

By: Senator(s) Ross

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 64

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE NORTHWEST
2 RANKIN HIGH SCHOOL "COUGARS" BOYS SOCCER TEAM AND COACH CHRIS
3 GARDNER FOR WINNING THE CLASS 5A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

4 WHEREAS, speedy senior forward John Mark Tyler scored two
5 goals to highlight the Northwest Rankin High School "Cougars" Boys
6 Soccer Team to a 4-1 victory over Clinton High School for the
7 Class 5A State Title on Saturday, February 8, 2003, before a
8 raucous crowd of 2,000 in Pearl, Mississippi; and

9 WHEREAS, Northwest Rankin ranked No. 2 in *The Clarion-Ledger*
10 poll, finished the season with an outstanding record of 22-1 and
11 won its second 5A State championship in four years; and

12 WHEREAS, there may not be a quicker high school boys soccer
13 player in Mississippi than John Tyler, 5'7", 155-pound speedster
14 who scored a breakaway goal for a commanding 3-0 lead in the
15 championship game, and added another in the 68th minute for good
16 measure; and

17 WHEREAS, the team was inspired by six-year Coach Chris
18 Gardner, who emphasized overall team quickness, agility, ball
19 skills and hard work in establishing control of the tournament;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, experience was another key factor for the Cougars,
22 who started eight seniors in the championship game and reached
23 their third 5A final in four years, winning two of those contests;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, the roster of the Cougars Championship Team is as
26 follows: Brandon Amecker, freshman; Tommy Douglass, freshman;
27 Hunter Flynt, freshman; Cody Bullman, sophomore; Kevin Conerly,



28 sophomore; Rucker Culpepper, sophomore; Stuart Davidson,
29 sophomore; Rush Fentress, sophomore; Mike Lee, sophomore; Michael
30 Longo, sophomore; Brent Sutherland, sophomore; Tyler Walker,
31 sophomore; Mathew Walters, sophomore; Ryan Watson, freshman; Tommy
32 Whitten, sophomore; Chris Young, sophomore; Jimmy Daniels, junior;
33 Jon Huff, junior; Jake Milner, junior; Jesse Purvis, junior; Zach
34 Scott, junior; Ragan Walters, junior; Chuck Crenshaw, senior; Will
35 Dendinger, senior; Dane Hanson, senior; T-Mac Howard, senior;
36 Brandon Kirksey, senior; Henry Minor, senior; Corey Naramore,
37 senior; Cody Rogers, senior; Hunter Travis, senior; John Mark
38 Tyler, senior; and Andy Williams, senior; and

39 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the special
40 accomplishments of this senior-dominated group of student
41 athletes, who have brought honor to their school, their community
42 and to the State of Mississippi:

43 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
44 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate the
45 Northwest Rankin High School "Cougars" Boys Soccer Team and Coach
46 Chris Gardner for winning the Class 5A State Championship and for
47 their outstanding 2002-2003 season, and wish them success in their
48 future academic and athletic endeavors.

49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
50 the Cougars, Coach Gardner and the Principal of Northwest Rankin
51 High School and be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

