

By: Representatives V. Flowers, K. Ferguson, Holcomb

## HOUSE RESOLUTION

TO COMMEND THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT PINE BLUFF  
ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT AND STUDENT ATHLETES.

### Subtitle

TO COMMEND THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT  
PINE BLUFF ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT AND  
STUDENT ATHLETES.

WHEREAS, the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (UAPB) Athletics Department has capped a banner year in which teams advanced to championships, players were awarded athletic honors, coaches received special accolades, and student athletes excelled academically, despite the constraints of the coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the UAPB Golden Lions football team won the 2020-2021 Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) Western Division Championship with an exciting 36-31 win over Prairie View A&M University at Simmons Bank Field in Pine Bluff, the team's first division title since 2012, which qualifies the team to play in the SWAC championship game on Saturday, May 1, in Jackson, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, the UAPB volleyball team was the SWAC Western Division runner-up and was slated to play for the championship before the game was cancelled due to the pandemic; and team member Zyonn Smith has been selected to the American Volleyball Coaches Association All-Region Honorable Mention for the Southwest All-Region, an honor she received after being named SWAC Player of the Year and First-Team All-Conference Outside/Right Side Hitter; and



WHEREAS, the UAPB golf team finished third overall in the SWAC Championship, Joshua McCray made First-Team All-Conference, Grayson Martin and Nikolas Pitiris were named Second-Team All-Conference, and golf coach Roger Totten was named SWAC Golf Coach of the Year; and

WHEREAS, UAPB Athletics continue to set records for team cumulative GPAs, with the athletes compiling the highest cumulative GPA ever in the history of the athletic department, with student athletes overall recording a 3.20 combined cumulative and all sixteen (16) teams posting a 3.0 or higher GPA; and

WHEREAS, Interim Director of Athletics Chris Robinson is proud of the teams and coaches and how all have continued to excel on and off the field,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the House of Representatives congratulate the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff Athletics Department, players, and coaches on incredible seasons and hard work both on and off the field.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution be provided to Chris Robinson by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives.