

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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May 14, 1997

LB 23
LR 130

adequate time to make their remarks concerning LR 130, we will leave LB 23 at this time and, Mr. Clerk, please take up LR 130.

CLERK: Mr. President, Legislative Resolution 130, introduced by a majority of the membership, is found on page 1925 of the Journal.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Wesely, you're opening on this?

SENATOR WESELY: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members. Senator Crosby came to me and discussed the need to honor Bob Devaney by the Legislature and, representing Lincoln, we drafted this resolution. We asked all of you and all of you did sign this resolution with the exception of my good friend Senator Chambers, who's had...but who is supportive of the concept. And so I think that it's important us to just take a moment and recognize somebody who's had an impact on the state so tremendous. We, I think, have come to appreciate and almost take for granted the successes that we've achieved athletically at the University of Nebraska since the arrival of Bob Devaney in 1962. I happened to be eight years old at that time so it's a long, long time ago for us, but much has happened since that time and I think much good has been done. Bob Devaney came here and turned around the football program, brought us great success and eventually a national championship less than ten years later, which led to then the following of, in his footsteps, Tom Osborne, who's now been our football coach for almost 25 years, continue that tradition of success and just a few years ago again we achieved the national championship. This brings great recognition to the state of Nebraska. We can all disagree about the football program and some of the implications and particulars of it and I know that we've had those discussions in the past, but in the end the success of that program has brought great, I think, recognition to Nebraska and pride to Nebraska from across the country as Nebraskans who leave our state watch the games and talk with others from around the country with great pride at that success. It is an area that we have achieved national prominence and Bob Devaney helped us start down that road. But more than that, Bob Devaney had an impact generally on athletics at the University of Nebraska. He, as athletic director, helped achieve equity in our women's program,