

HOUSE RESOLUTION 53

By Harmon

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the Van Buren County High School archery team upon winning the Third Annual Tennessee National Archery in the School Program State Championship.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those successful high school athletic teams that, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of this State; and

WHEREAS, the Van Buren County High School archery team is one such estimable team that recently won the Third Annual Tennessee National Archery in the School Program (NASP) State Championship, held at Hyde-Burks Agricultural Pavilion in Cookeville on March 12; and

WHEREAS, not only did the high school archery team claim first place in the State Championship, Van Buren County claimed the Best Overall Team Score as well; and

WHEREAS, the Van Buren County High School archery team has only been in existence since October of 2008 and most of the students on the twenty-member team had never shot a bow before joining, a testament to their dedication to the sport; and

WHEREAS, the tournament, sponsored by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency and Tennessee Tech University, hosted nearly 550 participants, with no more than twenty-four members allowed on each team; and

WHEREAS, each student shot thirty arrows, fifteen from a ten-meter distance and fifteen from a fifteen-meter distance, in an attempt to accrue a maximum score of 300 points; and

WHEREAS, the Van Buren High School team won with an outstanding total score of 3,094 points; and

WHEREAS, the top team and top five individuals in each division automatically received a bid to compete in the 2009 NASP Tournament, to be held from May 8 - 9 in Louisville, Kentucky; attending this national tournament will be school teams representing each of the fifty states as well as international teams; and

WHEREAS, the Van Buren County High School archery team will travel to the national tournament in May, and will be led by Amy Bleasdale and Cheyenne Hutson, who came in second and third in the state for female shooters, respectively, and Kane Maynard, who claimed second place in the high school boys division; and

WHEREAS, the other honorable members of the Van Buren County High School archery team are Alex Mooneyham, Austin Duncan, Blake Sullivan, Curtis Lance, Ethan Hillis, Hannah Carroll, Katelyn Mason, K.C. Cope, Kelsey Henry, Lindsey Stephens, Monica Autry, Nick Mooneyham, Teresa Lovell, Travis Henry, William Myers, Donovan Troglen, and Taylor Sullivan; and

WHEREAS, in addition to excelling in archery, the members of this team are required to maintain passing grades in all seven classes at Van Buren County High School in order to remain on the team, providing a large incentive for academic progress; and

WHEREAS, Van Buren County School Director Mike Martin said of the teams: "A student championship in any sport brings a sense of pride and honor to our community. We are certainly a proud school and community of these teams"; and

WHEREAS, Coach Patrick Nichols, one of three Van Buren archery coaches, said that winning the state championship was one of the greatest moments in his life and that it was incredibly inspiring; and

WHEREAS, the other two esteemed coaches whose inspired leadership qualities helped lead Van Buren to victory are coaches Kurt Maynard and Eddie Carter; and

WHEREAS, in order to secure the necessary funds for their trip to the national tournament in Kentucky, the students on the archery team are raising money from family, friends, and members of their community; and

WHEREAS, together, these students earned Van Buren County High School its first state championship in any sport and it's first invitation to a national tournament, bringing great

pride to their community and this great State and they should be specially recognized for their accomplishment; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and congratulate the Van Buren County High School archery team upon winning the Third Annual Tennessee National Archery in the School Program State Championship, extending our wishes for their success at the national tournament and in every future endeavor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.