

November 29, 2001

football field where John was always willing to give his players the opportunity to shine. He was a successful leader on the gridiron, and in the face of insurmountable odds encouraged his players to their best.

Mr. Speaker, John will be missed by many in this community. It has always been known that his greatest passion was his love and dedication to his family. It is with a solemn heart that we pay our respects to his family and friends, and to all those who were touched by John during his life. John Henderson dedicated many years to this community, and he will be greatly missed.

HAITI STATEMENT BY REP.
MAXINE WATERS

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2001

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. Yet the U.S. government is blocking aid to Haiti in order to expand the influence of a single Haitian political party. This party, known as the Democratic Convergence, is supported by less than four percent of the Haitian electorate.

Meanwhile, Haiti's population is facing a serious humanitarian crisis. Haiti's per capita income is only \$460 per year. Four percent of the population is infected with the AIDS virus, and 163,000 children have been orphaned by AIDS. Every year, there are 30,000 new AIDS cases. The infant mortality rate is over seven percent. For every 1000 infants born in Haiti, five women die in childbirth. Furthermore, there are only 1.2 doctors for every 10,000 people in this desperately poor country.

Not only has the United States suspended development assistance to Haiti, the United States is also blocking loans from international financial institutions such as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the Inter-American Development Bank. U.S. policy has effectively prevented Haiti from receiving \$146 million in loans from the Inter-American Development Bank that were already approved by that institution's Board of Directors. These loans are desperately needed by the people of Haiti.

It is time for the United States to end this political impasse and restore bilateral and multilateral assistance to this impoverished democracy.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

WTO NEGOTIATIONS AND TRADE
PROMOTION AUTHORITY

HON. GARY A. CONDIT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2001

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, as Congress continues to debate the Farm Bill, U.S. trade negotiations at the WTO Ministerial in Doha agreed that future trade talks would seek to limit domestic farm programs, including phasing out of forms of export subsidies and substantial reductions in trade-distorting domestic support. The decisions in Doha line up U.S. trade negotiators to eliminate U.S. farm programs as a chit in exchange for better overseas market access for U.S. banks and other service providers.

The negotiating goal of significantly reducing "trade-distorting" farm programs presents a real problem for Congressionally mandated farm programs. While U.S. negotiators have agreed to work towards phasing out all forms of export subsidies and substantially reducing trade-distorting domestic support, the House of Representatives recently passed H.R. 2646, the Farm Security Act. H.R. 2646 provides \$409.7 billion in market price support programs, loan deficiency programs and marketing loan assistance to struggling farmers for the next 10 year-farmers who are struggling in large part due to cheap, subsidized foreign imports and restrictive trade laws abroad.

If this hit on U.S. agriculture policy were not damaging enough, U.S. trade negotiators reopened our country's longstanding position against putting U.S. anti-dumping laws on the WTO negotiating table. These trade laws are farmers' last defense when countries dump below-cost commodities on the U.S. market. Yet, USTR agreed to immediate negotiations in this area, even though a long list of WTO countries including Brazil, Japan and Australia have stated clearly that their only purpose for seeking such talks is to weaken existing U.S. trade law.

While the Administration has opened the door for reducing domestic assistance to U.S. farmers and weakening anti-dumping laws, it is also pushing for Trade Promotion Authority from Congress. If TPA is granted, Congress loses its ability to influence the substance of agriculture negotiations. Under TPA, Congress cannot remove or amend offensive agricultural provisions, it can only reject the entire WTO negotiated pact. Under these conditions, American agriculture is at risk when negotiators are willing to compromise U.S. producers' interests in exchange for new market access for U.S. telecommunications firms, banks and other service providers in other nations.

While I fully appreciate the opportunities of a global marketplace for our farmers, it is irresponsible to oversell the benefits of free trade

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that is not fair. Agriculture remains in a precarious position for further WTO discussions. Congress must not relax its vigilance over trade deals that compromise American agriculture.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO GORDON
HARBERT

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2001

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an outstanding individual from Grand Junction, Colorado. Over the years, Gordon Harbert has distinguished himself as a business, community, and industry leader for Grand Junction. Gordon's dedication is impressive and it is my honor to recognize several of his accomplishments and good deeds.

Gordon is a third generation owner of Harbert Lumber Company located in Grand Junction. The company has served the community since 1937 and continues to provide quality products and service to the entire Western Slope of Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming. As an industry leader, Gordon serves on the Board of Directors of the Western Colorado Business Development Corp, and has created a new philanthropy role for Harbert Lumber business. In this role, the company has donated building materials and equipment to organizations such as Camp Kiwanis and the Salvation Army for much needed improvements and renovations.

Gordon has also distinguished himself as a leader in the community by volunteering his time and efforts to several organizations in the area. He created and served as Chairman of the Western Slope Golf Tournament for over a decade, only recently stepping down to take on new responsibilities. He is a great supporter of the Young Life's Christian Outreach program, and served as Chairman of the local Kiwanis Club. Gordon has also been actively involved with Mesa Developmental Services by providing woodworking equipment to create products for the organization to promote and sell in his store and to the community.

Mr. Speaker, Gordon Harbert's dedication led to his recognition in 1996 as Citizen of the Year by the Chamber of Commerce acknowledging his dedication to his employees, his community, and friends. It is now my honor to congratulate Gordon on his most recent and well-deserved award from the industry community, Lumberman of the Year, presented by the Mountain States Lumber and Building Material Dealers Association. Gordon has been a model citizen to the community and I extend my thanks to him for his efforts. Keep up the hard work Gordon and good luck in your future endeavors.