

Alliance, a nonprofit organization established to assist and support disabled veterans. He was instrumental in securing procurement goals from the California Public Utilities Commission of 1.5 percent, and from the county of San Bernardino of 3 percent, which translates into over \$70 million being targeted for DVBE's.

Mr. Hernandez has dedicated a substantial amount of his own time and money lobbying for the advancement of DVBE's at both the State and national levels. He also serves on the county of San Bernardino's Contract Compliance Advisory Board, which has the responsibility of overseeing the county's efforts to increase procurement opportunities for women, minority and disabled veteran business enterprises. In 1995 he created a DVBE plan room at Arid Construction which receives plans and specifications from public and private agencies at no charge. This allows DVBE companies to increase the number of projects they can bid on since their capital will not be tied up in plan deposits.

Last year Arid Construction Technologies Inc. was also recognized by the U.S. Department of Commerce Minority Business Development Agency as the 1996 Minority Construction Firm of the Year for seven southwestern States. Originally specializing in the waterproofing trade, the company has expanded into general contracting as well with emphasis on the design-build and construction of child care centers.

Through his company, Mr. Hernandez has demonstrated support for the local community by renovating a building located in an older section of town and participating in a community service project each year. These have included the repair of the exterior of a children's museum, the cleaning and sprucing up of the city's memorial to war veterans, and the sponsorship of a team for the March of Dimes Walk-a-Thon. Mr. Hernandez also sponsors youth sports teams.

In being named the 1997 National Veteran Small Business Advocate of the Year, Mr. Hernandez set an example of dedication, integrity, and innovation which makes him a role model for small business persons in the United States. I am very pleased to have Mr. Hernandez being honored this week. It is my hope that he will serve as a model not only for other business men and women in my congressional district, but also entrepreneurs nationwide. In closing, Mr. Speaker, I wish Mr. Hernandez all the best in his future endeavors and I hope that others will follow the sterling examples he has set for all small businesses.

**SISTER JACQUELINE BURNS: LED
THE COLLEGE OF ST. ELIZABETH
INTO A NEW ERA**

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 1997

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Sister Jacqueline Burns, S.C., upon her retirement as president of New Jersey's oldest Catholic college for women, the College of St. Elizabeth at Convent Station, Morris Township. During her tenure, Sister Jacqueline has expanded the college's mission while retaining its focus on offering

quality educational opportunities to young women in a Catholic environment. Sister Jacqueline has been successful in launching Saint Elizabeth's into the 21st century while retaining the values that have made the college a treasured institution since 1903.

A New Jersey native, Sister Jacqueline has devoted more than 50 years to Catholic higher education. In 1946, she became a member of the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth and earned a bachelor's degree in history from the college in 1957. She continued her education at the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC, earning a master of arts in 1963 and a doctorate in history in 1967. Upon returning to New Jersey, Sister Jacqueline began a 30-year career at her alma mater culminating with her appointment as president of the College of St. Elizabeth in 1981.

Sister Jacqueline Burns recognized early in her tenure the educational challenges presented by today's rapidly changing workplace and the promise the next century will offer to future alumni of St. Elizabeth's. In order to prepare for this challenge, Sister Jacqueline enlarged the college's endowment by more than 1000 percent, increased financial aid opportunities, opened the college to more minority and international students, worked to improve opportunities for faculty growth and leadership, and expanded coeducational programs in nursing and adult education. Additionally, St. Elizabeth's now boasts a coeducational graduate division and a campuswide computer information network.

Beyond her work at St. Elizabeth's, Sister Jacqueline has been a leader and an excellent spokesperson on educational issues through her membership on the board of directors of organizations such as the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of New Jersey, the Morris County Chamber of Commerce, and the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities. In the past, Sister Jacqueline has also served on the boards of two area hospitals and a seminary, and she currently serves on the Presidential Advisory Council for Intercampus Telecommunications Network, the New Jersey Independent College Fund, and the board of directors of the Public Leadership Educational Network. Throughout the years, she has been recognized as a leader by Seton Hall University, Douglas College, the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs, the Northeast Coalition of Educational Leaders, and various local women's clubs.

However, even as she moves on to other challenges for the Sisters of Charity, Sister Jacqueline will be remembered, above all, by the 30 graduating classes of students that have passed through the College of St. Elizabeth during her time as a professor and as president of the institution. All of these women graduates take with them an element of Sister Jacqueline's thirst for knowledge, her desire to create a culture of giving and her hope for the future.

Mr. Speaker, again, I would like to commend Sister Jacqueline Burns for her tireless efforts on behalf of the students at the College of St. Elizabeth and for her selfless contributions to New Jersey and Morris County.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MSGR.
HAROLD J. BURKARDT

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 1997

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay tribute to a long time servant of the people, Rev. Msgr. Harold J. Burkardt, who on June 1, 1997, celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. Please join me in wishing him the best of luck on this wondrous milestone.

