

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

4 HOUSE
5 RESOLUTION 1034

By: McCall

6
7
8 AS INTRODUCED

9 A Resolution recognizing and honoring Barry Switzer
10 for his many contributions to the University of
11 Oklahoma and the State of Oklahoma; and directing
12 distribution.

13
14 WHEREAS, Barry Switzer joined the University of Oklahoma
15 football staff as an assistant coach before the 1966 football
16 season, was named offensive coordinator in 1967, and served as the
17 program's 17th Head Coach from 1973 through 1988; and

18 WHEREAS, Coach Switzer is tied with Bud Wilkinson for the most
19 national championships in program history, winning titles in 1974,
20 1975, and 1985; and

21 WHEREAS, he finished his head coaching career with a 157-29-4
22 record, good for an .837 winning percentage, the fourth highest
23 among NCAA I-A coaches at the time; and
24

1 WHEREAS, Coach Switzer's teams won twelve Big Eight Conference
2 titles in his sixteen years as head coach and finished with a
3 winning record each season; and

4 WHEREAS, under his leadership, OU's Wishbone attack produced
5 some of the most prolific rushing offenses in college football
6 history, and Sooner defenses were routinely among the nation's best;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Coach Switzer went undefeated in his first thirty games
9 as head coach, posting a 29-0-1 record; and

10 WHEREAS, his Sooner teams were ranked in the Associated Press
11 (AP) Top 5 for one hundred forty-eight weeks and were ranked No. 1
12 for forty-three weeks; and

13 WHEREAS, Twelve of his sixteen squads finished their season
14 ranked in the AP Top 10, ten finished in the AP Top 5, and nine in
15 the AP Top 3; and

16 WHEREAS, Coach Switzer thrived against OU's biggest rivals,
17 posting a 12-5 record as Head Coach against the University of
18 Nebraska, going 9-5-2 versus the University of Texas, and 15-1
19 against Oklahoma State University; and

20 WHEREAS, his penchant for knocking off quality opponents was
21 also reflected in his 47-21-4 record against top 20 teams; and

22 WHEREAS, his 1986 and 1987 football teams led the nation in
23 scoring offense and scoring defense; and
24

1 WHEREAS, Coach Switzer's squads posted a robust 77-10-1 (.886)
2 home record and were nearly as successful in road games, going 63-9-
3 1 for the most true road wins and the best true-road-game winning
4 percentage (.870) in program history; and

5 WHEREAS, his players earned twenty-eight consensus All-America
6 honors (twelve on offense and sixteen on defense), including 1978
7 Heisman Trophy-winning running back Billy Sims; and

8 WHEREAS, he coached OU players to a total of eighteen individual
9 national honors, such as the Butkus and Jim Thorpe Awards and the
10 Outland Trophy; and

11 WHEREAS, eight of Coach Switzer's players have been inducted
12 into the College Football Hall of Fame; and

13 WHEREAS, he produced ninety-four NFL Draft picks as OU's head
14 coach, including sixteen first-rounders and No. 1 overall selections
15 Lee Roy Selmon in 1976 and Billy Sims in 1980; and

16 WHEREAS, he served as Head Coach of the Dallas Cowboys from 1994
17 through 1997, posting the best winning percentage in franchise
18 history and leading the 1995 squad to a Super Bowl title; and

19 WHEREAS, Coach Switzer is one of only three coaches to win a
20 college national championship and a Super Bowl; and

21 WHEREAS, he was inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, the
22 Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame, and the College Football Hall of Fame;
23 and
24

1 WHEREAS, in 1999, OU's football operations facility at the
2 Gaylord Family - Oklahoma Memorial Stadium was named after him; and

3 WHEREAS, in addition to his legendary contributions to the OU
4 football program and to the university as a whole, Coach Switzer has
5 been a pillar in the Oklahoma community. He has always heavily
6 involved himself with community service efforts, even in retirement.
7 Chief among the organizations with which he's aligned himself, he
8 has served as an honorary coach for Special Olympics for over forty-
9 five years, and the group's annual Award of Excellence is named
10 after him; and

11 WHEREAS, now for more than five decades, Sooner Nation has
12 rallied behind Coach Switzer, inspired by his iconic leadership,
13 legendary confidence, and deep loyalty to the University of
14 Oklahoma.

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
16 OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 59TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

17 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives recognizes and honors
18 Barry Switzer for his many contributions to the University of
19 Oklahoma and the State of Oklahoma.

20 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Joseph Harroz,
21 Jr., President of the University of Oklahoma.

22
23 DIRECT TO CALENDAR.
24