

---

---

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

# SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 316 Session of  
2018

---

INTRODUCED BY HUGHES, APRIL 17, 2018

---

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, APRIL 17, 2018

---

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the 40th anniversary of Cheyney University's 1977-1978  
2 men's Division II National Championship Basketball Team.

3 WHEREAS, Cheyney University is the oldest Historically Black  
4 College and University in the nation and was founded "to  
5 instruct the descendants of the African race in school learning,  
6 in the various branches of the mechanic arts, trades and  
7 agriculture, in order to prepare and fit and qualify them to act  
8 as teachers"; and

9 WHEREAS, In March 1978, under the leadership of legendary  
10 Naismith Hall of Fame Coach John Chaney, the Cheyney State  
11 College's men's basketball team won the Division II National  
12 Championship; and

13 WHEREAS, After compiling a 26-2 record leading up to the big  
14 game in Springfield, Missouri, #4 Cheyney State College faced #1  
15 Wisconsin Green Bay; and

16 WHEREAS, Cheyney defeated Wisconsin Green Bay by a score of  
17 47-40 to be crowned the 1978 Men's Division II National  
18 Champions; and

1       WHEREAS, That season, Cheyney opened the first Division II  
2 poll as the #2 team in the nation behind Green Bay; and

3       WHEREAS, During the season, Cheyney won its sixth consecutive  
4 Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference title after it defeated  
5 Slippery Rock by a score of 66-59; and

6       WHEREAS, The national championship team consisted of John  
7 Butts, Duane Coleman, Milt Colston, Andrew Fields, Kenny Hinson,  
8 Jeffrey Hutcherson, Roger Leysath, Gerald Mills, Charles Murphy,  
9 Gilbert Saunders, Arthur Stone and John Walker; and

10       WHEREAS, Milt Colston was All-American that season and Andrew  
11 Fields was the Tournament Most Valuable Player; and

12       WHEREAS, Cheyney's championship team was well-balanced with  
13 four players averaging double figures for points per game.  
14 Senior Guard Milt Colston led the pack with an average of 15.1  
15 points per game, followed by senior Jeffrey Hutcherson averaging  
16 13.4 points per game, sophomore Charles Murphy averaging 11.2  
17 points per game and junior Andrew Fields averaging a double-  
18 double with 11.2 points per game and 10.9 rebounds per game; and

19       WHEREAS, In addition to Coach John Chaney, the men's  
20 basketball team was assisted by the late Charles Songster and  
21 Athletic Trainer Joe Iezzi; and

22       WHEREAS, After the championship game, Coach John Chaney  
23 summed up the team and its season wonderfully, "nobody ever pays  
24 any attention to us. Our school is not in any community and we  
25 don't have many fans. All we have is each other"; and

26       WHEREAS, On its way to the title, Cheyney's men's basketball  
27 team defeated #15 Adelphi University, Thomas Jefferson  
28 University, Sacred Heart and #2 Florida Tech, in addition to #1  
29 Green Bay; and

30       WHEREAS, In 2018, Cheyney is celebrating the 40th anniversary

1 of its 1977-1978 national championship; therefore be it

2       RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the 40th anniversary of  
3 the historic Division II National Championship won by the 1977-  
4 1978 Cheyney Wolves; and be it further

5       RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to  
6 the athletic department of Cheyney University at 1837 University  
7 Circle, P.O. Box 200, Cheyney, Pennsylvania 19319.