



Holmes Community College
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Anglin, Westbrook named 2018 HEADWAE recipients

From Staff Reports/Photos



Lisa Anglin, a mathematics instructor, and Hallie Westbrook of Pickens, an architectural engineering and accounting student, have been named Holmes Community College's honorees for the Legislature's HEADWAE (Higher Education Appreciation Day – Working for Academic Excellence) program for 2019. Anglin is an instructor on the Ridgeland Campus and Westbrook is a sophomore on the Goodman Campus.

Anglin, who has worked at Holmes for 13 years, holds a bachelor's in mathematics from Millsaps College and a master's in mathematics Mississippi College. In addition to teaching mathematics courses at Holmes, she is also a member of the Educational Association and serves as an adviser for the Alpha Lambda Sigma Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa.

"Lisa and I have worked together for 12 years at Holmes. She is great at encouraging me to try new things, motivates me to do better, and is always there to bounce ideas off. Lisa makes me a better teacher every year. I am thankful for her willingness to collabo-



Hallie Westbrook

rate with me help me jump outside the box."

Outside of Holmes, Anglin is a member of the Mississippi Collegiate Mathematics Association and on the Board for Salt and Light Ministry. She is also a member of Madison United Methodist Church where she serves on the Children's Ministry Leadership Team.

"When I think of a faculty member who is continually bringing ideas to the table for the sole purpose of helping a student succeed on their path, I think of Lisa Anglin," said Ridgeland Campus Academic Dean Dr. Tonya Lawrence. "She is positive, professional, forward-thinking and passionate about teaching. Her solutions-approach makes my job more enjoyable."

In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her family, volunteering, cooking, working out, reading and traveling. She and her husband, Micah, have two children: Macy and Luke.

"Lisa is one of those individuals who is a joy to be around," said Ridgeland Campus Vice President Dr. Don Burn-

ham. "She is willing to bring an issue forth but she also brings a solution with that issue and she is open to other opinions. She cares deeply about her students, her co-workers and Holmes Community College, and she takes on additional responsibilities particularly as they pertain to students. Lisa will be an excellent representation for Holmes at the HEADWAE luncheon."

The daughter of Rolan and Dawn Westbrook, Hallie is a graduate of Harttown Homeschool Academy who is studying both architectural engineering and accounting on the Holmes Goodman Campus. She was inducted into the 2018 Holmes Hall of Fame and received the Architectural Engineering Tech Award in 2017, the English Composition Award in 2018 and the Phi Theta Kappa Golden Key Award in 2018.

"Hallie is the sort of student who is happy to work for the good of her college and community," said English instructor Jessica Brown. "She is respected by her classmates and often steps out of her comfort zone to open her mind to new ways of learning."

Westbrook was also a member of the 2016-17 SkillsUSA Opening and Closing team that won the Golden Medal at the state competition and Bronze Medal at nationals. In 2018, she won a Silver Medal at state-level for Technical Applied Mathematics.

"Hallie exemplifies the caliber of student who educators dream of having in their classroom," said Will Alexander, Engineering Technology instructor and Phi Theta Kappa/SkillsUSA adviser. "She never brings anything less than her 'A-Game' to the table. The news of Hallie being named

as the HEADWAE student comes as no surprise, as we all fight over her for academics and extracurricular assignments/activities."

Westbrook holds a 4.0 GPA and her leadership roles include president of Goodman Campus SkillsUSA; vice president of the Kappa Alpha Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa and Get2College FAFSA Corps member. She is also a work-study student in the Holmes Financial Aid Office and an active member of Pickens Presbyterian Church.

Westbrook will complete her AAS degree in Architectural Engineering Technology in December 2018 and her AA degree in Accounting in May 2019. Upon completing both of these degrees at Holmes, she will pursue a Bachelor of Science in Accounting at a four-year university. Westbrook is interested in using her degrees in a consumer-service capacity.

"Hallie has been a work-study in Financial Aid for over two years and we are blessed to have her," said Director of Financial Aid Dr. Gail Muse-Beggs. "I was not the least bit surprised when I was told she was selected as the HEADWAE student. She is in her second year as the Get2College FAFSA Corp Scholarship recipient and in this role she continues to make a difference in the lives of high school seniors wishing to pursue higher education.

"Hallie represents Holmes Community College by going into district high schools and assisting parents and future students with FAFSA completion and navigation of the complicated processes of financial aid while remaining patient and understanding. She has a

HEADWAE, continued on Page 6

Ingalls Shipbuilding partners with Attala Center for shipfitting class

From Staff Reports/Photos



Pictured are (front row, left to right) Monica Mallet, Jordan King, Ingalls Instructor Saul Marquez, Ben Skelton, Matthew Moore, Brandon Purvis, Workforce Coordinator Mandy Burrell and Ingalls General Foreman/Recruiter Gene Ivey, (back row, left to right) instructor Michael Thompson, Garrett Alston, Jadarius Melton, Martel Myers, Dylan Lee, Clint Miller, Clint Cook and Instructor Tim Townsend.

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.

Holmes Community College partnered with Ingalls Shipbuilding in the fall for a 14-week shipfitting class at the Attala Center in Kosciusko. The class finished the second week of November, and after Ingalls' representatives administered one final test, all class members were offered jobs and began employment at Ingalls this week. The remaining members were offered jobs with local companies.

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HALLOWEEN
PHOTOS!

America is steamrolling to her next critical election

By John Gillon
Grenada Editor



American politics, throughout history, have been defined by eras of party dominance following so-called “critical elections”—elections that drastically alter party

loyalty among voters—leaving one party with a general control of government for an extended period of time.

From Andrew Jackson establishing the Democratic party in 1828, to Republican William McKinley’s presidential campaign success beginning a run of Republican presidential dominance from 1896 until 1932 (a time with only one Democratic president, Woodrow Wilson), to FDR’s 1932 “New Deal Coalition” igniting a 36-year era of Democratic dominance, one election has served as the birth of greater political movements—due to changing demographics, policies and general appeal.

Since 1969, however, the modern political state is best described as a gridlock—one Democratic president is followed by a Republican president and so on, and houses of Congress change with the seasons, as the two parties have drifted into their respective corners.

However, the era defined by hyper-partisanship might be laying the foundation for our next critical election—one that could lead to a more

long-lasting time of party dominance from one party.

With midterms, Republicans were scrambling to retain one-party control of government in the wake of a blue wave built off an uproar of voter registration and political involvement, preaching “checks and balances” and resistance.

President Donald Trump, seeking to revive GOP voter enthusiasm just days ahead of the midterms, is dispatching soldiers to the border in anticipation of a migrant caravan of some 5,000—that is in no way, shape, form or fashion an “invasion”; the caravan would account for 0.0016 percent of the United States population. He’s also hinted at the idea of removing the Fourteenth amendment’s guarantee of the right to citizenship for all persons born in the United States.

But any action Donald Trump takes has an equal and opposite reaction among Democratic voters that even Sir Isaac Newton would find most impressive. For every political ploy he launches into action, Democrats feel a surge, battling back at his claims.

However, the age of Trump—despite fostering a bitterly partisan-divided electorate—has led to increased voter turnout as both his opponents and supporters vie for support of the electorate to win the Game of Offices. While midterm elections always experience a drop-off in voter participation, a Pew Research Center survey discovered

“that voter enthusiasm is at its highest level for any midterm election in more than two decades.”

Compared to the 2014 midterms, turnout in House primaries rose 5.9 percent, and Senate primaries saw an increase of 5.6 percent.

While Democrats have felt the greatest gains, and FiveThirtyEight all-but guarantees they gain control of the House, the Senate is likely to remain in Republican hands or deadlocked—mainly because only nine of the Republicans’ 51 Senate seats are up for election, compared to 26 of the 49 Democratic seats. So how is this deepening of the gridlock going to lay the foundations of the next critical election? Young people and minorities—mainly Asian Americans.

