



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

THE GROWL

Volume 87
Number 8

May 9, 2019

Holmes to hold 2019 commencement on May 10

From Staff Reports/Photos



**Join us for the Historic
91st Holmes Commencement**

**Friday, May 10
Frank Branch Coliseum
Goodman Campus**

**Goodman, Grenada,
and Attala Graduation
at 10 a.m.** **Ridgeland Graduation
at 2 p.m.**

**Academic and Career Technical
graduate together**

The Holmes Community College 91st Commencement Exercises are set for Friday, May 10 in Frank Branch Coliseum on the Goodman Campus. Goodman, Grenada and Attala Center graduates (academic and career-technical) will take part in the 10 a.m. ceremony while Ridgeland graduates (academic and career-technical) will have a ceremony at 2 p.m.

Only those with graduation tickets will be permitted inside the coliseum for the ceremony. Persons wanting to attend but have no ticket will be directed to an overflow room located in the Band Hall where the ceremony will be live streamed at holmesccmedia.com.

Marching graduates and/or family mem-

bers will have the opportunity to purchase photos of the event. An email will be sent to each marching graduate informing them how to purchase the photos. Video DVDs of the event will also be on sale for \$10 each and can be purchased at the concession stand inside Frank Branch Coliseum either before or after each ceremony.

For questions concerning the graduation ceremony, contact Brenda Melton in the Records Office at bmelton@holmescc.edu or (662) 472-9020.

Growl staff garners awards at journalism conference

From Staff Reports/Photos



Regina Gray

Six Holmes Community College students attended the annual O.C. McDavid Journalism Conference on Thursday, March 28 at the Two Mississippi Museums. Growl newspaper reporter Regina Gray, a sophomore on the Ridgeland Campus, was recognized during the conference for winning two awards in the Better Newspaper Contest: Student Division. The Growl also took home third place in General Excellence.

Gray's awards included a second place award for Best Sports Feature and a third place award for Best Sports News Story. Other students in atten-

dance were: Jesseca Bass, a Horizons yearbook member; John Gillon, Growl Grenada Campus editor and a student in the online News Writing and Reporting I class; Stafford Griffin, a member of the Growl and Horizons yearbook staff; Nykeem Liddell, a Growl staff member; Aurora Sant'Angelo, a Growl and Horizons staff member and Arcadia Smith, a student in the online News Writing and Reporting I class. Mary Margaret Busby, public relations specialist and journalism instructor, accompanied the students.

The Growl, published five-six times

per academic year, covers news from the college's nine-district area, while also including cartoons, editorials on current events, and more. Staff members also serve as writers/cartoonists for Holmes' new blog, the HCC Grid.

The conference is administered by the Mississippi Press Association (MPA) Education Foundation and named for the late O.C. McDavid, former managing editor of the Jackson Daily News. The conference began with a welcome by Paul Keane, publisher of The Wayne

Growl awards, continued on Page 6

Phi Theta Kappa excels at International Conference

From Staff Reports/Photos

Holmes Community College's three Phi Theta Kappa honor society chapters were honored at the Phi Theta Kappa International Catalyst Convention held April 4-6 in Orlando, Florida. Over 600 chapters attended this convention and over 2,300 entries were received in the Hallmark Awards competition.

All three campuses - Goodman, Grenada and Ridgeland - were named 5 Star Chapters and Reach Chapters. Grenada and Ridgeland were named in the Top 100 Chapters and given the Top 40 Distinguished Chapter Award. The Ridgeland Campus also received the Distinguished Chapter Officer Team Award, and Ridgeland Campus Academic Dean Dr. Tonya Lawrence received the Administrator Award. Ridgeland student Abigail Wilkerson was named a New Century Transfer Pathway Scholar, as well.

Additionally, Grenada Phi Theta Kappa adviser Bethany Miller was honored with the Alumni Award of Appreciation, and Grenada student Courtney Dees was named a Coca-Co-

la Academic Team Silver Scholar.

The students, along with their advisers, had the opportunity to enjoy a little Disney adventure prior to the meetings at Catalyst, as well. For more

information about Phi Theta Kappa, visit <https://www.ptk.org/>.



Pictured is the Distinguished Officer Team from the Ridgeland Campus with advisers, (left to right) adviser **Lisa Anglin, Chelsea Williams, Jacquelyn Seuser, Abby Wilkerson, Josh Hinkle** and adviser **Laura Canard**.



Pictured are the officers from the Goodman Campus, (left to right) **John Miksa, Tyler Sloan** and **Loftin Price** with one of the advisers, **Jason Kelly**.



Pictured are the officers/advisers from the Grenada Campus, (left to right) **Bradford James**, adviser **Bethany Miller**, adviser **Cynthia Abel, Macie Craddock** and **Courtney Dees**.

WHAT'S INSIDE...

- STUDENT EDITORIALS
- HONORS DAY AWARD WINNERS
- CAMPUS HAPPENINGS DISTRICT-WIDE
- SPORTS PHOTOS/RECAPS AND MORE!



**CHECK OUT
PAGES 16-17 FOR
PHOTOS FROM
SPRING FLING 2019!**

Don't Stress It

By Regina Gray
Staff Reporter



With the semester coming to an end, things can start to seem a little overwhelming between exams, finalizing assignments, etc.

The following content can be used to help calm those nerves and keep your mind at ease.

Tip one: GET A DAY PLANNER

Day planners will be your life savers. When you are able to see everything you need done for the week it is easier to keep track and stay on top of

your tasks in a timely manner.

Tip two: MAKE TIME TO RELAX

Very few people can be on go-mode 24/7. In order to not go insane, we must find at least an hour out of the day to relax. Listen to your favorite music, watch a movie, or play with your pet; just do something you are not required to do and it will feel like you have restarted your whole day.

Tip three: DON'T PROCRASINATE

Procrastination is easy to do, but hard to recover from. In order to not get overwhelmed, make sure not to wait too long to do your assignments to the point you have a work overload

on your hands. Stop saying you will do it tomorrow and just do it now because tomorrow might turn into three days. Now you have two quizzes, four homework assignments, and a project due in three hours and let's be realistic here, you're in trouble at this point.

Tip four: FIND YOUR STUDY STYLE

Everyone is different and in order to stay organized and stay up to date on what you are learning, you need to find a way to study it in your own way. You can take a free assessment at www.educationplanner.org to figure out your learning style.

No matter what stress comes your



way, there is always a way to relieve yourself from it. The next time you are feeling overwhelmed, try these four steps out for a couple of weeks and see how much easier things will get for you.

The Importance of Education

By Sarah Dantone
Submitted



How important is education to you? Do you truly realize the importance of it? The benefits of getting an education are tremendous, such as reducing poverty by 420 million

people, according to Global Partnership. They also released a statistic stating that one extra year of school increases an individual's earnings by up to 10 percent. Twenty-four-year-old

Valentine Maswache is a perfect example of how beneficial education can be. She pursued a Bachelor's degree in journalism and media studies at the University of Nairobi, Kenya. She did not have it easy growing up, stating she went to secondary school in an unsettling expanse behind Maswache's dumpsite. She knows firsthand what it is like to struggle on getting a proper education. In despite of tis difficulty she faced, she was determined to still pursue a good education.

"I know that education is going to make me a better person and will make my future brighter." Maswache said.

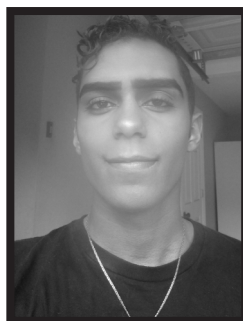
Her parents were one of the many role models she looked up to that inspired her to continue going. She remembers her parents always telling her that "Education is the best thing you can get out of this world and it is the key to success." She is now working as a research assistant for Vision Empowerment Trust, which is a professional association of researchers in education and social science. This is just one of the millions of inspirational stories to show young individuals that getting an education is exceptionally beneficial. It can boost economic growth and even make people healthier. Parents who are

educated are likely to vaccinate their children and to prevent suffering from malnutrition or other harsh conditions.

The list could go on and on as to how positive and worthy a proper education can be. You would not want to look back in 20 years and regret all of the possibilities you could have accomplished simply because you chose the easier route of not going to school. Sure, at the moment it may be the more convenient thing for you to do, but in the long run, it is not the smartest. The places and achievements that can be made with a good education are endless.

Notre Dame: To donate or not

By Malik Jamileh
Ridgeland Editor



April 15 marked one of the most blazing days in European history, quite literally. Notre Dame, the 856-year-old Cathedral building, could be seen burning all over Paris.

Donations started pouring in worldwide as millions watched the historic building crumble. Leading donations were made before the fire was even extinguished. CEO Bernard Arnault, behind LVMH Group (Louis Vuitton SE) and Bettencourt Meyers' family, who own the company L'Oréal, pledged over \$565 million in donations. The Pinault family over PPRUF as well as an oil and gas company TOT have pledged over \$100 million each in donations. In less than two days, the world watched the donations from billionaires hit a \$700 million mark.

Then questions started getting asked.

A few people are arguing that there are other groups/causes who have received little donations that need the money more. Some of these include: are the Native American Sacred lands destroyed, climate change, African country aid, historically black Louisiana churches in arson attacks and even the homeless in Paris! Many see President Macron as a part of the problem as the yellow vest movement has been protesting social inequality in the country. With the 21 percent raise in homelessness, many wonder if the wrong things are being prioritized.

Critics are urging people to look into the fact that the amount of wealth a few have could be used to help purge the world of many dire issues. Notre Dame has not started only one fire, but has indeed sparked a fire in the debate of wealth again.



The Growl!

Holmes Community College
<https://www.facebook.com/hccgrowl>

Contents in the Opinion Section do not represent the official opinions of Holmes Community College or The Growl unless specifically indicated. Letters are welcome, but may be edited for clarity and space.

Send to: mbusby@holmescc.edu.

People are like roses

By John Gillon
Grenada Editor



My mom always wanted “Every Rose Has Its Thorn” played at her funeral. But I never truly understood why until a thorn pricked me.

Sweating at her graveside, preparing to lower her casket

into the damp earth, the lightbulb finally lit: People are like roses.

The blooms are beautiful, rich even, but their stems are covered in prickly thorns. And they hurt—as a kid I watched a friend accidentally run straight into a rose bush

during a backyard football game ... he did not enjoy the gifts he received.

Humans, they’re beautifully complicated beings with a heart-warming capacity for empathy. Recently, after three historically black churches in Louisiana burned, a prominent twitter user Yashar Ali (@yashar) brought attention to the issue. The GoFundMe had raised \$159k before he started his twitter campaign. Within 36 hours, the total exceeded \$1.8 million. Beautiful.

And there are those who break down barriers. Barriers of class, or gender, or race, or just historic achievement. Or Tiger Woods manages to resurrect his career after years of self-destruction.

The caveat, however, is that we are equally as adept at destruction. Entire civilizations have been destroyed. Countless wars fought. Countless groups forced to endure unconscionable horrors. A never-ending stream of mass shootings.

Or, maybe, you open Twitter to see Jacob Wohl failed to manufacture false sexual assault allegations against a prominent “threat” to President Donald Trump again, only actually damaging future survivors who come forward only to be doubted.

But despite the prickly nature of a rose, millions of people still love them. They’re a symbol of love. The beauty outweighs the prick. And people are much of the same. We might get caught up in the hor-



rors, but the beauty of people—naturally good people who care and love and feel raw emotion—should outweigh the pricks seeking some twisted self-fulfillment.

Looking forward to summer days

By Regina Gray
Staff Reporter



Less than two weeks! That’s it! There are less than two weeks of classes before our days of glory and freedom arrive. Summer 2019 is almost here and it

is time to start planning for it. I know money can be an issue in the life of a college student... trust me, but that doesn’t mean we can’t have fun.

Today, you will learn how to be efficient with money, and learn insanely fun things to do this summer.

The first idea is the build a make-shift slipping slide.

This slipping slide consists of a lot of tarp, liquid soap and water. Find a big hill or open flat ground, lay the tarp out in a straight line as far as you can (at least 17 feet) and don’t forget the soap at home. You can buy cheap soap at the Dollar Store and find old tarps around the house or buy a new one at a local hardware store.

The next step is to lather the tarp with liquid soap (Hint: use soap that won’t hurt the eyes) and spray it down with water. Once the tarp is soaked up and slippery grab your boogie boards and

enjoy the ride.

The second idea is to rent a kayak on the Reservoir. Ever wanted to go out on the water and kayak or paddle board but didn’t want to spend hundreds of dollars on one from the store? You can! There are several cost-efficient vendors around the Reservoir area that rent out the kayaks and boards to you and at the perfect drop in spots on the water. This is a fun escape for a sunny day for you and your friends or family to enjoy!

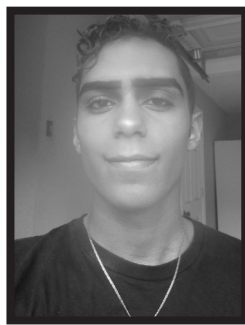
Finally, the third idea is to float down the Bogue Chitto River.



Near McComb, there is a place where you may go and pay five bucks to take an inner tube down the winding bends of the Bogue Chitto River. It is a great place and time to relieve your stress and worries and just relax. Word of advice: bring LOTS of sunscreen, you can thank me later.

Vaccination vs Person Beliefs

By Malik Jamileh
Ridgeland Editor



Two states that allow parents to opt out of vaccines, simply because they want to, are Washington and Oregon. These two states have also been at the center of a major measles outbreak since early

January, which some pediatricians say they saw coming.

Dr. Peter Hotez says he has been anticipating, for years now, a major measles

outbreak along the Pacific Northwest. Oregon and Washington are only two of the states out of 18 that allow you to dodge vaccines for personal beliefs. California, Mississippi and West Virginia are three states that do not require vaccinations before your kids go to school. These states are classified as having “hot spots” which are large groups of unvaccinated kids at risk to outbreaks.

Washington Gov. Jay Inslee declared a state of emergency after 35 outbreaks happened including 11 cases within his own town. Two more cases were reported in Hawaii; those infected who had visited

from Washington, bringing the infection to the islands.

In 2015, the two states attempted to cumulate a plan that would make exemptions harder, but both were unsuccessful due to anti-vaccine groups. The two sides of the debate have only grown with fire as some claim their freedoms are being stolen by the state. Others say the refusal to vaccinate their kids not only endangers them, but other people’s kids too. It seems that the measles will see one of the worst returns in almost a decade, and we are unsure how to stop it.



Understanding Munchausen Syndrome by Proxy

By Regina Gray
Staff Reporter



When a child has been a recurring patient at hospitals and has never been diagnosed or had any confirmation that an illness even exists, it should raise

questions as to what is going on in the child’s life. This could be a sign that Munchausen Syndrome by Proxy may be occurring. The journal article titled “Munchausen Syndrome by Proxy and the Implications for Childbirth Educators” is informative about this type of

child abuse.

What is Munchausen Syndrome by Proxy or in short MSBP? Who is usually involved in situations such as this? How can it be detected? How can it be stopped?

First things first, we need to know what exactly MSBP is. So? What is Munchausen Syndrome by Proxy? MSBP is a mental disorder in which a caregiver falsifies illness in a child to gain the attention of medical personnel. MSBP is child abuse and it can also be known as “pediatric condition falsification.” MSBP is one of the only forms of child abuse that medical staff

are involved with, even without their knowledge.

The children who are victims to this abuse and disease can be harmed “physically” with the treatments of the falsified sicknesses.

Who would do such a thing and who are the common victims of MSBP? The “perpetrator” of this horrific and attention-seeking act is found be the biological mother 85-98 percent of the time. The biological mother usually starts off with Munchausen Syndrome herself which is like being an extreme hypochondriac or someone who always thinks something’s wrong with them in

order to gain attention from their peers and doctors. Once the woman becomes pregnant, depending on her severity of MS, it could turn into MS by proxy. Caretakers, parents, nurses or usually someone with a medical background are your usual suspects for this disease. The abuse can start as soon as the fetus arises in the womb.

For example, a case study about a woman referred to as Ms. A in the article would induce premature labor by puncturing her amniotic sac with her fingernail.

(Munchausen, Continued on Page 4)

Munchausen (Continued from Page 3)

This act could be dangerous and could cause medical consequences for the mother and the baby.

Other abuse is usually found to be in children who aren't old enough to understand the harm being done to them by their mothers or children who can be easily manipulated into going along with the falsifications.

Sadly enough, this abuse usually will go undetected. MSBP is said to be hard to diagnosis because the etiology or reasoning behind the disease is hard to determine. The abuser is someone who is a master manipulator who plays a role of the concerned guardian of the child and will go to great lengths in order to prove the illness is real. They will falsify documents and produce fake test results. They will also go as far as putting their own blood in urine and feces to show some type of disruption

of health in the child.

In order to be able to determine if abuse is occurring, medical personnel, child educators, birthing class teachers and others should all be aware of the symptoms.

If a child is only getting sick when he/she is around one person that is a sign.

If the mother has unexplained deaths for more than one child that may be a sign.

If the child is seen by several different hospitals and has had no sort of diagnosis but has had invasive tests done that is a sign.

It is important to understand and distance yourself personally from your patients or students to be able to fully examine the situation and take appropriate action.

