

teaching and coaching career, leading Eggers Middle School football, basketball and track teams to numerous city championships.

Rudy Folta, a current resident of Chicago, Illinois, won eight varsity letters as a football quarterback, basketball guard, and baseball shortstop for the Hammond Tech Tigers before graduating in 1957. After graduation, Folta continued his football career at Wabash College, where he captained the Little Giants in 1960.

Current Griffith, Indiana resident Hal Morris enjoyed a school record setting and state championship career as a high school sprinter at Clark High School. After placing fifth in the state track and field finals his sophomore and junior years, he won the 220-yard dash in the state finals in 1946. He also placed second in the state that year in the 100-yard dash.

Terry Irk, currently of Bainbridge, Indiana, was a 1971 Gavit graduate. While at Gavit, he was active in football, basketball and golf. As a versatile football player, Irk played quarterback and safety and his play earned him all-conference and all-area honors, as well as a scholarship to the University of Evansville.

Kurt Nondorf of Houston, Texas, was a standout in football and track at Hammond High School. After graduating from Hammond High, he continued competing in both sports as an Ivy Leaguer at Yale.

Frank Staucet of Slingerlands, New York, graduated from Catholic Central, now Bishop Noll, in 1941. After a season of college baseball at St. Joseph's College and three years representing his nation in the armed forces, he embarked in 1946 on a 10-year professional baseball career. Playing primarily shortstop for Albany, New York of the Eastern League, he compiled a career minor league batting average of .261, including a .300 mark his final season. He was a league all-star in 1948, 1949 and 1950.

While attending Clark High School, current Highland, Indiana resident Bob Wilson, Sr., was an exceptional football, basketball, and baseball player. He went on to achieve prominence in the sport of bowling. Wilson has won numerous titles in various bowling competitions, including the ABC's National Team Championship in 1979.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Mike Bradburn, Bob Bradtke, Allison Buell, Donald Clark, Ray Cross, Rudy T. Folta, Terry Irk, Hal Morris, Kurt Nondorf, Frank P. Staucet, and Bob Wilson, Sr. for being inducted into the Hammond Sports Hall of Fame. Their service, dedication, and success have left an indelible mark on Hammond, Indiana and Indiana's First Congressional District.

IN RECOGNITION OF GUAM'S  
EXEMPLARY JUNIOR ROTC UNITS

**HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to offer words of praise and commendation for the three student cadet units of the U.S. Army Junior Reserve Officer Training

Corps (ROTC) program on Guam. These deserving units, based at George Washington High School in Mangilao, Southern High School in Santa Rita, and Simon Sanchez High School in Yigo, have all been recently bestowed the designation of "Honor Unit with Distinction" following formal evaluation on the part of senior ROTC officers. This recognition is the third consecutive time that Guam's units have been awarded high marks of excellence from Cadet Command.

As part of the formal tri-annual certification process, officers from the U.S. Army ROTC Cadet Command, Fourth Region Headquarters, in Fort Lewis, Washington, recently conducted thorough on-site inspections of Guam's Junior ROTC units. Rigorous review of several critical areas, including cadet participation and performance, records and administration, public affairs and recruiting, training management, supply and logistics and school support were undertaken during this extensive inspection process. Cadets were responsible for briefing the inspection officers. Their performance was scrutinized and examined based on the Army's standards. The results yielded superior rating for the cadets, indicating that they executed their briefings well and were solid in drill and ceremony, curriculum knowledge, supply room inspection, and management.

This news is further testament to the success of the Junior ROTC program and the positive impact it has on the young men and women who choose to participate. Every year, Mr. Speaker, I am fortunate enough to have the opportunity to meet with the cadets and cadre of Guam's Junior ROTC units here in Washington. They make their annual journey each Fall to visit our Nation's capital city and learn about the legislative process. I have witnessed first-hand their remarkable growth and enjoy engaging in dialogue with them about their educational experiences.

Mr. Speaker, it is with these thoughts in mind and in proud recognition of their accomplishments, that I offer a whole-hearted congratulations to the young men and women of Guam's U.S. Army Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) program. Their accomplishments and efforts are to be lauded and appropriately acknowledged. I am honored to have been invited to speak at their upcoming Military Ball this Saturday, the 17th of March. I accepted their invitation without hesitation and look forward to personally meeting each one of the cadets and cadre to share in celebration of their success.

These distinguished cadets deserve our praise, our thanks, and our continued support. May the Junior ROTC Program continue to motivate young people to be better citizens. Mr. Speaker, I commend the Junior ROTC cadets and cadre on Guam. We on Guam are proud of their achievement. They have set the example for other units throughout the Nation to emulate. I urge them to keep up the good work and always remember the values instilled and skills acquired through participation in this invaluable program.

TRIBUTE TO THE AMERICAN  
CHEMICAL SOCIETY

**HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the American Chemical Society and its more than 163,000 members on their remarkable achievements in chemistry throughout history. ACS was founded 125 years ago. In 1937, Congress charged ACS with advancing the chemical sciences and to promote research, education, and high standards of professional ethics. ACS members have played key roles in expanding the frontiers of knowledge, advancing medicine and industry, and creating products—from aspirin to the Hula Hoop.

Advances in the sciences have given us limitless possibilities to increase our knowledge, to share new discoveries, and to make life better for people across our country and around the world. Chemistry contributes to the safety and quality of our food, the fuel-efficiency of our cars, the speed of our computers, and the effectiveness of our medicines and vaccines. Those achievements wouldn't be possible without the vision and innovation of scientists and engineers.

We must do a better job teaching our children science and mathematics and motivating them to choose careers in these fields. The workforce of the future must be ready to tackle the complex challenges of an increasingly global society. ACS members are passionate about their mission to help educate Americans in science and technology and introduce everyone—young and old—to the wonders of scientific discovery.

The members of ACS, the world's largest scientific society, will continue to be in the forefront of research and development and science education in a challenging new century. America will benefit from their new discoveries and advances in technology. I join Americans and all people across the globe in celebrating the extraordinary accomplishments of the American Chemical Society and its members on its 125th anniversary.

IN RECOGNITION OF LA TRIBUNA  
NEWSPAPER

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a truly special occasion, the 39th anniversary of La Tribuna newspaper. This momentous event in my state's journalism community will be recognized at a gala banquet to be held Friday, March 16, 2001.

In 1962, large numbers of Hispanic immigrants began relocating to New Jersey. At that time, few newspapers were being published in their native language. La Tribuna was one of the first news sources committed to keeping the Spanish-speaking community in touch with its government and the rest of the world.

For thirty-nine years, La Tribuna has shone light on daily events affecting the Hispanic community. Part of the foundation of the United States Constitution is freedom of the press. La Tribuna brings this ideal to life for the Hispanic community on a weekly basis through the paper's commitment to truth and fairness. Whenever and wherever news happens, La Tribuna is at the forefront of articulating events in a concise, non-nonsense manner.

Under the direction of publisher and editor Ruth Molenaar, La Tribuna has grown to be a well-respected member of New Jersey's news community. The people of my District, and New Jersey, are fortunate to have Ms. Molenaar and her staff, including Lionel Rodriguez, providing fair and accurate news coverage. They have been a reliable voice for the Hispanic community for almost two generations.

In recognition of the impact La Tribuna has had on the community, the City of Newark will name a street after the newspaper. The corner of Ferry Street and Niagara Street will be named La Tribuna Street.

It is an honor to have La Tribuna operating in my District. Its efforts have helped our nation's Hispanic community to blossom and flourish. I ask that my colleagues join me in applauding this remarkable organization for all it has done for the Hispanic community.

**CELEBRATING CAMP FIRE BOYS' AND GIRLS' ABSOLUTELY INCREDIBLE KID DAY**

**HON. VERNON J. EHLERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 15, 2001*

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the birthday of the Camp Fire Boys and Girls' Absolutely Incredible Kid Day. Each year, on the third Thursday in March, the day is set aside to help adults communicate better with kids. As part of the celebration, adults are encouraged to send letters of love and appreciation to young people in their lives to show them how much they mean to them. Now in its fifth year, more than 450 million people have been touched by Absolutely Incredible Kid Day.

Absolutely Incredible Kid Day can make a positive impact that will last a lifetime. The campaign has received the critical acclaim of child and family care experts, award winning authors, noted psychologists, and adults and kids everywhere. Celebrities such as Oprah Winfrey, Jim Carrey and Cindy Crawford have also given their support to Absolutely Incredible Kid Day.

In my hometown of Grand Rapids, Michigan the Campfire Boys and Girls West Michigan Council has put an enormous amount of time and effort into this celebration. In addition to having adults write letters to kids they know, the organization is also encouraging adults to write letters for distribution to at-risk youths throughout Grand Rapids. The Council has also organized an extensive public awareness program complete with posters, stickers and stationary to spread the word about this spe-

**EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS**

cial and important day. I applaud them for making this day a top priority.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues, moms and dads, grandparents, aunts and uncles, teachers, mentors and other adults alike take time out of their day today to let a young person know how much they appreciate them. Let them know you care and help make a positive difference in their lives today and everyday by writing a letter of love and support. You'll be glad you did and so will the reader of the letter!

