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HOUSE MEMORIAL 50

**52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2016**

INTRODUCED BY

Sarah Maestas Barnes

A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM.

WHEREAS, in one of the most dominating performances in national collegiate athletic association history, the number one university of New Mexico women's cross country team won its first national title on November 15, 2015 at the national collegiate athletic association division one cross country championships; and

WHEREAS, the Lobos' championship is the second national collegiate athletic association title in university of New Mexico history; and

WHEREAS, the university of New Mexico's talented quad of runners lived up to their reputation as the team to beat, running through the thirty-one-team field to an eighty-point

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1 victory over runner-up Colorado; and

2 WHEREAS, New Mexico's margin of victory is the fifth  
3 largest in national collegiate athletic association history and  
4 the best since 2004; and

5 WHEREAS, senior Courtney Frerichs led the Lobo runners  
6 over the women's six-kilometer course, placing fourth overall  
7 in nineteen minutes, forty-eight seconds; and

8 WHEREAS, Courtney was the Lobos' top runner at four of the  
9 five meets at which the team ran in 2015, and her finish is the  
10 best in the university of New Mexico women's cross country  
11 program history; and

12 WHEREAS, sophomore Alice Wright was not far behind  
13 Courtney, finishing fifth overall, followed by junior Rhona  
14 Auckland, who finished thirteenth overall, senior Calli  
15 Thackery, who finished fifteenth overall, and senior Molly  
16 Renfer, who finished twenty-fourth overall; and

17 WHEREAS, all five athletes earned all-American honors,  
18 making them the first women's team to have five all-Americans  
19 in a single championship since Villanova in 2009; and

20 WHEREAS, rounding out the New Mexico contingent, Heleene  
21 Tabet finished seventy-fourth and Whitney Thornburg finished  
22 one hundred ninth; and

23 WHEREAS, New Mexico head coach Joe Franklin had nothing  
24 but praise for the championship winners who earned the right to  
25 wear turquoise and represent New Mexico;

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