

The First District's very own Stetson Bennett finished the night with 304 yards and 6 touchdowns. He was also named the offensive MVP.

I personally congratulate Nolan Smith, Micah Morris, Warren McClendon, Jack Podlesny, Darris Smith, and all of our other First District players.

Congratulations to the 2023 national champions, the Georgia Bulldogs. Go Dawgs.

COMPLIMENTING STEVE HARTMAN

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to compliment Steve Hartman of CBS News on his recent broadcast centered on the kindness of everyday Americans.

Practicing kindness in our daily lives is a central part of what makes America strong. Kindness plays an integral role in building family and community life and is a bedrock of civil society.

Hartman's CBS News series "Kindness 101" shares stories of compassion, friendship, and everyday acts of kindness.

One story is about a woman in Minneapolis offering free haircuts to the homeless. Another is about my fellow Ohioans contributing to a young girl's visual bucket list before she loses her eyesight. These stories teach us lessons about the unending compassion of the American people.

Both inspirational and honorable, these stories also serve as a reminder to Americans. Each of us hold the power to make positive impacts on the lives of others in our workplaces and community.

Congratulations to Steve for reminding us just how impactful everyday acts of kindness are on strengthening the United States of America.

CRISIS AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER

(Mr. GROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, the population ought to be aware of the fact that very late in the last month the administration released the new figures on what we will call legal immigrants crossing into this country. This was before there were any changes in title 42, and a lot of the focus lately has been on title 42.

We had another all-time record in November with 210,000 people crossing the border and staying here. This is a national scandal. Just making a brief appearance at the border shouldn't get Joe Biden off the hook. 210,000. By comparison, a year ago, it was 140,000. Two years ago it was under 25,000. When you are going under 25,000 to 210,000, that should be the headline in every paper of the country, and I don't care wheth-

er you release the numbers late in the day on a Friday or not.

I hope this institution does all we can to pick up the mantle that President Biden has dropped and do something about the massive increase in illegal immigration.

□ 1645

READY TO GET TO WORK

(Ms. SCHOLTEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCHOLTEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because I believe this Congress has a chance to do what is right.

I am an unflinching optimist, and I believe that we can come together to make our communities safer and more just for all.

As the first woman and mother in history to represent my district in Congress, and as an attorney that has worked for our Nation's top law enforcement agency, keeping our communities safe is a top priority of mine because violence, of all kinds, takes a massive toll on the people we represent.

Just 2 years ago, a friend of mine, Romito Jones, was shot and killed in our neighborhood on the southeast side of Grand Rapids. He was a father of five and a friend to my family.

Just last month, a recently elected member of the Muskegon Heights school board, Julius Muhammad, was shot and killed in his home. He was a dad and a public servant. He was loved and admired by his community.

Today I honor their lives as I strive for safer communities for all.

We must come together to enact commonsense reforms to keep our neighborhoods safe, support our law enforcement, and support fair and equitable enforcement of the law.

I am ready to get to work, and I invite all of my colleagues to join me.

CONGRATULATING THE TCU HORNED FROGS

(Ms. GRANGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Texas Congressional District 12's very own TCU Horned Frogs on a memorable college football season.

Even though last night's result was not the one we were hoping for, the Horned Frogs proved to be the ultimate underdog story of the year.

TCU was the smallest college or university to ever play a national championship in the modern era. They have shown great resolve and resiliency this year, which has inspired people across the Nation.

I congratulate Coach Sonny Dykes, quarterback Max Duggan, and all the staff and players on a tremendous sea-

son. The whole Fort Worth community is incredibly proud of TCU's accomplishments.

It is a privilege to represent Texas Christian University in Congress, and it was a pleasure to cheer on the team all season. Go Frogs.

PASSING IMPORTANT LEGISLATION

(Ms. STEVENS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the incredible people of Oakland County, Michigan, and Michigan's 11th District, let it be known that the very first action of the new Republican majority was to add \$100 billion to our national debt, to aid the ultra-wealthy and the non-tax paying corporations, to add to our deficit at the expense of the middle class.

We saw this before, Mr. Speaker. In fact, we have seen this time and time again: threats to the fiscal integrity of our Nation, ballooning of our debt, and the Democrats come in time and time again to clean it up.

Since being sworn into Congress, my office has helped more than a thousand constituents navigate IRS-related issues, illustrating the ongoing and vital need for adequate funding for this Nation, helping people who are seeking a tax return, helping the small business owners.

The most rewarding call you can make as a Member of Congress: Have I helped you today?

The truth is, Mr. Speaker, we must unite, we must continue to come together, and we must continue to deliver for the people who elected us.

INTRODUCING NEW LEGISLATION

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, all of us are concerned about the bullying of Communist China. I hope as we move forward, this committee that has been voted on will emphasize the bullying, but it will not emphasize the negativism that occurred during COVID with "Kung Flu" and dealing with the intimidation and the increase of Asian hatred and violence.

That is why some of us were concerned enough not to support this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, let me also say that in addition to wanting us to do better, I am excited about introducing the Battle Buddy Check legislation that has our veterans check on each other, just as if they are on the battlefield, to stop the rise of veteran suicide.

Have a battle buddy. This legislation is hopefully to save lives of our soldiers who are now veterans who have done all that they could for America.

Mr. Speaker, I am excited about the introduction of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Congressional Gold Medal.

Lyndon Baines Johnson will be looked upon as one of the greatest Presidents, giving opportunity to those who never had it in education and healthcare and the environment and criminal justice reform and the right to vote and civil rights.

I ask my colleagues to join me in the Congressional Gold Medal for Lyndon Baines Johnson.

118TH CONGRESS REGULATIONS FOR USE OF DEPOSITION AUTHORITY AND REMOTE PARTICIPATION OF COMMITTEE WITNESSES

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON RULES,
Washington, DC, January 10, 2023.

Hon. KEVIN MCCARTHY,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER KEVIN MCCARTHY: Pursuant to section 3(j) and section 3(k) of H. Res. 5, 118th Congress, I hereby submit simultaneously the regulations for the remote participation of committee witnesses and the regulations for the use of deposition authority for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Sincerely,

CHAIRMAN TOM COLE.

REGULATIONS FOR THE USE OF DEPOSITION AUTHORITY

1. Notices for the taking of depositions shall specify the date, time, and place of examination. Depositions shall be taken under oath administered by a member or a person otherwise authorized to administer oaths. Depositions may continue from day to day.

2. Consultation with the ranking minority member shall include three days' notice before any deposition is taken. All members of the committee shall also receive three days written notice that a deposition will be taken, except in exigent circumstances. For purposes of these procedures, a day shall not include Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays except when the House is in session on such a day.

3. Witnesses may be accompanied at a deposition by two designated personal, non-governmental attorneys to advise them of their rights. Only members, committee staff designated by the chair or ranking minority member, an official reporter, the witness, and the witness's two designated attorneys are permitted to attend. Other persons, including government agency personnel, may not attend.

4. The chair of the committee noticing the deposition may designate that deposition as part of a joint investigation between committees, and in that case, provide notice to the members of the committees. If such a designation is made, the chair and ranking minority member of the additional committee(s) may designate committee staff to attend pursuant to regulation 3. Members and designated staff of the committees may attend and ask questions as set forth below.

5. A deposition shall be conducted by any member or committee counsel designated by the chair or ranking minority member of the Committee that noticed the deposition. When depositions are conducted by committee counsel, there shall be no more than two committee counsel permitted to question a witness per round. One of the committee counsel shall be designated by the chair and the other by the ranking minority member per round.

6. Deposition questions shall be propounded in rounds. The length of each round

shall not exceed 60 minutes per side and shall provide equal time to the majority and the minority. In each round, the member(s) or committee counsel designated by the chair shall ask questions first, and the member(s) or committee counsel designated by the ranking minority member shall ask questions second.

7. Objections must be stated concisely and in a non-argumentative and nonsuggestive manner. A witness's attorney may not instruct a witness to refuse to answer a question, except to preserve a privilege. In the event of professional, ethical, or other misconduct by the witness's attorney during the deposition, the Committee may take any appropriate disciplinary action. The witness may refuse to answer a question only to preserve a privilege. When the witness has refused to answer a question to preserve a privilege, members or staff may (i) proceed with the deposition, or (ii) either at that time or at a subsequent time, seek a ruling from the Chair either by telephone or otherwise. If the Chair overrules any such objection and thereby orders a witness to answer any question to which an objection was lodged, the witness shall be ordered to answer. If a member of the committee chooses to appeal the ruling of the chair, such appeal must be made within three days, in writing, and shall be preserved for committee consideration. The Committee's ruling on appeal shall be filed with the clerk of the Committee and shall be provided to the members and witness no less than three days before the reconvened deposition. A deponent who refuses to answer a question after being directed to answer by the chair may be subject to sanction, except that no sanctions may be imposed if the ruling of the chair is reversed by the committee on appeal.

