



Holmes Community College
Goodman – Ridgeland – Grenada
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Brittany Dance crowned 2015 Homecoming Queen

By Miranda Burchfield
Growl Reporter

Holmes Community College's annual Homecoming event was held on Oct. 24. This year's Homecoming was especially significant because it was celebrating Holmes's 90th anniversary. There were many festivities held throughout the day. They included an art show, alumni softball and baseball ballgames, tailgating in the Grove, a drama production, Coachmen singers and Connection! performances, the Homecoming parade, and ended with the football game against Northeast Community College. The game was won by Holmes, 20-6.

Before the game began, several alumni were recognized. There were two recipients of the 2015 Distinguished Service Award. They were James Ed-



Pictured is the **2015 Holmes Community College Homecoming Queen Brittany Dance**. Dance was crowned queen as part of the Homecoming Festivities on Oct. 24 in Good-

ward Young and James William "Bill" Bailey, both Holmes graduates of the

Student Government Association. This year's Homecoming Queen was Britta-

ny Dance and Kayla Neal was Goodman's Student Body Maid. Ridgeland Student Body Maid was Mallory Corley, and Abby Vance represented Grenada as Student Body Maid. The Sophomore Maids representing the Goodman Campus were Sara Grace Weaver and Sydney Coleman and Freshman Maids were Haley Pate and Nikki Merchant. The Ridgeland Campus's Sophomore Maids were Sena Hope and Avery Huff, and Freshman Maids were Kindalin Blocker and Traylsia Dixon. The Grenada Center was represented by Sophomore Maids Jennifer Tehan and Felecia Murray and Freshman Maids Hannah Waters and Anna Catherine Lancaster.

See Homecoming, Page 8-9, for photos

Holmes officially opens new Attala Educational Center

From Staff Reports/Photos



Pictured are representatives from the Attala County Board of Supervisors and the Holmes Board of Trustees, along with Holmes President **Jim Haffey** and Attala Director **Nancy McRight** officially opening the new center.

Holmes Community College held a ribbon-cutting and open house for The Attala Center on Thursday, Nov. 19. Located on West Jefferson Street in

Kosciusko, the new facility is replacing the former Holmes Attala Educational Center on Highway 12 near

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Graham named Holmes 2015 Humanities Teacher

From Staff Reports/Photos



Gwen Graham

Gwen Graham, an English instructor at the Grenada Center, has been named Holmes Community College's 2015 Humanities Teacher of the Year.

As part of her award, Graham presented "Ancient Literature and Life's Enduring Questions" on Nov. 19 in the Keeton Room of the Industrial Technology Building at the Holmes Grenada Center.

"The humanities are under attack as we place greater emphasis on technology and skills; however, we will make a mistake if we ever lose sight of the importance of the humanities as a means to understanding who we are, what brings life meaning, and how we can achieve fulfillment."

A longtime member of the Holmes family, Graham has worked for the college for nearly 20 years; first as a librarian, and then as an English instructor as soon as a position opened. During her time at Holmes, Graham has taught English Composition II,

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Holmes named Best College, Best Place to Work, and Myricks named Best Teacher in statewide contest

From Staff Reports/Photos



Holmes Community College was recently awarded Best College, Best Place to Work, and Holmes instruc-

tor Katrina Myricks was named Best Teacher in the 2015 Clarion Ledger Best of the Best contest. Holmes was also a finalist for Best Customer Service. The contest, which has also been called Mississippi's Official People's Choice Awards, began on July 25 and ended on Sept. 1.

"These awards are a reflection of our Holmes family: our students, staff, alumni, and friends," said President of Holmes Dr. Jim Haffey. "We truly are a 'community' college, and it is very touching to have a state-wide readership vote us as the best out of so many well-deserving colleges and businesses in Mississippi. Holmes has always been

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Alexander, Ahlrich, and Faulkner honored as 2015 Lamplighters

From Staff Reports/Photos

Three Holmes instructors were honored at the prestigious Lamplighters Conference held Oct. 20-22 in Meridian. Will Alexander, engineering technology instructor on the Goodman Campus; Donna Ahlrich, mathematics instructor on the Ridgeland Campus, and Norman Clark Faulkner, welding instructor at the Grenada Center attended the

three-day professional development conference co-hosted by Community College and East Central Community College. The Lamplighters Conference gave instructors the opportunity to enjoy networking and fellowship with other instructors from around the state.

