

No. R-239. House concurrent resolution honoring the history of baseball and softball at the University of Vermont.

(H.C.R.159)

Offered by: Representatives Turner of Milton, Audette of South Burlington, Branagan of Georgia, Bray of New Haven, Potter of Clarendon, Ram of Burlington, Weston of Burlington and Zuckerman of Burlington

Whereas, baseball, and its companion game softball, are often referred to as the great American pastimes, and

Whereas, beginning in 1888, and for the next 111 years, the quintessential American sport of baseball has been a mainstay of athletic competition at the University of Vermont (UVM) campus, and

Whereas, the UVM baseball Catamounts originally played at Athletic Park, and on April 17, 1906, they competed in the first baseball game at their current home, Centennial Field, defeating the University of Maine 10–4, and

Whereas, for not quite as many years, the UVM Lady Catamounts have played on the softball diamond at Archie Post Field, and

Whereas, softball has been a popular sport on the hilltop campus, and

Whereas, entering the 2009 season, the UVM baseball and softball Catamounts sported many laudable athletic records, and

Whereas, throughout baseball's 111 seasons, there have been 1,485 wins, 1,306 defeats, and 34 ties, and the softball Catamounts' record, starting in 1977, stands at 429 wins, 595 losses, and 4 ties, and

Whereas, the baseball Catamounts scored the most total single-season victories (32) in 2003, a season when they won the first of two America East regular season championships, also winning it in 2006, and

Whereas, the softball Catamounts' comparable year was 1990, when the team won 27 contests and was the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference runner up, and

Whereas, in 1978, when the softball team played an abbreviated 12-game schedule, it won 10 games and scored 44 runs in a contest against Vermont Technical College, and

Whereas, the most runs the baseball Catamounts ever scored in a single game were 27 against Middlebury College in 1984, and

Whereas, the single-season baseball batting crown belongs to Ethan Barlow, who achieved an incredible .455 batting average in 1996, and the parallel career record belongs to Jim Wawruck, who batted .366 over the three seasons from 1989 through 1991, and

Whereas, in softball, the top single-season batter was Sue Duke with a .481 batting average in 1994, and her career counterpart is Kristen Nestor who batted .407 in the four seasons from 1994 to 1998, and

Whereas, on the pitching mound, the baseball Catamount hurler with the most wins in a single season was Richard DeNicola with 10 victories in 1962, and the parallel UVM career pitching honors belong to Richard Cassani (1961–

1963) and Brady Frost (1990–1993), who each left the mound victorious on 21 occasions, and

Whereas, the historic Catamount softball pitching star on both counts is Katie Quinn who won 15 games in 1990 and 43 during her UVM career on the mound from 1989 to 1992 to, and

Whereas, Vermonters can cite many wonderful memories of exciting UVM softball and baseball games and the great pleasure they have brought the Catamounts' many fans, and

Whereas, as the era of both UVM intercollegiate softball and baseball is concluding, it is timely for the General Assembly to pay tribute to all the young women and men who have proudly worn the Catamount uniform on the diamonds at Archie Post, Athletic Park, and Centennial Fields, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors the role of baseball and softball in the history of the University of Vermont's intercollegiate athletic program and cultural heritage, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to University of Vermont Athletic Director Dr. Robert Corran and to the University of Vermont's archives at the Bailey Howe Library.