A native of Johnstown, PA, Monsignor Burkardt currently resides in Altoona, PA, which is located in my congressional district. He was raised in a strongly religious family and was joined by his brother and sister in pursuing a life with the church. He was ordained in 1947 at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Worthington, OH. After ordination he dedicated himself to a teaching career, focusing in math and the sciences at Josephinum, where he remained until 1971. Monsignor Burkardt then spent 2 years as an Assistant Pastor at Holy Name in Ebensburg, PA. In 1973 he moved to Immaculate Conception in Altoona where he became Pastor, dutifully serving the residents of Altoona until 1988.

Monsignor Burkardt continues to keep busy in his semi-retirement by assisting at St. Patrick's Church in Newry, PA. He continues to say Mass and enjoys keeping fit with his daily morning walk.

Mr. Speaker, I will close by once again asking you to help me pay tribute to Monsignor Burkardt on this, his 50th anniversary of Ordination. His life has been one of service and dedication to others and I am honored to have him as one of my constituents. I would like to thank Rev. Msgr. Harold J. Burkardt for his life long commitment to others and wish him well in all that he pursues.

REMARKS OF CHAIRMAN BENJAMIN GILMAN BEFORE THE POLISH AMERICAN CONGRESS

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 1997

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the recent address of Congressman BENJAMIN GILMAN before the Polish American Congress. Mr. GILMAN spoke to the Congress on the anniversary of the 3rd of May Polish Constitution of 1791. The address, received by Polish Prime Minister Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz, was very insightful. Mr. GILMAN, the distinguished chairman of the House International Relations Committee, spoke of the past and future of Polish democracy and the democratic fate of all of Eastern Europe. I commend Chairman GILMAN's remarks to all of my colleagues.

CHAIRMAN BENJAMIN A. GILMAN'S REMARKS ON THE COMMEMORATION OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE 3RD OF MAY POLISH CONSTITUTION OF 1791

Good Morning.

I am pleased to be here with all of you this morning, and with our honored guest, Prime Minister Cimoszewicz of Poland.

Welcome to you, Mr. Prime Minister, and to all of my good friends here today from the Polish American Congress.

Today, on the anniversary of the adoption of the Polish Constitution of 1791, we look back over the troubled history of Poland during the last two centuries.

We remember the Polish nation dismembered by its neighbors.

We see that nation then resurrected, but soon subjected yet again to a horrible fascist occupation.

We recall that the Polish nation was then freed again—only to be taken captive by communism.

Finally, in 1989, the nation of Poland emerged from its suffering and repression—almost two hundred years after the adoption of the May 3rd Constitution.

Keenly aware of this history, the question that has troubled many Poles since 1989 is this:

Will Poland once again fall victim to invasion or dictatorship?

I want to share with you this morning my conviction that the answer is no.

Of course we cannot overlook the threats to democracy and sovereignty that exist even today in Eastern Europe and that can confront any one of the struggling democracies in that region.

One need only look to events now occurring in Belarus, Poland's neighbor, to realize that even today a determined dictator can subvert constitutional democracy.

One need only look to Russia's continuing desire to exercise its power over the states of Eastern Europe and over the states of the former Soviet Union to realize that imperialism and aggression can quickly challenge the stability of much of Europe.

One need only realize that the reunification of Belarus with Russia may well be a real prospect—and an event that, should it occur, could change the face of Eastern Europe overnight.

It is my belief, however, that the policies that Poland has followed since 1989 will overcome those challenges and will, in fact, make Poland an anchor for the countries of Central and Eastern Europe that are also seeking democracy and security.

I have had opportunities in the last few months to speak about Poland's foreign policy at gatherings attended by Polish-Americans and to express my satisfaction with the positive trends I have seen in that foreign policy.

Let me just say this morning that Poland has followed a positive foreign policy to the West by eliminating obstacles to good relations with Germany and seeking integration into the NATO Alliance and the European Union.

It has also followed a positive foreign policy to its East, recognizing that the fate of countries such as Ukraine and Lithuania are vital to its national security and acting to support those countries' integration into European and trans-Atlantic institutions as well as its own.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I also have little fear for the success of Polish democracy.

The Polish people have made it clear that they want and expect Poland to be a mature democracy.

Free and fair elections have been held.

A modern Parliament is now working in Warsaw.

A peaceful and democratic transfer of presidential power has taken place.

And now, as we commemorate the anniversary of the May 3rd Constitution, the Polish people are preparing to decide on a new constitution that will guide their new democracy in the coming years.