Will Alexander has worked in education for 16 years, 11 of those at Holmes. He currently serves as an ar-

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WHAT'S INSIDE...

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Starbucks' supposed "War on Christmas"

By Joshua Dilmore
Growl Editor



Starbucks is taking Christ out of Christmas. At least that's what Joshua Feuerstein, self-proclaimed "American evangelist, Internet, and social media

personality" says.

In a video posted earlier this month, Feuerstein claims that "in the age of political correctness we become so open-minded, our brains have literally fallen out of our head." Further, he asks, "Do you realize that Starbucks wanted to take Christ, and Christmas, off of their brand-new cups? That's why they're just plain red."

I'm sorry, Mr. Feuerstein, but I don't remember drinking out of a nativity-scene-decorated Starbucks coffee cup. Why? Because there hasn't been one! Also, I can't help but wonder if Feuerstein as well as his supporters realize that the rest of the year, when they frequent Starbucks, the woman on the cup isn't the Virgin Mary but actually "a 16th century Norse woodcut of a twin-tailed mermaid, or Siren," according to the Starbucks website.

Feuerstein continues his rant, stating, "Do you realize that Starbucks isn't allowed to say 'Merry Christmas' to customers?" However, The Atlantic reports that "In an email, a Starbucks spokesperson said that the company's baristas 'are not provided a script or a policy around greeting customers. They are simply encouraged to create a welcoming environment to delight each person who walks through our doors.'"

According to The Atlantic, Starbucks "serves millions of customers per day at over 23,000 stores in 68 countries, including the United States," which the magazine adds "is home to people who celebrate Christmas, Hannukah [sic], Kwanzaa, other holidays...." But, lucky for us, Feuerstein provides a solution on how to "trick" a barista into wishing you a Merry Christmas: tell him or her your name is "Merry Christmas." Then that barista will have to say it!

"Guess what, Starbucks—I tricked you!" Feuerstein says. Pretty sneaky, sis.

Another sad truth is that the video has been viewed about 12 million times and is being covered as "hard news" by such publications as The Washington Post, The New York Times, and The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, according to The Atlantic.

Of course, Feuerstein is not the first to voice—or "rant"—his opinions about the "War on Christmas." Bill O'Reilly has voiced countless times his objection to the P.C. greeting "Happy Holidays" in businesses around the nation, according to numerous reports. Presidential hopeful Donald Trump has even voiced his opinion on the matter, stating in a

speech earlier this month in Springfield, Illinois, "Maybe we should boycott Starbucks. I don't know." Trump adds, "Seriously, I don't care."

Contrary to many reports, however, most Christians actually do not care about the Starbucks holiday coffee cup "fiasco." Mic.com, The Los Angeles Times, and The New York Daily News made claims about "outraged" Christian groups, but each cited few to no groups, according to The Washington Post.

Many drew to Twitter, including Christians, expressing confusion. "Has anyone actually met someone offended by the Starbucks cups?" one tweeted.

So who are these "outrage Christians" and why are so many Christian leaders and organizations avoiding this controversy? As The Washington Post reports, "For some—particularly younger people—it's born out of a desire to set themselves apart from previous generations of culture warring [sic] Christians." The article goes on to list numerous cases of boycotts headed by several Christian organizations, from the Southern Baptist Convention to the American Family Association, over the last decade. Many of these Christians have come to one general conclusion: boycotts don't work.

Besides, as Jonathan Merritt of The Washington Post fittingly put it, "Christians don't actually care what kind of cup their latte is served in, so long as it is hot and comes with a creamy layer of froth on top."

