



Holmes Community College
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Holmes mourns the loss of longtime employee Joanna Spell

From Staff Reports/Photos



Joanna Spell

On Sunday, Sept. 2, Holmes Community College lost longtime employee, 61-year-old Joanna D. Spell.

Visitation was held at Goodman United Methodist Church on Wednesday, Sept. 5, and was followed with a memorial service.

She was preceded in death by husband, Victor D. Spell. Survivors include: sons, Christopher Shawn Spell of Goodman and Joseph Chase Spell (Brittany) of Yazoo City; mother, Merle Putnam Dickerson of Pickens; sister, Joy Donald of Goodman; and grandchildren, Christopher Dane Spell, Annabeall Taylor Spell, William Gage Spell, and Hadleigh Chase Spell.

While at Holmes, Joanna served as the administrative assistant to the dean of students.

“Joanna’s sweet spirit immediately put you at ease, and you always felt better about life in general after spending just a few minutes with her,” said Holmes President Dr. Jim Haffey. “She was a strong and caring lady, and we all miss her

greatly.”

Director of Goodman Campus and Athletics Andy Wood also commented on Joanna’s sweet, calming personality.

“Joanna was - and is - the standard for customer service,” Wood said. “She was helpful and even-tempered. In fact, very few people have ever seen her upset.”

In addition to her role as assistant to the dean of students, she was also the ACT Coordinator for the Goodman Campus. Always a hard worker, colleagues could not say enough about her kind and giving nature.

“I’ve known Joanna my entire life,” said Vice President of Institutional Research and Student Affairs Dr. Lindy McCain. “Joanna Spell was a person always thinking of and putting others first. She always served those around her and did not ask for or expect the same in return. She was

quiet, but not shy. When she spoke it was with kind, thoughtful and meaningful words.

“Joanna possessed a genuine love for others and a selflessness that was part of her uniqueness. She impacted the lives of both students and staff at Holmes throughout the years, and she will be dearly missed in years to come.”

Ceressa Sims, who recently retired from Holmes in May, also shared some remarks about Joanna, again echoing her kindness and authenticity.

“Joanna was one of the sweetest ladies,” Sims said. “She had a very kind heart, a sweet spirit and always had a smile on her face. She was always willing to help others. Joanna was a real person...there was no ‘put on’ about her. She was a good friend and will certainly be missed by many.”

Anastasia Boston crowned Homecoming Queen

From Staff Reports/Photos



On Saturday, Oct. 20, Holmes Community College hosted its annual all-day Homecoming celebration on the Goodman Campus.

Anastasia Boston of Sallis, daughter of Pauline Bass and Anthony Boston, was crowned 2018 Homecoming Queen at halftime. She was crowned

by Holmes President Dr. Jim Haffey crowned the queen, Alumni Association President Gene Richardson presented her robe and Alumni Association Vice President James Young presented her flowers.

Boston is a psychology and clinical sports major on the Goodman Campus and was escorted by Christopher Nalls of North Carrollton. He is the son of Jacqueline and Lorenzo Nalls and is a sophomore marketing major on the Goodman Campus.

Goodman Student Body Maid was Rylee Stone escorted by Loftin Price.

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(left) Pictured are (left to right) Alumni Association President **Gene Richardson**, Queen’s Escort **Christopher Nalls**, Homecoming Queen **Anastasia Boston**, Holmes President **Dr. Jim Haffey** and Alumni Association VP **James Young**.

Brown, Moorer, Levy accept TYCAM leadership positions

From Staff Reports/Photos



Pictured are (left to right) **LaShonda Levy**, **William C. Moorer** and **Jessica Brown**.

On Sept. 21, the Two-Year College English Association of Mississippi (TYCAM) held its annual conference at the Eagle Ridge Conference Center in Raymond, and three Holmes employees were named to leadership positions.

Goodman Campus English Instructors Jessica Brown and William C. Moorer were elected to two-year terms as co-chairs of the statewide organization. Goodman Campus English Instructor LaShonda Levy was elected as Holmes’ representative to the TYCAM Executive Committee.

Brown and Moorer will be responsible for planning and running

TYCAM’s conferences and planning textbook publications which help fund TYCAM. Levy will be the liaison between Holmes English faculty and TYCAM and also work with the Executive Committee to run the annual conferences.

TYCAM is affiliated with the Two-Year College English Association-Southeast (TYCA-SE), which is part of The National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). TYCAM’s annual conference promotes English pedagogy in Mississippi’s Community Colleges. It has been generously supported by the presidents of Mississippi’s community colleges and by the

State Board of Community and Junior Colleges.

Brown is Co-Chair of the Holmes English Department and teaches Composition, Developmental English and Reading, and American Literature.

Moorer teaches Composition, Developmental English and Reading, and Creative Writing. He is the director of the Goodman Writing Center and has served as Holmes’ representative to the TYCAM Executive Committee since 2012.

Levy teaches Composition, Developmental English and Reading and African-American Literature on the Goodman Campus.

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Sexism on the Court

By Malik Jamileh
Ridgeland Editor



Monday, Sept. 10 opened the doors for the latest controversy in tennis. Serena Williams, world recognized professional player, was caught in the line of sexism during

her match. The line was crossed when umpire Carlos Ramos accused Williams of cheating.

"I have a daughter and I stand by what I teach her, I have never cheated a day in my career. You owe me an apology," Serena remarked.

The fire grew as the crowd cheered for Serena and booed the umpire. A fiery exchange of word took place between the two when the umpire refused to apologize for publicly calling Serena thief.

"You stole a point from me and you are a thief," Williams yelled. Carlos then proceeded to fine Williams over \$17,000 in fines including verbal abuse he cited. The citation caused Serena to lose the entire game, which led to much protest in the crowd.

The incident showed that even one of the hardest working black Americans

with a net worth over \$100 million can be reduced to sexism. Williams told headlines (would need to say media unless referring a specific news agency then need to capitalize) much of what is tolerated for men on the court is not even half for women. Williams says her standing up for herself on the court will hopefully raise awareness and pave a way for the next athletes to not be discriminated against.



Photo Credit: Associated Press

Keep Mississippi's immunization requirements: They are righteous

By John Gillon
Grenada Editor



In mid-August, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported that "124 cases of measles have been confirmed in 22 states and the District of Columbia" and among the 22 states

were three of Mississippi's four bordering states – Tennessee, Arkansas and Louisiana. Amidst the "measles outbreak" media craze that ensued, one thing was made abundantly clear: Mississippi, despite all of its public health flaws, got its vaccination policies precisely righteous.

According to the US Census Bureau (as of July 1, 2017), 23.9 percent of Mississippi's population is under the age of 18 and 6.3 percent of the population is under the age of 5. That's about 713,120 under the age of 18 and about 187,998 under the age of 5.

Mississippi doesn't require parents to vaccinate their kids, unless they plan on enrolling them in school. 41-23-37, Mississippi Code of 1972 requires any child who will attend school, whether it be public or private, "with the exception of any legitimate home instruction program," to be vaccinated "against those diseases specified by the state health officer."

There is one exception, however. When the vaccination presents a medical risk to the child, they may be exempt from the law.

"A certificate of exemption from vaccination for medical reasons may be offered on behalf of a child by a duly licensed physician and may be accepted by the local health officer when, in his opinion, such exemption will not cause undue risk to the community."

In simple terms, if a physician deems the vaccination to be a health risk, most commonly because of existing medical conditions causing a weak immune system, then the child may be exempt, as long as the health officer doesn't think it could lead to an outbreak in the community.

Unlike most states, Mississippi allows no religious exemptions, much to the chagrin of activists. In early 2018, HB 1505, which was sponsored by 12 House Republicans and 1 House Democrat, sought to add religion as grounds for exemption, unless the "disease is in epidemic stages."

Luckily, the bill didn't pass as it died in the house. Religious rights are important, but a parent's religious rights should not be able to harm innocent children. The vaccinations are safe, and they have all-but eradicated diseases like measles in America.

Mississippi's current policies work, and they work with a startling efficiency. A January 2015 article in The Washington Post by Todd Frankel, detailing information from the CDC, outlined the impressive success of Mississippi's vaccination policy: Only 0.1 percent of Mississippians receive an exemption from the vaccinations.

"Herd immunization," which is, simply speaking, defined as "everyone around my kids is vaccinated, so why do I need to vaccinate them?" is another common rebuke against vaccinations. But so-called "herd immunization" is intended to protect those who can't be vaccinated for dire medical reasons – not because you bought into a conspiracy theory about Autism, or you claim the vaccinations violate your "religious beliefs."

According to the CDC, herd immunization rates need to be as high as "80-95%" to have a chance at success, while a story in The New York Times cites rates need to be as high as "95-99%."

Mississippi's vaccination rate, if you subtract the near-nonexistent exemptions, would be somewhere around 99.9 percent, so herd immunization in Mississippi would effectively protect those who are forced to rely upon others being vaccinated.

Mississippi has almost 188,000 children under the age of five, the most at-risk population, along with those older who have grave diseases such as cancer that have waged war on their immune system.

We're in the United States of America, we basically eradicated these vaccine-preventable diseases with immunizations,

increasing our quality of life by protecting ourselves from these pestilent diseases.

We have to keep vaccinating children, according to the CDC's recommended schedule, to not only protect our kids, but also protect those who can't be vaccinated due to weakened immune systems.

Mississippi got it right, and Mississippi should stick to its guns on vaccinations. Public health trumps vaccination conspiracy theories every day of the week and twice on Sunday.

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Send to: mbusby@holmescc.edu.

Chip Foster: Evolve with life

By John Gillon
Grenada Editor



Most people in high school referred to him as Coach Chip, the charismatic and unpredictable defensive coordinator—I did some, too, but it was always apparent

that he was so much more than just a coach; he was Chip Foster, the teacher, father and wise individual who was a bit unusual.

I remember my first day in his class when I was a junior. It was Advanced World Geography – do not forget the advanced part. “This is an ADVANCED course,” Foster would warn us. He would hold you to that, too. If you didn’t keep up your end of the bargain, he would remove you from the course. It wasn’t personal, and it wouldn’t mean that he didn’t like that student—he simply was teaching an advanced course, and it required a certain level of effort and want.

To some he was a football coach more focused on football—an entirely wrong assumption. He truly loves football, but he has a deep passion for teaching and helping students, too. Foster teaches U.S. History and AP U.S. History now, and he’s a football coach, somewhere else down the line.

We’ve had to shuffle our interview a couple times. He offers to talk to me at the school while Grenada High is on fall break. Outside it’s overcast, gloomy—the clouds, dark and endless, are ready to drown the day away should Mother Nature see fit. Foster, his young son, and I are the only people in the recently-renovated high school that now depicts a more modern flow throughout.

When we get to his room, he lobs a surprising revelation at me: “You know I’m getting out of coaching?”

Taken aback, I ask for confirmation, which he provides.

“Probably after this year, but definitely after next.”

My initial instinct, probably because of watching too much college football, is because Grenada has ridden the struggle bus in 2018. In their second year in Region 2-5A, the Chargers are 3-6 (1-3), struggling through the toughest district in Mississippi’s 5A classification.

That initial assumption proves false – he’s just evolved with life.

“Coach Chip,” as he’s been called for years, is ditching the coaching tag and earning his administrative degree,

which he should have at the end of the summer, leaving the coaching profession in his rearview mirror to focus more on education and being a dad.

“I’ve done everything I wanted to do in coaching,” he said. “I’m comfortable where I am.”

Having evolved over the years and now being a father to two, his priorities are different than before. He loves football, don’t get him wrong, but he loves education and family more.

While he turns on game film for his young football-obsessed son to watch while we talk, I remember something he told me when I interviewed him a year ago.

“Now, we are learning what each kid needs.”

At the time, he meant it from a coach’s perspective, but, without me even asking, he brings it back up as I press about his administrative future.

Foster wants to be a positive influence on the lives of as many students as possible. He mentions a growing respect for interactions with students “who don’t play football.” That’s not a slight on football players—he’s just expressing a new side of himself ... or well, a side he is fully embracing, finally.

I soon learn that the two of us share a common ideal: “[Most] issues in society can be fixed with school.”

But to fix society, schools can’t lose students. He recognizes as much. “Some kids, they get left behind. We have to do better.”

Foster thinks we have to adapt more to new information, to new children. “Students today are different from before. They’re more advanced—we have to help them in new ways.”

Foster’s not attacking any particular school district, especially the one he works for. He truly likes where he is, and he makes that abundantly clear.

He thinks it’s more of a systematic flaw—too much emphasis on the wrong areas, and not enough on the areas that matter.

There’s merit to his theories—in my personal experiences, the teachers, namely a dynamic duo of high school English teachers, who focus less on the dreaded state tests and more on the students and what they need to know tend to shoot up the ranks, in both the opinions of and performance by students.

As we’re talking, I ask when he felt the push to change his career trajectory—as he’s drawing up one of the

“thousand” plays West Point’s offense might run because Grenada is still in the midst of a rough football season.

Foster perks up at the question, and I can sense what he’s about to say is important to him—one of those monster-truck, life-altering moments that can stick with a person for years, even if it takes them a decade or so to realize.

“I started to figure it out about six years ago, but I had a former Superintendent of mine tell me it would happen years before that.”

Dr. Jack McAlpin, now the Southern Regional Education Service Agency (S-RESA) Director at the University of Southern Miss told him years ago that “football coaches go one of two ways.”

Football coaches either go headfirst into football and become consumed by the sport—modern examples would be the meteoric rises from the high school ranks to major SEC programs and bowl games by Gus Malzahn and Hugh Freeze—or they “evolve” and fall in love with the educational side of their job.

McAlpin, who was superintendent of McGee School District, where Chip got his coaching start alongside his dad, told the young coach that he was the opposite of his dad.

That is, he wasn’t going to be consumed by football—he was going to love the other side of his job.

Years later, he was right. “I can do more good as an administrator, a teacher,” admits Foster with an air of enthusiasm, though it’s obvious his monster-truck, life-altering decision wasn’t made lightly.

Football has allowed Foster to reach many lives, but teaching, impacting all students, makes that impact look minuscule at best.

Foster was always an interesting figure—an odd-ball. In his class, we just never knew what he would say or do next. Like when he’d toss a shoe, or when he would stop and ask “wonder if it would hurt if I ran through that window?”

No, he’s not crazy. He just wanted to keep your attention. Sometimes it would be a shenanigan or two, other times it was a lively story that he would relate back to class. Or he’d start teaching the class U.S. History or English or Math or about a World Religion and then joke that he wasn’t paid for this extra information.

