

H. Res. 13

In the House of Representatives, U.S.,

January 8, 2003.

Whereas on December 14, 2002, the Grand Valley State University Lakers won the 2002 NCAA Division II Football National Championship by defeating Valdosta State University;

Whereas this national championship is the school's first in a varsity sport;

Whereas the Lakers won the 2002 Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) Football Championship with a perfect 9–0 record in league play;

Whereas the Lakers completed the 2002 season with a perfect 14–0 record, and won 33 of its last 34 games;

Whereas Head Coach Brian Kelly has been with the team since 1991, and has led the team to a 104–34–2 overall record;

Whereas the Lakers returned 51 letter winners, including 16 starters from the 2001 team that fell only to North Dakota in the NCAA Division II National Championship game;

Whereas the Lakers placed 18 players on the 2002 All-GLIAC team;

Whereas quarterback Curt Anes was named the GLIAC Player of the Year for the second straight year and earned the 2002 Harlon Hill Trophy as NCAA Division II's most outstanding player;

Whereas the Lakers' defense dominated opponents by ranking 34th in the Nation in rushing defense and recording 58 quarterback sacks;

Whereas the students, alumni, faculty, and fans of Grand Valley State University showed their support by helping the Lakers set a GLIAC record for regular-season attendance; and

Whereas the Lakers have displayed great strength, ability, and perseverance this season and have made the State of Michigan proud: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) congratulates the Grand Valley State University Lakers for winning the 2002 NCAA Division II Football National Championship and recognizes all the players, coaches, and support staff who were instrumental in this achievement;

(2) requests that the President recognize the accomplishments of the 2002 Grand Valley State University football team and invite them to Washington, D.C., for a White House ceremony for national championship teams; and

(3) directs the Clerk of the House of Representatives to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to Grand Valley State University for appropriate display.

Attest:

Clerk.