

honored for his efforts to "optimistically build a renaissance in Detroit for the 21st century."

Since he was elected mayor in 1993, Dennis Archer's energy and efforts have infused the people of Detroit with a new spirit of hope. While Detroit faces many challenges, Mayor Archer's work is convincing people from Michigan to Washington, DC that Detroit is in the midst of a great comeback.

Mayor Archer has worked to build partnerships with community and civic groups, businesses, and the State and Federal Governments. These partnerships have led to success in creating jobs, improving public safety, and raising the standard of living for many of Detroit's residents. In fact, Detroit's unemployment rate has been cut in half since Mayor Archer took office.

Under Mayor Archer's stewardship, residential and business development is moving forward at a dynamic pace. In November, taxpayers approved a plan to build new baseball and football stadiums in the city. Twenty-five new residential developments are under construction, as are new retail developments. General Motors recently decided to keep its world headquarters in Detroit, purchasing and moving to the Renaissance Center. And Detroit's empowerment zone leads those in all other cities in job creation.

Dennis Archer has always had confidence in the city of Detroit and in its people, and the results of his first 3 years are proving his optimism to be well-founded. While no one expects Detroit's problems to be solved overnight, the city's progress under the Mayor's leadership is undeniable.

Mr. President, I hope my colleagues will join me in saluting Mayor Dennis Archer of Detroit, who truly deserves to be honored as 1997 Optimist of the Year.●

#### NATIONAL SPORTSMANSHIP DAY

● Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I am pleased to commemorate the seventh annual celebration of National Sportsmanship Day, which took place on March 5. Designed to promote ethics, integrity, and good sportsmanship in athletics, National Sportsmanship Day was established by the Institute for International Sport at the University of Rhode Island. This year, over 8000 schools in all 50 States and 75 countries overseas participated in National Sportsmanship Day.

There seems to be no shortage of stories about assaults on referees, players, and even press photographers. I am particularly pleased, therefore, that the Institute for International Sport tackled the issue of violence in sports head-on. As part of National Sportsmanship Day, the Institute held a day-long town meeting where athletes, coaches, journalists, students, and educators engaged in a lengthy discussion about the causes and possible solutions for violence on the playing field. I think that the Institute's work to fos-

ter this kind of dialogue among our young people is critical.

In addition to the town meeting, the Institute for International Sport also sponsored an essay contest in which students wrote and shared their views on good sportsmanship, fair play, and courtesy on the playing field. Several winning essays were published in USA Today and the Providence Journal-Bulletin, and I ask that they be printed in the RECORD at the conclusion of my remarks.

Another key component of National Sportsmanship Day is the Student-Athlete Outreach Program. This program encourages high schools and colleges to send talented student-athletes to local elementary and middle schools to promote good sportsmanship and serve as positive role models. These students help young people build self-esteem, respect for physical fitness, and an appreciation for the value of teamwork.

I remain very proud that National Sportsmanship Day was initiated in Rhode Island, and I applaud the students and teachers who participated in this inspiring event. Likewise, I congratulate all of those at the Institute for International Sport, whose hard work and dedication over the last 7 years have made this program so successful.

The material follows:

[From the Providence Journal-Bulletin, Mar. 4, 1997]

#### WHETHER THEY REALIZE IT OR NOT, NATIONAL ATHLETES ARE ROLE MODELS

(By Steven E. Sylven, Jr.)

Sportsmanship. Today, it seems to be as valuable as my '86 Escort, which died a month ago. Is it any wonder though? Look around at some of the players in any of the pro leagues. You'll find guys who headbutt officials, spit on umpires, throw towels at their coaches, and kick cameramen. These "professional" athletes just ooze with sportsmanship and set a great example for kids don't they?

Some of these players say they don't want to be considered role models; that children should not look toward them as one. Well, news flash fellas, you are role models. There is no getting around this because you are professional athletes and are forever in the spotlight. Kids see your every move and they will imitate it. Why? Because they see you get away with it and they think it's cool.

