

By: Senator(s) Kirby

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 26

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE PEARL HIGH
2 SCHOOL "FIGHTING PIRATES" BOYS SOCCER TEAM FOR WINNING THE MHSAA
3 CLASS 4A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP FOR THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE YEAR.

4 WHEREAS, the Pearl High School "Fighting Pirates" Boys Soccer
5 Team lost only 2 of 30 games in 2005-2006 on their way to their
6 second consecutive season as Mississippi High School Activities
7 Association Class 4A State Champions; and

8 WHEREAS, the Fighting Pirates not only won the 4A Title, they
9 also finished on top of *The Clarion-Ledger* final Top 10 state poll
10 for the first time; and

11 WHEREAS, Pearl edged out 5A champion Clinton High School for
12 the top MHSAA Boys ranking with a 27-2-1 record. The only meeting
13 between the top two teams ended in a scoreless tie; and

14 WHEREAS, Coach Brad Biard led a veteran Pearl team with 13
15 seniors. At the end of the 2004-2005 season, the Fighting Pirates
16 won the 4A Title with a team that was predominantly juniors, so
17 the coach felt they would have a good shot at the championship
18 again this year with hard work and determination. "Every goal
19 scored by our opponents made the team furious." The team allowed
20 only 11 goals all season, which computes to 1 goal for every 3-1/2
21 hours of playing time; and

22 WHEREAS, the fierce defense was anchored by Senior Sweeper
23 J.R. Downs. Offensively, the Fighting Pirates were led by Senior
24 Lee Williamson (whose biggest goal of the season came in the
25 Pirates' 2-1 win over Gautier in the 4A final), Junior David
26 Slowick and Sophomore Chris Williams; and

27 WHEREAS, the team won the following tournaments on their way
28 to the State Championship: DeSoto Central Tournament, Ridgeland
29 Showcase, Brandon Tournament, MHSAA 1st Round, MHSAA 2nd Round,
30 and MHSAA North State; and

31 WHEREAS, the Fighting Pirates' roster is as follows: Chase
32 Middleton, Josh Beam, Dillion Walker, Kyle Collins, Nick Foster,
33 Tyler Smith, Adam Wade, Dusty Wilson, Aaron Exum, Kevin Clarke,
34 J.R. Downs, Chris Williams, Lee Williamson, Scotty Pulliam, David
35 Slowik, Dusty Oubre, Aaron Thornton, Tyler Wade, Austin Coley,
36 Manny Garcia, Colby Watson, Eric Watts, Michael Scarborough,
37 Michael Skaggs, Andy Brooks and Trey Fontaine; and

38 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this
39 achievement by student athletes who have brought honor to their
40 school, their community and to the State of Mississippi:

41 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
42 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate the Pearl
43 High School "Fighting Pirates" Boys Soccer Team and Coach Brad
44 Biard for winning their second consecutive MHSAA Class 4A State
45 Championship, and extend to them the best wishes of the Senate in
46 their future athletic and academic endeavors.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
48 Principal John Buchanan and Coach Brad Biard, and be made
49 available to members of the Capitol Press Corps.