The Democratic Party already has a firm grasp on the Hispanic and African-American votes—with 88 percent of African Americans voting for Hillary Clinton in 2016 (down from 93 percent for President Obama in 2012) and every Democratic president dating back to Jimmy Carter winning the Hispanic vote. Dating back to 1980, No Republican has garnered more than 40 percent of the Hispanic vote, and the last three Presidential elections have seen the Democratic candidate average 68 percent of the Hispanic vote, compared to just 28.6 percent for Republicans.

However, no party has accomplished the feat of encouraging young people to show up at the polls on election



day, as those ages 18 to 40 remain the least reliable. Additionally, nearly 44 percent of registered Asian-American voters remained out of the fold of either party in the 2016 elections despite only seven percent of Asian-American voters viewing Donald Trump favorably, finds Cambridge.

Only 56.3 percent of eligible Asian-Americans were registered to vote as of March 2018, which is lower than the Latino and African-American populations. 55 percent of Millennials plan to vote in November, with a large amount undecided. Among those eligible to vote from Generation Z, 71 percent plan to vote in the midterms, and 97 percent of those not-yet eligible plan to vote in the next presidential election.

The younger generations and the minorities favor Democrats over Republicans, but they don’t vote as much; however, that is starting to change. In a time of paralyzingly close elections, the smallest increase could spur the largest movement—but the same could be said for a decrease in turnout.

The American political train is steaming ahead, and the tracks are

Mac Demarco: A Review

By Matthias Wilson
Growl Reporter



Sunday, Dec. 2, I went to the Mac Demarco concert in downtown Jackson. Usually I would be the person to leave concerts early. I even left my favorite artist’s concert early, but for the purposes of

this review I had to stay the whole time. I wanted to be fair and honest, and with this I will be just that. I’m going to talk about three main points of the concert that I feel should be focused on the most. I’m going to talk about the venue, the music, and since I got time to actually talk to Mac Demarco backstage, I’m going to talk about Mac Demarco the person.

First let’s talk about the venue. He chose to have the concert at Hal and Mal’s in downtown Jackson. The venue could only hold so many people for that concert. He only had 150 tickets for the entire show. So as you could believe it sold out very quickly. The venue itself had a new room built for bigger concerts. It has two bars in the front and in the back of it. The sound set board was set up on the floor with

the people viewing the concert. It took up some room and I could see it being a problem for larger concerts, but for that concert it did not make such a big difference. It did not take a long time to get in once the line started moving. For the number of people that were in the concert there was plenty of space to move around get drinks and even get your same spot back. Everyone could see perfectly and was not very far away from the stage. Yes, a very intimate setting, but one that was needed for his genre of music.

Next let’s talk about the actual music. Demarco is described as an indie, psychedelic, lo-fi rock. In other words, he is all over the spectrum and it is kind of hard to pin him down to just one genre, but for the sake of this we are going to say indie rock. His music kind of reminds me of Woodstock. It wasn’t even until he got on stage that I found out he was doing an acoustic set. Which was actually a nice touch. Doing that acoustic show makes you listen more to the music and makes me listen to the artist. Not hiding behind recordings are pretty cool to me, and made the venue feel like it was the right choice. I listened to some of his music before going to the concert. He played a lot from his first two albums and also a lot from his newly-re-

leased albums. I will give him credit, a lot of songs that I listened to on the album were being played, but also a lot of songs that I skipped made me go back and listen to them all over again.

The last thing I want to talk about is Demarco as the person. I am usually the person to think that celebrities are not who they portray themselves to be. I think that some celebrities are real and honest and I think that some are just putting on a show for the people. Demarco struck me as a person who was real and honest with himself. He has a thing in his concerts that you can only yell out questions and he will answer them as the show goes on. As we get backstage I asked him about it and he tells me that there is no such things as a dumb question. That’s all he said to me.

Demarco is a person who just wants to have fun and make great music. I have nothing against people going corporate. I don’t even like that term. I think that everyone has a right to work hard and reap the benefits of their labor and provide a better life for their family. Demarco is a person who has disregarded money entirely. Yes, he uses it to spend but he is not out here just trying to chase the almighty dollar. He is doing music because he wants to make people feel good. He wants



Pictured is Matthias Wilson with Mac Demarco.

to make people feel accepted and freed from all problems, and that is exactly how he made the concert feel. He wants the crowd to be involved, he wants you to ask your questions, he doesn’t want you to treat him like he is more than a person. He wants you to come and have a good time, and that is exactly what I did. Overall it was a great concert.



The Growl

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Send to: mbusby@holmescc.edu.

The Power of Meditation

By Malik Jamileh
Ridgeland Editor



In the midst of balancing school, work and personal lives we can all fall prey to stress. I have found the number one thing most college students suffer from is stress and anxiety to keep up. Is that due tomorrow? Many people overlook the long-term effects stress can have on mental health.

I'm here to share a few tips I picked up while I spent my time at Tiger Rock. My guru taught me, "It is better to conquer yourself than to win a thousand battles."

Meditation is one of the things that has helped me balance my life out while also having minimum stress. Tai chi is one of the most famous methods of meditation in action. The art is composed of slowed down defense movements and martial arts. The teachings on Tai chi are ancient and date back to over 1500 years ago. The benefits



of this art cure stress, anxiety, mood and even cognition. I spent many of my younger years practicing this form of meditation until I took a break and noticed my stress came back. I have recently started to practice Tai chi

again and have found I could help other people who suffer as well. Setting aside at least an hour a week will show great improvements in your daily life.

Salsa Club & Studio, located in Fondren, hosts classes for several different types of meditations. They have classes based on beginners and those who want to come regularly. The teachers are experienced in their fields and offer classes for as cheap as \$20. Meditation has changed my life for the better, and can change yours too.

Making a LDR work in college

By Tiara Le'Flore
Goodman Editor



Are you in a long distance relationship and thinking about giving up? Communication: Is it just not there anymore? Do you believe that your significant other is cheating because you aren't there?

In LDR (long distance relationships), couples lack face-to-face contact. Couples may face the following challenges: A rise in financial burdens to keep relationships, keeping rules that sets times of when the partners meet, suspicions that a partner is cheating or boundaries that keep partners away from the opposite sex.

Even though there are a lot of downs there are also some ups. Your family and friends might encourage you to give up and that makes you feel even more alone than you already were. But I advise you, if there is a member of the an opposite sex who is close to you at school you might feel close to them and feel like things would be easier just because they are there. Do not put yourself in a situation that involves you catching feelings for someone else. It'll hurt like hail if you leave your partner that you love and who cares for you for someone who's only in it temporarily. Doing so would also make weird vibes happen when you and your partner meet face-to-face. They'll feel that something is wrong

even if you lie and say it's nothing. Here's a couple of suggestions on how to make it work:

1. Avoid too much communication

It isn't very wise to be possessive; people need their space. No one needs to talk to someone 24 hours of the day to maintain a healthy relationship. Partners may think that they need to talk and do more since they are away from one another. That's not true at all. Soon y'all will get tired of all that "loving."

Key Point: Less is more. It's not about how much you give, but about when you give it. Ever heard someone say, "Don't let out too much at once because it's overbearing and overwhelming?" The last thing you want to do is overwhelm your partner and

make them feel suffocated. Give the right amount of love when the timing is right.

2. Seek new opportunities

"If you want to live together, you first need to learn how to live apart."

- Anonymous

Being on your own for the first time in life can be rough. You need to find yourself and who you really are. Being in the house with your parents you've always had to live up to their standards to make them proud. But now things are different, you can do what you want to do; explore things in life that you weren't allowed to as a child. This is the time to better yourself and get to know yourself in the process.

Mississippi Special Election Takeaways

By John Gillon
Grenada Editor



Cindy Hyde-Smith won a closer-than-expected re-election, to no fault but her own, over Democratic challenger Mike Espy in the special election to fill the remainder of

retired senator Thad Cochran's term. Following a series of serious-foot-in-mouth statements (to Hyde-Smith supporters) or racist jabs (to practically everyone else) from Senator Hyde-Smith, an election she was supposed to sleepwalk through turned closer than the average Mississippi Senate race, 53.9 percent to Mike Espy's 46.1 percent.