“You have to keep people’s attention. We, as humans, have a tendency to get



Chip Foster and his sons.

bored and check out when someone is lecturing us, so I like to mix it up, maybe I’ll toss a shoe around.”

Coaches, football coaches in particular, get a bad rap in high school—many people just stereotype them as some football machine whose sole reason for employment is Friday Night Lights. Eric Taylor he is not—although Foster is more Eric Taylor, less Bud Kilmer; he lives for giving life lessons.

I can, however, envision him giving a speech similar to “clear eyes, full hearts, can’t lose.” After all, I’ve seen him emphatically meet his defense at the goal line in celebration after a key defensive stand that was nearly sabotaged on three occasions by questionable penalties.

A coach, a father, a teacher—they’re just labels. Separate, they’re occupations, but together, they start to foreshadow the man behind them. They’re no stronger or lesser a label than a journalist or lawyer or senator or writer. We can impact the lives of people around us regardless of our career or status—so long as we listen to what that little voice inside of us is screaming or whispering and give it our all.

In the wise words of the famous Max Ehrmann poem “Desiderata,” “Keep interested in your own career, however humble; it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time ... Be yourself.”

If we could all follow those words and stay true to ourselves, we might just leave this world better than we found it, but we have to evolve—live, listen and learn—and embrace wherever those monster-truck, life-altering decisions take us.

Growing Up Gay In the South

By Malik Jamileh
Ridgeland Editor



The stories shared by the LGBT community can be heard from all across the world, televisions, to your very own hometown. Much of the struggle is not heard because of the split political parties. The word

“love” was soon weaponized as a political tool for both sides. So I decided to travel to New Orleans to meet with William Harris to get his personal story. Will, a 19-year-old boy who grew up in Mississippi will share some of his experiences growing up as a gay teen in the South.

Will and I sat down over coffee to expand a bit on his past. I could see some anxiousness in his presence as he sat down. He was about 6’4, tall; skinny and had one earring dangling. I started off by

asking the broader question of when he realized he was gay.

“It’s like asking a kid when he learned to love? The minute we are taught to love, we ascribe this feeling to people and things. So the real question is at what age did I learn to love? I felt these feelings around the third grade.”

I asked Will to expand on what he exactly meant by saying love was the main focus. Will seemed very intrigued and enthusiastic to explain. He explained to me that most people who do not understand the perspective of a gay are so ready to dismiss them as a human. He told me the one human quality we all can relate to is love. I moved on to ask if coming out made it any easier for the life of a teenager.

Will laughed and said, “You know the saying they tell you, love has no boundaries. However, they forget to tell you that there is also tough love. I was switched

from schools once I publicly came out. I lost several friends. The mental scar of being told something is wrong with you but you can’t fix it. Coming out was a huge relief but that was only the beginning.

I asked Will to share if some of his classmates ever went out of their way to bully him or out of their way to support him. He shared that while he endured many laughs throughout high school he did make one friend, Jackie. His coming out helped him connect with someone else like him and offer him support. I was told off tape the cruelty acts he had to suffer through and was asked not to mention them in our discussion. The things I took from his story did lead me to believe high school can be a very cruel place.

While gays are much more commonly accepted in this day and age it is still taboo in many parts of the world. The South being one of the more taboo regions over the North, I asked Will to share his experience.

Were there any main differences in the South?

Will shook his head sarcastically and said, “Laughs, giggles, pointing, shouting slurs, or even getting physical. I would say a good example is the race relations in the South. While this occurred almost 60 years ago there is still tension today. Gay rights are nearly a decade old, there is still much work to be done.”

To wrap up my interview with Will I asked if he had any personal words or inspiration for the younger gay youth. I asked him to say just one thing he wishes someone had told him.

Will paused for a second and took a breath. He anxiously responded, “It’s okay to be gay. It’s okay for boys to wear pink. It’s okay for girls to wear blue. It’s okay to be yourself. Just always do what makes you happy.”

Phi Theta Kappa: A Step Towards Success

By Aurora Sant'Angelo
Growl Reporter



Last month Phi Theta Kappa members extended classrooms, encouraging new qualifiers to join the honor society. Phi Theta Kappa is an international honors society that happens to have its headquar-

ters in Jackson.

Leadership roles have changed on the campus this semester. Lisa Anglin, Antoine Gates, and Laura Canard have stepped forward to guide Phi Theta Kappa members. I had the opportunity to sit down and speak with Mrs. Anglin to explore her plans for Phi Theta Kappa, how she decided to become an advisor and more!

Discussing her decision to become an advisor, Mrs. Anglin shared that, "The dean and vice president asked me to, and I knew I was at a time in my personal life that I could commit the time for it. It's something I've always been interested in."

Knowing that this was a new experience for all of the advisors, I wanted to learn more about their team dynamics and what Mrs. Anglin enjoyed the most in working with them. Emphasizing that she loved working with her fellow advisors, and that they "all work well together," she added that Mr. Gates was organized and kept everyone grounded while, "Ms. Canard brings a lot of fun to our crew."

When asked about her plans for Phi Theta Kappa, she informed me that all the universities in Mississippi will be coming to discuss their schools and exclusive scholarships for Phi Theta Kappa members during the fall semester. There will be meetings about once a month.

I wanted to delve deeper and learn about someone that had used Phi Theta Kappa as a major stepping stone to success in hopes of providing readers a little inspiration.

Little did I know it would hit so close to home. Phi Theta Kappa is not only important to her at Holmes, it has made a difference to her family. Mrs. Anglin shared how her husband was a member of Phi Theta Kappa, and that he was able to attend college without going into debt. Phi Theta Kappa helped him on his journey through university, making it possible for him to attend a university, only having to pay the cost of room and board.

Mrs. Anglin explained that not only does it help with scholarships, "it also opens the doors for some leadership positions. Even if they're not an officer they can be extremely involved which would help with transferring." If you have freshman status, you may wish to become even more involved, pursuing an officer role the following year.

Every semester Phi Theta Kappa officers have a college project. This semester it is to "enhance social life." She explained that, "because we are a commuter campus, our students are wanting more social activity on campus." There are discussions about "utilizing green space on campus" as well possible "movie nights." While it's in the discussion stage and nothing has been confirmed, this could create an exciting opportunity for students to get to know one another better.

How do I get in and who qualifies?

Those that qualify will receive invitations in the spring, summer and fall through their peers during scheduled times as well as email. This semester's invites are at completion. The GPA for the initial invitation must be 3.5 or higher, so you're encouraged to join as soon as possible after you're invited. However, post joining you're allowed to maintain a 3.0.

There is a \$90 one-time fee that you will incur for joining. However, many will find this an easy decision to make, if they consider their future opportunities.



Pictured are Ridgeland Phi Theta Kappa officers and advisors. They are (front, left to right) Jacquelyn Seuser, Abby Wilkerson, Malik Smith, Chelsea Williams, (back, left to right) Advisor Lisa Anglin, Advisor Antoine Gates, Advisor Laura Canard, Josh Hinkle and Devin Brewer.

How could Phi Theta Kappa help me afford higher learning?

Although there's some difficulty matching out-of-state school's scholarships with the society, there is an abundance of potential scholarships available from Mississippi Universities for Phi Theta Kappa members transferring from a community college. The most generous scholarship is through Delta State, who offers Phi Theta Kappa students with at least a 3.25 GPA and that maintain that GPA over the course of their stay at DSU, the opportunity for free tuition.

Ole Miss and Mississippi State offer \$4000 a year in scholarships with a 3.25. Southern allows a one-time award of \$1000 for Phi Theta Kappa members who have kept their GPA at 3.25 or higher. The W offers \$2000 a semester for Phi Theta Kappa membership with a 3.0 or above. If you desire to stay close to home, Millsaps offers a \$20,000 grant. Another great local scholarship is through Mississippi College, who offers Phi Theta Kappa members who have a 3.5 or higher and that

maintain that GPA while at MC, \$8,500 a year.

Colleges have ever-changing criteria that may not match what is written above. These are potential offers discovered on their websites, they're not guaranteed and lack the fine print. For more information, restrictions, and rules regarding this potential assistance please visit their respective websites or contact an admission counselor at the school you're interested in attending.

Fundraising

Officers and Phi Theta Kappa advisors are selling cheese and sausage to raise money. Members can sell through Ms. Canard. If you're interested in treating yourself while supporting the honor society, now is the time to make a purchase! Orders and money will be taken until Nov. 1st. Please see Phi Theta Kappa advisor to order.

To learn more about the society please visit: <http://www.ptk.org>.

Let's call her Jane Doe

By Hannah Graves
Growl Reporter



Last week, Supreme Court Judge Nominee Brett Kavanaugh was interviewed about his involvement in sexual assault allegations from Dr. Christine Ford, a former high school acquaintance. This

week, the FBI is conducting an investigation as to the validity of her story along with three other women who have come forward. Pending the investigation of Kavanaugh's aggressive drinking habits and his attempt to rape Dr. Ford, if the FBI comes to the conclusion that not only Dr. Ford's allegations but also the three others are proven false, Brett Kavanaugh will be the next United States Supreme Court Judge.

Like the #MeToo movement, Dr. Ford's moving testimony has encouraged more women to come forward with their own stories. People often look past these articles and just continue to scroll on their laptop screens or cell phones because this doesn't have any "relevance" to them, they don't know these women in any way and only know what has been shared with the public about Kavanaugh. What if this was your mother . . . or sister, would you believe her testimony without a doubt in your mind it was true? In a recent article from the New York Times, a U.S. survey said one out of five women say they have been sexually assaulted. To make this clearer, think of five women in your life, whether it is your best friend, mother, aunt, grandmother, at least one of these women has been sexually assaulted at some point in their life.

These stories hit closer to home for me because I can name at least five women that I interact with on a daily basis that have shared their sexual assault stories. So I asked a friend of mine if we could sit down and I could interview her after work, since we had previously has a brief conversation about Brett Kavanaugh. I chose not to disclose names to maintain the privacy of my friend and her attackers as well. Let's call her Jane, Jane Doe. So I first asked Jane a few basic questions in the beginning. I asked how old she is now and how old she was when her sexual assault first began, she answered, "I am 37 years old, and I was 14 when it happened for the first time." Those words took me aback, to think a woman would have endured this assault not once, but three times. I asked her if it was okay for me to ask a few more questions about her first sexual assault before moving to the topic of Kavanaugh, and she said it was fine.

Jane seemed somber but unwilling to say she was uncomfortable talking about it. I asked her what her relationship was with her attackers because it has been proven that women are often attacked by someone they know. She answered, "We went to school together, and one of the guys I was "talking to," not dating but I was interested." Jane attended Yazoo County High School with her two attackers, which is what led to her finally sharing her story four years after the assault took place.

I asked her why she waited so long to tell someone and what prompted her to share her story after four years. Jane told me she confided in her principal at the time, she told me, "I wasn't where I was supposed to be, I had snuck out that night, and we were all hanging, and the next thing I knew I was being held down

in the back seat of my almost boyfriend's car. I don't even remember how I made it home." Sparing the details, Jane was raped. So what prompted her to finally tell someone of her attack? "It was senior year, and I had to take classes with these guys, and one day, as I walked past him, one of them said something vulgar alluding to the night they attacked me, so I took my history book and smacked him on the back of the head with it, causing him to hit his face on the desk and break a tooth and couple of cuts and bruises. The school was about to expel me for what I had done to him, as they assumed it was racially motivated, with the two guys that attacked me being black. The principal made my parents come, my dad had to come home from a business trip in Florida." Jane did not report her assault to the police.

I wanted to interview a woman who had been through a similar situation as Dr. Ford, I wanted this point of view on Kavanaugh. As a woman who has experienced sexual assault, I asked Jane's opinion of the case overall. "It really bothers me, because believing her should not be a question, I without a doubt believe Dr. Ford has been sexually assaulted by someone, the question is whether it was Kavanaugh or not. This situation only proves why women don't come forward, because they won't be believed, just like her. The publicity on this case and on sexual assault in general will only make it harder for women to come forward and share their stories. My heart is broken for those who were not believed because there are some women who are just crying wolf" So I went on to ask her if she thinks Kavanaugh will be the next Supreme Court Judge, her answer, "I KNOW Kavanaugh will be appointed." I also asked her if she has



Dr. Christine Ford

been following this story closely and how does Kavanaugh's agenda affect her. "Oh yeah, his agenda to reverse Roe v. Wade is going to do more harm than good. I may not completely agree with abortions, but this will only cause women to resort to back room abortions which will probably result in more deaths."

In closing, I asked Jane if she could say anything to people who are dealing with or still hiding their attacks what would she say? As she answered this final question I could see the tears welling up in her eyes, she said, "Tell someone, I wish I did. Sadly there is a statute of limitations and your attackers need to pay, justice needs to be served to those who hurt you."

Natural vs. Permed Hair

By Aurora Sant'Angelo
Growl Reporter



I will be giving my opinion on why going natural is more essential now a days. First I would like to say yes, going natural is going to be hard. Yes, you are going to want to go back

and get a perm again. DO NOT DO IT! Those chemicals in those perm kits damage your hair. It kills your hair. Why yes, it can be cute and bouncy, but it is also so unhealthy. Perms involve harsh chemicals that can affect your health in the long run. Going natural can be very expensive but it's really worth it. When you are doing your own hair, you learn a lot about it that you probably didn't know before. You

learn what your hair will do and won't do. Not everyone will know how to take care of their new transforming hair. You just need to find out what hairstyles you can do and then you'll see how much fun playing with your natural hair can be. When you have a perm in your hair, there are not that many things you can do. Yes, it can be a lot easier to just wrap your hair at night with a perm. With natural

hair, it can be a struggle to manage at night, with trying to see which hairstyle you want to do. However, while it'll be hard trying to perfect the cutest puff or the slickest slick-back ponytail, when it's time to head out, you'll see that it was all worth it. Just know that it doesn't always turn out how you want it, but it'll be fun doing it. Bottom line: Have fun with your hair and stop damaging it.

