

1996 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 29

Offered January 12, 1996

Commending the Wilson Memorial High School girls'; basketball team.

Patrons—Landes, Deeds and Wilkins; Senator: Hanger

WHEREAS, the girls' basketball team from Wilson Memorial High School, in Fishersville, capped an extraordinary 1995 season by winning the state Group A basketball championship; and

WHEREAS, following a regular season in which they finished second in their conference, the Hornets were not expected to advance to the state tournament, let alone win it; and

WHEREAS, following runner-up finishes in district and regional tournaments, Wilson Memorial had to defeat James River champion Goochland High School just to qualify for the state tournament; and

WHEREAS, playing as underdogs, the Wilson Memorial Hornets surprised Nandua High School, 59-54, in the state quarterfinal game, shaking off the effects of a five-hour bus trip, an overwhelmingly pro-Nandua crowd, and an early 18-4 deficit; and

WHEREAS, relying on their characteristic teamwork, poise, and perseverance, the Hornets of Head Coach Kirk Johnson then traveled to Salem and defeated the Northwood Panthers, 57-55, in the semifinals; and

WHEREAS, in the state tournament final game, the Hornets faced one of the strongest teams in the state, previously undefeated George Mason High School, and once again overcame their underdog status to win convincingly, 59-48, to claim Wilson Memorial's third state title of the decade; and

WHEREAS, the dedication and never-say-die attitude of the players, the skill and commitment of the coaches, and the unwavering support of the community were the factors that led the Wilson Memorial Hornets to a most satisfying state championship; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly salute the girls' basketball team from Wilson Memorial High School; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Head Coach Kirk Johnson in honor of the triumphant 1995 season of the Hornets of Wilson Memorial High School.

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