

By: The Entire Membership

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 39

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE ATHLETIC SUCCESS OF BRADFORD
2 BLACKMON AND CONGRATULATING HIM UPON BEING NAMED PLAYER OF THE
3 YEAR ON *THE CLARION-LEDGER* ALL-METRO FOOTBALL TEAM.

4 WHEREAS, St. Andrew's senior Bradford Blackmon, has stamped
5 his name in the school's record book and in the hearts of the
6 Saints' faithful supporters throughout a year of most spectacular
7 and eye-catching play, catapulting him to the top position of
8 being named Player of the Year on *The Clarion-Ledger* All-Metro
9 Football Team; and

10 WHEREAS, the legacy and mind-boggling numbers left behind by
11 this do-everything star is one that falls nothing short of simply
12 astonishing, as Bradford has amassed an eye-popping 9,364
13 all-purpose yards in his career, by completing 716 rushes for
14 5,553 rushing yards, catching 98 passes for 1,986 receiving yards
15 and 106 touchdowns, including 30 this season when he led the
16 Saints to the Class 2A semifinals--the deepest playoff run in
17 school history; and

18 WHEREAS, Bradford has been described by his coach, David
19 Bradberry, as being the singular player of any program he has ever
20 coached, to have such an impact on winning, evidenced by his 106
21 career touchdowns, ranking him third on the state's all-time list
22 and trailer of such notables as former Weir star, Dicenzo Miller,
23 with 118 and ex-Lumberton back, Terry Grant with 115; and

24 WHEREAS, undisputedly a very gifted and talented athlete,
25 Bradford's honors and awards have served notice to the state and
26 regional high schools and collegiate scouts that he is a force to
27 be reckoned with, including: having been named as team most

28 valuable player for each year beginning 2003 through 2006; named
29 to the Madison County Herald All-County Team for each year
30 beginning 2003 through 2006; named to the First Team All-District
31 6-2A in 2003; named to Second Team All-State 2A and most valuable
32 offensive player for District 6-2A in 2004; named to the
33 All-District Boys' Basketball Team District 6-2A, First Team
34 All-Metro, First Team All-State 2A, Most Valuable Player for
35 District 6-2A and BankPlus Blitz 16 Player of the Week in 2005;
36 and First Team All-State 2A, First Team All-State Overall, Most
37 Valuable Offensive Player State 2A, BankPlus Blitz 16 All-Metro
38 Player of the Year, nominated for the Wendy's High School Heisman
39 Award and named to *The Orlando Florida Sentinel Newspaper*
40 All-Southern Football Team; and

41 WHEREAS, standing 5 feet 9 inches and weighing in at 170
42 lbs., Bradford, who is a hero among heroes in the eyes of the
43 throng of elementary students who mob him after each game, is
44 destined to be remembered for his exploits on the field, but the
45 demeanor exhibited off the field, is what will be remembered most
46 by those who look up to him as a role model and a teammate; and

47 WHEREAS, humble in his decorum in the face of athletic
48 stardom, Bradford who has been sought after by Jackson State
49 University, and Ivy League members, Columbia and Pennsylvania,
50 credits his fellow teammates and the team effort for making it all
51 possible, which speaks volumes of his athletic tenacity, skill and
52 versatility as well as his academic success as an honor student
53 from Grades K-12; and

54 WHEREAS, during Bradford's tenure as a member of the St.
55 Andrew's Episcopal Football Team from 2003-2006, the Saints
56 compiled a record of 35-13, going undefeated with a 10-0 record in
57 2004 and a record of 9-1 for the 2006 season; and

58 WHEREAS, as Bradford has garnered a myriad of supporters and
59 well-wishers on the state and regional level, he promises to catch

60 the eye of millions nationwide as a new Quaker upon having
61 committed to the University of Pennsylvania in the Ivy League; and

62 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
63 recognize and commend excellence as exhibited by scholar-athletes
64 such as Bradford Blackmon, whose dynamic and unrivaled athleticism
65 coupled with his gentle nature and academic achievement
66 exemplifies talent and character beyond measure:

67 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
68 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
69 commend the athletic and academic success of Bradford Blackmon,
70 congratulate him upon being named Player of the Year on *The*
71 *Clarion-Ledger* All-Metro Football Team and express heartfelt
72 wishes for continued success in all of his athletic and academic
73 endeavors.

74 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
75 furnished to Bradford Blackmon, St. Andrew's School and to the
76 members of the Capitol Press Corps.