



# THE GROWL

Holmes Community College  
Goodman – Ridgeland – Grenada  
www.holmescc.edu

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## Longtime Holmes Foundation President Dr. Don Phillips passes away

From Staff Reports/Photos



Pictured are (left to right) Holmes Foundation Executive Director Dr. Lindy McCain, Holmes President Dr. Jim Haffey, longtime Holmes Foundation President Dr. Donald E. Phillips, and his wife, Holmes Legacy Club member Sue Breedlove Phillips at the Dedication Ceremony for the Donald E. Phillips Building in Grenada on Nov. 6, 2015.

The Holmes Community College family is saddened to learn of the passing of longtime Holmes Founda-

tion President Dr. Donald E. Phillips. Dr. Phillips, 84, an alumnus, former athlete and coach, died on Feb. 2 at his

home in Brandon.

The Gore Springs native certainly marked his place in the history of Holmes. Dr. Phillips, a member of the Holmes Sports Hall of Fame and a recipient of both the Alumnus of the Year Award and Distinguished Service Award, has two buildings named in his honor at Holmes; one at the main campus in Goodman named in 2004 and one at the Grenada Center named in 2015.

The courtyard at the Chapel on the Hill also bears his name along with his wife's, the former Sue Breedlove Phillips. He and Sue played a pivotal role in the renovation of the Holmes House, the school's alumni house, on the Goodman Campus. He served the Foundation well by helping grow the college's endowment through two major gift campaigns along with the raising of funds for the Chapel on the Hill. In 2004, Dr. Phillips received the Region IV Benefactor of the Year Award from the National Council for

Resource Development. The Benefactor Awards Program seeks to recognize outstanding contributions to community colleges by individuals, foundations or business and corporations. Recipients embody the ideals of philanthropy, leadership and volunteerism in the service of community, technical and junior colleges.

While at Holmes, Dr. Phillips was a member of the state championship baseball and basketball teams in 1951 and 1952. He was also chosen Mr. Holmes Junior College his sophomore year.

After graduating from Holmes in 1952, he transferred to Mississippi College, where he received a bachelor's degree in accounting in 1954. He was the vice-president of the senior class and a member of the basketball team in 1952 and 1953. He received an MBA from the University of Mississippi in 1959, and also holds an

See "Dr. Phillips," page 5

## Cook crowned 2017 Most Beautiful

From Staff Reports/Photos



Pictured is 2016 Most Beautiful Jade Dalton crowning 2017 Most Beautiful Bayley Cook.

Bayley Cook of Winona was named 2017 Most Beautiful in Holmes Community College's Parade of Beauties pageant held Feb. 28 on the Goodman Campus. Cook, daughter of Shannon

and Robyn Dunn, and of Rod and Renee Cook, is a freshman pre-dental hygiene major on the Grenada Campus.

An avid Mississippi State University athletics fan, Cook enjoys playing with her nephews, staying actively involved in First Baptist Church and assisting with the preschoolers at FBC. Her future plans include becoming a dental hygienist.

Over the course of the evening, other awards were given, as well. Sydney Boteler was named Most Photogenic, and the four Beauties were Boteler, Nikki Merchant, Hallie Murtagh, and Rae Patridge. The Top 10 Beauties included Cook, Boteler, Merchant, Murtagh, Patridge, Kaylan Green, Elizabeth Lowery, Hailey Mims, Kelli Ray, and Abigail Singletary.



Pictured is (center) 2017 Most Beautiful Bayley Cook with the other ladies named to the Top 10. They are: (left to right) Kelli Ray, Hailey Mims, Kaylan Green, Hallie Murtagh, Nikki Merchant, Sydney Boteler, Rae Patridge, Elizabeth Lowery, and Abigail Singletary.

The event was directed by Student Activities Director Tina Boyette and Director of Student Support Services Linda Alexander-Jones served as Mistress of Ceremonies. Entertainment was provided by the Holmes Connec-

tion! show choir, under the direction of Mike Yates.

### WHAT'S INSIDE...

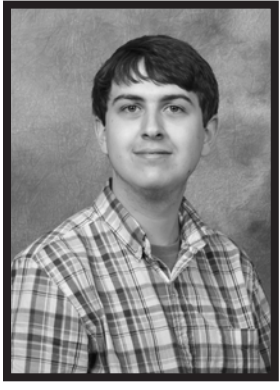
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PHOTOS OF  
WHO'S WHO  
2017!

## The Obstacles of College

By Ethan Burton  
Growl Reporter



School presents a lot of challenges to the aspiring student to overcome. On top of the numerous assignments the student must stay on top of in order to come out of the semester with passing grades, the student must also be able to squeeze in time for social and extracurricular activities. The constant stress of all of the management of time, money, and work really throws the young student into the tough world of responsibility.

In high school, the student is accustomed to having his classes occur in a predictable, daily routine where the classes take place in sequential order at the exact same time throughout the

week. The homework, for the most part, is laid out in clear, monotonous structure; most of it is simply busy work. In college, however, the homework becomes more complex, forcing the student to think more in a more open-ended method to figure things out on his own.

The schedules, too, drastically change. Classes do not occur on a rigid day-to-day sequence, but instead are stretched out over the week, allowing more free time in between classes. The freedom of time does, however, mean more responsibility for the student to keep up with. Homework and projects come in on a steady flow, allowing for more flexibility for when the homework can be completed, but also can slip by students who procrastinate or don't keep on top of the assignments.

On top of the accrualment of tasks and responsibilities, the student must also learn to open his mind to confront ideas, lifestyles, and philosophies that

conflict with his own. The college campus is a huge expansion of people from the high school, which usually only keeps a few hundred people at a time. With the mixture of people from varying cultures and beliefs, this forces the student who may be stuck in a closed-minded handicap to learn to understand things that he may not agree with.

The social landscape from high school also completely shifts. In high school, it is fairly easy to maintain a clique that stays with each other in between classes and after classes. It is more difficult to do so in college, as everyone may be on different schedules and the campus is much less compact; it is definitely possible to maintain close social groups, but it requires much more effort on the part of the friends. But the sheer variety of students and extracurricular groups does open opportunity for the student to make new friends, if they can

overcome any social fears of being lost among the crowd.

But the most stressful aspect of college, in my opinion, is the ever-looming dread that the student feels concerning what career he wishes to take. A college student changes his major three times on average, which means that for the most part, no one is really sure what they want to do with their lives when they arrive to college. The student must make decisions involving: money, education requirements, work environment, and personal passion in order to finally settle on the path that he wishes to pursue.

All in all, college is a big step to walk, but although things drastically change and become more and more difficult, the experience leaves a person more intellectually wholesome and mature.

## The Importance of Drinking Water

By Morgan Hannah  
Growl Reporter



Water is used for many different things and humans highly ignore the importance of water and how it affects the body without proper consumption. Water helps food get

through the intestines, lubricates the joints, protects the spinal cord and other tissues, and regulates body temperature. If the body consumes any type of food with high water content it can get water from that source, but that is not

enough. A normal person should drink half their body weight in ounces but an active person should drink that and more. Surprisingly, all non-alcoholic drinks can help people get their daily water intake if water is boring to taste. Caffeine and sodium contained in soft drinks can cause the body to lose water though.

Water helps filter out the kidneys so they can properly dispose of waste. If water consumption is low, the kidneys will not filter out waste and therefore it will build up inside the body along with excess fluid. This can lead to kidney disease, and when untreated the kidneys may fail. Urinary tract infections are the second most common type of infection in the body and can

be prevented by drinking lots of water. Kidney stones can result from lack of water as well as increasing the risk of chronic kidney disease. Dehydration is another important aspect of not drinking enough water. This can cause the body to lose electrolytes which carries electrical signals to the cells. In severe cases dehydration can cause kidney failure.

An insignificant amount of water also affects other things as well, not just the kidneys. More than 90 percent of blood is water, and when the body does not have enough water, blood thickens. The skin can prematurely wrinkle, and be more vulnerable to skin disorders. Dehydration can restrict airways and cause allergies and asthma

to get worse as well as impair cognitive ability. Dehydration also leads to an overly acidic stomach which causes heartburn and stomach ulcers. Joints can become less good at shock absorption causing shock pain due to the fact that cartilage is 80 percent water. Constipation can occur because the bowel does not function properly without water.

Americans do not drink enough water. At least seven percent of adults do not drink pure water at all on a daily basis. Others drink four cups of water or less a day without the consumption of fruit and vegetables which also have a high water content. Overall people are risking their health by not drinking enough fluids.

## The man who is called one of the Best Writer of his Generation

By Abby Perez  
Growl Reporter



On Wednesday, Feb. 8, author Michael Farris Smith spoke in Jackson at Lemuria Books. The novel "Desperation Road" is set in a Mississippi town where there's

drugs, whiskey, guns, and craving for revenge.

After reading a section from his book he talked about what inspired him to write this satisfying novel.

Smith said that it all began with this woman and a child that he imagined walking on the side of the road on a

hot Mississippi summer day.

"Originally it was just kinda Maben (mother character) and I thought, ok that's desperate enough. That's tough enough, but what if she has a child, well the steaks just went up big time. And the tension and the consequences and just what may happen just went up tremendously," Smith said.

Smith continues to say that he didn't know anything about them, but he knew where they were. He said that he saw them trying to get to the Fernwood truck stop. At the time, Smith was about 11 years old or so, and was living in Magnolia. A few years later, he moved to Macon. That is the place where he imagined the woman and child, with only one bag in their hands.

"I don't believe you have to know a

whole lot about your story before you start writing, and I have that image of those two, and I just started trailing them to see what happens. All you need is one good image," Smith said.

Smith spoke about his rejections when he first started out, and that he got through it all by believing even when nobody else did.

So in the words of the talented Michael Farris Smith "All you can do is keep going, and sitting there, and trying, and trying hard."

**IN THIS PHOTO:** Pictured is author Michael Farris Smith who spoke at Lemuria Books in Jackson on Feb. 8.



# The Growl

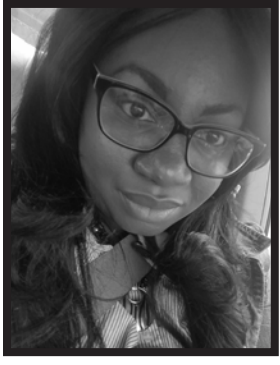
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Send to: [mbusby@holmescc.edu](mailto:mbusby@holmescc.edu).

## Lend a helping hand

By Alisha Williams  
Growl Reporter



environmentally friendly. Educating

Ecological responsibility is “the duty that a company has to operate in a way that protects the environment. There are many ways that our school can become more

the student body population, recycling and using recycled products, and making stricter rules and harsher penalties for littering are three different ways that can help.