John the Legend

By Hannah Graves
Growl Reporter



On Sunday, Sept. 9, critically-acclaimed and multi-talented John Legend, best known for his singing and songwriting, made history. Legend was presented with an Emmy for his part in producing and acting

in "Jesus Christ Superstar Live in Concert," at the Creative Arts Emmy Awards. This award made Legend the first black man to reach EGOT status and he tied with Robert Lopez as being the youngest to receive this recognition. EGOT status

means that John has now been awarded an Emmy, a Grammy, an Oscar and a Tony. Legend now shares this status with talents such as Audrey Hepburn and Whoopi Goldberg. Some of John Legend's most popular songs are, "All of Me," "Love me Now," and "Made to Love," just to name a few. His works in the movie industry include soundtrack work on "Django Unchained" and "Beauty and the Beast." He was also an executive producer of the 2016 hit movie, "La La Land." Legend's talent is unparalleled at this point in the industry, as he became just one of 15 people with EGOT status. This is a major accomplishment for

not only Legend, but for the entire black community. Prestigious awards for music and cinema have only in recent years begun to truly recognize black actors, music artists, producers etc. Since 2016, prominent black actors and directors including Spike Lee and Will and Jada Smith, have been boycotting the Oscars because of their failure to recognize and award black artists and actors. Although, Whoopi Goldberg is another prominent black actor and producer that has received her EGOT status. Hopefully, moving forward from this major step for the black community, more black actors and artists will be fully recognized for their true talent and success, because I think we all can agree "Get

Out" wasn't funny enough to be in the comedy category for the 2017 Oscars.



John Legend

Rash of Inmate Deaths in Mississippi

By Aurora Sant'Angelo
Growl Reporter



Local and national news agencies have focused on the welfare of inmates throughout Mississippi as a spate of deaths, the majority having unknown causes, and it has created many questions. People want to be informed. The concerning number of deceased prisoners over the last month, 16 total, is almost a third of the deaths for the year of 2015. The Clarion Ledger's article, "One Month, Sixteen Dead" published a list of names and ages of those that died. Around a third were under the age of 40. CNN's "12 Mississippi Inmates Die in Custody this Month" revealed that there were 47 inmate deaths just a few years ago in 2015. Why is this number climbing at an alarming rate? Will the FBI investigate? Central Mississippi correctional facility, where five of the deaths have taken place,

has a history of controversy and allegations of unethical treatment. In April the New York Times posted a video accompanied by an article entitled, "Inside a Private Prison: Blood, Suicide and Poorly Paid Guards." The video depicts a seemingly pre-planned attack. Multiple prisoners rushed a man, relentlessly beating him until he fell to the ground unconscious. The video didn't show guards attempting to break up the fight while it was actively taking place. Although there was someone allegedly in control of the video, it was shared that it took officials approximately 30 minutes to appear. It begs the question of how often do inmates go physically unsupervised and have free run from their cells as well as the typical reaction time to break up fights. The article discusses that incentives were given when they were able to function without exceeding the budget. Alarmingly, the same courtesy was not extended for the inmates, as there allegedly weren't penalties if they were unfortunate enough to "die under questionable circumstances." The ACLU article, "East Mississippi

Correctional Facility is Hell on Earth" remarked on the lacking psychiatric and medical care provided. It highlighted the story of a prisoner with a history of mental illness and self-harm. After cutting himself, he let a staff member know of his desire to speak to the warden. Although he had blood on his arm, emergency assistance wasn't called immediately. By the time medical care had arrived, he was wasn't responding. Rather than rushing medical personnel to his aid, dogs were brought in first. The man had committed suicide by strangulation. In yet another article by the ACLU, "Civil Rights Groups Will Show Extreme Suffering, Abuse, and Neglect at East Mississippi Correctional Facility" its states that those who are segregated may spend all day in a small room with non-functioning light in unclean cells. Psychologically, it is accepted that isolation can increase depression. While having prisoners in isolation may be understandable in some cases, the lack of light can create an environment with the potential to worsen their

depression. How often is this happening?

As a college student, why should you care?

Most inmates will be released, eventually having the chance to blend into their community. If they're provided the proper psychiatric help and structure after they have served their time they will be able to transition back into society easier. We want them to experience improvement in their personal lives and how they manage their emotions and reactions. If you're treated in a sub-human manner that breeds a cycle of negativity and hostility towards other people, in particular, those of authority, how can we expect someone to develop into a healthy citizen? Living in inhumane conditions with the potential threat of unchecked violence and filth is not a reliable means of reforming someone. While a prison is to punish those that have committed crimes, it should not be the only focus in my opinion. I believe there needs to be humanity and reformation.

Rest in Peace Mac Miller

By Matthias Wilson
Growl Reporter



On Sept. 7, the music world was in shock to find out that beloved hip hop artist Mac Miller had passed away. Malcolm James McCormick, known to the music world as Mac Miller, was found dead in his Studio City, California home of a supposed drug overdose. Miller was a recovering drug addict stating once that he hated being sober. He was 26 and was an in-

fluence to people young and old. I personally started listening to Miller at the start of my high school journey; I have never stopped since and I am not the only one. People close to Miller called his personality infectious and genuine. To his fans like me it was carefree and inspiring. His music touched people in different ways and sometimes brought people to tears. He got personal and raw and to a young audience it was fresh and new. If you don't believe me, listen to his recently released album, "Swimming." In the wake of his break up with almost

great artist Ariana Grande he opened up and not only told the world, but also showed the world that it is okay to feel feelings after a break up. Miller's death opened everyone's eyes and has started a dialogue about drug abuse and depression; even artist J Cole posted a tweet urging his friends, famous or personal, to talk their problems and situations out instead of turning to drugs. Mac Miller will be missed by fans and loved ones alike.



Mac Miller

Campus Life At Holmes: Is Holmes Too Strict?

By Tiara Le'Flore
Goodman Editor



At Holmes Community College in Goodman, there are only so many things to do. For instance, we can go to class, hang out with friends, do homework, meet in the library for study groups and go off campus to do whatever. Sometimes we meet to do fun activities when it is advertised by the student activities director. The campus is usually dead the majority of the time. The Student Government Association does host some events, though, as does the Baptist Student Union. Problem is, when the Baptist Student Union hosts something, where do the students who don't have the same beliefs fit in?

On Wednesdays, most students go to parties off campus with no police protection, and honestly their parents don't even know where they are or where they have been. If we had more activities on campus that students would engage in it would be safer, and students' parents wouldn't have to

worry about where their child is.

What if there is a kidnapping or a car accident because a student was looking for something fun to do other than hang out in their dorm room all day. Everyone would be stuck asking themselves is there anything we could have done differently? Students without adult supervision are most likely to engage in activities that are dangerous.

After a long day of studying and being in class who wants to stay in the dorm and do nothing or wait until it's a football game. If the college had more things to do on campus it would attract other students in the future from seeing how much fun it is to be a Bulldog.

The majority of community colleges have curfew times; our curfew time is 12 a.m. if you are on campus or 1:30 a.m. if you are off campus. These times are understandable considering we do have class in the morning. For dormitory students, the cost for living on campus is \$3,080. At Holmes, we are not allowed to let the opposite sex inside of our rooms. The cost of living in a dorm room is \$700, and we aren't allowed to invite who we want inside of our dorms? We are reminded every

day that we are adults and that we need to start acting like it well I think it is time we are treated like it. It is so annoying that we can't allow guys inside of our rooms. Sometimes it is nice to just watch a movie or lay back and relax with someone who's your friend or a significant other.

If sex is the reason for this rule, the board should know that enforcing this rule isn't going to stop them. Who's to say they won't go off campus and do it? Protection should be encouraged, not keeping us apart. It wouldn't be

wrong to allow mixed genders in the same dorm room under curfew hours. After curfew hours the rule should be enforced, not during none curfew hours. At Hinds Community College, they allow mixed genders in the same room and their students are treated like adults. I think they get the picture. Even religious community colleges allow it; Holmes is way too strict. Intentions are not always immoral, sometimes they are innocent.



What Does Success Mean to You?

By Chloe Bland
Growl Reporter



Within society, the majority of the population's goal is to be successful. But

what is success? Everyone views success as completely different things. So out of curiosity, I asked students around the Holmes Goodman Campus, "What Does Success Mean to You?" These were their

responses. Quotes are followed by their name, class, and major of study.



"I define success as achieving what is most important to you." - Dustin Perry, freshman history major



"Nothing. It means nothing." - Jo Pohlig, sophomore art major



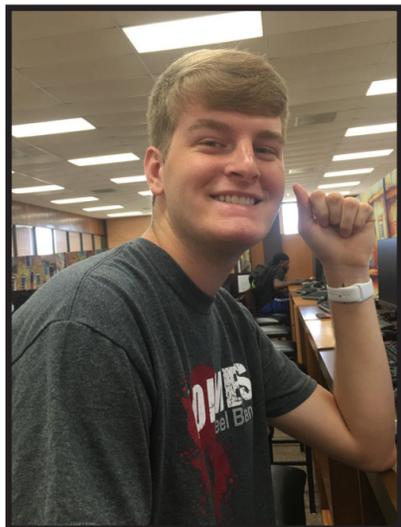
"Success is the gratification of the ending.." - Zach Kinnie, freshman psychology major



"Success is taking the correct path that God intended for you." - Josie White, sophomore music ed major



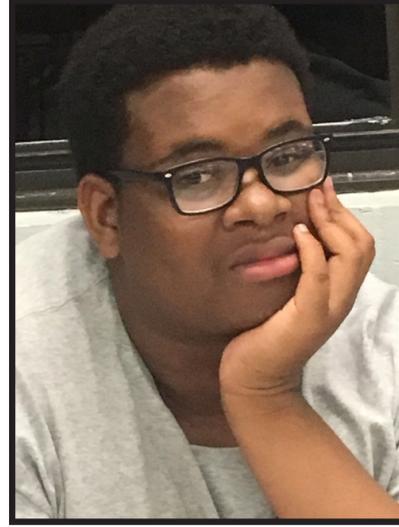
"Success is achieving your dreams." - Londyn Wells, freshman general studies major



"Success is accomplishing something in life." - Duston Jones, sophomore criminin



"Success is overcoming an obstacle instead of succumbing to it." - Ramadan Awad, freshman entertainment industry studies major



"It means you have made your goal that you set as your pathway during your childhood and you have become that doctor or rich man. You have made that goal possible, amen." - Milly Mayfield, freshman nursing major

The Beat of The Capitol

By Matthias Wilson
Growl Reporter



It is 2014 and I just got out of school early. While talking to my friends at my car I see this ad on Instagram about this comic book store on the north side of Jack-

son so I decided to go before Kappa League practice. I pulled up to this old publishing building in midtown and looked around as I made sure I had the right place. I walked into the store and I immediately heard Outkast playing. On a quick glance I saw comics on three big wooden bookshelves and two big banners in the middle of the store that read "Off-Beat." There were people sitting on couches talking about anime and superheroes. At that moment I knew I found a second home. Offbeat is an alternative culture

store that specializes in designer toys, graphic novels, records and art books. We are also an art gallery that showcases the work of young minority artists around the state. I say we because I have been working there since it opened back in 2014. Phillip Rollins is the owner and creator of Offbeat Jxn, and he has also been a mentor to me. Rollins, better known as DJ Young Venom, opened the store in 2014 and it has seen regular and famous people alike. The store has housed numerous local acts while celebrities come and soak up the experience; Big E and Xavier Woods from the WWE, David Banner and Pete Rock are just some of the big names to grace Offbeat. The store, in its short span, is quickly becoming a staple in Jackson and in Mississippi as a whole.

When I interviewed Rollins, it was more of friendly banter than a

professional Q&A but that is just the guy he is. We laughed when I called him Phillip instead of Venom. I asked him why he prefers to be called DJ over his real name and he said "Because I am growl," with a laugh. He continues to say that it gets people more relaxed when they come into the store.

"I can be intimidating sometimes to people that don't know me or that have never visited my store," he said. "When I introduce myself to people as Venom, they either recognize me from my old gig, or it makes me seem more approachable." Venom use to DJ all around Jackson with his biggest push being in Midtown. He has been a DJ for almost 15 years now and is one of my biggest inspirations.

Venom has also inspired a city of young creatives. Offbeat serves as also an art gallery and performance stage

from many up and coming artist in the city of Jackson.

"I just want to give these artist a means of showing their projects off without the fear of judgment," Venom said. "You never really know who the next big thing is, and I want Jackson to be the place to visit for it."

Offbeat has new art gallery pieces every month from local artist. This gives young artist the chance to display their masterpieces while also competing to get some more art work in the store. He also holds many events that showcases the different genres of music around Jackson. "Everyone is welcomed" venom said with a smile. He goes on to say that music is universal and that's how he wants people to look at his store.

Mississippi Legends: The Phantom Barber

By Samantha Miller
Growl Reporter



Let's say you wake up in the middle of the night and a strange man is in your room. Your first assumption is that he's there to hurt, rob or kill you right? But instead he just leaves and you realize that this

bizarre man has robbed some of your hair. In 1942, this happened to more than four women and girls in one of the most insane cases that has happened in Pascagoula.

No one could of even guessed what was about to happen in this small town. It all started with the girls who began it all, Edna Hydell and Mary Briggs, who woke up one night to find a man climbing out their window and each with a single strand of their hair missing. They both claim that he left too fast for either of them to get a good look at him but they were certain that the thief was a man.

The next victim was a six year old girl, Carol Peattie who suffered a very similar fate as the first two women while she was sound asleep next to her brother. Here he

left one of the few clues, a sandy footprint. The third attack was the first of violence, where he attacked Mr. and Mrs. Heidelberg with a crowbar. It is unclear why he became violent on this third attack and why he didn't take his usual prize. The last victim was Mrs. Taylor, from whom the barber took a little less violent approach and used chloroform before taking the hair.

The attacks were so random and strange that it is hard to pinpoint a rhyme or reason to the Barber's actions. The small town was now on edge and was quick to accuse anyone who looked guilty. William

Dolan, because of some small connections with one of the victims and a bundle of hair found behind his house, was accused of the crime. Even with the lack of evidence, he was charged with 10 years in prison. No one really knows if it really was Dolan or someone with bizarre intentions that we will never fully understand.

What is the Holmes Connection?

By Tiara Le'Flore
Goodman Editor



The Holmes Community College Connection! members are considered to be leaders on campus who set examples for their peers. The group is known for singing, dancing

and entertaining all groups. They are really talented and are passionate about what they do. The girls in the 2018 group include: Josie, Alana, Tiara, Katie, Lily Kate, Rachel, Lindsey and Emma. The boys are Luke, Davion, Jordan, Jaylon,

Gabe and Zae. The crew guys are the guys who set the stage, lights and music for the group and they are: John, Chris, Colby, Bailey, Gary and Carter. The Holmes Connection is under the direction of Mr. Mike Yates.

Connection! has been a success at Holmes for 25 years. This year the group will be having alumni night for the 25 year anniversary. The majority of the old members and this year's members will be coming together to celebrate their love for the shows they put on in the past. The group will be having a brunch on Homecoming to meet one another. Jaylon said, "He's very excit-

ed because he hasn't seen his friends in a long time, and is ready to catch up with old cast members." Emma added, "It's going to be great to meet the old cast members and being able to relate to them.

