



REBECCA CRACK
21 November 2002

Ms RANKINE (Wright): I move: That this house congratulates Ms Rebecca Crack on her outstanding achievement in winning four gold, one silver and two bronze medals at the World Life Saving Championship at Daytona, USA, in May this year.

Mrs PENFOLD (Flinders): I support the motion and congratulate Rebecca on her win in May this year when she travelled to America to compete in the world lifesaving championships and won four gold, one silver and two bronze medals, which included a world record in the line throw (or rope rescue event). Sport plays an enormous part in the lives of the people from Eyre Peninsula across a range of disciplines, including netball, football, soccer, bowls, lifesaving, basketball, hockey and cricket just to name a few. From participation in these sports emerge people with great skills and talents. Rebecca (formerly of Port Lincoln, currently living in Naracoorte) is one of them. She has been highly successful in the sport of lifesaving and has been a wonderful role model for the young people of the region.

She will be kept very busy over the coming years with the national championships to be held in Tasmania next year and the world championships in Geelong in 2004, when she will be a very strong contender to win gold. Rebecca's family moved to Port Lincoln when she was quite young and she further developed her sporting prowess at the Port Lincoln Leisure Centre. This wonderful facility, together with committed coaches, has assisted Rebecca and many other young people in the sport of swimming. I can remember her as a small girl winning competitions against her peers from across Eyre Peninsula. Rebecca has been fortunate to have travelled through her sport, indeed she had the honour of meeting Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth when she competed in London.

Members may not be aware that Rebecca's sporting ability has not been restricted to lifesaving. In October this year, Rebecca was one of three Eyre Peninsula netballers who were part of the victorious South Australian country team in the interstate invitational netball carnival held in Melbourne. Heather Norton and Tracey Wooley from the United Yeelanna Netball Club were also part of the team, which Heather captained. Eyre Peninsula has produced many sporting heroes, including Kieran McEvoy, who rode the Melbourne Cup winner in 2001 and came third in this year's cup just a few weeks ago. Kieran grew up in Streaky Bay and is certainly destined for great things. Perhaps Eyre Peninsula's main sporting export over time has been Australian Rules Football players. They include, Shaun Rehn, Peter and Shaun Burgoyne, the Wakelin twins Daryl and Shane, and Byron Pickett, to name a few.

Socialising is a major part of sport, particularly in regional areas. Not only do sportsmen and women get to challenge their skills but it is a time when whole families get together to meet new people and to have fun. For some people on the Eyre Peninsula playing sport on the weekend is the only time when they can get together with friends and team mates to socialise. Sport is so popular because it can be enjoyed by people of all ages and abilities. Many people give up their time to help out their association or club by being a committee person or a volunteer. Numerous life memberships have been awarded to people from Eyre Peninsula for continued commitment to their sporting club or association. Life memberships are highly valued and are not awarded lightly—usually many years of dedicated service has been freely given to the club or association first.

Many people behind the scenes help to make our clubs successful, including coaches, umpires, scorers, timekeepers and groundspeople: it does not take just players to make a successful day of sport or a successful sports person. I am sure that Rebecca's family and support team are very proud of her achievements as we all are, and I wish her every success as she

continues to commit herself to her sporting activities. She is now a role model for all South Australians.

Motion carried.