When I was a kid, I loved playing sports and, like most kids, I would pretend to be my favorite player when playing. When I was playing baseball, I was Dwight Evans; when playing hockey, I was Mike Bossy; football, I was Dan Marino; and when playing tennis, I was John McEnroe. Yes, John "I will yell at anything that does not go my way" McEnroe.

I won't kid around here, I liked him for one reason and only one reason, he could shoot his mouth off at anyone and get away with it. I thought he was the best thing since sliced bread, plus he was a good tennis player to boot. Talk with any of my childhood friends who would play with me, they'd probably tell you I put McEnroe to shame. I was bad.

There was one time I was playing and I missed a shot on a critical point. Well, as critical a point as you can have when you are playing your friend in a park; but I

wasn't a kid, I was John McEnroe and this was Wimbledon.

Anyway, I went off on about a five-minute tirade, spewing forth any and every obscenity you can think of and then some. It was so bad that a lady who was clear on the other side of the park, came over and asked me to stop my mouth because she had her little children with her. I just brushed her off. After all, she was not my mother and besides McEnroe does it. Why couldn't I?

Incidentally, this screaming after points became a habit with me whenever I played and continued through high school. So bad was it that I would almost get into fist fights with opponents from other schools. One time, during the state doubles championships, I was running my mouth so bad that my coach almost pulled my partner and I out of the tournament \* \* \* and we were in the quarterfinals. Playing tennis the way John McEnroe did was the only style I came to know.

Now, I'm not saying that all kids who imitate the bad behavior of professional athletes are going to behave that way for the rest of their lives. Nor am I saying that kids only pay attention to the conduct of unruly players, for there are far more players exhibiting the qualities of sportsmanship than there are not.

What I am saying is that a player who screams and shouts when things don't go his or her way and gets away with it, may spark the interest of a child more than someone who just accepts the fate the sports gods lay out for them. I speak from experience here.

So as we celebrate National Sportsmanship Day today, it would be nice if the not-so-sportsmanlike athletes of the nation would take the time to recognize the value of sportsmanship. If not for themselves or respected leagues, at least for the little Wayne Gretzky's, Pete Sampras's, and Kerri Struggs out there.

#### SPORTS' CODE: BE YOUR BEST AT ALL TIMES

(By Brian Bert, Grade 5, Metcalf School, Exeter, R.I.)

I think good sportsmanship is not who wins or loses, but playing your best. You have to remember it is just a game. A good sport does not insult other teammates. He helps other players up when they fall.

When I play sports I see a lot of good and bad sportsmanship. Sometimes I see players who won't shake other players' hand at the end of the game. I sometimes see teammates blaming other teammates for losing the game. I see coaches arguing with refs.

I also a lot of good sportsmanship like helping other teammates up when they fall. Most good players shake hands at the end of the game and say "good game." A good sport would say to others "don't worry about your mistakes, it is just a game".

I felt I show good sportsmanship. I enjoy playing the game. It does not matter who wins, I feel good sportsmanship will help me through my life. It is a good lesson to learn.

#### WIN OR LOSE, STRONG HEARTS NEVER DIE

(By Erin K. Hannon, Grade 10, Exeter/West Greenwich High)

The 1996 Exeter/West Greenwich High School football team showed opponents that winning is not everything. Despite their nine losses, these young men displayed outstanding sportsmanship and character throughout the season. Their love and devotion to the game of football kept their spirits alive whenever hope seemed to be fleeting. Although they did not achieve the win they had been looking for they gained the respect of many last year.

The tradition of football is just beginning to blossom in the rural towns of Exeter and

West Greenwich. This past season was only the second year that the school had had a team. Experience was the key to playing the game, and many of these boys had never played organized football before. With only 19 boys on the roster, including only one senior, these young men found it difficult to compete with larger, more experienced teams across the state. However, giving up was out of the question. They stood tall and repeatedly showed that they deserved the respect that all of the opposing teams were receiving. These boys continued to give all that they had until the last whistle of the season had been blown.

