

By: Senator(s) Blackwell, McLendon, Parker

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 48

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE OLIVE BRANCH
2 HIGH SCHOOL "CONQUISTADORS" (QUISTORS) BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM AND
3 HEAD COACH ERIC ROMBAUGH FOR WINNING THE MHSAA CLASS 6A STATE
4 CHAMPIONSHIP.

5 WHEREAS, at the Class 6A Boys State Championship Tournament
6 on March 2, 2024, Coach Eric Rombaugh challenged his players at
7 halftime to get tough physically and mentally, and the result was
8 the Olive Branch "Conquistadors" (Quistors) sneaking past
9 Ridgeland for a 59-56 victory in the MHSAA Class 6A State
10 Championship Game; and

11 WHEREAS, it is Olive Branch's second State Championship after
12 winning it for the first time in 2018; and

13 WHEREAS, Olive Branch (27-4) outscored Ridgeland (16-9) in
14 the fourth quarter. The "Titans" (24-10), who snapped
15 Pascagoula's 28-game winning streak in the semifinals, led
16 throughout the second half until Olive Branch senior guard Caleb
17 Hunt connected on a 3-pointer. A key for Olive Branch was Jerry
18 Wall III, who guarded Wilson for the majority of the game and
19 bottled him up late; and



20 WHEREAS, Jerry Wall, a 6-foot-1, 200-pound senior, was the
21 game's MVP, with 12 points and six rebounds. Zahir Gutierrez, who
22 also drained a game-winning buzzer-beater versus Terry in the
23 semifinals, made three free throws in the final 30 seconds to seal
24 the win. Ridgeland junior Phil Nelson led all scorers with 19
25 points. Wilson finished with 10 points, seven rebounds, one block
26 and one steal in 27 minutes. Olive Branch outrebounded Ridgeland
27 27-19; and

28 WHEREAS, the 2023-24 Olive Branch High School "Conquistadors"
29 Boys Basketball Team Championship roster is: Javion Stephen,
30 Kelton Brown, Jerry Wall III, Zahir Gutierrez, Caleb Hunt, King
31 George, Antonio Batteast, James King III, Reece Garrison, Jady
32 Jefferson, Emery Shannon, Gabriel Banks, Taiveon Mitchell, James
33 Hill, Jaiden Brunson, Josiah Blackwell, Jaylen Shields and Tommy
34 Callicut; and Head Coach Eric Rombaugh; and

35 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this group
36 of student athletes who have brought honor to their school, their
37 community and to the State of Mississippi:

38 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
39 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate the Olive
40 Branch High School "Conquistadors" (Quistors) Boys Basketball Team
41 and Head Coach Eric Rombaugh for winning the MHSAA Class 6A State
42 Championship, and extend to the team, coaches, parents and
43 sponsors our best wishes for continued success.



44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
45 Olive Branch Head Coach Eric Rombaugh and Olive Branch Principal
46 Jacob Stripling for the team, forwarded to the DeSoto County Board
47 of Education, and made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

