

By: Representatives Hollowell, Tosh

HOUSE RESOLUTION

TO RECOGNIZE THE MARKED TREE HIGH SCHOOL INDIANS BASKETBALL TEAM AS THE 2023-2024 CLASS 1A BOYS BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONS; AND TO RECOGNIZE COACH BARBARA WILBURN-COVINGTON'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS AS HEAD COACH OF THE SENIOR BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM.

Subtitle

TO RECOGNIZE THE MARKED TREE HIGH SCHOOL INDIANS BASKETBALL TEAM AS THE 2023-2024 CLASS 1A BOYS BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONS; AND TO RECOGNIZE COACH BARBARA WILBURN-COVINGTON'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS AS HEAD COACH.

WHEREAS, the Marked Tree High School Indians defeated the Nevada High School Blue Jays to claim the 2023-2024 Boy's Class 1A Basketball State Championship title on March 9, 2024, at the Bank OZK Arena in Hot Springs, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the game marked the Marked Tree High School Indians' first state championship win since 2001; and

WHEREAS, the Marked Tree High School Indians won 66-43 over the Nevada High School Blue Jays, making the title the sixth in Marked Tree High School history; and

WHEREAS, Ladarrius Brown was named Most Valuable Player of the state



championship finals with twenty (20) points, six (6) rebounds, and four (4) steals; and

WHEREAS, Kenyon Carter and Jonah Walker each added ten (10) points for the Marked Tree High School Indians; and

WHEREAS, the Marked Tree High School Indians finished the 2023-2024 season with a 35-3 record; and

WHEREAS, the Marked Tree High School Indians were led by Head Coach Barbara Wilburn-Covington; and

WHEREAS, Head Coach Barbara Wilburn-Covington is in her nineteenth season as the head coach of the senior boys basketball team; and

WHEREAS, Head Coach Barbara Wilburn-Covington coached the Marked Tree High School Indians in 2001 when the team won the school's previous state championship title; and

WHEREAS, more women are gaining prominence in coaching men's sports and Head Coach Barbara Wilburn-Covington has been recognized as having one (1) of the longest active coaching streaks and has proved that women can coach boys,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the House of Representatives recognize:

(1) The Marked Tree High School Indians as the 2023-2024 Class 1A Boys Basketball State Champions; and

(2) Head Coach Barbara Wilburn-Covington for her accomplishments as the head coach for the Marked Tree High School Indians boys basketball team.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon the adoption of this resolution, a copy shall be provided to Head Coach Barbara Wilburn-Covington by the Chief Clerk

of the House of Representatives.