

in West Virginia, nor anywhere in America, should turn a blind eye to this woke nonsense.

Former college swimmer Riley Gaines, who has been an outspoken critic of trans athletes participating in girls' sports, has weighed in on the issue, writing in a post on X: "These girls stood up for what they believed, and their coach barred them from competing. Insane."

I applaud Riley on for her amazing work advocating for young girls and women in sports.

Now, more than ever, it is important to address the unfairness in our society and the right to peacefully protest as our Constitution allows. These constant assaults on the sanctity of women's sports threaten the future of fair athletic competition in our country. The ramifications of allowing men into women's sports are far greater than simply allowing men to put on a women's uniform.

We have seen numerous examples of stronger men seriously injuring young women and girls in contact sports. Millions of young women are also being exposed to uncomfortable situations in which men are present in women's locker rooms.

Only God can create men and women. It is simply wrong for any parent to think they can or should even try to change the sex of their child. Male athletes who can't win competing against other males who then choose to take advantage of bad laws to steal titles from women are truly a threat to females.

We should be less focused on offending an individual's feelings than protecting the physical safety of our daughters who simply want to compete against other women.

Radical trans policies are out of touch with not only the facts but the pulse of this great country. We must stand up against this nonsense and unlimited overreach on the fringes.

I applaud the five young women in my district for standing up for themselves and being examples of strength as this fight for women's sports goes on.

Madam Speaker, God bless these young ladies.

NATIONAL MYOSITIS MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize May 1 as the beginning of National Myositis Month and commend the outstanding dedication and advocacy of Mr. Richard Galloway, Jr., whose parents are in the balcony today and we welcome, for his unwavering commitment to raising awareness about myositis.

Myositis is comprised of a group of muscle diseases characterized by weakness and inflammation in the muscles. Symptoms include muscle weakness,

pain, and fatigue. While there is currently no cure, there are ongoing research efforts aimed at better understanding the underlying mechanisms of this disease and to develop more effective treatment options.

Mr. Galloway's journey is one marked by resilience and compassion. In January of 2020, he was diagnosed with inclusion body myositis, otherwise known by the acronym IBM, at the Medical University of South Carolina located in Charleston. Despite facing this challenging diagnosis, he has shown remarkable strength and determination in his battle against this debilitating disease.

Beyond his personal journey, Mr. Galloway has been a tireless advocate for myositis awareness. In October of 2023, Mr. Galloway organized the impactful event Crossing the Cooper for Christ, which raised over \$13,000 for The Myositis Association. His dedication to this cause was further underscored when he was invited to lead a session known as Finding Strength Through Faith at an annual patient conference in San Diego, California.

Recognizing this significant contribution, Mr. Galloway was voted onto the board of directors of The Myositis Association at the beginning of 2024. The Myositis Association, a nonprofit organization that was founded in 1993, focuses on improving the lives of those affected by this awful disease through support, education, advocacy, and research.

Mr. Galloway's unwavering dedication to raising awareness about myositis and supporting individuals battling this disease exemplifies the best of the human spirit. His commitment to advocacy and service is an inspiration for all of us, and it is with great admiration and gratitude that I recognize his contributions today.

I also extend my sincere thanks to Mr. Galloway and The Myositis Association for their selfless dedication and tireless efforts in making a difference in the lives of those affected by this awful disease.

THE DANGERS WE FACE AS A FREE DEMOCRACY

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to respond to one of my colleagues, who I think some of you heard, who is supporting what is going on on the college campuses today. She described it as peaceful protest.

Madam Speaker, they are burning buildings. They are tearing up campuses. College presidents are not saying one word. This administration, this President, is not saying one word about it. Teachers, many of whom are tenured, are not saying one word.

This has got to stop. They have got to have consequences. They have got to have sheriffs who are willing to do whatever it takes to stop this damage to our institutions and lawlessness that is taking place all across this country.

The illegal immigration that this administration is condoning and implementing is unheard of in the history of

this Nation. In South Carolina, they are giving illegals driver's licenses and registrations to vote.

It is high time this country wakes up to the dangers that we face as a free democracy, if we can keep it. The first steps are stopping the lawless invasion at the border that, again, is unprecedented in this country.

Laken Riley, the young lady who was killed in Georgia, her only mistake was jogging around the campus.

How many more deaths do we have to have through fentanyl? It is insane what is going on in this country.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 13 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Holy and eternal God, on the occasion of the 235th anniversary of the appointment of the first Chaplain to Congress, I offer this prayer in thanksgiving to You and to our country's forebears who found it both fit and necessary to open each legislative day since 1789 with prayer.

Repeating the sentiments of George Washington in his first address shared with the House of Representatives on that same day, we offer our fervent supplications to that Almighty Being who rules over the universe, who presides in the councils of nations, and whose providential aids can supply every human defect, that His benediction may consecrate to the liberties and happiness of the people of the United States, a government instituted by themselves for these essential purposes.

