

We must support schools and students and teachers in every zip code, and we must make higher education more affordable. We must invest in Historically Black Colleges and Universities and support the students that attend them. Finally, we must build a more inclusive economy, with programs and policies that are equitable.

Mr. Speaker, the Supreme Court may have decided to ignore centuries of slavery, centuries of discrimination, centuries of inequality—but I have not. I am proud to stand with my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus, because we understand that this ruling is a setback, but that it is also a call to action. We must keep fighting for an America where all people can thrive.

CONGRATULATING ELLE NORTH ON HER CLASS 3 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 17, 2023

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Lutheran St. Charles' Elle North on her victory in Missouri's Class 3 400 Meter Dash State Championship.

Elle claimed the Class 3 title with an impressive time of 57:75. As the only Cougar returning to the state meet after qualifying as a freshman last year, she was a key contributor to her team's state championship title. Elle not only won the 400-meter dash; she also was the runner-up in the 200-meter dash. Elle should be commended for all her hard work throughout the past year and for bringing home the state championship to his school and community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Elle North for a job well done.

HONORING THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (USC) WOMEN'S BEACH VOLLEYBALL TEAM

HON. SYDNEY KAMLAGER-DOVE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 17, 2023

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the University of Southern California (USC) Women's Beach Volleyball National Championship win. Last month's victory marked the team's third straight championship and sixth overall national title, as well as the 135th national championship for the University of Southern California. In addition, it is the 27th National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) win for a USC women's athletics team.

On behalf of the 37th Congressional District, I want to extend an enthusiastic congratulations to Harper Hallgren, Delaney Karl, Jenna Johnson, Maby Thomas, Olivia Bakos, Madison White, Colby Bennett, Tatiana Rusich, Sterling Fischer, Bailey Showalter, Ava Gallien, Ashlyn Rasnick-Pope, Megan Kraft, Delaynie Maple, Audrey Norse, Klaire VanDeusen, Caitlin Cummings, Gabby Walker,

Madison Shields, and Nicole Nourse on their impressive triumph. Kudos for all their hard work.

I would also like to congratulate Coach Dain Blanton, Assistant Coaches Gustavo Rocha and Emily Hansen, and Director of Operations Claire Kieffer-Wright, who all played a vital role in leading these young women to victory. Coach Blanton has accomplished the near impossible by leading his team to back-to-back-to-back wins as head coach and has enjoyed prior victories as assistant coach. Coach Blanton, Assistant Coaches Rocha and Hansen, and Director Kieffer-Wright's dedication to drawing out the best in their players and serving as encouraging voices has no doubt helped the team on their path to victory.

Athletics are a celebration of the human spirit. Playing a sport at the Division 1 collegiate level is no small feat, but playing at that level and being the best requires hustle and determination. They push themselves to their limits and train hard with their teammates day after day. This team has shown us the power of unity in achieving high arching goals; their spirit of camaraderie has allowed them to overcome obstacles and emerge victorious, supporting each other along the way. Their shared goal and commitment to one another powered them through the long season and delivered them to triumph.

This month, we will celebrate the 51st anniversary of Title IX. Decades ago, women wouldn't have had the opportunity to be part of a collegiate level, championship-winning team. The USC Women's Beach Volleyball team has inspired countless young girls to pursue their dreams fearlessly and are a testament to the progress that has been made in athletics.

The Women of Troy secured their sixth beach volleyball national title while battling their crosstown rivals, the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) Bruins. The neck-and-neck May 7th championship match all came down to the last set with senior twin sisters Audrey and Nicole Nourse on the court. After going back and forth in the tight set with the Bruins, the Nourse sisters led their team to a 15-11 win to claim victory in the match and the 2023 NCAA championship.

I want to offer special recognition to the graduating students on the team. Seniors Harper Hallgren, Audrey Nourse, and Nicole Nourse and graduate students Jenna Johnson, Madison Shields, and Ashlyn Rasnick-Pope should be proud of their leadership of the team over the past few years and their incredible back-to-back-to-back wins. We will all miss watching them play, and we will never forget the indelible mark they have made.

As a USC alumna, I was excited to meet the Women of Troy and congratulate them on their National Championship title. I could not be prouder to share an alma mater with these remarkable women. Fight On, Trojans.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRANDON WILLIAMS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 17, 2023

Mr. WILLIAMS of New York. Mr. Speaker, due to an unexpected surgery this week, I will not be able to attend votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 328.

CONGRATULATING LUTHERAN ST. CHARLES ON THEIR CLASS 3 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 17, 2023

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Lutheran St. Charles Track and Field Team on their victory in the Class 3 State Championship.

Lutheran St. Charles claimed the Class 3 title in an impressive team effort. With only one member of the team a returner to the state competition, the team's plethora of young talent bodes well for its future. Although their title seemed secure after 15 events, they finished strong and brought home the championship. The Cougars should be commended for all their hard work throughout the past year, and I'd like to wish the team luck as they move up to succeed in Class 4 next year.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the Lutheran St. Charles Cougars for a job well done.

COUNT THE KICKS

HON. ZACHARY NUNN

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 17, 2023

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about a silent crisis in the U.S. Stillbirths claim the lives of more than 21,000 babies every year.

After suffering devastating stillborn losses, 5 Iowa women took their grief and turned it into fuel; they wanted to keep other families from joining their club. So, they founded the non-profit organization Healthy Birth Day, and along with the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services, they have since lowered Iowa's stillbirth rate by 32 percent. Based on scientific evidence, their Count the Kicks stillbirth prevention program educates expectant parents about the importance of tracking fetal movement in the third trimester of pregnancy.

With programs to educate and empower expectant parents with stillbirth prevention education, we can save thousands of babies from preventable stillbirth each year. The stillbirth crisis is URGENT and needs to be addressed, so I want to acknowledge the powerful work of these Iowans on a bi-partisan issue we should all get behind.

I want to also take a moment to recognize Brian and Mary Lohse and their daughter Genevieve, as well as Arizona Count the Kicks Ambassador, Shawn Soumilas, and her son Zach for their tireless work to prevent stillbirths.

RECOGNIZING MR. LARRY HALLUM

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 17, 2023

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Larry Vernon Hallum, who