

**RESOLUTION NO. 2012-02**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY  
CONGRATULATING THE WWU MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM**

**WHEREAS**, The Western Washington University (WWU) men's basketball team won the NCAA Division II National Championship on March 24 by defeating Montevallo (Ala.), 72-65, at The Bank of Kentucky Arena in Highland Heights, Ky.

**WHEREAS**, the national championship was the first in the program's 110-year history and just the second by a collegiate men's basketball team in state history and just the first in 36 years; and

**WHEREAS**, the Vikings had a 31-5 record, the win total being the best in school history; and

**WHEREAS**, WWU was ranked No.12 in the final regular season National Association of Basketball Coaches Top 25 Poll; and

**WHEREAS**, WWU made just the school's second NCAA II Elite Eight appearance, defeating Midwestern State (Texas) 64-63 in the quarterfinals and Stonehill (Mass.) 71-66 in the semifinals before its title game triumph; and

**WHEREAS**, the Vikings won the NCAA II West Regional championship, defeating Seattle Pacific, 56-50, in the title game after posting wins over Grand Canyon AZ, 79-73, and Chico State, 74-65; and

**WHEREAS**, the Vikings won the Great Northwest Athletic Conference regular-season title with a 16-2 record; and

**WHEREAS**, WWU was 17-1 in home games, the most wins and best percentage (.944) in school history; and

**WHEREAS**, WWU's Brad Jackson was named national Coach of the Year by the NABC and DII Bulletin, as well as being NABC West District and GNAC Coach of the Year; and

**WHEREAS**, Rory Blanche was named a first-team CoSIDA Academic All-American, Elite Eight All-tournament, first-team NABC and Daktronics West Region all-star, first-team GNAC all-star and GNAC academic all-star; and

**WHEREAS**, John Allen was voted West Regional Most Outstanding Player, with Blanche and Zach Henifin also selected to regional all-tournament team; and

**WHEREAS**, John Allen was a second-team GNAC all-star and Richard Woodworth received honorable mention and Elite Eight all-tournament recognition; and

**WHEREAS**, Chris Mitchell was a GNAC academic all-star; and

**WHEREAS**, the team members (John Allen, Rory Blanche, Alfred Davis, Damien Fisher, Zach Henifin, Paul Jones, Chris Mitchell, Shedrick Nelson, Cameron Severson, Dane Thorpe, Rico Wilkins, Richard Woodworth and Dan Young) distinguished themselves as student-athletes in the classroom and on the court throughout a rigorous schedule; and

**WHEREAS**, the entire team demonstrated fine sportsmanship and inspired youth to work hard, play well and enjoy athletic competition; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University officially recognizes the WWU men's basketball team for its unprecedented accomplishments and extends to the team the Board's gratitude and best wishes on behalf of the entire University Community.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** by the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University at its regular meeting on April 13, 2012.

ATTEST:

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Dennis Madsen, Chair

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Betti Fujikado, Secretary