

TRIBUTE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF  
KENTUCKY WILDCATS

• Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, as my colleagues well know, I do not frequently venture down to the other side of Pennsylvania Avenue. The current occupant of the White House and I do not always see eye to eye. But, times change and I am anxiously awaiting the opportunity to set aside political differences in order to join the President in welcoming to Washington the 1996 NCAA Division I National Champions, the University of Kentucky Wildcats.

Mr. President, University of Kentucky basketball enjoys a proud history, one unequaled by any other school. In fact, in this season of unparalleled achievements, Kentucky not only earned bragging rights for the year, but they also became the winningest program in college basketball history. With their victory in the Mideast Regional Final, the Wildcats overtook the University of North Carolina and returned to their perch atop basketball's elite.

This fact is further demonstrated by the yearend Sagarin basketball Ratings. These figures compiled by basketball expert Jeff Sagarin factor in numerous variables, including schedule strength, to determine the top teams in Division I NCAA. This year, Kentucky posted a yearend rating of 103.26, which put the Wildcats not only in first place for the year, but also made it the top rated team in the 22-year history of these figures.

As for history, let's review a few quick facts about this Wildcat team. On their way to a 34-to-2 record, the Cats defeated every team on their schedule at least once by a minimum of 7 points. They scored 86 points in one-half against the LSU Tigers. Mr. President, for those of my colleagues who may not follow college basketball closely, allow me to put this achievement in terms more readily understandable. Scoring 86 points in one half is equivalent to BOB DOLE winning the Presidency before the polls in the Midwest even close, which, by the way, I anticipate he will do. Finally, the Wildcats did something that nobody believed was possible in this age of parity in college athletics: they played the entire Southeastern Conference regular season without losing a single game. A perfect 16 and 0.

Rupp, Issel, Groza, Givens, Macy, Mashburn, Hall, and now Pitino. The Fabulous Five, Rupp's Runts, the Fiddlin' Five, Pitino's Bombinos, the Unforgettable, and now the Untouchables. UK basketball enjoys a tradition unequaled by any other program. Mr. President, I believe this tradition will continue to grow for decades to come.

I urge my colleagues to join me in extending congratulations to this team of outstanding young men, a group distinguished not only by their athletic achievements but their character as well. As an unabashed college basketball fanatic, I want to personally thank

Coach Pitino, Athletic Director C.M. Newton, and President Charles Wethington for restoring dignity, excitement, and honor to this proud program. Their leadership provides an example all of us in public life would do well to emulate. •

ROLE OF RELIGION IN AMERICAN  
SOCIETY

• Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, the State of Maryland is very fortunate to have many churches and religious institutions which serve families and individuals with special needs. I am pleased that the world headquarters for the Seventh-day Adventist Church is located in Maryland. On March 10, more than 500 community service directors and volunteers of the Allegheny East Conference of Seventh-day Adventists convened in Hyattsville, MD, under the leadership of Pastor Robert Booker. The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Clarence E. Hodges, vice-president of the North American Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. He spoke eloquently on the role of religion in American society. I want to share with my colleagues some of his thoughts. Dr. Hodges began his remarks by speaking of the freedom of religion which the United States enjoys.

When freedom of religion is combined with other economic and social freedoms, society flourishes and the quality of life is enhanced for all citizens. The United States has the model which must be protected. Religious institutions stay out of government and governmental institutions stay out of religion while both employ their special approaches to advance the interests of society and the individual.

In his remarks, Dr. Hodges highlighted the vital role religion plays in our country, not only in meeting spiritual needs, but also in meeting the day to day needs in our communities. As he points out: Where would we be without their immense contributions?

What would it cost for government to replace all church operated charitable organizations, educational institutions, hospitals, nursing homes, welfare centers, soup kitchens, and other services provided to individuals?

And as he pointed out in his concluding comments, the contributions that people of faith and religious-based organizations are making to communities are needed now more than ever, in these times of declining spending at all levels of government.

The family, the basic unit of society, is coming apart. Divorces are at record high levels. First time marriages are being delayed. Babies are born to babies. Children are being raised in single parent families. Only nine percent of the children who live with both parents are poor while forty-six percent of the children who live with only one parent are poor. Since 1970, out of wedlock births have tripled. Child abuse and neglect contribute to the death of twelve children each day. Three hundred fifty thousand children between eight and eighteen years of age are put out of their homes each year. Homeless and runaway children are exploited by per-

verted adults for money and sick pleasures. The foster care system which is designed to provide protection and hope for neglected children actually feeds thousands into the corrections system as felons each year. Mothers are battered in front of and with their children and many see no other option but to suffer through this kind of domestic violence year after year. But your services are making a difference. We will never know the full value or impact of your services. Our governmental agencies at all levels and all tax payers appreciate what you are doing in response to human needs, family problems, and natural disasters. Since you serve anyone in need, without strings attached, and since your clients include all races, cultures and religious groups, I am pleased to congratulate you for doing the work of your Lord in an outstanding manner. You are ready for welfare reform, changes in Medicaid, nutrition programs, and the various block grant proposals. Thanks be to our founding fathers for their vision of religious freedom.

We live in a world where there is no suffering-free zone. We can relocate to beautiful communities but there is no comfort zone. We can run but we cannot hide. We can have creature comforts and luxuries far beyond our needs but we will have no comfort zone until we have reached out to all in need.

What is the value of a good neighbor? What is the value of the Good Samaritan? What is the value of religion? What is the value of religious freedom? The value of mankind, that's the answer. May we and America forever place a high value on all our freedoms and on all mankind.

I believe all of my colleagues will find food for thought in Dr. Hodges' comments. •

ALLEGED SWISS COLLABORATION  
WITH THE NAZIS AND THE  
SMUGGLING OF GERMAN  
LOOTED PROPERTY TO ARGENTINA

Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss an issue that continues to trouble me, namely that of the role played by Swiss banks and their continued retention of assets belonging to European Jews and others before and during World War II.

In a document from the State Department, entitled, "Nazi and Fascist Capital in Latin America," dated March 23, 1945, found at the National Archives, details Nazi capital infiltration of Latin and South America. Yet, within the report, there are sections which explain the role of the Swiss bankers in helping to secret Nazi assets out of Europe. At this time, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that this report be printed in the RECORD.

The relevant part of the report states that,

"Accusations have also been voiced that Nazi German capital is escaping in Swiss diplomatic pouches, probably without the knowledge of the Swiss federal government, because of the government's practice of entrusting diplomatic missions to its bankers and businessmen traveling to the Western Hemisphere."

If this is true, it suggests that Swiss bankers might have directly help get Nazi assets out of Europe to Latin and South America. This revelation could lead to serious questions about the sincerity of the Swiss bankers with regard