When someone becomes aware of

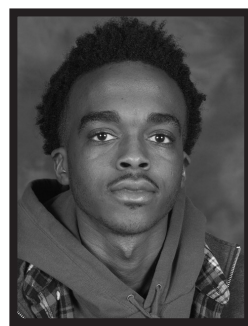
MSBP occurring, they can report to the authorities. CPS child protective services, medical board, etc. The CPS is the main person who will decide on what happens to the child once the abuse is proved. The authorities will take action onto the abuser with criminal punishments. The medical boards will get together to ensure the psychological state of the medical personnel involved and the abuser are dealt with.

The main focus of understanding MSBP and finding out ways to spot it, is all for the safety of the children. All in all, after reading this article it is a great way to get informed on one of the most unfathomable forms of child abuse and disease. Once a person is able to understand and know exactly what MSBP is, they can start learning how to detect and stop it. Furthermore, they will be able to know who to

contact if a situation arises. If anyone is interested in seeing MSBP first hand a new documentary called The Act is a series aired on Hulu every Wednesday and is based on a true story of a severe case of MSBP. In the end all anyone wants is to keep their child safe but when someone is causing MSBP they are failing in doing so which is why the information provided in this article can be helpful to many. If you think about it, it could save lives.

Healing Society: One case at a time

By Stafford Griffin
Staff Reporter



Can we honestly say that prison time effectively rehabilitates criminals? How many criminals do you know who have gone to prison and have never gone back? The answer is more

than likely zero, as criminals who are locked up usually spiral down a life filled with frequent prison stints and probationary hearings. Conditions in these prisons are generally close to subhuman and the amount of violence is largely senseless and inflated.

At Brooklyn Metropolitan Detention Center, prisoners recently endured nearly a week of dangerously low temperatures without power or hot water. While this incident garnered national attention and outrage, there are countless other similar stories that will not have any spotlight. The United States is 5 percent of the world's population yet holds 25 percent of all its prisoners. The United States also jails millions of men and women over the

course of just one year, with crimes usually rooted in poverty, mental illness and addiction. In the article, "Mass Incarceration in 2019: Giving Compass," author Wendy Sawyer points out that "in particular, local jails often receive short shrift in larger discussions about criminal justice, but they play a critical role as 'incarceration's front door'" and have a far greater impact than the daily population suggests." Staggering facts such as these and countless others show that a reform of the criminal justice system has been long overdue. Small steps have been taken to toward this act as recently as the end of last year.

The term "jail churn" refers to the constant movement of individuals in and out of jails as most people in jail have not been convicted nor sentenced of any crime. This process is called pre-trial detention and over 540,000 individuals are locked up over it. Many of these people are detained but cannot afford to pay the bail amount and this leads to extended stays that could potentially damage a life. Pretrial detention is responsible for all the net jail growth in the last 20 years.

To end mass incarceration, however,



exempting nonviolent offenses from jail time isn't enough. People convicted of violent crimes make up more than half of the country's state prison population. But the image of prisons overflowing with murderers and rapists is wrong. In many states, "violent felonies" include offenses like breaking into an empty house or

snatching a purse or iPhone on the street. Reducing sentences for these offenses — and changing what counts as a violent felony to begin with — can lower this share of the prison population.

Nikki Giovanni knows how to captivate an audience

By Chiquila Pearson
Submitted



Dr. Nikki Giovanni packed the Gertrude C. Ford Academic Complex at Millsaps College as she spoke on April 15, giving her lecture "Conversations on Identity, Power and Privilege." Her

lecture focused on people being sent to do a job when it comes to movements.

An award-winning poet, author and civil rights activist, following the massacre at Virginia Tech in 2007, Dr. Giovanni delivered the convocation speech at the memorial service. Her demeanor was very gentle and quiet. She appeared to

be somewhat fragile but the minute she opened her mouth, she was anything but. The audience was instantly captivated and connected. Dr. Giovanni said she loves to cook. She spoke of Maya Angelou not being able to cook but that Margaret Walker Alexander could.

Dr. Giovanni also paid verbal homage to Fannie Lou Hamer.

"You've got to vote!" she said. "We need to vote because of what Fannie Lou Hamer went through alone."

Dr. Giovanni told the story of Jesus' birth and the fact that everyone had a job to do. The cord had to be cut, etc.

While speaking, Dr. Giovanni quickly said, "Don't do that light in my eyes! I don't know any other way to say it." She told us that flashing lights from phones are

blinding to her.

Dr. Giovanni also talked about her doctor saying she ate too much salt and she equated her health issues with not understanding her parent's marriage and essentially having animosity toward her father who was controlling of her mother and a mental abuser. Dr. Giovanni stated that she knew she was going to hell and was fine with it because of the way she felt about her father. She eventually moved her mother out of her father's house.

After shining a little light into her own life, Dr. Giovanni read some of her poem, "I Married My Mother" from her book, "The Collected Poetry of Nikki Giovanni." She attributed her recent seizure to the fact that she had not learned how to cry.

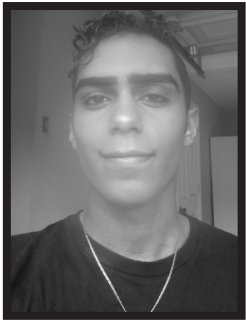
"If you don't cry and let the pain out, it

will get out one way or another. Crying is a skill," she said in her reading of poem, "I Married My Mother."

Dr. Giovanni shared excerpts of her life story and her work and stated how important movement is in society and that it is up to the young people of today to move. She is straight-forward and candid in her conversations and spoken words. A student asked her when she decided to make a change in her life and becoming more prolific, and Dr. Giovanni stated with all sincerity and frankness, "None of your damn business!" After her words flowed, she smiled. Her very presence, energy and words at Millsaps College Symposium, is definitely one for the books. Dr. Nikki Giovanni is simply amazing!

Did William Barr Lie to Congress?

By Malik Jamileh
Ridgeland Editor



May 1 was a fiery day for Congress, as exchanges between senators and William Barr have continued. The testimony before Congress has come after questions of his decision over the Mueller report.

Democratic Sen. Kamala Harris questioned Barr on key evidence which surrounded Attorney General Rod Rosenstein being a witness. Harris recalled statements Barr had made in a March summary claiming he had gone thoroughly through all the evidence before concluding but failed to call on a witness. Which was at odds with his answer that he had not reviewed the great deal of evidence when asked today by Harris.

Before exiting Kamala Harris stated,

“What should be deeply troubling to the entire American public is that he made a decision and didn’t review the evidence.”

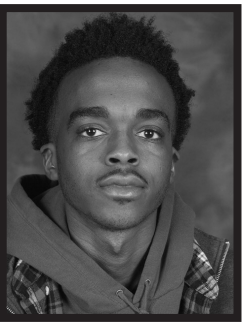
Sen. Mazie Hirono, a Democrat from Hawaii, accused Barr of lying to the public and Congress which was enough to call for him to resign. She grilled him on his earlier statement saying he claimed he did not know if Robert Mueller supported his conclusions, but that in fact was a lie. Muller had expressed concerns for the four-page report that he said did not fully capture his report. Hirono went forward to say he betrayed the American public’s trust and that he should resign. Barr responded saying it was not in his interest or job description to determine a lie but rather determine if a crime was committed. The exchanges continue as more senators are questioning the authenticity of the report.



William Barr

Healing Society: One case at a time

By Stafford Griffin
Staff Reporter



When describing individuals who partake in the writing and development of rap music, those on the outside may be inclined at first to refer to this individual as a “rapper.” Rapper is a word that carries

with it connotations associated with general negativity, mischief and irresponsibility. Today’s “rappers” are business owners, stockholders and CEOs; titles that usually have absolutely no correlation with the term of “rapper.” No “rapper” to date exhibited this concept of duality more than Los Angeles recording artist, Ermias “Nipsey Hussle” Asghedom.

Hussle, who was recently gunned down in front of his LA storefront, was only 33. This tragedy has left the hip-hop world in a state of grief and shock as Hussle represented one who makes it out and does it the right way. Many were left with one simple question, “How could this happen?” Despite a hopeless sense of sadness, the hip-hop community has come together to celebrate the feats and accomplishments this man of honor made during his time here. He left behind a larger-than-life legacy in which he proved again and again that he was more than just a “rapper.”

Nipsey Hussle was a brilliant entrepreneur, philanthropist and community lead-

er, as well as a steadfast friend, devoted husband and loving father. He was the perfect example of the famous Descartes quote: “I think, therefore, I am.” Whatever Hussle decided he was going to do, he achieved plus much more. He was introduced to the world via Epic Records, but his career was put of hold due to the fact he couldn’t produce a “hit” in the eyes of his label. He then not only reinvented himself but essentially shaped a new pathway to independent music success.

In an era of rapidly declining music sales and before the epidemic of streaming, Hussle took a profound risk by offering his 2013 mixtape “Crenshaw” for the price of \$100 a copy at a pop-up shop with only 1,000 copies available. Hussle wanted to reaffirm music’s worth as art in a society that ships artists and songs like an assembly line. If paintings could go for tens of millions on the auction block, why couldn’t a limited-edition mixtape be meaningful piece of art to his die-hard fan base? His constant innovation and fearlessness of breaking a traditional mold will live on forever as many artists have studied his technique. As he said at the time: “It isn’t the price of the plastic case and polyurethane disc...it’s the price of Revolution! The price of rebellion against an industry that has tricked us all into making products that have no soul for fear of not being heard if we don’t.”

With his newfound success he could have easily deserted the community that



Nipsey Hussle

raised him but instead he single-mindedly focused on rebuilding Crenshaw. He bought a neighborhood burger restaurant, a fish market and a barbershop. He donated shoes to every student at 59th Street Elementary School and financed improvements on their playground and basketball courts. He employed countless residents and paid for funeral arrangements for the fallen.

His dedication to his community was unmatched and typically unheard of in recent years of the hip-hop community.

Two months before he died, he closed escrow on the shopping plaza that housed his Marathon storefront and had plans to build a 100-unit residential building on the property. Nipsey Hussle’s legacy is one defined of many topics as he wore many hats. His impact on the hip-hop community, as well as his own, will never be forgotten. Hussle showed us that societal and cultural limitations mean nothing as long as aspiring artists remember that they are not just “rappers.”

2019 Horizons yearbook now available

From Staff Reports/Photos



The 2019 yearbooks are now available on each campus. For Goodman Campus students, the pickup location is McMorrough Library. For the Grenada Campus, the pickup location is the business office in the Main Building, and for the Ridgeland Campus, pickup is the front receptionist desk in Ridgeland Hall. The yearbooks are free to full-time students and \$35 for part-time.

Growl awards (continued from Front Page)

Wayne County News and president of Mississippi Press Association (MPA), followed by a few words from O.C. McDavid's granddaughter Carol McDavid, representing the McDavid family. The conference concluded with a few words from MPA Executive Director Lane Bruce and the presentation of awards for the Better Newspaper Contest Student Division.

The students also had an opportunity to tour the Civil Rights Museum, thanks to tickets provided by MPA.

For more information on Holmes student publications/journalism classes, contact Mary Margaret Busby at mbusby@holmescc.edu or (601) 605-3376.

(right) Pictured are Holmes students at the O.C. McDavid Journalism Conference on March 28 at the Two Mississippi Museums. They are (left to right) **Stafford Griffin, John Gillon, Nykeem Liddell, Regina Gray, Jessica Bass, Arcadia Smith and Aurora Sant'Angelo.**



Six students honored by legislature at 2019 All-MS Luncheon

From Staff Reports/Photos



IN THE PHOTO: Pictured at the All-Mississippi Community College Academic Team Recognition Luncheon are (left to right) **Hallie Westbrook, Lake Shipp, Courtney Dees, Chelsea Williams, Bradford James** and Holmes President **Dr. Jim Haffey.** Not pictured: Abigail Wilkerson.

Holmes Community College students Courtney Dees, Bradford James, Lake Shipp, Hallie Westbrook, Abigail Wilkerson and Chelsea Williams were honored at the All-Mississippi Community College Academic Team Recognition Luncheon on April 10.

Held at the Clyde Muse Center in Pearl, the luncheon recognized those students named to both the All-Mississippi First Team and Second Team. The program was established by the Mississippi Association for Community and Junior Colleges, the Mississippi Community College Board, and Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. Nominations are based on outstanding academic performance and service to the college and community.

Courtney Dees of Grenada, a nursing major, is president of the Alpha Mu Beta Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa (on the Grenada Campus) and was named a 2019 Coca-Cola Academic Team Silver Scholar. She is also an Amba-

sador, on leadership team for Baptist Student Union, serves as secretary for Student Government Association and was inducted into the 2019 Hall of Fame.

Additionally, she was elected as Class Favorite both as a freshman and as a sophomore. Dees plans to attend Delta State University after Holmes to pursue her BSN and eventually become a nurse practitioner.

Bradford James of Gore Springs, who serves as vice president of scholarship for Phi Theta Kappa, was also inducted into the Hall of Fame. An accounting major, he is Mr. Holmes for the Grenada Campus, a President's List Scholar, an Ambassador, a Student Government Association representative and a member of the Baptist Student Union. He has served as a math tutor and works at Grocery Basket, his family farm (James Farm) and John Mark King, CPA.

Upon graduation from Holmes,

James plans to attend the University of Mississippi to earn a bachelor's and master's degree in accounting. He received the prestigious Lyceum Scholarship to Ole Miss, and his career goal is to become a CPA.

Lake Shipp of Benton, an educational psychology major on the Goodman Campus, has been a member of the Holmes cheerleading squad both years. She is a President's List Scholar who received a Scholar Athlete Award and was nominated for the All-USA Academic Team. Shipp is a Math Mastery Tutoring Lab tutor who has participated in numerous community service activities.

After graduating from Holmes, Shipp plan to attend Mississippi State University to pursue a degree in educational psychology. After earning her bachelor's, she plans to obtain a master's degree in speech-language pathology and pursue a career in speech pathology in the Mississippi school system.

Hallie Westbrook of Pickens, vice president of the Kappa Alpha Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, completed her AAS degree in Architectural Engineering Technology in December 2018 and will complete her AA degree in Accounting in May 2019. A student on the Goodman Campus, she was inducted into the 2018 Hall of Fame and received the Architectural Engineering Tech Award in 2017, the English Composition Award in 2018 and the Phi Theta Kappa Golden Key Award in 2018. She was chosen as the 2019 HEADWAE student recipient for Holmes, as well.

Westbrook is a member of the SkillUSA Opening and Closing team that won the Gold Medal at the 2019 state competition. In 2018, she won a Silver Medal at state-level for Technical Applied Mathematics. She is also presi-

dent of Goodman Campus SkillsUSA Chapter, a Get2College FAFSA Corps member and a work-study student in the Holmes Financial Aid Office.

Abigail Wilkerson of Madison is the vice president of Honors and Action for the Alpha Lambda Sigma Chapter for Phi Theta Kappa. She was named a New Century Scholar and received First Team All-Mississippi designation (the others were Second Team). An engineering major on the Ridgeland Campus, she has been on the Dean's List or President's List every semester and was inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Wilkerson works as a barista at Mocha Mugs and serves as a leader for the youth group at Vertical Church. After Holmes, she plans on transferring to Mississippi State University to earn a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering.

Chelsea Williams of Clinton, who serves as College Project Coordinator for the Phi Theta Kappa Alpha Lambda Sigma Chapter, is a pre-physical therapy major. She is also a Get2College Corps member, Focus Factor member and President's List Scholar on the Ridgeland Campus. Williams was nominated for the Hall of Fame and serves as vice president of Usher and Youth Ministry at Nazareth MB Church in Jackson.

Upon graduation from Holmes, she plans to attend Mississippi State University and major in kinesiology with a concentration in neuromechanics.

The All-Mississippi recipients and their families attended the All-Mississippi Academic Team Recognition Luncheon where they were individually recognized for their academic accomplishments.

For more information about Phi Theta Kappa, visit <https://www.ptk.org/>.

Education group ranks Holmes a top online community college

From Staff Reports/Photos



Holmes Community College was recently ranked third in the 2019 Best Online Community Colleges in Mississippi list provided by SR Education Group. A leading education research publisher, SR Education Group was founded in 2004 with the mission to create authoritative online resources for students seeking an online education program that best suits their budget and career aspirations.

"Community colleges offer some of

the most affordable degrees in the country," said Sung Rhee, CEO of SR Education Group. "With a growing number of these degrees becoming available online, we wanted to let prospective students know about these great, accessible options near them. By providing these resources, we hope to help more people reach their educational and professional goals."

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. A number of options are offered, including regular semester courses, four-week courses and eight-week courses.

For more information on the eLearning Department and online offerings, call (662) 472-9162.

James receives most prestigious UM scholarship

From Staff Reports/Photos



Bradford James

Holmes Community College sophomore Bradford James, son of Tange and Dan James, recently received the prestigious Lyceum Scholarship from the

University of Mississippi. The scholarship provides full resident tuition for two years. James will graduate from Holmes on May 10 and will begin his studies at Ole Miss as an accounting major in the fall of 2019.

“Bradford is an exceptional student who works hard and strives for excellence,” said Student Activities Director/Recruiter Cynthia Abel. “He is determined to reach his academic and career goals, and we are excited to see the great things he accomplishes at Ole Miss!”

Lyceum Scholarship recipients must have at least a 3.0 GPA on at least 48 transferable community college credit hours and an exemplary record of leadership and service. Awarded to only 15

students a year, the Lyceum Scholarship is the University of Mississippi’s most prestigious transfer scholarship.

James has made a name for himself as a student leader while at Holmes. A President’s Scholarship recipient, he was named Mr. Holmes Community College for the Grenada Campus, inducted into the Hall of Fame and serves as vice president of scholarship for Phi Theta Kappa honor society. James is also active on campus as an Ambassador, representative for Student Government Association and member of the Baptist Student Union.

