



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, During the weekend of February 17 and 18, 2006,
3 two teams and five individuals will be inducted into the Mt.
4 Vernon Township High School Sports Hall of Fame; and

5 WHEREAS, The Hall of Fame induction ceremony pays tribute
6 to the individuals and teams who have distinguished themselves
7 by excellence in performance and achievement; it also
8 recognizes the importance of sports and the significant
9 contributions of coaches, athletes, and teams to our culture;
10 the inspiration they give to their community of fans is
11 inestimable; and

12 WHEREAS, The 2006 inductees include the 1920 Mt. Vernon
13 Orange and Black Team, the 1949 State Champion Mt. Vernon Rams,
14 and Jason James, Ernie Badger, Marvin Kendrick, Terry Gamber,
15 Nate Hawthorne, and Coleman Carrodine; and

16 WHEREAS, The 1920 Mt. Vernon Orange and Black Team members
17 were Roy Miller (Captain), Russell Miller, Chester Staley,
18 Milton Forsyth, James Johnson, Harel Estes, Roy Groves, Thomas
19 Wells, Carl Klein, and Harris; the team had a record of 17 wins
20 and 8 losses and won the final eight games of the season; they
21 won the district and State championships and were acclaimed to
22 be the best team in the State on March 20, 1920; and

23 WHEREAS, The 1949 State Champion Mt. Vernon Rams team
24 members were Eddie King, John Riley, Max Hooper, Walt Moore,
25 Bob Lee, Bob Wood, Sam Kirk, Wiley Mays, Jim Wilson, Bobby
26 Brown, Wayne Wagner, Albert Mckee, and Bob Musick (Manager);
27 they had a record of 30 wins and just three losses and beat
28 Hillsboro by a score of 45 to 39 to win the State Championship;
29 and

30 WHEREAS, Jason James was a Class AA State High Jump

1 Champion in 1988 and 1990 at 7'0"; he was a member of the 1989
2 sweet sixteen Mt. Vernon Rams basketball team and placed third
3 at the Keebler International Invitational Track and Field Meet
4 with a school record high jump of 7'1"; Mr. James also was a
5 member of the school's 1990 track team 4 by 200 relay that
6 still holds the school record of 1:30:35; and

7 WHEREAS, Ernie Badger was a two-time South Seven wrestling
8 champion in the 185 lb. weight class, a three-time regional
9 wrestling champion from 1979 to 1981, sectional wrestling
10 champion in 1981 (the first one in school history), three-time
11 State qualifier from 1979 to 1981, and was named All-State in
12 1981, placing fourth in the State; he still holds the single
13 season winning streak at 37, was All-Conference and All-South
14 in football in 1979 and 1980, and at one time held the school
15 discus record; he was the NCAA Division II National Champion at
16 the 190 lb. weight class in 1983, second in 1984, and fifth in
17 1985, and he was named All-American in Division II Wrestling
18 for his sophomore through senior seasons; and

19 WHEREAS, Marvin Kendrick holds the Mt. Vernon Township High
20 School football record of most yards in a season with 1,411 in
21 1966, most touchdowns in a season with 19 in 1966, most career
22 touchdowns with 26, and he is tied for the most touchdowns in
23 one game with five versus Salem in 1966; he played for UCLA in
24 1969 and 1970 and at one time held the single game rushing
25 record for UCLA with a 192-yard effort versus USC in 1970; he
26 also played for the Portland Storm World Football League team;
27 and

28 WHEREAS, Terry Gamber was named first team Associated Press
29 All-State in 1965, Chicago Sun Times All-State in 1965, and
30 All-State for both his junior and senior seasons by the
31 Champaign News-Gazette; he scored 1,166 points during his Mt.
32 Vernon Township High School career and led the Rams to a sweet
33 sixteen appearance in 1965 with a record of 23 and 7; he was a

1 three-year starter for Northwestern University and was a
2 Northwestern team captain during his senior year (1968-1969);
3 he was then drafted by the Carolina Cougars of the ABA in 1969;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Nate Hawthorne scored 904 points in his varsity
6 career at Mt. Vernon Township High School, is a member of the
7 IBCA Hall of Fame, and was named to the Chicago Sun Times
8 All-State team in 1969; he led the Rams to a record of 26 and 5
9 and to the sweet sixteen in 1968 and then to a record of 23 and
10 5 and to the elite eight in 1969; he scored 1,001 points at
11 Southern Illinois University-Carbondale from 1969 to 1973 and
12 played three years in the NBA with the Los Angeles Lakers and
13 the Phoenix Suns from 1973 to 1976; and

14 WHEREAS, Coleman Carrodine scored 1,448 points in his
15 4-year varsity career, is a charter member of the IBCA Hall of
16 Fame (1973), earned 16 varsity letters at Mt. Vernon Township
17 High School, scored 601 points in the 1959-1960 season, and
18 coached Champaign Centennial to 264 victories in his 22 year
19 career; his 1983-1984 Champaign Central Chargers finished with
20 a record of 26 and 4 and earned elite eight status; he was
21 inducted into the Western Illinois Athletics Hall of Fame in
22 1976 and is Western Illinois University's second-leading
23 career scorer with 2,128 points from 1960 to 1964; he is the
24 number 20 all-time career scorer in all division levels below
25 NCAA Division I; therefore, be it

26 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
27 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
28 we congratulate these outstanding individuals and teams on
29 being inducted into the Mt. Vernon Township High School Sports
30 Hall of Fame; and be it further

31 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
32 presented to each of the aforementioned individuals and team

1 members.