What are some key takeaways from the Special Election?

She said what?

Let's address Hyde-Smith's comments first: to the Mississippi Republican, she said two really stupid things that every politician in the world, particularly in MISSISSIPPI should know not to say; to most everyone else (including myself) she was racially insensitive with a blatant disregard for history (the most optimistic approach) or flat-out peddling racism. No, she did not explicitly mention "lynching," but with Mississippi's history, any person who has read any book, ever, knows what mentioning a "public

hanging" will lead to. As for the voter suppression "joke": again, a basic remembrance of history should clear that right up.

Mississippi has a horrifying history—Hyde-Smith should have known better. If she doesn't, that speaks volumes. She should have just apologized and moved on—not blamed everyone else in such a Trumpian style, but she didn't.

In this heavy-Republican state, Hyde-Smith is her own worst enemy—she would be wise to just never say anything—sans voting in the Senate or the words "President Trump" (more on that later)—between now and 2020.

Hyde-Smith's political career will ride or die with President Trump

No, his last-ditch double rally effort didn't push her over the edge; Hyde-Smith was always going to win the runoff. Trump saved Mississippi's first female senator much earlier: when he publicly endorsed Hyde-Smith, propelling her past Republican primary challenger Chris McDaniel. Senator Hyde-Smith campaigned in a tour bus with a massive picture of her, standing with President Trump. The senator has latched herself onto a president who won Mississippi by almost 18 points—a smart strategy, unless his administration goes down like the Titanic.

While Trump is popular in the state, her strategy will probably work—so long as she doesn't alienate him, which she has made her political mission to not do. In campaign ads she cited the

president's agenda—Hyde-Smith will be linked to Trump for better or worse, for the remainder of their concurrent tenures. What happens when he's gone? What reason will voters have to keep her over challengers, especially with her apparent talent for making the worst possible headlines?

Dems will be back

The last time a Mississippi Republican got less than 55 percent of the vote for Senator? Trent Lott (53.9 percent) in 1988, filling a seat vacated by the state's last Democratic senator, John C. Stennis, who served from 1947 until 1989. Stennis was the last Mississippi holdout, in the US Senate, of the old Democratic South—he voted against the Civil Rights Act (of 1964 and 1968), against the Voting Rights Act, and against establishing Martin Luther King, Jr. Day as a federal holiday. Before then? Thad Cochran (45.3 percent) in 1978, in a three-ticket race, to replace the retiring James Eastland (Southern Democrat, 1947-1978), who shared Stennis' views against civil rights—once claiming the Supreme Court's ruling in *Brown v. Board of Education* "destroyed" the Constitution and Mississippians were "not obliged to obey the decisions of any court which are plainly fraudulent sociological considerations."

In more modern times, Roger Wicker only received 55 percent of the vote in 2008 against Ronnie Musgrove—during a special election to replace



Trent Lott that was smack in the middle of the Obama wave.

Mike Espy, an attorney who was Bill Clinton's Secretary of Agriculture from 1993-94 and Mississippi's 2nd Congressional District representative from 1987-93, was, perhaps, almost the ideal candidate to oppose Hyde-Smith, and he ran the best Democratic Senate campaign in Mississippi's modern history. Hyde-Smith's campaign donations were dwarfed by her predecessor Cochran, and she'll probably "insert foot into mouth" several more times before the 2020 election. Espy lost, but he showed hope for the party—at least against Hyde-Smith—and 2020 is setting up to be a massive election covered and politicized like no other before—Democrats probably won't forget about getting Mississippi into single digits when they seek to flip the Senate in 2020. I don't know if Espy will be back, but Democrats will almost certainly be back in 2020, especially should Trump's popularity wane in the state.

Diggin'

By Matthias Wilson
Growl Reporter

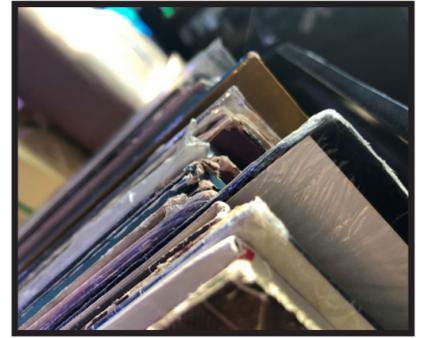


Saturday, Dec. 1, there was a record convention in Fondren. Over 2,000 people came out and looked for golden oldies as well as priceless gems that would take them back to their child-

hood.

This convention has been held in Jackson for over 15 years and like many others, this was my first time. The convention this year was held in Duling Hall. As you walk in you see so many people, young and old, talking about their musical findings and also great things about Mississippi. The comradery from strangers showed just how hospitable Mississippi is. People from all over the South showed up.

For many of them, it was their first time in Jackson, and they were happy to be here. Most of them said that the originality of music will live on down here. This collection of first-time buyers and years of collectors made this event the spotlight of my week and I cannot wait for next year.



Walking in Memphis

By Regina Gray
Growl Reporter



During the month of May, the City of Memphis, Tennessee, transforms into a magical place for people to come out and enjoy everything that the city has to offer. In particular, since 1990, the Beale Street

Music festival (BSMF), has been a huge part of the Memphis in May events.

The BSMF is an escape from reality. It is a place where people from all around can come together and experience concerts, beautiful artwork done by the locals, taste that good ole Memphis BBQ and

more. The great thing about this festival is that it is a family-friendly event. Whether it be parents, the kids or the grandparents, there is something for everyone to have a blast.

This past BSMF was held on May 4-6, 2018. The headliners for the music portion of the events were Post Malone, Queens of the Stone Age, Logic, Vance Joy, Cake, Alanis Morissette and more so there is a concert for almost everyone's music taste. Once inside the festival there are several vendors that sale locally-made food that can take your taste buds for a wild spin. There are also vendors that sale souvenirs, tapestries, clothes, etc. so everyone can take a piece of the excitement home with them.



The next festival will be held on May 3-5, 2019 at Tom Lee Park in downtown Memphis. This year is set-out to be the biggest and best festival they've had yet. Tickets are on sale and can be purchased at www.memphisinmay.org and are sold

in single day passes or three-day weekend passes as well. So grab those tickets because you do not one to miss out on the chance to enjoy such a remarkable event.

American Horror Story: Apocalypse Pre-Finale Review

By Chloe Bland
Growl Reporter



American Horror Story is a TV show that airs on FOX every Wednesday at 9 PM central. The premise of the show is that each season focuses a completely different horror story including all

of the spooky things you can imagine. Each season has a completely different setting and cast of characters, making no one safe from death. If you enjoy shows that are creepy, weird, and all together insane and enjoy entertainment such as Miss. Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children, The Chilling Adventures of Sabrina, and Scream Queens, I would highly suggest you go check this show out. It is currently on Netflix and Hulu.

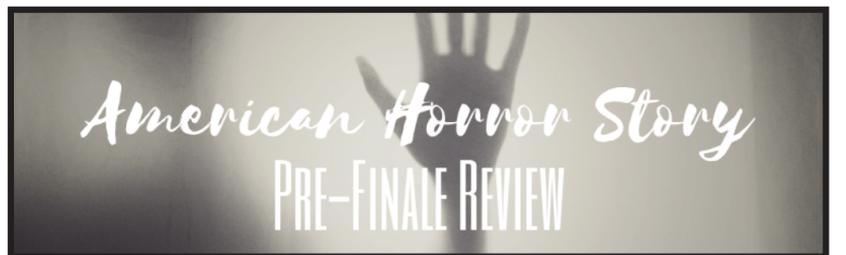
SPOILERS START HERE:

Season Overview: This season of American Horror Story named Apocalypse has been one of my favorites yet! The crossover between the Murder House and

Coven and the fact that they finally gave a concrete answer to if the seasons are connected made this season so interesting.

