ENROLLED SENATE
RESOLUTION NO. 20 By: Hendrick, Douglass, Laughlin, Brown, Cain, Campbell, Capps, Dickerson, Dunlap, Easley, Fair, Fisher, Ford, Gustafson, Haney, Harrison, Helton, Henry, Herbert, Hobson, Horner, Kerr, Leftwich, Littlefield, Long, Maddox, Martin, Mickle, Milacek, Monson, Morgan, Muegge, Price, Rabon, Roberts, Robinson, Rozell, Shurden, Smith, Snyder, Stipe, Taylor, Weedn, Wilcoxson, Wilkerson, Williams, Williamson and Wright

A Resolution congratulating and commending the Lady Redskins basketball team of Southern Nazarene University; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Southern Nazarene University's Lady Redskins basketball team won its fifth overall and fourth consecutive NAIA Division I women's basketball national championship by a 78-73 victory over national tournament hometown favorite Union University in front of 5,424 fans at the Oman Arena in Jackson, Tennessee. In an extremely close game, the lead changed hands a total of nine times throughout the game. The victory came despite an injury to starting point guard third team All-American LeAnn Bezner, who suffered a knee sprain and did not play the final seven minutes and forty-five seconds of the game; and

WHEREAS, the Lady Redskins basketball team of Southern Nazarene University in Bethany, Oklahoma, who finished the tournament with a season 32-4 record, became the first team in the NAIA Division I to win four straight women's national basketball titles. The Lady Redskins have a 130-8 record during the past four years, including a 20-0 record in national tournaments; and

WHEREAS, Lady Redskin seniors Gayla Smith, Academic All-American, and Astou Ndiaye became only the third and fourth college basketball players of either sex to win a national title in each year of eligibility. Astou Ndiaye was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player and first team All-American. Tonna Woolery was named to the NAIA All-Tournament Team and the tournament's Hustle Award recipient; and

WHEREAS, Head Coach Craig Wiginton finished his first season as a college head coach and was named NAIA National Coach of the Year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 46TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate congratulates the 1996-1997 Lady Redskins basketball team of Southern Nazarene University for winning the 1997 NAIA Division I women's basketball national championship.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate commends the 1996-1997 Lady Redskins basketball team of Southern Nazarene University for their unprecedented victory, making them the first four-time, consecutive national champions for Division I NAIA women's college basketball.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Dr. Loren Gresham, President, Southern Nazarene University; Coach Craig Wiginton; assistant coaches JoAnna Brady, Jay Niehues, Trent May, Bobby Bolton, and Tiffany Hill; and the members of the 1996-1997 NAIA Division I national championship Southern Nazarene University Lady Redskins basketball team.

Adopted by the Senate the 8th day of April, 1997.

President of the Senate