In addition to his extracurricular involvement at Holmes, he has also played an active role in his community as a volunteer for the Boys & Girls

Club and for a local soup kitchen. He has assisted with the newly-created student food pantry on campus and served as a math tutor, as well. Upon graduation from Holmes, he plans to attend the University of Mississippi to earn a bachelor’s and master’s degree in accounting. He is working at John Mark King, CPA, to gain experience and hopes to become a CPA one day.

The Lyceum Scholarship was created to recognize some of the most outstanding community college transfer students across Mississippi.

For more information about Ole Miss transfer scholarships, visit <https://find.olemiss.edu/transfer-students/>.

SkillsUSA shines at Regional Competition

From Staff Reports/Photos

The SkillsUSA chapters from Holmes Community College’s Goodman and Ridgeland campuses successfully competed in the 2019 SkillsUSA State Leadership and Skills Conference held April 8-10. The winners were recognized during a ceremony on April 10 at

the Jackson Marriott. Overall, Holmes took home 13 awards: eight from the Goodman Campus and five from Ridgeland.

Goodman SkillsUSA students Corey Boone, Audrey Elmore, Reed Hasty, Devin Leal, Yernita Parham, Jada Ware

and Hallie Westbrook performed the official opening ceremony for the meeting; an honor bestowed on them for winning first place in the Opening and Closing Ceremonies category. Lyndsey Williams also took home a first place in Nail Care, with Katelyn Powers as her model.

Other Goodman students brought home medals, as well. Mailey Melton placed second in Cosmetology; Chloe Clark won second in Esthetics; William Montgomery won second in Major Appliance & Refrigeration; Mason Harris, second in Carpentry; Michael Hood, second in Job Skill Demonstration A, and Logan Burchfield, Nathan Cagle and Jon William Garrett took home second for Welding Fabrication.

Ridgeland Campus student Edalit Viveros won first place in Related Technical Math. Additionally, Kasey Bruckner placed second in Job Interview Skills; Mayson Reeves, second in Extemporaneous Speaking; Tyler Thrash, third in Job Skill Demonstration Open and Hilton Ladner, third in Information Technology Services.

The first place winners will be traveling to the 55th Annual National Leadership and Skills Conference held June

24-28 in Louisville, Kentucky.

For more information on how to get involved with SkillsUSA on the Ridgeland Campus, contact Heather Mooney at hmooney@holmescc.edu. For information about the Goodman chapter, contact Will Alexander at walexander@holmescc.edu.



Pictured are the SkillsUSA winners from the Goodman Campus. They are (front row, left to right) **Corey Boone** of Canton, **Reed Hasty** of Benton, **Yernita Parham** of Salis, **Hallie Westbrook** of Pickens, **Audrey Elmore** of Jackson, **Jada Ware** of Greenwood, **Lyndsey Williams** of Kosciusko, (back row, left to right) Welding and Cutting Technology instructor **Ben Lewis**, Automotive Technology instructor **Derrick Rainey**, HVAC instructor **Jeffrey Cotten**, **William Montgomery** of Bentonia, **Michael Hood** of Canton, **Logan Burchfield** of Kosciusko, **Jon William Garrett** of Goodman, **Nathan Cagle** of McCool, **Mason Harris** of Ackerman, **Alyssa McLemore** of Lexington, **Chloe Clark** of Ethel, **Katelyn Powers** of Carthage, **Mailey Melton** of Yazoo City, Cosmetology instructor **Christie Adams**, **Devin Leal** of Bentonia, Engineering Technology instructor **Cham Blain** and Engineering Technology instructor **Will Alexander**.



Pictured are the SkillsUSA winners from the Ridgeland Campus. They are (front row, left to right) **Kasey Bruckner** of Madison, **Edalit Viveros** of Madison, **Mayson Reeves** of Flora, (back row, left to right) **Tyler Thrash** of Lena and **Hilton Ladner** of Madison.

Grenada Campus announces Creative Writing Contest winners

From Staff Reports/Photos



Sykina Butts

Each year, the Grenada Campus holds a Creative Writing Contest. All winners receive cash prizes furnished by the Holmes Foundation. First and second place winners are forwarded to the Mississippi Community College Creative Writing Association contest and will be



Wesley Fox

published in Holmes’ Creative Writing Journal, “Reflections.”

The Poetry Category winners were as follows: first place, “Dressed in White” by Kayla Ramage of North Carrollton; second place, “Unknown Saints” by Sykina Butts of Kilmichael and third



Kayla Ramage

place, “Through Button Eyes” by Phebia Merrill of Grenada.

For the Short Story Category, Butts won first place for “Belle” and Victoria Merrill of Grenada won second for “Onyx.”

In the Literary Essay Category, Wes-



Victoria and Phebia Merrill

ley Fox of McCarley won first place for “The Importance of Comedic Characters,” and Butts took home second for “Feelings in the Twelfth Night.”

Goodman Campus announces Creative Writing Contest winners

From Staff Reports/Photos



Alyssa Allbritton



Hayden Michell



Amira Wallace



Hallie Westbrook

Each year, the Goodman Campus holds a Creative Writing Contest. All winners receive cash prizes furnished by the Holmes Foundation. First and second place winners are forwarded to the Mississippi Community College Creative Writing Association contest

and will be published in Holmes' Creative Writing Journal, "Reflections."

The Poetry Category winners were as follows: first place, "Suffocate" by Hayden Mitchell of Kosciusko; second place, "Heart Strings" by Amira Wallace of Jackson and third, "Beauti-

ful Lightning" by Alyssa Allbritton of Jackson.

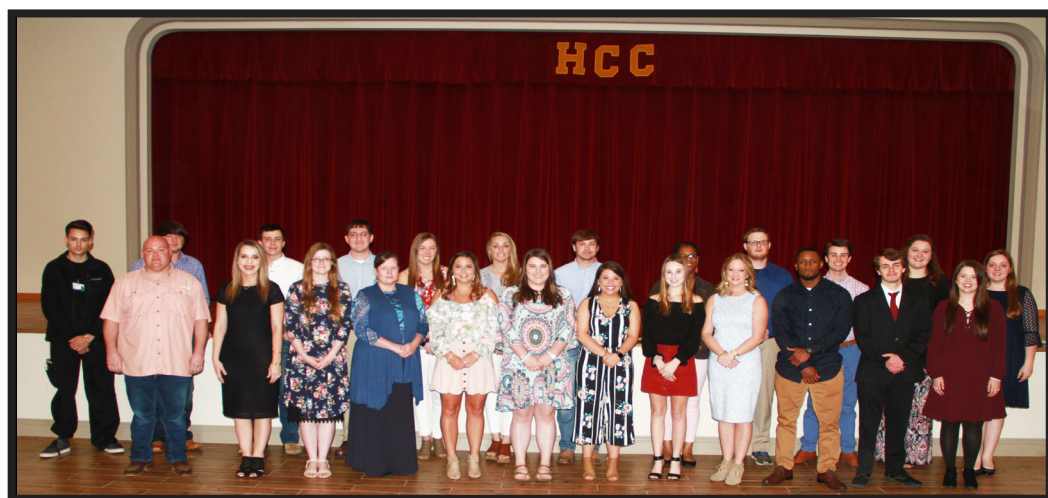
For the Short Story Category, Mitchell won first place for "The Waitress" and Hallie Westbrook of Pickens won second for "Dreams Lost in the Hawk's Nest Tunnel." Westbrook also took first

place in the Literary Essay Category for "Ego: John's Downfall in Oleanna."

Finally, in the Creative Nonfiction (personal essay) Category, Wallace placed first for "Stepparents."

Grenada Campus holds 2019 Award and Honors Program

From Staff Reports/Photos



Pictured are the Grenada award recipients following the Annual Holmes Awards & Honors Program held March 26 in the Corey Forum. They are (front row, left to right) Coy Peterson, Andrea Pike, Victoria Merrill, Phebia Merrill, Macie Craddock, Randi Taylor, Lindsey McLellan, Kailey Dorris, Grace Ann Sims, Kadero Edley, Dylan Baker, Lexanna Newson, (back row, left to right) Joseph Horrall, Hestin Tackett, Rodney Ross, Perry Doler, Courtney Dees, Deborah Hoff, Zachary Avent, Erica McGowan, Wesley Fox, Bradford James, Kendall Preston and Kayla Ramage.

The Grenada Campus held its Honor's Day Program in the Corey Forum on Tuesday, March 26. Awards included: Andrea Pike, Associate Degree Nursing Award (Day); Joseph Stroud, Associate Degree Nursing (Evening); Bradford James, Business Administration; Kayla Ramage, Phebia Merrill, Victoria Merrill, Wesley Fox, Creative Writing; Kaylee Clanton, Educational Programs; Wesley Fox, English; Dana Murphy, Fine Arts; Dylan Baker, Mathematics; Lindsey McLellan and Kailey Dorris, Biological Science; Randi Taylor, Chemistry; Zachary Avent, Health and Physical Education; Grace Ann Sims, Social Science; Kayla Ramage, History; Kayla Ramage, Spanish; Perry Doler, Speech; Erica McGowan, Business Technology;

Joseph Horrall, EMS-Paramedic; Rodney Ross, Engineering Technology; Deborah Hoff, Forestry Technology; Andrew Sims, Conservation Law Enforcement Technology; Coy Peterson, Heating, Ventilation, AC and Refrigeration; Kristopher Wilbanks, Information Systems Technology; Waylon Self, Maintenance Technology; Lexanna Newsom, Practical Nursing; Kadero Edley, Physical Therapist Assistant; Ashley Smith, Surgical Technology; Hestin Tackett, Welding; Bradford James, Courtney Dees, Kendall Preston and Macie Craddock, Hall of Fame.

Goodman Campus holds 2019 Award and Honors Program

From Staff Reports/Photos



Pictured are the Goodman award recipients following the Annual Holmes Awards & Honors Program held April 8 in Frank Branch Coliseum. They are (front row, left to right) Ebony Huntley, Josie White, Sydney Myers, Lake Shipp, Mary Morgan Stafford, Hayden Mitchell, Jazmin Gates, Makala Hutchison, Josie Harris, Hallie Westbrook, Albertina Veasley, (middle row, left to right) Alexis McBride, Chris Ball, Mason Harris, Noah Burrell, Loftin Price, Casey Cloninger, W.J. Myrick, Michael Hood, Nykeem Liddell, Chelsea Willhite, Victoria Williams, (back row, left to right) Paxton McHan, Christopher Nalls, Nathan Cagle, Tyler Sloan, James Swinney, Dalton Massingill and Jimmy Burse.

The Holmes Goodman Campus recognized its students' achievements and honors during the 2019 Honors Day Program held April 8 in Frank Branch Coliseum.

Representatives from each academic and career-technical program presented awards to students who have shown excellence in their given major, program or extracurricular activity. Other special awards were given, as well.

Award presentations including recognition began with Goodman Campus Director Andy Wood recognizing the 2019 Goodman Campus Hall of Fame inductees. Hall of Fame, the highest honor a student can receive, is voted on by faculty and staff based on academic achievement, campus involvement and community service. The inductees included: Lake Shipp, Mary Morgan Stafford, Alexis McBride,

Tyler Sloan and Chris Nalls.

The Holmes Plus Awards went to Loftin Price and Tyler Sloan. Sloan also received the Phi Theta Kappa Award.

The Biological Science Award went to Makala Hutchison; the Architectural Engineering Award, Mason Harris; the Engineering Award, Sloan; the Wesley David Rule Mathematics Award, Loftin Price; and the Social and Behavioral Science Award, Ebony Huntley. The Business Administration Award went to Hallie Westbrook; the Elementary Education Award and the Literature Award to Stafford; the Health, Physical Education and Recreation Department Award to Jatavious Herron; the W.Y. Sudduth History Award and Political Science Award to Jimmy Burse; the Physical Science Award to James Swinney; the English Composition Award to Dalton Massingill; the Bill Watkins Visual Arts Award to Sydney Myers and the Student Government Award to McBride. Additionally, the Journalism Award went to Nykeem Liddell, and Hayden Mitchell received the Creative Writing Award.

Among the musically-talented students, Chris Ball received the Band Award; Josie Harris, the Choral Music Award; Josie White, the Music Major Award and Noah Burrell, the Percussion Groups Award.

In the career-technology and workforce programs, Victoria Williams received the Automotive Technology Award; Chelsea Willhite, the Business and Technology Award; Paxton McHan, Collision Repair Technology Award; Alyssa McLemore, Cosmetology Award; Albertina Veasley, Criminal Justice Award and Michael Hood, the Heating and Air Conditioning Technology Award. Additionally, Grayson Walker received the Industrial Technology Award; Jazmin Gates was named the Practical Nursing Award recipient and Nathan Cagle received the Welding Award.

Huntley and W.J. Myrick received the Deans and Directors Award, which is bestowed upon a non-traditional student who has been out of school for a while and but has exceptional grades and has made an impact in the classroom.

Huntley was also the recipient of the Dr. Marilyn Burrell Memorial Award, which is given to a student with a strong academic record, leadership skills and campus involvement.

The Christine Herron Academic Achievement Award, given to a non-traditional student who is active in MOSAIC and shows academic excellence, was presented to Casey Cloninger.

Ridgeland Campus holds 2019 Award and Honors Program

From Staff Reports/Photos



Pictured are the Ridgeland Campus award recipients following the 33rd Annual Holmes Awards & Honors Program held April 9 in the McGowan Center. They are (front row, left to right) Chelsea Williams, Andrea Bonner, Savanna Moore, Gabriel Bridgeman, Aurora Sant'Angelo, Lee Cummings, Samantha Endsley, Victoria Alexander, (second row, left to right) Antonio Benson, Zachary McInnis, Terry Williams, Joshua Patton, Mallory Walker, Kamilah Brown, Kempseyann Barnett, Matthew Welch, Daniel Hits, Joshua Hinkle, (back row, left to right) Victoria Hines, David Humphreys, Lucas Langford, William Bilbro, Peyton Montgomery, Abby Hudson, Reece Dent, Rodney Burch, Bekah Misner, Henry Simmons, Thomas Vinson, Hailey Mathiew and Tressa Harris. Not pictured: Devin Ammons, Raymond Anderson, Nicole Bergeron, Katie Dupree, Malik Jamileh, Satoshi Maehata, Frank Oakes, Robert Oakes, Hailey Pittman and Abigail Wilkerson.

The Holmes Community College Ridgeland Campus recognized its students' achievements and honors during the 2019 Honors Day Program held April 9 in the McGowan Workforce Training Center. Representatives from each academic and career-technical program presented awards to students who have shown excellence in their given major, program or extracurricular activity. Other special awards were given, as well, in various categories. The evening began with a welcome

from Ridgeland Campus Academic Dean Dr. Tonya Lawrence and an invocation from Ridgeland Campus Vice President Dr. Don Burnham. Award presentations began with recognizing the 2019 Ridgeland Campus Hall of Fame inductees. Hall of Fame is the highest honor a student can receive and recipients were voted on by faculty and staff based on academic achievement, campus involvement and community service. The inductees included: Victoria Alexander, Victoria Hines,

Joshua Hinkle, Abby Hudson, Savanna Moore, Frank Oakes, IV, Robert Oakes, Aurora Sant'Angelo, Abigail Wilkerson and Chelsea Williams.

The Biological Science Award went to Andrea Bonner; the Physical Science Award went to Zachary McInnis and the Engineering Award to Reece Dent. The Business Administration Award went to Hinkle; the Criminal Justice Award to Henry Simmons; the Educational Programs Award to Zephyr Morris and the English Composition Award to Lucas Langford. Heather Keel received the Fine Arts Award; Peyton Montgomery the Health, Physical Education & Recreation Award; Malik Jamileh, the Journalism Award; Kamilah Brown, the Literature Award and Daniel Hits, the Spanish Award.

Matthew Welch was the History & Political Science Award recipient; Nicole Bergeron, the Mathematics Award recipient; Thomas Vinson, Computer Science Award; David Humphreys, Public Speaking Award and Kempseyann Barnett, the Social & Behavioral Science Award.

In the career-technology and workforce programs, William Bilbro was the Information Systems Technology Award recipient; Tressa Harris and Hailey Mathiew received the Occupational Therapy Assistant Awards; Mallory Walker, Business Technology; Bekah Misner, Surgical Technology; Rodney Burch, Emergency Medical Sciences, Antonio Benson, Engineering Technology and Kayla Andrews, Mortuary

Sciences. In addition, Joshua Patton received the Industrial Maintenance Mechanics Award; Lee Cummings, Paralegal Technology; Raymond Anderson, Welding & Cutting Technology and Gabriel Bridgeman, Associate Degree Nursing.

Dr. Andrew Kelly took the stage to recognize the 2019 Ridgeland Campus Literary Contest winners. The first and second place recipients received monetary prizes, in addition to their plaques, presented by Holmes alumnus Kyle Henry from Renasant Bank. The winners were: Rachel Hairston, first place in poetry for "Star Stuff Salutations;" Hailey Pittman, second place in poetry for "Persephone;" Samantha Endsley, first place in short story for "Fight for a Life;" Satoshi Maehata, second for "The Summer of Shame;" Devin Ammons, first in personal essay for "My Queenie;" William Sutherland, second in personal essay for "Baptized without Pride;" Hairston, third in personal essay for "Wannabe Samurai;" Kamilah Brown, first in literary essay for "An Analysis of The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass and Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl" and Hairston, second in literary essay for "Tragic Zero: Willy Loman."