Starbucks has since released an official statement from Vice President of Design and Content Jeffrey Fields. "In the past, we have told stories with our holiday cups designs. This year we wanted to usher in the holidays with a purity of design that welcomes all of our stories," Fields said.

Still, whether coming from Feuerstein or O'Reilly, both men raise a good point. As Emma Green, managing editor for TheAtlantic.com, said, businesses like Starbucks "play a significant role in mediating culture," which is an idea that both men hold evident. However, building off that idea, Green wrote, "[Businesses] exist, first and foremost, to make money, and though some owners may have and express certain values, looking to businesses to enforce the cultural symbolism of your faith is a bad bet."

I myself am a Christian and personally find this whole ordeal a bit ridiculous. Regardless of my beliefs, other Christians' beliefs, or the person's reading this article beliefs, let us take a look at Feuerstein as his work as a "disciple of Jesus."

According to The Washington Post, until this coffee cup "frenzy," Feuerstein was unknown, despite having about 2 million Facebook

See Starbucks, Page 5

Thanksgiving Traditions

By Stephfon Robinson
Growl Reporter



On Thanksgiving Day, there are numerous traditions that families engage in. Some common traditions are throwing parties, watching

or playing football in the backyard, or visiting relatives. If you're a big football fan, you'll probably be doing

this on your Thanksgiving break most likely. Football has always been a part of Thanksgiving since the first intercollegiate football championship held on Thanksgiving Day in 1876. Sports and family aren't the only traditions carried out on this holiday. Giving thanks has been and still is one of the main traditions we uphold during this holiday. We can trace this one back to early colonial days of the country. So whether you're watching/playing football, or spending time with relatives, remember that giving thanks is just as important.

Did NASA just discover an alien megastructure?

By Joshua Dilmore
Growl Editor



About 77 percent of Americans believe in UFOs, which is less than the amount of Americans who are confident that global

warming exists. If you are among the 77 percent who believe that life exists elsewhere in the universe, have we got news for you.

NASA's Kepler Space Telescope has discovered what could be a giant alien structure. The Kepler Space Telescope has one job, to survey the galaxy for habitable planets. The telescope does this by measuring a slight dimming in starlight from a given star. According to Elite Daily, the telescope found more than 1,000 exoplanets, or planets outside of our own solar system, in close to 500 different stellar systems. However, the discovery of this supposed alien megastructure was made in

2011 and is just now making headlines. Typically, "when an exoplanet passes in front of a star, its light pattern is very recognizable," the journal reports. This particular exoplanet is reported to be "planet-like" in shape, according to Discovery. Still, why is this exciting break in scientific discoveries just now making headlines?

NASA reports that the Kepler Telescope at the start of the mission is scanning numerous planets at once, the government organization enlisted the help of citizen scientists, called Planet Hunters, to view the incoming data. While viewing the data, the Planet Hunters noticed something out of the ordinary as if space exploration was full of the "unordinary" already. Reportedly the shadows of a star about 1,500 light-years away were not round like a normal planet; instead, the star was emitting unnatural light. The star was observed having "irregularly shaped, aperiodic dips in flux down to below the 20 percent level," according to Discovery. Tabetha Boyajian, a postdoc at Yale Univer-

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To Fly or Not to Fly? State Flag Controversy

By Mason McAdory
Growl Reporter



2015 has been a very controversial year in many ways; including ISIS, police brutality, and one of the biggest controversies,

issues. During the past few months, the state of Mississippi has been torn back and forth on whether or not to change the state flag. There are two sides in which one would like to keep the state flag, and the other would like to do away with the current state flag.

The side in favor of changing the state flag sees the state flag as a symbol of Mississippi's past. The confederate portion of the flag in the top left corner is what is causing most of this

discussion. The side in favor of changing looks at this flag as supporting the confederacy in which slavery and discrimination were prominent. They would like Mississippi to represent the present instead of the past.

However, there is also the side where they would like to keep the state flag the way it is. Mostly, this side looks at the flag as Mississippi's history and doesn't want to change the history of the state.

