

By: Representatives West, Middleton, Clarke, To: Rules
Brown

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 72

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING COACH DAVEY L.
2 WHITNEY ON HIS OUTSTANDING AND PROLIFIC CAREER ACHIEVEMENTS IN
3 COACHING BASKETBALL.

4 WHEREAS, Coach Davey L. Whitney, affectionately nicknamed the
5 "Wiz," has had an outstanding coaching career in basketball for
6 over thirty years; and

7 WHEREAS, Coach Whitney, a native of Midway, Kentucky, earned
8 a bachelor's degree in 1953 from Kentucky State University, where
9 he was inducted into the Kentucky University Hall of Fame for his
10 athletic feats, and he earned a master's degree in 1990 from
11 Alcorn State University (Alcorn); and

12 WHEREAS, after beginning his college coaching career at
13 Kentucky State University from 1964-1969, Coach Whitney began
14 coaching at Alcorn in September of 1969, where he has coached from
15 1969-1989 and 1996 through the present; and

16 WHEREAS, Coach Whitney, the record holder for the most wins
17 in Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) history, has had a
18 monumental career with a career record of 565 wins and 354 losses
19 in 32 seasons, and with a record at Alcorn that stands at 510 wins
20 and 301 losses in 27 seasons; and

21 WHEREAS, as coach of the Alcorn Braves, Coach Whitney has
22 caused Alcorn to win its last 12 SWAC regular season titles, which
23 the school has a total of 16, and all of the Braves' seven SWAC
24 tournament titles have occurred during Coach Whitney's tenure; and

25 WHEREAS, making six appearances in the NCAA tournament under
26 the direction of Coach Whitney, in 1980, the Braves were the first
27 Historically Black College or University (HBCU) to win a game in



28 the NCAA Division I Basketball Tournament, and they were the first
29 HBCU to ever compete in the National Invitational Tournament in
30 1979; and

31 WHEREAS, due to his incredible coaching, Coach Whitney has
32 received many honors, such as being named the SWAC Coach of the
33 Year ten times, named *The Clarion-Ledger's* 2002 Sports Person of
34 the Year and being the first recipient of the NCAA Hall of
35 Champions Journey Award in July of 2002; and

36 WHEREAS, while at Alcorn, Coach Whitney has reached several
37 milestones, including winning his 500th career victory in 1999,
38 and winning his 500th game as the head coach at Alcorn in January
39 of 2003; and

40 WHEREAS, the House of Representatives takes great pleasure in
41 recognizing and honoring a legendary coach, Coach Davey Whitney,
42 who has encouraged excellence in collegiate student-athletes:

43 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
44 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
45 commend and congratulate Coach Davey L. Whitney on his outstanding
46 and prolific career achievements in coaching college basketball.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
48 furnished to Coach Davey L. Whitney, Alcorn State University and
49 members of the Capitol Press Corps.