Mr. Yates has been the director of the Holmes Connection! since 2007. He said he is grateful to be able to connect with students and direct them in entertainment. This gives student time to find themselves in ways they thought they couldn't. Girls and guys gain confidence and learn to use their God-given talents. It also gives them friends and a family to love so that they won't feel

alone. "I feel like I've made friends that could last a lifetime in this group", said John. Tiara states that she absolutely loves everyone and that she never feels out of place being with her family. Connection will always bring comfort and fun to students.

The Holmes Connection performed on Oct. 20 in McDaniel Auditorium as part of Homecoming 2018. The group's show for this year is called "The Greatest Show." If you're in town or not come out to see a show that you won't forget. It's most definitely worth your time and it's free! Bring your family and your friends for this spectacular event.

Are you interested in having your work published? Do you love to take photos? Have a passion for writing? We need you! We would love to have you join our staff by signing up for JOU 1111 for the Spring of 2016. For more information, contact Mary Margaret Busby at: mbusby@holmescc.edu.

Homecoming (Continued from Front Page)

The Goodman Sophomore Maids were Brittany Bridges and Brianna Campbell. Bridges was escorted by Jaylon Townsend and Campbell was escorted by Paul McGraw. Goodman Freshman Maids were Tiara Le’Flore and Payton Pritchard. Le’Flore was escorted by Isaiah Miller and Pritchard was escorted by Britt Grace.

Ridgeland Campus court members included: Student Body Maid Victoria Alexander, escorted by Landon Kinney; Sophomore Maid Almeisha Amos escorted by Andrew Dean; Sophomore Maid Jesseca Bass escorted by Malik Smith; Freshman Maid Mackenzie Claire Mize escorted by Kyle Hansen and Freshman Maid Torrey Rayna Robinson escorted by Adam McDonal.

Members of the Grenada Campus court included: Student Body Maid Lexi Brown, escorted by Wyatt Cham-

bley; Sophomore Maid Catherine Pannell escorted by Cayden Hall; Sophomore Maid Anna Hood escorted by Tristan Anthony; Freshman Maid Ivey Devine escorted by Austin Hager and Freshman Maid Cass Sherman escorted by David Buchanan.

This year’s football game against Mississippi Delta Community College kicked off at 3 p.m. and the Bulldogs got a 34-14 win over the Trojans. Prior to kick-off, the Coachmen and Choral sang the national anthem and the Homecoming Honorees were recognized on the field and got to do the coin toss with the sophomore football captains.

Before game time, Homecoming activities began at 9:30 a.m. with a Holmes Connection! alumni brunch to celebrate 25 years. Jan Reid Bunch, who started Connection! in 1992 and

led the ensemble for 10 years, served as brunch hostess and later sang as part of the group’s performance.

At 11 a.m., Dr. Haffey recognized this year’s Alumnus of the Year, Frank Harris Shaw, Jr., along with Veteran of the Year Jack Holmes and Young Alumna of the Year Lily Fran McCrory during a special ceremony in McDaniel Auditorium. Distinguished Service Award recipient Danny Chandler was also recognized, although he was unable to attend the event.

Shortly after the recognition ceremony, the Coachman and Connection! performed in McDaniel and then the Choral and Coachmen performed in the Chapel on the Hill. Following the performance, the Homecoming Parade began at Cook Dorm and ended with a pep rally in the main parking lot.

Other events included a Visual Art

Department Open House, lunch in The Lorance Student Center and a visit from the Boswell Media “Cruisin for a Cure” breast cancer awareness truck, which attendees had the opportunity to sign. The steel band performed in the coliseum, as well.

“The Holmes family is a special group,” said Alumni Association President Gene Richardson. “The annual Holmes family reunion at Homecoming is always made even more special by each person’s presence.”

For more information about alumni events, please contact Alumni Coordinator Katherine Ellard at kellard@holmescc.edu.

Homecoming Day 2018



Connection! both past and present pose for a photo in McDaniel Auditorium.



The Coachmen and Choral perform the national anthem before kick-off.



Pictured are (left to right) Holmes President **Dr. Jim Haffey**, Veteran of the Year **Jack Holmes**, Young Alumna of the Year **Lily Fran McCrory** and Alumnus of the Year **Frank Shaw, Jr.**



Major (Holmes’ mascot) enjoys his leisure ride in the John Deere during the parade.



Holmes alumnus **Ethan Burton** stops for a photo with one his former instructors **Chad Moorer** at Homecoming 2018.



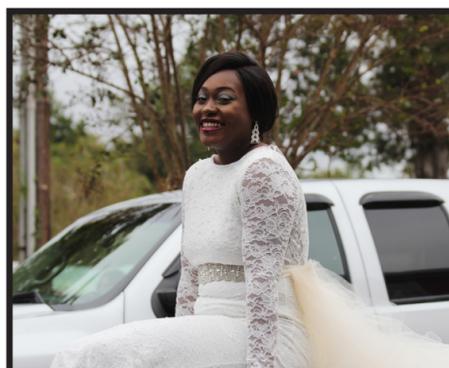
The marching band performs at halftime.



The Bulldogs football team beat the Mississippi Delta CC Trojans 34-14.



The cheerleaders pumped up the crowd during a pep rally.



Homecoming Queen **Anastasia Boston** is all smiles as she rides in the Homecoming Parade.



(left to right) **Asia Purvis** and **Stephanie Wood** show off some of the pumpkins at the breast cancer awareness tent.

Homecoming Court 2018



Pictured is **Christopher Nalls** escorting **Homecoming Queen Anastasia Boston**.



Pictured is **Loftin Price** escorting **Goodman Campus Student Body Maid Rylee Stone**.



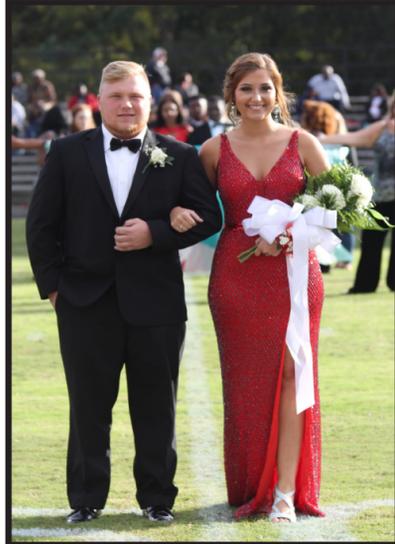
Pictured is **Ridgeland Campus Student Body Maid Victoria Alexander** with escort **Landon Kinney**.



Pictured is **Wyatt Chambley** escorting **Grenada Campus Student Body Maid Alexis Brown**.



Pictured is **Goodman Campus Sophomore Maid Brittany Bridges** with escort **Jaylon Townsend**.



Pictured is **Paul McGraw** escorting **Goodman Campus Sophomore Maid Brianna Campbell**.



Pictured is **Goodman Campus Freshman Maid Payton Prichard** with escort **Britt Grace**.



Pictured is **Isaiah Miller** escorting **Goodman Campus Freshman Maid Tiara Le'Flore**.



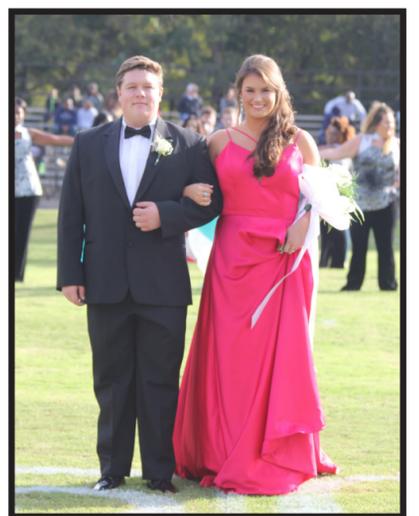
Pictured is **Ridgeland Campus Sophomore Maid Jesseca Bass** with escort **Malik Smith**.



Pictured is **Andrew Dean** escorting **Ridgeland Campus Sophomore Maid Almeisha Amos**.



Pictured is **Ridgeland Campus Freshman Maid Torrey Robinson** with escort **Adam McDonal**.



Pictured is **Kyle Hansen** escorting **Ridgeland Campus Freshman Maid Mackenzie Mize**.



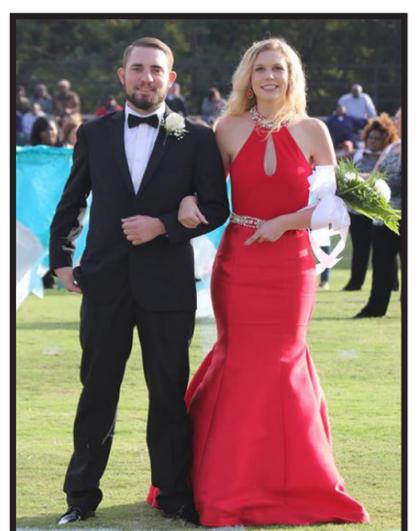
Pictured is **Grenada Campus Sophomore Maid Anna Hood** with escort **Tristan Anthony**.



Pictured is **Cayden Hall** escorting **Grenada Campus Sophomore Maid Catherine Pannell**.



Pictured is **Grenada Campus Freshman Maid Cass Sherman** with escort **David Buchanan**.



Pictured is **Austin Hager** escorting **Grenada Campus Freshman Maid Ivey Devine**.

Shaw named Alumnus of the Year

From Staff Reports/Photos



Frank Harris Shaw, Jr.

The Holmes Community College 2018 Alumnus of the Year recipient is Kosciusko native Frank Harris Shaw, Jr. Shaw graduated from Holmes in 1975. During his time as a student, he excelled

both on and off the field. He was an All-State defensive back for the Bulldogs, selected for the North State All-Star football team, a recipient of the Ras M. Branch Football Trophy, a member of the 1973 State Championship-winning track team and a Dean's List Scholar.

Upon graduation, Shaw continued his football career at Millsaps College. After Millsaps, he continued on to Mississippi State University where he earned a Bachelor of Science in 1976 and a Master of Education in 1978. In 1981, Shaw earned his Juris Doctorate from the Mississippi School of Law and entered the Air Force as a captain by direct appointment. Shaw served combined active and reserve for a total of 28 years of service, retiring as a Brigadier General with the Mississippi Air National Guard with numerous awards/decorations. Shaw was awarded the Legion of Merit and the Mississippi Magno-

lia Cross.

Shaw has been an attorney at law in Kosciusko since 1985. He has also served as an assistant and deputy staff judge advocate as well as the chief defense counsel for Headquarters U.S. Air Force Judiciary. Over the years, Shaw has been very active in his community. He has worked with Mississippi Emergency Operations Center to provide immediate and ongoing relief to thousands of coastal citizens during Hurricane Katrina, served as a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, remained active in the Veteran's Day and Memorial Day "Aisle of Honor" flag ceremony in Parkway Cemetery, served as a sponsor for numerous student activities in surrounding schools and a sponsor for the Holmes CC Development Foundation Golf Tournament.

Shaw has been named Outstanding Citizen of the Year by the Kosciusko Lions Club, received the American Legion

Commanders Award and is a life member of VFW and American Legion.

Shaw and his wife, Debbie, provide an endowment scholarship annually to someone interested in computer technology.

"It is important to utilize the opportunities to pay back what was given to me," Shaw said. "It is my way to contribute to those outlets that made me who I am today."

Shaw is very passionate about his experience at Holmes and committed to repaying the people that helped him get where he is today. Some of his closest friends are ones he met while attending Holmes and he still keeps up with them today - Donnie Sims, Dwight Myrick and Ricky Casey.

Shaw and his wife have three children: Paige Shaw McAdams, 29, Luke Shaw, 25, and Kurt Shaw, 21.

Chandler named Distinguished Service Award Recipient

From Staff Reports/Photos



Danny Chandler

The Holmes Community College 2018 Distinguished Service Award recipient is Danny R. Chandler of Madison.

A native of Columbus, Chandler attended Oakwood University in Tennessee right out of high school and earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics. Upon graduation, he continued his education at Mississippi State University with post-graduate studies in statistics. In 1989, Chandler came to Holmes and earned an Associate of Arts degree. A year later, he completed the Emergency Medical Technician certificate.

Chandler is thankful that Holmes helped lead him into a profession he has now worked in for 27 years. He is still severing as an EMT for American Medical Response in Jackson and surrounding areas.

Not only is Chandler an EMT, but he is also a licensed realtor for CPA Reality, LLC.

As a way to honor Holmes, Chandler has chosen to set up a scholarship in memory of his sister, Francine Chandler. She was interested in early childhood education and worked in childcare for more than 20 years. Before she could open her own daycare, she was diagnosed with an incurable brain cancer in the fall of 2003.

The Francine Chandler Childhood Education Scholarship (FCCES) was endowed this year. The scholarship will be awarded to a student majoring in child development who is an in-state resident with at least a 2.0 GPA.

Chandler is passionate about giving

back. He founded Mississippi Friends of Oakwood College United Supporters (FOCUS) in 1996 which is a \$50,000 scholarship program established to assist students from Mississippi who attend Oakwood University. So far, the program has supported more than 24 students. Chandler also implemented a \$50,000 campaign to remodel the Child Development Lab at Oakwood University which is now named in his honor.

He and his wife of 31 years, Reta, have one child: Daniel R. Chandler, 24, who is also a Holmes alumnus. Chandler is a member of South Central Conference Executive Committee, president of Rose Scott Neighborhood Association and serves on the Board at Oakwood University.

Holmes named Veteran of the Year

From Staff Reports/Photos



Cpt. Jack Holmes

Holmes Community College is proud to honor Cpt. Jack Holmes as the 2018 Veteran of the Year.

As a student at Holmes, the Sallis native was a member of the 1951 state championship baseball team and was also quarterback for the football team. His athletic achievements earned him membership in the H Club.

After completing his studies at Holmes, he transferred to Delta State University where he obtained a bachelor's degree. He also earned a master's degree from Mississippi State University.

Prior to working at Holmes, he served as a teacher and coach for John Rundle High School in Grenada. Holmes was also

an officer in the U.S. Marine Corps and worked as an insurance adjuster in the private sector.

He returned to Holmes in 1971 as supervisor for the Kosciusko Skill Center. He was named assistant director of the vocational-technical education on the Goodman Campus in 1983. In 1985, his title was changed to vice president of the Grenada Center and the library on the Grenada Campus was dedicated to him in 2014. He served 40 plus years with Holmes and after retirement, continued his service to the college as a liaison for the Development Foundation and a member of the Legacy Club.

In 2006, Holmes was Awarded Alum-

nus of the Year. His strong bonds and working relationships with business and industries in and around the City of Grenada have been extremely advantageous to the college, as well as his overseeing the enlargement of the Grenada Center's physical plant.