A reception for award recipients, friends and family immediately followed the ceremony in the McGowan Lobby.

Students receive awards at State Art Show

From Staff Reports/Photos



Alexis Bain



Sydney Myers

Sydney Myers of Durant and Alexis Bain of Ethel each received awards at the State Community College Art Show at Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson on March 22.

Myers, a sophomore on the Holmes Community College Goodman Campus, won Best in Show. This is the first time in school history that a Holmes student has received this honor. Sydney won two awards, both in the 3-Dimensional Design category. Her entry titled "Typewriter" is simply a typewriter with thumbtacks on the keys. The judges appreciated the conceptual nature of the piece. Sydney also won third place

for 3-D Design for her piece entitled "Tree".

Bain, a sophomore on the Holmes Community College Goodman Campus, won Honorable Mention for her painting titled "Ducks."

For more information about the Fine Arts program at Holmes, contact Fine Arts Department Chair Jay Cheatham at jcheatham@holmescc.edu.

Saxton named 2019 Miss Catfish

From Staff Reports/Photos



Lily Kate Saxton

Holmes Community College freshman Lily Kate Saxton of Benton was named 2019 Miss Catfish during the 2019 World Catfish Festival in Belzoni on Saturday, April 6. She was crowned by 2018 Miss Catfish and Holmes alumnus Nikki Merchant.

The daughter of Phyllis and Mark Saxton, she is a graduate of Benton Academy, where she was the 2017 Homecoming Queen. She is a pre-med major on the Goodman Campus and plans to attend Mississippi College after Holmes to pursue a bachelor's degree in biology. At Holmes, she is involved in the choir and Connection! Saxton was also named Holmes Community College Most Beautiful on Feb. 26.

This was the 44th annual World Catfish Festival, which has become a major tourist draw to the Mississippi Delta.

This family event, which averages more than 10,000 in attendance, has won several awards including Top 100 Events in North America and Top 20 Events of the Southeast. Patrons enjoy over 150 arts and crafts vendors, and live entertainment which features blues, country, gospel and more.

There is also a free kids zone as well as activities for adults and a 5K run and walk.

The catfish eating contest, Little Miss Catfish Pageant and Miss Catfish Pageant are key events, as well.



2018 Miss Catfish and Holmes alumnus Nikki Merchant is all smiles just before crowning 2019 Miss Catfish Lily Kate Saxton.

Holmes hosts state creative writing workshop, wins 7 awards

From Staff Reports/Photos



The judge for the MCCCWA competition in the Fiction Category, (right) author **Michael Farris Smith**, is pictured with first place winner, Goodman Campus student **Hayden Mitchell**.



The judge for the Literary Essay Category, (right) Belhaven University English Department Chair **Dr. Don Hubele**, is pictured with second place winner, Ridgeland Campus student **Kamilah Brown**.



The judge for the Poetry Category, (right) artist/poet **Paula Lambert**, is pictured with Honorable Mention winner, Goodman Campus student **Amira Wallace**.

Creative writing students from across the state gathered on the Holmes Community College Ridgeland Campus on Friday, April 12, to receive their accolades as they were announced winners in the 2019 Mississippi Community College Creative Writers Association competition. During the awards ceremony portion of the workshop, Holmes was recognized with seven awards.

Competition judges/workshop presenters included Dr. Don Hubele, English professor and chair of the Belhaven University English Department; Paula Lambert, literary and visionary artist and author; Phyllis W. Seawright, assistant professor of communication/theater at Mississippi College; Michael Farris Smith, award-winning author, and Marshall Ramsey, author, syndicat-

ed-cartoonist, radio/television host and editor-at-large for Mississippi Today. The competition included seven categories: Fiction, Literary Essay, Poetry, Drama, Creative Nonfiction, Best Professionally-Printed Journal and Best In-House Journal.

In the Fiction Category, Hayden Mitchell of Kosciusko, a student on the Goodman Campus, won first place for

her story "The Waitress." In the Literary Essay Category, Ridgeland Campus student Kamilah Brown of Jackson won second place for her paper, "An Analysis on the Life of Frederick Douglass and Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl."

In the Poetry Division, Ridgeland Campus student Rachel Hairston of Jackson placed third for her poem about dyslexia, "Ahplaebt" and also won an Honorable Mention for her poem "buddies." Additionally, Goodman student Amira Wallace of Jackson took home an Honorable Mention for her poem "Heart Strings." In the Creative Nonfiction Category, Ridgeland Campus student Devin Ammons of Bentonia was recognized with an Honorable Mention, as well.

Finally, Holmes' literary journal "Reflections" was named first place for Best In-House Publication overall.

For more information about this year's MCCCWA contest and awards, contact MCCCWA President Dr. Andrew Kelly at akelly@holmescc.edu.

Holmes ranked #2 Best Online Associate in Psychology Program

From Staff Reports/Photos



For the second year in a row, Holmes Community College was ranked #2 for Best Online Associate in Psychology Programs by TheBestSchools.org.

"Our team at TheBestSchools.org connects prospective students with the best online degree programs available,"

said Clifford B. Kvidahl, marketing and communications outreach coordinator. "This year, we reviewed all accredited online Associate in Psychology degree programs in the U.S. to select the Top 50 programs in the nation. Holmes stands out as one of the best of the best."

In 2018, Holmes became the first community college in the nation to offer a psychology course, PSY 2543 - Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA). This online course counts toward the 40 hours of training needed to apply for the Registered Behavior Technician (RBT) credential. The college also offers traditional psychology courses, including General Psychology, Child Psychology, Adolescent Psychology and Human Growth and Development.

"What a testament to the hard work on behalf of our faculty, administration, staff, and students to receive this honor for the second year in a row," said

Jacqueline Bell, lead online psychology instructor. "It is with continuous effort on the part of our faculty, to provide our students with a well-rounded educational experience by offering real-world application of content as well as thorough instruction in our online courses. It is definitely a team effort and I am honored to be a part of this department and institution."

Holmes eLearning as a whole has been successful, as well. The Center for Online Education released its list of the 50 best online community colleges for 2017, and Holmes eLearning came in at number three in the nation. The college's eLearning program has also been ranked the #2 best community college in the United States in terms of "Best Value" by AffordableCollegesOnline.com (ACO), for standing out in both quality and affordability.

"How exciting it is to be ranked #2

two years in a row, and I am still proud to work with such an awesome team of instructors and administrators who always strive to offer the best learning experience possible to our students," Holmes Social and Behavioral Science Department Chair Tina Garrett said. "Our students benefit from the interactive nature of our courses and are fully prepared to enter the workforce or to continue their education. It is such an honor for our program to be recognized as #2 in the Best Online Associate's in Psychology Degree Program. This distinction validates the greatness and dedication of our administrators, faculty, staff, and students. There is truly no place like Holmes."

To view the entire list, visit: <https://thebestschools.org/rankings/best-online-associates-psychology/>.

Abel graduates from Leadership Grenada

From Staff Reports/Photos



Cynthia Abel

Cynthia Abel, recruiter and student activities coordinator on the Holmes Community College Grenada Campus, graduated from Leadership Grenada on Thursday, April 18.

"We are so proud of Cynthia for successfully completing the Leader-

ship Grenada program," said Grenada Campus Vice President Dr. Michelle Burney. "The in-depth training and networking opportunities are sure to increase her effectiveness as an employee of Holmes. Cynthia has been a leader on our campus for many years by serving as a support system for our faculty, staff and especially our students. We are very fortunate to have her as part of our Holmes family."

Leadership Grenada is a program offered by the Grenada Chamber of Commerce that provides corporate leadership training, motivates and encourages civic leaders, and develops personal leadership characteristics and skills. This program's mission is to identify, educate and motivate potential leaders to become involved in the future of the Grenada community. The curriculum includes personal

leadership skills development, city and county government, education, health-care, diversity and history, economic development, community service and strategic planning. The program began with an opening retreat in August and the class met every third Thursday. The leadership program concluded with the graduation on April 18 at Regions in Grenada.

Abel, a Holmes alumna, is also a Phi Theta Kappa adviser and online psychology instructor at the college. She began her career at Holmes as assistant to the academic dean and vice president of the Grenada Campus. While employed full-time at Holmes, Abel went back to school and earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Mississippi and her master's in counseling psychology from the University of West Alabama.

"When Cynthia was invited to participate in Leadership Grenada, I was thrilled she was given the opportunity to represent Holmes," said Director of Marketing Bronwyn Martin. "For more than two years, I have had the privilege of watching Cynthia's professional growth. The network and skills she established through this program have enhanced her role within the Grenada community and in turn, contributed to her continued success with us."

Abel has worked for Holmes for 14 years, and she and her husband, Scott, have been married for 13. They have two children, Mattie and Noah.

For more information about Leadership Grenada, visit www.grenadamississippi.com/.

Holme-Towne Players present ‘Who Shot the Sherriff?’

From Staff Reports
Photos by Abby Holmes



Pictured are cast members of “Who Shot the Sherriff.” They are (front row, left to right) **Loftin Price**, **Alex O’Reilly**, **Tiara LeFlore**, **Salena Carson**, **Josie Harris**, (back row, left to right) **Jaylon Townsend**, **Luke Johnson**, **Lily Kate Saxton**, **Bailey Britt**, **Alana Price**, **Chris Nalls**, **Kalyn Carter** and **Jordan Wallace**.

The Holmes Community College Holme-Towne Players presented “Who Shot the Sheriff” April 15-17 in the Montgomery Fine Arts Auditorium on the Goodman Campus. This three-act “old timey, rowdy” murder-mystery was theater directed by instructor Teresa Grantier.

The cast included: Luke Johnson as the mayor, Alex O’Reilly as Smiley, Lily Kate Saxton as Miss Twitty, Tiara LeFlore as Lila, Salena Carson as Lilli, Kalyn Carter as Dixie, Luke Johnson as Cletus, Jaylon Townsend as Rufus and the Snot Nose Kid, Josie Harris as Amos and Miss Prudence, Jordan Wallace as Dirty Dan, Bailey Britt as Deputy Do Right, Chris Nalls as Deputy Do Little, Alana Price as Sheriff Sam

Purdee, Loftin Price as Otis McBelch, Bellah Shepard as Tempest Temperance and Katie Rodgers as Octavia.

Additionally, Tytus Heard, Quentin Herring, Tavian Johnson and Jatavis Whitley played the “Gals.”

Behind the scenes, Chris Curry was over sound, Colby Wallace was over lights and Yulanda McKennie took care of costume/make-up/set design.

Students meet author, poet and activist Nikki Giovanni

From Staff Reports
Photos by Abby Holmes



Pictured with (center) **Nikki Giovanni** are the Holmes African American Literature class students who attended Giovanni’s “Conversations on Identity, Power and Privilege” presentation. They are (left to right) **Ambra McCaskill**, **Anastasia Boston**, **Ebony Huntley**, **Malerie White** and **Tyler Dodd**.

On Monday, April 15, several students from the Goodman Campus African American Literature class traveled to Millsaps College in Jackson to attend Conversations on Identity, Power and Privilege featuring author, poet and activist Nikki Giovanni.

Giovanni gave a riveting talk along with reading many of her poems to a packed house in the Gertrude Ford Center. Afterwards, she took questions and posed for pictures with students.

During her talk, she encouraged students to continue to be themselves and build their own legacy.

LaShonda Levy, who is the instructor for the class, thought it would be a great experience for the students. “It is not often that you lecture on an author/

poet one week and have the opportunity to take your students to see that very author the next week,” Levy explained. “I hope it is an experience that will stick with them forever.”

For more information on African American Literature courses at Holmes Community College Goodman Campus, contact Levy at llevy@holmescc.edu.

Walt Grayson speaks to Ridgeland students

From Staff Reports/Photos



Renowned Mississippi storyteller and WJTV journalist Walt Grayson spoke to students on the Holmes Community College Ridgeland Campus on Thursday, April 4 in Science Building East.

A native of Greenville, Grayson began his broadcasting career at one of the

(left) History & Political Science instructor **Kay Kelly** stops for a photo with journalist **Walt Grayson** just before Grayson speaks to Holmes students on April 4.

Greenville radio stations while he was in high school. He moved from radio to television in 1984 when he became a weather anchor and occasional feature reporter for Jackson’s WLBT-TV. Over the years, that job morphed into him being an occasional weatherman and full-time feature reporter.

Grayson is now the full-time lifestyle and feature reporter for WJTV, channel 12 in Jackson. He has written a total of four books about his travels around Mississippi and writes a monthly col-

umn for the Electric Coops of Mississippi’s newspaper. He is also the host and a segment producer for Mississippi Public Broadcasting’s “Mississippi Roads.”

Grayson is married to his junior high school sweetheart and they have three children, four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Paula Lambert speaks to Ridgeland students

From Staff Reports/Photos



Poet, author, artist and former Holmes Community College instructor Paula J. Lambert shared some of her poetry with students on the Holmes Ridgeland Campus on April 9. The presentation was part of the Arts & Letters series.

Lambert, who hails from Columbus,

(left) Artist/author and former Holmes Community College instructor **Paula Lambert** reads some of her poetry to Ridgeland Campus students on April 9.

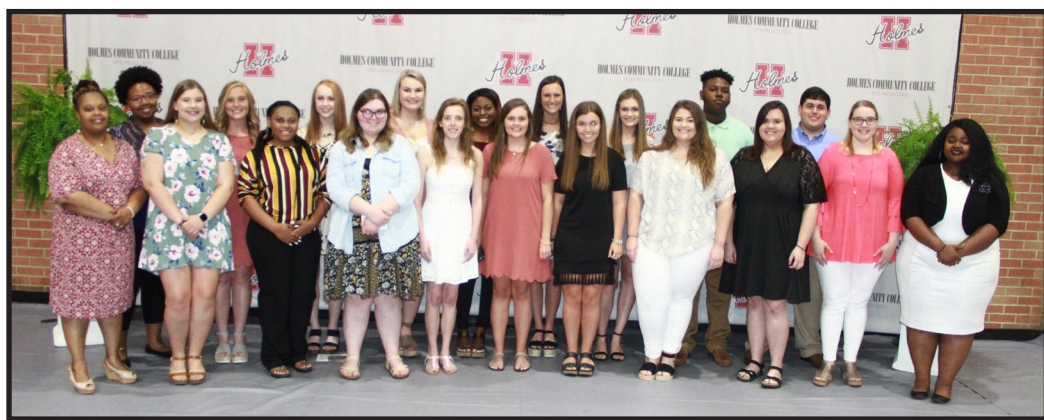
Ohio, is the author of “The Ecstasy of Wanting,” “The Guild that Gathers,” “The Sudden Seduction of Gravity” and her newest collection of poems, “A Lesson in Possibilities.” She has published widely in journals and anthologies, performs regularly in local, regional and national venues and has taught numerous workshops on the writing process. She is a Residency Artist for the Ohio Arts Council Arts Learning Program and also owns Full/Crescent Press, a small publisher of poetry books and

broad-sides.

To learn more about Lambert and view some of her work, visit <https://paulajlambert.weebly.com/>.

Goodman Campus holds 2019 Phi Theta Kappa induction

From Staff Reports/Photos



Pictured are Attala County inductees (front row, left to right) **Wanda Turnbo, Marley Kelley, Kiarra Woodard, Anna Hutchinson, Bailey McRae, Macey Coleman, Meredith Moore, Marlee McBride, Natalie Howell, Chelsea Willhite, Albertina Veasley,** (back row, left to right) **D'Mechria Landfair, Adyson Mann, Abby Holmes, Louanna Garrett, Kameisha Riley, Anna Woodfin, Anna Claire Blayock, La'Mir Harmon and Isaac Moore.**



Pictured are Holmes County inductees (left to right) **Ty Blackstock, Kalon Johnson, Melvin Williams, Ebony Huntley, Danielle Gibson and Brantley Holder.**



Pictured are Yazoo County inductees (left to right) **Josie Harrris, Bruce Ruschewski and Sarah Elizabeth Hardy.**



Pictured are Choctaw County inductees (left to right) **Colin Perry, Shakeria Smith and Mason Harris.**



Pictured are Sunflower County inductees (left to right) **Michael Harris, Arin McIntyre and Jatavis Whitley.**



Pictured is Perry County inductee **Summer Jordan.**



Pictured is St. Helena Parish County inductee **Kailey Chachere.**



(left) Pictured are Montgomery County inductees (left to right) **Johna Beavers and Ambra McCaskill.**

The Kappa Alpha Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa honor society held its induction ceremony on Thursday, April 11, in Frank Branch Coliseum on the Goodman Campus. Mississippi State University Associate Vice President for Enrollment/University Registrar Dr. John Dickerson served as guest speaker. Mississippi State University's Office of Admissions and Scholarships sponsored the reception following the induction ceremony.

Inductees included: Johna Beavers, Ty Blackstock, Anna Claire Blayock, Lexie Bounds, Salena Carson, Kailey Chachere, Macey Coleman, Mauri Colvin, Raylin Cooper, Katie Dana, Shelby Davis, Laura Fields, Louanna Garrett, Danielle Gibson, Melissa Gowan,

Rachel Gray, La'Mir Harmon, Sarah Elizabeth Hardy, Josie Harris, Mason Harris, Michael Harris, Lundy Hawthorne, Brantley Holder, Abby Holmes, Deon House, Natalie Howell, Ebony Huntley, Anna Hutchinson, Kalon Johnson, Summer Jordan, Marley Kelley, D'Mechria Landfair, Calen Lewis, Adyson Mann, Dalton Massingill, Marlee McBride, Ambra McCaskill, Arin McIntyre, Bailey McRae, Isaac Moore, Meredith Moore, Kayla Patton, Colin Perry, Indira Perry, Cade Pinnix, Kameisha Riley, Jade Roberson, Bruce Ruschewski, Shakeria Smith, Rylee Stone, Wanda Turnbo, Albertina Veasley, Jatavis Whitley, Chelsea Willhite, Melvin Williams, Kiarra Woodard and Anna Woodfin.



