

By: Representative Varner

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 90

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE 2023-2024
2 FLORENCE HIGH SCHOOL LADY EAGLES SOCCER TEAM AND HEAD COACH BILL
3 HOOD UPON WINNING THE MISSISSIPPI HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES
4 ASSOCIATION CLASS 5A GIRLS SOCCER STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

5 WHEREAS, the Florence High School Lady Eagles Soccer Team
6 finished the 2023-2024 season with their second state title in
7 three years and seventh overall when they reigned victorious at
8 the Mississippi High School Activities Association (MHSAA) Class
9 5A Girls Soccer State Championship; and

10 WHEREAS, behind a strong, second-half offensive attack, the
11 Lady Eagles rallied past Lafayette 3-1 to claim their latest
12 golden ball trophy on a cold, windy Saturday afternoon at
13 Germantown's Maverick Stadium; and

14 WHEREAS, similar to the agile, ferocious raptors for which
15 they are named, the Lady Eagles Soccer Team wielded its
16 exceptional power and strength to pierce through the state
17 championship dreams of each of their opponents in the state
18 playoffs; and



19 WHEREAS, playing with clear eyes, full hearts and
20 unimagivable amounts of strength, the Lady Eagles Soccer Team
21 outlasted, outplayed and ultimately overpowered the Lafayette High
22 School Lady Commodores; and

23 WHEREAS, the championship game was a tale of two halves, as
24 Lafayette (20-6) struck first in the 29th minute as Lillie Grace
25 McCutchen's shot just went past the goal line to give the Lady
26 Commodores a 1-0 lead; and

27 WHEREAS, the Lady Eagles (20-4-1) have several young players
28 on the team, so they regrouped and refocused during halftime, and
29 came into the second half like a different team, as they tied the
30 game at 1-1 five minutes into the second half when Kamryn Frazier
31 found the net on a rebound off a free kick that went off the top
32 cross bar; and

33 WHEREAS, five minutes later, Emma Marchant scored a shot that
34 went into the near corner of the net to give the Lady Eagles a 2-1
35 lead, and after the game, Marchant was named the game's most
36 valuable player; and

37 WHEREAS, the score stayed the same until the 74th minute mark
38 when eighth grader Kadie Carroll stole a pass at the top of the
39 18-yard box and the shot went just over the Lafayette goalkeeper's
40 hands and into the back of the net to give Florence a 3-1 lead and
41 seal the game; and

42 WHEREAS, throughout their season of play, the Florence High
43 School Girls Soccer Team, who are bursting with wit and



44 athleticism, faced off with some of the state's best contenders on
45 the pitch, but persevered to make their presence and talent known
46 as the gladiators and invincible champions of MHSAA girls' soccer;
47 and

48 WHEREAS, the 2023-2024 Lady Eagles team statistics were
49 impressive, and there were outstanding headers, strikes, penalty
50 kicks and goals by individual players, but the key to this team's
51 consistent success has been the constant team atmosphere and
52 year-round hard work; and

53 WHEREAS, the Lady Eagles have been superbly coached and
54 inspired by Head Coach Bill Hood, who has broadened the Lady
55 Eagles' knowledge of the game and refined their skills in
56 execution; and

57 WHEREAS, Coach Hood continues to build upon the legacy of
58 superior play and true sportsmanship forged by the tenacious and
59 undaunted spirit of each team member, as evidenced in their
60 ability to produce high caliber players and plays and the team's
61 successful season; and

62 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
63 recognize and commend the superb accomplishments of Mississippi
64 student-athletes, especially those such as the Florence High
65 School Lady Eagles Soccer Team, whose excellence on the field and
66 in the classroom brings honor to their school, their community and
67 the State of Mississippi:



68 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
69 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
70 commend and congratulate the 2023-2024 Florence High School Lady
71 Eagles Soccer Team and Head Coach Bill Hood upon winning the
72 Mississippi High School Activities Association Class 5A Girls
73 Soccer State Championship and extend best wishes to the team and
74 coaches for continued success in all their future athletic and
75 academic endeavors.

76 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
77 furnished to Head Coach Bill Hood and to the members of the
78 Capitol Press Corps.