As a school, education about math, science, and English should not be the only things taught. Life skills and morals about our environment are important subjects too. Learning how to keep our earth clean and at its best is a great thing to promote. If the earth

is no good for us, how can we expect human life to live and exist?

A way our college can help is to recycle. A good way is to give every classroom a recycling bin. This way when the students are finished with their drinks or chip bags they can just put them in the bin. Also, recycling goes both ways. The school could also use recycled products such as paper, pencils and a lot more. That is also another way to become environmental-

ly friendly.

All in all, there are so many things that can be done to help keep our environment clean. Everyone can pitch in and do something. It is up to our school to make the first step and make people aware of the situation. I hope our school recognizes soon that being environmentally friendly is the way to keep our earth clean, fun, and healthy.

## The Not-So-Final Frontier

By Charleigh Mcphail  
Growl Reporter



Recently, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, or NASA, discovered seven new exoplanets about 40 light-years away. All

of them are about the size of Earth and all are supposedly capable of sustaining life. These planets were found orbiting a dwarf star named Trappist-1, and all seven planets’ orbits made them easy to study. Forty light-years sounds extremely far, but in cosmic terms this is actually relatively close.

What exactly IS an exoplanet and what does this mean for life on Earth?

An exoplanet is simply a planet that orbits a star outside the solar system. The atmosphere observed on these planets is almost ideal, and most of them have a great chance of having liquid water present. If we had to live here, the atmosphere would be slightly colder. Also, it would be significantly darker. Regardless of if life is actually found on these planets, scientists

stated that the discovery and studies made are still ground-breaking and will lead to many great things in the future. In 2018, the James Webb Space Telescope is scheduled to launch and investigate these planets’ infrared wavelengths of light.

## Making Bachelorette History

By Abby Perez  
Growl Reporter



the next bachelorette was announced on ABC’s “Jimmy Kimmel Live”. The big announcement was made by Jimmy Kimmel himself and Chris Harrison.

All of those people who impatiently wait for Mondays in order to watch “The Bachelor” got a big spoiler alert on Monday, Feb. 13, because

The amazingly beautiful Rachel Lindsay is the lucky gal to have the chance to find love on season 13 of “The Bachelorette.”

“I am ready to find love, find a husband,” she said.

Lindsay is not only going to be the next to find love, but she is also going to be making Bachelorette history. Lindsay is going to be the first-ever African American to be on the show, and she will be calling the shots by being the next bachelorette.

Mike Fleiss, series creator tweeted about the “history- making announcement” before Kimmel and Harrison

made the big announcement.

There has been some chatter around saying that there hasn’t been any luck in choosing more diverse contestants on the seasons of “The Bachelorette.” After 12 seasons of only white women becoming the bachelorette, the tables have finally turned.

On “Good Morning America,” Lindsay said “I’m honored to have this opportunity and to represent myself as an African-American woman.” Then she added by saying “And I just hope that people rally behind me like they did in Nick’s season ... I’m just trying to find love. Even though I’m an Afri-



can-American woman, it’s no different than any other Bachelorette.”

## Why Reading is Taking a Backseat to Other Media and Why It’s Still Valuable

By Ethan Burton  
Growl Reporter



reading for pleasure is often passed by. It is sad as someone who works at a library to see so few students check out books outside of academic purposes, for reference or for mandated reading by teachers. Even with the large presence of e-books, reading seems to take a backseat to more appealing forms of leisure. The form of the novel and short story was once the most accessible method to engross people into another world, where the reader could escape his problems temporarily in narration told by words. People of that time,

In this current generation of instant messaging, endless top 10 videos, and highly-engrossing virtual worlds to engage in, the archaic entertainment of

however, could not imagine what experiences television dramas, cinematic blockbusters, access to vast albums of music, and interactive, realistic graphics held in store. With many people on busy schedules, the input of time and effort to read a 600-page novel, which could take many hours to read, is less favorable than its movie adaptation, which could be finished in one sitting.

With the unstoppable force of the internet, too, the expanding web of interpersonal sharing requires that information be presented in fast, quickly digestible bits; there is a growing trend of online articles, even from elite tier newspaper outlets, presenting their material in a manner that accommodates the fickle attention of online consumers who want it short and sweet. Enlightened, well-crafted writing is taking a backseat to clickbait, listicles, and rants, which sadly means that in the internet world, quality loses to quantity.

Our society’s ever-increasing demand for time efficiency and access to immersive technology inversely discourages people to pick up a book, but there is pleasure gained from putting in the effort to read that cannot be obtained from other mediums. With words, the reader is given the materials to craft a story in the form and style of his own creation; while shows and videos simply require you to watch, literature requires you to construct. Even in comic books, if well executed, there is this magical effect where the words and pictures flow into an imaginary motion, thus giving the reader the experience of “filling in the spaces” in the story.

Reading also strengthens the mental muscle, building linguistic skills and personal vocabulary, as well as increasing processing and comprehension. It can boost your imagination, which helps your creativity in every passion. Reading can also force people

to think critically or philosophically, to form their own opinion on a passage idea that can open doors to new ideas; it also makes the reader more culturally rounded, as they become familiar with customs, phrases, and people more than they would have they just looked up facts on Google.

And while to say that novels are not as appealing to the modern world as they once were, there is still access to droves of works easily accessible by the same internet that behaves against it. If one wishes to, he could spend his entire life reading selections from Amazon or other vendors. Even if printed text becomes obsolete, which gradually it is, electronic books will still be produced, whether people read them or not. So even though there are many other media to grab your attention, if you want to exercise your mind and enjoy a story without it being spoon-fed, try reading.

## The Oscars fiascos

By Abigail Launius  
Growl Reporter



The 2017 Oscars was definitely a night of chaos. The Oscars is known for its elegance, professionalism, and historical significance.

So far “La La Land” had received the most awards, including Best Production Design,

Best Cinematography, Best Score, Best Song, Best Director, and Best Actress. The two announcers for Best Picture, Warren Beatty and Faye Dunaway, got on stage.

“For Best Picture...” Beatty starts off. He pauses, looks at Dunaway and nods his head. “La La Land!” Dunaway announces cheerfully.

The cast for “La La Land” storms the stage excited. After the whole cast and crew is already on stage, Marc Platt, Oscar producer, leaps to the micro-

phone.

“I’m sorry, there’s been a mistake. “Moonlight” you guys won Best Picture,” exclaims Platt.

“This is not a joke. They read the wrong thing,” Platt announces to the shocked audience. Jordan Horowitz, producer of “La La Land”, then flashes the card reading “Moonlight.”

Unfortunately, this mix-up was only one of the two things that went wrong during the evening. During the memorial, they put up an announcement of

Janet Patterson’s death. Unfortunately, the photo they used was of Jan Chapman, who is very much still alive. Patterson was a costume designer who died in October 2015.

The Oscars was still a success overall because of all the important and deserving nominees who were honored, but it will be a long time before anyone forgets those bumps in the Oscars’ road.

## Did you know? Need-to-know campus information

By Mia Jones  
Growl Reporter



As students, we get so caught up in our school work and life outside of school that we tend to forget deadlines or school events. For example,

you may not have known that there’s a yearbook picture day once each semester. The fall semester of the school year is your first opportunity to take a picture for that year’s yearbook. If you miss

this date, there’s a make-up day in the spring semester. For those who have not taken a picture, unfortunately, the make-up dates on all campuses have passed. Some may not have even known that we have a yearbook, let alone a yearbook staff, and newspaper staff! Here’s a list of other dates and things you may have forgotten about, or just may not have known:

### Graduation

Let’s start off with the most important topic, graduation! If you are planning to graduate following this semester, please keep these things in mind:

- First things first, if you are planning to march, graduation is Friday, May

12. The ceremony will be held on the Goodman Campus.

- The deadline to apply for May graduation is March 31
- The deadline to apply for summer graduation is July 15.
- If you are marching, you will need to know your height, chest size, and weight for your application.

Make sure that you frequently keep up with your degree evaluation to keep you on track to graduate on time. Also, make sure that you have all fees paid and holds cleared.

### Sports

Please, tell me you know that Holmes has sports!

• Though football season is over, they brought home the win in the Graphic Edge Bowl over Iowa Western Community College in Cedar Falls, Iowa. Congrats to the team, the 2017 signees, and the players signing to play at the next level!

- Basketball teams are participating in post-season tournaments.
- Baseball season has begun. Their opener was Feb. 3 in Selma, Alabama.
- Softball had their season opener the first week of February, as well. They played on the Goodman Campus against Southwest Mississippi Community College and Marion Military Institute, Alabama.

*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 contribute to our paper and our blog, the HCC Grid. You are welcome to send in submissions for possible publication even if you were unable to “officially” join the staff this spring. For more information, contact: Mary Margaret Busby at: [mbusby@holmescc.edu](mailto:mbusby@holmescc.edu).*

### Student Spotlight



#### Ashlee Bennett

**Hometown:** Kilmichael, MS  
**Campus:** Grenada  
**Major:** Pre-Med  
**Post-Holmes plans:** To go to UMMC and pursue a career in the medical field.  
**Campus involvement:** Holmes Ambassador, SGA  
**Special talent/skills:** I love to dance and was on the dance team in high school.

### Student Spotlight



#### Octavia Smith

**Hometown:** Florence, MS  
**Campus:** Goodman  
**Major:** Elementary Education  
**Post-Holmes plans:** To attend Southern Miss and become an elementary teacher.  
**Hobbies:** Shopping, singing and dancing.  
**Interesting facts:** I love the pattern chevron and enjoy making jewelry. I also love writing stories, which inspired me to major in elementary education.

### Student Spotlight



#### Madeline Tyre

**Hometown:** Madison, MS  
**Campus:** Ridgeland  
**Major:** Liberal Arts  
**Post-Holmes plans:** To go to a university and then move to New York to make music for a living.  
**Hobbies:** Exploring, making music, hanging out with friends, and creating art.

## Vice President Casts Historic Vote

By Taylor Vance  
Growl Editor



On Feb. 7, Vice-President Mike Pence broke a tie for a cabinet nominee for the first time in history. The nominee was Betsy DeVos, whom President

Trump nominated for Secretary of Education. DeVos drew heavy criticism after her rocky confirmation hearing, where she was unable to adequately answer some questions posed to her.

Even though Republicans have a two seat majority in the Senate, two moderate Republicans, Senators Susan

Collins of Maine and Lisa Murkowski of Alaska, came out in opposition to DeVos claiming she was unqualified to hold the office of Education Secretary.

The move came as a surprise to many because this is the first major break from the establishment under the Trump administration with Mitch McConnell leading the Senate. The move received mixed reviews from Americans with some claiming the move to be praiseworthy from breaking with the Republican Party and others claiming the move traitorous.

Since the modern use of the Senate filibuster, the Vice-President, who is constitutionally the President of the Senate, rarely casts tie-breaking let alone makes an appearance in the Senate. Pence has only been in office for three weeks and had to use the

power, and former Vice-President Joe Biden never got the opportunity to use the tie-breaker.

