

For every \$1 billion in goods exported, our economy creates 5,000 jobs; but for every \$1 billion in goods imported, we lose 9,000 jobs. That is why we have been in the hole for the last 25 years.

Our middle class is shrinking. People are struggling out there. They can't make ends meet. We have a budget deficit because we have a trade deficit. America doesn't need any more job-killing trade deals.

HAMAS MUST BE STOPPED ONCE AND FOR ALL

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share an email from a friend who is in Israel with his wife right now. He writes:

Hamas has been sending rockets into Israel for days now trying to kill any Israeli they can—120 in the last 2 days.

Just a few minutes ago, the red alert was sounded. Thank God Congress wanted to build the Iron Dome, as it brought down that rocket.

Will we hear the red alert tonight as we sleep? Will we get to the bomb room in time? What about tomorrow night?

Speak out on the floor of the House: Hamas must be stopped once and for all.

My friend, Hamas must be stopped once and for all. President Obama, please say these words with us: Hamas must be stopped once and for all.

EQUALITY FOR WOMEN

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

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, 22 years ago, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor stated:

The ability of women to participate equally in the economic and social life of the Nation has been facilitated by their ability to control their reproductive lives.

Over the past week, that fact has not only been lost by the Supreme Court, it has been under attack. The Court's decisions undermine women's ability to pursue economic opportunity and equality.

Tonight, thousands of people are rallying in Boston to protect these basic rights. I stand in solidarity with them. We will not back down and will not accept anything less than full equality in our access to health care, the workplace, and the ability to determine the trajectory of our own lives.

This esteemed body would do well to heed Justice O'Connor's words, because the women of America will settle for no less.

□ 1915

PRESIDENT OBAMA NEEDS TO VISIT THE BORDER

(Mr. BURGESS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, the President needs to come to the Texas border. There is a crisis occurring there.

I just returned from a trip to McAllen. The situation is grave. The influx of people is putting a strain on our resources and threatening our system of public health.

Last week marked my second trip to tour the processing and holding facilities. I know other Members of the Texas delegation have made the trip as well. But President Obama, despite being in Texas for fundraising this week, refuses to come to the Texas border.

The President's remarks from the Rose Garden last week did little to deter Central Americans from sending their children to the Texas border. His message was correct, but his tone was wrong. The President needs to be clear and direct. He needs to send a clear and direct message to the parents in Central America: Don't send your children across the deserts of Mexico into Texas.

As a Texan, I felt compelled to make this trip, but I realize my influence in this realm is limited. The President has the bully pulpit. The President can make the point.

The President of the United States needs to come to the border and speak in a clear and direct fashion to the parents of Central America.

HELP THE CHILDREN

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, over the last week, besides wishing this wonderful Nation a happy birthday over the Fourth of July, I spent time in Brownsville, Harlingen, and McAllen visiting the detention centers. Most importantly, I saw the faces of innocent children who have come because of fear for their lives.

In a hearing in Homeland Security, I listened to State officials and to a bishop from El Paso who indicated that the world is watching. These children need our help. They are not America's enemy. They are not a threat to national security.

I want to thank those many cities who have offered places. I believe the President is right to seek the amount of money to enforce the border and to provide more judges, more immigration lawyers, and resources for these cities for these children. I believe that we have it in our heart to do it, and we can protect the border.

I will say as well, Mr. Speaker, that children come in all sizes. I want to say that the crisis in Nigeria with the kidnapped girls still remains on our minds—#bringbackourgirls. Let us put an end to the terrorism of Boko Haram, and let us help children wherever they are.

SKILLS ACT

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, each year, hardworking American taxpayers send \$18 billion to Washington for Federal job training and workforce development programs. While training unemployed Americans is a worthy goal, even after spending billions of dollars, only a fraction of workers receive and complete the necessary training to get a job.

That is not only an unacceptable return on investment, Mr. Speaker, but that is an unacceptable outcome for the millions of Americans who are trying to get ahead in this economy.