With this becoming nationally-known and discussed, many changes have already been made although the state government has not decided to change the flag yet. Two of the state's major universities have already removed the flag from their campus. These universities include The University of Mississippi and The University of Southern Mississippi. Both universities are in favor of Mississippi moving on from the past and representing the present and how far along the state of Mississippi has come.

Attala (continued from Front Page)



Nancy McRight
Baptist Medical Center-Attala.

The new 70,000 square feet facility will offer academic and workforce training courses, as well as community workshops. A number of workshops/courses have already begun, but other new offerings are slated to start in January.

Nancy McRight, director of The Attala Center, said that she is proud of the new Kosciusko facility, and can't wait for everyone who hasn't had the opportunity yet to see it.

"We have only been moved in for a couple of weeks now, but this place is remarkable," she told The Star-Herald, in reference to the new facility. "This new center is going to provide limitless

opportunities for our community."

Most notably for her role directing The Attala Center, McRight was recently named as one of the 2015 Women of Attala by The Star-Herald. She has also been named Director of the Year in Adult Education in Mississippi three times. McRight has been a member of the Holmes family since 2002, and while she has only resided in Kosciusko for the past few years, she says it feels like home to her.

"We are thrilled to have The Attala Center open and look forward to serving our community, Attala County, and the surrounding areas," McRight said. "The hard work and effort of so many has paid off and we cannot wait for everyone to see it."

Holmes President Dr. Jim Haffey noted at the ribbon-cutting that, "Today is a special day for the community. Lives will be changed because of this center, and we are excited to hit yet another milestone with the addition of this new facility."

In addition to the community course offerings and being a GED center and proctoring site, Attala is offering academic courses, as well. Nutrition, Word Processing I, English Composition II, American History II, Human Growth and Development, and College Algebra

will be offered in the spring of 2016. Truck driving and workforce welding classes will also begin in the spring.

For more information about The Attala Center, contact McRight at 662-290-0808 or nmright@holmescc.edu.



Dr. Jim Haffey addresses the crowd at The Attala Center ribbon-cutting.



Attala Director Nancy McRight addresses the crowd at The Attala Center ribbon-cutting.

Graham (continued from Front Page)

World Literature, and Creative Writing. She holds a B.A. in English from Delta State University and a M.A. in English from Mississippi State University, where she served as a teaching assistant as a graduate student.

Prior to her employment at Holmes, Graham taught at Delta State, State

Technical Institute at Memphis (now Southwest Tennessee Community College), and also in the Dallas, Texas community college system. She has always known that teaching, and specifically teaching English, is her calling in life.

"I have known since the ninth grade

that I wanted to become an English teacher," Graham said. "I love every minute of it, and love interacting with my students."

When Graham is not teaching, she enjoys bridge, participating in her two book clubs, and spending time with her family. She and her husband, Chip,

have two children; Scott Graham and Whitney Woods.

Graham will be recognized by the Mississippi Humanities Council at the 2016 Public Humanities Awards Reception in February at the Old Capitol Museum in Jackson.

Dedication Ceremony held for Donald E. Phillips Hall

By Taylor Vance, Student Contributor
Staff Photos



Dr. Lindy McCain, executive director of the Holmes Development Foundation and Dr. Jim Haffey, president of Holmes, present Dr. Don Phillips, president of the Holmes Development Foundation and Sue Phillips with a beautiful portrait.

On Friday, Nov. 6, the newly-constructed building on the Grenada Center was dedicated to Holmes Foundation President Dr. Donald E. Phillips. Vice President of the Grenada Center Michelle Burney opened the ceremony by joking, "This building has been called the East Building, the building across the ITC Building, and the new science building. We are now very glad to have an official name for this building."

The Donald E. Phillips Building offers new state-of-the-art science laboratories, a physical therapy assistant classroom, numerous faculty offices, and a University of Mississippi conference room. Dr. Phillips, who was in attendance, expressed his gratitude for the dedication.

"It is a true privilege to receive

this honor," Dr. Phillips said. "Holmes holds a dear place in my heart."