He resides in Kosciusko where he is an active contributor to the community. Holmes is a deacon and Sunday school director at First Baptist Church of Kosciusko and a former Boy Scout leader. He and his late wife, Margaret, have four children: Keith, Scott, Kirk and Kim.

McCrory named Young Alumna of the Year

From Staff Reports/Photos



Lily Fran McCrory

The Holmes Community College 2018 Young Alumna of the Year recipient is Lexington native Lily Fran McCrory.

The daughter of Frankie and Robin McCrory, she excelled at Holmes, graduating top of her class as a valedictorian and as a President's List scholar. McCrory was also the 2015 HEADWAE student of the year, a Phi Theta Kappa officer, a member of the Baptist Student Union, a member of Holmes Plus and voted Sophomore Class Favorite. In addition to serving as reporter for the Holmes Goodman chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, she was also the regional reporter for the honor society.

"I consider my two years at Holmes the best years of my life thus far," McCrory said. "If I could have stayed all four years at Holmes, there is no doubt that I would have stayed for the duration of my college career. In terms of preparation for medical school, Holmes thoroughly prepared me. In fact, I obtained all of my prerequisites for medical school at Holmes."

After Holmes, McCrory earned a Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences from Mississippi State University (MSU). She continued to achieve academic excellence while at MSU, earning a spot as valedictorian yet again (as 1 of 2,058 to earn this

designation). McCrory was involved in several prestigious honor societies, received the Stephen D. Lee Scholar Award and received the Holmes County Chamber of Commerce Excellence in Education Award.

"I am so grateful for the continued support of my Holmes instructors," McCrory said. "It is now 2018, and these instructors have continued to keep up with all that I have been doing since 2013. Each of my instructors saw my potential and pushed me not only to reach my full potential, but to strive to go above and beyond my full

(Continued on Page 11)

McCrorry named Young Alumna of the Year *(continued from Page 10)*

potential.”

Now McCrorry is attending medical school at the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC). She is currently an M2 and on schedule to graduate in 2021. McCrorry serves as liaison chair for her class and is involved in the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), American Medical Association (AMA), American Medical Women’s Association (AMWA), Family Medicine Interest Group (FMIG) and Mississippi State Med-

ical Association (MSMA). The Mississippi Rural Physicians Scholarship Program (MRPSP), which awards scholarships rural college students who aspire to return to their roots to practice medicine, awarded McCrorry \$120,000.

“Holmes County is a place that my family loves and has made great contributions to for decades,” McCrorry said. “I, like my family before me, would like to give back to my community in the form of healthcare. The citizens of Holmes County

have made an investment in me and my education and I would like to return this investment and serve as their primary care physician.”

McCrorry is thankful for the Holmes instructors who invested time in her and helped prepare her for medical school. To show her gratitude, she established The McCrorry Holmes Milestone Scholarship for students who are graduates of Central Holmes Christian School with a minimum cumulative 3.5 GPA. The recipients must

be full-time sophomores at Holmes.

“I encourage anyone who can to give back to your alma mater,” McCrorry said. “Age doesn’t matter, just do what you can, when you can. That way, other students will be afforded the same opportunities to obtain an education and make a difference in the world.”

Holmes celebrates POW/MIA Recognition Day

From Staff Reports/Photos



Pictured are (left to right) **Bill Moak**, 1st VP of VFW Auxiliary Post 1983; **Mandy Burrell**, Workforce Coordinator and Assistant Director of the Attala Center; **Charlene Gray**, President of VFW Auxiliary Post 1983; and **Dr. Jenny Jones**, Director of the Attala Center and Goodman Academic Dean.

Holmes Community College is proud to honor Kosciusko native Corporal James Cline Foster, Sr. (Class of ‘49) as the 2017 Veteran of the Year. The award will be presented on Oct. 21 during the Homecoming celebration

VFW Auxiliary Post 1983 of Kosciusko presented Holmes Community College with four POW-MIA flags on Thursday, Sept. 20, that were flown on Sept. 21 at the Holmes Attala Center, Goodman Campus, Ridgeland Campus and Grenada Campus. The third Friday of every September is always POW/MIA Recognition Day across the country, which happens to be 10 days after 9-11.

According to POW/MIA Day representatives, “Our loved ones who

perished on 9-11, we honor as victims of the war on terror. We should never forget them, just as we should never



Library hosts table at Mississippi Science Fest

From Staff Reports/Photos



Holmes Community College Libraries partnered with Mississippi State and Mississippi Makers to provide STEM education and access throughout the state. The libraries were invited to host a table for the Mississippi Science Fest at the Mississippi Children’s Museum in Jackson on Sept. 21. Their theme was

polymers and robotics, and the librarians shared technology readily available to Holmes students through McMorrough Library’s Makerspace. As many as 350 children, K-12 from 13 schools, learned about robotics, computer programming and 3-D printing.

(left) Pictured are (left to right) **Charles “Alex” O’Reilly**, a student worker for the Makerspace in the library, and librarian **Sarah Clay** representing the Holmes Library at Mississippi Science Fest.

‘Cruisin for a Cure’ truck makes stop at Attala Center

From Staff Reports/Photos



Holmes faculty and staff member show off their “Cruisin for a Cure” shirts.

Boswell Media’s “Cruisin for a Cure” truck made a stop at the Attala Center in Kosciusko last week promoting Breast Cancer Awareness in Attala and surrounding counties.

Students and staff from the Attala Center raised \$525 for the American

Cancer Society and were able to sign the pink 2018 Chevrolet crew cab truck provided by Franks Chevrolet and wrapped by Holt’s Body Shop, both in Kosciusko. The students in practical nursing, business and office technology, Ingalls, workforce and

MiBest participated in the event, along with faculty/staff from the Attala Center and from the Goodman and Ridgeland campuses.

Holmes retiree and Gale Sharp along with Patrice McCrorry and Willie Jean Olive took part in the event as breast cancer survivors.

Throughout the month, the pink “Cruisin for a Cure” truck will travel to local schools, events, and businesses in Attala, Leake, and Neshoba counties to raise money for Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Every penny of the money raised goes to the American Cancer Society.

The truck will also be in Goodman for Homecoming on Oct. 20. Donations will be accepted, and people will have the opportunity to sign the truck during Homecoming activities. The truck will also take part in the annual parade and pep rally just before kickoff

with Mississippi Delta at 3 p.m.

Other sponsors besides Holmes Community College include: Franks Chevrolet, Holt’s Body Shop, Fair Propane, Ivey Mechanical, Michelle Nicholson State Farm, Premier Medical Group of Mississippi, First Financial Bank and Entergy Mississippi.



Holmes cheerleaders pile in the back of the “Cruisin for a Cure” truck.

Creative Writing Class Travels to Meet Aspiring Author

By Samantha Miller
Growl Reporter



Pictured is William C. Moorer's Creative Writing class with (center) author David Joy.

On Thursday, Aug. 23, several members of the Holmes Goodman Campus Creative Writing class went on a fieldtrip to Oxford to attend a book reading and Q&A session with David Joy about new book, "The Line That Held Us." His editor and friend, Ace Atkins, was also part of the session. William C. Moorer, the class instructor, took his students to the event which was held at the famous Square Books in downtown Oxford. The trip was not only for entertainment purposes; it was also an opportunity for the creative

writing class to meet and hear the testimony of a published author.

Goodman Workforce offers community Excel/Outlook courses

From Staff Reports/Photos



The Holmes Community College Workforce Development Division is offering computer-related community classes this fall on the Goodman Campus. These classes, taught by Director of Library Services Jim Thompson, are for building/improving

on specific skills and do not count for college credit. Classes held Monday-Wednesday will meet in the Vo-Tech Building and Thursday classes in McMorrough Library. The fall courses include:

- Basic Excel, Oct. 22-30, Monday & Tuesday, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. (8 hours total), \$40
- Intermediate Excel, Oct. 31-Nov. 8, Wednesday & Thursday, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. (8 hours) \$40
- Outlook, Nov. 5-13, Monday & Tuesday, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. (8 hours), \$25
- Advanced Excel, Nov. 26-29, Monday-Thursday, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. (8 hours), \$40

Upon completion of the Basic Excel course, the student will be able to create a basic Excel worksheet; perform calculations in and modify a worksheet; modify the appearance of data within a worksheet; manage Excel workbooks and print the content of an Excel worksheet.

After completing the Intermediate Excel course, the student will be able to use advanced formulas; organize worksheet and table data using various techniques; create and modify charts; analyze data using PivotTables, Slicers and PivotCharts; insert and modify graphic objects in a worksheet and customize and enhance workbooks.

A student who completes the Outlook course will know how to navigate Outlook and perform basic email functions; compose messages and attach files; customize reading options and manage message responses; manage messages using tags, flags and folders; manage and print their calendar; manage appointments and

meetings and manage, create and update contacts.

Finally, a student who enrolls in and completes the Advanced Excel course will be able to enhance productivity and efficiency by streamlining the workflow; collaborate with other workbook users; audit worksheets; analyze data; work with multiple workbooks; import and export data and integrate Excel data with the web.

Space is limited in each course, so sign up as soon as possible.

For more information and/or to register, contact Mandy Burrell at mburrell@holmescc.edu.

Grenada Phi Theta Kappa promotes Think and Drive Awareness

From Staff Reports/Photos



The City of Grenada declared Oct. 8-12 as "Think and Drive Awareness Week." The Alpha Mu Beta Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa decided to celebrate this week and help bring awareness to the dangers of hands-free technology in vehicles.

Phi Theta Kappa members set up a booth on campus Oct. 9-10 to encourage students to sign a pledge saying they will not use any technology - including hands-free technology - while driving. Those not on the Grenada Campus interested in signing the pledge can visit the website <https://www.ipetitions.com/petition/think-and-drive> to sign it.

www.ipetitions.com/petition/think-and-drive to sign it.

"We encourage students, faculty, staff and the community to sign this important pledge," said Phi Theta Kappa Advisor/Student Activities Director Cynthia Abel. "We appreciate everyone supporting our project!"

Ridgeland Campus to hold Breast Cancer Awareness Week

From Staff Reports/Photos

The Holmes Ridgeland Campus Education Association is hosting a Breast Cancer Awareness Week Oct. 22 - 26.

"We have three great events scheduled for next week and want to encourage everyone to participate," said Education Association President Sandra Hultz.

First, on Tuesday, Oct. 23, the association will host a PINK Reception in the Library Conference Room from 2-3 p.m. On Wednesday, Oct. 24, everyone is encouraged to wear blue jeans and a pink top.

Finally, on Thursday, Oct. 25, the as-

sociation is sponsoring a Breast Cancer Walk around Campus. All participants should meet at the Ridgeland Hall flagpole at 2 p.m.

The Educational Association (formerly known as the Faculty Association) is open to staff, faculty and administration. The organization recently elected officers, and the new team includes: Sandra Hultz, president; Dr. Amy Wolgamott, vice president; Arnetra Pleas, secretary and Michelle Dancy, treasurer.

Anyone interested in joining must fill out an application and turn it in by

Nov. 2. Any Ridgeland Campus employees who did not receive one may email Sandra Hultz (shultz@holmescc.edu) or Amy Wolgamott (awolgamott@holmescc.edu) to get one.

The Breast Cancer Awareness Week is just one of the many events the association is holding. Don't forget your pink next week!

Ready...Set...Go...

PINK

Holmes Community College
Education Association

Breast Cancer Awareness Week

Tuesday, October 23, 2:00pm - 3:00pm
PINK Reception, Library Conference Room

Wednesday, October 24
Denim Day: Wear blue jeans and pink

Thursday, October 25, 2:00pm
Breast Cancer Walk around Campus
Meet at the Ridgeland Hall flagpole

Make plans now to participate

Ridgeland Campus holds Voter Registration Drive

From Staff Reports/Photos



The History and Political Science Department hosted a voter registration drive Sept. 18-19, and stations were also set up in the following days. Voter Registration forms were provided for any students or faculty who have not registered to vote and are residents of

(left) History/political science instructor **Kay Kelly** and History/philosophy/Bible instructor **J.R. Hall** talked to numerous students and even got 92 registered to vote.

Mississippi. On the Ridgeland Campus, a total of 92 students registered to vote. Six counties were represented: Madison County, 51; Rankin County, 19; Hinds County, 19; Yazoo County, 1; Holmes County, 1 and Scott County, 1.

(right) **Darius Davis** and **Adam McDonal** register to vote at a table set up in Adcock Library on the Ridgeland Campus.



Holmes students participate in C Spire Gaming event

From Staff Reports/Photos



Gaming Club and HAVOC members gather together at the C Spire Gaming Tournament.

Members of the Holmes Community College Gaming Club from the Goodman Campus and HAVOC, Holmes Allied Video and Online Club, from the Ridgeland

Campus participated in a half-day gaming tournament (CSG 1.10) and fellowship event at C Spire Headquarters in Ridgeland on Saturday, Sept. 15.

“We started our gaming club last year in an attempt to build a community around a hobby so many of our employees enjoy,” said C Spire Corporate Recruiter Cole Cochran. “We meet for six hours one Saturday a month, crush some pizza and game in C Spire’s low-latency fiber environment. One of our goals is to hold tournaments around Mississippi with a culminating event in the Jackson area. To build towards that, we want to create connections within the gaming communities around Mississippi.”

The Holmes Gaming Club meets on Sunday nights at 6 p.m. in the CCN Room of McMorrough Library. This club is for any students who enjoy video game, card games, board games, etc., and is sponsored by Director of Library Services Jim Thompson.

“Holmes Gaming Club of Goodman had the opportunity to play with and against

our HAVOC gaming club counterparts from the Ridgeland Campus on Saturday,” Thompson said. “We had a great time and plan to come back and compete there on a monthly basis!”

HAVOC meets in the Adcock Library Conference Room on the Ridgeland Campus the second and last Thursday (of the month) afternoon at 1 p.m.

Multimedia/Web Specialist Barin von Foregger sponsors the club.

“We have an energetic group of creative thinkers in HAVOC ... a group that loves art, gaming and film making,” von Foregger said. “The C Spire Gaming event is an outstanding opportunity for these students to talk and play games with industry professionals, as well as other students from around the Metro.”

Microbiology class tours Lucky Town Brewery

From Staff Reports/Photos



Pictured is (far left) Biological Sciences instructor **Antoine Gates** with his Microbiology class at Lucky Town Brewery.

Biological Sciences instructor Antoine Gates took learning outside the classroom on Sept. 27 and let his Ridgeland Campus Microbiology class see first-hand how the process of fermentation works at Lucky Town Brewery in downtown Jackson.

(right) Ridgeland Academic Dean **Dr. Tonya Lawrence** and Biological Sciences instructor **Antoine Gates** enjoy the tour with one of the brewmasters.



