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## PRESIDENT BEGAYE AND VICE PRESIDENT NEZ CONGRATULATE TOHATCHI AND SHIPROCK ON WINNING THE GIRLS BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

ALBUQUERQUE – President Russell Begaye and Vice President Jonathan Nez send their congratulations to the Shiprock Lady Chieftains, the 2017 4A Basketball State Champions and the Tohatchi Lady Cougars, the 3A Basketball State Champions.

“Both teams pushed really hard to win the state championship game. Today it was about playing with heart and we saw that on the court from both the 3A and 4A championship game,” said President Begaye. “It was great to see the communities come together to support these young women.”

Every year for the New Mexico basketball state championship, the Navajo people boost the economy in Albuquerque. The Wise Pies Arena, formally known as the Pit, was full of spectators from all over the state of New Mexico and the state of Arizona especially the Navajo Nation.

“Thank you to Dusty Young, CAA Associate Director and the New Mexico Activities Association for your hospitality. We appreciate the Shiprock and Tohatchi coaches for bringing their teams to victory. Thank you, Navajo basketball fans, without your support and rally our girls wouldn’t have received the wins,” said Vice President Nez.

To the young women, we commend your perseverance and strength last night, he said.

This was the first state championship for the Lady Cougars and the sixth state championship for the Lady Chieftains.

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President Russell Begaye and Vice President Nez pose with the Shiprock High School 4A Girls Basketball State Champions.



Tohatchi High School 3A Girls Basketball State Champions win their first state title.