

Chapter No. 2079

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***SENATE
CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
No. 515***

Originated in Senate

Liz Welch

Secretary

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 515

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE SIMPSON COUNTY ACADEMY "COUGARS" FOOTBALL TEAM AND HEAD COACH BILLY WAYNE HANKINS FOR WINNING THE 2011 MAIS CLASS AA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

WHEREAS, Senior Cade Eiland rushed for two touchdowns and 213 yards as Simpson County Academy "Cougars" Football Team capped off an undefeated season on December 2, 2011, by defeating River Oaks School of Monroe, Louisiana, 29-15, to win the Mississippi Association of Independent Schools (MAIS) Academy AA State Championship. It is the first State Title since 2005 for the Cougars, 14-0; and

WHEREAS, in the dictionary the word "champion" is defined as "A person(s) who is the best in his field or who has defeated all rivals." Simpson County Academy earned the right to call themselves Champion, leaving no doubt who was the best team in MAIS AA football. Simpson endured stiff competition throughout the playoffs with three of its opponents ranked in the Top 5 in the state. Through their playoff run, Simpson outscored their opponents by 136-55. What is even more amazing is that of the 55 points scored by their opponents, 21 came on meaningless 4th quarter drives after the outcome had already been decided; and

WHEREAS, "It is an amazing feeling to win a State Championship. It is a hard thing to do," said Coach Billy Wayne Hankins, who has guided the Cougars to four State Championships and an overall record of 108-20. "Winning the State Championship is great for our football program and great for our school. The

football players, fans and school deserve this State Championship"; and

WHEREAS, the Simpson County Academy fans earned the 12th Man Award. Simpson set an MAIS record with fan support at the Championship Game with the largest crowd assembled for one team. More than two hours before the kickoff, nearly 300 Simpson County Academy fans greeted the team bus as the team arrived on the campus of Millsaps College. The team filed off the bus and had to walk through the cheering crowd on the way to the locker room. The crowd provided even more motivation for the team according to Coach Hankins; and

WHEREAS, the Simpson County Academy 2011 Class AA Football Roster is as follows: Cade Elland, RB/DB; Christopher Sullivan, WR/DB; Brandon Johnston, QB/DB; Garrett Taylor, RB/LB; Ross Lunn, WR/DB; Seth Blackledge, RB/DB; Josh Hankins, WR/DB; Joshua Broadhead, WR/DB; Cade Caughman, WR/DB; Mason Herrin, QB/DB; Robert Berry, K; Michael Layton, RB/LB; Hunter Carmichael, WR/DB; Daniel Taylor, RB/LB; Hayden Benton, RB/LB; Eli Duran, WR/DB; Dakota Kennedy, TE/DE; Mason Fewell, RB/DE; Austin Burney, RB/LB; Jonathan Pierce, RB/LB; Heath Slover, TE/LB; Devin Hamilton, TE/DL; Seth Batton, TE/DE; Ben Pickering, OL/LB; Tyler Sanford, OL/DL; Patrick Benton, OL/DL; Austin White, OL/DL; Matt Shows, OL/DE; Jacob Wood, OL/DL; Triston Shivers, OL/DL; Dillon Holloway, OL/DE; Shane Brown, OL/DE; Chase Ainsworth, OL/DL; Todd Dupré, OL/DL; Justin Lichte, OL/DL; Caleb Mullins, OL/DL; Hunter Thompson, OL/DL; Rhett Giordano, OL/DL; Cody McDonald, TE/DE; Andrew Berry, WR/DB; Jace Jones, OL/DL; Lyndon Giordano, TE/DE; Head Coach Billy Wayne Hankins; Assistant Coaches: Winston Mullins, Dan Napier, Amie Green, Grid Warren, Mitch Holloway, Greg Hall, Chaucer Funchess, Shannon Steed, Justin Sanford and David Holbrook; and Headmaster Dave Granville; and

WHEREAS, Simpson Academy won the Championship Ballgame, as it has 13 other ballgames this year, in all areas. Simpson Academy

had the potent offense, the toughest defense, and the Special Teams play necessary to win championships; Simpson Academy earned this State Championship trophy and the right to call themselves Champions; and it is with pride that we recognize this group of student athletes who have brought honor to their school, their community and to the State of Mississippi:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That we do hereby commend and congratulate the Simpson County Academy "Cougars" Football Team and Head Coach Billy Wayne Hankins for winning the 2011 Mississippi Association of Independent Schools Class AA State Championship, and extend to the coaches, parents and sponsors our best wishes for future athletic and academic successes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to Coach Hankins and Headmaster Granville for the team, and made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

ADOPTED BY THE SENATE
January 18, 2012



PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
January 25, 2012



SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES