

No. R-349. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2009 Harwood Union High School Highlanders girls' and boys' Division II championship cross-country teams.

(H.C.R.204)

Offered by: Representatives Stevens of Waterbury, Minter of Waterbury, Grad of Moretown, Donahue of Northfield and Greshin of Warren

Offered by: Senators Doyle, Cummings and Scott

Whereas, the Harwood Union High School boys and girls, who ran speedily on cross-country courses during the 2009 fall season, culminated their efforts with impressive performances at the state championship meet on October 31 at Thetford Academy, and

Whereas, the Highlanders employed no tricks at this Halloween event, but applied their many hours of training and practice runs to the best possible effect, and

Whereas, the girl Highlanders, all of whom finished among the top 20 runners, starting with fourth place, were way ahead of their nearest opponents, defeating the defending Division II champions from Burr and Burton Academy 39 to 73, and

Whereas, the young ladies running their best at Thetford for Harwood Union High School included Jill Mendes, Jamie Thomas, Kate Stevens, Olivia Nishi, Hannah Woodruff, Laurel Whitney, and Kelsey Bush, and

Whereas, the Harwood boy cross-country runners continued their enviable recent history, winning a third consecutive Division II title, their seventh in the past 12 seasons, and

Whereas, the Highlander boys outscored their nearest opponent, Montpelier, 60 to 98, and

Whereas, the boys' team claimed not only a first-place divisional standing, but also the division's individual winner who completed the 5-kilometer course in a time of 18:35, and

Whereas, the 2009 Vermont state cross-country title represented the ninth for the boys and fourth for the girls,

Whereas, the championship Harwood Highlander boys were Tim Shepard, Nick Wisniewski, Zachary Munro, Dylan Thompson, Nathan Cutler, Geordy Aitken, and Patrick Meany, and

Whereas, both the girls (4th), and boys (5th), were among the top six finishers among all three divisions, earning each team a slot at the New England high school cross-country championship meet that was held in Manchester, Connecticut on November 14, and

Whereas, the boys raced on a muddy course surface while the girls had to compete in the throes of a torrential downpour, and both teams finished above their seeding, and

Whereas, Coach John Kerrigan, who was extremely proud of both teams' exciting results at the 2009 state cross-country championship meet, has, in over 30 years coaching a variety of sports at Harwood, led his students to 25 state championships, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2009 Harwood Union High School Highlanders girls' and boys' Division II championship cross-country teams, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to John Kerrigan at Harwood Union High School.