

By: Merritt

H.C.R. No. 75

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The Kilgore High School Bulldogs football team has  
2 reached the pinnacle of success by winning the 2004 UIL Class 4A  
3 Division II State Football Championship, the school's first ever in  
4 gridiron competition; and

5 WHEREAS, Capping a school record-setting 16-0 season, the  
6 Kilgore Bulldogs have claimed the coveted state crown with a  
7 hard-fought victory over a worthy opponent, the Dallas Lincoln High  
8 School Tigers, at Baylor University's Floyd Casey Stadium; and

9 WHEREAS, Members of this outstanding Bulldog football squad  
10 include Pat McCrory, Trey Sands, Nick Sanders, Bronkale Kenney,  
11 Keith Gilliam, Daren Chappell, Chase Fisher, Antonio Henderson,  
12 Michael Cottier, Kendrick Brown, Jamar Bornes, Rudy Galvan,  
13 Courtney Thomas, Keonta Robinson, Keith Lampkin, Jaron Shepherd,  
14 Kaleb Nix, Kurt Rossum, Cory League, Brandon Morgan, Tim Davis,  
15 Chris Harvey, Casey Whitmer, Antonio Kelly, Kyle Shipp, Eddie  
16 Jones, Eddie Rutherford, Chase Patterson, Kendrick Ector, Derrell  
17 Moore, Billy Slagle, Josh Mathis, Daniel Swaim, Buddy Davis, Austen  
18 Gideon, David Whipkey, Peter Schill, Stephen Foster, Michael Huey,  
19 Josh Slagle, Jared Price, Mario Schill, Ryan Whitmer, Adam Wiggins,  
20 Joey White, Scipio Sholars, Matt Morris, Jordan Moore, Lon Roberts,  
21 Edgar Sanchez, Britt Mitchell, Shane Shaw, Justin Clark, Bryan  
22 Brantley, Wayne Daniels, Lawrence Emeadi, Coty Gatewood, Bobby  
23 Curnutt, Diego Orta, Paul Springer, Daniel Wheeler, and Artineal  
24 Gardner; these talented players received invaluable support from

1 trainers Phillip Mitchell, Brandon Welborn, Ciro Alvarez, Andrew  
2 Beason, Creed Hamill, Juan Venegas, Jeremy Armeida, Justin Climer,  
3 and Stephen Burch, as well as ball boys Logan Preston and Seth  
4 Whisenhunt; and

5 WHEREAS, Coach of the Year Mike Vallery provided  
6 inspirational leadership and guidance to his young charges,  
7 enabling his players to achieve their ultimate goal of claiming the  
8 school's first state football championship; Coach Vallery was ably  
9 assisted by offensive coordinator Kenny Ferro, defensive  
10 coordinator Mike Wood, assistant athletic director Doug Duke,  
11 athletic trainers Darrell Ganus and Kelly Gray, athletic secretary  
12 Debbie Copeland, and coaches Chris Vallery, Kyle Preston, Jay Dean,  
13 Les Loper, Charles Presley, Drenon Fite, Keith Meyers, Mark Roskos,  
14 Jim Hargett, Whitney Keeling, John Lewis, Kris Duplissey, and Jerry  
15 Reddic; and

16 WHEREAS, The 2004 Kilgore Bulldogs earned numerous  
17 accolades, including the Class 4A Game of the Year award for their  
18 33-27 double overtime victory over Dallas Lincoln for that state  
19 championship title; play of the year went to Nick Sanders for a  
20 game-winning blocked field goal return for a touchdown in their  
21 victory over Dallas Lincoln; individual honors were given to Keith  
22 Gilliam, who was named 4A Player of the Year by *Texas Football*  
23 magazine and Fox Sports Network, and Eddie Jones, who received the  
24 prestigious defensive player of the year recognition from Blitzzy's  
25 TV Show; and

26 WHEREAS, First-team players for the 2004 All-Smoaky.com high  
27 school football team were Keith Gilliam, Jordan Moore, Billy

1 Slagle, Eddie Jones, and Nick Sanders; second-team players were  
2 Courtney Thomas, Lon Roberts, Antonio Henderson, and Nick Sanders;  
3 third-team player was Pat McCrory; and

4 WHEREAS, The District 17 4A All-District honorees include  
5 most valuable player Keith Gilliam, defensive lineman of the year,  
6 Eddie Jones, offensive lineman of the year, Billy Slagle, kick/punt  
7 returner of the year, Nick Sanders, offensive newcomer of the year,  
8 Derrell Moore, and defensive newcomer of the year, Jason Shepherd;  
9 the first team was composed of Chase Fisher, Courtney Thomas, Lon  
10 Roberts, Jordan Moore, Lawrence Emadi, Wayne Daniels, Antonio  
11 Henderson, Trey Sands, Nick Sanders, and Pat McCrory; second team  
12 included Nick Sanders, Britt Mitchell, Bronkale Kenny, Rudy Galvan,  
13 Coty Gatewood, Courtney Thomas, and Rudy Galvan; honorable mention  
14 recipients were Daniel Swaim, Josh Mathis, Ryan Whitman, Chase  
15 Patterson, Antonio Kelly, Chris Harvey, Brandon Morgan, Artineal  
16 Gardner, and Buddy Davis; and

17 WHEREAS, All-East Texas award winners were offensive player  
18 of the year, Keith Gilliam, defensive player of the year, Eddie  
19 Jones, and return specialist, Nick Sanders; the first team had  
20 Billy Slagle, Keith Gilliam, Lon Roberts, Courtney Thomas, Eddie  
21 Jones, Wayne Daniels, Antonio Henderson, Nick Sanders, and Trey  
22 Sands; second-stringers included Britt Mitchell, Jordan Moore, and  
23 Rudy Galvan; honorable mention recipients were Bronkale Kenny,  
24 Lawrence Emadi, Courtney Thomas, and Pat McCrory; and

25 WHEREAS, The 4A All-State offensive player of the year was  
26 Keith Gilliam, and his first-team members included Billy Slagle,  
27 Eddie Jones, Wayne Daniels, and Antonio Henderson; the second-team

1 player was Nick Sanders, and third-team players were Lon Roberts,  
2 Courtney Thomas, Britt Mitchell, and Nick Sanders; and

3 WHEREAS, These exceptional football players, together with  
4 their coaches and staff, are a source of tremendous pride to the  
5 students and faculty at Kilgore High School, as well as their many  
6 supporters in the community, and it is most appropriate that they be  
7 honored for their impressive achievement; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the 79th Legislature of the State of Texas  
9 hereby congratulate the members, coaches, and staff of the Kilgore  
10 High School football team, as well as superintendent Jerry Roberts  
11 and principal Bobby Wheeley, on winning the 2004 UIL Class 4A  
12 Division II State Football Championship and extend to them sincere  
13 best wishes for future success and happiness; and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
15 prepared for Kilgore High School as an expression of the sentiment  
16 of the Texas House of Representatives and Senate.