As the manager and statistician of the team, I witnessed the pain in the eyes of each and every young man after a loss. They put forth tremendous effort not only during the games, but every day in practice. Their coaches, Mark Graholski, John Houseman and Craig Belanger, pushed every one of the boys until they could be pushed no further. They taught the boys the fundamentals on the football field, and more importantly, how the football team becomes a family during the season. They learned how to stick together through thick and thin and that although losing is not the greatest, earning respect and dignity is far greater than winning.

One of the team's greater accomplishments last year was receiving the Dick Reynolds Outstanding Sportsmanship Award. This honor recognized not only the talent, but the impetus and determination that came from within each and every young man on the team. It also allowed the team to be noticed by all not for their winning percentage, but for the way they played the game. The players realized that winning was only the icing on the cake and they were proud in what they had accomplished overall.

The members on the Exeter/West Greenwich football team learned more than the game of football last year, they learned many aspects of the game of life. They learned that being able to stand tall with a smile on your face is a far better goal to achieve than winning. Their character and sense of pride through a season filled with struggles showed that they had the will to continue and the power to be successful, win or lose. Although the pain and anguish of losing will fade away, the character and sportsmanship of these young men will remain for years to come.

#### PROFESSIONAL ATHLETES NEED TO LEARN SELF-CONTROL

(By Kaycee Roberts, Grade 7, Westerly's Babcock School)

The behavior of professional athletes today is extremely out of hand. Players and coaches alike go to the outer limits to win, and often, to make the other team look bad. Referees allow many more things to go on (and so do coaches) than they should. Sports are played mainly for fun, but if athletes and coaches keep acting in such an impolite and downright ridiculous manner, they will take the fun right out of it. Therefore the behavior of role models in sports needs to be improved.

First, children are watching these morally irresponsible actions. They will see their idols commit these acts. So, of course, they will act the same way. For example, when you see a baseball player throw the bat and swear at the umpire, children will think it is cool to do that, and they will go out and repeat the same action. It is not right to introduce this behavior to the youth of America.

Second, they celebrate and taunt, yet they are only doing their job. When football players shout and dance because they score a touchdown, they are celebrating actions

they are expected to perform. The football players are supposed to score for their team. These flamboyant actions are totally uncalled for. It would be like a stockholder screaming and boasting because he sold stocks. They need to put aside their ridiculous and foolish antics and play the game.

Last is the obvious fact that such behavior has absolutely no point and does not benefit anyone. It certainly doesn't benefit the subject of the taunt, nor does it benefit anyone watching the game. Finally, role models in professional sports desperately need to improve their attitudes. We are going to be living in a very sad world if people cannot simply control their tempers and behavior. We want to see athletes set aside silly and childish ways and promote the youth of America by freshly nourishing them in a good way.

[From the USA Today, Mar. 4, 1997]

#### PUSHING TO IMPROVE IS MARK OF A WINNER (By Daryl Myer, Edinboro (PA) University)

His gait is modest and true, his body strong yet unpretentious. His eyes glow with the vibrancy for life all too few know. His smile is contagious. Ask any of his friends, and they will tell you the truth: His work ethic and will to win rate second to none. He is always trying to become better, not only on the track, but in life as well.

It is practice time, and his teammates and coach have gathered on the track for another workout. His coach reads aloud the workout, and all the others quietly whine and complain. He hears one teammate complaining about a blister on his toe and another about a headache. He remains quiet, showing no signs of apprehension about the pain that awaits him. Ultimately, he realizes that his sore muscles and screaming lungs will make him stronger and more proficient. His goal is to become a national champion.

