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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 76

Offered February 2, 2026

Commending the Midlothian High School boys' tennis team.

Patron—Sturtevant

WHEREAS, the Midlothian High School boys' tennis team won the Virginia High School League Class 5 state championship and the Virginia High School League Region 5C championship in 2025; and

WHEREAS, in both the regional and state championships, the Midlothian High School Trojans delivered a clean sweep in each of the five championship matches and finished with a score of 5-0; and

WHEREAS, many players contributed to the enormous success of the Midlothian Trojans, including senior captain Carter Nelson; doubles partners Jack Swartzwelder and Henry Spiller, who reached the regional finals; senior Ford Marshall, who had an undefeated season; freshman standout Liem Bennett-Nguyen; and Finn Brod, doubles partner to Carter Nelson, who is known for his team spirit and one-handed backhand; and

WHEREAS, players Luke Janssen, Alex Copeland, Spencer Paris, Bennett Smith, Felipe Ribera, Siddhi Cheekati, Colin Bachand, Owen Lecrone, Will Buford, Dakin Nobles, and team manager Dawson Lewis all contributed to the success of the Midlothian Trojan program with unwavering positivity and support; and

WHEREAS, John Dinardi, a former Midlothian Trojan tennis player and coach at Powhatan High School, has found much success in coaching tennis programs at both Midlothian High School and Randolph-Macon College this year and was awarded the 2025 Chesterfield County Coach of the Year distinction; and

WHEREAS, Coach Dinardi has instilled a team culture of support and positivity among the Midlothian Trojans with the team motto "Our number one philosophy is positivity," to which their resulting season record of 20-1 can be attributed; and

WHEREAS, the success of the Midlothian Trojans is the result of the commitment to excellence and dedicated work ethic of the student-athletes, the positive team environment created by their coach, and the unwavering support of their families and the entire Midlothian High School community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Midlothian High School boys' tennis team for winning the Virginia High School League Class 5 state championship; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Midlothian High School boys' tennis team as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the program's achievements and best wishes for its continued success in years to come.