Regardless, Secretary DeVos will have a challenge leading the Education Department, which presides over more than 98,000 public schools and more than 4,000 degree-granting institutions. With DeVos now confirmed, all of Trump's Cabinet picks should be confirmed.



Pence casting vote in Senate; Photo courtesy of fivethirtyeight.com

## Ed group ranks eLearning program in top three nationwide

From Staff Reports/Photos

The Center for Online Education released its list of the 50 best online community colleges for 2017, and Holmes Community College came in at number three in the nation.

In order to produce the top 50, the organization scored each school using a range of factors. All criteria were subdivided into three distinct categories, and each carried a different weight for determining a school's overall score. Categories include online flexibility, academics, and experience and affordability.

"All I have to say is that it is totally a team effort and it takes the whole college to achieve an award like this," Director of eLearning, Tish Stewart said.

As a member of the Mississippi Virtual Community College (MVCC) consortium, Holmes' online course offerings include classes from 14 differ-



Pictured are (left to right) Ridgeland Campus eLearning staff members **Heather Guest, Alan Kinsey, and Shalon Farris.**

ent postsecondary schools in the state. Holmes offers more than 300 courses in two dozen academic subjects. Biology, English, mathematics, and sociology are among the most represented fields of study for online students at Holmes.

"I am very pleased that the eLearning department was ranked as the third best program in the country," Holmes President Dr. Jim Haffey said. "There are over 1000 community colleges in the United States to compete with for this honor. I am confident that no other finalist provides this education at a higher level for a lower cost.

"Our eLearning department operates with a very small staff, and I know that they could not be this successful without our faculty stepping up to teach where and when they are needed. I greatly appreciate this flexibility and 'can do' attitude. I also appreciate our other departments supporting eLearning," Haffey said. "This is a group effort that everyone should celebrate."

For more information about the Holmes eLearning program, visit: <http://www.holmescc.edu/elearning/>.

## Dr. Phillips (continued)

honorary doctorate degree from Mississippi College.

Dr. Phillips had 15 years of experience in all segments of IMC's Fertilizer Group. Prior to that, he was the President and CEO of Pitman-Moore Animal Health Corporation and President of IMC Industry Group, Inc., both in Northbrook, Illinois; he was the Chairman of the Board of Synbiotics Corporation in San Diego, California; a member of the Board of Directors at Chemical Leaman Tank Liners in Downing Town, Pennsylvania, and Chairman of the Board at Lake Forest Graduate School of Business in Lake Forrest, Illinois. He was a member of the Advisory Committee, Mississippi Alternative Energy Project.

Dr. Phillips also served as Chairman of the Board at Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan, Inc., Saskatoon, SK, Canada. (This is the only corporation in Canada to receive AAA+ rating by the University of Toronto). He has served on the Board of Directors for Great Lakes Real Estate Investment Trust, Oak Brook, Illinois, and the Board of Trustees at Bethel College and Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota.

All of these positions covered a span of 26 years.

Dr. Phillips was also a member of the Mississippi College Board of Trustees and President of the Mississippi College Foundation. He was a member of the Mississippi Agriculture, Aviation, and Forestry Museum Board of Directors and President of the Board of Mynelle Gardens Botanical Society, as well.

"Dr. Phillips was a once in a generation kind of man," Holmes President Dr. Jim Haffey said. "Many of us are fortunate to have benefited from his work while as students and then have the opportunity to work alongside him as a friend and mentor. "He helped build the Holmes Foundation from the ground up. His impact on Holmes Community College and other surrounding colleges is immeasurable. He was a true servant leader, and we will miss his kind, positive, and generous spirit greatly."

"Dr. Phillips helped me grow personally and professionally from the example he set in his years of dedicated leadership to the Holmes Community College Development Founda-

tion," Holmes Foundation Executive Director Dr. Lindy McCain said. "He touched countless lives of students, faculty, and staff over the years with the time and resources he so graciously provided. We will miss his encouragement, drive and vision at the College."

Dr. Phillips was a native of Grenada County and a longtime resident of Rankin County. He is survived by his wife, Sue, daughter, Donna Keeling (Mike) of Brandon, four grandchildren: Don Keeling (Lisa) of Madison, Amanda Keeling Minshew (Rylan) of Brandon, Phillip Barnett of Atlanta, GA, Kelly Barnett of Chicago, Illinois, and three great-grandchildren: Owen and Lillian Keeling and Olivia Min-



Dr. Don Phillips

shew. He is preceded in death by his daughter, Debra Barnett of Wilmette, Illinois.

## Dean Lawrence receives ESGR Patriot Award

From Staff Reports/Photos



Pictured are (left to right) ESGR Area 4 Chair Joyce Robinson, Ridgeland Campus Dean Tonya Lawrence, Holmes President Dr. Jim Haffey, and chemistry instructor Dr. Troy Milliken. Robinson presented Lawrence with the Patriot Award on Feb. 2 on Holmes' Ridgeland Campus. Dr. Milliken nominated the dean for the award because of her support of his military training time as an Army chaplain.

Ridgeland Campus Academic Dean Tonya Lawrence was presented with a Patriot Award from the Mississippi Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) on Thursday, Feb. 2.

She received a framed Patriot Award certificate and accompanying lapel pin as part of the award, presented by ESGR Area 4 Chair Joyce Robinson. "I am very proud to have received

the Patriot Award," Lawrence said. "I feel blessed to have the opportunity to work with individuals who are dedicated to serving our country and am honored by Dr. Milliken's nomination."

Lawrence was nominated for the award by Dr. Kenneth Troy Milliken, a Holmes chemistry instructor on the Ridgeland Campus. Dr. Milliken, who serves as an Army Reserve Brigade Chaplain (MAJOR) in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, nominated Lawrence for recognition because of her support of his military training time.

"I have been an Army Chaplain for eight years, and my main duties are performing chapel services and counseling soldiers," Dr. Milliken said. "Specifically, I am in charge of Battalion Chaplains in Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi. I nominated Dean Lawrence for this award because of her support of my Army duties when I must take leave and her support of the military in general."

Holmes President Dr. Jim Haffey added, "I am very proud that the Holmes faculty and staff serve and support our nation's great military. There is not anything more important than defending the freedom of our

students, employees and communities. It is rewarding for us to have Tonya honored by her own faculty who understand firsthand what true sacrifice is. I am very thankful for her, Dr. Milliken, and all of our students and staff who serve. We remain committed to working with anyone who is willing to help our military."

ESGR, a Department of Defense program, seeks to foster a culture in which all employers support and value the employment and military service of members of the National Guard and Reserve in the United States.

The Patriot Award was created by ESGR to publicly recognize individuals who provide outstanding patriotic support and cooperation to their employees. According to ESGR's website, the award reflects the efforts made to support citizen warriors through a wide-range of measures including flexible schedules, time off prior to and after deployment, caring for families, and granting leaves of absence if needed.

For more information about ESGR outreach programs or volunteer opportunities, call 800-336-4590 or visit [www.ESGR.mil](http://www.ESGR.mil).

## Holmes named one of Best Online Colleges for 2016-17

From Staff Reports/Photos



Holmes Community College has been named one of the nation's Best Online Community Colleges for 2016 by AffordableCollegesOnline.org (ACO), a leader in higher education information, resources and rankings.

The school earned the third position on the list, which ACO generated by analyzing cost and quality metrics of thousands of U.S. community colleges with online degree programs.

"We wanted to honor the schools and universities that are setting the standard for online learning," said Dan Schuessler, CEO and Founder of AffordableCollegesOnline.org "These schools are going above and beyond the industry standard to help make online education programs more affordable.

Only public, not-for-profit institutions were eligible for the ranking. The primary data points used to identify the Best Online Colleges of 2016 include the following:

- Regional accreditation
- In-state tuition and fees
- Percent of full-time undergraduate students receiving institutional financial aid

- The number on online programs offered
- Student-to-teacher ratio
- Average amount of institutional aid received by first-time students

An in depth look at the best online programs in the U.S. can be seen here: <http://www.affordablecollegesonline.org/online-colleges/community-colleges/>

AffordableCollegesOnline.org has distinguished its ranking scale by the use of Peer-Based Value, or PBV. The PBV score compares the cost of each program to the cost of similar programs with the same qualitative score. AffordableCollegesOnline.org rankings of the best online programs for the 2016-2017 school year and a complete look at the methodology can be found here: <http://www.affordablecollegesonline.org/methodology/>.

Holmes is part of the Mississippi Virtual Community College

(MSVCC), and offers classes via the Internet platform Canvas. Courses are offered both by Holmes instructors and through other instructors in the MSVCC. Although a number of options are offered, including regular semester courses, four-week courses, and eight-week courses, the eLearning Department offers to customize schedules for interested students if they do not see a class they need.

A multi-campus institution, Holmes offers the Associate of Arts degree, Associate of Applied Science degree, technical and career certificates, and workforce training. The college now offers more than 50 academic majors, approximately 30 professional programs and a variety of student support services. The college is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.

## Bowman receives Entergy's Life Saving Award

From Staff Reports/Photos

On Friday, Nov. 4, Holmes Community College lineman school graduate Ben Bowman (Class of Spring 2013) and an Entergy co-worker put their training into action responding to a traffic accident near their worksite. By removing the driver of the car, performing CPR and utilizing an AED, the two saved the man's life.

For their heroism, Bowman and John Burris were recognized by Entergy Louisiana on Feb. 1 with the President's Life Saving Award. He received the award from Entergy Louisiana CEO Phillip May and Customer Service Vice President Dennis Dawsey.

Bowman and Burris were working on an outage ticket nearby when the accident occurred at the intersection of Highway 73 and Cornerview Road. According to Bowman's plaque, "They immediately rushed to the scene and saw that a man had crashed into a

utility pole and was unconscious in his vehicle. They called 911 and were advised to check for vitals and to try and remove the man from the vehicle.

"They determined the man was not breathing and had no pulse so they cut the seatbelt and placed him on the ground to begin manual CPR. Ben and John did manual compressions while another man on site gave rescue breaths for about five minutes until a volunteer fireman arrive. The fireman gave Ben and John the AED to place on the man while the fireman continued rescue breathing with an ambu-bag. They placed the AED and followed instructions and after shocking the man twice, the ambulance arrived and took over. At the time he was transferred to the ambulance he had a pulse and his blood pressure was good."

Bowman said he didn't hesitate in responding. "I did not hesitate to take action, because I am trained by Entergy to not only to be a lineman, but to have the skills necessary for me to participate in the aid of anyone in need," Bowman said. "Of course my instincts did kick in, but we do annual training to prepare us for situations like these."

Bowman is a 2011 Winona Christian School graduate. He and his wife, Victoria, who is a Holmes graduate and former Lady Bulldog softball player, live in Gonzales. Bowman worked at Yazoo Valley EPA after graduating from the lineman program at Holmes before going to work for Entergy Louisiana in April 2015. The Gonzales office covers areas from St. Gabriel to Prairieville, Louisiana.



## PTA students participate in MPTA Legislative Day

From Staff Reports/Photos



The Holmes Community College Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) students were a part of the 2017 Missis-

sippi Physical Therapy Association's (MPTA) Physical Therapy Legislative Day.

Held on Feb. 24, the PTA students were introduced to the House of Representatives on the House floor during the opening session. Representative Oliver of Winona was instrumental in making this happen. They spent the morning talking to legislators, thanking them for their service and speaking to them about the physical therapy profession.

"For many in the class, this was their first opportunity to visit our Capitol and it was a wonderful experience," said Meg King, director of the PTA program. "They represented the bulldog nation with pride!"

The Holmes PTA program is housed on the Grenada Campus, and the first cohort of 14 students selected for the two-year program began during the

2015-2016 school year. The mission of the program is to improve the quality of life in the community by implementing a quality education program to educate knowledgeable and marketable physical therapist assistants. The PTA program will prepare graduates to assist physical therapists in various healthcare settings.

All who are interested in applying are encouraged to visit the web page to find detailed information on our program. For more information, contact King at (662) 227-2379 or myking@holmescc.edu.

## Holmes shines at SkillsUSA state competition

From Staff Reports/Photos

The SkillsUSA chapters from all three Holmes Community College campuses successfully competed in the annual competition hosted by the Mississippi Department of Education at the Jackson Convention Center Feb. 28-March 1.

Overall Holmes took home 13 awards: seven from the Goodman Campus, four from Grenada, and two from Ridgeland. The first place winners will be traveling to the national competition in Louisville, Kentucky, June 19-23.

Goodman SkillsUSA students Jenna Cummings, Kevin Luckett, Lauren Martin, David Orduna, Ann Pohlig, Lakesha Rand, and Hallie Westbrook performed the official closing out of the meeting; an honor bestowed on them for winning first place in the Opening and Closing Ceremonies category. Morgan Lancaster and Ivory Smith also took home a first place win for Esthetics.

Other Goodman students brought home medals, as well. Paige Hitt and Caitlyn Pounders placed third in the

Nail Care division, Michelle McMullough placed third in Cosmetology, Todd Ingle placed third in Collision Repair, Josh Saxton placed third in Appliance Repair, and Clark Tyner placed third in Technical Math.

From the Grenada Campus, there were two first place and two second place wins. Brittany Starnes won first place in Medical Terminology, and Meredith Moore brought home first for First Aid/CPR. In the Job Interview category, Angela Stowers won second place, and Marlena Pendleton won second in Extemporaneous Speaking.

Ridgeland Campus students Dmorris Walker and Denzel Thompson both brought home third place wins from the competition. Walker placed third in Job Skill Demonstration, and Thompson in Job Interview.

SkillsUSA was established for the purpose of encouraging, through club activities, the development of social and leadership abilities as well as skills needed to succeed and be competitive in the workforce. The organization is open to all students enrolled



Pictured are the award-winning SkillsUSA students from the Goodman Campus. They are: (sitting, left to right) **Paige Hitt, Caitlyn Pounders**, (front row standing, left to right) **Kevin Luckett, Lakesha Rand, Ann Pohlig, Michelle McCullough, Morgan Lancaster, Ivory Smith, Hallie Westbrook, Lauren Martin**, (back row, left to right) **Josh Saxton, David Orduna, Clark Tyner and Jenna Cummings**.



Pictured are Grenada Campus SkillsUSA advisers with their students who placed. They are: (left to right) adviser and surgical technology instructor **Jessica Elliot**, **Brittany Starnes, Angela Stowers, Marlena Pendleton, Meredith Moore**, and adviser and business & office technology instructor **Lisa Wilbourn**.



Pictured is (left) Ridgeland Campus construction technology major **Dmorris Walker** with engineering tech instructor and adviser **Heather Mooney**.



Pictured is (left to right) welding instructor **Nathan Hutchinson** with his welding student **Denzel M. Thompson**.

## Deweese named Diplomat of the Year for City of Ridgeland

From Staff Reports/Photos

Holmes Community College Career Technical Counselor Allison DeWeese was honored as Diplomat of the Year by the City of Ridgeland Chamber of Commerce during their Annual Awards Banquet at the Hilton in Jackson on Monday, Jan. 23.

The Diplomat of the Year is chosen for this honor based on their service to the chamber and to the City of Ridgeland.

"Allison is such a great community advocate for Holmes," said Director of Career Technical Education Amy Whittington. "She understands how important it is for us to have strong community relationships, and she does a great job of making and fostering those relationships. I could not think of a better person to serve as a representative for Holmes, and it is an honor to have her as a member of our Career

Technical staff at Ridgeland. On behalf of my faculty and staff, I would like to congratulate her on receiving this honor."

Pictured is **Allison DeWeese** with the award presented to her for being named Diplomat of the Year.



## Ray shaves head for cancer fundraiser

From Staff Reports/Photos



Cosmetology instructor Christie Allen shaves Karen Ray's head on March 2.

Holmes Student Support Services administrative assistant and Spirit Team sponsor Karen Ray successfully raised over \$1,300 for the American Cancer Society through a fundraiser that involved shaving her head.

"Unfortunately, we have all known someone who has been diagnosed with cancer," Ray said. "Last year, I lost two people within a month. In March,

I lost a girlfriend who was one of the first people to welcome me to a new community I moved to. Then, in April, I lost my uncle/Godfather who supported me in everything I did. I was borkenhearted.

"My best friend Mary Beth shaved her head four and half years ago in support of her friend, Corrine Nelson, and I thought, 'What's hair, it grows

back! I can do that! I can shave my head!"

"I did this in remembrance of Tony Ray, Stephanie Williams and Claude Davis and in honor of my mother Joan Ray, my aunts Arlene Ray, Norinne Wong and friend Maria (Tina) Arcega-Dunn, who is fighting this right now.

"There was a lot of women and men who thought I was crazy," Ray said, "because hair is so important to a women. Hair is an important determinant of physical attractiveness and a means of expressing individuality. Because women are famous for spending a lot of time and money grooming, dying, curling, drying, and styling their hair to make it look its best, when they begin to lose their hair, it is extremely traumatic. This cosmetic setback is quite intense when a woman is used to having hair and suddenly finds herself losing it. They can have a lot of trouble dealing with the reality of hair loss.

"Again for me it is only hair. It is emotional only because of my thoughts of the people I was shaving my head for. I cannot lie, I am glad I can rock this hair style."



To honor those friends and family members, Ray set up a fundraiser, which culminated with her shaving her head on March 2 on the Goodman Campus.

"Let's fight cancer together!"

## A New Addition Michelle Burney's story of adoption

By Taylor Vance  
Growl Editor



Pictured are Demi, Michelle and Barry Burney.

"I'll never forget that phone call when the social worker told me that we had been matched with a child. My husband Barry was not at home that night. He was at an Upward Basketball game, coaching other people's children, teaching them to love sports and to play with integrity, when I got the call. The social worker said she had sent an email with a picture, but I didn't need to read the email or see the picture. I knew that we wanted her, whoever she was, and didn't think twice about saying yes. That sounds odd to some people, but let's face it, no mother gets to see her child before she decides whether or not she wants her. When God gives you a child, you want her, no matter what."

Michelle Burney, vice president of the Holmes Community College Grenada Campus, recounts the arduous, yet rewarding process of adopting a child from a third-world country and the remarkable timing of how everything came together.

"Since I was young, I knew that wanted to adopt a child. I can still point to the spot in my yearbook where I wrote down that in however many years, I would adopt a child."

Twenty years later, Michelle and Barry were drawn immediately to Bethany Christian Services, the adoption agency her sister and her husband had used to adopt their daughter from

China. Bethany Christian Services has offices in 20 countries around the world, including Guatemala - one of the easiest countries to adopt children from at the time.

"We didn't want to adopt domestically, not because the children here in the United States are not in need of parents, but because we were told that the adoption process would be easier if we adopted a child from Guatemala and I loved the Hispanic culture and people. No one knew, however,

that just as we started the process, UNICEF would begin to start tightening restrictions on adoptions from Guatemala."

Along with the increase in the number of adoptions from Guatemala, profit for attorneys and agencies had grown into the millions, which had invited exploitation and unethical behavior by some private entities. The new restrictions were intended to protect Guatemalan children and families, but, at the same time, they made it harder for well-meaning families to adopt children who were often living in poverty. Everything became a time crunch for the Burney family to secure a child. What was supposed to take three months in a seamlessly easy process, ended up taking over a year as Michelle and Barry waited to hold their soon-to-be daughter.

"Every country has its own adoption laws. For the most part, you pick an adoption agency first, and then, with their help, you choose a country from which to adopt. Next, you complete a dossier or list of preferences for your adopted child. This may seem easy, but hundreds of forms that must be translated into the other country's language, Spanish in our case, come with each step. We were fortunate that Guatemala allowed a foster family to take care of Demi while we worked

out the legal details. Barry and I jumped through crazy hoops and more crazy hoops in the jungle of bureaucracies, but of course every bit of it was worth it."

While the Burney family was going through a mountain of paperwork, the birth mother also had to complete task after task, as they traversed through the various Guatemalan agencies, taking pictures with the child at the beginning and end of the adoption process and taking a DNA test at the beginning and end of the process.

"The requirements imposed on the birth mother make it particularly hard to adopt a child because the mother has to relive and think about her choices not only at the beginning of the process, but also at the end. This is the point where most people end up losing their potential adopted child."

Much to the Burney's joy, however, they were able to come home with Demi, their healthy baby girl. Michelle and Barry are grateful every day and they recognize the unselfish love of her birth mother to give up her child, with faith that her child would have a better life in the United States than she could in her native Guatemala. In Guatemala, 50 percent of all families live in poverty, half of all children have stunted growth, and the childhood mortality rate is five times higher than of the United States. Michelle and Barry are keenly aware that having Demi as their child is miracle of God. Just one month after Demi was adopted, adoptions were officially shut down in Guatemala, where they continue to be shut down today.

"All I can say is that it's such a God thing that we are able to have our Demi, who looks different on the outside, but likes to dance and eat sweets just like every other Southern girl."

Demi never forgets to pray for her native land and its people, so they may find relief from poverty one day. She

hopes to meet her birth mother and wants to learn more about the Guatemalan people.

"Through this whole process, I've learned to be patient with myself and life in general, and I've developed a greater passion for people, particularly immigrants. I see their struggles, and I know that my child will experience some of the same struggles. I see their achievements, and I celebrate the opportunities that Demi has in this country."

When Michelle went through the adoption process, she was an academic counselor on the Holmes Grenada Campus, so the Holmes family has been a part of Demi's story from the



Pictured is Demi with the Grenada Ambassadors in 2008.

beginning of her life in the United States. Michelle and Barry appreciate the support they felt from Holmes throughout the challenging and sometimes discouraging adoption process. They hope that their family's story is an encouragement to others to not give up on their dreams in spite of obstacles that they may encounter along the way.



## Who's Who 2017 announced

From Staff Reports/Photos

Recently, Holmes Community College announced the winners Mr. and Miss Holmes for each campus. Hayden Welch and Simone Lewis were named Mr. and Miss Holmes for the Ridgeland Campus, Michael Edmonds and Bailee Barrett for Goodman, and Taylor Vance and Emily Lamkin for Grenada.



**Ridgeland Campus**  
Mr. and Miss Holmes for the Ridgeland Campus are Hayden Welch of Brandon and Simone Lewis of Yazoo City.

Welch, son of Jennifer Shortt and Danny Welch, is a graduate of Northwest Rankin High School. He is an Ambassador, the goalkeeper for the Bulldogs soccer team, and participated in Phi Theta Kappa honor society his freshman year. Welch is a Dean's List scholar who volunteers for TOPSoccer, a community-based training and team placement program for young athletes with disabilities, and also for Abby Rogers Civitan Camp, a camp for children and adults with special needs.

Upon graduating from Holmes, Welch plans to attend either The University of Southern Mississippi or Delta State University to major in exercise science or kinesiology. Afterward, he plans to continue his studies at William Carey University in the physical therapy field. Finally, after five years of working as a physical therapist, Welch would like to specialize in pediatrics.

Lewis is the daughter of Danita and Anthony Clay, as well as Levall and LaMelody Lewis. She is a graduate of Yazoo County High School, where she graduated as valedictorian in 2015. Lewis is extremely active on the Ridgeland Campus, serving as an Ambassador, Student Government Association president, a volunteer in the science department, and a member of Phi Theta Kappa honor society. Outside of Holmes, she is an usher and youth tu-

tor at her church, Greater Pearlie Grove Missionary Baptist Church.

Lewis is a President's List scholar, and a recipient of The Mississippi Association of Supervisors (MAS) Scholarship. In the summer of 2016, she was selected as an intern for the SURE Program (Summer Undergraduate Research Experience) at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in the neuroscience research lab. Upon graduating from Holmes in May, Lewis plans to pursue her bachelor's degree in nursing and ultimately become a nurse practitioner.

"I have really enjoyed my time at Holmes, and I will always remember the wonderful times I had here," Lewis said.



**Goodman Campus**  
Mr. and Miss Holmes for the Goodman Campus are Michael Edmonds of Yazoo City and Bailee Barrett of Terry.

Edmonds, the son of Arthur Allen and Tammy Edmonds, is a graduate of Yazoo County High School. Active in student life at Holmes, he is one of the school's mascots, a member of the Bulldog cheerleading squad, an Ambassador, a member of MOSAIC, a Horizons yearbook staff member, and president of Student Government Association. Edmonds also enjoys photography in his spare time.

Upon graduating from Holmes, Edmonds plans to continue his role as a bulldog mascot, only now for Mississippi State University, where he will major in a communications-related field.

"Going to Holmes was definitely the best thing I ever did," Edmonds said. "The memories that I made at Holmes will last for a lifetime, it was and will forever be a place I can call home."

Barrett, the daughter of Angela Berch and Matthew Barrett, is a

graduate of Terry High School. She is extremely active on the Goodman Campus, where she plays the trumpet in the marching and concert bands, and plays the third bass drum in the indoor drumline. Barrett is also a member of HolmesPlus and Phi Theta Kappa honor society.

"I am so glad that I made the choice to come to Holmes," Barrett said. "I love the atmosphere here and I have met many friends here that will be a part of my life for many years and I have made memories that will last forever."



**Grenada Campus**  
Mr. and Miss Holmes for the Grenada Campus are Taylor Vance of Grenada and Emily Lamkin of Grenada.

Vance, son of Jeff and Leigh Vance, is a graduate of Grenada High School. He is a member of Phi Theta Kappa honor society, Baptist Student Union, Ambassadors, is president of the Student Government Association, and editor for The Growl student newspaper. Vance escorted the Student Body Maid for Homecoming 2016, as well.

Vance was presented with the William Winter Student Scholar award through the Holmes English Department in 2016. Upon graduating from Holmes, he plans to transfer to the University of Mississippi and major in journalism, then attend law school.

"My time here at Holmes has been a great experience," Vance said. "Holmes has provided an excellent foundation for my college studies, while cultivating an atmosphere that makes me and everyone else feel like a family."

Lamkin, daughter of Dwayne and Martha Lamkin, is also a graduate of Grenada High School. At Holmes, she is an Ambassador, vice president of service for Phi Theta Kappa, secretary

for Student Government Association, and on the leadership team for Baptist Student Union. With BSU, she volunteers with the Ronald McDonald House.

Lamkin has been on the President's List both years at Holmes, was named Homecoming Student Body Maid, and to the Mississippi All-State Academic Team for Phi Theta Kappa.

Outside of Holmes, Lamkin helps lead worship for the children at Emmanuel Baptist Church, and has worked as a staff member for M4 Summer Kid's camp.

After graduating from Holmes, she plans to attend the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson to obtain a bachelor's degree in nursing.

Other than Mr. and Miss Holmes, students are named Class Favorites for each campus.

Freshman Class Favorites for the Ridgeland Campus are: Carleigh Achee of Brandon, Johnna Davis of Flora, Presley Grillette of Brandon, Melanie Owah of Ridgeland, and Joseph Talley of Pelahatchie. Sophomore Class Favorites include Brooke Burrell of Madison, Kaitlin Hill of Olive Branch, Hannah Lee of Jackson, Jaylon Robinson of Richland and Tiffany Strain of Madison.

Freshman Class Favorites for the Goodman Campus include: Anderrious Donalson of Madison, Kayla Dowdy of Winona, Lamar Land of Durant, Griffin Sekul of Brandon, Abby Singletary of Kosciusko and Juliet Warriner of Brandon. Sophomore Class Favorites include: Kelli Ray of Maben, Kaitlyn Sloan of Brandon, Lane Spell of Lexington, and Christina White of Benton.

Finally, freshman Class Favorites for the Grenada Campus are: Ashlee Bennett of Kilmichael, Hanna Paisley Burney of Drew, Tate Glenn of Gore Springs, William Jake Liddell of Carrollton, Danielle Mitchell of Grenada, Will Tartt of Grenada, and Kaylan Ware of Grenada. Sophomore favorites include: Iyonna Collins of Grenada, Logan Conner of Grenada, Sara Taylor Goss of Vaiden, Ashley Hatch of Grenada, Kaitlyn Legge of Grenada, and Hannah Ritchie of Winona.



**Ridgeland Who's Who are:** (front row, left to right) Presley Grillette, Carleigh Achee, Johnna Davis, Tiffany Strain, Kaitlin Hill, (back row, left to right) Jaylon Robinson, Hayden Welch, Brooke Burrell, Simone Lewis, Melanie Owah, and Joseph Talley.

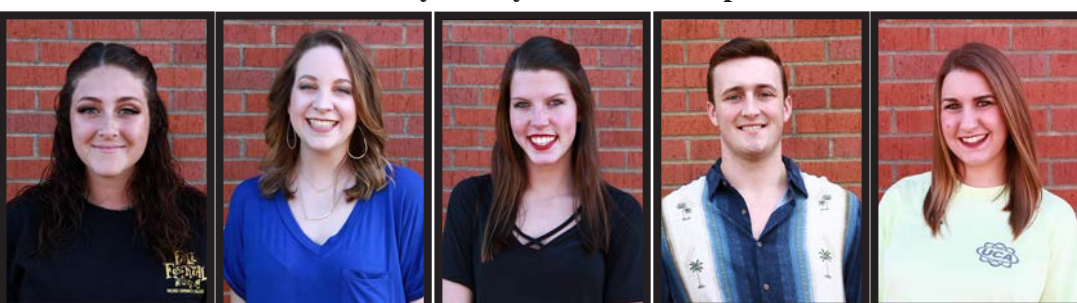


**Grenada Freshmen Who's Who are:** (front row, left to right) Danielle Mitchell, Hanna Paisley Burney, Kaylan Ware, (back row, left to right) Tate Glenn, Ashlee Bennett, Will Tartt, and William Jake Liddell.

### Goodman Who's Who



**Goodman Who's Who members:** Anderrious Donalson, Kayla Dowdy, Lamar Land, Griffin Sekul, & Abby Singletary  
Juliet Warriner, Kelli Ray, Kaitlyn Sloan, Lane Spell, & Christina White



**Grenada Sophomore Who's Who are:** (front row, left to right) Iyonna Collins, Ashley Hatch, (second row, left to right) Kaitlyn Legge, Sara Taylor Goss, (back row, left to right) Hannah Ritchie and Logan Conner.



## Four Holmes employees earn doctoral degrees

From Staff Reports/Photos



**Jenny Bailey Jones, PhD**

Four Holmes staff members in leadership roles completed their doctoral degrees in the spring of 2017. Those employees included Jenny Bailey Jones, Thomas Luke Jones, Tonya Lawrence, and Amy Whittington.

Goodman Academic Dean Dr. Jenny Bailey Jones of Kosciusko successfully completed her defense of her dissertation research on Jan. 19. Dr. Jones will earn her doctorate in Instructional Systems and Workforce Development from Mississippi State University in May. Her research, titled "Web Conference vs. Webcast: The Perceived Effectiveness of Training Sessions at a Southeastern Community College," provided positive results Dr. Jones is sharing with this community college and others interested in providing effective web conference and web cast training.

She holds a bachelor's and a master's degree in technology with an emphasis in business technology, and a specialist degree in educational technology.

Dr. Jones sits on the Kosciusko School District Board of Trustees and has been a member of the National Business Education Association, Southern Business Education Association, Mississippi Educational Computing Association, and the Mississippi Business Education Association, just to name a few.

Holmes has been a part of Jones' life since the fall of 1995. She has served the eLearning department since 2010 in two capacities: instructional design coordinator and eLearning coordinator.

Before 2010, she served as the portal manager and media specialist for the IT department for three years. Prior to that, Dr. Jones was an instructor for the Business and Office Technology Department for 12 years. She has also been an instructor for the Mississippi Virtual Community College since 2001.

During her years at Holmes, Jones has been given the opportunity to be the keynote speaker at the 2012 Mississippi Association of Developmental Educators convention, she has been a part of the team that was awarded the



**Thomas "Luke" Jones, PhD**

2012 Blackboard Collaborate Hall of Fame Award, has been featured in numerous articles such as the University Business' Level Playing Field, and has presented at Blackboard World, Mississippi Banner Users Group and the Mississippi Advisors Meeting.

