

Proclamation

In Fruita, Colorado we absolutely love our high school sports,
Nowhere is this truer than on our basketball courts.
We all pull on our Fruita Blue and love to pack the stands,
You'd be hard-pressed to find a more passionate group of fans.

In 2023, though, our team's leadership was uncertain,
We needed someone strong and true, a dedicated person.
Coach Wells stepped up and took the job, he'd coached champions before.
He saw the potential in these boys, knew they could do so much more.

He made them a promise he intended to keep & asked them all to buy in,
If they would put in the time, the work & the grit, he knew they could bring home the wins.
He recruited assistants he knew he could trust, each with their own special skills,
To help this team reach the ultimate goal, a true dream season to fulfill.

The off season was hard, the boys had to adjust to their new coach's style,
They learned structure and discipline were keys to success if you want to reach that last mile.
So they put in the gym time and did extra reps, they shot hundreds of frees from the line.
They started to find their rhythm as a team, their philosophies began to align.

As the season progressed that hard work paid off, just as Coach knew that it would.
With Jhett's speed & accuracy leading the charge, the team's confidence grew as it should.
The stands were packed tight, each and every game, Fruita knows how to show up.
No one wanted to miss one of D.T.'s slam dunks or Max's beautiful layup.

With Masen tossing up 3's and Austin all over the court, the wins soon began to tally.
Wilson, Isaac & Lucas were always right there, fresh & ready to help the team rally.
Week after week and game after game those boys sure showed up and played.
Even when they were tired, injured & sore, their will to win just would not fade

Tough teams came over from much larger schools, certain they'd take those Cats down.
But try as they might they just could not win & would leave with a small, baffled frown.
How could it be that this Western Slope team could stack up wins against these huge schools?
Didn't they know 6A was out of their league? Surely their winning was against the rules!

Those Cats just kept winning, they clawed their way up the rankings that CHSAA was posting,
Until they soon reached the top, the #1 spot, a feat that was truly worth boasting.
With a trip to the Coliseum now on the line, they were not quite ready to lose.
They still had much further to go, needing to show the season was not a ruse.

As the #1 seed going into playoffs, Fruita had earned the coveted home court slot.
The fans all filed in to cheer for their team, the line pouring out into the parking lot.
And what a game it would be, not a single dull moment, the energy crackled & popped.
The first half was close, but the Cats soon pulled away, showing they would not be stopped.

Now they were off to the big Coliseum, Great Eight was the name of the game.
The town lined the streets and cheered as they passed, calling them each out by name.
They knew they would need to bring all that they had, they'd made it further than ever before.
They'd need to play their hearts out, leave it all on the court & maximize every score.

The big game day came, those boys showed up to play and while it ended up not quite enough,
They did not fall easy, they put up a fight and showed everyone Fruita is tough.
They'd earned that top seed and they'd gone undefeated, an honor quite rare indeed.
They'd shown what could be done with hard work and grit and a Coach who was ready to lead.

The season's behind us, it's all over now, but to show our sincere appreciation.
We, The Mayor and City Council, want to honor you with this proclamation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official Seal of
the City of Fruita this Seventh day of May, 2024.

Matthew Breman
Mayor of the City of Fruita

