

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 31

By Ketron

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Head Coach Vance Belew and the 2010 Columbia Central High School football team for winning the TSSAA Class 5A championship.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those student athletes who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as true sportsmen of whom all can be proud; and

WHEREAS, the members of the 2010 Columbia Central High School football team have proven themselves to be the ablest of competitors and, as such, deserving of the highest regard; and

WHEREAS, the Columbia Central Lions have counted among its members some of the most talented young athletes Tennessee has produced; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Head Coach Vance Belew, the 2010 team propelled itself to a 13-2 record and reached the Class 5A BlueCross Bowl, where they faced the team from Hendersonville High School. Though the Hendersonville Commandos tied the game 7-7 on the first play of the third quarter, the Lions took a commanding lead during the second half, ending the game 28-7 and securing the school's first state championship win since 1952; and

WHEREAS, the victory elicited mixed emotions from the players, as it came only hours after the team learned of the passing of junior wide receiver Dylan Rebeor, who fought a courageous battle against colon cancer; and

WHEREAS, however, the team feels that Dylan would have been proud of the win. "It's bittersweet," said junior Eric Belew, "I can't put it into words, but this is what he wanted. It means the world to us and it means the world to Dylan's family, but most importantly it means the world to Dylan"; and

WHEREAS, the team put on impressive displays on both sides of the ball, with both the defensive and offensive Most Valuable Player awards going to senior tailback and linebacker Tra'Darius Goff, who rushed for eighty-three yards and three touchdowns and recorded seventeen tackles with a sack; and

WHEREAS, Coach Belew's leadership and passion for the game are without question, and his principles of playing tenacious defense, controlling the ball on offense, and limiting mistakes were on display throughout the Lions' season; and

WHEREAS, the Columbia Central High School football team, in both victory and defeat, has displayed the tenacity, camaraderie, and skill befitting one of the State's finest athletic teams; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud the 2010 Columbia Central High School football team, not only for the team's championship win but for the players' superior sportsmanship and the joy they have brought to their fellow students and the people of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Head Coach Vance Belew and the 2010 Columbia Central High School football team for their heralded success on the football gridiron and extend to them our best wishes for future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we extend our deepest sympathies to the Lions players, coaches, and staff on the passing of their teammate and friend, Dylan Rebeor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.