

20 years of war and under the repressive rule of the Taliban, which emerged as a military force in 1994 and declared itself the government of Afghanistan.

Taliban decrees have basically restricted women in all aspects of their lives. These restrictions are religiously and institutionally sanctioned and include: (a) Dress codes; (b) prohibitions against work and education; and (c) various acts of violence against women. In fact, violence against women in Afghanistan has reached pandemic proportions. Women and girls are systemically subjected to rape, kidnaping, forced marriage or prostitution. As expected, the mental health of these women has severely deteriorated and some have committed suicide.

Many women were educated before the Taliban took power and they represented 70 percent of all teachers, 50 percent of civil servants, and 40 percent of medical doctors. These same women can no longer practice their trades or work at all and have been basically relegated to non human status.

I am sure it is difficult for many Americans to imagine the existence of these women. But we must attempt to understand their pain. America is a land that stands for justice and human rights and as the leaders of this great nation, I ask my colleagues to be committed to maintaining these principles in our nation and around the world. We must work to safeguard women's human rights and ensure that individuals, terrorist groups, government forces and armed groups are prevented from committing human rights violations. That is why I commend my colleague in organizing this Special Order to bring this grave and serious issue to light.

September 11, 2001 has changed all of our lives. We are fighting a war against terrorism and in defense of our homeland. However, we must remember that terrorism comes in various forms and includes violations of human rights. The Afghan women are currently being terrorized by the Taliban. It is my hope that, as we fight this war we are not only fighting against the Taliban because they may harbor terrorists, but also because their restrictions and atrocities against women in Afghanistan are, in fact, terrorist acts.

It is my hope that we will one day be able to imagine a world where Afghan women are able to live freely as first class citizens of a progressively democratic society, a world where we are free of terrorism, and a world where peace is the norm. I urge my colleagues and the international community to unite towards this goal and make it a reality.

CONGRATULATING GUAM LITTLE LEAGUE AND GUAM SENIOR LEAGUE ALL STARS

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, as this year's baseball season comes to a close, I would be remiss if I failed to make mention of the accomplishments of a number of impressive young individuals from Guam. This year

Guam's Little League and Senior League competed in the World Series tournaments of their respective leagues. Guam's Little League All Stars finished third in the annual tournament held in Williamsport, Pennsylvania while their Senior League counterparts finished fourth in the tournament held at Kissimmee, Florida. Both tournaments were held last August.

After winning the Guam Major Little League All-Island Tournament, Guam's Central Little League All Stars went on to represent the island in the Pacific Tournament held in Hong Kong between July 26, and August 3, earlier this year. Guam emerged from this tournament as the Pacific champions earning this group of enthusiastic ballplayers a trip to the annual Little League World Series in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. By beating the Philippines at the 2001 Major Little League Pacific Tournament at Tsingyi Sports Ground in Hong Kong with a score of 15-0, the Central All Stars earned for Guam its first ever berth in the Little League World Series. This evoked much pride for the island as the young men competed at a higher level of competition.

The Guam team made an impressive debut as they beat Mexico with a score of 6-5 in their opening game. Their next game was a shut out—beating the European champions, Russia with a score of 5-0. They went on to overcome a 3-run deficit in their third game to beat Canada 6-5. After advancing to the semi-finals with a 3-0 record, the Central All-Stars were defeated by Curacao to finish third in the series. Although there were some feelings of disappointment among this group of little leaguers, they have come to a consensus that their performance was nothing short of exceptional.

Their Senior League counterparts also have a reason to hold their heads up high. Already the five-time defending Far East champions, Guam's Senior League team, earned its fifth consecutive trip to the Annual Senior League Baseball World Series by beating the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in a best-of-three series during the Senior League Far East Tournament. Out of the nine teams that participated, Guam, representing the Far East, finished fourth.

Upon their homecoming, the young men received a heroes' welcome at the A.B. Won Pat International Airport. For their performances in and out of the ballfield, they were hailed as goodwill ambassadors for the island. They came back as better players after having been exposed to a higher level of competitions while, at the same time, being acquainted with extra-ordinary discipline, gaining self respect, and learning how to perform under pressure in front of thousands of spectators. Under the direction of former Mayor Greg Calvo, the Guam Little League Baseball, Inc., along with the support of the teams' managers, coaches, family members and the community should be commended for all of their support and commitment to the local baseball program.

Baseball is truly the American past time. This is best demonstrated by young men playing the game competitively while still untainted by cynicism and commercialization. As illustrated by the Senior League and Little League World Series Tournaments, the game brings friends, families, communities, and the world together. I am both proud and pleased that

young men from my home island of Guam are able to contribute and participate in this experience and in the end take pride in their performance.

Mr. Speaker, I commend and congratulate these young men along with their managers and coaches for their accomplishments and for giving the island of Guam additional reasons to be proud of their island. I would like to submit for the RECORD the team rosters of the 2001 Far East Senior League Champions and the 2001 Pacific Little League Champions.

2001 GLL SENIOR DIVISION

Central LL President: Frank J.C. Camacho.

Central LL Vice-President: Lurline White. Manager: Tony Calvo.

Head Coach: Joe Hernandez. Assistant Coach: Andy Quintanilla.

Players: Michael Dene Aguon, Jaylon Alvarez, Keith Castro, Eric Cepeda, Joshua Cruz, Chris Duenas, Joe Guerrero, Tommy Hernandez, Brian Manibusan, R.J. Miner, Mark Reyes, Luis San Nicolas, Gerald Santos, Miller Santos.

2001 CENTRAL DIVISION ALL-STARS (LITTLE LEAGUE)

Manager: Ramon C. Aguon.

Head Coach: Michael R. Aguon.

Assistant Coach: Stephen Barcinas.

Players: Derwin Aguon, Eugene Aguon, Matthew Barcinas, Freddie Cepeda, Derek Daga, Darryl Delgado, Alejandro Diaz, Kurt Diaz, Kristopher Kaneshiro, Michael Peredo, Samuel Roberto, Henry Salas, Aaron Sanchez, Robert Weekly.

COMBATING ILLEGAL GAMBLING REFORM AND MODERNIZATION ACT

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2001

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce today legislation that represents a bipartisan effort to address the ever increasing problem of illegal Internet gambling in our Nation.

The Internet is a revolutionary tool that dramatically affects the way we communicate, conduct business, and access information. As it knows no boundaries, the Internet is accessed by folks in rural and urban areas alike, in large countries as well as small. The Internet is currently expanding by leaps and bounds; however, it has not yet come close to reaching its true potential as a medium for commerce and communication.

One of the main reasons that the Internet has not reached this potential is that many folks view it as a wild frontier, with no safeguards to protect children and very few legal protections to prevent online criminal activity. The ability of the World Wide Web to penetrate every home and community across the globe has both positive and negative implications—while it can be an invaluable source of information and means of communication, it can also override community values and standards, subjecting them to whatever may or may not be found online. In short, the Internet is a challenge to the sovereignty of civilized communities, States, and nations to decide what is appropriate and decent behavior.