Pictured are Leake County inductees (left to right) **Jade Roberson, Katie Dana and Melissa Gowan.**



Pictured is Hinds County inductee **Calen Lewis.**



Pictured is Scott County inductee **Lexie Bounds.**



Pictured are Webster County inductees (left to right) **Rachel Gray and Raylin Cooper.**



Pictured is Carroll County inductee **Mauri Colvin.**



Pictured is Neshoba County inductee **Rylee Stone.**



Pictured are Madison County inductees (left to right) **Cade Pinnix and Shelby Davis.**

(left) Pictured are Rankin County inductees (left to right) **Lundy Hawthorne, Salena Carson, Dalton Massingill, Mi-Kayla Patton and Indira Perry.**

Holmes Foundation receives \$1K Grant from Trustmark

From Staff Reports/Photos



Trustmark Bank donated a \$1000 grant check to the Holmes Community College Development Foundation. Dr. Lindy McCain, Executive Director of the Foundation, requested and was approved for funding through Trustmark's grant program. The monies will be used for the purchase of STEM lab supplies district-wide.

Holmes Ridgeland Campus Vice President Dr. Don Burnham accepted the scholarship money from Trustmark

President Barney Daly on behalf of the Foundation on Monday, April 29, in the Library Conference Room.

Holmes hosts reception to honor 9 retirees

From Staff Reports/Photos



IN THE PHOTO: Pictured with (back) Holmes President **Dr. Jim Haffey** are the nine 2019 retirees. They are (left to right) **Chief Christopher Dill, Nona Horne, Julie Muse, Dr. Fran Cox, Dr. Myra Harville, Dr. Donna Banks, Diann Parker-Barr, Jackie Thurman and Carolyn Ratliff.**

Nine Holmes Community College employees who are retiring after the 2018-19 school year were honored April 26 during a reception at the President's Home on the Goodman Campus.

Retirees from the Goodman Campus included: Dr. Donna Banks, Dr. Fran Cox, Nona Horne and Jackie Thurman.

Retirees from the Grenada Campus are Dr. Myra Harville, Diann Parker-Barr and Carolyn Ratliff.

Ridgeland Campus retirees include Chief Christopher Dill and Julie Muse.

Dr. Donna Banks

Dr. Donna Banks first moved to Holmes' campus with John Banks in 2008 and began working as a music instructor. She has also served as the associate department chair for the Fine Arts Department and as an accompanist for Concert Choir, recitals and other performances. As a result of her hard work and dedication, Dr. Banks was named a Music Teachers National Association Foundation Fellow in 2010. She was also named a Delta State University Foundation Faculty Prize Winner for Excellence in Teaching prior to coming to Holmes, and received the Sally Wilson Distinguished Educator Award in 2014 at Holmes.

An active member of the community, she is a past president and member of Mississippi Music Teachers Association (MMTA), a local auditions coordinator for MMTA, a member of Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters, a member of Music Teachers National Association (MTNA), a junior competitions coordinator for MTNA's Southern Division and a frequent adjudicator for local, state and regional piano auditions. Dr. Banks also serves as an accompanist for Madison United Methodist Church and likes to begin and end each day reading. She and her husband have three children: Mary, 36, a teacher in Clarksville, Tennessee, and Matthew, 33, a concert piano technician in New York City.

"We have been quite fortunate all these years to have had such an authority in the field of music as Dr. Donna Banks," said Fine Arts Department Chair Jay Cheatham. "I personally have valued her friendship and guidance. Holmes is losing a prized faculty member and associate department chair. The Fine Arts Department is losing an invaluable instructor and performer. I am losing a mentor."

Dr. Fran Cox

Vice President for Academic Programs Dr. Fran W. Cox joined the Holmes family in 1996 as a science and technology instructor. During that first year, she was responsible for the development and instruction of one of the four science and technology labs in community colleges in Mississippi. The following year, she began teaching mathematics, and by 2002 she was named chair of the Science and Mathematics Department. Two years later, Dr. Cox moved into her current role.

During her tenure, she directed the development of the Holmes' student portal, directed legislative workshops, was a

Lamplighter Conference Honoree and was named a Phi Theta Kappa Distinguished College Administrator.

Prior to working at Holmes, Dr. Cox taught mathematics, accounting and physical science courses at Central Holmes Christian School where she was named a Star Teacher for three consecutive years. She holds a bachelor's in accounting from Mississippi State University, a master's in mathematics education from Delta State University and a Doctorate of Education in Professional Studies from Delta State University. She also completed post-graduate career-technical studies at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Dr. Cox has been an active member of the Mississippi Community Junior & Community College Academic Officers Association since 2007. She has served in numerous capacities with the association, including the role of president. Dr. Cox also served on the Southern Accreditation of Colleges and Schools Commission team in 2005 and again in 2015.

In her free time, she enjoys reading, gardening, sports and anything to do with horse-related events. She is also an active member of First Baptist Church of Lexington, where she has led the Children's Choir and assisted with Vacation Bible School. Dr. Cox has two children, Cody Wynne Cox (Molly West) and Sara Lane Vargas (Frankie Vargas), and two grandchildren, Mia and Slade Vargas.

"Fran Cox is proof that one person can make a profound difference in a community when they are committed and passionate about their work," said Holmes President Dr. Jim Haffey. "Holmes County remains one of the poorest counties in the nation, yet Fran started a mathematics legacy 40 years ago, and hundreds and hundreds of young (and older) students have benefited from it. Many of us would not have made the ACT score we needed to get into advanced programs like engineering and medicine without the hard academic work ethic she instilled into her junior and high school students. Later, she brought that strong work ethic to her college classroom and eventually mentored her faculty across all disciplines to do the same. I contend that no one person has made a greater educational impact in our area the last 25 years to prepare students for college and their careers. Because of her wisdom, when Dr. Cox speaks, the rest of the state listens, and Holmes Community College owes its strong academic reputation to Dr. Cox for helping make us a leader among the colleges in Mississippi."

Chief Christopher Dill

Chief Christopher Dill joined the Holmes family in 2015. Previously, he served as a Lieutenant at the Clinton Police Department where he began his law enforcement career in 1993. Dill taught D.A.R.E. in the Clinton Public School system, graduated from the FBI National Academy, became a certified explosives ordnance technician and became a member of the FBI JTTF (Joint Terrorism Task Force), all while protecting and serving the community.

"Serving at Holmes as the District of

Public Safety/Police Chief has been a rewarding experience," Dill said. "Working with terrific officers, faculty, staff and all of the eager students has definitely made my last few years in law enforcement worthwhile. Throughout my career, I have been blessed with many opportunities to help keep our community a safer and better place to work, live and play.

"I have been asked, 'What are you going to do?'" Dill said. "My response is, whatever I want to do! Which pretty much means: painting the house, fishing, hunting - that's what retired folks do, right?"

Dill's wife works at Mississippi College and they have two daughters about to graduate college and a son about to graduate high school. He jokes that they will probably live hundreds of miles apart one day so they will have to find a geographical location somewhere in between the three of them.

"I wish everyone continued safety and remember all the things I taught you about staying safe in the work place and in public," Chief Dill said. "Always be aware of your surroundings: Run, Hide or Fight when necessary. God Bless ya'll."

Ridgeland Campus Vice President Dr. Don Burnham said: "Chief Dill has been a valuable asset to the Ridgeland Campus. He has continued to move the police department forward by obtaining upgrades to security infrastructure. More importantly, he has established a personal and departmental rapport with both students and employees that has created a sense of family for the campus that will last well beyond his tenure. I wish Chief Dill the best in his retirement."

Dr. Myra Harville

Dr. Myra Harville began part-time at Holmes as a psychology instructor in 1987. In 1990, she became a full-time employee of the college, holding the position of evening director until she became the Grenada Campus academic dean. Dr. Harville has also served as a Phi Theta Kappa advisor and Homecoming and Beauty Review liaison. She is a two-time Lamplighter recipient, HEADWAE award recipient, Phi Theta Kappa Robert Giles Distinguished Advisor, Advisor Continued Excellence Award recipient and Phi Theta Kappa Bennie Warren Award recipient. She was also named Exchange Club Teacher of the Month and Grenada Chamber of Commerce Teacher of the Year.

Dr. Harville's community involvement includes: past member and president of Pilot Club of Grenada, and member and past president of New Century Club. She is an active member of Elliott Baptist Church where she sings in the choir, teaches a ladies Bible study, has served as a Sunday school teacher and teaches Bible school. Her hobbies are reading and cooking, when she gets the time.

Dr. Harville has been married to her high school sweetheart for nearly 37 years. They have two sons, Mitchell and P.J., who are both Holmes graduates and former Phi Theta Kappa presidents. Both sons are educators, as well. Their two daughters-in-law are Kayla, who is a nurse practitioner, and Heather, who is a former middle school assistant principal but is now a stay-at-home mom who sells Senegence.

"My greatest reasons for life itself are my three grandchildren: Joseph, Kenzie Lynn and Madi Brooke," Dr. Harville said.

She holds a BSE in special education and M.Ed. in school psychology from Delta State; a master's in Christian counseling from Andersonville Theological Seminary and a Ph.D. in health and human services from Columbia Pacific University. She is a certified temperament counselor, licensed clinical pastoral counselor and a licensed psychometrist.

"It is impossible for me to imagine the Grenada Campus without Dr. Harville being a part of it," said Grenada Campus Vice President Dr. Michelle Burney. "During her time at Holmes, she has touched thousands of lives as a mentor, in-

structor, academic dean and friend. I have thoroughly enjoyed serving the college as her colleague, but I also loved enrolling in her psychology courses because she always made learning so much fun! Her commitment to excellence has left a lasting mark on each of us, and I have no doubt that she will continue being a positive light in all of her future endeavors."

Nona Horne

Nona Horne, a dispatcher for the Holmes Police Department, will be retiring after 12 years at the college. Horne became a dispatcher in January 2015. Prior to that, she served as a dorm supervisor in Motel Dorm. She and her husband, Jimmy, who also worked at Holmes as a welding instructor until 2010, lived in Motel Dorm.

Prior to coming to Holmes, she worked at the Baptist Fitness Center in Yazoo City. Jimmy cut the right-of-ways along I-55 and along gas lines in the central part of the state, and she worked with him in this business over the years.

"I've really enjoyed working here with the staff and faculty and with the students when I was in the dorm," Horne said. "It really was a privilege to serve those boys."

In the dispatchers' office, Holmes has a wall of monitors running live video of over 200 cameras that are spread out across the Goodman Campus. Horne is very pleased with the technology and the service they provide to the students and staff.

"I've also enjoyed watching these cameras," she said. "This is the best job I've ever had and easiest work I've had. I think it's really important that the parents know that we have a means to go back and look at the cameras if we need to."

Horne has three grown children, all of whom attended Holmes, along with their spouses. Dixie Pogue and her husband, Lance, reside in Eupora. She is a special education teacher and was a cheerleader at Holmes. Celeste Woods and her husband, Leslie, reside in Eupora. She works at Healthcare for Women in Jackson. Patrick Horne and his wife, Erica, live in Brandon. He is an engineer with Precision Spine in Brandon. Patrick played football while Erica was a member of the Dazzlers dance team. Horne's hobbies include spending time with her five grandchildren, sewing and swimming.

"Nona Horne has been a very dedicated employee," said Director of the Goodman Campus Andy Wood. "She has served in admissions, housing and security. Mrs. Horne is always at her post and is very serious about the safety of our students. She will be missed."

Julie Muse

Julie Muse, a mathematics instructor, began teaching evening classes at Holmes during the 2001-2002 school year. She taught again from 2008-2011 before she became a full-time instructor in 2011. She also taught at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College for four years, high school for 14 years and was the project director for the after-school program for Madison County schools for three years. Muse holds a bachelor's from the University of Southern Mississippi and master's from USM Gulf Park Campus.

She is a member of Mississippi College Mathematics Association (MCMA) and St. Richard Catholic Church in Jackson, where she serves as a Small Faith Community leader. Her husband, Henry, is a self-employed artist, and they have a 16-year-old daughter, Jordan, who is a sophomore at St. Joseph Catholic School in Madison. Jordan plays volleyball and is very involved in her church youth group.

In her free time, Muse enjoys reading, watching her daughter play volleyball, watching movies, going to concerts and going to the theatre.

(Retirees, Continued on Page 14)

Retirees (Continued from Page 13)

will be missed by the students, as well as the faculty. I am sure that she will continue to be very successful in her future endeavors.”

Diann Parker Barr

Diann Parker-Barr has announced her retirement from Holmes after 41 years of teaching. During this time, she has taught at Mathiston High School, Calhoun Academy, Kirk Academy, and for the last 11 years at the Holmes Grenada Campus. Parker-Barr attended Mississippi University for Women where she earned a Bachelor of Science in English and social work. Her master’s degree is in literature. She was also a member of the Mam’selle Social Club and the English Honor Society.

“Diann Parker Barr has touched a multitude of lives during her teaching career that has spanned more than 40 years of commitment to both high school and community college students,” said Grenada Campus Academic Dean Dr. Myra Harville. “Many of her students have gone on to be very successful in their university and professional careers. Her kind and patient manner encouraged students who often did not think they were skilled writers to hone their craft beyond what they thought imaginable. Diann’s love for teaching and for her students are evident and leave a legacy that will continue to

bless lives for many years to come.”

Parker-Barr teaches Sunday school at First Baptist Church of Grenada, is involved with Delta Kappa Gamma and has played the piano for 23 years. She was married to Tommy Parker from Calhoun City for 34 years. After his death in 2012, she married Dr. Mike Barr from Clarksdale. She has two children, Demeka Parkerson from Madison and Kayla Pyron from Grenada. Her grandchildren are Clayton Parkerson and Abby Grace Parkerson from Madison and Tyler Schrankler from Grenada.

“My memory of Holmes’ community will always remain,” Parker-Barr said. “The students and teachers have provided a great support and learning experience. These memories have truly been a strength for me to help me to grow.”

Carolyn Ratliff

Carolyn Ratliff began her education at Holmes Community College as an elementary education major, but graduated as a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) and then as a Registered Nurse (RN). She was formerly employed with Grenada Lake Medical Center where she worked in the CCU, ER, PCU, Peds and Medsurge areas.

Ratliff also worked at Greenwood Leflore Hospital as a circulating RN in surgery before coming to work at Holmes

in 2006 as an adjunct Practical Nursing (PN) instructor. She returned to Holmes as an adjunct PN instructor in 2011.

Ratliff is a member of Southside Church of Christ and enjoys traveling. She has three children, six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

“Carolyn’s ‘exuberance’ will be sorely missed at the Holmes Community College Grenada Campus,” said Roxanne Harrison, Career-Technical Education administrative assistant. “She was certainly the life of the party, but also well-respected by her peers and her students. We will miss her terribly...but not her driving.”

Jackie Thurman

Jackie Thurman, a housekeeper on the Holmes Goodman Campus, has decided to retire after serving the college for the past 18 years. The Sallis native and current Williamsville resident currently handles all housekeeping duties in McMorrough Library, Choctaw Dorm and the Henry B. McClellan Administration Building. In the past, she also was in charge of the Wilbur Harpole Foundation Building, now known as Human Resources, and also board room in Carroll Cafeteria.

“I’ve met a lot of people that I’ve enjoyed working with and I love the benefits,” Thurman said. “It’s a cool place to work. I’ve enjoyed my 18 years here.

In all the buildings that I worked in they made my work comfortable,” she said. “Like the Administration Building, I enjoyed working with the ladies up there. I just loved them in the Library. I never had any problems with any of them. They didn’t have any problems with me. They made my 18 years a blessing.”

Prior to Holmes, Thurman worked at BC Rogers in both Morton and Forest for 13 years.

Thurman has three sons – Joel Landfair, Clevent Landfair and Montrey Landfair - who have given her 22 grandchildren. Her hobbies include dancing and spending time with her grandchildren.

She plans to write a book about growing up in Attala County.

“I have more plans,” Thurman said. “I want to do a book. I needed more time so I can get my book on the way. It’s about my life when I was growing up.

“I’ve been thinking about it over 30 years,” she said. “I had written a lot of stuff that I have lost because I had it on my cell phone. I had at least 100 pages on it, but I messed around and lost it and will have to do it all over again.”

In addition to the main reception in Goodman, smaller receptions were held at the other locations just for the employees at those campuses.

Ridgeland hosts District Junior High Math Competition

From Staff Reports/Photos



Winners of the competition included: (left to right) **Dhanush Kondbathani, Leo Mei, Landon Tu** and **Andy Lu**.

On Friday, March 22, 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.

