2009-J4830

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating the Rochester Institute of Technology Men's Hockey Team upon the occasion of advancing to the 2010 NCAA Frozen Four Championship Tournament

WHEREAS, Excellence and success in competitive sports can be achieved only through strenuous practice, team play and team spirit, nurtured by dedicated coaching and strategic planning; and

WHEREAS, Athletic competition enhances the moral and physical development of the young people of this State, preparing them for the future by instilling in them the value of teamwork, encouraging a standard of healthy living, imparting a desire for success and developing a sense of fair play and competition; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its longstanding traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate the Rochester Institute of Technology Men's Hockey Team upon the occasion of its advancing to the 2010 NCAA Frozen Four Championship Tournament; and

WHEREAS, The 2009-2010 Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) Men's Hockey Team made school history by advancing to the NCAA Division I "Frozen Four" Championship Hockey Tournament in Detroit, Michigan; and WHEREAS, The RIT Tigers' appearance in the prestigious Frozen Four was an even more remarkable and outstanding collegiate hockey achievement by occurring in just its fifth season at the Division I level; and WHEREAS, In order to advance to the Frozen Four, the ultimate in championship collegiate hockey, RIT upended top-seed Denver, 2-1 behind a career-best tying 39 saves from NCAA East Region Most Outstanding Player Jared DeMichiel; the Tigers then exploded for three goals in the third period to snap a 1-1 second period tie and defeat third-seeded New Hampshire, 6-2, to earn its berth in the NCAA National Championship Tourna-

ment; and

WHEREAS, During the 2009-2010 college hockey season, RIT compiled an outstanding 28-11-1 record; the 28 wins are a Division I team single-season team record, and also second most in all of Division I; and WHEREAS, In addition, the RIT Tigers compiled an extraordinary 12 game winning streak during the season, the longest of any program in the country; during the undefeated streak, RIT outscored its rivals 53-16; and

WHEREAS, The defense of the RIT Men's Hockey Team during the 2009-2010 season was ranked third nationally, allowing just 2.05 goals per game; its offense was fifth in the nation, averaging 3.60 goals per game; the 1.55 goal differential per game was second nationally; and WHEREAS, In addition to being great athletes, the 2009-2010 RIT Men's Hockey Team members are students first, compiling an exceptional 3.3 average Grade Point Average; and

WHEREAS, The athletic talent displayed by the 2009-2010 RIT Men's Hockey Team is due in great part to the efforts of Head Coach Wayne Wilson, and his coaching staff, Assistant Head Coach Brian Hills, Assistant Coach Dave Insalaco, and Volunteer Assistant Coach Mike Germain, skilled and inspirational tutors, respected for their ability to develop potential into excellence; they have done a superb job in guiding, molding and inspiring the 2009-2010 RIT Men's Hockey Team members toward their goals; and

WHEREAS, RIT Head Coach Wayne Wilson is one of 10 finalists for the 2010 Spencer Penrose Award; the award is given annually by the American Hockey Coaches Association to the top NCAA Division I Men's Ice Hockey Coach of the Year; and

WHEREAS, The hallmarks of the 2009-2010 RIT Men's Hockey Team, from the opening game of the season to its appearance in the NCAA Frozen Four Championship Tournament, were a brotherhood of athletic ability, of good sportsmanship, of honor and of scholarship, demonstrating that these

team players are second to none; and

WHEREAS, Athletically and academically, the 2009-2010 RIT Men's Hockey Team members have proven themselves to be an unbeatable combination of talents, reflecting favorably on their school; and

WHEREAS, Sports competition instills the values of teamwork, pride and accomplishment; Head Coach Wayne Wilson and the 2009-2010 RIT Men's Hockey Team's outstanding athletes have clearly made a contribution to the spirit of excellence which is a tradition of their college; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate the 2009-2010 RIT Men's Hockey Team; its members: Shane Madolora, Scott Knowles, Dan Ringwald, Bryan Potts, Chris Tanev, Mark Cornacchia, Taylor McReynolds, Stevan Matic, Brent Alexin, Alan Mazur, Tyler Brenner, Sean Murphy, Cameron Burt, Tyler Mazzei, Jeff Smith, Adam Hartley, Mike Janda, Chris Haltigin, Daniel Spivak, Trevor Eckenswiller, Chris Saracino, Andrew Favot, Jared DeMichiel, and Jan Ropponen; Head Coach Wayne Wilson, Assistant Head Coach Brian Hills, Assistant Coach Dave Insalaco, and Volunteer Assistant Coach Mike Germain; and coaching staff members Jeff Siegel, Tim Insko, Stuart Hughes, and Mark Lessard on their outstanding season, and their NCAA Frozen Four Championship Tournament appearance; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the members of the 2009-2010 Rochester Institute of Technology Men's Hockey Team; Head Coach Wayne Wilson, Assistant Head Coach Brian Hills, Assistant Coach Dave Insalaco, and Volunteer Assistant Coach Mike Germain; and coaching staff members Jeff Siegel, Tim Insko, Stuart Hughes, and Mark Lessard.