S. R. No. 25

Senator Sawyer

Cosponsor: Senator LaRose

RESOLUTION

Honoring The University of Akron men's soccer team as the 2010 National Champion.

WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the 129th General Assembly of Ohio are pleased to congratulate The University of Akron men's soccer team on winning the 2010 National Collegiate Athletic Association College Cup; and

WHEREAS, A remarkable group of athletes, the members of The University of Akron men's soccer team have combined talent and competitive spirit with the highest ideals of good sportsmanship to establish themselves as a truly exceptional squad. With admirable dedication, the Zips have worked diligently toward attaining ultimate proficiency in soccer, and as a result, they won their fourth consecutive Mid-American Conference Championship and advanced to the NCAA Tournament for the fourth straight season, where they defeated a tough University of Louisville team by the score of 1-0 to win this year's NCAA College Cup, the school's first team national championship in any sport. Finishing the season with an impressive 22-1-2 record, the team had the second highest fan attendance in the nation and a team grade point average of 3.5 for the Fall 2010 semester, and for the second consecutive year, one of its players won the prestigious Hermann Trophy as the National Soccer Coaches Association of America Division I Player of the Year, including Darlington Nagbe in 2010; and

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WHEREAS, The Zips' achievements and leadership are a justifiable source of pride and an excellent reflection on the players, their families, their school, their community, and their coach. In leading his team to victory, Head Coach Caleb Porter has not only helped each athlete to develop his talents to the fullest but also instilled in each a valuable sense of determination, perseverance, and camaraderie, and for his success, he was named the Mid-American Conference Coach of the Year in each of the past four seasons and National Coach of the Year in 2009; and

WHEREAS, With athletic competition playing such an important role in the total education of our young people, we are extremely pleased to pay tribute to these fine athletes and their outstanding coaches for a job well done. The maturity and experience the team members have gained through participation in sports will greatly aid them in meeting the challenges of the future; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Senate of the 129th General Assembly of Ohio, in adopting this Resolution, commend The University of Akron men's soccer team on its tremendous 2010 season and salute the players and coach as fine citizens; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit a duly authenticated copy of this Resolution to The University of Akron men's soccer team.