

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1847

A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending the Bethany College men's basketball team and Coach R. Clair Oleen.

WHEREAS, The Bethany College men's basketball team was the champion of the 2003 KCAC post season tournament and advanced to the finals of the NAIA Division II men's national tournament; and

WHEREAS, Bethany advanced to the finals by winning four straight games, three of which were against higher seeded teams. The championship game was a hard fought loss to number one ranked Northwestern College, Orange City, Iowa, with the final score being 77 to 57; and

WHEREAS, The Bethany "Swedes" basketball team finished the season with a record of 26 wins and 10 losses which was a school record. It was the third time in five years that Bethany has advanced to the NAIA National Tournament. In addition Bethany players Nathan Hiebert, Dustin Hildebrand and Roderick Johnson were named to the All Tournament Team, and Dustin Hildebrand was also named as an Honorable Mention All-American player; and

WHEREAS, Coach Oleen was named the 2003 NAIA National Coach of the Year, and his national tournament semifinal win was his 350th coaching victory at Bethany College; and

WHEREAS, The members of this outstanding basketball team have received statewide recognition for their fine sportsmanship and athletic abilities; and

WHEREAS, The success of this team was due to its excellent teamwork, strong competitive spirit and determination to win. The team also had the enthusiastic support of the school's administrators, the faculty, the students, the players' parents and many area citizens: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That the Bethany College men's basketball team and Coach Oleen be congratulated and commended for being KCAC tournament champions and advancing to the finals of the NAIA Division II men's national tournament; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to send 15 enrolled copies of this resolution to Dr. Paul Formo, President, Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kansas 67456 for presentation to Coach Oleen and team members.

Senate Resolution No. 1847 was sponsored by Senator Jay Scott Emler.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the SENATE, and was adopted by that body

---

*President of the Senate.*

---

*Secretary of the Senate.*