



## NEWS RELEASE

### Department of Communications

MEDIA CONTACT: Jordan Head

404-805-2543 (cell)

[Jordan.Head@cityofsouthfultonga.gov](mailto:Jordan.Head@cityofsouthfultonga.gov)

5440 Fulton Industrial Boulevard, SW

Atlanta, GA 30336

[www.cityofsouthfultonga.gov](http://www.cityofsouthfultonga.gov)

<https://twitter.com/COSFGA>

*City of South Fulton Government*

### **City to Hold Virtual Rally to Honor Westlake High School Girls Basketball Team Raven Johnson, Georgia's Top High School Player, to Announce College Commitment**

(CITY OF SOUTH FULTON, GA – June 15, 2020) – Winning one championship is commendable, winning two is incredible, but winning three consecutive championships puts a team in an elite category.

The City of South Fulton will hold a virtual rally in celebration of the Westlake High School Girls Basketball Team winning its third consecutive state championship earlier this year. The rally will take place Thursday, June 25 at 6 p.m. and will be livestreamed on the city's YouTube channel. Former Atlanta Hawks Coach Mike Goodson will make an appearance to offer his congratulations.

Mayor William "Bill" Edwards explains it was imperative the city honor the team the right way.

"We're extremely proud of the Lady Lions for winning their third consecutive championship," Edwards said. "It's only right that we send the seniors off with one last pep rally to celebrate their success. COVID-19 will not stop us from honoring this astonishing feat."

According to Westlake High School Girl's Basketball Coach Hilda Hankerson, the rally will afford seniors the opportunity to be recognized during the pandemic.

"We're truly blessed to be state champions for the third consecutive year," Hankerson said. "We're appreciative of Mayor Edwards for taking the time to give the seniors one last pep rally, even during the pandemic. I look forward to the girls having a chance to be celebrated by the South Fulton community."

Westlake became the eighth school in state history to win three consecutive girls basketball state championships. In that run, the team picked up a total of 90 wins.

The team's trio of seniors already has announced its college choices. Lydia Freeman, center, will attend Georgia Southern University. Carly Hooks, shooting guard/point guard, will attend East Tennessee State University. Ryann Woodley, shooting guard, will attend Walters State Community College.

Raven Johnson, the number-two point guard in the United States and Georgia's High School Girls Basketball Player of the Year, will announce her college commitment decision during the virtual celebration. Johnson led the Lady Lions in this year's championship with 23 points in a win over Collins Hill. She has not missed a single game in her high school career.



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Johnson will make her announcement at the end of the rally. The public is invited to watch at [youtube.com/cityofsouthfulton](https://www.youtube.com/cityofsouthfulton).

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