

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 927

Commending the Florida Atlantic University Owls for their historic win in
the 2007 R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 16, 2008

Mr. WEXLER (for himself, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. KLEIN of Florida,
Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, and Mr. MAHONEY of Florida) submitted the
following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Education
and Labor

RESOLUTION

Commending the Florida Atlantic University Owls for their
historic win in the 2007 R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl.

Whereas, on December 21, 2007, the Florida Atlantic Uni-
versity Owls defeated the University of Memphis Tigers
44 to 27 in the 2007 R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl
in New Orleans, Louisiana;

Whereas the Owls became the youngest football program in
NCAA history to earn a bid in and win a bowl game;

Whereas Florida Atlantic's football program has reached this
level of success after only 7 years of existence and only
3 years as a member of the Football Bowl Subdivision;

Whereas the Owls' Head Coach Howard Schnellenberger built
the Florida Atlantic football program from scratch when

he was hired as Director of Football Operations in 1998, and has been the program's only head coach since its inaugural game in 2001;

Whereas the Owls defeated the Troy University Trojans on December 1, 2007, to earn the Sun Belt Conference Championship in only their third season competing in the conference;

Whereas the Owls finished the 2007 season with a record of 8 and 5, including wins over 6 of their 7 opponents in the Sun Belt Conference;

Whereas the Owls defeated their first Big Ten opponent in the history of the program, the University of Minnesota, on September 15, 2007;

Whereas Quarterback Rusty Smith was named Most Valuable Player of the 2007 R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl and Player of the Year in the Sun Belt Conference;

Whereas Head Coach Howard Schnellenberger was named Coach of the Year in the Sun Belt Conference;

Whereas Quarterback Rusty Smith, Tight End Jason Harmon, Wide Receiver Cortez Gent, Linebacker Frantz Joseph, Linebacker Cergile Sincere, and Defensive Back Tavious Polo were named First Team All-Conference by the Sun Belt Conference;

Whereas each player, coach, trainer, manager, and staff member of the Florida Atlantic University Owls dedicated this season and their efforts to winning the Sun Belt Conference and earning a bid in the R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl;

Whereas the Owls' players, coaches, and everyone associated with the football program represent the University and

the State of Florida with exemplary sportsmanship and competitiveness; and

Whereas residents of South Florida and Owl fans statewide are to be commended for their support, perseverance, and pride in the team: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the United States House of Rep-
2 resentatives—

3 (1) commends the Florida Atlantic University
4 Owls for their historic win in the 2007 R+L Car-
5 riers New Orleans Bowl;

6 (2) recognizes the achievements of the players,
7 coaches, students, and support staff who were in-
8 strumental in the Owls' victory and their continued
9 success as a football program; and

10 (3) directs the Clerk of the House of Represent-
11 atives to transmit a copy of this resolution to Flor-
12 ida Atlantic University President Frank T. Brogan
13 and Head Coach Howard Schnellenberger for appro-
14 priate display.

○