

109TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. RES. 175

Commending the University of Michigan softball team for winning the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Championship on June 8, 2005.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 16, 2005

Mr. LEVIN (for himself and Ms. STABENOW) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

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## RESOLUTION

Commending the University of Michigan softball team for winning the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Championship on June 8, 2005.

Whereas the top-ranked University of Michigan softball team defeated the University of California—Los Angeles (UCLA) Bruins in the Women’s College World Series 2 games to 1, becoming only the eighth team to win the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Softball Championship and the first Big Ten Conference team to claim a national title in softball or baseball since 1966;

Whereas the University of Michigan softball team clinched the 2005 Women’s College World Series in an exciting extra-innings game with a 3-run homer in the 10th inning to win 4 to 1;

Whereas the University of Michigan softball team hit a home run in 57 of 65 games during the 2005 season and is just 1 of 3 schools in NCAA history to hit 100 home runs in a season;

Whereas in 2005, the University of Michigan softball team earned its first Number 1 ranking in school history and won its tenth Big Ten Conference championship and seventh Big Ten Tournament title en route to advancing to its eighth Women's College World Series;

Whereas the NCAA championship title marks the 52nd national championship for a sports program at the University of Michigan, the second for a women's athletic program at Michigan, and the first for a softball program east of the Mississippi River;

Whereas the University of Michigan softball team mounted an impressive season record of 65 wins and 7 losses;

Whereas Coach Carol Hutchins eclipsed the 900 win mark, capping a stellar 21 year career at Michigan that has seen her become the most victorious coach in University of Michigan history, currently ranking among the top 10 Division I active coaches, with 940 career wins and a .729 winning percentage;

Whereas 2 University of Michigan softball players, shortstop Jessica Merchant and pitcher Jennie Ritter, were finalists for the USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year Award;

Whereas a record-tying 8 players from the University of Michigan softball team were named to the Big Ten All-Conference Team, and 6 players were named to the Spring 2005 Academic All-Big Ten Conference Team;

Whereas the University of Michigan softball team was led by the solid coaching of Carol Hutchins, Bonnie Tholl, Jennifer Brundage, and Jennifer Teague;

Whereas players on the University of Michigan softball team included Stephanie Bercaw, Angie Danis, Samantha Findlay, Alessandra Giampaolo, Tiffany Haas, Lauren Holland, Jennifer Kreinbrink, Grace Leutele, Becky Marx, Jessica Merchant, Rebekah Milian, Nicole Motycka, Jennie Ritter, Lauren Talbot, Michelle Teschler, Michelle Weatherdon, Lorilyn Wilson, Stephanie Winter, and Tiffany Worthy; and

Whereas Michigan had tremendous support from its hometown fans during their season, setting a home attendance record in 2005, and bringing in the 5 largest crowds in program history: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2               (1) commends the University of Michigan softball team for winning the 2005 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Championship on June 8, 2005;

6               (2) recognizes all of the players and coaches who were instrumental in this achievement; and

8               (3) directs the Secretary of the Senate to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the University of Michigan athletic department for appropriate display.

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