Thing I Loved: I had no idea what to expect from this season but, I loved every bit of it. Coven has always been my favorite seasons so seeing the return of the witches and the mood that comes with them was so nice. I also loved how it started with the Apocalypse and then flashed back to reveal how it all came to be. I can not fail to mention the return of Jessica Lange, Emma Roberts, and Billie Lourd which made me enjoy the season even more. I really did love the evolution of Madison's character and that we finally get to see some sort of arc from her that we failed to see in Coven. The season really picked up after the Witches showed up and every episode since has been AMAZING. Episode 9 was INSANE. Michael and Mrs. Mead literally wiped out the whole Coven which I knew was going to happen eventually but I did not expect it to go down like that.

Things I Didn't Like: I'm not sure what the point of introducing all the characters in the first couple episodes was considering they got killed off and were never



mentioned or brought up again. It honestly felt really slow until the witches showed up. I am also kind angry about how bad Cordelia treats Madison considering all she's done to prove herself this season. I also feel that we should of spent more time with the Coven and less time on Michael's backstory. Yes, I know it's important but, it felt kind of drawn out. It is kind of making me not like Cordelia as much. I also wish this season had been longer. I have no clue how they're going to tie up all the loose ends in one episode.

Favorite Episode: Return To Murder House was probably my favorite American Horror Story episode to date. We got to see the Murder House again and all of its cast of characters. And it was nice to get to

see that considering it was the beginning of American Horror Story. It was also nice to Madison's soft side and see how hell really changed her.

Hope For The Finale: Because there is so much that still has not been answered, I kind of hope that Apocalypse Part 2 gets announced. This season was so amazing that I am perfectly okay with another season of it. I also hope we can finally see what happens after the Witches show up to the Outpost 3. And possibly some reason that they resurrected Dinah because the last episode revealed that she had part in the slaughter of the coven.

Is community college a waste?

By Malik Jamileh
Ridgeland Editor



Is Community College a Waste?

I think we all ask ourselves this several times during our journey we embark upon at Holmes Community College. Am I going to be prepared for a real university? Am I

missing out on fun?

As I end a chapter of my life and next year will be attending a four-year university, I come to give you the answer. It is not a waste of time. Your times at Holmes is one of the most important reality checks you are going to get.

My time at Holmes has paid off not only in giving me time to adjust to the college life, but in keeping me close

to home and opening many doors to financial assistance. I was recently accepted into the Phi Theta Kappa honor society, which will assist me financially when I transfer to other another college.

Community colleges are often seen as less hard or less work, but to me, it is a good time to take an advantage of an opportunity to get ahead. Find information on transferring, clubs, degree help, scholarships:, it is all offered

here at Holmes.

The underlying answer a lot of students are looking for is no; you are not wasting your time. You made the best decision locally and financially. Holmes' student body normally grows as the year goes on and many students transfer back from State or Ole Miss. It is evident from any peer you speak to that went through Holmes, you are guaranteed to be more prepared.

My Problem with Unnecessary Sequels

By Chloe Bland
Growl Reporter



Every big movie and franchise will usually come out with a sequel if it became relevant enough. It did so well the first time, why not the second? But, usually, these sequels are very lowly rated among critics and do not make nearly as much money as the original. There are a lot of reasons that this does happen.

One of the major exceptions to this rule are sequels that were planned from the beginning. This is because an already-es-

tablished arc was planned, making it not seem like a remnant of what it once was but, a well-done continuation. However, this doesn't work out too well when the movie was originally planned to be just one movie. This is because when an arc is already established and finished, it is extremely hard to continue something that is already wrapped up. This usually leaves the sequel to not have to same tone and emotion and makes the writing less than subpar. It also usually leaves the watcher wondering why we needed this in the first place.

Another huge reason is that the same creative team is usually not available, making it very hard to match the stan-



dards set by the original. One big example of this is "Mean Girl 2" (yes, it exists). Because Tina Fey was not a part of the writing team, it left it feeling like a Disney Channel movie instead of a PG-13 comedy. Which is why you probably didn't even know it existed.

Making these pointless, cash-grab

movies just because they know fans of the original will go see it just makes people disappointed and lose interest in the story and characters. They cause something that people use to enjoy to be dampened by the unnecessary continuations.

Giving a Helping Hand this Christmas Season

By Akiya Glass
Growl Reporter



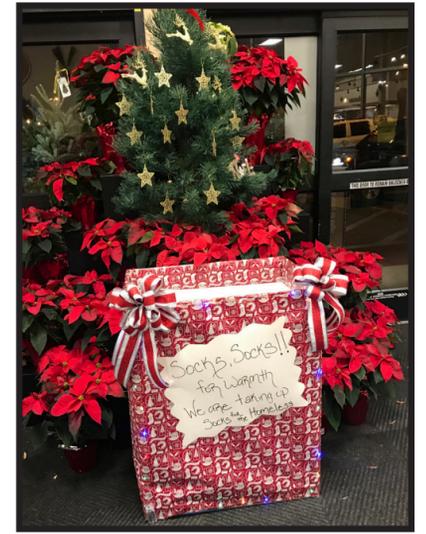
This Christmas season my job is to collect cozy, warm blankets, dog beds and dog blankets. Each year the Kroger in Madison off of Colony Crossing donates to local retirement homes and dog pounds for families that are forgotten about and dogs without homes.

The retirement home that Kroger is donating to is William F. Bond Home. A couple members of the staff are going up there and passing out little essentials such as socks, peppermints, magazines and oth-

er little small things to keep the people in that home occupied so they won't feel left out this season. A couple of my coworkers will also be going around to a couple of the residents' rooms and singing a few Christmas carols such as "Jingle Bells," "Santa Claus is Coming to Town," "Joy to the World" and many more holiday favorites.

The dog center that they're donating to is Community Animal Rescue & Adoption (CARA). We are donating cozy dog beds, bags of dog food, tons of chew toys and adorable dog outfits.

We are just giving a little, but it could seem like a whole lot for someone who doesn't have much at all.



Special Olympics of Mississippi Gala

By Regina Gray
Growl Reporter



An event like no other, the Special Olympics Gala is a special opportunity for our community to get together and help raise money for our special athletes as they embark on their journey to win the gold for our beautiful home state.

The Special Olympics gives opportunities for people with disabilities to show

their talents and strengths in different types of sports activities and endurance races. The athletes attending the Gala are the competitors for the state of Mississippi and they are needing our help and support.

Local vendors stepped in and donated food and drinks from all of our favorite Jackson restaurants for this magical night. The event was held at Duling Hall in the Fondren District of Jackson on Dec. 6 from 7-10 p.m. All the proceeds from the tickets sales were donated to the Special Olympics of Mississippi.

Silent Auctions were held throughout the night with trips to Europe, Greece and other all-inclusive travel adventures.

Jewelry, paintings, gift baskets and other various items were auctioned off as well with all earnings awarded to our strong-courageous athletes and program.

From dancing with gold medalist, to hearing one of the most humbling speeches and listening to sweet sounds of our favorite blues, attending the Gala is a truly amazing experience. The event is held annually



and everyone is encouraged to dress up in their best suits and dresses for a night to remember at the Special Olympics of Mississippi Gala.

Holmes Registration set for Spring 2019

From Staff Reports/Photos

Holmes Community College will hold on-campus registration sessions in January 2019.

The Ridgeland Campus on-campus registration will be on Thursday, Jan. 3, from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. The Goodman Campus registration will be Monday, Jan. 7, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. and the Grenada Campus' will be on Tuesday, Jan. 8, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. For those in Kosciusko, the Attala Center on-campus registration will be Thursday, Jan. 8 from 4-6 p.m. and the Yazoo Center registration will be Monday, Jan. 7 from 4-6 p.m.

Students wanting to register for eLearning (online) classes may register via the internet by tapping Enroll Now or may register at any of the campuses or centers.



HEADWAE (Continued from Front Page)

heart for serving people and for making the world a better place. Hallie is an excellent choice for this honor and the entire Financial Aid Office is extremely proud of her.”

