

By: Representatives Smith  
(27th), Dickson, Myers, Perkins,  
Robinson (63rd)

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 21

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE MISSISSIPPI  
2 VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY DEVILETTES SOFTBALL TEAM UPON ITS  
3 OUTSTANDING 2003-2004 SEASON AND WINNING THE 2004 SOUTHWESTERN  
4 ATHLETIC CONFERENCE REGULAR SEASON CHAMPIONSHIP.

5 WHEREAS, the Mississippi Valley State University Devilettes  
6 Softball Team had an outstanding year, finishing the 2003-2004  
7 season with a remarkable record of 34 wins and 16 losses; and

8 WHEREAS, showcasing immense talent, the Devilettes have  
9 brought great honor and pride to Mississippi Valley State  
10 University by winning the 2004 Southwestern Athletic Conference  
11 (SWAC) Division I Championship and the 2004 SWAC Tournament  
12 Championship; and

13 WHEREAS, this season's accomplishments for the Devilettes  
14 garnered them much recognition after having become the  
15 institution's first SWAC sport and the first Historically Black  
16 Colleges/University (HBCU) sport to win more than one game in a  
17 NCAA Tournament; and

18 WHEREAS, for their superior play, many individual honors have  
19 been bestowed on several members of the Devilettes, including the  
20 selection of Queydreka Shumpert, Balencia Young and Valerie  
21 Nicholson to the All-SWAC First Team; the naming of Queydreka  
22 Shumpert as Defensive Player of the Year; the selection of Nicole  
23 Henderson, Deanna Baker, Teanne Rembert, Cristal Holmes, Tamara  
24 Phillips, Nakelya Moragne, and Tonya Johns to the All-SWAC Second  
25 Team; the naming of Balencia Young as Most Outstanding Hitter,  
26 Offensive Player of the Year and Most Valuable Player; the  
27 selection of Balencia Young, Cristal Holmes, Queydreka Shumpert  
28 and Natasha McFadden to the SWAC All-Tournament Team; and

29           WHEREAS, the Devilettes have been superbly coached and  
30 inspired this season by Head Coach Lee Smith, who has broadened  
31 the players' knowledge of the game and refined their skills in  
32 execution; and

33           WHEREAS, Coach Smith has brought additional honor and pride  
34 to himself and to Mississippi Valley State University upon being  
35 named Coach of the Year; and

36           WHEREAS, the Devilettes have developed a winning and  
37 cooperative spirit and a high degree of sportsmanship, and their  
38 activities and attitude reflect great credit upon the individual  
39 players and their coach, and bring honor to Mississippi Valley  
40 State University; and

41           WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to  
42 recognize and commend excellence, especially when evidenced by the  
43 youth of our state who are its future:

44           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
45 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
46 commend and congratulate the Mississippi Valley State University  
47 Devilettes Softball Team and their coach for their outstanding  
48 2003-2004 season, for winning the 2004 SWAC Division I  
49 Championship and the 2004 SWAC Tournament Championship and for  
50 displaying tireless devotion to their athletic endeavors.

51           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
52 furnished to Mississippi Valley State University, Head Coach Lee  
53 Smith and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.