

Minnesota State championship this last week.

The Eagles prevailed 38-17 in the championship matchup. They finished their 2017 season with an undefeated 13-0 record.

Eden Prairie was led by senior running back Solo Falaniko, who rushed for 90 yards on 22 carries and scored a touchdown, as well as senior all-purpose Antonio Montero, who had 58 yards rushing with three touchdowns.

Mr. Speaker, it takes commitment, perseverance, and hard work to become State champions. It is even more impressive, considering that these team members and student athletes consistently and successfully balance schoolwork and other extracurricular activities with their athletics. That is why I commend these athletes.

Congratulations to the players, the coaches, the parents, and all the fans of the Eden Prairie football team on your State title. Our entire community is very proud of your accomplishment.

Go Eagles.

HONORING THE WISHES OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, recently, I met with a group of engineering and nursing students from Rutgers University. These young people have worked hard to get an education so they can help communities in need, but they came to the Nation's Capital asking for help that only Congress can provide.

These bright young minds are not U.S. citizens; they are what we call DREAMers. Each day that passes without Congress voting on the Dream Act darkens their futures. Like the 20,000 other DREAMers in my district, these are young people who fear that they will be detained and deported to places they have never seen or known before.

Mr. Speaker, the holiday season is supposed to be a time of joy and celebration, not fear and uncertainty. I implore my colleagues to honor the wishes of the American people and do the right thing by history. Let us finally pass the Dream Act.

MOURNING THE LOSS OF BORDER PATROL AGENT ROGELIO MARTINEZ

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as most of us were sitting down for our Thanksgiving meal with our turkey and dressing, there was an empty chair at the Martinez home because, just a few days before Thanksgiving, 36-year-old Texas Border Patrol Agent Rogelio Martinez was killed manning Texas' often violent southern border.

Initial reports indicate Martinez and his partner were ambushed by a group

of illegal immigrants attempting to cross into the United States. The illegals began throwing rocks, hitting the two officers over and over again. Both agents suffered broken bones and major head trauma. Martinez's partner is still in the hospital in critical condition.

Agent Martinez was killed by those seeking to enter the United States illegally by whatever means possible, ultimately, by killing him. The FBI is still investigating the homicide and seeks to bring those responsible to justice.

Rock throwers are not that uncommon on the Texas-Mexico border. Since 2003, 39—39—border patrol agents have been killed while on patrol.

Our agents are outmanned, outgunned, and sometimes outfinanced by the drug cartels trying to enter the United States. Our border protectors deserve our total admiration and support.

We mourn the loss of Border Agent Martinez. May God bless his family.

And that is just the way it is.

TAX PLAN RAISING TAXES ON MILLIONS OF AMERICANS AND EXPLODING THE DEFICIT

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

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Speaker, 2 weeks ago, this Chamber passed a tax plan that would raise taxes on millions of Americans and explode the deficit. Now the Senate is having its turn. Their proposal would devastate working families through tax hikes and undermine Americans' healthcare through the stealth repeal of the Affordable Care Act.

Just as the House Republican plan included a huge middle class tax increase, so does the Senate's. By 2027, 82 million middle class households would see a tax increase.

But the damage of the Senate plan goes beyond that. It would cut Medicare by \$25 billion next year alone and add \$1.4 trillion to the deficit, and it would destabilize healthcare for millions of Americans.

The Senate plan would leave 13 million more Americans without healthcare, while those keeping theirs would see premiums jump up by 10 percent per year for the next decade.

Republican Senators have already spoken out against this bill. The truth is we all should.

CONGRATULATING NEEDVILLE LADY BLUE JAYS

(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, it first happened in 1975, then 1976, 1977, and 1992. The fifth time was November 18, 2017, 2 weeks ago.

The Needville Lady Blue Jays won the Texas State volleyball champion-

ship. One word describes our Blue Jays, and that word is "domination." They swept the playoffs, losing 1 out of 22 sets.

All of Texas 22 is proud of our coaches—Schultz, Bradford, and Smyers—and the stars who took us on the drive for five: Janssen, Sydney, Kailey, Peyton, Hayden, MacKenzie, Kaitlyn, Samantha, Anna, Baley, Madison, Evan, Treasure, and Maddy.

Mr. Speaker, get ready, number six is coming in 2018.

Go Blue Jays.

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CONGRATULATING TROY HIGH SCHOOL

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

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Flying Horses of Troy High School football team for an extraordinary achievement: winning a second consecutive New York State Public High School Athletic Association Class AA State Championship.

Troy's Flying Horses are the first team in section 2 history to accomplish back-to-back undefeated seasons and State championship wins.

Their 41-26 championship win this past Sunday over an impressive Lancaster Legends team showed the dedication and heart of each and every one of the players, their families, and their coach—their supercoach—Bobby Burns.

On behalf of countless proud fans and supporters throughout New York State's capital region, I wish the players great success in all of their future endeavors. I, again, congratulate them and salute their passion, their dedication, and their sportsmanship. They are, indeed, an inspiration to all of us.

RECOGNIZING LARRY HANSON

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Larry Hanson's 42 years of public service, including 22 years as the longest serving city manager for Valdosta, Georgia.

Members of the Valdosta City Council say that appointing Mr. Hanson to city manager was one of the most important events in recent history for the community.

One of Mr. Hanson's first initiatives after becoming city manager was to hire a new police chief, fire chief, city engineer, and reorganize the entire city marshal office. A testament to his efforts, he received countless awards, including Outstanding Public Official and Georgia Trend Magazine Excellence in Public Service.

On December 8, Mr. Hanson will officially retire from his position as Valdosta city manager. The next city

manager will certainly have large shoes to fill.

In Mr. Hanson's next move, he will become the executive director for the Georgia Municipal Association, overseeing 500 Georgia cities, which I am sure will benefit from his assistance.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Larry on his years of public service, and best wishes for his future endeavors.

NATIONAL DAY OF GIVING

(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, today is Giving Tuesday, a global day dedicated to giving back.

Last week, we celebrated Thanksgiving, and families across the country gathered to celebrate and give thanks for all their blessings.

Today, on the National Day of Giving, many come together for a common purpose: to celebrate generosity and to give.

Giving Tuesday kicks off the charitable season when many focus on their holiday and end-of-year giving to worthy causes. Charitable giving is a force for good, which is why the tax reform package, approved by the House, maintains this important deduction.

Charities, families, businesses, community centers, and people around the world will lend their time or their personal resources to philanthropic efforts across the Nation.

Giving Tuesday also brings together the collective power of a unique blend of partners—nonprofits, civic organizations, businesses and corporations, as well as families and individuals—to encourage and amplify small acts of kindness.

As a global movement, Giving Tuesday unites countries around the world by sharing our capacity to care for and empower one another. That is something we can all celebrate.

RECOGNIZING ERIN HAMLIN

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

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Erin Hamlin, a hardworking and outstanding constituent of the 22nd Congressional District, who has just qualified for her fourth consecutive Winter Olympic Games.

Erin hails from a beautiful hamlet in Oneida County, known as Remsen, New York.

Erin started her career in luge in 2005. Her first major international victory was achieved in 2009, in Lake Placid, at the World Luge Championships, where Erin earned a remarkable gold medal.

At the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics, Erin became the first American ever—both male and female—to medal in a

singles luge competition when she brought home the bronze for Team USA.

Next year, Erin will represent Team USA in South Korea by again competing in the singles luge competition.

Please join me in wishing the best of luck to our hometown rock star Erin Hamlin and all of Team USA in next year's Winter Olympic Games in Pyeongchang, South Korea.

TAX REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SMUCKER). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to talk about a bill that poses a great danger to our country and a great danger to our people, particularly our people who are struggling, who are living from paycheck to paycheck, because this bill, contrary to the assertion of our Republican colleagues, will not help them, and we are going to talk about that.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN), a senior member of the Ways and Means Committee, and my friend.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank our whip for trying to whip some common sense into this debate.

I want to focus on the claims of the Republicans that this is a middle class tax cut. Halloween is over, but the masks of the Republican are still on. I think the largest and the most dangerous one is the claim that this is a middle class tax cut.

Mr. Speaker, I want to quote the President: "It is a tax bill for middle class."

Again, the President: "We will cut taxes tremendously for the middle class—not just a little bit, but tremendously."

The Speaker: "The focus is on middle class tax relief."

The chairman of the committee: "The truth is this is whole tax reform is designed for the middle class family that is working so hard or that Main Street business that is working so hard."

The majority leader in the Senate:

To keep growing again, like we need this code to do, to get new jobs, opportunity, and significant tax relief for the middle class.

Mr. Mnuchin: "On the personal tax side, middle-income people are getting cuts and rich people are getting very little cuts or, in certain cases, increases under the Republican bills."

Mr. Mnuchin again: "Any reductions we have in upper income taxes will be offset by less deductions, so there will be no absolute tax cut for the upper class."

Senator HATCH: "Tax reform will provide relief and bigger paychecks to low- and middle-income families, make America a better place to start and grow a business, and allow American

businesses to compete in the global marketplace."

The Joint Tax Committee and other entities have shown that this is not at all a middle class tax cut. The main beneficiaries are the very, very wealthy.

Also, in terms of passthrough, there is so much talk that this will help the small-business person. The truth of the matter is that the vast majority of the benefit for passthroughs is going to go to the very wealthy.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. HOYER has been taking the lead on this and I salute him.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to close by saying one thing about the deficits. You know, I don't think they called Mr. HOYER a deficit hawk because he always wanted a balance, and he always said: "Look, deficits by themselves aren't the only issue, but they are deeply relevant."

Mr. HOYER and I have stood together with others. When bills came up, which seemed so attractive, but were unpaid for, hundreds of billions of dollars, we said to the Republicans and anyone who voted with them: "You are increasing the deficit, and it is very risky."

Mr. Speaker, as true as that may have been—and Mr. HOYER and I thought it was some years ago, or last year included—it is now even more relevant and more dangerous because here we have a proposal in the House and it is going to be duplicated in the Senate. It is going to increase the deficit at least \$1.5 trillion, and the notion is it will be taking care of growth.

Mr. Speaker, I close by saying maybe that is the second biggest Halloween mask on the bill here and in the Senate. The notion of "Don't worry about tax losses all of a sudden, don't worry about the deficit increasing, because growth will take care of it," we have seen that mask before.

Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to join Mr. HOYER, but also to salute him for his dedicated and endless determination to really talk sense and talk the truth.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. HOYER for yielding to me.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his kind comments and for the information he gave. As a senior member of the Ways and Means Committee he is, I think, as knowledgeable about the history of these tax cuts as anyone can be, so I thank the gentleman for joining us in this effort to educate our friends and colleagues and the American public on the consequences of this bill.

Mr. LEVIN. And I will keep doing it.

And now Mr. HOYER is going to yield to another champion who has worked how many years on these issues?

Don't say it is a long time.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Several.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. LARSON), one of the senior members of