



City of Chicago



R2018-426

Office of the City Clerk

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Meeting Date: 4/18/2018

Sponsor(s): Emanuel (Mayor)
Hopkins (2)
Hairston (5)
O'Connor (40)
Reilly (42)
Osterman (48)
Moore (49)

Type: Resolution

Title: Congratulations extended to Loyola Men's Basketball Team on remarkable season and success in NCAA Basketball Tournament

Committee(s) Assignment:

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL
MAYOR

April 18, 2018

TO THE HONORABLE, THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I transmit herewith, together with Aldermen Joe Moore, Reilly, Osterman, O'Connor, Hopkins and Hairston, a congratulatory resolution regarding the Loyola Men's Basketball Team.

Your favorable consideration of this resolution will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rahm Emanuel".

Mayor

A resolution

adopted by The City Council
of the City of Chicago, Illinois



Aldermen, Joe Moore, Brendan Reilly, Harry Osterman,
Patrick J. O'Connor, Brian Hopkins, Leslie Hairston and
Mayor Rahm Emanuel

April 18, 2018

Presented by

ON

Whereas The City Council wishes to congratulate the Loyola University Chicago's Men's Basketball team for their magnificent season this year; and

WHEREAS, the Ramblers compiled a record of 28 wins and 5 losses during the regular season and advanced to the NCAA Basketball Tournament for the first time since 1985; and

WHEREAS, led by Head Coach Porter Moser, the Ramblers won the Missouri Valley Conference by defeating Illinois State University in the championship game 65 to 49 on March 4; Loyola ended the regular season on a ten-game winning streak; and

WHEREAS, As a result of Loyola's great regular season, Porter Moser was voted Missouri Valley Conference Coach of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Loyola University Chicago has been a member of the Missouri Valley Conference since July 1, 2013. Prior to that, Loyola was in the Horizon League for 34 years as a Charter member; and

WHEREAS, Loyola University Chicago received an invitation to the NCAA Tournament and was the eleventh seed in the South Region. In the first round, on March 15, their opponent was the University of Miami, Florida, which was the sixth seed. It was a close game, with the Rambler's Donte Ingram hitting a three-point shot with only three-tenths of a second left to give Loyola the win, 64 to 62; and

WHEREAS, In the second round (the Round of 32) on March 17, Loyola faced the University of Tennessee, which was the third seed in the South Region. In another close contest, Loyola's Clayton Custer hit a fifteen-foot jumper with 3.6 seconds left in the game to seal the victory for the Ramblers, 63 to 62. This would not be Custer's Last Stand; and

WHEREAS, This has been another great season for Mr. Custer. His honors include being named the Larry Bird Player of the Year in the Missouri Valley Conference; and he was also named as a First Team Scholar-Athlete in the Missouri Valley Conference; and

WHEREAS, In the third round (the Sweet Sixteen) of the NCAA Tournament on March 22, Loyola's opponent was the University of Nevada, Reno, ranked as the seventh seed in the South Region. The Ramblers played with great enthusiasm and precision as time and time again they moved the ball to the basket. Marques Townes had an outstanding game, scoring 18 points including a 3-pointer with 6.3 seconds left in the game when Loyola was ahead by one point. With a four-point lead the Ramblers held on to win 69 to 68; and

WHEREAS, In the fourth round (the Elite Eight) on March 24, the Ramblers played Kansas State University, ranked as the ninth seed in the South Region. Teamwork once again was paramount in how Loyola played. Like the three previous tournament games, "a star was born." This time it was Ben Richardson who scored 23 points, including making six of seven three-pointers. His superb offensive performance added to his already illustrious reputation. Mr. Richardson had been named the Missouri Valley Conference's Defensive Player of the Year. He was named as a First Team Scholar-Athlete in the Missouri Valley Conference and he was also honored as the South Region's Most Outstanding Player in the NCAA Tournament. By virtue of its victory over Kansas State, 78 to 62, Loyola won the South Region and moved on to the Final Four for the first time since 1963 and extended its winning streak to fourteen, the longest of any team in the Tournament; and

