

On March 10, 2007, the Thomasville Bulldogs captured the North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA) 1-A men's basketball championship with an 86-76 win over North Edgecombe High School. This win was the fifth state basketball championship in the last 10 years. On December 9, 2006, Thomasville won its seventh state football title with a 13-7 victory over James Kenan High School in the NCHSSA 1-AA championship contest. This was the seventh football crown in the school's history, the third consecutive state championship, and the 37th straight win dating back to the 2004 season. So, that is 12 state titles from just two sports, football and men's basketball. Space and time do not permit us to list all of the titles—such as the men's soccer team in 2005 and the women's basketball team in 2004—we could go on and on, but for argument's sake, let's stipulate that Thomasville High School is truly the home of champions. Permit me a moment to detail the two most recent titles in men's basketball and football.

In the middle of March Madness, the Thomasville men's basketball team won the NCHSSA 1-A championship. Thomasville defeated North Edgecombe 86-76 in a game that saw nine lead changes and seven ties. The win capped a remarkable season for the Bulldogs in which they finished 24-2 and were perfect following back-to-back losses at a tournament in December. Head Coach Woody Huneycutt told the Thomasville Times that the title win came against a strong opponent. "I am really proud of this group," Coach Huneycutt told his hometown newspaper. "They did a heck of a job today. North Edgecombe was an extremely quick, physical, hustling team. They put everything I thought they had on the floor, and I thought our guys did the same. Of course, we had to, to be successful." And successful they were thanks to a complete team effort.

Congratulations are in order for Coach Huneycutt and his assistant Lacardo Means. In fact, Coach Huneycutt told the Thomasville Times, "One of the main reasons we are here and we do as well as we do year after year is Lacardo Means. He is very instrumental to us being successful." Both men will be the first to tell you that most of the credit goes to the players on the court. Those who contributed to the title run included Donald Sims, Justin Moore, Bud Ray, Jeremy McKiver, Alex Perry, Zach Perry, E.J. Abrams-Ward, Evander Davis, Dominique Pickett, Trey Ray, Chris Woods, Michael Byrd, and Ari Foust. The team was ably assisted by scorekeeper Connie McLendon, statisticians Willie Green, Quan Warley and Demajio Lawson, and videographers Quiana Mock and Felicia McFadden. Several seniors on the basketball squad also play football for Thomasville and they are leaving high school with five championship rings.

On December 9, 2006, the Bulldogs completed a perfect 16-0 season with a third consecutive NCHSSA 1-AA football championship. Thomasville defeated James Kenan High School 13-7 at aptly-named Kenan Stadium in Chapel Hill to cap an incredible run to the crown. Head Coach Benjie Brown, who has led the Bulldogs to the three straight titles, told the High Point Enterprise at the end of the game that meeting everyone's high expectations does take a toll. "When you get to this point," he told the newspaper, "it's so taxing

and so tiring, it won't set in for a day or two. The emotions and effort that goes into it, the length of the season, it's wearing on players and coaches. It'll take a little while to really sit back and enjoy it, but I am happy for those kids out there."

Now that some time has passed, I am sure that Coach Brown is very happy and proud of the hard work that went into completing the quest for the Bulldogs third straight state football championship. The perfect season was thanks in no small part in Coach Brown and his assistant coaches Stan Baranowski, Allen Brown, Roger Bryant, Sam Captain, Danny Medlin, Matt Pugh, Brandon Staton, Nick Sweitzer, Jaz Tate, and Tyler Tobin, along with community coaches Vince Brown, Ed Courtney, Kemp Harvey, and Don Osborne.