Goodman Campus holds Transfer Fair

From Staff Reports/Photos



Deanna Graves from William Carey University speaks with a Holmes student.

Twenty colleges and universities were on hand for the Goodman Campus University Transfer Fair on Wednesday, Oct. 17. In attendance were: The University of Southern Mississippi, Mississippi State University/Recruiting, Blue Mountain, Rust College, William Carey University, Louisiana State University, University of Mississippi Medical Center/School of Health Related Professions, The University of Mississippi/Recruiting, The University of Mississippi/Grenada Campus, Jackson State University/Recruiting, Jackson State University/School of Lifelong Learning, Millsaps College, University of West Alabama, Belhaven University,

Alcorn State University, Mississippi University for Women, Army National Guard, Delta State University / Recruiting, The University of Alabama and Mississippi College.



Hannah Pierce from Mississippi State University speaks with a Holmes student.

Bobby Eugene and JoAnn Robertson Killebrew Memorial Scholarship created at Holmes

From Staff Reports/Photos



A scholarship honoring the late Bobby Eugene and JoAnn Robertson Killebrew is being established at Holmes Community College. The Killebrews lived in Durant until 1976, and thereafter in Forest before Mrs. Killebrew passed away in 2013 and Mr. Killebrew in 2016.

Mr. Killebrew served in several management positions for Textron, Inc., in Durant and Morton and for McCarty Farms in Forest, and as vice president of processing for Green Acres Farms, Inc. Mrs. Killebrew worked at the Durant and Forest Municipal School

Districts. Both were tireless supporters of education in Mississippi—both in the public schools and in higher education. Bobby was an alumnus of Holmes and Mississippi State University, and JoAnn was an alumna of MSU.

The Bobby Eugene and JoAnn Robertson Killebrew Memorial Scholarship is being initiated by Karan Killebrew Clark and Eric Clark. An endowment is being created that will honor the Killebrews in perpetuity. The principal will remain intact and only the earnings will be spent. Recip-

ients will be chosen based on scholarship, good citizenship, and need.

Anyone who wishes to contribute to the scholarship is invited to do so. Please send a contribution to: Holmes Community College Development Foundation, P. O. Box 527, Goodman, MS 39079, and designate Bobby and JoAnn Killebrew Scholarship Fund.

Financial Aid continues FAFSA completion efforts in area high schools

From Staff Reports/Photos



The Financial Aid Office kicked off fall FAFSA completion efforts beginning Oct. 4. Volunteers go into District high schools and assist students and parents with FAFSA completion.

The remaining fall schedule includes: Oct. 23, Kosciusko High School, noon-6 p.m. and Grenada High School, 9:30

a.m.-4 p.m.; Oct. 25, Winona High School, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Oct. 30, Ethel High School, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and Holmes County Central High School, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; Nov. 1, Central Holmes Christian School, 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m.; Nov. 6, Yazoo City High School, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.; Nov. 8, Winona Christian School, 3:30-6 p.m.;

Nov. 13, Choctaw County High School, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

Fall Makeup Yearbook Photos scheduled for November

From Staff Reports/Photos



Matt Sweeney with N Focus Photography will return to Holmes Community College in November for fall makeup yearbook photos. He will be on the Goodman Campus on Wednesday, Nov. 7, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Lorance Student Center. Next, they will be in Grenada on Thursday, Nov. 8 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Corey Forum. Finally, they will finish up fall photos on the Ridgeland Campus on Tuesday, Nov. 13, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Student Union.

In addition to serving as yearbook portraits, these photos will be available to faculty and staff for personal use. For any questions about yearbook photos, contact Mary Margaret Busby at mbsusy@holmescc.edu.

Rotoract raffle underway to benefit The Home Place

From Staff Reports/Photos



Members of the Holmes Community College Ridgeland Campus Rotoract Club are selling raffle tickets to benefit The Angel Tree, a service project benefitting The Home Place Senior Center in Madison. Funds will be used to purchase Christmas presents in December 2018 from The Home Place residents' wish lists.

(left) Pictured are Angel Tree gifts Rotoract donated to The Home Place the first year they started this project.

Raffle tickets are \$3 each or 2 for \$5 and will give those who purchase them a chance to win a meal for six (3-pound poppyseed chicken, a grab-and-go salad, and a dozen chocolate chip cookies), worth \$60. Tickets must be purchased by Oct. 29 and the drawing will take place on Oct. 31 at 2 p.m.

Rotoract is a service organization composed of Holmes Ridgeland students who conduct projects each year benefitting Madison County. Raffle tickets may be

purchased from any Rotoract member or from Jennifer Smith, assistant librarian for Holmes Adcock Library.

Contact Jennifer at (601) 305-3303 or jensmith@holmescc.edu for more information.

Alumni Association to participate in Chili Cook-Off Cancer Benefit

From Staff Reports/Photos



The Holmes Community College Alumni Association will have a tent at the Chili Cook-off on Court Square in Kosciusko on Saturday, Oct. 27, from 10 a.m.- 1 p.m. The Cook-Off is part of an event the American Cancer Society is doing in conjunction with Kosciusko Main Street's Annual Fall Festival.

The Alumni Association team will participate by preparing a pot of chili and

setting up a tent on site the morning of the event to serve it.

The American Cancer Society will be selling all-you-can-eat chili wrist bands for \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids. The Alumni Association will post details about their exact location on the Alumni Facebook page and in an email blast. There will be a survivor and caregiver judges and the best chili will win a trophy.

For more information about the event, contact Alumni Coordinator Katherine Ellard at kellard@holmescc.edu.

Faculty and Staff recognized at Opening Convocation

From Staff Reports/Photos

On Monday, Aug. 6, Holmes Community College celebrated the upcoming 2018-2019 school year with a “Running of the Bull(dogs)” themed Opening Convocation on the Goodman Campus. The day included: a breakfast social, a mechanical bull riding competition, an introduction of new employees, a president’s message, break-out sessions and recognition of those who have reached milestones for their years of service to Holmes.



Pictured (above) are employees recognized for 20 years of service with the college. They are (front, left to right) **Jean Powers, Tammy Collins, Dr. Tommy Garrett, Donna Josey, Trent Little**, (back, left to right) **Steve Diffey, Steven Groves and Jesse Nichols**.



Holmes President **Dr. Jim Haffey** welcomes everyone back for the 2018-19 school year, dressed to go with the “Running of the Bull(dogs)” theme.



Pictured (above, left to right) are **Maria Edwards and Joe David White**, recognized for 30 years.



Pictured (above) are employees recognized for 15 years of service with the college. They are (front, left to right) **Tess Crenshaw, Bertha White, Dr. Angela Crain, Shae Wang**, (back, left to right) **Gee-Wei Lee, Dr. Don Burnham, Jeffrey Cotten, Dr. Jim Haffey and Dr. Andrew Kelly**. Not pictured: Willie Chambers and Michelle Dancy.



Human Resources Director **Julia Brown** introduces new employees during Opening Convocation.



Pictured (above) is **Angie Blain**, who was recognized for 25 years of service with the college.



Pictured (above) are employees recognized for 10 years of service with the college. They are (front, left to right) **Kana Williams, Judy Smith, Angela Boyd, Heather Jones, Nancy Parkerson, Bryant Crayton, John Byars, Willie Roby, Debbie Harville, Mark Galtelli, Jearlean Smith**, (back, left to right) **John McCoy, Erin Renfro, Judy Hemphill, Darleen Dozier, Lee Harmon, Jason Harrison, Judy Burrell, Ryan Beggs, Jacqueline Bell, Dr. Donna Banks, Carlos Andrews, Jami-lah Andrews, Dean Savage and Diann Parker**. Not pictured: Dr. Jackie Hale.



Cpt. Jack Holmes leads the Pledge of Allegiance prior to Opening Convocation.



Pictured (above) are employees recognized for five years of service with the college. They are (front, left to right) **Robert Green, Dr. Lakesia Sutton, Dr. Tiffany Cox, David Jones, Jay Wilson, Dr. Amy Wolgamott, Marty Lawrence**, (back, left to right) **Jim Thompson, Larry Lipsey, Kathryn Cox, Norman Faulkner, Lisa Davis and David Hill**.



Pictured (above) are new employees. They are (front, left to right) **DeNondrea Sims, NeKeisha Johnson, Lindsey Harville, Daphne Higgins, Jamie Sample, Dees Britt, Heather Rozier, Karisa Coleman, Ginny Ables**, (back, left to right) **Elizah Brooks, Sky Logan, Don Yanowsky, Chris Busbea, William Fitts, Casey Caldwell, Dasary Samuel, William Devore, Cob Summers, Derrius Bell, Kris Wilson, Ryne Smith and Brad Bustle**. Not pictured: Nacole Adams, Amber Clay, Maheshwar Ghimire, Vivian McGee and Kassidy Winstead.



Pictured is Director of Communications/Associate Athletic Director for External Relations **Steve Diffey** taking his turn on the bull.



Pictured is new employee, **NeKeisha Johnson**, administrative assistant for the Counseling Center, giving the mechanical bull a go.



Pictured are eLearning staff members (left to right) **Tish Stewart, Nancy Parkerson, Taylor Yarbrough, Alan Kinsey, Chanda Sykes and Heather Guest**.



Pictured is Vice President of Career-Technical Education **Dr. Amy Whittington** leading one of the break-out sessions on customer service.

Lady Bulldogs lose battle with Gulf Coast in MACJC semifinals

From Staff Reports/Photos



Pictured is the 2018 Lady Bulldogs soccer team. Pictured are (front, left to right) Assistant Women's Coach/Associate Men's Coach **Ousmane Coulibaly**, Associate Women's Coach/Assistant Men's Coach **Wesley Noble**, **Kaitlyn Goza**, **Kimberly Urquia**, **Anna King**, **Bailey O'Connor**, **Morgan McKinion**, **Nikki De La Garza**, **McKenzie Sims**, **Sarah Chastain**, **Head Coach Matt Convertino**, Athletic Trainer **Keith Comish**, (middle, left to right) manager **Alyssa Madrid**, **Zoe Ellis**, **Brookelyn Cramer**, **Ja'Laycia Brown**, **Caseigh Hickman**, **Leggett Steed**, **Cheyla Watkins**, **Rosa Quintero**, **Halleigh Steed**, manager **Bailee Grace Gregg**, (back row, left to right) **Peyton Montgomery**, **Isabella Wade**, **Angel Cummings**, **Alysia Terry**, **Pepper Ann Filbert**, **Jazmin Roman**, **Madison Lee** and **Monica Stieh**. Not pictured: **Kya Davis**.

After running through their 2018 regular season schedule unblemished, the No. 10 ranked Holmes Lady Bulldogs found themselves in great position

heading into the MACJC State Tournament semifinals Saturday vs. Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College at Jones College.

Holmes had defeated Gulf Coast, 4-3, in a match in the regular season that went to overtime. Saturday's match was no different except for the result as Holmes and Gulf Coast went 110 minutes (90 minutes in regular time and two 10-minute OT periods) and penalty kicks before Gulf Coast came out with a 4-2 PK advantage advancing them to today's state title match with Jones.

With the loss, the Lady Bulldogs ended the season at 15-0-1. Sophomores **Morgan McKinion**, **Bailey O'Connor**, **Cheyla Watkins**, **Madison Lee**, **Brookelyn Cramer**, **Pepper Ann Filbert**, **Nikki De La Garza**, **McKenzie Sims**, **Monica Stieh**, **Kaitlyn Goza**, **Jazmin Roman**, **Rosa Quintero** and **Sarah Chastain** played their final games at Holmes. The sophomores finished their two years with two North

Division championships, a MACJC/Region XXIII runner-up trophy and a No. 1 seed heading into this year's state tournament.

Holmes had two goals called back in the match. The Lady Bulldogs were called for offsides in the second half and called for a foul on a free kick that took away a header from **Chastain**.

During the penalty kicks, Associate Head Coach **Wesley Noble** called on **Peyton Montgomery**, **Brookelyn Cramer**, **Pepper Ann Filbert**, **McKenzie Sims** and **Zoe Ellis** to attempt the shots. The teams swapped PKs on the first two attempts with both teams making their attempts as **Montgomery** and **Cramer** took the shot for Holmes. Gulf Coast made their third attempt, but **Filbert** missed giving Gulf Coast the one PK advantage. Gulf Coast then made their fourth attempt, but an attempt by **Sims** was no good sealing the match for Gulf Coast. **Ellis** did not get to attempt her shot.

Holmes welcomes new softball coaches

From Staff Reports/Photos



Christa Childress

Holmes didn't have to look far in finding its next head softball coach as Poplar Bluff, Missouri native **Christa Childress** has been named to the position. She replaced longtime head coach **Ricky Casey**, who retired this summer.

"I am very excited to have the opportunity to be the head softball coach at Holmes," **Childress** said. "The administration, faculty and staff at Holmes are excellent and have made



Karisa Coleman

me feel at home here since day one. The family environment along with my passion for softball make this a dream come true for me to be able to lead the Lady Bulldogs."

Childress served as the assistant coach at Holmes during the 2017-18 season. For two years prior to coming to Holmes, **Childress** has taught business courses at **Neelyville High School** in **Neelyville, Missouri**. She served as the **Future Business Leaders of Amer-**

ica advisor and had 60 students in the group doing fundraising, community service work, and competing against other schools in different business subjects. She did not coach at **Neelyville** but did coach the **Clearwater Lakers** traveling teams for 16 and 18-year olds.

Before going to **Neelyville**, **Childress** served as either head coach or assistant coach at **Three Rivers College** in **Missouri** for 17 years. She and her father, **Jack**, amassed 592 wins and five **Missouri Community College Athletic Conference Championships** playing in **Region 16**. During her last five years at **Three Rivers**, the team averaged 40 wins per year, won three titles and held a team GPA of over 3.0. **Three Rivers** had 13 **Academic All Americans**. Along with her coaching duties she taught accounting courses at **Three Rivers**, both online and traditional. Over the years, they **Childress** and her father coached the women's basketball and volleyball teams.

"Coach **Casey** has built a solid program both on the field and in the classroom that I will strive to maintain and build on," **Childress** said. "I plan to continue working the players hard

with a positive attitude and recruiting quality players."

Holmes softball is recognized each year by the **MACJC** and the **NJCAA** for their team GPA. The softball team prides itself on having a good GPA and receiving this award. The players depend on each other for study hall and any tutoring that needs to be done so their GPAs will remain at the highest possible.

"The ultimate goal for all of our athletes is to obtain a degree," **Childress** said. "We want each of these young ladies to become successful working adults within their communities. The Lady Bulldogs have excellent performance in the classroom, and I plan to implement all of the programs Coach **Casey** had in place and continue this performance."

