to be producing more oil and gas for the American people, bringing down the price of gas. The Democrats are trying to pull the wool over the eyes of the American people, and, thankfully, they are not going to be able to do that since this bill did not pass. They wouldn't put it in committee to let it be debated. They put it on the suspension calendar, and it failed.

The American people during this 4th of July work period need to tell their Members, we want you to fulfill the promises you made 2 years ago. Bring down the price of gas.

CONGRATULATING PLANO WOLVES

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the new high school baseball national championship team. It is from Plano West Senior High School. They are called the Wolves. Go Wolves.

Maxpreps.com ranked the Texas State champs, the Plano West Senior High School varsity baseball team, number one in the Nation on June 22.

Under head coach Kendall Clark, this year the Wolves played a perfect season, won the district title with 14 wins and won 28 straight in 2008. This is the first time since 1987 that Plano Independent School District has had a team crowned national champions, and this year marks the first time a baseball team in Plano has captured the prestigious national title.

Congratulations to the Wolves. We are proud of you. Your parents are proud of you. Plano is proud of you, and America is proud of you. I salute you. God bless you, God bless America.

I include the names of the players and coaches in the RECORD, and congratulate them one and all.

Name	C	#	Position	Ht	Wt	Throws/bats
Chris Ard	Sr	17	P/C/I/F/OF	5'8"	160	R/R
Barrett Beck	Jr	11	C/F/P	5'8"	165	R/R
Andrew Blum	So	14	P/O/F	6'1"	175	R/R
Garrett Brown	Jr	18	P/O/P	5'11"	160	R/R
Tyler Bruce	Sr	4	C	5'11"	185	R/R
Jason Coats	Sr	15	O/F	6'2"	190	R/R
Reed Dillard	Jr	1	C/I/F/OF	5'10"	175	R/R
Ben Flora	Sr	5	P	5'11"	165	L/L
Ryan Ford	So	24	1B	6'3"	230	L/L

ALPHABETIZED ROSTER—Continued

Name	C	#	Position	Ht	Wt	Throws/bats
Harrison Holmes	Sr	10	SS	6'1"	185	R/R
Robert Huber	Sr	16	P/F	5'10"	150	R/R
Ryan Hughes	Sr	13	OF	5'9"	175	R/R
Drew Johnson	Sr	9	P	5'10"	185	R/R
Jeffrey Kahn	Jr	12	OF/DH	6'4"	185	R/R
Kale Kiser	Sr	2	2B	5'11"	180	R/Switch
Will Moran	Sr	7	OF/F	5'9"	170	R/R
Jason Palmatary	Sr	22	IF/OF	6'3"	175	R/R
Blake Parker	Sr	8	OF	5'8"	155	R/R
John Pelozzi	Sr	21	P	6'5"	215	R/R
Donald Plant	Jr	3	3B/P	6'2"	185	R/R
Eric Wald	Jr	23	P	6'2"	230	L/L
Kevin Weissenborn	Sr	19	SS/2B	5'9"	155	R/R
Jim Worth	Sr	6	P	5'9"	160	L/L

Coaches: Kendall Clark, Varsity Head Coach; Kevin Clark, Varsity Assistant Coach; Richard Zastoupil, Pitching Coach; Ralph Hinds, Junior Varsity Head Coach; Nathan Leraas, Junior Varsity Assistant Coach; and Gregory Pierce, Shepton Head Coach.

□ 1800

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will recognize Members for Special Order speeches without prejudice to resumption of legislative business.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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.

RECOGNIZING FRESNO STATE'S WINNING THE COLLEGE WORLD SERIES

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

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my good friend from California (Mr. COSTA) to recognize something very important that happened in the San Joaquin Valley, for all the people of the San Joaquin Valley, and that is that yesterday the Fresno State Bulldogs won the college series. This is very special for all of us.

At this time, I yield to my good friend, the distinguished gentleman from California, an alumnus of Fresno State, Mr. COSTA.

Mr. COSTA. I thank the gentleman from California, a colleague, a good friend and an avid supporter of the California State University of Fresno, as we all are in the Valley delegation.

