

their actions, but to the people who only care about winning, consequences are just consequences, and nothing more. They will continue to do whatever they can if they feel it will help them win.

Some people are so focused on instant gratification that they don't care what the effects of their actions will be. This is an extremely lethal setback to young onlookers that see this kind of behavior. If their own role models do not believe that they are doing anything wrong, why should they? Every action has a consequence, but not every consequence has the effect it should on the perpetrator.

Sports is a huge industry, and there are so many fans, young and old, who hold sports in high regard and are influenced deeply by almost every aspect of the games. Some people become blind to the fact that some of the idealism that they are picking up from sports may not be in their best interest. Winning at all costs is a poor example of how some role models are supposed to behave in front of the people that idolize them. Our children are watching—and they are picking up every thing that comes their way.

PARENTS HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO BE GOOD SPORTS, TOO

(By Aroha Fanning, a senior at Jacksonville (Fla.) University)

Sports are probably one of the most popular pastimes of today's society, whether you are an athlete, a spectator or a sponsor or whether you are pro or amateur, young or old, disabled or physically fit. Athletics caters to everyone.

But the people who benefit most from sports today are not the professional basketball players or football players who sign contracts of up to \$30 million a year or more. They are the little rugrats you can see running around a soccer field on a Saturday morning, or the 3-foot-nothing munchkins who take to the ice for little league ice hockey each season.

Getting children involved in sports not only keeps them active and away from the TV screen or computer monitor, it also teaches them how to be a team player and how to interact socially with other children. But what kind of sportsmanship is being modeled to our children when parents are standing on the sidelines yelling at referees and coaches and getting into fights with parents of the opposing team?

Whatever happened to phrases such as "It's not whether you win or lose, but how you play the game" and "Just go out there and do your best?"

All over the country, parents are being asked to shape up or ship out of the ballpark, stadium or playing grounds. In Jupiter, Fla., parents are now required to take a good sportsmanship class before their children are allowed to play a sport. Parents in Los Angeles are asked to sign a "promise of good behavior" form.

Perhaps so many parents push their children into participating in athletics in hope that they will be able to get a scholarship to college and will go on to the major leagues and sign one of those \$30 million contracts. Maybe others push their kids into athletics just so they can brag to their friends and family about how little Johnny is the star of his soccer team. Perhaps parental expectations come from unfulfilled childhood dreams of playing college football, baseball, basketball or whatever the sport of choice might have been.

However you look at it, or whatever the motive for pushing children into athletics, encouraging them to run onto a field while yelling at them for making a mistake or losing isn't going to make them love the sport.

It is not going to get them that college scholarship. It is not going to make them the best on the team. And it is not going to fulfill the lost dream of being a college athlete.

The only thing that pushing your child beyond the true purpose of the game—to have fun—accomplishes is to push the child further away from the sport and, eventually, the parent. •

TRIBUTE TO PUBLISHERS SETH AND LUCILLE HEYWOOD

• Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a newspaper that has provided the town of Merrimack, New Hampshire, with information and insight for the past twenty-one years. The Village Crier is a paper for which many of the town residents of Merrimack have waited in anticipation each week. It certainly has greatly impacted the community as a whole.

The Village Crier has been on the front lines of every political battle in Merrimack, and the opinions and advice that they brought to the table will be greatly missed. Both Seth and Lucille have put countless hours into the production of the Crier, and have gained the respect and admiration of not only their staff, but of the entire community.

It is with sincere regret and deep sadness that I bid farewell to the Village Crier. I wish both Seth and Lucille the best as they continue with their future endeavors. The Village Crier will be greatly missed, and it is an honor to represent both Seth and Lucille Heywood in the United States Senate. •

TRIBUTE TO ALEX GIANG

• Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Alex Giang for receiving the Merrimack Chamber of Commerce Presidential Award. A member of the chamber for several years, Alex has risen to prominence with his continuous displays of passion and perseverance. His personality endears him to all, and he is well known for his gregarious nature. Alex is a kind-hearted leader, and Mary Jo and I applaud him for his hard work and dedication to the Merrimack Chamber of Commerce.

Alex Giang inspires others to achieve the same ends by using the leadership qualities for which he has been honored. Alex has taken it upon himself to attempt to increase the membership of the chamber. He is a man determined to have others give of themselves as he has given. He has been a key figure in the creation of the chamber fund raiser, "A Taste of Merrimack," where the time and effort that was spent on his part exemplified his dedication to the chamber. In addition to all of this, Alex is a purveyor of fine cuisine in the town of Merrimack.

Alex is a leader in the truest sense. He is a gregarious individual who puts forth enormous effort for worthy

causes. His enthusiasm for both life and the Merrimack chamber is contagious. Alex, it is a pleasure to represent you in the United States Senate. I wish you the best of luck in the future. May you always continue to inspire those around you. •

NORMAL TRADE RELATIONS TREATMENT FOR THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 90

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

To the Congress of the United States:

Last November, after years of negotiation, we completed a bilateral agreement on accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO) with the People's Republic of China (Agreement). The Agreement will dramatically cut import barriers currently imposed on American products and services. It is enforceable and will lock in and expand access to virtually all sectors of China's economy. The Agreement meets the high standards we set in all areas, from creating export opportunities for our businesses, farmers, and working people, to strengthening our guarantees of fair trade. It is clearly in our economic interest. China is concluding agreements with other countries to accede to the WTO. The issue is whether Americans get the full benefit of the strong agreement we negotiated. To do that, we need to enact permanent Normal Trade Relations (NTR) for China.

We give up nothing with this Agreement. As China enters the WTO, the United States makes no changes in our current market access policies. We preserve our right to withdraw market access for China in the event of a national security emergency. We make no changes in laws controlling the export of sensitive technology. We amend none of our trade laws. In fact, our protections against unfair trade practices and potential import surges are stronger with the Agreement than without it.

Our choice is clear. We must enact permanent NTR for China or risk losing the full benefits of the Agreement we negotiated, including broad market access, special import protections, and rights to enforce China's commitment through WTO dispute settlement. All WTO members, including the United States, pledge to grant one another permanent NTR to enjoy the full benefits in one another's markets. If the Congress were to fail to pass permanent NTR for China, our Asian, Latin American, Canadian, and European competitors would reap these benefits, but American farmers and other workers and our businesses might well be left behind.

We are firmly committed to vigorous monitoring and enforcement of China's commitments, and will work closely with the Congress on this. We will maximize use of the WTO's review