The entire roster contributed to Thomasville's latest football triumph. Members of the team included: Najee Brown, Jeremy McKiver, T.J. Steele, Willie Green, Bradley Watkins, E.J. Abrams-Ward, Justin Moore, Chris Woods, Quinton Lindsey, Scott Hines, Quan Warley, Mose Jones, Rashad Whitaker, Chris Webber, Brad Wilkes, Bud Ray, Arsenio Hudson, Dajuan Ingram, Lawrence Jackson, Heath Stroud, Kirk Yarborough, Martez Wilson, Demajio Lawson, Brandon Moss, Jaquane Mouzone, Mark Green, Lorenzo Cannon, Logan Barnes, Jerrell Wilson, Marcus Bratton, Courtney Henry, Avery Hudson, Ari Foust, Akeim Rainey, Quentin Long, Preston Atwood, Tommy Green, Cornelius Davis, Trey Ray, Evander Davis, Jameson Donnell, Willie Cannon, and Michael Byrd.

Those who didn't wear a uniform, but contributed in so many other ways can equally share the accolades coming to Thomasville's champions. We congratulate trainers Kenny Coker and Byron Lattimore, team doctors David Williams and Rob Williams, statistician Barry Tucker, film crew members Travis Leanord, Wade Loflin, Casey Medlin, and Adam Oakley, middle school head coach Eric Rader, gym maintenance staffer Bill Moore, and team managers Ryan Hanner, Luke Williams and Antwon Simon.

Congratulations to Principal Dick Gurley, Athletic Director Woody Huneycutt, the faculty, staff, students, and families of Thomasville High School on another outstanding athletic season.

Madam Speaker, I feel I have made a compelling argument to christen Thomasville High School as the "home of champions." Even if others disagree with our assessment, I am sure that everyone in the Sixth District of North Carolina does agree that the Bulldogs' collection of state championships is mighty impressive.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 28, 2007

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on matters affecting my family from voting on Tuesday, March 27, 2007. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on the following rollcall votes:

Rollcall No. 190—Providing for the consideration of H.R. 1401, Rail and Public Transportation Security Act of 2007.

Rollcall No. 191—H. Res. 269—Rule providing for consideration H.R. 835—Hawaiian Homeownership Opportunity Act of 2007.

Rollcall No. 192—H. Res. 270—Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 1401, Rail and Public Transportation Security Act of 2007.

Rollcall No. 193—H. Res. 299—Supporting the goals and ideals of Professional Social Work Month and the World Social Work Day.

Rollcall No. 194—On agreeing to the Thompson (MS) amendment to H.R. 1401.

Rollcall No. 195—On agreeing to the Cohen amendment to H.R. 1401.

Rollcall No. 198—On agreeing to the Thompson (MS) amendment to H.R. 1401.

Rollcall No. 199—On agreeing to the Cohen amendment to H.R. 1401.

Rollcall No. 201—On passage—H.R. 1401.

Had I been present I would have voted "nay" on the following rollcall votes:

Rollcall No. 196—On agreeing to the Sessions amendment to H.R. 1401.

Rollcall No. 197—On agreeing to the Flake amendment to H.R. 1401.

Rollcall No. 200—On motion to recommit with instructions—H.R. 1401.

HONORING THE 80TH BIRTHDAY OF CÉSAR CHÁVEZ

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 28, 2007

Mr. HINOJOSA. Madam Speaker, on the 80th anniversary of his birth, many across our Nation will celebrate the life of a pioneer and advocate, César Chávez.

It is my honor to commemorate the man who inspired many and offered hope not only to his fellow farm workers, but to our entire Nation.

César Chávez was a migrant worker who knew firsthand the hardships faced by migrant farm workers and their families. Working the fields he saw the injustice, the poverty, and the poor health conditions that faced these families who were working to make America the breadbasket of the world.

César Chávez represented farm workers. But the issues he fought for are relevant to all Americans: Equal pay and better benefits. Improved education for all of our children. Expanded civil rights for minorities. All working Americans today owe a debt of gratitude to this outstanding individual.

His work is far from finished—we should continue to fight to see that every child receives a quality education so they can obtain a good job. American workers should have health care and safe working conditions and the opportunity to make a better life for themselves and their families.

César Chávez served as an example to all of us who live in this great country of how important it is to serve and work for the betterment of all. We should be honoring this man by commemorating his achievements with a César Chávez Day.

May his legacy continue and live on. Let us always remember César Chávez—*si se puede!*"