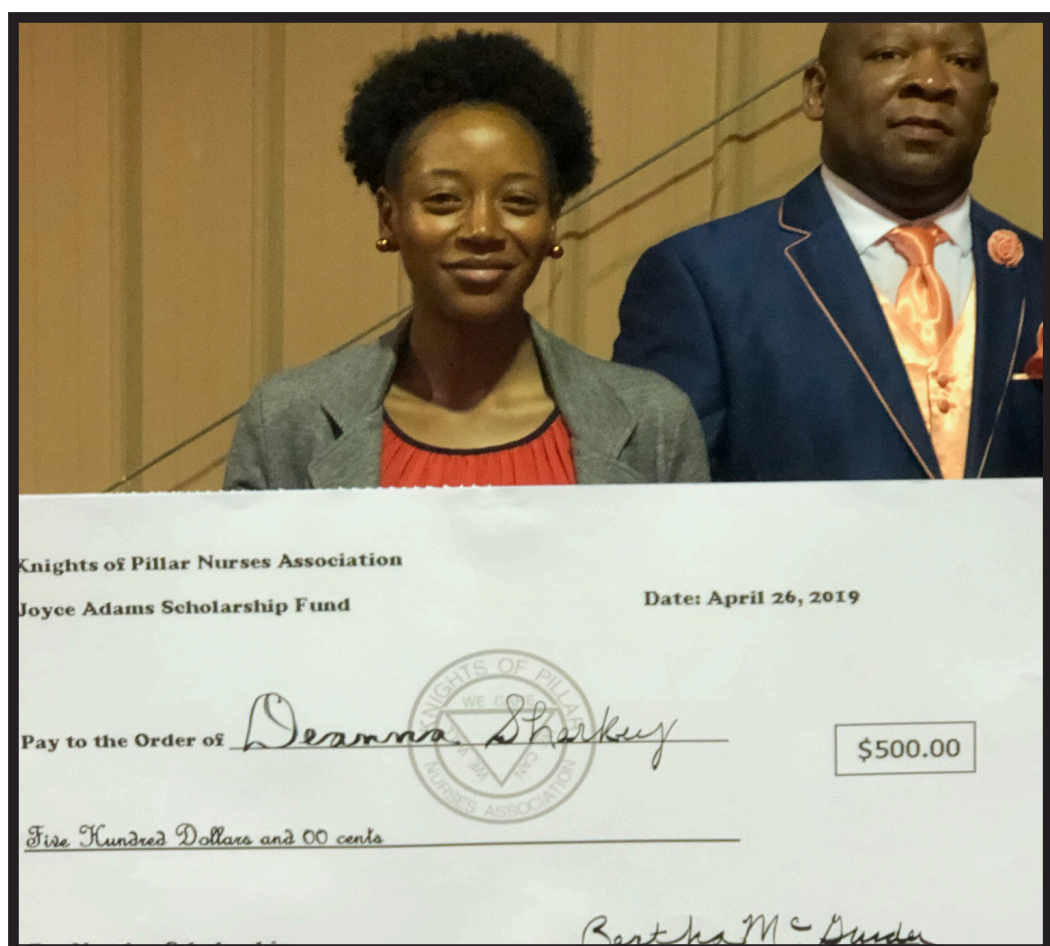
Winners of the eight-grade competition were: first place, Leo Mei, Madison Middle School and second place, Dhanush Kondbathani, Germantown Middle School.

Winners of the seventh-grade competition were: first place, Landon Tu, Madison Middle School, and second place, Andy Lu, Madison Middle School.

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

Sharkey receives Knights of Pillar nursing scholarship

From Staff Reports/Photos



Deanna Sharkey stops for a photo after receiving her scholarship.

Holmes Associate Degree Nursing sophomore Deanna Sharkey of Canton received a \$500 Joyce Adams Scholarship from the Knights of Pillars Nurses Association (KPNA) during a banquet on April 26.

Sharkey was one of three chosen to receive a Joyce Adams Scholarship to be used for nursing school. A nonprofit corporation based in Canton, the mission of KPNA is to be a beacon in the community by providing emotional, mental and spiritual support to people who have been diagnosed with various health conditions, as well as their family members and caregivers.

“I would like to congratulate Tamara on receiving the Joyce Adams scholarship,” said ADN Assistant Director Dr. Alice Austin. “The funds will help her so that she can concentrate on her sophomore courses. We at the Ridgeland Campus are proud of Tamara and wish her luck in the coming semesters.”

KPNA President Bertha McGruder explained that the Joyce Adams scholarship was started with a vision she

had after the death of a co-worker.

“There were so many of us present,” McGruder said. “At that point I realized we only see each other at work or a funeral, especially those who have changed locations. I wanted the nurses to come together once a month just to mingle and have fun. After my friend, Joyce passed on the morning of our first banquet, I made myself a promise to help anyone in nursing, with a passionate heart to follow in her footsteps, for she was an awesome nurse who fulfilled her duties mentally until she passed away.

“Joyce told me in her last words to continue the work that I started,” McGruder said. “It was a learning experience to get 501-C status; I didn’t realize what was all involved. With God’s guidance and grace I completed all the necessary documents within a year. I ask God every day to allow us to keep doing the good things for our community.”

For more information about KPNA, contact McGruder at (601) 953-8769.

Holmes hosts Adult Education Day

From Staff Reports/Photos



The Adult Education Department held its Career and College Signing Day Thursday, April 25 in the Practical Nursing lab on the Goodman Campus. Mandy Burrell and Leslie Spell spoke to the group along with Get2College representative Stephen Brown.

Holmes offers Adult Basic Education classes in several locations in its district. These classes are open to the public for those who have not completed high school or wish to increase their functioning level to enter college, training, or the job market.

(left) Students taking part in the signing included: (front row, left to right) Samuel Veasy, Jaime Jenkins, Dennis Harkins, DeAnna Kern, Ashley Lee, Kellie Payne, (back row, left to right) Britannica Smith, Bobby Cox, Wyatt, Horne, Jay Howard and Hayden Smith.

Golf Tournament held May 8 at Deerfield Golf Club

From Staff Reports/Photos



Members of the winning team, Mitchell Metal Products, included: (left to right) Brad Love, Trent Adams, Charly Williamson and Austin Taylor.

The Holmes Community College Development Foundation, Inc. Golf Classic was held on Wednesday, May 8, at Deerfield Golf Club in Madison.

Registration and lunch began at 11 a.m., began at noon and a social was held immediately following the completion of play.

The First Flight Winner was Team Mitchell Metal Products, which included: Trent Adams, Brad Love, Austin Taylor and Charly Williamson.

The Second Flight Winner was Team Premier Medical Group of Mississippi, which included Greg Browning, Wes Carter, Robey Hedgepeth and Brady Richardson.

The Third Flight Winner was Team JH&H Architects, which included

Steve Blaylock, Chris Bryan, Niles Bryan and Jeff McGee.

The winner of the Longest Drive was Trent Adams. A number of participants won various door prizes donated by C-Spire, Holmes Career-Technical Education, Holmes Soccer and Southern Bound Outdoors.

All proceeds from the tournament went to the Holmes Foundation, which further supports the college by providing scholarships, instructional equipment, library resources, faculty development opportunities and other activities that enhance the instructional programs of the college.

For more information about the annual Golf Tournament, contact Allison DeWeese at adeweese@holmescc.edu.

Coleman serves as president of surgical tech association

From Staff Reports/Photos



Shea Coleman

Shea Coleman, the surgical technology instructor on the Holmes Ridgeland Campus, was elected president of the Mississippi State Assembly of Surgical Technology. Coleman was elected president on Feb. 22, and will serve in this role until 2021. Previously, Coleman served as vice president for two years and on the board of directors for two years.

Mississippi State Assembly is a professional organization for surgical technologists, and its purpose is to continue increasing members' knowledge of their profession. Coleman's duties as president include coordinating and speaking at annual meetings/workshops and representing the state at the national

surgical tech conference each year.

"We have over 300 members from all over the state including both students and working surgical technologists," Coleman said. "In addition to increasing our knowledge of our profession, we do things to help others. This year, we hosted a toy drive that benefited Batson Children's Hospital with the help of our local hospital and school. Being a part of this organization is rewarding and enlightening! I get to share my passion for my profession and work among some amazing people."

Coleman has served in her role as surgical technology instructor since 2014. Prior to working at Holmes, she was employed as a cardiac surgical tech at St. Dominic Jackson Memorial Hospital for two years and as a surgical tech

at River Region Health System for one. Coleman holds an Associate of Applied Science degree in surgical technology from Hinds Community College and a Bachelor of Science in clinical exercise physiology from Mississippi State University.

"Shea has been an exemplary leader for the Ridgeland Campus Surgical Technology program at Holmes," said Vice President of Career Technical Education Dr. Amy Whittington. "Her reputation precedes her, and she is a true model for her students. I know she will serve the state well in this leadership position."

For more information on the Mississippi State Assembly of Surgical Technology, visit <http://ms.ast.org>.

Students/staff participate in Goodman Clean-Up Day

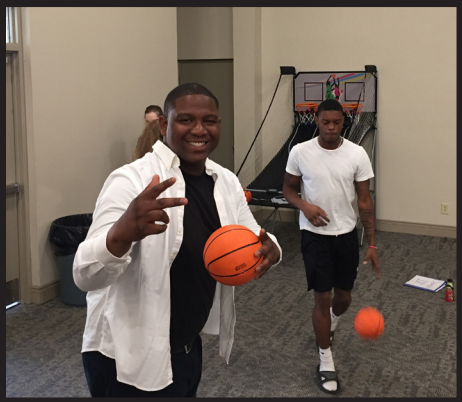
By Nykeem Liddell
Staff Reporter

Clubs and organization members from Ambassadors, MOSAIC and the Holmes Gaming Club on the Goodman Campus participated in a Clean-Up Goodman Day on Wednesday, April 24.



Grenada Campus holds Spring Fling on March 28

On March 28, the Holmes Grenada Campus took it back to the 1980s with a themed Spring Fling complete with human Hungry Hippo, arcade games, Twister, dance-offs, as well as other games and fun.



Goodman Campus holds Spring Fling on April 24

On April 24, the Holmes Community College Goodman Campus held its 2019 Spring Fling in the Lorraine Student Center. The students enjoyed crawfish, other goodies and fellowship with friends.



Ridgeland Campus holds Spring Fling on March 26

*From Staff Reports/Photos
Additional photos submitted by Aurora Sant'Angelo*

On March 26, the Holmes Ridgeland Campus held its 2019 Spring Fling. Students enjoyed a mechanical bull, a zipline, archery tag, a dance-off, a gaming tent, inflatable relays, Chik-Fil-A, sno-cones and more.



Goodman SGA hosts Mud Run

The Holmes Goodman Student Government Association (SGA) hosted a Mud Run on the Goodman Campus on April 29. Student organizations from all three campuses participated.



PN students recognized at Miss. LPN Association Convention

From Staff Reports/Photos



Pictured are the **Holmes Attala Center Practical Nursing** students at the Mississippi LPN Association convention in Biloxi.

The Holmes Community College Practical Nursing students attended the Mississippi LPN Association convention in Biloxi (IP Casino) April 9-11. The students attended sessions on a variety of topic such as NCLEX Preparation, Lab Values Made Easy, Pharmacology Made Insanely Easy and Nursing with Purpose.

Several students competed in competitions against PN students from across the state.

Winners included: Jordan Pee, first place, "Name that body part"; Madison Coffee, scholarship from the National Licensed Practical Nursing Association; Coffee and Chasity McDan-

iel, third place, poster contest; Jazmin Gates, third place, speech competition.

"I am extremely proud of how the Attala PN students represented Holmes Community College," Practical Nursing Chair and Instructor Christi Blair said. "They worked hard and it certainly showed."

Jaime Wilkinson and Jazmin Gates were chosen as ambassadors, and they each received an NCLEX-PN review. They attended leadership sessions with other ambassadors from all of the community colleges.

Ridgeland ADN students participate in active shooter training

From Staff Reports/Photos



A group of Holmes Community College Ridgeland Campus Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) students participated in an active shooter training at Ridgeland High School on April 25. This was in partnership with the Madison County School District, Ridgeland Police Department and Madison Coun-

ty Sheriff Department.

In an article by the Madison County Journal, District Safety Coordinator James Thompson said that they had roughly 200 district employees attend the training session. He said he thought the afternoon exercise was productive and hopes to do more in the future.

(left) Pictured are the **Holmes Ridgeland Campus Associate Degree Nursing (ADN)** students who attended the active shooter training.

Holmes hosts "A Night to Remember" in Grenada

From Staff Reports/Photos



Connection! and Concert Chorale perform during the 2019 Pop's Concert, "A Night to Remember."

Holmes Community College hosted the 2019 Pop's Concert, "A Night to Remember," April 30 in the Corey Forum on the Grenada Campus. The event included musical performances by the Holmes Connection! show choir, Coachmen Singers and the Concert Chorale.

At the end of the evening, Fine Arts Department Chair Jay Cheatham announced that the Pop's Concert was dedicated to Dr. Banks, a music instructor and piano accompanist, who is retiring following the end of the 2018-19 school year.



(left to right) Fine Arts Chair **Jay Cheatham** poses with **Dr. Donna Banks**, music instructor and piano accompanist. The concert was dedicated to Dr. Banks since she is retiring.

Holmes to offer Advanced EMT course

From Staff Reports/Photos



Holmes Community College is offering an Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) course beginning in the fall of 2019. The primary focus of the Advanced EMT course is to train students to provide basic and limited advanced emergency medical care and transportation for critical and emergent patients who access the emergency medical system. Advanced EMTs function as part of a comprehensive EMS response, under medical oversight. They perform interventions with the basic and advanced equipment typically found on an ambulance and serve as the link from the scene to the emergen-

cy health care system.

Course topics include: extending the knowledge of the EMT to a more complex breadth and depth, intravenous access and fluid therapy, medication administration, blind insertion airway devices, as well as the advanced assessment and management of various medical illnesses and traumatic injuries. The student will have two hours of lecture time per week, three hours of clinical time and earn three hours credit.

Upon successful completion of the didactic, practical skills, clinical time and/or field internship components of this course, a student will be authorized

to take the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) psychomotor and cognitive examinations. After successful completion of the examinations the student will be awarded NREMT AEMT Certification and can then apply for state certification.

For more information about the course, contact EMT instructor Sandra Hultz at (601) 605-3347 or shultz@holmescc.edu.

Holmes inducts 5 into 2019 Sports Hall of Fame

From Staff Reports/Photos



Pictured are 2019 Sports Hall of Fame inductees with (far left) Holmes President **Dr. Jim Haffey**. The inductees are (left to right) **Robert William Gates**, football; **John Anthony “Tony” Stanford**, football; **Sheila Sullivan Hickman**, women’s basketball coach; **Richard Wayne Akins**, football and **Gregory Neal Holloway**, soccer.

On April 4, the Holmes Community College Alumni Association inducted five former athletes into the 2019 Sports Hall of Fame in Frank Branch Coliseum in Goodman. The inductees included: John Anthony “Tony” Stanford, football; Gregory Neal Holloway, soccer; Richard Wayne Akins, football; Robert William Gates, football, and Sheila Sullivan Hickman, women’s basketball coach.

John Anthony “Tony” Stanford

John Anthony “Tony” Stanford came to Holmes Community College after graduation from Winona High School and played football. He attended Holmes from 1972-74 and played for Tommy Davis, Ode Burrell and Quimby Morgan. During Stanford’s time at Holmes he saw many changes happen on the Goodman Campus. He was there when new dorms were being built and when Frank Branch Coliseum was constructed.

“I enjoyed the comradery with my fellow football players in the dressing room after practice and the good times shared after football games,” Stanford said. “These were players you competed against in high school but now we were all on the same team.”

Stanford continued on to Delta State University earned a Bachelor of Science in Education. He also focused on what skills he would need to become a coach while at Delta State which led him to his first coaching job at Carroll Academy. In 1986, Stanford earned a Master of Education from Mississippi State University. Coaching was a calling for Stanford; he has made a 43-year-career out of it. He has coached all over Mississippi and is still coaching today at Starkville Academy.

During Stanford’s coaching career, he has been very active in the Mississippi Association of Coaches (for 43 years) including being past president. He has had many achievements such as MAC Coaches Hall of Fame (2013) and 4A State Championship (1995), to name a few.

Stanford and his wife, Sue, live in Louisville. They have one son, Anthony Stanford. Anthony, 34, has followed in his father’s footsteps of being a teacher and coach.

Gregory Neal Holloway

A native of Byram and a graduate of Terry High School, Gregory Neal Holloway played soccer on the Ridgeland Campus during the 2003-2004 season.

“The entire experience, the team experience at Holmes, was the most memorable,” Holloway said. “Being

able to be part of a community of like-minded people who enjoyed the same thing, who were all having fun together, competing together and really desiring to win together was a great experience.”

When Holloway played at Holmes, the soccer program was very young and in its seventh year. The team consisted of two sophomores and one of them was Holloway. He played under Coach Matt Convertino and the team finished the year with more wins than the last four seasons combined.

“I don’t think I could be prouder,” Coach Convertino said. “Even though the team consisted of almost entirely freshmen, the players were willing to buy into the playing philosophy that I was selling from day one.”

Holloway continued on to Mississippi College (MC) to earn a bachelor’s degree in accounting. His first job after MC was with Harold Contracting, a general contracting firm in Florida, on their estimate and bidding team. Later, he moved to their program management team and began building high-rise condominiums.

After working with Harold Contracting Group, he moved in as a partner with Tenax Aerospace, LLC. Tenax was a special mission leasing company that leased aircrafts to different government entities. In January 2018, Tenax Aerospace was sold to another investment firm in Connecticut. While owning Tenax Aerospace, Holloway invested in a lot of different companies of diverse backgrounds; including everything from commercial real-estate to manufacturing.

“Holmes prepared me to take on a challenge,” Holloway said.

Holloway and his wife, Traci, live in Madison with their two children, Eli and Mattie.

