

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 77

BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX

A RESOLUTION

To commend the North Central High School basketball team on winning the Louisiana High School Athletic Association Class 1A state championship.

WHEREAS, the North Central High School Hurricanes defeated the KIPP Booker T. Washington High School Lions by a score of 59-47 to take the Louisiana High School Athletic Association Class 1A state title at the Burton Coliseum in Lake Charles, Louisiana, on March 8, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Lions scored just ten fastbreak points, committed twenty-two turnovers, twelve of which came on steals by the Hurricanes; and

WHEREAS, the Hurricanes' defense was critical when, after taking a 25-15 lead, the Lions went on a 12-0 run to take their first lead with 2:35 left in the third quarter; and

WHEREAS, North Central junior center Nikembe Johnson, the game's Most Valuable Player, followed by making a three pointer from the wing over the Lions' defenders; and

WHEREAS, the Hurricanes then went on a 13-0 run, including Smith's three-point play at the end of the third quarter, and the Lions never got closer than seven points; and

WHEREAS, Coach Apphia Jordan was named St. Landry Coach of the Year, District Co-Coach of the Year, and Class A Coach of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Derrick Tezeno was named to the St. Landry Parish First Team, District 1A First Team, and Class A First Team, and was named St. Landry Parish Most Valuable Player and District 1A Most Valuable Player; and

WHEREAS, Nikembe Johnson was named to the St. Landry Parish First Team, District 1A First Team, and Class A Second Team; and

WHEREAS, Reginald Stoner was named to the St. Landry Parish First Team, District 1A First Team, District 1A All-Defensive Team, and received Class A Honorable Mention; and

WHEREAS, Jalen Smith was named to the St. Landry Parish Second Team and the District 1A Second Team; and

WHEREAS, the members of the talented Hurricanes squad, Jamarey Cane, Lionel Harrison, Aaron Johnson, Nikembe Johnson, Kylyn Joseph, Jalen Smith, Kaleb Smith, Reginald Stoner, Derrick Tezeno, and Jalen Wilson, merit recognition and congratulations for their extraordinary performance and their competitive spirit throughout the season and the tournament; and

WHEREAS, the members of the team performed at the highest level of athletic excellence throughout the tournament and each of them deserves recognition for their vital contribution to the winning effort; and

WHEREAS, head coach, Apphia Jordan, and assistant coaches, Kerrick Alexander, Arnold Gore, Rayvon Gray, and Crystal Trahan instilled an ethic of winning and demonstrated the kind of leadership and motivational skills needed to produce winners both on and off the court; and

WHEREAS, the North Central High School Hurricanes basketball team is recognized for the well-deserved accolades earned throughout the season and showcasing the extraordinary athletic abilities they have displayed, particularly at the most difficult level of high school competition.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express its sincere congratulations to the North Central High School Hurricanes basketball team and their coaches for the sportsmanship shown while achieving such high honors for themselves, for North Central High School, the city of Lebeau, and the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the principal of North Central high School.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE