SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 50

A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE BENOIT-RAY BROOKS HIGH SCHOOL "TIGERS" FOR WINNING ITS FIRST-EVER CLASS 1A STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP AND ITS OUTSTANDING 2002-2003 SEASON.

WHEREAS, the Benoit-Ray Brooks High School "Tigers" Basketball Team won its first-ever Class 1A State Championship on Friday, March 7, 2003, with a thrilling 61-59 victory over Byers High School; and

WHEREAS, Ray Brooks High School is the smallest school in the State of Mississippi, with an enrollment of under 300 students, and with this victory, the student body and the community of Benoit went home with a championship to call their own; and

WHEREAS, this was the first championship for Ray Brooks High School, which completed this outstanding season with a record of 20-8, and which is only in its second year of existence; originally, the students in Benoit attended West Bolivar in Rosedale, but these students have a new school to attend and a championship to celebrate as their own; and

WHEREAS, on their way to the State Championship, the Ray Brooks Tigers made history by winning their District Championship and the Class 1A South Half Title; and

WHEREAS, the Tigers were a very physical team, ably coached by Head Coach S.C. Cannon and Assistant Coaches Dexter Bryant, Jerry Walker, Terry Leonard and Peris Leonard; and

WHEREAS, the roster of this championship team is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ozell Baldridge, #3</td>
<td>Guard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latarris Howard, #12</td>
<td>Forward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lavoris Giles, #32</td>
<td>Center</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ST: Commend Benoit-Ray Brooks "Tigers" Basketball Team for Class 1A State Championship.

WHEREAS, according to the players that made it happen,

capturing the school's first state title was all a matter of

having faith in each other; and

WHEREAS, it is with pride that we recognize the special

accomplishments of this team which brought honor and identity to

their school, their community and to the State of Mississippi:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF

MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate the

Benoit-Ray Brooks High School "Tigers" Basketball Team and Head

Coach S.C. Cannon for their first-ever State Class 1A Championship

and their outstanding 2002-2003 season, and extend to them the

best wishes of the Legislature for future scholastic and athletic

successes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to

Coach Cannon and the team and the Principal of Benoit-Ray Brooks

High School, and be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.