

WASHINGTON, DC-Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D-Ore.) introduced a resolution last week honoring the University of Portland's championship women's soccer team. The win by the Pilots is the first national championship in any sport for the University of Portland.

"I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to recognize the achievements of the Pilots on the House floor," said Blumenauer. "All Oregonians can be proud that this championship-winning team hails from our state."

The University of Portland Pilots won the 2002 National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I Championship on December 8, 2002 in a hard fought, double-overtime victory against reigning 2001 champion Santa Clara University.

Blumenauer lauded the team's accomplishments in his resolution honoring the team. He also commended the UP coaches for their leadership and dedication to the winning team's efforts. Coach Clive Charles has built an impressive record over the 14 years that he has coached women's soccer at the University of Portland.

"I am honored to represent many of these individuals in Congress and proud to have the University in my congressional district," said Blumenauer on the House floor when introducing the resolution. "This resolution is a fitting tribute to the accomplishments of the coaches, players and the University of Portland."

The entire House congressional delegation from Oregon joined Blumenauer in sponsoring the resolution. The team has also been invited to the White House to meet President George Bush on Friday, February 24.

Blumenauer introduced the resolution, House Resolution 41, in the House of Representatives on January 29th. He hopes to secure House approval of the resolution prior to the Pilots' visit to Washington DC, later this month.