

and supported the Preferred Storage Options Plan, designed to enlarge sections of the Pueblo and Turquoise Reservoirs.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me immense pleasure to stand before you today and show my appreciation to Steve Arveschoug for his commitment towards the betterment of his community. I congratulate him on his new job and wish him all the best in his dedication and commitment to excellence and service and wish him luck with all of his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING GUS PARKER AS
THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT OF
THE EXCHANGE CLUB

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2002

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize and congratulate Augustus 'Gus' Parker for his recent election as president of the National Exchange Club. Gus' outstanding contribution and leadership in the Exchange Club over the years has been an extraordinary service to his community and the nation.

Gus has been a member of the Exchange Club for over thirty years. Throughout those years, he has served as president of the Macon Exchange Club, treasurer of the National Exchange, and on the national board of directors as a regional vice president.

Gus' services to the community go well beyond his work with the Exchange Club. Gus is a former math teacher in Macon, Georgia at Lanier High School. Because of his time and dedication to his students, Gus was unable to attend Exchange Club meetings while he taught school. It was only after Gus started work with the finance department at the Bibb County Board of Education that he was able to attend weekly Exchange Club meetings. Gus soon became a regular at the meetings and became involved weekly.

After being sworn in on August 3, Gus will be the head of 30,000 members in more than 900 clubs. He will be the oldest national Exchange Club president in the history of the organization and the national president from Macon. His theme, "Believing and Achieving: It Can Be Done," reflects his positive attitude and dedication to the Exchange Club.

Community involvement is the key to a strong society. The Exchange Club's national project, Prevention of Child Abuse, is one endeavor that has made an incredible impact on the children of our nation. President Bush has stated that Americans should volunteer and help those in need. Gus is a man who has risen to the call of the President and volunteered for America. America needs more hard working volunteers like Gus to promote united communities.

I am extremely pleased to represent Gus in the 8th District of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I hope you will join me in recognizing and congratulating Gus Parker on his outstanding achievements and service to our nation.

SENSE OF THE HOUSE REGARDING
IMPLEMENTATION OF MANDATORY
STEROID TESTING PROGRAM FOR MAJOR LEAGUE
BASEBALL

SPEECH OF

HON. W.J. (BILLY) TAUZIN

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2002

Mr. TAUZIN. Mr. Speaker, no one know precisely when it was, though most historians agree that in the 1840's, on the Elysian Fields in New Jersey, a group of men led by Alexander Joy Cartwright began to play what would later develop into baseball. In the ensuing century and a half, much has changed in America, but this magical game endures.

From Cap Anson and Cy Young to Sammy Sosa and Randy Johnson, the men who have played professional baseball have served as an inspiration to America's children, both boys and girls. As far back as the turn of the century, the great stars recognized their impact on the children of the nation. Perhaps the greatest shortstop of all-time, Honus Wagner, demanded that his name not be associated with certain products so as not to encourage children to take up vices.

The men who have played this game, our national past-time, have inspired us both with their athletic accomplishments as well as their human achievements. The list of memorable events and remarkable feats of athleticism are long: Cy Young with his 511 wins; Babe Ruth's mammoth home runs; Walter Johnson's side-arm fastball; Lou Gehrig's 2,130 consecutive game streak; Ted Williams hitting .406 in 1941, the same year Joe DiMaggio had a 56 game hit streak; the great Jackie Robinson integrating the pastime; Bobby Thomson taking Ralph Branca deep in the "shot heard 'round the world"; Willie Mays' unbelievable over the shoulder catch; Don Larson's perfect game in the 1956 World Series; Bill Mazerowski's home run to win the 1960 World Series; Sandy Koufax's curveball; Bob Gibson's intimidation; The Amazon' Mets incredible run in 1969; Carlton Fisk waving the home run fair in game six; Reggie Jackson's three home runs in 1977; Nolan Ryan's seven no-hitters and 5000+ strikeouts; Kirk Gibson hobbling out of the dugout to hit the game-winning home run in the 1988 World Series; Joe Carter ending the 1993 World Series with a home run in the bottom of the ninth; Edgar Renteria winning an improbable World Series for the Marlins with an extra-inning single; Cal Ripken breaking Gehrig's streak; the Mark McGwire/Sammy Sosa home run duel; and just last year, the heroics of Derek Jeter and Scott Brosius eclipsed by the timely hitting of Luis Gonzalez in one of the best World Series of all-time, the very same year that Barry Bonds hit 73 home runs. These are just a few of the moments which have defined our game for more than 150 years and have inspired countless Americans. Baseball is truly the all-American game—one that carries special meaning for rich and poor and people from all walks of life.

But there is a dark cloud gathering over the game. People have quietly spoken about steroid abuse in baseball for the past decade or so, but since there was no steroid testing, it was only talk. Now, however, we're told by

former National League MVP Ken Caminiti that up to half of all baseball players are using steroids.

Who knows what the exact number is? However, it should be noted that baseball is one of the few professional sports that does not test for performance enhancing drugs. Football, basketball and the Olympics all ban and test for the use of steroids, but regrettably, baseball does not enforce its ban.

Unfortunately, the specter of steroids over our national pastime threatens the credibility of the game. Numerous studies have shown the deleterious health effects steroids have on users. Steroids have been linked to liver damage, kidney-failure, heart disease and brain tumors. And now tens of millions of children are receiving mixed messages about these dangerous drugs. Boys and girls see their idols admit to steroid usage and become desensitized to the drugs' dangers.

It's long past time when Major League Baseball put an end to the mixed messages children are receiving about steroid usage. Mandatory testing of players for performance enhancing drugs is simple common sense. It should not require negotiations between the Owners and the Players Association.

Walt Whitman once said that he saw great things in baseball. This is a game that transcends time, inspires hope in the downtrodden and due to the incredible achievements, personalities and graciousness of such players as Babe Ruth, Jackie Robinson and Cal Ripken—unites the social fabric of our country. Its place in the pantheon of American culture should be protected from all who seek to tarnish its image.

My friends, now is not the time for America's pastime to disappoint its fans or set a bad example for our youth. Professional baseball players have an opportunity to lift a dark cloud from this most cherished game. They can move immediately to a new era of mandatory drug testing for performance enhancing drugs. This should not be the subject of a great national debate. Rather, players should recognize a simple fact: America's children are watching you. You are their role models. Children will learn from your actions.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for moving this resolution to the floor. I commend Mrs. Johnson for focusing on this important issue and allowing me to reminisce on the importance of our national pastime. There can be nothing more important than setting a good example for the youth of our country. This resolution reflects that fact and tries to restore some of the pride our nation feels for this timeless sport.

RECOGNIZING TWENTY YEARS OF
SERVICE OF THE LINKS INC.—
SOUTHERN MARYLAND CHAIN
CHAPTER

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2002

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 20th Anniversary of the Links, Inc.—Southern Maryland Chain Chapter. The Links, Inc., is an organization of nearly 10,000 women with 270 chapters located in 40 States, the District of Columbia, Nassau, Bahamas and Frankfurt, Germany. Members are