

By: Berman

H.R. No. 369

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Patriots baseball team of The University of
2 Texas at Tyler has won the Jostens/National Association of Division
3 III Athletic Administrators Community Service Award for the best
4 ongoing project or activity in the nation; and

5 WHEREAS, The award honors the team's Sport Cards for Kids
6 program, which began in June 2003; the Patriots baseball players
7 have since conducted more than 125 events with East Texas
8 organizations, including Tyler Independent School District,
9 Whitehouse Independent School District, Bullard Independent School
10 District, the American Heart Walk, Trinity Mother Frances Hospital,
11 and the Boys and Girls Clubs of East Texas, touching the lives of
12 thousands of young people in the Tyler area; and

13 WHEREAS, Members of the team have promoted education and
14 caring by providing baseball cards to children in local elementary
15 schools and hospital pediatric units; the program was later
16 expanded so that the players could offer baseball clinics and
17 sports equipment for young people; and

18 WHEREAS, Head coach James Vilade, along with assistants Kyle
19 Welsh and Jack Price, began the program in order to provide area
20 youth with local sports role models and to allow the members of the
21 baseball team to be helpful to the Tyler community; and

22 WHEREAS, Past and present members of the UT Tyler Patriots
23 have graciously answered this call to action; in so doing, their
24 service to the city of Tyler has extended well beyond the baseball

1 diamond, and they have become a powerful and positive influence on
2 the area's young residents; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
4 Legislature hereby congratulate The University of Texas at Tyler
5 Patriots baseball team on winning a Jostens/National Association of
6 Division III Athletic Administrators Community Service Award and
7 commend the players and coaches for their commitment to their
8 community; and, be it further

9 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
10 prepared for the team as an expression of high regard by the Texas
11 House of Representatives.