Dr. Jones, her husband William, and their two children, Sara Bailey and Lizzie Kate.

Goodman Campus Director of Career-Technical Education Dr. Luke Jones will earn his Doctorate of Philosophy in Community College Leadership from Mississippi State University in May. His dissertation was titled, "The Community College Foundation Forest: Turning Real Property into Real Revenue."

Dr. Jones of Ackerman also holds a master's and bachelor's degree in forestry from MSU, and an associate's degree in forest technology from the Holmes Grenada Campus. As a student at MSU, he served as both graduate research assistant and a teaching assistant in the Forestry Department.

Prior to his promotion to the role of Career-Tech director, he taught Forest Technology and Conservation Law Enforcement Technology on the Holmes Grenada Campus. Dr. Jones also served as an adviser for the Alpha Mu Beta Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa honor society. Before he joined the Holmes family as an employee, Dr. Jones worked as owner/forester for Jones Forest Management Services in Ackerman, and before owning his own business, held the position of extension associate I for MSU's Forestry Department.

Some of Dr. Jones' accolades include: 2010 Holmes Lamplighter Award, Choctaw County Forestry Association President, Choctaw County Farm Bureau Board Member, Choctaw County Farm Bureau Young Farmer Representative, and 2014-2015 Mississippi Community College Leadership Academy Graduate.

The Grenada Campus of Holmes became the third location in the state to house an arboretum in the fall of 2016, and Dr. Jones was very involved with



**Tonya Brewer Lawrence, PhD**

that project. The Holmes North Ridge Arboretum now includes over 60 identified species of trees, plants and vines and is serving as a place for students to study, relax, and even attend class.

Dr. Jones and his wife, Lauren, have three children: Lake, Hart, and Cass.

Ridgeland Campus Academic Dean Dr. Tonya Lawrence will earn her Doctorate of Philosophy in Community College Leadership from Mississippi State University in May. Previously, she obtained a master's degree in biology teacher education from The University of Southern Mississippi and an Associate of Arts degree in pre-physical therapy studies from Jones County Junior College. While at USM, she completed 33 hours toward her PhD in science education.

Dr. Lawrence has been employed with Holmes since 2005, and she began as an instructor of biological sciences. In 2009, was named director of evening and weekend programs, a role she held for two years before her promotion to academic dean.

Dr. Lawrence has been named a Lamplighter for Holmes, which means she was chosen to represent the college at the annual conference hosted by the Mississippi Community/Junior College Academic Dean's Association. The Lamplighter Conference recognizes and rewards effective instructors and gives them the opportunity to share with one another those teaching techniques.

On Feb. 2, Dr. Lawrence was presented with a Patriot Award from the Mississippi Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR). She was nominated for the award by Dr. Kenneth Troy Milliken, a Holmes chemistry instructor on the Ridgeland Campus. Dr. Milliken, who serves as an Army Reserve Brigade Chaplain (MAJOR) in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, nominated Lawrence for recognition because of her support of his military training time.

Dr. Lawrence and her husband, Will, have one daughter, Cameron Grace.

District Director of Career-Technical Education Dr. Amy Whittington will officially earn her Ph.D. in Community



**Amy Green Whittington, PhD**

College Leadership from Mississippi State University in May. Dr. Whittington recently defended her dissertation, titled, "Investigating employability: A study to ascertain whether attaining stackable credentials increases opportunity for employment for career technical graduates."

The purpose of this study was to examine survey results of industry representatives who serve on advisory committees for career technical programs at Holmes to ascertain whether earning stackable credentials in career technical programs does increase opportunities for employment. Data were obtained from an Industry Input Survey conducted at Holmes.

Results of this study indicated that while entry-level employment requirements focus more on a high-school diploma or high school equivalency exam and an earned Associate of Applied Science degree, the majority of participants did indicate that holding a national certification would give a potential employee hiring preferences. These results lead to the conclusion that attaining the or our career technical graduates.

Dr. Whittington has been a Career-Tech Education director for the Ridgeland Campus since July 2013. Formerly, she was an instructor at Holmes in the Business Office Technology and Business Administration departments. Before Holmes, she was an accountant for Delta State University, and for Ivey Mechanical Company.

In 2015, Dr. Whittington graduated from the Mississippi Community College Leadership Academy (MCCLA). She holds a bachelor's degree in accounting, as well as an MBA from Delta State University. A Holmes alumna, Dr. Whittington earned her associate's from Holmes in 2000, and was an Ambassador and Phi Theta Kappa officer as a student.

Dr. Whittington and her husband, Frank, have two children: Ian and Ava. They are active members of Broadmoor Baptist Church of Madison.

## Kinsey takes on role of instructional design specialist

From Staff Reports/Photos



Alan Kinsey has joined the Holmes Community College eLearning Department as an instructional design specialist. He also serves as an on-line instructor for English PreCore at Holmes; a position he has held since January 2015.

As instructional design specialist, Kinsey coordinates and develops specific training presentations for faculty and staff, provides training and pedagogy for online learning environments, and designs/creates support materials, such as videos, tutorials, and handouts.

Kinsey earned a bachelor's degree in English, a master's in education, and a

master's in communication from Mississippi College. Prior to coming on board at Holmes full-time, he served as an English, Spanish, and drama teacher at Clinton Junior High School for three years. Kinsey also taught English, Spanish and speech at Yazoo County High School for two years. In between teaching at Yazoo County High and Clinton Junior High, he was employed as a youth pastor for Pocahontas Baptist Church in Jackson.

Kinsey currently serves as a member and building representative for Mississippi Professional Educators, and has served as the professional development

chair for Mississippi Writing Thinking Institute and Mississippi Department of Education. Some of his accolades include: being named 2016 Clinton Junior High School Teacher of the Year; serving as a presenter for "Making Connections" conference; serving as president of Alpha Psi Omega Theater Honor Society, and being a member of Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society and Alpha Chi Honor Society.

## UMCC Admissions Director speaks to science majors

*From Staff Reports/Photos*



The University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) Director of Admissions Lesley Dickens spoke to a full room of Holmes Ridgeland Campus students on Monday, Feb. 27, about the “Pathway to becoming a Physician.” Dickens shared valuable information with the students, including what courses they should go ahead and take, advice on preparing for the MCAT, and how UMMC specifically evaluates potential students’ applications based on experiences, attributes and academic merits.

## Holmes students participated in the National African American Read-In program

*From Staff Reports/Photos*



Holmes students participated in the National African American Read-In program here in McMorrough Library yesterday. The program was founded in 1989 as a way of promoting diversity and encouraging young people to read, as well as shining a spotlight on the works of African American authors.

Hosting a read-in can be as simple as sharing a book with students or with family and friends, or as elaborate as a public reading that highlights African American authors, according to the National Council of Teachers of English.

The National African American Read-In is the nation’s first and oldest event dedicated to diversity in literature. It was established in 1990 by the Black Caucus of the National Council of Teachers of English to make literacy a significant part of Black History Month. This initiative has reached more than 5.5 million participants around the world.

For more information about holding an African American read-in, visit the website of the National Council of Teachers of English: [www.ncte.org/aari](http://www.ncte.org/aari).

## Shirley, Spell honored at HEADWAE on Feb. 21

*From Staff Reports/Photos*



Pictured are (front, left to right) Holmes HEADWAE honoree and Goodman Campus physics/engineering instructor **Jim Shirley**; HEADWAE honoree and Goodman Campus mechanical engineering student **Lane Spell**; (back, left to right) Vice President for Academic Programs **Dr. Fran Cox**; wife of faculty honoree **Amy Shirley**; parents of student honoree **William and Angela Spell**, and Goodman Academic Dean **Dr. Jenny Bailey Jones**.

Each year, the Mississippi Legislature hosts the Higher Education Appreciation Day - Working for Academic Excellence (HEADWAE) banquet to

recognize and honor the academically-talented faculty and students of Mississippi’s higher education institutions who have made outstanding contributions in promoting academic excellence. This year’s HEADWAE banquet was the 30th anniversary and was held on Feb. 21 at the Jackson Marriott Hotel. Holmes honorees for 2016-17 included Jim Shirley of Yazoo City, physics and engineering instructor on the Goodman Campus, and William Lane Spell of Lexington, a mechanical engineering student from the Goodman Campus.

Shirley has taught at Holmes for 21 years, and has currently been honored as a Lamplighter Honoree, National Science Foundation Grant Recipient, and Holmes Board of Trustees Special Recognition Award recipient. He is a retired industrial scientist and engineer, Rotary Club member, and continues to mentor/tutor Holmes engineering alumni.

Shirley holds a bachelor’s degree in mathematics/physics from Delta State University and a master’s

in mathematics and physics from the University of Mississippi. He and his wife Amy have four children and eight grandchildren.

Spell, son of William and Angela Spell, was valedictorian at Central Holmes Christian School, and has remained on the President’s List throughout his time at Holmes. He is a member of the Holmes Plus scholars program, co-captain for the Bulldog cheerleaders, an Ambassador, treasurer of Student Government Association, a regional officer for Phi Theta Kappa honor society, and a volunteer tutor. Spell was also voted Freshman Favorite and was a 2016 Homecoming Escort.

Outside of Holmes, Spell is both an Eagle Scout and owner of Spell Concessions. Upon graduation from Holmes, Spell will continue his studies in mechanical engineering at Mississippi State University and go to work as a project engineer in the oil and chemical industry. After retirement, he plans to open a real estate company.



Pictured (left) is Goodman Academic Dean **Dr. Jenny Jones** presenting **Jim Shirley**, physics and engineering instructor on the Goodman Campus, with a gift for being the Holmes HEADWAE faculty honoree.



Pictured (left) is Mechanical engineering major **Lane Spell** with Vice President for Academic Programs **Dr. Fran Cox** after she presented him with a gift for being the Holmes HEADWAE student honoree.

## Gosa signs with MC equestrian team

*From Staff Reports/Photos*

Freshman Holmes Community College Ridgeland Campus student Anna Katherine Gosa of Madison signed with the Mississippi College Equestrian Team on Tuesday, Feb. 7. She will transfer to MC in the fall and plans to study Elementary Education. A graduate of Madison Central High School, Gosa's love of horses started at an early age and she has been riding for the past 10 years.



Pictured is Anna Gosa officially signing with the equestrian team.



Pictured are Anna Gosa and MC Capiche.



Pictured is Anna Gosa with her parents, Michael and Cindy Gosa.

## Grenada Campus holds Spring 2017 PTK Induction Feb. 21

*From Staff Reports/Photos*



Pictured are the new inductees of the Grenada Campus chapter of Phi Theta Kappa.

