

2016 SESSION

ENROLLED

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 36

Commending the University of Virginia baseball team.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 4, 2016

WHEREAS, the University of Virginia baseball team achieved the program's first national title, winning the National Collegiate Athletic Association College World Series in June 2015; and

WHEREAS, defeating the reigning champions, the Vanderbilt University Commodores, by a score of 4-2, the University of Virginia Cavaliers finished the season with a 44-24 record and made history as only the third number 3 or number 4 seed to win the championship; and

WHEREAS, the Vanderbilt University Commodores struck early, taking a 2-0 lead in the first inning, but the University of Virginia Cavaliers rallied to tie the game with a two-run home run by Pavin Smith, his first postseason home run and the first given up by the Commodores in the tournament; and

WHEREAS, the University of Virginia Cavaliers took the lead in the top of the fourth inning and scored again in the seventh inning, with runs by Adam Haseley off of singles by Pavin Smith and Kenny Towns; and

WHEREAS, starting pitcher Brandon Waddell made his 53rd career start to set a school record and his fifth College World Series start to tie for fifth all time in championship series starting appearances; and

WHEREAS, with 13 scoreless innings, three wins, and a save, relief pitcher Josh Sborz was named most outstanding player of the tournament and selected for the All-College World Series Team, along with Ernie Clement, Daniel Pinero, Kenny Towns, and Brandon Waddell; and

WHEREAS, under the able leadership of Brian O'Connor, who was named National Coach of the Year by *Baseball America*, the University of Virginia Cavaliers worked through injuries and adversity to claim the national title, focusing on good pitching and defense; and

WHEREAS, the victory is a testament to the skill and hard work of the athletes, the guidance of the coaches and staff, and the passionate support of the entire University of Virginia Wahoo community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That the University of Virginia baseball team hereby be commended on winning the 2015 National Collegiate Athletic Association College World Series; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Brian O'Connor, head coach of the University of Virginia baseball team, as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration for the team's accomplishments.

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