

By: McClendon

H.R. No. 299

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The 2006 release of *Glory Road*, a film both
2 educational and socially significant, provides a fitting occasion
3 to recognize Nevil Shed and his contributions to a milestone
4 victory on the court and in the struggle for civil rights; and

5 WHEREAS, Walt Disney's *Glory Road* tells the story of the 1966
6 NCAA basketball champion, Texas Western College, now The University
7 of Texas at El Paso; in the championship final, which has been
8 hailed as one of the NCAA's "25 Defining Moments," Texas Western
9 head coach Don Haskins broke with tradition by starting an
10 all-black team against the all-white Kentucky Wildcats; the African
11 American squad defeated the heavily favored Wildcats, claiming the
12 prestigious NCAA National Basketball Championship title while
13 heralding a new era of racial equality in college basketball; and

14 WHEREAS, Contributing to this significant event was the
15 6-foot-8-inch Nevil Shed, who sank the free throw that put his team
16 into the lead it never relinquished; dubbed "The Shadow," Mr. Shed
17 was known for his tenacious defense and unrelenting hustle on the
18 hardwood, averaging 15 points, 10 rebounds, and 80 percent
19 free-throw shooting per game throughout his career; after
20 graduating from college with a bachelor of arts degree in
21 kinesiology and health, Mr. Shed was drafted by the NBA and played
22 with the Boston Celtics; and

23 WHEREAS, Since retiring as a player, Mr. Shed has worked
24 tirelessly to help young people in the African American community;

1 whether in the capacity of coach, advisor, or public speaker, he has
2 shared his story of triumph against formidable odds with youth
3 across the nation, inspiring them to believe that with
4 determination, they can surmount any obstacle; and

5 WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan has been recognized for his work
6 with a number of accolades, including the 2001 African American
7 Legend Award, 2003 SOUL of Black Folks Award, 2004 San Antonio Black
8 Achievement Award, and 2005 Prestigious Black History Makers Award;
9 in addition, he has been featured in the Emmy Award-winning
10 documentary *Final Four* and in HBO's *Real Sports with Bryant Gumble*;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, A pioneer in the struggle for racial justice and a
13 role model for countless young people, Nevil Shed has continued to
14 advance the dream of a more just and inclusive society, and it is a
15 distinct pleasure to join in honoring him at this time; now,
16 therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
18 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby commend Nevil "The Shadow"
19 Shed for his role in charting a new course for college sports and
20 for race relations throughout this state and nation; and, be it
21 further

22 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
23 prepared for Mr. Shed as an expression of high regard by the Texas
24 House of Representatives.