The Alpha Mu Beta chapter of Phi Theta Kappa honor society, located on the Holmes Community College Grenada Campus, held its Spring 2017 induction ceremony on Feb. 21 in the Corey Forum. The honor society is advised by Amber Mabus, English instructor on the Goodman Campus.

The inductees included Sierra Andreson, Ashlee Bennett, Emily Caldwell, Maggie Choate, Taylor

Collums, Kayla Davis, Duncan Dees, Dustin Denley, Emma Gibson, James Glenn, Rachel Hamilton, Taylor Hansen, James Hood, Sarah Leflore, Amelia Martin and Phebia Merrill.

The ceremony was led by officers Taylor Vance, president; Emily Lamkin, vice president of service, Kaitlyn Legge, vice president of communication, Hannah Ritchie, honors in action chair, and Iyonna Collins, college project chair.

Academic Dean Dr. Myra Harville and adviser Amber Mabus also took part in the ceremony, and Will Alexander served as guest speaker.

## Piano Recital set for March 21 on Ridgeland Campus

*From Staff Reports/Photos*



A Piano Recital with Dr. Harlan Zackery, Jr. is set for March 21 at 6:30 p.m. in the D.P. "Pat" McGowan Workforce Training Center on the Holmes Ridgeland Campus. A reception will follow the recital in the lobby. The event is free and open to the public.

Dr. Zackery is coordinator of Keyboard Studies, director of the University Orchestra, and assistant director of choral activities at Jackson State University. He also serves as organist and director of music at Aldersgate United Methodist Church. He has a Bachelor of Music degree in music education, graduating cum laude, as well as a Master of Music degree in choral conducting from the University of

North Carolina at Greensboro. He was a 2004 winner of the UNCG Conducting Competition. Dr. Zackery earned a doctorate in choral conducting from the University of Southern Mississippi. He is a member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia music fraternity and Pi Kappa Lambda music honor fraternity.

Dr. Zackery has performed throughout the United States, Europe, Mexico, and Canada as a piano soloist, accompanist, conductor, and clinician. In addition, he is active as a choral conductor and musical director. Dr. Zackery is founder of the a cappella ensemble, All For Him, which has performed around the country and on national television. In 2012, Dr. Zackery, along with Dr. D. Royce Boyer, co-founded the

Jackson Metro Male Chorus, a skillful group of male singers of all ages from in the metro-Jackson area. In addition to teaching band and chorus in middle and elementary schools in North Carolina, Dr. Zackery has served as Assistant Director of the Durham Youth Symphony.

The recital was coordinated by Larry Morgan, the flowers and plants will be provided by Petals & Pails in Ridgeland, and the reception committee includes Rachel Bickerstaff, Michelle Dancy and Donna Josey. Funding was provided by the Holmes Development Foundation.

## OTA program to sponsor 5K to benefit MOTA

*From Staff Reports/Photos*

The Holmes Community College Ridgeland Campus Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) program will sponsor a 5K run, walk, and roll, along with a 10K Run and kid's Fun Run, on Saturday, April 22 on the Ridgeland Campus.

Cost is \$25 per person if pre-registered by 04/15. Registration on Race Day is \$30. Participants may pick up race packets and t-shirts between 7-7:45 a.m. The 5K and 10K begins at 8 a.m. and the Kid's Fun Run begins at 9:15 a.m. Visit [www.racesonline.com](http://www.racesonline.com) for link to register online! Keyword: MSOTA.

All proceeds will benefit the Mississippi Occupational Therapy Association.

**\$25 Registration** (Proceeds benefit Mississippi Occupational Therapy Association) **\$30 REGISTRATION ON RACE DAY**

Visit [www.RacesOnline.com](http://www.RacesOnline.com) to register online! Keyword MSOTA

**5K** 4th ANNUAL **RUN, WALK & ROLL**

+ 10K Run, & Kids Fun Run

**SATURDAY 4/22** Holmes CC Ridgeland MS

## Healthy@Holmes participates in Rotary 5K; brings home two first places

*From Staff Reports/Photos*



Healthy@Homes participated in the Run 4 Rotary 5K, sponsored by Madison-Ridgeland Rotary, on Saturday, Feb. 11. Holmes Ridgeland employees Blair Booker, librarian/Phi Theta Kappa adviser, and Brooke Hood, Adult Education Instructor, took home first place medals in the Walking and Running categories, respectively.

Pictured (left) are Healthy@Holmes members who participated in the race. Pictured (right, left to right) are **Blair Booker** and **Brooke Hood**.



## Ridgeland hosts MCTM District Junior High Math Competition

*From Staff Reports/Photos*



Winners of the Annual Mississippi Council of Teachers of Mathematics (MCTM) District Junior High Math Competition, held at Holmes Community College on March 3, included: (front, left to right) seventh-graders **Shreenithi Lakshminarayanan**, **Sarah Le Roux**, **Cooper Ward**, **Ayana Green**, and (back, left to right) eighth-graders **Matthew Yin**, **Albert Xu**, **Robert Kyser**, and **Arshbir Banipal**.

On Friday, March 3, the Holmes Community College Mathematics Department hosted the Annual Mississippi Council of Teachers of Mathematics (MCTM) District Junior High Math Competition for area seventh and eighth grade students in the Joe A. Adams Student Center on the Ridgeland Campus. Participating schools included: Benton Academy, Durant Public School, Germantown Middle School, Madison Middle School, St. Joe Middle School, and Shirley D. Simmons Middle School.

Winners of the eight-grade competition were: first place, Matthew Yin from Madison Middle; second place, Albert Xu from Madison Middle; third place, Robert Kyser from Germantown, and fourth place, Arshbir Banipal from Germantown.

Winners of the seventh-grade competition were: first place, Shreenithi Lakshminarayanan, Germantown; second place, Sarah Le Roux, Madison Middle; third place Cooper Ward from

Germantown Middle, and fourth place, Ayana Green from Shirley Simmons.

For more information about the mathematics department at the Holmes Ridgeland Campus, contact Donna Ahlrich at (601) 605-3344 or [dahlrich@holmescc.edu](mailto:dahlrich@holmescc.edu).

The Holme-Towne Players presents  
**HARD CANDY**  
 Jonathan Rand's hilarious short play

**STOP BY**  
**APRIL 4, 5, & 6**  
**2017**  
**6:30 pm**

Location: Holmes Community College  
 Goodman Campus  
 Montgomery  
 Fine Arts Building

Tickets: Adults - \$5  
 Students - \$3

For More Info Contact Bridget Mallette @ 662-472-9029 or [bmallette@holmescc.edu](mailto:bmallette@holmescc.edu)

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## Lady Bulldogs win final game of the Meridian Tournament

*From Staff Reports/Photos*

The Holmes Community College Lady Bulldogs softball team won one of five games at home the weekend of Feb. 24-25 in the Meridian Tournament.

The Lady Bulldogs are 4-8 on the season. Holmes travels to Marion Military Institute on Tuesday at 1/3 p.m. and then to Faulkner State Community College on Friday, March 3 at 1/3 p.m.

On Saturday in game one, the Lady Bulldogs fell to Shelton State, 8-0. Meghan Cumming suffered the loss on the mound. She went five innings and gave up eight runs on eight hits with six strikeouts.

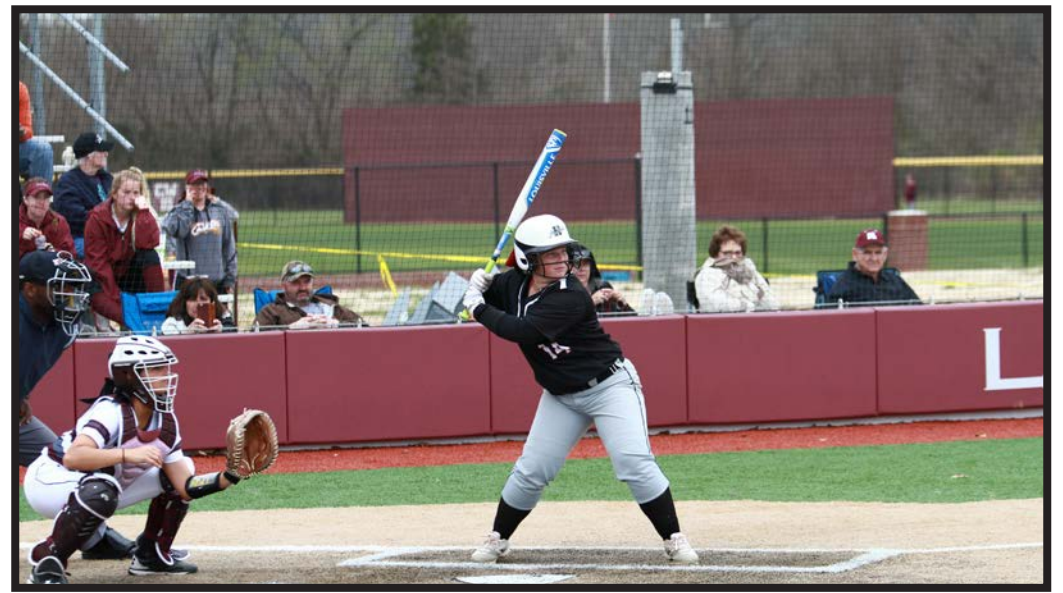
On Saturday in game two, Karley Poindexter picked up the win in the Lady Bulldogs' 8-6 win over Baton Rouge. She went seven innings and gave up six runs on 10 hits with three strikeouts and one walk. Bayle Bryant led the Lady Bulldogs with four hits

including two doubles. Jana Newell had a homerun while Micah Redd and Madison Fields added a double.

In Friday's game one, the Lady Bulldogs suffered a heartbreaking loss in the bottom of the seventh inning when Faulkner State scored a run to win the game, 5-4. Kaitlyn Warren was charged with the loss after 1 1/3 innings of work in relief. She gave up one run on four hits with a walk. Karley Poindexter got the start and went five innings giving up four runs on seven hits with one strikeout. Micah Redd and Madison Fields each had a double.

In Friday's game two, the Lady Bulldogs fell to Northwest Florida, 2-0. Meghan Cumming suffered the loss. She went six innings and gave up two runs on eight hits with four strikeouts.

In Friday's game three, the Lady Bulldogs fell 9-3 to Spoon River. Madison Frazier got the loss. She went



4 1/3 innings and gave up three runs on five hits with one strikeout and two walks. Juliette Warriner went 1 1/3 innings and gave up two runs on three hits with a walk while Poindexter went 1 1/3 innings and gave up four runs on three hits with one strikeout and two

walks. Emily Littlejohn led with two doubles while Fields had a double.

## Shearer named MACJC Pitcher of the Week

*From Staff Reports/Photos*



Baseball Pitcher of the Week for his play last week in Selma, Ala.