While these words may not be our own, like the father of our Nation, we acknowledge and adore the invisible hand which conducts our affairs. We, like President Washington, resort to the benign parent of the human race in humble supplication, since You have been pleased to favor the American people.

Even now, 235 years later, our prayer remains the same. May Your divine blessing be equally conspicuous in the enlarged views, the temperate consultations, and the wise measures on which the success of this government may depend.

Lord, hear our prayers raised up in the past, still true in this present day,

and understood to be the foundation for our future.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DON NICHOLAS

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

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of my dear friend, Don Nicholas.

Don was a crucial member of the Texas 25th Congressional District team for over 10 years and dedicated his life to selflessly serving his country.

Time and time again, he stepped up to help those in need, day or night. He never missed a call from a veteran and opened his home up to soldiers every holiday.

Don was a 31-year Army veteran, a man of great faith and a loving husband, father, and grandfather, and always believed the North Dakota State Bison were going to win every game.

America lost a patriot, Texas lost a servant leader, and we all lost a friend. He will be dearly missed by those privileged to know him.

I am honored to celebrate the life and impact that Don had on so many. In God we trust.

EXERCISING FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHTS

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

Mr. BOWMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have had guns pulled on me multiple times by law enforcement simply for being a Black man in America, and now I see guns being drawn on peaceful protesters at Columbia University.

When I was 11 years old, I was the victim of police brutality simply for

being Black in America, and now I see that brutality being inflicted on peaceful protesters at Columbia University. For what? Simply exercising their First Amendment rights to peacefully assemble as they protest the collective punishment and murder of civilians in Gaza; 100,000 killed and injured, mostly women and children. They are protesting our taxpayer dollars going to Benjamin Netanyahu to continue this mass murder. That is their right.

They are supposed to push us to stand for what this flag represents. Are we in a police state or is this a democracy? We must stand with our young people and demand justice and freedom for Palestinians and everyone in this world.

CELEBRATING SMALL BUSINESSES ACROSS PENNSYLVANIA'S 15TH DISTRICT

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate our small businesses across the Pennsylvania 15th Congressional District, the Commonwealth, and the country. This week we recognize the importance of our small businesses and the role that they play in our communities as part of National Small Business Week.

Small businesses are the cornerstone of communities. They are often the first place you go to for local support. From asking for donations for fundraisers to sponsoring your youth sports teams, it is the local small businesses that answer the call.

More than half of Americans either work for or own a small business, and they create nearly two out of every three jobs in the United States every year. Our small businesses play a central role in building a strong country, and we are so grateful for their contributions to our communities.

Now small businesses need our support. There are many ways you can show your support: by writing a review, telling friends and family about your favorite shop, or interacting with the business on social media.

Mr. Speaker, this week I encourage you all to make the effort to shop small and shop local at your favorite small businesses.

MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS NEED BETTER TRAINING IN NUTRITION

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, food is medicine, and our medical professionals need proper training to screen and treat food insecurity and diet-related diseases.

That is why I have joined together with Representative VERN BUCHANAN on a bipartisan letter to the Accredita-

tion Council for Graduate Medical Education, urging them to incorporate nutrition education into the program requirements for graduate medical education. By doing so, graduate medical programs will be required to adequately prepare physicians in nutrition, improving health outcomes, and saving our healthcare system a lot of money.

Mr. Speaker, the idea that our medical professionals should have better training in nutrition isn't a concept we just came up with here in Washington.

When I visit medical students, physicians, nurses, and other medical professionals back home, I hear over and over again how they don't feel adequately prepared to treat food insecurity and diet-related diseases.

I am proud to further a key recommendation in the National Strategy on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health, and ask all my colleagues to support efforts to improve nutrition education for physicians.

HONORING PETE DOBITZ

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

Mr. ARMSTRONG. Mr. Speaker, a pretty cool thing happened in my hometown of Dickinson, North Dakota, last week: Pete Dobitz won his 500th career game as our high school baseball coach.

Since 2000, Dickinson High School has won five State championships and has been runners-up three times. If that is not enough, Coach Dobitz spends his summers coaching and running the Babe Ruth baseball team. To be honest, he would have gotten here a little earlier, but he refuses to count the 2004 State championship season because he was deployed, honorably serving the State of North Dakota and our country in the National Guard.

I can't think of anybody more worthy of being able to be addressed on the floor of the House today. I have had the privilege of coaching with him. I have had the privilege of running a baseball program where he ran my Babe Ruth program, and I have the privilege and honor of calling him my friend.

He has touched numerous high school students' lives, both in the classroom and in the ballpark. Here is to another 24 years and 500 wins because he is a fixture in the third-base dugout.

DARK CHAPTER IN FLORIDA HISTORY

(Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, look at this map. Today is a dark day in the State of Florida because we join all of these States that are in dark colors as our draconian 6-week abortion ban goes into effect, gutting access to abortion care in Florida and in the South. It is essentially a