HEADWAE, which is supported by

the corporate community and coordinated by the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning, was established in 1988 by the Mississippi Legislature to recognize outstanding students and faculty in Mississippi’s colleges

and universities. The honorees will be recognized at the 32nd Annual (HEADWAE) program on Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2019, at the Jackson Marriott Hotel. The program will begin at the State Capitol with the Awards Lun-

cheon following.

For more information about HEADWAE, visit: <http://www.mississippi.edu/headwae/>.

Ingalls (Continued from Front Page)

For the last 80 years Ingalls, the largest industrial/manufacturing employer in Mississippi, has pioneered the development and production of technologically-advanced, highly-capable warships for the surface Navy fleet, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Marine Corps and foreign and commercial customers.

Students learned basic safety, ship terms, blueprint reading, welding and industrial math, which were tailored

to specific needs of Ingalls Shipbuilding’s operations. These skills could also apply to other the career paths. Tim Townsend and Michael Thompson were the lead instructors while Cham Blain taught blueprint reading and Sara Williams taught industrial math.

The Pascagoula-based enterprise aims to provide students with employment offers, contingent on successful completion of the course, as well as recommendations from Holmes staff

based on class performance. Employment with Ingalls will include a number of perks and benefits, including a 401K, and opportunities for advancement within the company.

Additionally, the company offers frequent performance bonuses and a tuition-reimbursement program to allow employees to further their education while employed with Ingalls. To begin the program, a high school diploma/GED is not required, but preferred.

Two other local companies, Twin Rivers and Anel, came and spoke to the students about a job as well.

To learn more, or to enroll in the program, contact Mandy Burrell at (662) 472-9172 or at mburrell@holmescc.edu. To learn about Ingalls Shipbuilding, please visit ingalls.huntingtoningalls.com.

Holmes to offer EMT course at Yazoo Center

From Staff Reports/Photos



Holmes Community College will offer Emergency Medical Technician-Basic (EMS 1118) at the Yazoo Education Center in the spring of 2019. The course is a hybrid class that

will meet on Mondays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. beginning Jan. 9.

Taught by EMS Department Program Director Mark Galtelli, EMS 1118 will cover responsibilities of the EMT

during each phase of an ambulance run, patient assessment, emergency medical conditions, appropriate emergency care and appropriate procedures for transporting patients. The course counts for eight credit hours.

The EMS program at Holmes prepares students for a variety of roles in the field of emergency medicine. Courses are also offered on the campuses in Ridgeland, Grenada and Kosciusko, and students who complete the one-semester EMS Basic Course and receive licensure are prepared for direct patient care and serve as the support personnel as well as operate the ambulance. EMS students also end up working in emergency departments, fire departments, and physicians’ offic-

es. Current licensure as an EMT Basic often provides points toward selection for entry into other allied health programs, as well.

To register, potential students can visit the Yazoo Educational Center, located on 637 East 15th Street in Yazoo City, on Jan. 7, 2019 from 4-6 p.m. Potential students may also contact Mark Galtelli at mgaltelli@holmescc.edu or (601) 605-3331 for more information about the course or the Holmes EMS program.

For additional information about Holmes course offerings at the Yazoo Center, please contact John Byrd at john.byrd@yazoocountymys.gov or (662) 746-8668.

Rotoract Club brings Christmas cheer to The Home Place

From Staff Reports/Photos



The Ridgeland Campus Rotoract Club, sponsored by Assistant Librarian Jennifer Smith, collected Angel Tree gifts for The Home Place assisted living facility in Madison as their Christ-

mas service project. The Rotoract members, along with Smith, Financial Aid Advisor Mary Haralson and Police Officer Judy Tucker, delivered the

presents on Wednesday, Dec. 5.

“My Rotoract members really enjoyed helping The Home Place residents this year,” Smith said. “They were very involved with promoting the Angel Tree to their fellow students and loved the chance to spread some holiday cheer to others. I’d especially like to thank all of the Holmes faculty and staff who helped me organize and deliver the presents this year. The Angel Tree is one of my favorite holiday traditions and I am thankful it was so successful!”

The Home Place is an assisted living facility in Madison, and over the past several years, different Holmes organizations from the Ridgeland Campus have helped make sure the residents there have a merrier Christmas.

The Rotoract Club is a service organization that is in the process of

being chartered at the Holmes Ridgeland Campus. Sponsored by the Madison-Ridgeland Rotary Club, Rotoract brings students together to do service activities in Madison County and the surrounding areas. The club meets twice a month to promote leadership, professional development, and service among college age students. With more than 8,000 clubs in 167 countries, Rotoract members are helping to lead change in communities around the globe. With the club being brand new this fall, the Angel Tree collection for The Home Place was the first community service project Rotoract conducted.

For more information about Holmes Rotoract, contact Jennifer Smith at jensmith@holmescc.edu.

Ridgeland SkillsUSA collects gifts for Sunnybrook Children's Home

From Staff Reports/Photos



The Holmes Community College Ridgeland Campus SkillsUSA chapter, along with the Ridgeland Fire Department, recently collected Christmas

gifts for Sunnybrook Children's Home, and delivered them on Dec. 5. Located on Sunnybrook Road in the heart of Ridgeland, the children's home is a Christian ministry-based, professional childcare organization that seeks to meet the needs of abused and neglected children. House parents reside in each home with the children, and while they provide as much as possible for the children, they are extremely appreciative of donations/donated items to help out with Christmas presents.

The Holmes Ridgeland SkillsUSA chapter, headed up by instructor Heather Mooney, has collected gifts for Sunnybrook the past few years. SkillsUSA is an organization open to all students enrolled in Career/Technical courses that helps foster social

and leadership abilities as well as skills needed to succeed and be competitive in the workforce. Scholarships are available to students who competed and placed in district, state, and/or national competitions in SkillsUSA.

For more information about Sunnybrook Children's Home, visit <http://www.sunnych.net/>.

For more information about the Ridgeland Campus SkillsUSA chapter, contact Heather Mooney at hmooney@holmescc.edu.

Holmes volunteers for The Salvation Army

From Staff Reports/Photos



Pictured are **Kristin Daniels**, Academic Office administrative assistant; **Stephanie Wood**, graphic designer; **Jazmin Roman**, sophomore and Dean **Dr. Tonya Lawrence**.

On Wednesday, Dec. 5, Holmes Community College faculty, staff, and students signed up for shifts to ring the bell for The Salvation Army outside of the Wal-Mart in Madison. Employee family members helped ring the bell for some of the later shifts, as well.

"Community services is such a rewarding and fulfilling activity, and I feel blessed to have had the opportunity to represent Holmes while spreading Christmas Cheer," said Director of Marketing Bronwyn Martin.

As stated on www.salvationarmyusa.org, the bell ringing season starts each November and runs through Christmas Eve, when the red kettles are packed

away for the season. The volunteers ring the bell and greet patrons walking into businesses and the money collected provides for families in need.

The Salvation Army helps people in a number of areas: They help disaster survivors, help cure hunger, assist people with overcoming poverty, help stop domestic abuse, fight human trafficking, serve veterans, teach children, assist the unemployed and brighten holidays for the less fortunate.

Retirement Reception held for Joe David White

From Staff Reports/Photos

A retirement reception was held in honor of Holmes Community College Natural Sciences Department Chair Joe David White on Friday, Nov. 30 in the Science Building East Lobby on the Ridgeland Campus. White was recognized for his 30 years of loyal service to college.



Joe David White poses with his cake and retirement plaque.



Ridgeland Campus Vice President **Dr. Don Burnham** offers up a few words about **Joe David White**.



Vice President of Academic Programs **Dr. Fran Cox** poses with **Joe David White**.