Childress has a B.S. in accounting from **Arkansas State University** and a B.S. in elementary education from **Southeast Missouri State University**. She also has an MBA from **William Woods University**. She has two grown sons, **Tyler** and **Trent Albright**. They both reside in **Missouri**.

(Continued on Page 17)

Soccer teams hold Sophomore Day on Oct. 15

From Staff Reports/Photos



On Oct. 15, the sophomore Lady Bulldogs were recognized following the 3-0 win over the Northwest Mississippi Community College Lady Rangers. Pictured are (front, left to right) **Cheyla Watkins**, **Brookelyn Cramer**, **Nikki De La Garza**, **Bailey O'Connor**, **Morgan McKinion**, **Jazmin Roman**, **Madison Lee**, **Rosa Quintero**, (back row, left to right) Volunteer Assistant Coach **Jaylon Robinson**, **Kaitlyn Goza**, **Sarah Chastain**, **Pepper Ann Filbert**, **McKenzie Sims**, **Monica Stieh**, Associate Head Women's Coach/Assistant Men's Coach **Wesley Noble** and Head Coach **Matt Convertino**.



On Oct. 15, the sophomore men's soccer players were recognized following a 1-1 tie with the Northwest Mississippi Community College Rangers. Pictured are (left to right) Goalkeeper Coach **Humerto Pelaez**, Associate head Men's Coach/Assistant Women's Coach **Ousmane Coulibaly**, Manager **Cristian Torrance**, **Braden Strickland**, **Dalton "D.J." Mailman**, **Noah Scheider**, **Khaleel Wilson**, **Luis Jimenez**, **Juan Rodriguez**, **Yoel Bacallao**, **Joshua Hinkle**, **Logan Howard**, **Henry Salamanca**, **Bennett Crain** and Head Coach **Matt Convertino**.

Bulldogs to fall to Jones in MACJC/Region quarterfinals

From Staff Reports/Photos



Pictured is the 2018 Bulldogs men's soccer team. Pictured are (front, left to right) Associate Women's Coach/Assistant Men's Coach **Wesley Noble**, Assistant Women's Coach/Associate Men's Coach **Ousmane Coulibaly**, **Noah Scheider**, manager **Cristian Torrance**, **Skylar Cunningham**, **Colby Fair**, **Jorge Ulloa**, **Henry Salamanca**, **Head Coach Matt Convertino**, Athletic Trainer **Keith Comish**, (middle, left to right) **Juan Rodriguez**, **Michael Jacobs**, **Braden Strickland**, **Joshua Hinkle**, **Harrison Hodge**, **Brandon King**, **Zachary McCullough**, **Ranulfo Juarez Jr.**, **Logan Howard**, **Juan Molina**, **Osbaldo Gaytan**, (back row, left to right) **Jarrett McHenry**, **Dalton Mailman**, **Spencer Reinhardt**, **Luis Jimenez**, **Reed Salter**, **Corban Williams**, **Jeremy Giles**, **Yoel Bacallao**, **Khalee Wilson** and **Luis Oseguera** Not pictured: **Bennett Crain** and **Kyler Tingley**.

The 2018 season came to a close for the Holmes Bulldogs in the MACJC State Tournament quarterfinals on Oct. 18, as the Bulldogs fell to Jones County Junior College, 7-0.

With the loss, the Bulldogs ended the season at 4-10-1. **Joshua Hinkle**, **Yoel Bacallao**, **Logan Howard**, **Henry Salamanca**, **Juan Rodriguez**, **Khalee Wilson**, **Luis Jimenez**, **Noah Scheider**, **Dalton Mailman**, **Braden Strickland** and **Bennett Crain** played their last games as Bulldogs.

Jones scored first in the contest on a penalty kick in the 11th minute to go up 1-0. The Bobcats scored again the 14th minute to go up 2-0 at halftime.

The Bobcats scored just after halftime in the 49th minute to make it 3-0. The lead went to 5-0 in the 53rd and 55th minutes on two goals. Jones added their final goals in the 59th and 77th minutes to round out the scoring on the day.

Prior to the match against Jones, Holmes won their last two of three games.

"We are very proud of the guys for all the hard work they put in, their dedication and perseverance even when things were not going our way," Associate Head Coach **Ousmane Coulibaly** said. "The togetherness, team spirit that the players were able to create and the belief they had in the program and each other is what allowed them to finish the regular season so strong."

The Bulldogs faced obstacles in the preseason and during the season due to injuries. The Bulldogs fought through the injuries and eventually got several players back who played a big role in the late season turnaround.

"We had several key players injured early in the season and that did affect how we performed," Coulibaly said. "Getting most of them back definitely helped us make the late run and qualify for the playoffs."

Head Coach **Matt Convertino** said making the playoffs was a great achievement. "Making the playoffs was one of their goals during preseason so it is a 'Mission Accomplished'."

Ridgeland Campus fills the bleachers for White-Out Game

From Staff Reports/Photos

Holmes soccer in conjunction with the Ridgeland Student Government Association (SGA), hosted a Whiteout, "Fill the Bleachers" game day on Oct. 9. Students, faculty and staff came to watch the Bulldogs play the East Central Community College Warriors at home.

During halftime of the women's game, the crowd had a chance to meet the Ridgeland Campus Homecoming Court. The day also included free popcorn and sno cones courtesy of SGA; a chance to catch free t-shirts from the cheerleaders, an opportunity to mingle with Major and a chance to win soccer gear during halftime of the men's game.



Student Activities Director **Amanda Lindsey** serves sno cones with SGA members (left to right) **Victoria Alexander**, **Macy Gordy**, **Christy Griffith** and **Mackenzie Mize**.



Sophomore defender **Khalee Wilson** heads the ball during the men's game as fans decked out in their white look on.



Holmes cheerleader **Ana Posey Jones** tosses t-shirts to the crowd at the White Out Game.

Holmes welcomes new softball coaches (continued from page 16)

Joining the softball program as an assistant coach is one of Childress' former players at Three Rivers, Poplar Bluff, Missouri native **Karisa Coleman**.

Coleman is a 2018 graduate of Blue Mountain College with a bachelor's degree in psychology. Prior to Blue Mountain, while playing softball for Coach **Childress** at Three Rivers

Community College, she led the team in on-base percentage and received the Leadership Award and the Most Improved Award. She not only excelled on the field she was also named to the Dean's List.

Coach **Coleman** will coach first base, be in charge of the outfield, weight training, and manage all hitting for slappers. She will bring positive

youthful enthusiasm to the Lady Bulldogs team.

At Three Rivers **Coleman** led by example and through team bonding activities. Coach **Childress** said that while **Karisa** played for her it didn't matter what the task was she took it on with a smile and was an inspiration for her teammates. She looks for these qualities to enhance and improve the

Lady Bulldogs.

"**Karisa** is an excellent motivator on and off the field," **Childress** said. "She has a positive uplifting personality and knows the hard work it takes both on the field and in the classroom. She will be an excellent role model."

Coach Flanigan enters 10th season ready to win

By **Nykeem Liddell**
Growl Reporter



Jason Flanigan

Coach **Jason Flanigan** is entering his 10th season as the head men's basketball coach at Holmes Community College. Year after year Coach **Flanigan** has developed his players to be responsible, respectful and disciplined on and off the court. Over the past four seasons, Holmes has been one of the top teams in the MACJC winning four North Division championships in a row and adding two Region 23 championships to the trophy case. Coach **Flanigan** has been recognized as the MACJC Coach of the Year in 2015,

2016, and in 2018. He was named the MACJC, Region 23, and District 15 Coach of the Year in 2015 and 2018. Coach **Flanigan** has helped over 55 of his players graduate and have had 45 of his players sign basketball scholarships in his nine seasons at Holmes Community College. The Bulldogs finished 24-5 last season which was one win shy of tying the 2015 team that went 25-7. Coach **Flanigan** led both of those teams to the National Tournament in Hutchinson, Kansas, which are the only two appearances in

Holmes men's basketball history. The Bulldogs will look to continue their recent success this upcoming season after a stellar basketball season last year. Holmes' return an experienced group of sophomores and added some talented freshman during the offseason. Coach **Flanigan** believes his team this season has what it takes to win a lot of games and will look to add more banners inside of Frank Branch Coliseum. The Bulldogs have an overall record of 83-29 over the past four seasons.

Bulldogs get 34-14 win over Trojans on Homecoming

From Staff Reports/Photos



The Holmes Bulldogs improved to .500 on the season behind four touchdowns from sophomore quarterback Reggie Hayes on a 34-14 win over the Mississippi Delta Community College Trojans on Homecoming 2018.

With the win, the Bulldogs went to 4-4 overall and 2-3 in the North Division. Holmes will end the season Nov. 1, at 6:30 p.m. at Coahoma Community College in Clarksdale. You can listen to the game on the Bulldog Football Radio Network.

Holmes got on the scoreboard in the first quarter when sophomore quarterback Jesse Wilson scored from 12 yards out. Connor McKay's extra point was good, and Holmes led 7-0 with 3:28 left in the first quarter.

The Bulldogs then went up 14-0 after Hayes scored his first touchdown of the night, this one from 25 yards out. McKay's extra point was good with 4:21 left in the second quarter.

Delta answered the score with :44 left in the second when Tyrique McAfee scored

from 19 yards out. The extra point was good by Spencer Romero, and Holmes led 14-7 at halftime.

Delta tied the game early in the third quarter when the Trojans picked up a Bulldog fumble and raced 51 yards for a touchdown. The extra point was good by Romero with 13 minutes left in the third.

The Bulldogs retook the lead in the third quarter when Hayes connected with sophomore Shaun Walton from 30 yards out for a touchdown. McKay's kick was good, and Holmes led 21-14 with 8:05 left in the third.

Minutes later, the Bulldogs added another score as Hayes connected with sophomore running back Gabe Short on a 25-yard touchdown pass. McKay's kick was good, and Holmes led 28-14 with 6:47 left in the third.

Holmes' final score came with one sec-

ond to play in the third when Hayes broke free on an 80-yard touchdown run. The Trojans blocked the extra point and ended all scoring at 34-14.

Wilson finished with 16 carries for 111 yards and one touchdown while Hayes had 102 yards on four carries and two touchdowns. Hayes was 2-of-4 for 55 yards and two touchdowns. Holmes had 415 yards of total offense including 338 yards on the ground.

The Bulldogs finished with five sacks and 12 tackles for loss in the game. Tyshawn White led the Bulldogs with eight tackles, one sack and 1.5 tackles for loss. Kendrick Haynes had seven tackles and .5 tackles for loss. Johnta Walker had six tackles, .5 sack and 2.5 tackles for loss while Rasson Carr had five tackles, 3.5 sacks and 3.5 tackles for loss.

Cheerleaders visit Benton Academy cheerleader at Methodist Rehab

Story and Photo contributed by Susan Christensen, Methodist Rehabilitation Center Public Relations



Pictured are the 2018-2019 Holmes cheerleaders with (center) one of Benton Academy cheerleader Anna Lauren Green.

In the world of cheerleading, you've got to be able to "stand up and holler."

So Anna Lauren Green has every reason to feel frustrated.

The Benton Academy cheerleader can holler, alright, but standing up is still a work in progress. Since an Aug. 18 car crash, she's been nursing two broken legs and a fractured left wrist.

But she's feeling more confident about her recovery after finishing a week and a half of inpatient therapy at Methodist Rehabilitation Center in Jackson.

"After the first day at MRC, I knew I was going to get stronger," she said. "They let me do therapy at my own pace as long as I did it. Everybody is so nice."

While she appreciates the compliment, MRC physical therapist Mary Smith says she didn't go easy on Anna Lauren to win her favor. It was more the nature of her injury that kept Smith from pushing too hard.

"With orthopedic injuries, you do everything you can not to hurt the surgery or the fractures," Smith said. "When she's able to do weight-bearing exercises, there will be a lot more to it. Now, we're working on getting her as independent as she can be—to stand and be able to walk enough distance to get into the bathroom."

By the time she left MRC, Green could manage 80 feet with the help of a walker. And it was clear why she was working so

hard.

Green has no intention of hanging up her pompoms. She's been wearing the uniform of the perpetually perky since the 7th grade.

This year, she had hoped to take things to a higher level. The 17-year-old was working on becoming a flyer—those brave spirits that occupy the peak of every pyramid and do their best to defy gravity as they're tossed in the air.

It was to be a step toward her ultimate goal of making the Holmes Community College squad and becoming a coach for the American Cheerleading Association. But her dreams were put on hold by a terrifying tumble inside an out-of-control car.

It was raining the night of her wreck, and Green suspects she hydroplaned. When her 2007 Toyota Camry quit flipping, it landed out of sight in a concrete box culvert.

Unable to climb out on her own, Green couldn't do anything but scream for help. Her cell phone had no service, and it would be hours before her frantic family discovered her car.

Kelly Mason said her daughter didn't often drive by herself. But in an attempt to "practice this letting go thing," Mason had allowed Green to go alone to meet her boyfriend's parents in Lexington.

"Now, I'm done practicing," her mother says ruefully. "I gave it one try."

Mason said her mother's intuition told her "something was not right" when Anna Lauren missed her 11:45 p.m. curfew.

"Our fear was she had had a flat tire, run out of gas or taken a wrong turn and was going down back roads," Mason said. But a search of her route offered no sign of Green.

Mason sounded the alarm and soon people were combing the roads between Benton and Lexington looking for her car. It would be after 2 a.m. before her boyfriend's father noticed some gravel on the road, rolled down his window and heard her cries.

"He went down to her and let her know he was there and would have to go up the road for help," Mason said.

As a sheriff's car sped to the scene, Steven Green pulled behind it and followed the blue lights to the scene of his daughter's accident. As he scrambled to her side, he was thankful he'd spent 19 years in the fire service. The sight of his child suffering was hard to take.

"If I hadn't had that training, I don't know what I would have done," he said. "It was a terrible experience, nothing anyone wants to go through."

"I broke down at one point when we got to the ambulance. A fellow I knew from the fire service said: 'You've got to get hold of yourself.'"

It was advice he shared with Mason, as well. "She was hysterical," he said. "I told her the only way I'll let you ride in the ambulance is if you calm down."

Green can't remember much about what happened after she wrecked. But she does recall waking up about 1 a.m. clutching a card containing a Bible verse to her chest.

On one side was a painting of angels. On the other was Romans 12:12: "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."

"The good Lord did that," said her grandfather David Green of West.

Green was often surrounded by family and friends while at MRC, and she said that's one reason her family chose the facility for her recovery.

