

MISSOURI SENATE

Jason Crowell 27th Senate District

CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 323 JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

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Contact: Bev Schuelen (573) 751-2459

Sen. Jason Crowell Recognizes State Champion Notre Dame High School Basketball Team

JEFFERSON CITY – Sen. Jason Crowell, R-Cape Girardeau, today applauded the efforts of the Notre Dame Bulldog varsity boys' basketball team, the 2007-2008 Class 4 state champion. Sen. Crowell presented the team with a unanimously passed Senate resolution at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, April 1 at Notre Dame High School in Cape Girardeau.

"I applaud the team for exhibiting the highest standards of teamwork, sportsmanship and perseverance on the court and off," Sen. Crowell said. "I am pleased to be able to present this resolution and personally deliver my congratulations on their victory."

The Bulldogs took first place in the Missouri State High School Activities Association's Class 4 state championship on March 8 by defeating top-ranked Saint Charles West, 48-36, to end the season with a 24-6 record. While the teams record has been impressive over recent years, this is the first state basketball trophy for the school since 1987.

The championship team consists of Nick Koeppel, Trenton Vance, Spencer Schoch, Ty Williams, Alex Bader, Blake Gaddis, Mark Himmelberg, John Unterreiner, Austin Greer, Ryan Willen, Joseph Tolbert, Matt Helle and Logan Glueck. Head coach Paul Hale and assistant coaches Kevin Roberts, Josh Sparkman and Adam Stoneking, along with help from managers Duston Hutson, Josh Seabaugh and Brett Little, led the team to victory.

Sen. Crowell recognized the efforts of Coach Hale, who has recently announced his retirement, during the presentation. Since he began coaching the Notre Dame Bulldogs in May of 2004, Coach Hale led the team to the state final four tournament three times.

"Coach Hale has really put all his effort over the past four years to make sure that his players succeed," said Sen. Crowell. "His leadership has made it possible for these young men to achieve so much."

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