Richard Wayne Akins

A native of Attala County, Richard Wayne Akins graduated from Ethel High School before enrolling in Holmes Community College in the fall of 1973. Akins played football for Tommy Davis and ran track for Ode Burrell.

“I received great mentorship and guidance from the coaches and teachers at Holmes,” Akins said. “They helped instill great work ethic and drive in me to achieve my goals.”

After Holmes, he coached football at Grenada High School and Horn Lake High School. In 1983, Akins went to work at Mississippi State University as a strength and conditioning coach. Akins continued on to Mississippi State University to earn a Bachelor

of Science. He did not stop with just an undergraduate degree, though; he completed both his Master of Science (1979) and Specialist in Education with an emphasis in school administration (1985).

As a strength and conditioning coach at Mississippi State, some of the teams he worked with were very successful. Men’s basketball had eight SEC Western Division Champions, seven NCAA Tournament appearances, two NIT appearances, one Final Four appearance in 1996 and one SEC Tournament Championship; Women’s Basketball had five NCAA Tournament appearances, six WNIT appearances and one Sweet Sixteen appearance in 2009; MSU Baseball (1983-2004) had 21 NCAA Regional or Super Regional appearances and three SEC Tournament Champions; and Women’s Soccer had one SEC West Championship under their belt.

“I made some great friendships while at Holmes and am blessed to still have them in my life today,” Akins said. “My fondest memory will always be meeting my best friend and the love of my life, my wife.”

Akins and his wife, Cindy, live in Raymore, Missouri now. They have two children Ronald (41) and Elizabeth (39). Akins and his wife still visit the Starkville area on a regular basis.

Robert William Gates

Robert Gates hails from Decatur, Georgia, where he attended Cedar Grove High School. He played football at Holmes for the 1995 and 1996 seasons under Head Coach Hugh Shurden and Position Coach Jeff Koonz. Gates enjoyed Holmes because his coaches (Shurden and Koonz) gave him a chance to prove and make something of himself.

“Holmes was a humbling, eye-opening experience for me as a student athlete and I am forever grateful to my coaches for their interest in me,” Gates said.

Being a Georgia boy in college in Mississippi had its challenges for a young man, as he was responsible for making his grades and being successful. The real challenge was on his mom to pay for his tuition that was not completely covered by his scholarship.

“I appreciate the wisdom Coach Shurden instilled in us,” Gates said.

As a defensive back at Holmes, Gates played alongside other Holmes Sports Hall of Famers, Chris Avery and Alvin McKinley. Gates was recognized as First Team JUCO All American and All-Region 23 in 1996. He was credited with 67 tackles, including 36 solo hits, during his sophomore season. He also caused five fumbles, and had 21 QB pressures that season. The mighty Bulldogs of the 1996 season were the first to win the North Division since 1988.

Gates earned his associate degree from Holmes and continued on to the University of Mississippi where he lettered twice with the football team. After the University of Mississippi, Gates played Arena Football in Richmond, Virginia.

“Holmes prepared me well for the next level in the classroom and as an athlete by helping me be disciplined,” Gates said.

Gates lives and works in Decatur, Georgia today. He is a full-time HVAC technician and part-time insurance claims adjuster and home inspector.

Sheila Sullivan Hickman

Sheila Sullivan Hickman served as the Holmes women’s basketball coach from 1978-1987. Hickman hails from Winston County and went to Louisville High School. After high school, she attended and played basketball at the University of Mississippi. While playing in college, she became the first player to score 1,000 points for her career and she did it in only three years. She finished with 1,475 points and currently ranks 10th on the all-time list.

After earning her Bachelor of Science and Master of Education from the University of Mississippi, she furthered her education with a Doctorate in Educational Leadership at Mississippi State University. Hickman started her coaching career as the University of Mississippi graduate assistant for the women’s basketball team. She was drafted by the Milwaukee Does of the Women’s Professional Basketball League.

“I enjoyed celebrating with players who received special honors such as Homecoming Queen and All-Stars,” Hickman said.

Hickman has many memories from Holmes, but one of her fondest memories was informing her team of their national number 5 ranking and reminding them what it took to get in that spot. Parents would often host fish fries and various other events for the teams when she coached at Holmes which also made her experience very memorable. After coaching at Holmes, Hickman returned to Louisville High School as the girls’ basketball coach and tennis coach. As her position evolved, she served as assistant athletic director and school administrator.

Among Hickman’s career accomplishments, she has been president of the M-Club at the University of Mississippi, and inducted into the Ole Miss Sports Hall of Fame in 1995. She been part of the Southeastern Conference Women’s League and served on numerous boards, committees and clubs in her area. Hickman and her husband, Hap, live in Louisville. They are both retired, but still involved in their community and attend First Methodist Church.

Prior to the 6 p.m. banquet, inductees enjoyed an informal welcoming reception at the president’s home. Athletics Director Andy Wood presented each inductee with a framed sports photo from his or her days as a Bulldog.

Afterward, inductees and their families enjoyed a musical performance by the Holmes Chorale in the Chapel on the Hill. Next, honorees and guests had the opportunity to view a student art gallery and mingle with Holmes’ mascots, Bully and Major, until time for the banquet.

The new inductees have not only achieved athletic success, but prosperity in their careers, as well. Most importantly, they have served as esteemed ambassadors for the college, and Holmes is grateful to each inductee for that.

For more information about Holmes alumni events and the alumni association, contact Coordinator of Alumni Affairs Katherine Ellard at kellard@holmescc.edu or at (662) 472-9134.

Gibson joins Bulldog football coaching staff

From Staff Reports/Photos



Le'Marcus Gibson

Starkville native Le'Marcus Gibson has joined the Bulldog football coaching staff as associate head coach/defensive backs coach.

Gibson graduated from Harrison Central High School in 2007. He holds a bachelor of science degree in kinesiology from the University of Louisiana-Lafayette and a master's degree in sports administration from Grambling State University.

He played safety and outside linebacker at the University of Hawaii in

2007 before transferring to Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College for his 2008 season. He played 2010, 2011 and 2012 for University of Louisiana-Lafayette.

Gibson started his coaching career as a graduate assistant at Grambling State University in 2015 as the strength and conditioning coach. He moved to Nicholls State University coaching the safeties. He then was the strength and conditioning coach and defensive back coach at Oklahoma Panhandle State

University during the 2016 and 2017 seasons and was named defensive coordinator during the 2018 season.

De La Garza signs with Valdosta State Blazers

From Staff Reports/Photos



Lady Bulldog **Nikki De La Garza** signs a letter of intent with Valdosta State University on April 15 as some of her Lady Bulldog teammates and members of the men's soccer team gather around.

Holmes Community College Lady Bulldog soccer player Nikki De La Garza signed a letter of intent with Valdosta State University on April 15. She will continue as a midfielder for the Valdosta State Blazers.

"Nikki is a very passionate player with a big sense of creativity," said Women's Soccer Associate Head Coach Wesley Noble. "She has trained in a quality environment through her entire development and you can tell. I am very excited to see what she is able to accomplish at Valdosta State. I think she has a very bright future!"

The daughter of Luz and Patrick De La Garza, she is a graduate of Milton High School in Milton, Florida. An exercise science major, her career goal is to be an AT and possibly specialize in knee rehabilitation.

"I loved how close I got with the players that lived in apartments," De La Garza

said. "We were like our own little community outside of school and soccer so we were always getting into something and always had each other's backs. I'm going to definitely miss having a men's team to support me and hang out with next year since Valdosta sadly doesn't have one. I've made some lifelong friends on the guy's team and my roommates this year have become sisters to me. It's going to be really hard to move away from all of that. I'm excited to start fresh again and continue to be a part of another successful season with Valdosta, but there really is no place like Holmes."

For more information on the Holmes Soccer Program, contact Men's and Women's Head Coach Matt Convertino at msoccer@holmescc.edu or (601) 605-3412.

Wilson signs with Belhaven Blazers

From Staff Reports/Photos



Holmes Community College Bulldog soccer player Khalee Wilson signed a letter of intent with Belhaven University on April 23. He will continue as a defender for the Belhaven Blazers.

The son of Rebecca and Clarence Wilson, he is a graduate of Choctawhatchee High School in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. A general studies major, his dream is to become a professional soccer player.

"Khalee was the anchor of our team this past season," said Men's Soccer Associate Head Coach Ousmane Coulibaly. "He pos-

sesses all the attributes to become a great soccer player. His physical presence and soccer IQ separated him from his peers and his drive for excellence has certainly helped us make the playoffs. It was a pleasure coaching such a talented player."

As captain of the Bulldogs, Wilson excelled as a defender. During the end-of-year banquet, he was named Most Valuable Player for the season and was recognized for being named MACJC All-State. He was named United States Soccer Coaches All-Region, as well.

For more information on the Holmes Soccer Program, contact Men's and Women's Head Coach Matt Convertino at msoccer@holmescc.edu or (601) 605-3412.

(left) Bulldog **Khalee Wilson** signs a letter of intent with Belhaven University on April 23 as (left to right) Head Coach **Matt Convertino** and Associate Head Coach **Ousmane Coulibaly** look on.

Jones and Collier named MACJC All-State

From Staff Reports/Photos



Jekalen Jones



Janae Collier

Holmes Community College sophomore basketball players Jekalen Jones and Janae Collier have been named the MACJC All-State Team. Jones was selected First Team while Collier was named Second Team.

Jones, a sophomore guard/forward from Little Rock, Arkansas, led the Lady Bulldogs in scoring with 13.5 points per game. She shot 42.1 percent from the floor (101-of-240), 31.3 percent from the three-point line (15-of-48) and 67.1 percent from the free-throw line (94-of-140). She had 6.1 rebounds per game, 2.3 assists and 2 steals per game.

Jones was chosen to participate in last

week's MACJC All-Star Game but was unable to play.

Collier, a sophomore guard/forward from Pelahatchie, averaged 11.4 points per game. She shot 33.2 percent from the floor (73-of-220), 24 percent from the three-point line (25-of-104) and 75.3 percent from the free-throw line (58-of-77). She had 4 rebounds per game, 1.4 assists and 1.4 steals per game.

Collier also played in last week's MACJC All-Star Game.

Smith inducted into the Community College Sports Hall of Fame

From Staff Reports/Photos



Pictured are (left to right) Holmes President **Dr. Jim Haffey** presenting the honor to Athletic Director **Andy Wood**, who accepted the honor on Sonny Smith's behalf.

On April 23, the Mississippi Community College Foundation hosted the 13th annual Mississippi Community and Junior College Sports Hall of Fame induction ceremony. One former athlete or coach from each community college was inducted into the class. Included in the class was Holmes alumnus Sonny Smith.

Smith was unable to attend the event so Athletic Director Andy Wood accepted the honor from Holmes President Dr. Jim Haffey on his behalf.

The Mississippi Community and Junior College Sports Hall of Fame was conceived in the interest of recognizing coaches and athletes who have coached and/or

played in one or more of Mississippi public community or junior colleges. Since 2007, including the 2019 class, 240 individuals have been recognized for their successes both on and off the field.

Inductees included: Coahoma Community College, Delinda Samuel-basketball player; Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Randy Thomas- football player; East Central Community College; Sam Rutigliano- basketball and football player; East Mississippi Community College, Richard Mathis- basketball player and coach; Hinds Community College, Tom Weathersby-basketball player; Holmes Community College, Charles Hughes "Sonny" Smith-basketball player; Itawamba Community College, James "Booty" Sloan- baseball and football player and coach; Jones College, Hill Denson- basketball player; Meridian Community College, Steve Clements- soccer coach; Mississippi Delta Community College, Robert Eugene "Bobby" Gibney- basketball and track player; Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Charles Guy "Dinkey" Evans- football player; Northeast Mississippi Community College, Maurice Stafford- basketball player and coach; Northwest Mississippi Community College, Larenda Shantell Atkins- basketball player; Pearl River Community College, Tim Hatten- football player and coach; and Southwest Mississippi Community College, Hilton Harrell- basketball player.

Smith came to Holmes in 1954 from Cloudland High School in Roan Mountain, Tennessee. He mentioned he had been sick with some health issues as a kid but had started to improve and then came along his opportunity to play basketball at Holmes.

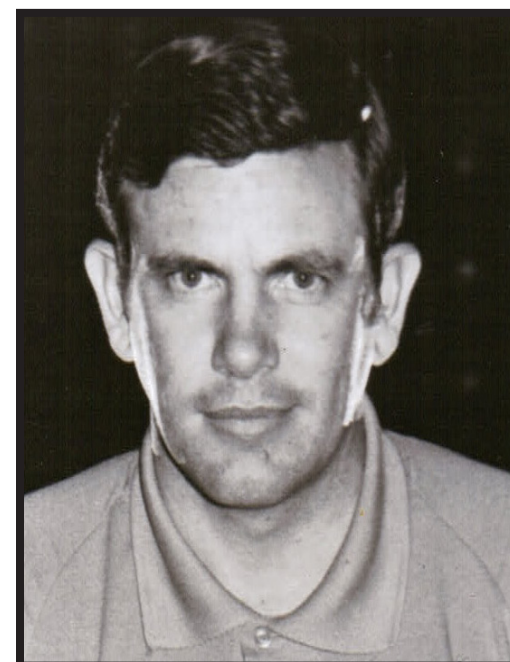
"I remember the warmest love and acceptance from the people of Goodman and Holmes Junior," Smith said.

Gordon Carr was Smith's basketball coach and he played guard. He was a part of the 1956 championship team and was named as All-State. After Holmes, Smith went to Milligan College and earned a bachelor of science. He continued to excel on the court, making the All Smoky Mountain Conference two years in a row.

Basketball was something Smith enjoyed. He followed his passion into the coaching side of the sport for nine years at the high school level and 20 plus year at college level starting as an assistant at William & Marry, Pepperdine and Virginia Tech. Smith's first head coaching job was at East Tennessee State (1976-78), then on to Auburn University (1978-1989) and Virginia Commonwealth University (1989-1998).

Among Smith's coaching accomplishments are an SEC Championship in 1985, CAA regular season in 1996 and CCA Tournament in 1996. He is best known for his career at Auburn in the 80's.

Smith has several honors that have come with his successful career in basketball as



Sonny Smith

both a player and a coach. He has been inducted into several Hall of Fames including the Holmes Sports Hall of Fame in 2006, and he was SEC Coach of the Year two times.

Smith and his wife, Janice, live in Auburn and have two children: Sheri and Steve. They have four grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Smith can be found as the color commentator for the Auburn men's basketball games on the Auburn Sports Network radio broadcast.

Tennis holds postseason banquet

From Staff Reports/Photos



The tennis team held their postseason banquet Thursday, April 25 in Carroll Cafeteria on the Holmes Goodman Campus. Grace Diffey and Avie Anna Massey were both awarded the Manager Award, and Shelly Duncan and Blaike Langston were both named Most Improved.

Mackenzie Hunt and Richard Hernandez were the Sportsmanship Award recipients and Emily Evans, Khin Lwin and Jaime Hernandez were recognized with the Heart of a Champion award. Kayla Douglas and Ben Skelton received Bulldog Awards; Dallas Elmore, No. 1 Player for 2018 and 2019 and Alexis Kahmann, Nicholas Bails and Joshua Maughan were all named Most

Valuable Player.

The tennis team is coached by Head Coach Greg LeVert. For more information about Holmes tennis, contact Coach LeVert at coachlevert@hotmail.com.

Ole Miss Softball's Historic Trend

By John Gillon
Grenada Editor



Coach Mike Smith

Since Mike Smith arrived in Oxford, Ole Miss Softball has been a program of firsts: first SEC Tournament win, first SEC Tournament championship, first Regional host and first Super Regional. But 2019 blows the predecessors to bits.

The Rebels are on the verge of clinching a top-four seed in the SEC tournament; they're ranked in the top 10, and they have 12 victories over ranked opponents. Ole Miss was 9-6 on March 1; now they're 36-13.

The consistency of 2019 outweighs the Cinderella run of 2017. The 2017 post-season run caught lightning in a bottle—Kaitlin Lee—and powered the program

to new heights. But 2019 is the better team; they've broken the school record for conference wins in a season, securing the program's first-ever winning record in conference games. The Rebels haven't lost a conference series yet.

Most importantly, it's the closest the program has come to the balanced creation of havoc Smith covets, and the bulk of the roster has time remaining. There are menacing slappers, extra-base hits scattered throughout, a two-pronged pitching attack and young game-changing fielders populating the field.

The entire infield will return next season, so will two of the three outfielders.

Incoming recruits feature arguably the fastest outfielder in the nation (Nyomi Jones, No. 41 overall in the Softball America Top 100), and one of the top-ranked infielders (Paige Smith, No. 18 overall in the Softball America Top 100).

The past brought the bright lights, and the present turns them on, but the future might become a bright and transformative neon. The Rebels will be knock, knock, knocking at Oklahoma City's door for the immediate future, as they look to make the program's first trip to the Women's College World Series.

