

SENATORS STIVERS - MILLER, R.

***Honoring the Columbus Crew
on winning the 2008 Major League Soccer Cup.***

WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the 127th General Assembly of Ohio are pleased to congratulate the Columbus Crew as the 2008 Major League Soccer Cup Champion; and

WHEREAS, A remarkable group of athletes, the members of the Columbus Crew have combined talent and competitive spirit with the highest ideals of good sportsmanship to establish themselves as a truly exceptional squad. With admirable dedication, they have worked diligently toward attaining ultimate proficiency in soccer, and as a result, they defeated the New York Red Bulls by the score of 3-1 to win this year's MLS Cup, their first league title in franchise history. In addition, the team compiled an impressive 17-7-6 record to win the Supporters' Shield, and it boasts the 2008 MLS Most Valuable Player in Guillermo Barros Schelotto, Defender of the Year in Chad Marshall, and Coach of the Year in Sigi Schmid; and

WHEREAS, The Crew's achievements and leadership are a justifiable source of pride and an excellent reflection on the players, their families, their coaches, and their city. The success of any athletic endeavor depends largely on the ability of the coaches to provide both guidance and inspiration, and in leading the team to victory, Coach Sigi Schmid and his assistants have not only helped each athlete develop his talents to the fullest but also instilled in each a valuable sense of determination, perseverance, and camaraderie; and

WHEREAS, With athletic competition playing such an important part in the development of role models for our young people, we are extremely pleased to pay tribute to these fine athletes, to their outstanding coaches, and to the team's general manager, Mark McCullers. The pride and experience the players have gained through participation in sports will greatly aid them in meeting the challenges of the future; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Senate of the 127th General Assembly of Ohio, in adopting this Resolution, commend the Columbus Crew on its tremendous 2008 season and extend best wishes for continued success; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit a duly authenticated copy of this Resolution to the Columbus Crew.

I, Vincent L. Keeran, hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of Senate Resolution No. 300, adopted by the Ohio Senate, December 4, 2008.

***Vincent L. Keeran
Clerk of the Senate***

***Senator Bill Harris
President of the Senate***

***Senator Steven E. Stivers
Senatorial District No. 16***