

By: Senator(s) Michel

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 541

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING CHARLIE  
2 RUGG, HALL OF FAME BELHAVEN COLLEGE BASKETBALL AND TENNIS COACH,  
3 UPON HIS INDUCTION INTO THE MISSISSIPPI SPORTS HALL OF FAME CLASS  
4 OF 2005.

5 WHEREAS, the Jackson Touchdown Club and Mississippi Sports  
6 Hall of Fame has unveiled the Class of 2005 of the Mississippi  
7 Sports Hall of Fame, which features Charlie Rugg, Hall of Fame  
8 Basketball and Tennis Coach who led the Belhaven Blazers to  
9 national tennis championships; and

10 WHEREAS, a native of Farmerville, Louisiana, Charlie Rugg was  
11 an outstanding baseball pitcher who signed with the Brooklyn  
12 Dodgers in 1949 at age 17, but an injury cut short his promising  
13 pro baseball career; he completed college degrees at Louisiana  
14 Tech, Colorado and LSU; and

15 WHEREAS, Charlie led Athens High Basketball Team in Athens,  
16 Louisiana, to a record of 79-15 and Louisiana State Championship;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, he coached with Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame  
19 member Jack Carlisle at Jackson Murrah from 1956-1962; and

20 WHEREAS, Coach Rugg coached football, baseball, basketball  
21 and golf at Murrah; and

22 WHEREAS, Coach Rugg served as Athletic Director and Head  
23 Basketball and Tennis Coach at Belhaven College from 1963-1995; he  
24 was known as a demanding coach who was intense on the basketball  
25 and tennis courts; he paced the Belhaven hoops team to a mark of  
26 312-310; he guided the Blazer basketball team to NAIA District  
27 titles and NAIA National Tournament appearances; he was six-time  
28 NAIA Basketball Coach of the Year; and

29           WHEREAS, he built the Belhaven tennis team into a national  
30 power as his Blazers won 15 consecutive District and Conference  
31 Championships in NAIA; Rugg's 1983 Blazers tennis squad captured  
32 the NAIA National Tennis Championship; his Belhaven netters  
33 finished the NAIA National Top Ten rankings 12 times with six top  
34 five finishes; he was named NAIA District and Conference Tennis  
35 Coach of the Year for an amazing 15 consecutive years; his  
36 Belhaven program produced 10 NAIA All-Americans, two NAIA National  
37 Singles Champions and one National Doubles Champion; and

38           WHEREAS, from 1975 to 1985, Coach Rugg's Belhaven tennis team  
39 compiled a record of 179-44; and

40           WHEREAS, Coach Rugg was one of the "Founding Fathers" of the  
41 Gulf Coast Athletic Conference, charter member of the Belhaven  
42 Athletic Hall of Fame in 1993 and inducted into the NAIA Hall of  
43 Fame in 1996; and

44           WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this  
45 outstanding coach who has brought honor to his college and to the  
46 State of Mississippi:

47           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
48 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
49 we do hereby commend and congratulate Charlie Rugg, Hall of Fame  
50 Belhaven College Basketball and Tennis Coach, upon his induction  
51 into the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame Class of 2005, and wish  
52 him and his family continued success in all their future  
53 endeavors.

54           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
55 Coach Rugg at induction ceremonies, and be made available to the  
56 Capitol Press Corps.