

By: Senator(s) Hill, Seymour,
Barnett, Jackson (32nd), Watson

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 17

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE PEARL RIVER
2 CENTRAL "BLUE DEVILS" BASEBALL TEAM AND COACH NEIL WALTHER FOR
3 WINNING THEIR FIRST-EVER STATE 5A CHAMPIONSHIP.

4 WHEREAS, the long-awaited drought is over for Pearl River
5 Central (PRC) High School Baseball Team. Behind a big fourth
6 inning, the Blue Devils got past two-time defending Champion
7 Oxford 7-3 to claim the MHSAA Class 5A State Championship on May
8 20, 2017, at Trustmark Park. It is the Blue Devils first State
9 Title in school history; and

10 WHEREAS, "It has been our pattern all season if we can hang
11 around and then have one big inning we will be fine," said Pearl
12 River Central Coach Neil Walther. "This one is for everyone who
13 has been a part of the PRC program." With the title-clinching
14 win, Coach Walther noted just how big the win was for his team and
15 the community as a whole and how this win could propel them right
16 into next season as they try to make it back to Trustmark Park to
17 play for another Championship. "I think it's huge for the
18 community," said Coach Walther. "These guys came out in great



19 numbers in all three games. They'll come out and support all of
20 the programs. It's big, not only for our community but also for
21 our younger kids who are going to be coming up in our program";
22 and

23 WHEREAS, down 2-1 heading to the top of the fourth, the Blue
24 Devils scored five runs on four hits, highlighted by a two-run
25 double by Zach Roussell. That gave Pearl River Central its first
26 lead of the game at 4-2. Austen Izzio also had a run-scoring
27 single for the Blue Devils. Cade Lee (8-0) got the win on the
28 mound for PRC. He went 6.2 innings, gave up seven hits, allowed
29 three earned runs, walked one, and struck out five. Austen Izzio
30 had three hits to lead PRC; and

31 WHEREAS, the Blue Devils Baseball Championship Team Roster is
32 as follows: Brodie Albritton, 2B; Zach Roussell, LF; Conner
33 Holston, DH; Mason Treat, SS; Austen Izzio, 3B, RHP; Eathan Songy,
34 2B; Caleb Tynes, RF; Austin Diebold, 2B; Cameron Brunson, 3B, P,
35 C; Cade Lee, 2B, RHP; Blake Craft, LHP; Eli Lee, 1B; Blaine
36 Catoire, 1B; Josh Hansen, C; Landon Williams, RHP; Josh Kennedy,
37 3B, 2B, C; Josh Martinez; Hunter Marshall, RF, RHP; Tristan
38 Schlottman, CF, 3B; Cameron Morel, CF; Hayden LeBeau, LHP, LF;
39 Rigell Robinson, RHP; Ghaige Horne, LF; Austin Dean, RHP, 1B;
40 Elliott Neuman, RHP; and Hayden Dunhurst, C, OF; and Coach Neil
41 Walther; and



42 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this group
43 of student athletes who have brought a special honor to their
44 school, their community and to the State of Mississippi:

45 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
46 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate the Pearl
47 River Central "Blue Devils" Baseball Team and Coach Neil Walther
48 for winning their first-ever State 5A Championship, and extend our
49 best wishes to the team, coaches, parents and sponsors for future
50 success.

51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
52 Coach Neil Walther and Pearl River Central Principal Stacy
53 Baudoin, forwarded to the Pearl River County Board of Education,
54 and made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

