

2018 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 121

Commending the Colonial Heights Optimists baseball team.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 7, 2018

WHEREAS, the Colonial Heights Optimists baseball team won the Boys Invitational Baseball Tournament held July 27 - August 5, 2017, at Shepherd Stadium in Colonial Heights; and

WHEREAS, hosted by the Optimist Club of Colonial Heights, the Boys Invitational Baseball Tournament (BIB) is an annual single elimination competition staged for baseball teams comprised of children ages 11 and 12; the 2017 event was the 60th in the tournament's history and included 14 teams from across the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, relying on superb pitching and fielding and powerful hitting, the Colonial Heights Optimists battled through a bracket of talented teams in the BIB Tournament; in the title game, they rallied from behind to defeat the defending champion Williamsburg Revolution 8 - 7; and

WHEREAS, the Williamsburg Revolution struck first in the tense championship game, taking a 2 - 0 lead with a first inning home run; in the second inning, the Colonial Heights Optimists leveled the score at 2 - 2 with a pair of well-placed hits from players Zack Miller and Daniel McKinney; and

WHEREAS, after the teams traded the lead several times, the Williamsburg Revolution batted in two runs in the bottom of the fifth inning to claim a 7 - 5 advantage; Colonial Heights then inched within striking distance after an RBI fly ball from Gray Ellenburg made the score 7 - 6; and

WHEREAS, with a man on base in the sixth and final inning, pitcher Will Cimburke stepped up to the plate for the Colonial Heights Optimists and belted a two-run home run to give his team a crucial 8 - 7 lead; the Optimists' defense proceeded to dispatch three Williamsburg Revolution batters to seal the championship; and

WHEREAS, the victory in the final game marked the Colonial Heights Optimists' first BIB Tournament championship in 17 years; in addition, team manager Hunter Mitchell won the Roland Fontaine best coach award; and

WHEREAS, the Colonial Heights Optimists' championship is a testament to the skill and dedication of its young athletes, the able leadership of its coaches, and the enthusiastic support of family members, friends, and the Colonial Heights community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Colonial Heights Optimists baseball team hereby be commended on winning the 2017 Boys Invitational Baseball Tournament; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Colonial Heights Optimists baseball team as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for its spectacular accomplishments and best wishes for continued success.

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