

2011 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 713

Offered January 19, 2011

Commending Big Blue of Old Dominion University, 2010 Capital One Mascot of the Year.

Patron—Cosgrove

WHEREAS, sixteen mascots, representing NCAA-member colleges and universities, were selected to compete in the 2010 Capital One Mascot of the Year challenge; and

WHEREAS, Big Blue of Old Dominion University competed for 15 weeks in the Capital One contest, and through Internet and text voting, defeated mascots from schools including Cincinnati, Maryland, Ohio State, Tennessee, and UCLA, amassing more than one million votes; and

WHEREAS, Big Blue defeated Big Red of Western Kentucky University in the quarterfinals with 74,204 votes, and The Duck of the University of Oregon in the semifinals with 773,616 votes; and

WHEREAS, Monarch fans cast record-breaking votes for Big Blue in the finals against Paydirt Pete of the University of Texas El Paso, with 66 percent of the ballots; and

WHEREAS, on January 1, 2011, Capital One crowned Big Blue of Old Dominion University the national Mascot of the Year in Orlando, Florida, at the Capital One Bowl and presented University President John R. Broderick a winner's check of \$20,000 for scholarship support; and

WHEREAS, Old Dominion University is the first institution of higher learning in the Commonwealth of Virginia to earn this national recognition in the nine-year history of the contest; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Big Blue of Old Dominion University, 2010 Capital One Mascot of the Year, and congratulate Old Dominion University President John R. Broderick, Athletic Director Wood Selig, and the entire Monarch Nation fan base on this national recognition; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare copies of this resolution for presentation to President John R. Broderick, Dr. Wood Selig, and Big Blue as an expression of the General Assembly's support and admiration for winning the Capital One Mascot of the Year Challenge.

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