8. The Committee chair shall ensure that the testimony is either transcribed or electronically recorded or both. If a witness's testimony is transcribed, the witness or the witness's attorney shall be afforded an opportunity to review a copy. No later than five days after the witness has been notified of the opportunity to review the transcript, the witness may submit suggested changes to the chair. Committee staff may make any typographical and technical changes. Substantive changes, modifications, clarifications, or amendments to the deposition transcript submitted by the witness must be accompanied by a letter signed by the witness requesting the changes and a statement of the witness's reasons for each proposed change. Any substantive changes, modifications, clarifications, or amendments shall be included as an appendix to the transcript conditioned upon the witness signing the transcript.

9. The individual administering the oath, if other than a member, shall certify on the transcript that the witness was duly sworn. The transcriber shall certify that the transcript is a true record of the testimony, and the transcript shall be filed, together with any electronic recording, with the clerk of the committee in Washington, DC. Depositions shall be considered to have been taken in Washington, DC, as well as the location actually taken once filed there with the clerk of the committee for the committee's use. The chair and the ranking minority member shall be provided with a copy of the transcripts of the deposition at the same time.

10. The chair and ranking minority member shall consult regarding the release of deposition testimony, transcripts, or recordings, and portions thereof. If either objects in writing to a proposed release of a deposition testimony, transcript, or recording, or a portion thereof, the matter shall be promptly referred to the committee for resolution.

11. A witness shall not be required to testify unless the witness has been provided with a copy of section 3(k) of H. Res. 5, 118th Congress, and these regulations.

REGULATIONS FOR THE REMOTE PARTICIPATION OF COMMITTEE WITNESSES

Except as provided by section 3(j) of H. Res. 5, 118th Congress and these regulations, witnesses shall testify before a committee in person. No remote testimony will be accepted from witnesses testifying in a government capacity. In the event the chair of a committee determines that testimony of a witness appearing in a non-governmental capacity is necessary and such a witness is only available to participate remotely due to extreme hardship or other exceptional circumstances, the chair may allow the witness to participate remotely, with written approval from the Majority Leader.

The official record of the committee proceeding shall include a letter from the chair detailing the necessity of allowing the witness to participate remotely, a description of why the witness could not participate in person, why such testimony was necessary for purposes of fulfilling Congress's Article I responsibility, and a letter from the Majority Leader approving of such remote participation.

The witness must agree to remain on the platform until excused by the chair. The witness should conduct a pre-hearing technology test with staff designated by the chair, to ensure the witness will have sufficient internet connection during the hearing, and to minimize the possibility of any technical issues.

No witness appearing in a governmental capacity may participate remotely. No witness testifying before a committee in response to a subpoena is permitted to testify remotely, unless both the chair of the committee and the Majority Leader authorize such testimony in writing and printed in the Congressional Record.

Any text based or private messaging function in the software platform used to facilitate the participation of a remote witness must be disabled unless it is used to provide technical support to the witness, which may be excluded from the public video stream and will not be considered a committee record.

Only witnesses approved for remote participation may have participatory access on the software platform.

Committees may only utilize a software platform certified by the Chief Administrative Officer. The Chief Administrative Officer should inform committees, including the ranking minority members, each time a software platform is certified.

Witnesses participating remotely should appear before a nonpolitical, professional appropriate background that is minimally distracting to other members and witnesses, to the greatest extent possible. It remains within the full discretion of the chair to enforce rules of decorum for committee proceedings.

Any committee report of activities submitted pursuant to clause 1(d)(1) of rule XI should include a list of hearings conducted with remote participation.

A witness participating remotely in a committee proceeding shall be visible onscreen within the software platform until excused by the chair. The witness shall disclose to the chair and ranking member any additional individual(s) present off screen.

Witness counsel shall be allowed access on the remote proceeding software platform if they are not in the physical presence of the witness. It is recommended that counsel facilitate a separate secure line of communication with the witness. A witness may not be unmuted by any other individual and should be allowed to use such secure line of communication while testifying to confer with counsel.