**CENTRAL ASIAN REPRESSION AND MISMANAGEMENT ARE THE PROBLEM NOT THE SOLUTION TO COMBATING ISLAMIC EXTREMISM**

**HON. DAN BURTON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 15, 2001*

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, those of us who follow events in Central Asia are alarmed by the growing influence of Islamic extremism in Central Asia. As my colleagues are aware, an Islamic insurgency has taken root in the Fergana valley area where the borders of Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan meet. Reports indicate that this insurgency is being supported and fueled by the fiercely Islamic Taliban in Afghanistan.

So far, Kazakhstan has not been directly affected by this insurgency. However, because of its oil and mineral wealth, Kazakhstan is the crown jewel of the region and is thus another likely target of Islamic extremist groups. Kazakhstan's democratically challenged regime has taken note of the alarming developments in its neighbors to the south and has taken steps to strengthen its defenses. That's the good news. The bad news, however, is that President Nursultan Nazarbayev has apparently stepped up his repression, and it has been reported that he is plundering his oil and mineral rich country by siphoning hundreds of millions of dollars into foreign bank accounts. As a result, President Nazarbayev is said to be the eighth richest person in the world.

The people of Kazakhstan are not as blind. They can easily see that they inhabit a rich country, and they are justifiably beginning to ask why so little of their country's great wealth seems to be trickling down to them. The people are also not blind to sham elections, the stifling of press freedom, and the jailing of opposition leaders that have come to characterize the country's political life. I have been told that more and more people in Kazakhstan are losing hope, and are more willing to give Islamic extremists groups, who claim that they will eliminate the corruption of the current regime, a chance to govern.

In the March 3 issue of the Economist, there is an excellent article on Kazakhstan's security situation. At the end of the article, the author states "Government repression and mismanagement help to nourish extremism and terrorism in Central Asia. An effort to improve social and economic conditions and freedom of expression might make Kazakhstan less fertile ground for militant zealots." I whole-

*March 15, 2001*

heartedly agree with this premise, and I ask that the full text of the Economist article appear immediately after my remarks.

Mr. Speaker, some people in Washington may be tempted to urge U.S. support for the Nazarbayev regime because it claims to be a bulwark of defense against Islamic extremism. But according to the information that I have been receiving, it is the Nazarbayev regime itself that will likely fuel the growth of Islamic extremism. Democracy, a free press, and respect for human rights are the keys to protecting a country like Kazakhstan from the influence of Islamic extremists groups. The United States must stand with regimes in Central Asia who share these key democratic values, not those regimes and leaders who subvert them.

[From the Economist, Mar. 3, 2001]

IN DEFENCE

When the Soviet Union broke up ten years ago, the leaders of Central Asia's newly independent states felt safe from possible attacks on their region. Their main concern was to promote order, economic reform and the assertion of power for themselves and their families. They were jolted out of their complacency by bomb blasts in Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan, in February 1999 and an attack by Islamic militants in Kirgizstan in August. Last year Islamists again attacked both countries.

Although Kazakhstan was not directly affected by these attacks, they have alerted the country to look to its defences. President Nursultan Nazarbaev has set about making Kazakhstan's armed forces capable of dealing with what he believes are the main threats to the state; terrorism as a result of religious extremism, and organized crime.

He is strengthening defences in the south, in the mountainous border regions from which an Islamic incursion might come. He wants his soldiers to be more mobile. Sniper groups are being formed. Villagers with local knowledge of the terrain are being recruited as guides. The country's defence budget has been more than doubled this year to \$171m, or 1% of GDP. Soldiers' pay is to go up by 30-40%.

One difficulty is the Kazakhstan's borders were not clearly defined in Soviet times, so it is difficult to decide what is a "border incursion". Kazakhstan has 14,000 km (8,750 miles) of borders with neighboring states. It has agreed on its border with China, but it is still negotiating with Russia, Kirgizstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan. Bulat Sultanov, of Kazakhstan's Institute of Strategic Studies, worries that "our border troops cannot carry out any operations because there is no legal basis for them."

Last year, Uzbek border guards entered southern Kazakhstan and claimed a stretch of land. Since then, there have been several brushes between Uzbeks and Kazakhs, mostly villagers unclear about which country they are living in. All this is a distraction from the task of making the south of Kazakhstan more secure.

Then there is Afghanistan. Although Kazakhstan is not a direct neighbour, the fiercely Islamic Taliban who control most of Afghanistan are a worry to all of Central Asia. They are believed to provide training for extremists, among them the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU), which wants to set up a caliphate in the Fergana valley, where Kirgizstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan meet. The IMU was said to be behind the attacks in Kirgizstan and Uzbekistan in the