

No. R-333. House concurrent resolution congratulating the Leland & Gray Union High School 2009 Division III championship baseball team.

(H.C.R.240)

Offered by: Representatives Olsen of Jamaica, Marek of Newfane, Moran of Wardsboro, Obuchowski of Rockingham and Partridge of Windham

Offered by: Senators Shumlin and White

Whereas, in 2008, the Leland & Gray Rebels baseball team achieved an historic milestone, winning the school's first-ever state championship, clinching the Division III title, and

Whereas, the feeling of accomplishment that victory engendered motivated the 2009 squad to strive for a second consecutive baseball crown, and

Whereas, the baseball Rebels defeated all but two of their opponents in the regular season, and their solid performance in the playoff competition earned them a berth in the 2009 Division III championship showdown against the eighth-seeded Northfield High School Marauders, and

Whereas, the game began as primarily a pitchers' duel with no batter reaching first base during the opening three innings, and

Whereas, the scoreless tie was ended in the fourth inning when a Rebel line single, then a bunt single, a hit batter, and a second line single brought the first run across home plate, and

Whereas, in Northfield's half of the sixth inning, the Rebel pitcher hit the first two Marauder batters, the third batter advanced them each a base with a bunt, and the lead Northfield runner came home courtesy of his teammate's grounding out, and

Whereas, the tie between the two championship contenders was short-lived as Leland & Gray began its seventh inning at bat with a long double, and the next Rebel gained first base on a walk, and

Whereas, Northfield's introducing a new pitcher into the equation only briefly delayed the scoring of the Rebels' decisive winning run, and

Whereas, although the third Rebel batter bunted, resulting in Leland & Gray's first out, the subsequent batter's bouncing grounder to second base led to the walked runner's being tagged out, but the immediate confusion surrounding that play enabled the lead Rebel runner to quickly scamper on home and assure his team its second consecutive Division III baseball championship, and

Whereas, this great outing on the Centennial Field diamond in Burlington featured a Rebel baseball team roster consisting of James Crowther, Trevor Howe, Cody Larson, Christopher Marcucci, Tyler Miller, Colin Nystrom, Zachary Peterson, Gabe Pozzi, Brandon Reilly, Tyler Russell, Paul Symanski, and Jared Van Osdol, and

Whereas, first-year coach Tom Russell launched his Leland & Gray coaching tenure in great style and received wonderful support from assistant coaches Gregg Morrow and Greg Marcucci as well as bat boys Corey Nystrom and Nick Morrow and scorer Ashley Chapin, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Leland & Gray Union High School 2009 Division III championship baseball team, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Tom Russell at Leland & Gray Union High School.