Basketball holds postseason banquet

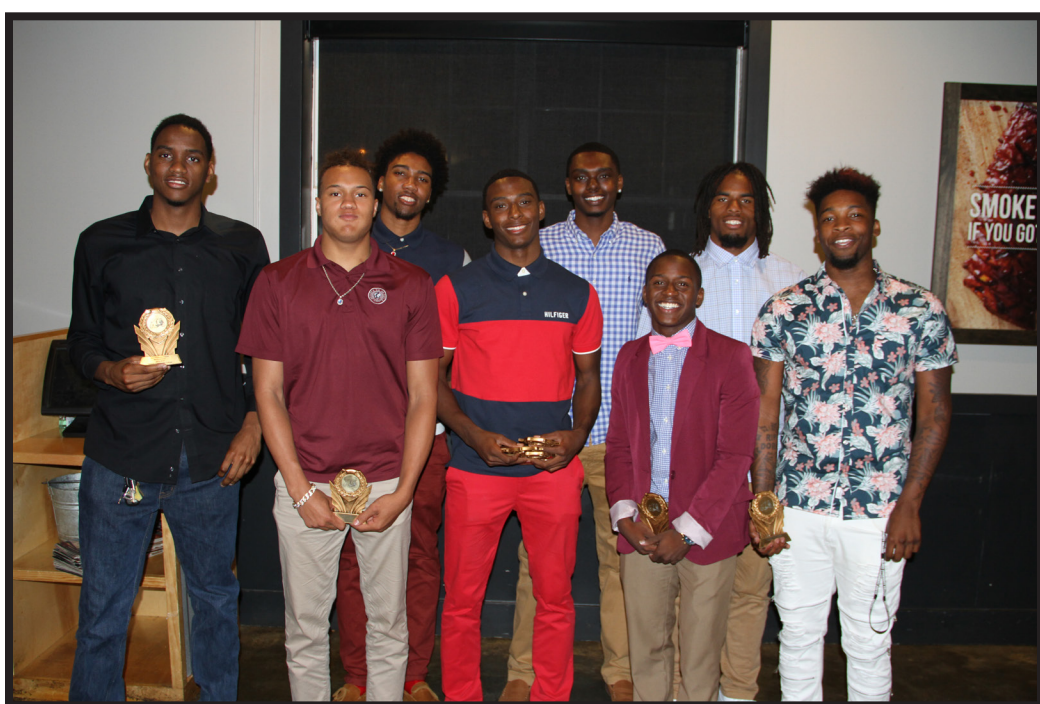
From Staff Reports/Photos



The Holmes Community College Women's and Men's Basketball Team held their postseason awards banquet on April 29 at Sonny's in Brandon. Women's basketball awards included: Team's highest GPA, Jekalen Jones; Most Improved, Christiana Harris; Lady Bulldog Award, Lytia Flowers; Best Defensive Player, Brysa Maxwell; Best Offensive Player, Janae Collier; Most Valuable Manager, Christy Frizell; Second Team All State, Janae Collier; MACJC All Stars, Jekalen Jones, Janae Collier and Christiana Harris; MVP, Jekalen Jones; and First Team All State, Jekalen Jones. Janae Collier, Jekalen Jones, Mikayla Patton and Ja'Breonia Veasey were also recognized for maintaining a 3.0 GPA or over.

Men's basketball awards included: Best Offensive Player, Czar Perry; Hustle Award, Aaron Johnson; Chairman of the Boards, Kassim Nicholson; Rim Protector Award, Winford Ross; Jonathan Boyd Award, Javon Franklin; Sixth Man of the Year, Robert Jordan; Best Defensive Player, Czar Perry; Assist Award, Czar Perry; Best Free Throw Shooter, Tanorrio Ransburgh; Sportsmanship Award, Michael Harris; Manager Award, Nykeem Liddell, Tadrick Davis, Jadin Dixon, Anfernee Lusk and Javarius Brewer. The team also presented Sonny's owner Don Wynne a plaque thanking him for his and his wife Beth's support of the basketball programs at Holmes CC.

Men's basketball awards included: Be-



Nicholson signs with the University of Alabama at Birmingham

From Staff Reports/Photos



Holmes Community College sophomore guard Kassim Nicholson signed a national letter of intent recently with the University of Alabama at Birmingham Blazers.

Nicholson, 6-6 guard/forward from Jackson, was named First Team All-State and was named to the NJCAA All-Region Team. He led the Bulldogs in scoring with 15 points per game. He shot 46.6 percent from the floor (146-of-313), 44.9 percent from the three-point line (22-of-49) and

70.5 percent from the free-throw line (91-of-129). He had 9.6 rebounds and 2.2 assists per game.

Nicholson helped lead the Bulldogs to a 17-10 record and a Region XXIII runner-up trophy after falling to the Pearl River Community College Wildcats in the championship game, 57-52.



Perry signs with CSU Bakersfield

From Staff Reports/Photos



Holmes Community College sophomore basketball player Czar Perry signed a national letter of intent recently with the California State University at Bakersfield Roadrunners.

Perry, a 6-2 guard from El Dorado, Arkansas, was named First Team All-State and was named to the NJCAA All-Region Team. He averaged 14.4 points per game. He shot 45.2 percent from the floor (147-of-325), 40.4 percent from the three-point

line (36-of-89) and 72 percent from the free-throw line (59-of-82). He had 3.8 rebounds per game, 5 assists and 1.4 steals per game.

He also represented Holmes in the MACJC All-Star Game and finished with 18 points.

Perry helped lead the Bulldogs to a 17-10 record and a Region XXIII runner-up trophy after falling to Pearl River in the championship game, 57-52.

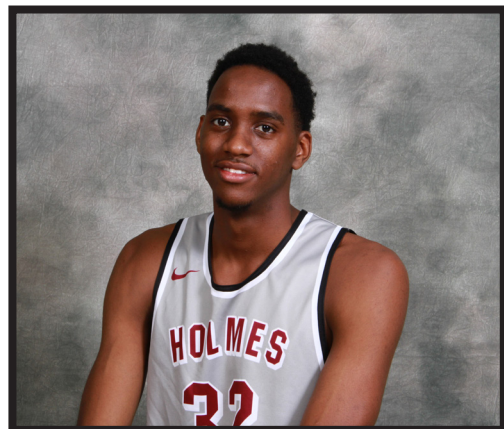


Perry, Ross represent Holmes in All-Star Game

From Staff Reports/Photos



Czar Perry



Winford Ross

Holmes Community College sophomores Czar Perry and Winford Ross represented Holmes and the North Division in the 2019 Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges (MACJC) All-Star Game Friday, April 12, at East Central Community College in Decatur. The North Division won the game, 139-104.

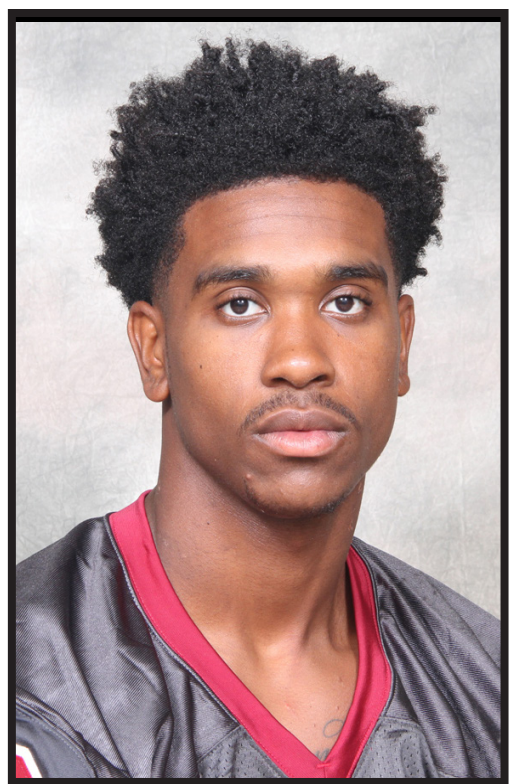
Perry, a guard from El Dorado, Arkansas, tied for the lead in points for the

North Division with 18 with Coahoma's Dequan Morris. Ross, a forward from Madison, finished with 16 points.

The North Division led 67-56 at half-time.

Former Bulldog D.J. Montgomery inks unrestricted free agent contract with the Cleveland Browns

From Staff Reports/Photos



Former Holmes Community College wide receiver D.J. Montgomery of Durant has signed an unrestricted free agent contract with the National Football League's Cleveland Browns.

For the past two seasons, Montgomery played at the Austin Peay State University Governors. As a senior, he started all 11 games at wide receiver catching 42 passes for 797 yards for an 18.98 per catch average and 10 touchdowns. As a junior, he started all 11 games and caught 19 passes for 228 yards and three touchdowns. He had a long catch of 55 yards his senior season and 39 yards as a long his junior season. He is third in touchdowns all-time at APSU.

At Holmes as a sophomore, he caught 36 passes for 991 yards and 10 touchdowns. He averaged 27.5 yards

per catch and 99.1 yards per game. He was named First Team All-State and was named the MVP Offensive Player for his play in Holmes' Graphic Edge Bowl win over Iowa Western, 28-21. He caught seven passes for 205 yards and two touchdowns, one from 54 yards in the second quarter and one from 30 yards in the third. Holmes finished the 2016 season ranked at No. 7 in the NJCAA.

As a freshman, he caught 11 passes for 291 yards and two touchdowns. He averaged 36.4 yards per catch.

At his pro day, Montgomery put up solid testing numbers with a 4.43 40-yard dash and 6.69 in the 3-cone.

Montgomery played his high school career at Madison Central High School.



Holmes holds spring football game

Photos by Nykeem Liddell
Staff Reporter

Each year, the Bulldogs play each other in the annual spring football game. This year, the game was held on Wednesday, April 24 on the Goodman Campus. The Jeffrey Cotten and Dr. Luke Jones coached one team and Sonny Sparks and Matt Surrell coached the other. The game ended in a 6-6 tie.



Three Bulldogs receive team awards following the season

From Staff Reports/Photos



Jaylen Armstrong



Steven Lacey



Jordan Szush

Three Holmes Bulldog baseball players received team awards following the season.

Jaylen Armstrong of Southaven received the Best Offensive Award, Steven Lacey of

Canton received the Most Valuable Player Award and Jordan Szush of Thibodaux, La.

received the Best Defensive Award.

Armstrong, who played centerfield for the Bulldogs, led the team in hitting with a .396 average including 40 hits with one double, five triples and three homeruns with 25 RBI. He scored 33 runs.

Lacey, who served as the Bulldogs' closer, had a 1.92 earned run average. He pitched 28 1/3 innings and gave up six runs on 22 hits with 12 walks and 38 strikeouts.

Szush, who played shortstop for the Bulldogs, batted .309 with 43 hits with three doubles and one homerun with 22 RBI. He scored 37 runs. He had 172 defensive chances and had 60 putouts with 102 assists.

Cheer holds end of the year banquet

From Staff Reports/Photos



The Holmes Community College Cheerleaders held their end of the year banquet recently with team awards and scholar athlete awards being given out.

Scholar-athletes included: Indira Perry, Raylin Cooper, Mauri Beth Colvin, Johna Beavers, Abby Holmes, Calen Lewis, Nolan Whitworth, Sarah Elizabeth Hardy, Shakeria Smith, James Cobb, Ana Posey Jones, Lake Shipp, Logan Anderson, Loftin Price, Jason Ables, Skyler Busbea and Jade Roberson.

Team awards included: Loftin Price, Leadership Award; Shakeria Smith, Freshman Award; Paris Nichols, Best Tumbler; Raylin Cooper, Best Crowd Leader; Jason

Ables, Bulldog Award; Indira Perry, Sophomore Award; John Fortney Reagan, Most Coachable Athlete; Nolan Whitworth, Best Stunter; Ana Posey Jones, Best Crowd Leader; Logan Anderson, Most Coachable Athlete; Gillian Chavez, Most Versatile Athlete; and Sarah Elizabeth Hardy, Freshman Award.

For more information about Bulldog cheerleading, contact Head Coach Heather Jones at hjones@holmescc.edu or (662)472-9099.

Four Lady Bulldogs receive team awards following the season

From Staff Reports/Photos



Teagun Barnes



Lexie Bounds



Mary Clayton Burrell



Brooklyne Eubanks

Four Holmes Community College Bulldog softball players received team awards following the 2019 season. Teagun Barnes of Brandon received the Offensive Award, Lexie Bounds of Forest received the Evolution Award, Mary Clayton Burrell of Sallis received the Most Valuable Player Award

and Brooklyne Eubanks of Mize received the Pitching Award.

Barnes, who played right field for the Lady Bulldogs, led the team in hitting with a .321 average including 44 hits with eight doubles, one triple, three homeruns and 28 RBI. She scored 19 runs.

Bounds, who played left field for the Lady Bulldogs, finished with 14 hits and 12 runs with five doubles and five RBI.

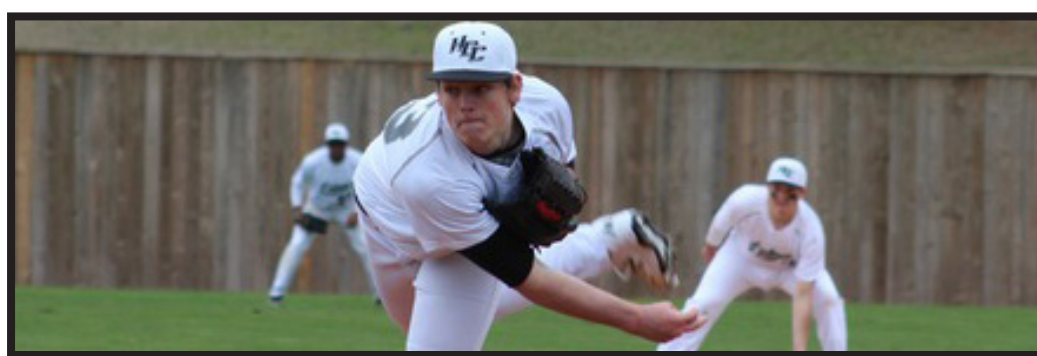
Burrell, who pitched and played first base for the Lady Bulldogs, finished with a 4.14 ERA. She pitched 98 innings and had 76 strikeouts and 13 walks. Burrell also batted

.269 with seven hits including one double and six RBI. She scored two runs.

Eubanks, who pitched for the Lady Bulldogs, finished with a 5.03 ERA. She pitched 96 innings and had 40 strikeouts and 24 walks.

Baseball Tryouts set for May 13 and May 17 at 10 a.m.

From Staff Reports/Photos



Tryouts for the 2019-20 Holmes Community College "Dirtbags" baseball team have been set for May 13 and May 17 at Charlie Donald Field on the Goodman Campus at 10 a.m.

The original date of May 10 was changed to May 13 due to rain.

Players participating must bring a current physical and workout gear.

physical and workout gear.

For more information, contact Assistant Coach Ryne Smith at rysmith@holmescc.edu or call (662) 472-9432.

Ross signs letter of intent with Mississippi College

From Staff Reports/Photos



Holmes Community College sophomore forward Winford Ross signed a national letter of intent recently with the Mississippi College Choctaws.

Ross, 6-7 from Madison, averaged 9.9 points per game. He shot 55.2 percent from the floor (96-of-174) and 59.4 percent from the free-throw line (76-of-128). He had 5.8 rebounds per game. He recently participated in the MACJC All-Star Game at East Central and finished with 16 points.

Ross helped lead the Bulldogs to a 17-10 record and a Region XXIII runner-up trophy after falling to Pearl River in the championship game, 57-52.

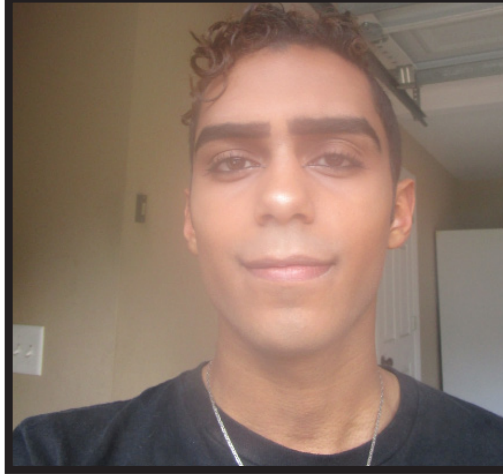




The Growl Staff



John Gillon
Grenada Editor
Hometown: Grenada
Major: Journalism
Future Plans: To attend the University of Missouri to finish his journalism degree. John said he can see himself as a sports or political feature writer because he is fascinated by the little details that define who people are.
Interests: Civil rights, sports and radio are huge interests of his.



Malik Jamileh
Ridgeland Editor
Hometown: Flowood
Major: Journalism
Future Plans: To attend Loyola University in New Orleans, Louisiana and continue pursuing a B.A. in journalism with a minor in social media.
Interests: Debating world events and practicing Martial Arts or variations of Ti Chi. He also indulges in a lot of international travel in the Middle East and loves to experience culture.



Regina Gray
Ridgeland Staff Member
Hometown: Brandon
Major: Journalism
Future Plans: To attend Full Sail University and enroll in their sports broadcasting program. Her dream job is to land a position working for the NFL network as a sideline reporter. Then, she wants to become a news anchor one day. She is also interested in doing marketing communications for the Special Olympics.
Interests: She loves the NFL, Fantasy Football, tailgating and spending time with her lab/husky mix puppy Athena.



Stafford Griffin
Ridgeland Staff Member
Hometown: Carthage
Major: Communications
Future Plans: To become an independent business owner.
Interests: He's interested in music composition and is a movie connoisseur.



Nykeem Liddell
Goodman Staff Member
Major: Journalism
Future Plans: To attend a four-year university and major in sports journalism.
Interests: He is a member of MOSAIC and serves as a manager for the Bulldogs Basketball Team. He enjoys dancing, singing and helping others.

Are you interested in having your work published? Do you love to take photos? Have a passion for writing? We need you! We would love to have you join our staff by signing up for JOU 1111 for the Fall of 2019! For more information, contact Mary Margaret Busby at: mbusby@holmescc.edu.