

No. R-394. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2010 St. Johnsbury Academy Hilltoppers Division I championship girls' basketball team.

(H.C.R.282)

Offered by: Representatives Reis of St. Johnsbury, South of St. Johnsbury, Crawford of Burke, Larocque of Barnet and Toll of Danville

Offered by: Senators Choate and Kitchel

Whereas, the St. Johnsbury Academy Hilltoppers girls' basketball team was ranked 12th in postseason play and had the third-lowest number of regular season wins among all the Division I teams, and

Whereas, ignoring the common wisdom, the Hilltoppers began their postseason miracle journey by defeating fifth-seeded Rice Memorial High School and then outscoring No. 4, Champlain Valley Union High School, and

Whereas, the Hilltoppers' championship potential overcame a further challenge when the team easily defeated top-ranked Burr & Burton Academy, and

Whereas, having unexpectedly dribbled and shot its way into the championship game, St. Johnsbury Academy confronted the highly respected No. 3-seeded Rutland High School Raiders, who had defeated the Hilltoppers 46–21 during the regular season, and

Whereas, although St. Johnsbury had an early 9–4 lead, the team's storybook tale was hardly concluded, as the Raiders charged ahead to 18–17 at the halftime break, and

Whereas, in the opening minutes of third period, Rutland scored six consecutive points, seeming to write the final chapter of the Hilltoppers' amazing odyssey, and

Whereas, the Hilltoppers then initiated an exceptional display of defensive skill, keeping the Raiders scoreless for the final 14½ minutes while also scoring ten consecutive points to win the game 27–24, clinching the academy's first-ever girls' basketball Division I championship title, and

Whereas, the remarkable win was the lowest score ever recorded in a Vermont girls' basketball championship, and St. Johnsbury is the lowest-seeded team ever to carry home the sport's divisional title, and

Whereas, ecstatic Hilltoppers Britney Lane, Bianca Calkins, Adama Kay, Brittany Regis, Molly Moran, Hannah Rowe, Ally Bruckner, Johannah Driscoll, Jessica Brown, Christa Poulin, Emily Bruckner, Allison Brown, and Casey Carbone will long remember their historic 2010 season, and

Whereas, Head Coach Jack Driscoll and Assistant Coach Beth Choiniere are extremely proud of their players' performance, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2010 St. Johnsbury Academy Hilltoppers Division I championship girls' basketball team on its truly historic season, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Jack Driscoll at St. Johnsbury Academy.