Holmes student named Batson Volunteer of the Year

Article Information/Photo from UMMC Article, "Volunteer Services selects future physician, nurse for annual honor"



Mykaila Florence

Holmes Community College student Mykaila Florence was chosen as the 2018 Batson Children's Hospital Volunteer of the Year. Florence and Trenton Johnson, a Jackson State University student chosen as Volunteer of the Year for the adult hospital, were chosen from around 1,000 other volunteers at the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

According to the article "Volunteer Services selects future physician, nurse for annual honor" on the University of

Mississippi Medical Center's website, Florence started volunteering at 16 years old because she wanted to rock babies. Her mother informed her about the volunteer program at UMMC, and so she started working at the secretary desk in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit in Wiser Hospital for Women and Infants.

Florence's role as a volunteer continued to change, and she stepped in to help fill a major hole when the volunteer service coordinator for Batson left

the position over the summer.

Her volunteer work made her realize that she wanted to work with babies as a nurse, so she enrolled at the Holmes Ridgeland Campus. Her long-term goal is to become a nurse practitioner.

Grenada Surgical Tech students donate to Batson

From Staff Reports/Photos



Pictured are (front, left to right) Jade Doss, Madison Hamilton, Macy Crimm and Ashley Smith, (back row, left to right) Program Director/Instructor Jessica Elliott, Haley Dunn, Alexis Brown, Pam Connor, LeKedria Tidwell and Briana Reed.

Holmes Community College Grenada Campus Surgical Technology club students, sponsored by instructor Jessica Elliott, collected needed items including toys for children at Batson Children's Hospital. The Grenada Campus faculty and staff generously donated gifts, as well.

The Surgical Technology program prepares students to serve as a member of the surgical team through classroom and clinical experiences. They will work with surgeons, anesthesiologists and certified registered nurse anesthetists, registered nurses, and other surgical personnel in delivering patient care and assuming appropriate responsibilities before, during, and after surgery.

Batson Children's Hospital is the flagship of Children's of Mississippi, part of the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC). It is Mississippi's only children's hospital, and Batson treats about 150,000 children each year in more than 30 specialty areas, including newborn medicine, pediatric cardiology, neurology and surgery. It houses the state's only pediatric intensive care unit and emergency department along with Mississippi's only pediatric treatment programs for cancer, cystic fibrosis, sickle cell anemia, congenital heart defects, and more.

Holmes presents Carols of Christmas 2018

From Staff Reports/Photos

On Thursday, Nov. 29, the Holmes Concert Chorale, the Coachmen and Connection! showchoir presented their annual Carols of Christmas concert in McDaniel Auditorium.



Holmes gives area high school students a 'Major Experience'

From Staff Reports/Photos

The Holmes Community College Goodman Campus hosted "Major Experience" for Juniors and Seniors from high-schools in the Holmes nine-county district on Nov. 14.

The students were taken on tours of campus, had opportunities to speak to different faculty and staff members, were treated to lunch and entertainment by various Holmes musical ensembles and the Bulldogs cheerleaders.



Three Lady Bulldogs sign with Belhaven

From Staff Reports/Photos



Pictured are (seated, left to right) Pepper Ann Filbert, Sarah Chastain and Morgan McKinion with (standing, left to right) Women's Associate Head Soccer Coach Wesley Noble and Head Soccer Coach Matt Convertino.

Three of the Holmes Lady Bulldogs soccer players recently signed letters of intent to Belhaven University. Those players included Sarah Chastain of

Madison, Pepper Ann Filbert of Brandon and Morgan McKinion of Brandon.

"We are very excited for Morgan,

Pepper and Sarah for signing to continue their athletic careers," Women's Associate Head Soccer Coach Wesley Noble said. "These three ladies have been fantastic for the past two years and have truly helped take our program to a new level: both on and off the field.

"After numerous offers for each of them, they decided they wanted to stay together and stay close to home," Noble said. "Belhaven is not only getting three great players, but they are also getting three excellent people. I am very excited to see what all they accomplish these next two years at Belhaven and beyond that."

Chastain, daughter of Becky and Judson Chastain, will play center back for the Belhaven Blazers. A graduate of Madison Central, Chastain was named Most Valuable Player as a de-

fender for the Lady Bulldogs. She was also named 2018 All-State.

Filbert, daughter of Ginger and Robert Filbert, will be a center mid-fielder at Belhaven. A graduate of Brandon High School, she was named All-State both in 2017 and 2018 as a midfielder for Holmes. In addition to soccer, Filbert is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, a member of Meadow Grove Baptist Church and an employee of Explorer's Daycare. She is pursuing her bachelor's degree in nursing.

McKinion, daughter of Due and Johnny McKinion, is a graduate of Brandon High School. She will continue as a goalkeeper when she transfer to Belhaven. McKinion's honors include membership in Phi Theta Kappa and the Holmes Bulldog Award for the 2018 soccer team.

Baseball/Softball teams raise money for Batson Children's Hospital

From Staff Reports/Photos



Pictured are the baseball and softball players/managers who participated in the "Field of Screams" fundraiser.

What started out with the idea of having a friendly game of wiffle ball during the week of Halloween in full Halloween costumes quickly turned into so much more as the Holmes Community College softball and baseball teams decided on seven-inning co-ed softball game and named Blair E. Batson Children's Hospital and their patients as the real winners raising over \$4,000 for the hospital.

Coaches Kenny Dupont, Christa Childress, Karisa Coleman and Ryne Smith asked their players and managers to raise \$30 to participate in the first-ever "Field of Screams" game at Charlie Donald. The 50 players and managers answered the call and almost tripled what would have been the initial \$1,500.

Batson Children's Hospital is the flagship of Children's of Mississippi, part of the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC). As Mississippi's only children's hospital, Batson cares for kids from across the state, offering everything from emergency care to highly specialized heart and cancer care for kids.

The hospital treats about 150,000 children each year in more than 30

specialty areas, including newborn medicine, pediatric cardiology, neurology, and surgery. It houses the state's only pediatric intensive care unit and emergency department along with Mississippi's only pediatric treatment programs for cancer, cystic fibrosis, sickle cell anemia, congenital heart defects, and more.

"We were discussing different things that we could do with our teams together," Childress said. "We wanted a community event. Someone mentioned Blair Batson, and we wanted to do something around the holidays. We thought about a wiffle ball game, and we just kept working on it and came up with the idea."

"I think our girls loved it," she said. "It was a great team-bonding experience for both of our teams to be there to support each other. It also caused them to think about a bigger cause, and it could lead into us going down there and meeting some kids."

"It could not have gone any better. The kids were all involved. I didn't have one player who didn't participate and neither did baseball. That's a big thing there. Everyone got involved."

The Lady Bulldogs had Katie Dana

of Carthage raise over \$250. Baseball players Kameron Ferguson of Philadelphia, Nate Oswalt of Petal and Taj Porter of Mandeville even went further with Ferguson and Oswalt raising over \$500 each. As a team, the baseball players raised over \$3,000.

"I feel the baseball team really took off with it on the money side and really pushed that which is very impressive," said Childress.

Dupont was quick to give Childress the credit. "It was actually Coach Christa Childress' idea," Dupont said. "She approached us and talked to us about having a fundraiser softball game. We all got together and decided Blair E. Batson. Man it was a great one."

"We want to make it an annual event," he said. "The kids had a great time. In fact, last night they were wanting to have one for Thanksgiving and one for Christmas. They are all fired up about it. I can't say enough about

Coach Childress, Coach Coleman and Coach Smith. Without those folks this would not have been possible. They just did a great job jumping in there, and everybody did."

"I can't say enough about how well the softball team did their part and the baseball team did their part," he said. "It was a total team effort between softball and baseball."

"We want to continue on and make it bigger," Childress said. "I think it's definitely something we can make bigger and better."

The softball and baseball players were divided equally to two teams coached by Coordinator of Athletic Programs Susie Jackson and Goodman Campus Police Commander Brian Wooten. Team Susie Jackson won 8-6 over Team Brian Wooten.

"I think we have a vendetta between Susie and Wooten so we are doing good," said Childress.



Pictured are the Holmes baseball and softball players at Blair E. Batson on Dec. 3 following a tour of the children's hospital. The players presented Batson with the \$4,000 they raised for The Campaign for Children's of Mississippi through their "Field of Screams" fundraiser.