A bipartisan majority in the House and Senate are working to take action to close the skills gap that is keeping Americans from filling the nearly 4 million American jobs right now. This week, the House will finalize work on a bill that originated in this Chamber. We will vote on final passage of the SKILLS Act, which modernizes and reforms Federal job training programs to be more efficient and effective.

This bipartisan action is a true jobs bill. I hope this serves as a starting point for further Senate action on the dozens of other jobs bills waiting in that Chamber that would invest in our Nation's competitiveness.

MERIDIAN HIGH SCHOOL WILDCATS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RICE of South Carolina). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. FLEMING) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, 48 years ago this August marks my first practice as a football player for the famed Meridian, Mississippi High School Wildcats. After almost a half century, I still remember the fragrance of freshly cut dew-covered grass juxtaposed against the pungent odor of skin balm and the human stink of a sweaty locker room.

1966 was the first year of our newly appointed head coach, Bob Tyler, from a small town in north Mississippi. My initial thought and first reading of him was a Meridian Star news article in which he was quoted as saying he believed in maintaining a high level of physical conditioning. I immediately knew that meant we would be running our butts off. And we did.

Our first August practice was everything I expected, and much more. We practiced twice a day, sometimes three times a day, first in shorts and then in full pads. Temperatures approached 100 degrees, with 100 percent humidity. Prayers for a quenching rain usually went unanswered.

Coach Tyler kept some of the existing assistants such as Jerry Foshee and

the late Earl Morgan, and brought in new ones, including Charles Garrett and Robert Turnage. Charles McComb, Jim Redgate, Don Evans, and Doug Marshal were also assistants under Tyler.

August, 1966, practices under Coach Tyler and staff seemed unique, even from the beginning. The level of organization, the level of excitement of over 100 young men coming out to join our team, and the professionalism and commitment to a strong work ethic and Christian principles were evident from the beginning.

There was also something else quite unique in the history of the football program. After the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Meridian, Mississippi, deep in the segregationist South, began to slowly integrate its public schools.

That first Tyler August of 1966, we were joined by James Williams, the first black athlete in the Wildcat football program's history. The following year, several more African Americans, including Robert Bell, a defensive tackle, joined us. Not very tall, but very wide and athletic, Bell proved to be quite immovable, and hitting him seemed like slamming into rebar filled with concrete. He went on to play for Mississippi State.

Our relatively unknown head coach then, Bob Tyler, led Meridian High to a fully undefeated season in his first year. The championship game was also quite unique in a couple of ways. Our opponent, the Jackson Provine Rams, still ran the old single-wing offense popular during the 1930s. The secret to Provine's success was high school coaches of the 1960s had no experience defending against the—even then—archaic style of football.

Bob Tyler had an old secret weapon, too, which was defensive line coach Earl Morgan, who played college football during the single-wing era. He knew exactly how to destroy it.

The other surprise of the game was a touchdown from the very first play of scrimmage when a "long bomb" was lobbed from Bob White to George Ranager. Meridian High won the game and the Big Eight championship, equivalent to today's 6-A championship.

The 1967 season under Tyler went much the same way. We had another perfect season, except for a tie game with Columbus. Nonetheless, we went to the State championship and defeated Biloxi High to make it two State championships in a row.

With such a sterling resume, Bob Tyler received considerable notice from colleges, as you can imagine. SEC coaches pursued him, and the great Johnny Vaught, head coach of Ole Miss, recruited Tyler to become assistant at Tyler's alma mater and favorite team ever.

It was rumored that Vaught was grooming Tyler to succeed him as head coach. Vaught ultimately retired with health problems, and Tyler left for the opportunity to coach under the leg-

endary Bear Bryant of the famed Crimson Tide. It wasn't long before Bob got his shot to become head coach of an SEC football team. He went on to Mississippi State, where he found great success during his 5-year tenure.

Bob Tyler was not only noted for his coaching, but for the talent he developed. Smylie Gebhart, a great defensive end, went on to become an All-American at Georgia Tech. David Bailey, a wide receiver, went on to set reception records under Bear Bryant. George Ranager caught the winning touchdown for Alabama in the famous 33-32 shootout with Ole Miss in 1969.