Mr. Speaker, we are proud to recognize the Fresno State baseball team, the Bulldogs, the Bulldogs on the West Coast, on their victory of the University of Georgia last night, the other Bulldogs, to claim the 2008 National Collegiate Athletic Division Championship I-A Baseball National Champions. Obviously, as my good friend Congressman NUNES indicated, I am a proud alumnus today.

The Dogs came into the tournament as the fourth seeded team and along the way beat Rice University, had two big wins over the University of North Carolina, and they are the first number four seed to reach the finals of the NCAA championship in any sport. It is truly historic in collegiate athletics. They went from the underdogs to the wonder dogs, and they accomplished this after spending over 40 straight days away from home. Leaving Fresno on May 14, they finally came home today.

They won five elimination games, including a 19-10 win over Georgia during the championship series.

This team was a pure joy to watch on the field. We saw outstanding defensive plays, 15 home runs by the offense, and they had American riveted to their televisions and radios to hear them win last night's game. It was an exciting month for anyone who is attached to the University or our San Joaquin Valley, or those who just happens to love our Nation's pastime, baseball.

The character, camaraderie, preparation, and ultimately the performance and success of the team flows from their head coach Mike Batesole and his wonderful staff. This year he was chosen 2008 Collegiate Coach of the Year in baseball.

One unique thing about this team is that every player is from California. In fact, many of the players come from surrounding communities; in my colleagues' districts, NUNES, RADANOVICH, and CARDOZA, and the like, they came from Clovis, Hanford, Bakersfield, and Turlock. Fresno State athletics takes pride in recruiting local talent from high schools and junior colleges.

These young men are models for student athletes around the Nation. Seven seniors and one junior will graduate within nine semesters. Steve Susdorf was given the Western Athletic Conference All-Academic awards four times in his career with the Bulldogs. These classroom accomplishments should be commended. These are truly student athletes at their finest.

There were five Bulldogs who made this year's College World Series All-Tournament Team. They are Erik Wetzel, Steve Susdorf, Steve Detwiler, Justin Wilson, and Tommy Mendonca. Congratulations to them.

Tommy Mendonca from Turlock was also named the Collegiate World Series Most Outstanding Player, and was recently named to the 2008 National Col-

legiate Team. He comes from strong Portuguese Valley roots, and we enjoyed watching him play.

Finally, we again want to congratulate the Fresno State team on a season well played. We tip our hat to the University of Georgia for an outstanding series, and all the teams that played this season.

Mr. NUNES. As you can see, Mr. COSTA is a very proud alumni, Mr. Speaker. Also, I would be mistaken not to mention my chief of staff, Johnny Amaral, is also a proud alumni of Fresno State. I know that he was really rooting for the team. This is going to be a very important victory for the San Joaquin Valley tonight. I know they are going to be welcomed home by probably thousands of fans in Fresno; and I know that Mr. COSTA and I can't wait to hopefully greet the team here and invite them to our Nation's capital and possibly even get a White House visit.

Does my colleague have anything else?

Mr. COSTA. I just want to thank the gentleman for yielding. We want to congratulate all of those who are a part of the University and these fine students athletes for a job well done.

Mr. NUNES. Thank you.

FRESNO STATE WINS COLLEGE WORLD SERIES

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Fresno State baseball team, the Bulldogs, on their victory over the University of Georgia last night to claim the 2008 NCAA Division I Baseball National Championship. I am a very proud alum today.

The "Dogs" came into the tournament as a 4th seeded team . . . and along the way, beat Rice University and had two big wins over the University of North Carolina. They are the first number four seed to reach the finals of an NCAA championship in any sport. This is truly historic in collegiate athletics. They went from the underdogs, to the wonder "Dogs".

And they accomplish this on the road, away from home for forty straight days, and won five elimination games, including a 19-10 win over Georgia during the championship series.

This team was a pure joy to watch on the field . . . we saw outstanding defensive plays, 15 home runs by the offense, and they had America riveted to their televisions and radios to hear them win last night's game. It has