Whatever the Polish people's decision on that new constitution may be, we can see

that, ultimately, much of what the framers of the May 3rd Constitution sought for their country has now come to pass:

We see today a peaceful, democratic Poland.

We see a Poland free from the threat of invasion and working to ensure that it remains free.

We see the nation of Poland now free to seek its prosperity as a full member of the European community of nations.

While the Polish Constitution of 1791 was written only shortly before the nation of Poland entered into its two centuries of repression and dictatorship, that document has never been forgotten by Poles, who saw in it the symbol of a resurrected nation.

Today, as Poland has been re-born into a new era of democracy, we see that the promise of the May 3rd Constitution has been fulfilled.

On this important occasion, I extend my best wishes to the Polish nation as it moves forward to a bright future of peace, democracy and prosperity.

SUPPORT GROWS FOR NATIONAL SPORTS SUMMIT TO COMBAT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 1997

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, Congresswoman CONNIE MORELLA and I introduced legislation—House Concurrent Resolution 29—in February calling for a national summit of sports, government, business, and academic leaders along with nonprofit community organizations that serve victims of domestic violence and sexual assault and advocate on their behalf. Since then, support for such a groundbreaking summit has been growing steadily.

I am pleased to report that since similar legislation was first introduced last summer that we have received endorsement letters from the following concerned organizations and individuals: American College of Nurse Midwives; American Psychological Association; AYUDA; Larry Brown, coach of the Philadelphia 76'ers; Catholics for Free Choice; Center for the Study of Sports and Society; Center for Women Policy Studies; Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America; Washington, DC Rape Crisis Center; Domestic Violence Advocacy Project; Joseph Glass of Team Sports; Britt King, Women's Basketball Coach at University of the District of Columbia; Lee McElroy, athletic director at American University; Older Women's League; National Association of Social Workers; National Coalition Against Sexual Assault; Jody Glass with New Waves of Rhode Island; Empowering Women and Confronting Abuse; NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund; Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape; Tom Penders, head basketball coach at the University of Texas; Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence; National Urban League; Office of Justice Programs within the U.S. Justice Department; Vermont Network Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault; Women's Research and Education Institute; YWCA of the USA; and the Violence Policy Center.

It is a national disgrace that domestic violence is the leading cause of injury to American women, more common than auto acci-

dents, muggings, and rapes by unknown assailants combined. Nearly 4,000 women die every year in our country as a result of domestic violence. In my own State of Vermont, every single murder during a recent year was linked to this criminal behavior.

We simply must find new ways to get a loud and clear message through to all Americans to curb the violence in our midst, especially domestic violence and sexual assault against women and girls. To help carry that message, I believe that our national sport heroes, as role models of profound national influence, can play a crucial role in helping to stigmatize and deter violence against women all across America.

Sadly hardly a day goes by that we don't read about the latest incidents of domestic violence and sexual assault in our local newspapers. Just a few days ago, a local television station in Washington, DC, for example reported on five different sexual assaults that had occurred allegedly involving athletes at Howard University and that had been covered up until now.

But positive action can be taken.

That is why Congresswoman MORELLA and I first wrote to all of the leaders of the major professional and amateur sports leagues in America in January 1996 urging them to join a national campaign and speak out against domestic violence and sexual assault. Since then we have had numerous meetings and entered into a dialogue with representatives of the National Football League, Major League Baseball, National Basketball Association, National Hockey League, National Collegiate Athletic Association, and the College Football Association.

We are pleased that some important follow-steps have been taken. Last fall, several prominent athletes, coaches, and officials of the College Football Association, in conjunction with the Liz Claiborne Foundation, filmed a series of unprecedented antidomestic violence public service advertisements that were broadcast during nationally televised collegiate football games for the first time. Similarly, the National Football League and star players like Steve Atwater of the Denver Broncos joined forces to air public service announcements against domestic violence during ABC's Monday Night Football show and other televised games.

Certainly I am not suggesting in any way that athletes are statistically any more prone to domestic violence and sexual assault than any other sector of our population. But there is no doubt that organized sports touch the lives of so many Americans and our families and that star athletes are idolized by many Americans of all ages. Hence, our identification with our sports stars provides a powerful means to combat domestic violence and sexual assault. There is much to be gained in our constant national campaign if we can enlist our sports leaders in spreading the word that rough and tumble, hard-nosed physical competition stops when athletes leave the playing arena and that there is absolutely no excuse for domestic violence or sexual assault in any walk of American life.

Similarly we need to do more to teach our young people who are so interested in sports that domestic violence and sexual assault are serious crimes. In this regard, I intend to press for education against domestic violence and sexual assault to be included in the regular instruction that thousands of young Americans