Coach Charles Garrett, Tyler's right-hand man, took the helm for the 1968 season and had big shoes to fill. With Tyler promoted to the SEC, Garrett proved he had what it takes. Meridian High School had a third undefeated regular season, but lost out in the State championship rematch against a very fast Biloxi High School team.

Garrett developed stars, too. In his 3 years as an Ole Miss running back, Greg Ainsworth ran for 1,361 yards and 17 touchdowns. Mac Barnes, Garrett's quarterback for the 1969 season, became a coaching star in his own right. He went on to coach Meridian High championship teams as well.

Mr. Speaker, though of mediocre athletic ability, I gained tremendously from my experience as a Meridian High Wildcat under both Bob Tyler, Charles Garrett, and their very able assistant coaches. Any achievements I have made in my life and career must be credited to a large extent to what I learned on the practice field—concepts such as personal discipline, commitment to excellence, personal sacrifice for a unified team goal, preparation for success, and the meaning of teamwork.

Morris Stamm said:

It is a commitment to a bigger goal, an opportunity for a young man to learn more than blocking and tackling.

Don May offered this:

My life lessons learned from the MHS football days proved positive. Hard work and dedication can enable an individual to accomplish any goal and achieve success throughout a lifetime. Applying those lessons to my career and personal relationships has helped me achieve things I would not have thought possible.

I now look forward, Mr. Speaker, to the scheduled gathering with many of my teammates and coaches of the Meridian High Wildcats who coached or played under Tyler during the football season of 1966 and 1967. Therefore, I now hereby declare the period of 1966 and 1967 to be the "Coach Bob Tyler Era."

What is likely to be our final roll call will be held on August 23, 2014, Meridian. Amazingly, most of the coaches and players, including Tyler himself, after nearly a half century, are still living and will attend the reunion.

Some have gone on to glory before us, however, and will miss that final roll call and we will miss them. They include coaches Earl Morgan and

Byron McMullen, as well as players such as Smylie Gebhart, David Bailey, Mike Cumberland, David Murray, Gary Saget, Maurice Ross, Mike Magee, Woodson Emmons, and possibly others.

Mr. Speaker, I now close with these words.

To a man, each of my brother Wildcats, I am sure, feel as I do that every moment of the hard work, sweat, pain, and sometimes disappointment was worth it, and we are all better men because of it. Such a common experience even a half century ago bonds us together forever. Indeed, we were then, as we are today, and always, even when we no longer answer that roll call, will be known as the Meridian High Wildcats, a true "band of brothers."

Mr. Speaker, today I want to express a heartfelt tribute to the leaders of our Wildcat band of brothers—Coaches Bob Tyler, Charles Garrett, and all Wildcat coaches, living and not, and to all of my brother players living and not—for all you have done for our town, our school, and especially for me.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1930

AMERICAN EXCEPTIONALISM WITHIN A CONSTITUTIONAL RE- PUBLIC

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. KING) is recognized for 50 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to be recognized to address you here on the floor of the House of Representatives and to take up these topics that I appreciate your attention to.

As the other Members disperse across this Hill and over to their offices and as their staffs are tuned in on television and for those who are here in person, we have got some serious issues to discuss. This country has been led down a path that has been, I think, in the end, destructive to our Republic, and it is important that we focus on these issues that are getting out of hand.

We are a great country. For the Fourth of July, I sent out a tweet that morning to celebrate the Fourth of July: "Happy Independence Day."

The United States of America is the unchallenged greatest nation in the world, and we derive our strength from Western civilization, Judeo Christianity, and free enterprise capitalism. There are many other components to those three parts that I mentioned. Of course, as I send out that message, there are those who disagree.

First, they don't think of America as an exceptional nation. They don't believe in American exceptionalism. Our President makes the statement that: oh, yes, I believe in American exceptionalism in the way the British believe in British exceptionalism and