Photo submitted by UMMC

Men's Basketball off to a good season

By Nykeem Liddell
Growl Reporter



The Holmes Men's Basketball Program has high expectations heading into the 2018-2019 basketball season. The Bulldogs return just four starters from last year's Regional Championship team. The Bulldogs finished the season 24-5 and made an appearance in the NJCAA National Tournament. The Bulldogs were ranked #13 in the NJCAA preseason poll, which is the highest in school history.

On opening night, the Bulldogs took

down the Wolves of Co-Lin 88-75. Since then, the Bulldogs have gone 5-2. Kassim Nicholson is leading the Bulldogs in scoring averaging 21.2 points per game. After falling out of the Top 25, the Bulldogs will look to get back to their winning ways when they return to the court in 2019. Holmes will host the Dolphins of Delgado on Saturday, Jan. 5, at 4 p.m.

Lady Bulldogs looking to turn season around in the new year

By Nykeem Liddell
Growl Reporter



The Lady Bulldogs have gotten off to a substandard start to open up the season. After losing over 70 percent of their scoring and key defensive players from a year ago, the Lady Bulldogs have struggled to find their replacements early on this season. The Lady Bulldogs return six players from last season's North Division Championship team. Three of the losses have come

by just six points or fewer. The Lady Bulldogs have started the season 1-5 and will look to turn things around in the new year. Jekalen Jones leads the Lady Bulldogs in points, averaging 15.6 points per game. Janae Collier is averaging 14.3 points per game. The Lady Bulldogs will play Delgado on Jan. 5, at 2 p.m.

Pictured is #2 **Jekalen Jones**, who is leading the Lady Bulldogs in points so far this season.

Men's Soccer team celebrates season with awards ceremony

From Staff Reports/Photos



Pictured is the 2018 Bulldogs men's soccer team following their post-season banquet on Nov. 29.

The Holmes Community College Men's Soccer Team held an awards ceremony on Thursday, Nov. 29, in the Student Union on the Ridgeland Campus.

The ceremony gave the players and coaches an opportunity to share a meal and fellowship with one another as they reflected on the 2018 season.

Head Men and Women's Coach Matt Convertino thanked everyone who helped make the season successful.

Each sophomore player was presented with a plaque and following the presentation, Men's Associate Head Soccer Coach Ousmane Coulibaly gave out team awards to a few standout players. He presented the Leadership Award to Joshua Hinkle, a sophomore defender from Madison; the Sportsmanship Award to Braden Strickland, a sophomore midfielder from McHenry and the Playmaker Award to Zachary McCullough, a freshman midfielder from Brandon. Juan Rodriguez, a sophomore forward from Fort Walton Beach, Florida, received the Golden Boot Award.

Both Harrison Hodge, a freshman defender from Laurel, and Wesley Jacobs, a freshman defender from

Brandon, received Most Improved awards. Dalton Mailman, a sophomore midfielder from Mary Esther, Florida, was named Most Valuable Midfielder; Colby Fair, a freshman goalkeeper from Laurel, was named Most Valuable Defender and Khalee Wilson, a sophomore defender from Fort Walton Beach, Florida, was named Most Valuable Player. Both Fair and Wilson were recognized for being named MACJC All-State, and Wilson was named United States Soccer Coaches All-Region, as well.

"The following quote from Maya Angelou sums up this year's team/season," Coach Coulibaly said. "It says, 'You may encounter many defeats, but you must not be defeated. In fact, it may be necessary to encounter the defeats, so you can know who you are, what you can rise from, how you can

Lady Bulldogs celebrate 2018 season with banquet

From Staff Reports/Photos



Pictured is the 2018 Bulldogs women's soccer team following their post-season banquet on Nov. 27.

The Holmes Lady Bulldogs Soccer Team held their annual soccer banquet on Nov. 27, in the McGowan Center on the Ridgeland Campus.

The banquet gave the players and coaches an opportunity to share a catered meal with friends and family as they reflected on the 2018 season. The evening also included sophomore players sharing their experiences as Lady Bulldogs. Head Men and Women's Coach Matt Convertino thanked everyone who helped make the season successful.

Each sophomore player was presented with a plaque and following the presentation, Women's Associate Head Coach Wesley Noble gave out team awards to a few standout players. Coach Noble presented the Leadership Award to Alysia Terry, a freshman forward from Byram; the Most Improved Player award to Halleigh Steed, a freshman defender from Brandon and Most Valuable Player to Sarah Chastain, a sophomore defender from

Madison.

He also presented Brookelyn Cramer, a sophomore defender from Pensacola, Florida, with the Most Valuable Defensive Player award; Ja'Laycia Brown, a freshman forward from Kosciusko, with the Most Valuable Offensive Player award; Peyton Montgomery, a freshman midfielder from Longview, Texas, with the Most Valuable Midfielder award and Zoe Ellis, a freshman forward from Brandon, with the Golden Boot award. Sophomore goalkeepers Morgan McKinion of Brandon and Bailey O'Connor of Oxford were both named Bulldog Award recipients, as well.

Finally, Coach Noble presented MACJC/NJCAA Awards to six players. All-State Awards were given to Chastain, freshman midfielder Kya Davis of Southaven, sophomore midfielder Pepper Ann Filbert of Brandon and freshman forward Isabella Wade of Madison. All-Region Awards went to Ellis and Montgomery.

Embry receives Milton Lee Olive Courage and Character Award

From Staff Reports/Photos



(left to right) Head Coach Jeff Koonz presents Charvez Embry with the Milton Lee Olive Courage and Character

Award during the awards banquet Monday night, Dec. 3, in the Math/Science Building on the Goodman Campus.

The award is named for Milton Lee Olive, who was the first African American to ever be awarded a Congressional Medal of Honor in the Vietnam War after sacrificing his life to save his platoon during a conflict in Vietnam.

Although he was born in Chicago, Olive has strong ties to the community as he was reared in Holmes County near Ebenezer.

In May 1963, the U.S. Army's 173rd Airborne Brigade became the first major combat unit to arrive in Vietnam. As the Army's only action-ready unit in the Pacific at that time, it was only a matter of weeks before the "Sky Soldiers" of the 173rd encountered the enemy firsthand. Again and again, these soldiers would struggle to secure and keep the 60-square-mile area known as War Zone D.

Also known as the "Iron Triangle," this territory would be Pfc. Milton Lee Olive III's final battlefield. The quiet young man from Holmes County was, like so many of his fellows, already a hardened combat veteran at the age of 19.

Thus, the men of Company B's 3rd Platoon considered their Oct. 22, 1965,

patrol near Phu Cuong routine. As they moved through jungle brush, they tried to spot Viet Cong operating in the area. At different times, they were under varying degrees of enemy fire, sometimes pinned down temporarily. Olive, by all accounts a good-humored, hardworking soldier, was constantly up front, exposing himself to enemy fire.

Olive and four others, including his platoon commander, were quietly and steadily pursuing one band of Viet Cong through the tangled growth. Suddenly, one of the enemy turned and threw a hand grenade into the middle of the platoon.

Olive dashed forward and grabbed the grenade. Yelling "I've got it," he tucked it into his middle and moved away from the others, falling on the grenade and absorbing the full blast.

Embry played along the defensive front for the Bulldogs the last two seasons. As a sophomore, Embry finished with 31 tackles including two broken up passes. As a freshman, he had six tackles including one sack and one

broken up pass.

"I feel honored receiving it knowing the person it's named after did an encouraging thing by sacrificing himself to save his team," said Embry.

"I enjoyed my time here at Holmes," he said. "It taught me a lot of lessons about life and different things and how to handle different situations."

"We use him (Olive) as a rallying cry for our team, and we would like to keep his story out there," Holmes Head Coach Jeff Koonz said. "He was the first Medal of Honor winner in the Vietnam War and grew up right down the street.

