SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 64

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

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

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, the roster of the Cougars Championship Team is as follows: Brandon Amecker, freshman; Tommy Douglass, freshman; Hunter Flynt, freshman; Cody Bullman, sophomore; Kevin Conerly,
S. R. No. 64

03/SS02/R1276

ST: Commend Northwest Rankin High School Boys Soccer Team for winning the Class 5A State Championship.