Shearer from Independence pitched a no-hitter in five innings of work and

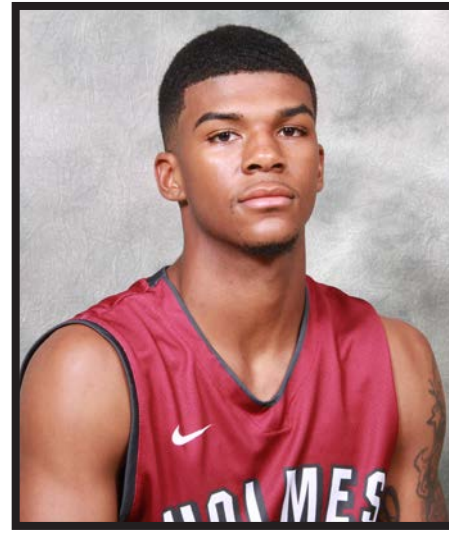
was one play away from a perfect game after the Bulldogs committed an error. Shearer gave up no runs, no hits with no strikeouts and no walks. As a freshman, Shearer finished the season with a record of 6-2 with a 4.98 ERA. He pitched in 12 games and went 68 2/3 innings with 39 strikeouts and 17 walks.

Holmes plays Southeastern Illinois on Feb. 18 and Feb. 19 in two doubleheaders. Gametimes are 1/4 both days.

Shearer is now up for NJCAA Pitcher of the Week honors.

## Spencer named to the MACJC All-Tournament Team

*From Staff Reports/Photos*



Holmes Community College freshman guard Trevais Spencer has been named to the 2017 MACJC All-Tournament Team.

Spencer, 6'3 from Grenada, averaged 18.5 points in the Bulldogs' two games this week in the State Tournament at Jones County. He averaged 36 minutes of play, 2.5 assists, one steal and six rebounds. He shot 46 percent from the floor (12-of-26), 47.3 percent (9-of-19) from the three-point line and 80 percent (4-of-5) from the free-throw line. Versus Gulf Coast, Spencer hit eight three-pointers, seven in the first half.

The Bulldogs will play in the Region XXIII Tournament at Mississippi College. Holmes, the No. 8 seed, will play Jones County, the No. 1 seed, on March 8 at 7:30 p.m. Jones captured the MACJC State title last night over Northeast in Ellisville.

## 2017 Sports Hall of Fame set for April 27

*From Staff Reports/Photos*

The 2017 Holmes Sports Hall of Fame Banquet will be held on Thursday, April 27 at 6 p.m. in Frank Branch Coliseum on the Goodman Campus.

The 2017 class includes: Austin Taylor, Baseball; Charles McCluskey, Football/Baseball; Derek Starling, Jr., Men's Basketball; Elizabeth Mosby Ellis, Women's Basketball; Todd Kimble, Men's Basketball Coach; and Phillip Sistrunk, Men's Soccer.

The 2017 Holmes inductee for the Mississippi Community College Sports Hall of Fame is Roy Oswalt for baseball. Oswalt will be honored at the Muse Center on the Rankin Campus of Hinds Community College on April 25.

For ticket information, please contact Coordinator of Alumni Affairs Katherine Ellard at [kellard@holmescc.edu](mailto:kellard@holmescc.edu) or at 662-472-9134.

Pictured are the 2016 Sports Hall of Fame inductees with (center) Dr. Jim Haffey. The 2016 inductees were (left to right) Angela Bounds-Stevenson, Shaston Coleman, Michael Ellis, Clarence Harmon, Jr., William Farris Jenkins, and Don Wynne.



2017 HOLMES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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**APRIL 27, 2017**  
**6:00 P.M.**

Frank Branch Coliseum, Goodman

**RESERVED TICKETS REQUIRED**  
For tickets contact Katherine Ellard  
[kellard@Holmescc.edu](mailto:kellard@Holmescc.edu)  
662-472-9134

## Cheerleading tryouts set for March 30

From Staff Reports/Photos



Tryouts for the Holmes Community College Cheerleading Squad are set for March 30 on the Goodman Campus.

A few stunt clinics have already been held, but there are three more for interested persons to attend. Those will be held in the cheer gym on the Goodman Campus March 20, March 23 and March 27. The clinics are open to both males and females from 3:15-5:30 p.m. Participants should complete an application and present an athletic physical. The cost is \$10 per clinic.

The application can be found at [http://www.holmesathletics.com/sports/cheer/2016-17/files/Tryout\\_Application.pdf](http://www.holmesathletics.com/sports/cheer/2016-17/files/Tryout_Application.pdf).

For more information, contact Cheer Coach Heather Jones at [hjones@holmescc.edu](mailto:hjones@holmescc.edu) or call (662) 472-9099.

**IN THIS PHOTO:** Pictured (left) is the 2016-17 Holmes Cheerleading Squad.

## Bulldogs fall in MACJC Tournament semi-finals to Jones, 87-72

From Staff Reports/Photos



The hot shooting that lifted the Holmes Community College Bulldogs over the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Bulldogs in the First Round of the MACJC State Tournament cooled off at Holmes March 1 in the semi-finals as the Bulldogs fell to No. 8 Jones, 87-72.

With the loss, the Bulldogs fell to 16-9 overall. Holmes will be the No. 8 seed in the Region XXIII Tournament at Mississippi College next Wednesday and will play the No. 1 seed Bobcats once again at 7:30 p.m.

Jones led 42-36 at halftime and then outscored the Bulldogs 45-36 in

the second half to pull out the win.

For the game, the Bulldogs shot 36.4 percent (24-of-66) from the floor, 16.7 percent (3-of-18) from the three-point line and 75 percent (21-of-28) from the free-throw line. Justin Johnson led the Bulldogs in scoring with 15 points while Trevais Spencer had 11 and Mikkel Norment had 10. Johnson, Stanley Williams and Keith Gilmore each had seven rebounds.

Jones shot 43.8 percent (28-of-64) from the floor, 34.8 percent (8-of-23) from the three-point line and 85.2 percent (23-of-27) from the free-throw line.

## Lady Bulldogs end season at State Tournament with 70-50 loss to Jones

From Staff Reports/Photos



The Holmes Community College Lady Bulldogs jumped out to an early lead at Holmes Feb. 28 in the MACJC State Tournament versus Jones County Junior College but couldn't hold on in the end and fell 70-50 ending their season.

Holmes finished the season at 10-13 overall. Lady Bulldog sophomores Lauren Brooks, Destiny Cyprian and Lorissa Baker played their final games for Holmes Community College. The Lady Bulldogs had 10 freshmen on this year's State Tournament roster.

The Lady Bulldogs jumped out to a 2-0 lead with 7:39 to play in the first period after MiKayla Patton hit two free throws. The Lady Bobcats tied the game at two shortly after before Vaquela Pimpton's layup put Holmes up 4-2 with 7:11 to play in the period. Jones retook the lead at 6-4 on a

three-pointer with 6:21 to play in the period.

Aneisha Evans tied the game for Holmes at 11 with 3:11 to play in the first period and Pimpton pushed the lead to 12-11 on a free throw with 2:38 to play in the period. The Lady Bobcats retook the lead from that point and never trailed again.

Jones led 19-12 after one period of play and 36-24 at halftime. Jones outscored Holmes 34-26 in the second half to pull out the win.

Pimpton was the leading scorer for the Lady Bulldogs with 11 points. Nina Carpenter pulled in 11 rebounds while Patton had six. For the game, the Lady Bulldogs shot 24.2 percent from the floor, 23.5 percent from the three-point line and 69.6 percent from the free-throw line.

## Lady Bulldogs fall to Lady Tigers to open the season

The Holmes Community College Lady Bulldogs fell to Northeast Mississippi Community College, 3-6, to start the 2017 tennis campaign.

Jessica May and Savanna Bell each won their singles matches while Ashleigh Pope, Lucy Oakes, Brittany Graham and Odyssey Brewer each fell. Brewer-Bell won their doubles match while Pope-Graham and Oakes-May fell in doubles.





# The Growl Staff



## Ethan Burton

Hometown: Goodman

Major: Liberal Arts/Journalism

Campus: Goodman

Future Plans: My current plans are to attend Ole Miss after graduating from Holmes to earn a degree in Journalism with an emphasis in Digital Media Art.

About me: I am a member of the Growl, serve as a Work Study for Holmes Goodman Library, and am involved with Main Street Baptist Youth Group. I am passionate about drawing using pencil as well as pen and ink media.



## Morgan Hannah

Hometown: Clinton

Major: General Studies

Campus: Ridgeland

Future plans: I plan to attend a drama school where I can grow and gain much experience about/within the industry.

About me: I am part of the Social Science Club, Yearbook Staff, Newspaper Staff and New Stage Theatre.



## Mia Jones

Hometown: Jackson

Major: Communications

Campus: Ridgeland

Future plans: After receiving my Associates Degree from Holmes Community College, I would like to transfer to the University of Southern at Baton Rouge, where I will continue to pursue my major in Communications in hopes of one day becoming bigger than Oprah. (Ya'll know she's getting old, she's going to have to retire sooner or later.)



## Abigail Launius

Hometown: Madison

Major: Journalism

Campus: Ridgeland

Future Plans: After Holmes, I plan on moving to Los Angeles and going back to school later in life to be a journalist or possibly going into the film industry.

About Me: I spend my time writing, listening to music, and hanging out with friends.



## Jai'La Liddell

Hometown: McCarley

Major: Child Development/Child Care & Family Education

Campus: Goodman

Future plans: To continue my education in child care/family education.

About me: I'm a member of both the Growl newspaper staff and the Horizons yearbook staff.



## Charleigh Mcphail

Hometown: Purvis

Major: Criminal Justice

Campus: Goodman

Future plans: I plan to transfer to Mississippi State to finish my degree in Criminal Justice and eventually become an Investigator.

About me: Outside of The Growl, I am a member of the choir and love Netflix.



## Abby Perez

Hometown: Carthage

Major: Communications

Campus: Goodman

Future plans: If all goes as planned, I'll be graduating in May. I plan on furthering my studies by transferring to a University here in Mississippi. I plan to major in special education, and minor in journalism. About me: I love to help kids with learning disabilities, so I hope to help children become brighter than what they already are. I also love writing stories, and doing research on articles: specifically that have to do with fashion. I love reading articles that talk about which celebrity wore what, who wore the perfect dress and who didn't.



## Alisha Williams

Hometown: Clinton

Major: Elementary Education

Campus: Ridgeland

Future plans: I plan to continue my studies in elementary education and become a teacher.

About me: When I'm not in school I enjoy working with kids.



## Taylor Vance, Editor

Hometown: Grenada

Major: English

Campus: Grenada

Future plans: I plan to attend Ole Miss and major in Journalism.

About me: I enjoy reading, hunting, and following politics. I also make it a point to wear crazy socks almost every day.

"There's only one requirement of any of us, and that is to be courageous. Because courage, as you might know, defines all other human behavior." -David Letterman