

**No. R-307. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2009 Mount Mansfield Union High School Cougars Division I championship boys' cross-country team.**

(H.C.R.196)

Offered by: Representatives O'Brien of Richmond, Frank of Underhill and Till of Jericho

Offered by: Senator Racine

Whereas, the 2009 season was slated as a rebuilding year, with a roster of many sophomore runners, for the boys' cross-country program at Mount Mansfield Union High School (MMUHS), and

Whereas, after MMUHS was the top-performing Vermont team at the Essex Invitational cross-country tournament early in the season, the prospect of MMUHS clinching the state championship emerged as a realistic team goal, and

Whereas, in the weeks following the Essex event, the Cougars cross-country team members focused on improving their speed and competitive edge for the decisive state championship meet at Thetford Academy, and

Whereas, on the morning of Halloween, the MMUHS Cougars won a well-earned and emotionally satisfying treat when they clinched the 2009 boys' cross-country championship with a 70-point scoring total, 24 points ahead of second-place Essex High School, and

Whereas, the Cougars victory resulted from a set of third, 11th, 15th, 17th, and 24th race placements that in combination created a meet-winning total, and

Whereas, MMUHS's reputation as the home of state cross-country championship runners was renewed with the school's fourth title in a five-year span, and

Whereas, the 2009 championship running Cougars were Trevor Bibb, Nick Marshall, Jason Hardacre, Chris Scanlon, Hayden Bove, Derrek Schultz, Nick Shallow, Ethan Self, Tom Kitsos, and Braden Yeates, and

Whereas, Coach Bill Eschholz trained his students to succeed on the running courses by instilling in them a sense of purpose and by providing valuable technical instruction, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2009 Mount Mansfield Union High School Cougars Division I championship boys' cross-country team, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Bill Eschholz at Mount Mansfield Union High School.