"I like how they were welcoming to my family—some places you couldn't have family there," Green said.

"This is where you want to be is what everybody told us," said Green's sister, Katie Mason. "We heard nothing but good things," added her mom.

Nevertheless, Green admits to being nervous about therapy as she transferred to MRC. "Just sitting on the side of the bed took the breath out of me," she said. So she was concerned about facing the demands of three hours of therapy each day.

But MRC occupational therapist Anna Leigh Whitney said Green had no problem pushing herself. "You could tell she was very motivated by her desire to get better," Whitney said.

Whitney said the two worked on "the simple everyday things people take for granted." Mostly they problem-solved how she would take showers, get dressed and use public restrooms once she returned to school.

"We concentrated on her upper body strength and endurance to compensate for her limited mobility because of her lower extremity injuries," Whitney said.

Green's love of cheerleading was obvious, so hospital staff worked it into her therapy sessions. To practice balance activities, Whitney had Green stand while painting a cheerleader on a window in the therapy gym.

At the behest of MRC rehab tech Erica Jones, cheerleaders from Callaway High School came to visit. "My daughter has been a cheerleader since she was little," Jones explained. So she knew what it would mean to Green. "Cheering is where her heart is, and if I can make a patient smile that's what I do," Jones said.

The Holmes Community College cheerleaders also dropped by MRC on their way to a game, and Green was all smiles as they chanted Two Bits in her honor.

"I told the cheer coach that I'll be flipping by you soon," Green said. "And she said: 'Be ready by March, that's tryout month.'"

Her mom said she has no doubt she'll meet the deadline. "Any goal that she sets, she's going to beat it. As her mom, one of my favorite things about her is her drive. In school, she sets a goal and achieves it. That's an attitude she's going to have in rehab."

Update on Velma Jackson Football

By Nykeem Liddell
Growl Reporter

The Velma Jackson High School Falcon football team has cruised their opening non-conference schedule this season. The Falcons loss the season opener to 5A foe, Ridgeland, 38-33 on a late touchdown thriller with 12 seconds remaining. Since then, the Falcons have reeled off five straight wins including big time wins over

rival Canton, Yazoo County, Leake Central and 6A powerhouse, Provine. The Falcons are tied for their best start in school history with the last 5-1 start coming in 2016. That team made it all the way to the North State Championship game but loss 17-46 to the soon to be 3A State Champions, Charleston. The Falcons survived

a scare on last Friday night as they found themselves scoreless for the first time this season after the first quarter. The Falcons would score before the half but would find themselves in a much bigger hole after the third quarter. The Falcons would recover in the fourth quarter scoring three touchdowns in a thrilling comeback win to

open up district play. Senior Quarterback, Antavious Willis completed two big time passes for over 45 yards and would help the Falcons stay undefeated at home on the season. The Falcons will face the St. Andrews Saints on Friday night, October 4, 2018. Both teams have an overall record of 5-1 and 1-0 in district play.

Who is Jake Wimberly?

By Regina Gray
Growl Reporter

First things first, Who is Jake Wimberly? Jake Wimberly is my mentor at ESPN radio 105.9 and you can listen to him weekly Monday through Friday between 4-6 p.m. I got a chance to interview Jake and ask him some questions, some are about himself, and others are advice he would give to other future sportscasters in the making which you can find below.

Regina: How did you get into sports broadcasting?

Jake: “I started covering high school football as a stringer (beat reporter) over 12 years ago, I started a podcast and worked tirelessly to find new avenues, places to write, to accept my work and over time, I worked my way up the latter to get to where I am today. Long journey full of long days but I would not have it any other way.”

Regina: What do you enjoy most about working in this type of industry?

Jake: “The people I meet on a daily basis, the relationships I have made and the stories I get to tell. This business to me is about story telling and relationship building.”

Regina: What is your greatest accomplishment?

Jake: “I was the first ever to place a bet at Ameristar Casino with Deuce McAllister as we cut the ribbon to welcome sports betting into the state of Mississippi. It was a day I will always treasure.”

Regina: What advice do you have for others interested in this job?

Jake: “Be patient, work tirelessly- because there is always someone working as well. Do not be scared to ask questions and you MUST be able to self-evaluate yourself to see where you need to improve. You must always be on the improvement “meter.” If you think you do not need improvement,



you have lost.”

Regina: What is your end goal?

Jake: “To be the best sports talk personality the state of Mississippi has ever heard and most successful. Also to pass the torch to up coming men and women who want to be in this business. Passing the torch is a must to keep this great industry alive.”

Regina: What is your favorite quote?

Jake: “You cannot afford the luxury of emotional highs and lows. Control your emotions, or they will control you and you will fail.”

Getting to know Jake and having the opportunity to work with him and learn from him is a great blessing of mine and I am glad to share with you who Jake Wimberly is.

A magical moment, fitting for a gridiron hero

By John Gillon
Grenada Editor



Drew Brees

The most magical of moments are reserved for the largest of heroes. Drew Brees, who is on one of the most remarkable 13-year runs in NFL history, received his moment of magic on Monday Night, etching his name further into NFL lore.

Brees, 39, set the NFL's career passing yardage record with a 62-yard touchdown pass late in the second quarter in Monday's contest with the Washington Redskins, breaking a record previously held by Peyton Manning.

Make no mistake, Drew Brees is a hero, at least in New Orleans. He arrived to a Hurricane Katrina-ravaged

city and to a team coming off a 3-win season with a new coach. Brees, himself, was recovering from an injury. New Orleans needed someone larger than life – Brees delivered in every way imaginable. Brees became the coronary artery of NOLA.

Brees, recovering from a torn labrum, bet on himself by spurning a lowball contract extension from the San Diego Chargers and signing with the New Orleans Saints for six years and \$60 million in March 2006. Since that time, he has arguably been the most consistent quarterback in the NFL.

During his first season with the Saints, Brees led the league in passing yards per game, throwing for over 276 yards per game. In 2018, he's passing for over 300 yards per game with, as of this moment, the highest quarterback rating of his career, 115.3.

Peyton Manning was 39 when he passed Brett Favre to take the record for his own, too, but Manning was a shell of himself. Manning threw just nine touchdowns to 17 interceptions, with a quarterback rating just shy of 68. Brees has 11 touchdowns and no interceptions in his age-39 season.

For all intents and purposes, Brees,

who has the league's best completion percentage, is playing the most efficient football of his career – he may not be at his physical peak, and he finally has a complimentary running game; but he is what makes the Saints offense tick.

Don't get me wrong, I love Peyton Manning. He's solely responsible for building my love of football at a young age. I will defend his honor until the end – but Brees' career is getting into uncharted territory, and he has a legitimate claim to being the best quarterback in NFL history.

As of halftime Monday Night, Drew Brees held the NFL's highest passer rating. His career passer rating betters that of Manning's, though Manning owns two of the six best single-season passer ratings in NFL history.

Peyton Manning had the highest highs, but Drew Brees might be the most consistent, most reliable, most underappreciated of his quarterback generation – we get lost in the Tom Brady vs. Peyton Manning debate, forgetting that Brees has quietly lit the league on fire for 13 consecutive seasons, starting 195 of 197 games and only missing one due to injury. The other absence? He was rested for Week

17 in 2009 when New Orleans had the NFC's best record and later, won the Super Bowl over Manning's Indianapolis Colts.

Brees was often easy to overlook; he was shattering defenses, but the Saints were hit-or-miss, and Manning and Brady were racking up accolades. However, Brees earned the magical moment that his career deserves – in primetime, in front of the nation, out of the shadow of other great quarterbacks of his generation, he laid claim to one of the most precious honors a quarterback can achieve, being the NFL's all-time leading passer.

For a night, Brees was a giant standing over the football world, and good luck knocking him off his pedestal. He's still at the top of the league, showing little signs of slowing down.

We're all better for having witnessed his greatness, on an off the field, so admire Brees' greatness while we still, somehow, have him surgically dissecting defenses, for father time is, in fact, undefeated.

Oh, and enjoy this congratulatory message from Peyton Manning, who remains the funniest quarterback comedian of all time.

Fantasy Football Recap: Week 1

By Regina Gray
Growl Reporter



Week 1 in the world of fantasy was shocking, intense and the points per player soared in PPR or points per reception leagues. People who drafted Le'Veon Bell were not happy when it was determined that the number 2 running back

in the NFL will not be starting due to not accepting his franchise tag yet. With Bell on the outs it was up to James Conner to fill his huge shoes. To a lot of people's surprise Conner was spectacular underneath the stadium lights on Sunday. J. Conner rushed for 135 yards and two touchdowns on 31 attempts and caught 5 passes for 57 yards totaling in 35.20 points in PPR leagues. The total yards of scrimmage for Conner was 192 yards, which actually ties the most that Le'Veon Bell made during 2017. Bell's days in the NFL may be becoming numbered, but with Conner in the backfield I do not think the Steelers fans need to worry.

Furthermore, with this week's high

numbers, some of the top contributors are as follows:

Tyreek Hill, wide receiver, for the Kansas City Chiefs dominated the game Sunday night while catching 7 out of 8 targets for 169 yards and a duo of touchdowns not to mention his 91 yard punt return score. Hills amazing run put him at an impressive PPR scoring of 45.30 points for week 1.

Alvin Kamara, running back, for the New Orleans Saints was fantastic in their game against the Buccaneers this past Sunday even though the Saints couldn't get the win. Kamara rushed 8 times for 29 yards and had 2 touchdowns while also receiving 9 catches for 112 yards and

scoring another touchdown on 12 targets ending the game with 141 yards, and 3 touchdowns for the night. A. Kamara's PPR score of 44.10 points which is almost doubled his projections.

Michael Thomas, wide receiver, for the New Orleans Saints set team records with 16 catches for 180 incredible yards and a touchdown on 17 targets in the loss against the Buccs putting him close to the top of the PPR leagues with a whopping 40.00 points after week 1.

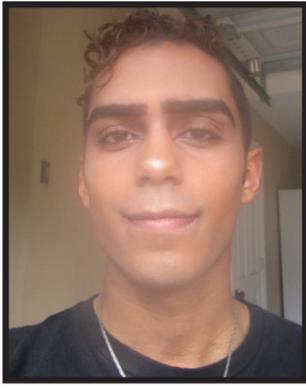
These are just a few of the big pops in last week's NFL games for Fantasy Football leagues specifically PPR scoring.



The Growl Staff



John Gillon
 Grenada Editor
 Hometown: Grenada
 Major: Journalism
 "I plan to attend the University of Mississippi to finish my journalism degree before heading to law school. I can see myself as a sports or political feature writer because I'm fascinated by the little details that define who people are. Civil rights, sports radio are also huge interests of mine."



Malik Jamileh
 Ridgeland Editor
 Hometown: Flowood
 Major: Journalism
 "I'm going to continue pursuing a B.A. in journalism with a minor in social media. I'm interested in debating world events and practicing Martial Arts or variations of Ti Chi. I also indulge in a lot of international travel in the Middle East and love to experience culture."



Tiara Le'Flore
 Goodman Editor
 Hometown: Byram
 Major: Journalism
 "I plan to attend either the University of Mississippi or the University of Southern Mississippi after Holmes. At Holmes, I'm a member of Connection! show choir and enjoy color guard, dancing, singing, painting and reading. I love all types of music and can also play the trumpet and French horn."



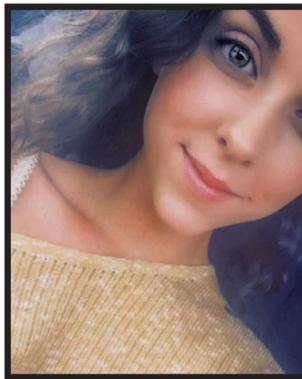
Chloe Bland
 Hometown: Brandon
 Major: Secondary Education with social studies emphasis
 Campus: Goodman
 "After Holmes, I plan to attend Mississippi State University and earn my bachelor's and master's degree. I'd love to teach at a community college. At Holmes, I'm a member of the marching band. I also love reading and playing video games."



Akiya Glass
 Hometown: Meridian
 Major: Psychology
 Campus: Ridgeland
 "Upon graduation from Holmes, I plan to attend The University of Southern Mississippi with the goal of becoming a psychologist one day. I enjoy playing the clarinet, watching YouTube videos, writing and listening to people talk about their problems so I can help them."



Hannah Graves
 Hometown: Byram
 Major: Journalism
 Campus: Ridgeland
 "I'm an aspiring fashion journalist. In my spare time, I work at a popular restaurant in the Fondren area and I love it! I enjoy photography as well as keeping up with my favorite fashion blogs and going shopping any time I can. On the weekends, aside from working, I like to babysit or relax with some Netflix."



Regina Gray
 Hometown: Brandon
 Major: Journalism
 Campus: Ridgeland
 "After Holmes, I'll attend Full Sail University's sports broadcasting program. My dream job is to land a position working for the NFL network as a sideline reporter. Then, I want to become a news anchor one day. I'm also interested in doing marketing communications for the Special Olympics."



Makaylah Holmes
 Hometown: Madison
 Major: General Studies
 Campus: Ridgeland
 "I enjoy shopping, have a huge sense of humor and love the color pink. I'm motivated to succeed in my career and in life! My goals are to become a nurse, get married and live in a big, pink house."



Nykeem Liddell
 Hometown: Canton
 Major: Journalism
 Campus: Goodman
 "In addition to the Growl newspaper staff, I'm a member of Horizons yearbook staff, MOSAIC and serve as a manager for the Bulldogs Basketball Team. I enjoy dancing, singing and helping others. My plans after Holmes are to attend a four-year university and major in sports journalism."



Samantha Miller
 Hometown: Brandon
 Major: Secondary Education with English emphasis
 Campus: Goodman
 "I'm a member of the Holmes marching band and concert band, and enjoy reading, writing, painting, playing video games and puzzles. After Holmes, I'll attend the University of Mississippi in pursuit of my master's degree. My career ambition is to teach high school English and publish my own novel one day."



Aurora Sant'Angelo
 Hometown: Jackson
 Major: Psychology/Business
 Campus: Ridgeland
 "At Holmes, I'm a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the yearbook staff and HAVOC. Outside of Holmes, I volunteer with the Alzheimer's Association and I'm interested in music, violin, writing, animal rescue, DnD and marketing. Ideally, I would like to attend the University of Texas at Austin. In the future, I'd love to help provide counseling for those who cannot afford it."



Matthias Wilson
 Hometown: Jackson
 Major: Psychology
 Campus: Ridgeland
 "After Holmes, I plan to attend Illinois State University and earn my bachelor's degree in music therapy to pursue my dream career as a music therapist. I identify myself as a 'really cool nerd.'"