Many people might guess that he does poorly in track meets. The exact opposite is true. His desire to win is incomparable. He trains hard and races hard. He speaks only a choice few words. What he says is profound, and he never speaks about himself. In a day and age where athletes draw attention to themselves in any way possible, he chooses to place the emphasis on his team, not himself. Others taunt and point fingers; he simply congratulates his competitors for a job well done.

He is a true gentleman in every facet of the word. He accepts responsibility for his actions and remains humble at all costs. Honesty and integrity are of the same importance as gold medals and records. His goals are high, but his will is strong. He will be fair and just.

These are the ideals of a true sportsman, ideals my mother and father taught me. It is my desire to follow their lead. I want to become like "him."

#### COMPETITORS SHOULD RAISE BAR ON ETHICS

(By Brian Bokor, Senior, Shorecrest Prep, St. Petersburg, FL)

We live in a world where winning supersedes all other considerations. Moral values have been clouded by the desire to win at any price. This is evident in business, politics and in sports.

I have played organized sports for the last six years of my life, and I have learned about sacrifice, hard work, self-discipline and working with others. However, there is also a dark side to the lessons taught in competition. Many athletes will do whatever it takes to achieve a competitive edge.

I remember reading a couple of years ago about Colorado defeating Missouri in a football game. After review of the game film, it was discovered that Colorado scored on a

fifth-down play. The mistake was acknowledged, but Colorado refused to forfeit the game. The Colorado coaches blamed the "mistake" on the referees. Later that season, Colorado won a share of the national championship. I believe this "win" proves that most people consider winning to be far more important than being fair.

My parents and I had discussed my concerns of a "must-win" attitude in many aspects of society. Most people now accept "unfair business practices," "dirty tricks politics" and "academic irregularities" as the norm. I now question whether sports has encouraged this attitude in society or whether society has imposed these practices on sports. No matter what the answer, I believe society and sports need to adopt a new code of ethics.

Sports participation has helped prepare me for success in a competitive society. However, the unethical practices illustrated in sports have led many competitors into confusing what fairness and sportsmanship are all about. I feel a responsibility to replace the "winning-at-all-costs" attitude with an attitude of fairness and sportsmanship that was the original intent of competitive sports.

#### GOOD STARTING POINT IS POSITIVE ATTITUDE

(By Meghan Murray, Sixth-grader, Unqua School, Massapequa, NY)

What is sportsmanship? The definition is the qualities or conduct of a sportsman, fair play. To me, sportsmanship's a kind of attitude you have to a person or anything else. The attitude can be positive or negative. To other people, sportsmanship can relate only to sports. But, in fact, sportsmanship doesn't relate only to sports. Jobs, homes, schools, and friends can relate to sportsmanship.

Positive sportsmanship is a person who can take constructive criticism, learn from it and turn it into positive abilities. You can achieve sportsmanship by expressing your skills. You have to earn positive sportsmanship by working hard and concentrating on the challenging situations that may arise.

Another thing about sportsmanship is the attitude. You can shake the other team's hand after you win or lose a game. That shows respect to the players as well as the coaches and fans. If you don't shake the other team's hands, people might think you are disrespectful toward the game.

After losing a game, disappointment may occur but this should not reflect a bad attitude. A bad team player would walk off the field mad. A good team player would want to meet with his coach and team to see what went wrong and maybe fix it for the next game.

Winning or losing should always result in good sportsmanship. If you win and rub it in, you are not practicing good sportsmanship! Don't be unkind and disrespectful.

To be the most effective team player, you must start by giving of yourself 100%. Such as attending all practices, respect all team players and your coaches. Following all rules and regulations of the game. Give all that you've got. Keep up your grades at school. Take charge of what is your destiny and take the responsibilities that may come.●

#### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

● Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I rise today to mark the recent celebration of International Women's Day, which took place on March 8, 1997. Women have made great strides in the past century, both here in the United States and around the globe. As we prepare to enter a new century, however, we must