

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 51st Legislature (2007)

3 SENATE

4 RESOLUTION 34

By: Sparks

5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Resolution honoring the University of Oklahoma  
8 Women's Basketball Head Coach Sherri Coale;  
9 congratulating the team; and directing distribution.

10  
11 WHEREAS, Sherri Coale was born January 19, 1965, and grew up in  
12 Healdton, Oklahoma, where she graduated from Healdton High School.  
13 She attended what was then Oklahoma Christian College where she  
14 played basketball and was a guard and team captain of their three-  
15 time Sooner Athletic Conference Championship teams. She was also an  
16 academic All-American and graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor  
17 of Education degree. Sherri Coale later earned a Master's in  
18 Education from the University of Oklahoma; and

19 WHEREAS, Sherri Coale began her coaching career as an Assistant  
20 Coach at Edmond Memorial High School but was quickly selected as  
21 Head Coach of Norman High School. During her tenure, Norman High  
22 School won its first two state titles (1993 and 1996) and won the  
23 Academic State Championship (1992-1993). Sherri Coale was selected  
24 All-State, Regional, and Big All-City Coach of the Year in 1993.

1 Her overall record at Norman High School was 147-40 (.786) as she  
2 advanced six teams to the regional championships; her teams won six  
3 Mid-State Conference championships; and they appeared in three area  
4 and four state tournaments; and

5 WHEREAS, Sherri Coale has been Head Coach of the University of  
6 Oklahoma Women's Basketball team since 1996. Since then, more than  
7 a million fans have watched an OU women's basketball game. Under  
8 her guidance, her teams were the 2006 Big 12 Conference regular  
9 season and tournament champions, and in 2002 played in both the  
10 Final Four and National Championship game. In the 2005-2006 season,  
11 her Sooners had a 19-0 record in the Big 12 Conference regular  
12 season and Big 12 Conference Tournament, becoming the first Big 12  
13 women's basketball team to go undefeated in conference play; and

14 WHEREAS, the University of Oklahoma Sooners women's basketball  
15 team was the first program in the Big 12 to win back-to-back regular  
16 season and postseason conference championships in the 2005-2006 and  
17 2006-2007 seasons. The current team finished its season with a 28-5  
18 record, ranked ninth in the nation, won the Big 12 regular season  
19 championship, and appeared in the Sweet 16; and

20 WHEREAS, Sherri Coale's teams have consistently produced some of  
21 the highest grade point averages within the University of Oklahoma  
22 Athletic Department. Her teams have earned a grade point average of  
23 3.0 or better during every semester she has served as Head Coach.  
24 Four of her teams (1999, 2001, 2002, and 2003) have been named to

1 the top 25 WBCA Academic Team Honor Roll, while 31 of her players  
2 have earned Academic All-Big 12 honors 63 times; and

3 WHEREAS, Sherri Coale has guided her teams towards public  
4 service and community involvement as the University of Oklahoma  
5 women's basketball teams have participated in The First Lady's  
6 Build, Kid's Kitchen Reading Club, Sooner Big Sis program for Norman  
7 elementary schools, City Sights tour, Children's Miracle Network and  
8 the Special Olympics, as well as volunteering for the Norman Women's  
9 Resource Center and Battered Women's Shelter and Meals on Wheels;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Sherri Coale is a member of the Women's Basketball  
12 Coaches Association, Oklahoma Girls Basketball Coaches Association,  
13 Oklahoma Coaches Association, Fellowship of Christian Athletes,  
14 Norman Optimists, National Education Association, Oklahoma Education  
15 Association, and Professional Educators of Norman; and

16 WHEREAS, Sherri Coale has been honored by her hometown of  
17 Healdton, Oklahoma, which declared August 26, 2001, "Sherri Coale  
18 Day"; Sherri Coale was an Assistant Coach on the 2001 USA Basketball  
19 Women's Junior World Championship Team that won a bronze medal; she  
20 was an NCAA appointee to the USA Basketball Women's Collegiate  
21 Committee; she currently serves as President of the Women's  
22 Basketball Coaches Association; she was named Big 12 Coach of the  
23 Year in 2000, 2001 and 2006; and she was recently inducted into the  
24 Oklahoma Women's Hall of Fame; and

1       WHEREAS, Sherri Coale demonstrates a strong work ethic and  
2 commitment that is geared towards maximizing the potential of her  
3 players. She is seen as a winner, master motivator, and role model;  
4 and

5       WHEREAS, Sherri Coale is married to Dane Scott Coale, and the  
6 couple has two children, son Colton and daughter Chandler.

7       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION  
8 OF THE 51ST OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

9       THAT the Oklahoma State Senate honors the University of Oklahoma  
10 Women's Basketball Head Coach Sherri Coale for her academic,  
11 athletic, organizational, and community accomplishments, as well as  
12 her commitment to family life.

13       THAT the Oklahoma State Senate congratulates the 2006-2007  
14 University of Oklahoma Sooners women's basketball team for their  
15 outstanding performance and welcomes them to the Oklahoma State  
16 Capitol.

17       THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the University  
18 of Oklahoma Women's Basketball Head Coach Sherri Coale.

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