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House of Representatives

**In Recognition of Belfry High School Football Coach Philip Haywood,
for being named Coach of the Year by the
National High School Athletic Coaches Association**

HON. HAROLD “HAL” ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2017

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise today in recognition of the outstanding achievements of one of my constituents, the Head Football Coach of Belfry High School, Mr. Philip Haywood. Unparalleled among his peers, Coach Haywood was recently named Coach of the Year by the National High School Athletic Coaches Association. A native of Prestonsburg, he has coached Eastern Kentuckians for more than 40 years, and is the winningest coach in Kentucky history with a record of 417 wins and only 130 losses.

Clearly, this is not the first major award Coach Haywood has received—far from it. In 2013, Coach Haywood was named USA Today’s National Coach of the Year, an award voted on by fans, and a clear indication of how beloved he is by those who know and appreciate football, both inside the Commonwealth and beyond it. In 2014, he received the Blanton Collier School Coach of the Year award, an honor reserved for only the best coaches in Kentucky. In 2016, he was inducted into the Kentucky High School Coaches Hall of Fame. To the surprise of no one, Coach Haywood has been named the Courier-Journal Coach of the Year five different times. His successes are many, and his impact far-reaching.

Accolades aside, what truly separates Coach Haywood from the rest of the field is his dedication to “Faith, Family, and Football,” the title of a book he recently authored that speaks to the eternal. Coach Haywood has been a longtime youth leader and choir director in his local church, and has served as a Fellowship of Christian Athletes Huddle leader at Belfry for over 30 years. As a coach and mentor, he has taught his student-athletes the value of self-discipline, to overcome defeat, to be gracious in victory, and to persevere through every test. He has mentored hundreds of students, guiding them along the straight and narrow path. An exemplary model of success and virtue, I thank Coach Haywood for his many years of service to the Fifth District. His efforts, past and present, are much appreciated.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.