

**RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS RIO GRANDE VALLEY
VAQUEROS 2018 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE CHESS TEAM CHAMPIONS**

WHEREAS, the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley chess team is the first in the University's history to win the national title at the President's Cup collegiate chess championship in New York City; and

WHEREAS, the President's Cup is an annual invitational team tournament open to the top four U.S. schools from the most recent Pan-American Intercollegiate Team Chess Championship. The final four this year were St. Louis University, Webster University, Texas Tech, and UTRGV; and

WHEREAS, the UTRGV chess team defeated the five-consecutive-year reigning champions Webster University on April 1 at the Marshall Chess Club; and

WHEREAS, the team is led by Coach Bartek Macieja – who is a two-time Polish Champion, European Champion and is among the highest ranking in the world – and includes team members Andrey Stukopin, a Senior from Russia majoring in Mathematics; Carlos Antonio Hevia Alejano, a Junior from Cuba majoring in Computer Science; Vladimir Belous, a Sophomore from Russia majoring in Finance; Kamil Dragun, a Freshman from Poland majoring in Mathematics; and Hovhannes Gabuzyan, a Freshman from Armenia majoring in Computer Science – all of whom are Grandmasters; and

WHEREAS, the Vaqueros Chess Team brings great pride to UTRGV and to the entire South Texas Region. The excellence and dedication of the coach and team members has resulted in UTRGV being recognized as a leader in promoting chess as a center for developing chess excellence in its students and, by virtue, encouraging the pursuit of chess in children and young adults.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court hereby honors the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley chess team and congratulates its coach and team members on this historic President's Cup Championship.

Approved this 15th day of May, 2018.

RAMON GARCIA
County Judge

DAVID L. FUENTES
County Commissioner, Pct. 1

EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU
County Commissioner, Pct. 2

JOE M. FLORES
County Commissioner, Pct. 3

JOSEPH PALACIOS
County Commissioner, Pct. 4

Attest: ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.
County Clerk