



March 21, 2018

Go Ramblers!

The Loyola University Chicago men's basketball team has captured the imagination of our city and the country in their thrilling wins in the NCAA men's basketball tournament. The Ramblers have advanced to the Sweet Sixteen for the first time since 1985. Loyola coach Porter Moser reflects the mission of Loyola by commenting on their last win by saying, "I first want to say all glory and thankfulness to God, he's been so good to this group, me, this university." Loyola's team chaplain, 98 year old Sister Jean Dolores Schmidt, has warmed many hearts with her prayers with the team before the game, her basketball sense (she used to play and coach basketball herself), and her faith in the team. Coach Moser also said, "It's amazing when you have a group of people who believe. They believe. We've come back from deficits. We've lost leads and found ways to win games. You know, they just kept believing." But we also have to say that this is a very talented team, winning the last 12 games in a row and winning a school record 30 games. This is a good, exciting team to watch.

All of Chicago is proud of the team and the university, and this rush of success is especially meaningful for those of us who graduated from Loyola. I was a commuter student going to Loyola in the 1990s, living in Austin and also working as a teacher's aide in Austin as I commuted up to the Rogers Park campus to take classes at night and on weekends. What impressed me as I took classes in my major of education and minor of political science was that the Jesuits ran the school in the environment of social justice. Loyola is a great school right here in our city, with great programs and what I experienced as a great School of Education. And, now they have a great basketball team! So, rather than going out of state, students should really look into going to Loyola University Chicago for a quality college education in an environment of social justice, with premier athletic programs to boot.

Go Ramblers!

Sincerely,

La Shawn K. Ford
State Representative-Eighth District