

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 456
By Womack

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Coach Randy King and the 1995-1996 Oakland High School boys' basketball team on reaching the semifinal round of the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Class AAA State Tournament.

WHEREAS, with amazingly deadly accuracy, very stingy defense, adroit rebounding, uncanny ballhandling, an exemplary spirit of sacrifice and a fierce determination to win, the awesome 1995-1996 Oakland High School boys' basketball team has recently reached the semifinal round of the prestigious Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Class AAA State Tournament, successfully completing one of the best seasons in their glorious history; and

WHEREAS, basketball pundits took early note of the team and highly praised them for their stellar performance in winning the classic Huntsville Times Christmas Tournament, widely regarded as one of the top holiday tournaments in the South; and

WHEREAS, despite strong competition, Oakland won the coveted regular season District 7-AAA championship, with a perfect 10-0 record; and

WHEREAS, the Patriots next won the District 7-AAA Tournament, with impressive victories against Lebanon 77-47, in semifinal action, and White County 73-55, in the title match; and

WHEREAS, they then won the Region 4-AAA Tournament, easily defeating Coffee County 69-58, Columbia 70-45 and White County 66-48; and

WHEREAS, in the crucial substate game, Oakland beat Cleveland 83-53, to reach their third State Tournament in the last four years; and

WHEREAS, at the State Tournament, the Patriots stopped Science Hill from reaching the top of the Hill, crushing them 66-45, before a close loss to the eventual state champion Memphis East; and

WHEREAS, their superb final overall record of 32-2, including a rare 30 consecutive game win streak, represents a winning percentage of .941; and

WHEREAS, the Patriots' enviable four year record is 121-11; and

WHEREAS, they also remained unbeatable before the enthusiastic home town fans, stretching that streak to an incredible 51 games; and

WHEREAS, Oakland was ranked as the second best team in the state by the authoritative Final Associated Press Poll; and

WHEREAS, highly regarded **Head Coach Randy King, Assistant Coach Kevin Woodson, Assistant Coach Gary Johnson,** and **Assistant Coach Finnis Brown** have performed their duties in an exemplary manner; and

WHEREAS, a key ingredient to any successful high school team is a balanced scoring attack. The Patriots had four players that averaged in double figures; and

WHEREAS, those four team leaders were: sharpshooting senior forward **Gerald King**, who averaged 16 points per game and was chosen Tennessee Sports Writers first team All-State, Associated Press second team All-State, All-State Tournament, All-Region 4-AAA Tournament, All-District 7-AAA Tournament, regular season All-District 7-AAA, All-Area and *Huntsville Times* Classic Most Valuable Player; sensational senior guard **Ricky Swader**, an Associated Press Honorable Mention All-State, All-State Tournament, All-Region 7-AAA Tournament, All-District 7-AAA Tournament, regular season District 7-AAA Player of the Year, Area Most Valuable Player and All-*Huntsville Times* Classic honoree; inspirational senior center **Michael Couey**, who was honored as Associated Press Honorable Mention All-State, All-State

Tournament, All-Region 4-AAA Tournament, All-District 7-AAA Tournament, regular season All-District 7-AAA, All-Area and All-*Huntsville Times* Classic; and senior forward **Derrick Webb**, who was named All-Region 4-AAA Tournament, All-District 7-AAA Tournament, All-District 7-AAA and All-Area; and

WHEREAS, the other players include **John Taylor, Mac Barnett, Clay Shirley, Ron Joe Whaley, Tony Smith, Morgan Wright, John Jackson, Brent Robinson, Alex Hendrix, Jacob Brindle, Jimmy LeFlouria, Bryan Frantz** and **Cory Richardson**; each has contributed to the success of the team; and

WHEREAS, their fine **Principal Ken Nolan** has been very supportive of the team; and

WHEREAS, the hard-working managers were **Janetta Jamerson, Bonnie Bell, Will Jackson** and **James Knight**; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pause in our deliberations to specially recognize this exceptional squad; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate Coach Randy King and the 1995-1996 Oakland High School boys' basketball team, officially commemorate their notable season and wish them well in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation to the school and to each person named above, with this final clause omitted from such copies.