

By: Representatives Capps, Coleman (29th),  
McBride

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 40

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE  
2 DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY "FIGHTING OKRA" FOOTBALL TEAM AND COACH  
3 STEVE CAMPBELL FOR WINNING THEIR FIRST NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP.

4 WHEREAS, the Delta State University "Fighting Okra" Football  
5 Team has won the NCAA Division II National Championship, its first  
6 national championship, defeating Bloomsburg State 63-34; and

7 WHEREAS, as a result of this championship, the Statesmen were  
8 ranked Number 1 in the Division II football poll by USA Today; and

9 WHEREAS, eighteen of the 27 teams that scored first have won  
10 the Division II National Championship, but Delta State overcame  
11 Bloomsburg in Florence, Alabama, scoring first, and the Statesmen  
12 also overcame their first post-season deficit; and

13 WHEREAS, in the championship game Delta State, led by Junior  
14 Quarterback Josh Bright and Coach of the Year Steve Campbell,  
15 established four new NCAA records, as the Statesmen scored the  
16 most points in the game since Northwest Missouri scored 58 last  
17 season, and also set a new game rushing record with 524 yards  
18 rushing, while accumulating 649 yards total offense, also a new  
19 NCAA record along with 36 first downs in the game, also a new NCAA  
20 mark; and

21 WHEREAS, Delta State finished the 2000 season with a  
22 remarkable record of 14 wins and only one loss; and

23 WHEREAS, prior to the Division II Championship game, the  
24 Statesmen defeated North Dakota State 36-16 in the semifinals,  
25 held off Catawba College 20-14 in the quarterfinals, and in front  
26 of the home crowd at Travis E. Parker Field convincingly defeated

27 Valdosta State 49-12 in the first round of the NCAA Division II  
28 playoffs; and

29 WHEREAS, versatile Quarterback Josh Bright is the second  
30 winner from Delta State to win the coveted Conerly Trophy, and  
31 Coach Steve Campbell and his staff are gaining quite a reputation  
32 as they lead the Statesmen to excellence; and

33 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize  
34 and commend outstanding athletes such as the Delta State  
35 University "Fighting Okra" Football Team, who have brought great  
36 honor to their university and to the State of Mississippi:

37 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MISSISSIPPI HOUSE OF  
38 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING  
39 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend and congratulate the Delta  
40 State University "Fighting Okra" Football Team and Coach Steve  
41 Campbell, for winning the NCAA Division II National Championship,  
42 their first national championship, and wish them continued success  
43 in their future athletic and academic endeavors.

44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be  
45 presented to the "Fighting Okra" Football Team and Coach Campbell  
46 and his staff, the President of Delta State University and to  
47 members of the Capitol Press Corps.