"That courage and character goes to Charvez Embry. He started every game for us. He had some nagging injuries and never complained. He kept grinding and exemplifies what that Milton Lee Olive Courage and Character Award is all about. We are proud for what he's done here."

Embry has some options next season but has not decided where he will transfer to next season.

Chavis receives Ras Branch Award

From Staff Reports/Photos



(left to right) Head Coach **Jeff Koonz** presents **Jack Chavis** with the Ras Branch Award.

Holmes Community College sophomore offensive lineman Jack Chavis of New Hebron received the Ras Branch Award during Monday night's awards banquet in the Math/Science Building on the Goodman Campus.

The Ras Branch Award is named for former coach and Holmes President Ras Branch. Branch's name can be found throughout Holmes' proud athletic history as he helped lead many teams from many different sports to state championships. He also served the school as president from 1940-49. Chavis, who played along the offen-

sive line for the Bulldogs the last two seasons, was named Honorable Mention All-State following his sophomore season.

"It was a great honor to receive this honor," Chavis said. "I've tried to work all year, and I'm glad that they gave me this award."

Chavis said he's glad to have spent two years at Holmes. "I loved being up here," Chavis said. "When I first came to Goodman, I wasn't sure how I would like it. I have really enjoyed my time here, and I am really going to miss the place."

"The Ras Branch Award traditionally epitomizes what you think a Holmes football player is all about," Holmes Head Coach Jeff Koonz said. "Jack was not only a good player on the field but also in the classroom and in the community. Jack has been an outstanding player for us and epitomizes what a Holmes football player is all about."

Chavis has committed to play next season at Kennesaw State University.

Wilson receives MacNealy Leadership Award

From Staff Reports/Photos



(left) Head Coach **Jeff Koonz** smiles as (right) **Col. Bradly MacNealy** presents **Luke Wilson** with the the MacNealy Leadership Award.

Holmes Community College sophomore linebacker Luke Wilson of Mantee received the Colonel Bradly MacNealy Leadership Award during the football team's awards banquet Tuesday night in the Math/Science Building on the Goodman Campus.

The award is named for former Holmes Bulldog Colonel Brad MacNealy, who was also in attendance. For his dedication and leadership, Holmes' football coaching staff has created the Bradly MacNealy Leadership Award. MacNealy, who is now retired, served as U.S. Property & Fiscal Officer for the Mississippi Army and Air National Guard with signature authority for an annual Congressional Appropriation in excess of \$650M and provided federal oversight for more than 10B worth of federal equipment and facilities.

During his distinguished military career, MacNealy served four active

duty tours with two tours in combat zones. He commanded the first National Guard Aviation Brigade (134 Aircraft, 3K soldiers) ever deployed in combat, created and implemented "Catfish Air" as theater distribution system in Iraq (Google Catfish Air), led aviation efforts (68 helicopters) on Mississippi Gulf Coast in response to Hurricane Katrina and was the former Deputy Commander, 1st U.S. Army, (500K soldiers), working for General Russel Honore'.

He spent over 7,000 flight hours as airplane and Blackhawk helicopter pilot spending 200 hours in combat. He is Airborne Paratrooper and Air Assault qualified.

For his efforts, he has been awarded a Bronze Star, Air Medal, Meritorious Service, Mississippi Magnolia Cross and many others. He also serves as a referee for the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges.

"It feels great to be back here with these young guys," MacNealy said. "They have a lot of character, and they are team full of leaders. It is great Coach Koonz has two awards named after the military. One is after me which is a great honor for me, but also a Medal of Honor winner (Milton Lee Olive) who is from very close by here in Ebenezer. That shows respect to the military. Coaching these young people and combining service to military and football is a great thing to teach them to respect the military and to appreciate the sacrifices."

MacNealy talked about Alabama

quarterback Jalen Hurts and used him as a good example of a leader. "He came in and did great things," MacNealy said. "He was a leader all year even though he wasn't the starting quarterback. You don't have to be the star player of a team to be a leader. Any coach will tell you that leadership is critical to a team. You can have fantastic talent but if you don't have leadership you don't have the team you should have."

"That speaks volumes of this young man (Luke Wilson) to be a leader of a team of 55 players that go out there," he said. "This rose him above the rest of the 55. He's got exceptional leadership talent and that will pay huge dividends for him the rest of his life."

As a sophomore, Wilson finished the season with 51 tackles including eight tackles for loss, four and one half sacks and one fumble recovery. As a freshman, he played in five games and had eight tackles.

"I was really honored to receive this award," Wilson said. "You can try to be a leader and don't know if everybody is going to back you. You have to go out every day and give your hardest and hope people can follow what you do."

"It's a great honor to get an award from a guy like that," he said of Colonel MacNealy. "Being a leader in a football game or practice doesn't compare to what he's been doing. He's been working for our country for 36 years. Just being in the room with him and getting an award from him is a

great honor."

Wilson's parents were also in attendance at the awards banquet. "It was a surprise," Wilson said. "I'm glad they got to experience what happened. They deserve a lot of respect for raising me and had a lot to do with that. I would like to thank them for all they've done."

Wilson said he's enjoyed his time at Holmes. "This place is a great place," Wilson said. "The coaches believe in you from day one. Everybody on campus has their best interest for you. Coming out of high school, you don't know if you are going to get that same treatment. This place is definitely like home, and it's a great place."

"The Colonel MacNealy Award is a special award named after a great leader himself, who is an alumni of Holmes, and I've been knowing him a long time," Holmes Head Coach Jeff Koonz said. "Whoever does get that award does have to exemplify outstanding leadership. Luke Wilson really epitomizes what that award is all about. He came in and really led the defense. We were much improved this year. He could get everybody lined up. He could rally the troops and make the calls. He's a very smart football player, and we are very proud for him and he is well deserving of the Colonel MacNealy Leadership Award."

Wilson has committed to play next season with Mississippi College.

Football holds postseason banquet

From Staff Reports/Photos

The Holmes Community College Bulldogs held their football awards banquet Monday night in the Math and Science Building on the Goodman Campus.

State/Region XXIII awards received included: Connor McKay, First Team All-State and All-Region; Cedrick Moffett and Tovell Henderson, Jr., Second Team All-State; and Jack Chavis, Charvez Embry, Kendrick Haynes, Tavian Johnson and Dylan Kelly, Honorable Mention All-State.

Team awards included: Jack Chavis, Ras Branch Award; Charvez Embry, Milton Lee Olive Courage and Charac-

ter Award; and Luke Wilson, Colonel Bradly MacNealy Leadership Award.

Coach Jeff Koonz thanked the players for a great season, and former Bulldog Colonel Bradly MacNealy also spoke to the players as well.

(right) Pictured are Holmes Bulldog football player award winners (front row, left to right) **Cedrick Moffett**, **Dylan Kelly**, **Connor McKay**, **Kendrick Haynes** (back row, left to right) **Jack Chavis**, **Charvez Embry**, **Tavian Johnson** and **Tovell Henderson, Jr.**

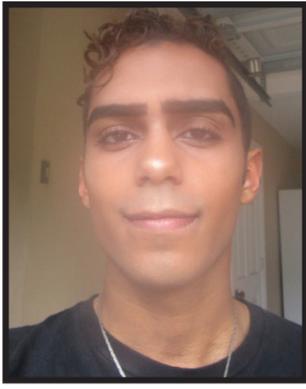




The Growl Staff



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."



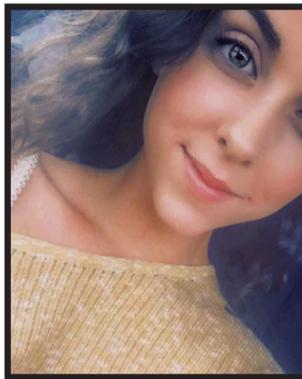
Chloe Bland
 Hometown: Brandon
 Major: Secondary Education with social studies emphasis
 Campus: Goodman
 "After Holmes, I plan to attend Mississippi State University and earn my bachelor's and master's degree. I'd love to teach at a community college. At Holmes, I'm a member of the marching band. I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