

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 296

**WHEREAS**, Joanna Blackwell of Center was crowned Miss Rodeo USA on January 15, 2005, at the International Finals Rodeo in Oklahoma City; and

**WHEREAS**, During the week-long competition held at the Oklahoma State Fairgrounds, Ms. Blackwell took part in interviews and fashion shows, exhibited her horsemanship skills, and demonstrated her knowledge of the agriculture industry and current affairs; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Blackwell has also reigned as the Texas High School, National High School, and Shelby County Rodeo Queen and as Miss Shelby County; an accomplished horsewoman, she has additionally captured the title of Rookie Cowboy, given by the Texas High School Rodeo Association, and holds membership in such groups as Friends of Rodeo, the American Quarter Horse Association, the American Paint Horse Association, and the National Barrel Horse Association; and

**WHEREAS**, This Stephen F. Austin State University senior is majoring in communication, with an emphasis on television and radio, and minoring in Spanish; she plans to obtain a master's degree in communication from Louisiana State University; and

**WHEREAS**, On leave from college for the next year, she will visit rodeos throughout the country to promote Miss Rodeo USA and the International Professional Rodeo Association, as well as to share her platform--communication among the myriad cultures of our nation and the bringing together of people through the sport of rodeo; and

**WHEREAS**, The daughter of proud parents Willis and Ann Blackwell, this exceptional young woman is further supported in all her endeavors by her brothers and sister, Rick, Will, and Julie; and

**WHEREAS**, With her love for the rodeo, her proficiency at the sport, and her great poise and charm, Joanna Blackwell will clearly discharge the duties of her new office with enthusiasm and professionalism, and it is a pleasure to wish her well; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, hereby congratulate Joanna Blackwell on being named the 40th Miss Rodeo USA and extend to her sincere best wishes for continued success and fulfillment; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for Ms. Blackwell as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Staples

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 3, 2005.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate