

By: Representatives Akins, Reynolds,
Barnett, Gadd, McBride

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 50

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING CAROL ROSS UPON HER ACCOMPLISHMENTS
2 AND WINNING THE 2005 GOLD MEDAL IN WOMEN'S BASKETBALL.

3 WHEREAS, from her days as a student athlete throughout her
4 coaching career, Carol Ross has established herself as an intense
5 competitor, outstanding leader and proven winner in the arena of
6 women's basketball; and

7 WHEREAS, a native of Oakland, Mississippi, Ross was a
8 four-year, All-State player at Kirk Academy where she led the
9 Raiderettes to three overall state basketball championships, was
10 Kirk Academy's first female athlete to have her jersey retired and
11 was named a "High School All-American"; and

12 WHEREAS, Ross earned her bachelor's degree in education in
13 1982 from the University of Mississippi where she was a four-year
14 starter for the Lady Rebels from 1977-1981, set a Southeastern
15 Conference record for steals in a career with 333 and was named a
16 member of the inaugural SEC All-Tournament Team; and

17 WHEREAS, Ross was known as a pesky, tenacious defensive
18 leader at Ole Miss where she is still the school's all-time leader
19 in steals in a game, season and career, and she is one of only two
20 Lady Rebels to score 1,000 points, 500 assists and 250 steals in a
21 career; and

22 WHEREAS, Ross became the fourth women's basketball player in
23 Ole Miss history to be inducted into the University of Mississippi
24 Athletic Hall of Fame when she was honored on September 1, 2001;
25 and

26 WHEREAS, Ross first served as Head Coach at the University of
27 Florida from 1990-2002 where she posted a winning record of

28 247-121 in 12 successful seasons, led Florida to its first Top 10
29 national ranking and trip to the NCAA Elite Eight and made nine
30 NCAA Tournament appearances; and

31 WHEREAS, for her accomplishments at Florida, Coach Ross was
32 named SEC Coach of the Year on two occasions (1994 and 2001), was
33 Head Coach of the United States Select Team (1998) and was a
34 two-time finalist for the Naismith National Coach of the Year
35 (2001 and 2002) before retiring from the University of Florida in
36 2002 as the all-time winningest coach in Florida history; and

37 WHEREAS, on March 18, 2003, Coach Ross answered the call of
38 her Alma Mater and returned to the University of Mississippi as
39 its head coach, where she has quickly resurrected the women's
40 basketball program, shattered school attendance records, led the
41 Lady Rebels back to the NCAA Tournament and was honored as SEC
42 Coach of the Year (2004); and

43 WHEREAS, only the fourth person in women's basketball history
44 to have played for and coached nationally ranked teams at the same
45 school, Coach Ross currently ranks twentieth among active coaches
46 for all-time Associated Press ranking appearances; and

47 WHEREAS, Coach Ross was again selected to represent her
48 country in 2005 as an assistant coach of the USA Women's
49 Basketball U19 Team which she guided to a perfect 8-0 record and a
50 gold medal at the FIBA World Championship in Tunis, Tunisia; and

51 WHEREAS, the 2005 USA Women's Basketball U19 Team was
52 selected as the 2005 USA Basketball Team of the Year; and

53 WHEREAS, Coach Ross is an active member of the Oxford
54 Community, having volunteered for a variety of civic groups,
55 school groups and community organizations, while also fundraising
56 for numerous charity groups and serving as a board member for the
57 American Cancer Society and the Coaches v. Cancer organization,
58 which honored her as its 2000 Champion Award winner; and

59 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
60 recognize and commend excellence in the integrity, competitive

61 spirit and accomplishments of such an outstanding athlete and
62 coach such as Carol Ross who is a role model for many young
63 athletes and who has brought great honor and pride to her
64 community, university and the State of Mississippi:

65 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
66 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
67 commend and congratulate Coach Carol Ross on her accomplishments,
68 on a successful career and for winning the 2005 Gold Medal in
69 women's basketball and extend our warmest wishes for continued
70 success in all her future endeavors.

71 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
72 furnished to Coach Carol Ross, the University of Mississippi and
73 to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.