WHEREAS, In the fifth round (the Final Four), held on March 31, Loyola's opponent was the University of Michigan, ranked as the third seed in the West Region. The Ramblers played with a lot of heart and led at halftime 29 to 22. This was an incredible effort by Loyola given how powerful Michigan's offense had been all season. However, with about 6 minutes left in the game, Michigan took the lead and ended up with a victory, and

WHEREAS, Throughout Loyola's NCAA Tournament run, Sister Jean Dolores Schmidt was a delight and an inspiration to the team. As Team Chaplain, "Sister Jean" (as she is affectionately known) inspired and motivated the Loyola Ramblers in immeasurable ways. She has been a Sister in the religious order of the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin (BVM) since 1937 and has been Team Chaplain since 1994. Now at the age of 98 she has been an inspiration with her signature phrase: "Worship, Work and Win." In addition to her other honors, Sister Jean had bestowed upon her one of the greatest of sports honors, a bobblehead doll from the National Bobblehead Hall of Fame and Museum. Pre-orders have already surpassed the 15,000 mark, making her Bobblehead the biggest seller of all time by far. By the end of the tournament it was safe to say Sister Jean was not just Loyola's treasure but the Nation's as well, and

WHEREAS, Loyola University Chicago has a long and storied history in basketball. In 1963 Loyola broke with college basketball's unwritten rule that no team should have more than two black players on the court at any given time, and in so doing, created a national conversation on race which led to the elimination of the limit on black players' court time. On March 15, 1963, in the NCAA Tournament, Loyola played Mississippi State University. The governor of Mississippi had instructed the all-white Mississippi State team not to play against an integrated team. Their coach and players refused to follow the instruction, and the game became known as the Game of Change. Loyola would go on to defeat the two-time defending champion, University of Cincinnati Bearcats (ranked Number One in the Nation), to win the National Championship. Loyola remains the only Illinois school to ever win the NCAA Basketball Title; and

WHEREAS, Loyola University Chicago is a Jesuit school founded in 1870. Its main campus is in the Rogers Park neighborhood on the northeast side while its downtown campus, known as the Water Tower Campus, is next to Chicago's famed Magnificent Mile. Loyola has an enrollment of 16,000 students and boasts 150,000 alumni, 85,000 of whom are in the Chicago area; and

WHEREAS, As a Jesuit school Loyola takes seriously its role in shaping students' lives. This is especially true of student-athletes, many of whom will never play professional sports. The degree they earn at Loyola is meaningful because of the school's commitment to their education, which takes the form of mentoring and tutoring to help guide them through a rigorous academic and athletic schedule. Student-Athletes at Loyola have a graduation rate of 99 percent. Only five other schools in Division I sports have a graduation rate that high, four of them in the Ivy League; and

WHEREAS, All of Chicago is grateful and honored for the positive national attention brought to Loyola University and the City of Chicago. Loyola University's Men's Basketball team had a thrilling season made noteworthy by its first appearance in the NCAA Tournament since 1985 and by making it to the Final Four for the first time since 1963. Head Coach Porter Moser and the entire group of players: Adarius Avery, Jake Baughman, Dylan Boehm, Clayton Custer, Nick DiNardi, Donte Ingram, Aundre Jackson, Cameron Krutwig, Christian Negron, Ben Richardson, Cameron Satterwhite, Carson Shanks, Bruno Skokna, Marques Townes, Aher Uguak and Lucas Williamson are rightly proud of their season and accomplishments; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this eighteenth day of April, 2018, do hereby congratulate the Loyola University Chicago Men's basketball team for its great season and its tremendous success in the NCAA Tournament; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Coach Porter Moser as a token of our esteem and good wishes.



Rafael Emanuel

MAYOR

Andrea H. Valencia

CITY CLERK