

## House Republican Press Release

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Press Office: 860-240-8700

### Reps. Miller, Harkins & Backer Welcome Bunnell High School Football Champions to Capitol



HARTFORD- On Tuesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, State Representatives John Harkins (R-120), Larry Miller (R-122) & Terry Backer (D-121) hosted the Bunnell High School Football Champions to the State Capitol, and welcomed the coaches and players to the hall of the House of Representatives. The Bunnell Bulldogs are fresh off a 12-1 season, the most single wins in school

history.

The Bulldogs won the 2006 South-West Conference championship, defeating Masuk in the SWC Championship game by a score of 42-27. The Bulldogs also claimed the 2006 CIAC Class “L” State Championship, winning 28-26 against Staples High School of Westport in that championship game. The Bulldogs enjoy a #4 final ranking in the state, behind #1 Ansonia, #2 Greenwich, and #3 Holy Cross of Waterbury.

CHSCA First Team All-State player Stephen Smith was named CHSCA 2006 “Coca-Cola” State player of the year, and was one of only two Connecticut players to be named to the prestigious MSG Heisman All-Star team from the tri-state area.

Harkins, Miller and Backer introduced the players and coaches to the members of the House where they were greeted with a traditional warm round of applause for their accomplishments.

“The Bunnell Bulldogs have shown exemplary sportsmanship and have been inspirational to the Stratford community, where we have all enjoyed watching their incredible success this season,” said **Representative Miller**. “We look forward to watching their many future successes.”

“We are very proud of the excellence and sportsmanship demonstrated by this Bulldogs team,” said **Representative Harkins**. “These student athletes, their families, and their coaches have a great deal to be proud of, having overcome great odds to show themselves to be among Connecticut’s football elite.”

“All of Stratford shares in the pride of the Bulldog's accomplishments. If these young people apply the same perseverance, energy and commitment to other pursuits in their lives, I am quite sure they will all be champions at everything they do,” said

**Representative Backer.**