

WASHINGTON (January 13) - Congressman Spencer Bachus (AL-6) joined his House colleagues today in honoring Heisman Trophy winner Mark Ingram of the University of Alabama.

The House unanimously passed a resolution congratulating Ingram for receiving the award and for his spirit of sportsmanship. Ingram is the first player in the history of the university to be awarded the Heisman Trophy, which recognizes the top college football player in the nation.

The following are Congressman Bachus' prepared remarks. To view his floor speech, [click here.](#)

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It is with great pleasure that I rise to recognize Mark Ingram, the first Heisman Trophy winner in the long and storied history of the National Champion University of Alabama Crimson Tide.□

A Sports Illustrated cover story called Mark "Pride of the Tide."□□□

He set an Alabama single season rushing record with 1,542 yards.□ He led the nation with 38 runs of 10 yards or more, and caught 30 passes in addition.□ When the game was on the line, Mark was always at his best.□

What statistics can't measure is Mark's greatest asset: his spirit.□ He stands as an example for all young people of what can be achieved through hard work and determination, overcoming adversity, and putting others first.□

Dealing with family challenges, Mark has been a model of grace and loyalty. As a Dean's List student, he has balanced his records on the football field with excellence in the classroom. He demonstrated his humility and spirit of sportsmanship during his speech at the Heisman Trophy Awards Ceremony. He congratulated his fellow competitors like Tim Tebow and Colt McCoy. These are all fine young men on and off the field and college football is better because of them.

Mark was the Most Valuable Player of the National Championship Game, rushing for 92 yards and a touchdown. The game was another great example of the sportsmanship he embodies. Alabama and Texas fans came out to support their teams but they were very respectful of each other. That is the way college athletics should always be.

The way that Mark Ingram has conducted himself and represented his team and university is perhaps his great accomplishment. It is a source of pride for all supporters of Alabama football, from President Dr. Robert Witt and Coach Nick Saban to all of the Tide's passionate fans.

We congratulate Mark Ingram for his achievements. Through his hard work, he has earned every accolade.

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