

By: Howard of Travis

H.R. No. 990

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Family, friends, and fans from across Central Texas  
2 are mourning the loss of longtime *Austin American-Statesman*  
3 sportswriter George Quentin Breazeale, who passed away on September  
4 25, 2010, at the age of 80; and

5           WHEREAS, Born in Burnet County to George P. and Winnie  
6 Breazeale on July 20, 1930, George Breazeale experienced a  
7 life-changing event when he saw his first football game in Marble  
8 Falls in 1944; immediately infatuated with the game but personally  
9 ill-equipped to battle linemen with his six-foot-two-inch,  
10 135-pound frame, he soon put his enthusiasm to good use reporting  
11 Burnet High School's game results to the Austin paper; and

12           WHEREAS, Mr. Breazeale moved to the Alamo City after high  
13 school and worked for the *San Antonio Express*, and he relocated to  
14 Austin in 1950 to take a job as a sportswriter for the  
15 *American-Statesman*; he served two years in the United States Army  
16 from 1951 to 1953, returning afterward to Austin, where he worked  
17 for the paper and majored in English and history at The University  
18 of Texas; his notable tenure with the *American-Statesman* would  
19 ultimately span four and a half decades as a full-time reporter; and

20           WHEREAS, Originally covering the high school sports beat, Mr.  
21 Breazeale switched to college sports, particularly UT football,  
22 basketball, and baseball, in 1960; he attended the Cotton Bowl for  
23 many consecutive years, including the UT national championship  
24 seasons of 1969 and 1970, and memorably documented several trips to

1 the College World Series as well as the UT men's basketball team's  
2 successful journey to New York to win the National Invitation  
3 Tournament in 1978; in the early 1970s, he served as the public  
4 address announcer for UT baseball games, and in 1976 he broke the  
5 news that legendary coach Darrell Royal was retiring; and

6       WHEREAS, Mr. Breazeale returned to covering high school  
7 sports in the late 1970s; every year at the end of the summer he  
8 drove to schools throughout Central Texas to visit in person with  
9 coaches and players, and he maintained an extensive list of  
10 contacts representing every community in the region to call on for  
11 the most recent scores and reports from the field; following his  
12 official retirement in 1995, he continued his association with the  
13 *American-Statesman* for more than 14 years with occasional columns  
14 about high school sports history and predictions for upcoming games  
15 and seasons; even in his seventies, he kept working the phones three  
16 nights a week during the school year to ensure local teams got their  
17 due in the next day's edition; and

18       WHEREAS, A contributor to *Texas Football* magazine for many  
19 years, Mr. Breazeale drew on his expertise in the writing of *Tops in*  
20 *Texas*, an account of University Interscholastic League football  
21 championships since 1920 that he published in 1993; his skill as a  
22 reporter, his encyclopedic knowledge of the games he covered, and  
23 his strong rapport with athletes, coaches, other writers, and fans  
24 were recognized with his election as president of the Texas Sports  
25 Writers Association in 1978, his selection as Sportswriter of the  
26 Year by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches in 1982 and the  
27 Texas High School Coaches Association in 1990, and his induction

1 into the Texas Sports Hall of Fame in 2002; and

2 WHEREAS, Mr. Breazeale also shared his time and talents as a  
3 West Lake Hills City Council member from 1973 to 1975, and he  
4 enjoyed the fellowship of many at Central Presbyterian Church in  
5 Austin, serving the congregation as an elder, deacon, greeter, and  
6 usher; and

7 WHEREAS, While working at the *American-Statesman* in 1960, Mr.  
8 Breazeale met the love of his life, Carolyn Cole; they were married  
9 on June 30, 1961, and together experienced nearly 50 years of  
10 fulfilling partnership and the joys of raising a son, Paul; and

11 WHEREAS, The members of a team and their shared efforts and  
12 sacrifices help weave the social fabric of the communities in which  
13 they live; George Breazeale understood that truth, and his passion  
14 for getting the story and his conscientious, fair, and accurate  
15 reporting have ensured that his professional achievements will  
16 continue to resonate in the Lone Star State for years to come; now,  
17 therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
19 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of George Quentin  
20 Breazeale and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family:  
21 to his wife, Carolyn C. Breazeale; to his son, Paul Q. Breazeale; to  
22 his sister, Beryl Oltman; and to his other relatives and many  
23 friends; and, be it further

24 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
25 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
26 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of George  
27 Breazeale.