

a group at the end of the introduction period. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, the first resolution this morning, LR 323, offered by the Speaker, found on page 884 of the Journal.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Senator Withem.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Yes, members of the body, be very brief on this one because we have a lot of these congratulatory resolutions. Papillion-LaVista High School academic decap...decafitation committee, no, decathlon team placed first place in the state competition and will represent Nebraska in the national competition. They have won two state championships in the last five years. I think Creighton Prep had won it the last couple of years and Papillion has regained the crown from them. Those of us in the Papillion-LaVista area are very proud of them and would like to urge the Legislature to join us in congratulating this team.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Pirsch.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you. Very briefly, I'd just like to add my support for the academic decathlon. And, Senator Withem, Central won it two years when my son was on it, and so it is a growing hotly contested, which covers five areas of competition, written, oral, and team. And not only do they take the best and the brightest, but they take those outstanding students from different levels. So they are, they are the best and the brightest, but they are at different levels. And it's a wonderful experience for all of the children. I also want to add that this is a nongovernment funded competition. The Optimists of Nebraska and Optimists International sponsor this competition and, quite frankly, I think it is the best. And see what you can do with private enterprise. Thank you.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Senator Pirsch. Senator Preister.

SENATOR PREISTER: Thank you, Honorable President, friends all. And, you're welcome, Senator Pirsch. As a member of Optimist International and as one of the people who was there doing some of the overseeing, I want to particularly acknowledge that you did acknowledge Optimist International and that those volunteers