

2013-J2633

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Minisink Valley senior wrestler Josh Bonneau upon the occasion of his selection to represent Team New York at the Disney Duals in Kissimmee, Florida

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body takes pleasure in honoring talented high school athletes who distinguish themselves and their community through outstanding athletic performance; and

WHEREAS, Athletic competition enhances the moral and physical development of the young people of this State, preparing them for the future by instilling in them the value of teamwork, encouraging a standard of healthy living, imparting a desire for success and developing a sense of fair play and competition; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, it is the intent of this Legislative Body to congratulate Minisink Valley senior wrestler Josh Bonneau upon the occasion of his selection to represent Team New York at the Disney Duals in Kissimmee, Florida, on Thursday, June 27, 2013; and

WHEREAS, Josh Bonneau of Minisink Valley High School is meritoriously recognized for his wrestling achievements; his fourth-place state medal at 220 pounds tied him for the seventh best finish in the school's history, which spans more than 40 years; and

WHEREAS, Josh Bonneau's drive to improve every practice and every match is an inspiring story in a sport that will be eliminated from the Olympics after 2016; his life changed when Minisink Valley wrestling coach Kevin Gallagher, also head of the school's football program, persuaded him to participate in wrestling his junior year; and

WHEREAS, Coach Kevin Gallagher has converted football players into average or slightly above-average wrestlers before, but none has taken such gigantic steps in such a short period of time as Josh Bonneau; and

WHEREAS, Josh Bonneau is the poster child for Minisink Valley's program right now, as he is fourth in the state, wrestling in an all-star tournament, and is preparing to wrestle in college, all of which has taken place in less than two years; and

WHEREAS, Earlier, Josh Bonneau competed in the Pinning Down Autism in West Orange, New Jersey; he is only the second athlete to earn first-team Varsity⁸⁴⁵ honors as a football player and wrestler; and

WHEREAS, A Section 9 champion, Josh Bonneau is participating in his second major post season invite from Team New York; he will be attending Nassau Community College which won its second straight junior college title in February of 2013; in addition, he may play linebacker in football for the college as well, where he compiled 79 tackles and 13 sacks last fall; and

WHEREAS, Excellence and success in competitive sports can be achieved only through strenuous practice; Josh Bonneau's dedication to wrestling is a year-round, everyday commitment; he is highly focused and has developed a matchless work ethic; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his parents, Vernon and Rosetta, and his brothers, Aaron, Quinnel and Vern, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Josh Bonneau's exemplary performance is reflective of his dedication, determination and personal commitment; his achievements stand as a hallmark of what is best in the families, schools and communities across New York State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Minisink Valley senior wrestler Josh Bonneau upon the occasion of his selection to represent Team New York at the Disney Duals in

Kissimmee, Florida, and to commend him for the enduring honor he has brought to his family, his school and his community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Josh Bonneau.