Dr. Phillips is a Holmes graduate, and was voted Mr. Holmes Junior College in 1952. He was also a member of both the 1951 state championship baseball team and the 1952 state championship basketball team. As a result of his many athletic achievements, he was inducted into the Holmes Sports Hall of Fame in 2011 and the Mississippi Community College Sports Hall of Fame in 2012.

According to Holmes Community College President Dr. Jim Haffey, "Dr. Phillips has been the President of the Holmes' Development Foundation and more than 12 million dollars has been raised for the college's capital campaign. I thank you personally because [my family] and I have benefited from

the scholarships you helped create."

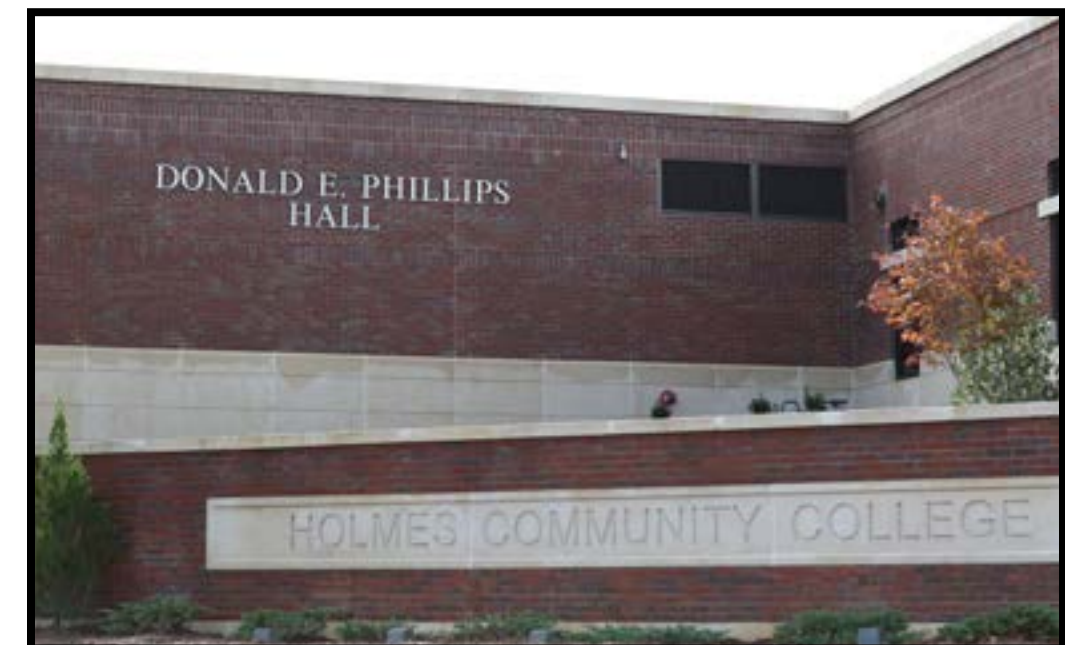
Dr. Phillips has almost 30 years of experience in all segments of International Minerals and Chemical, serving as president and CEO of Pitman-Moore Animal Health Corporation. Dr. Phillips also served as Chairman of the Board for Potash Corporation of Canada and of Symbiotics of San Diego, California.

In addition to serving as president of Holmes Foundation, Dr. Phillips is

Award at a Jackson luncheon.

He and wife, Sue Breedlove Phillips, have two daughters, Donna Keeling and the late Debra Barnett. They also have four grandchildren; Don Keeling, Amanda Keeling Minshew, Phillip Barnett and Kelly Barnett.

Overall, a fellow Holmes Ambassador said it best when she said, "We all owe something to Dr. Phillips for all of his work over the years."



Pictured is the recently-dedicated Donald E. Phillips Building located at the Holmes Grenada Center.

also a member of the Mississippi College Board of Trustees and president of the Mississippi College Foundation.

In 2014, the Mississippi chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals presented Dr. Phillips with its Volunteer Fundraiser of the Year



The Growl

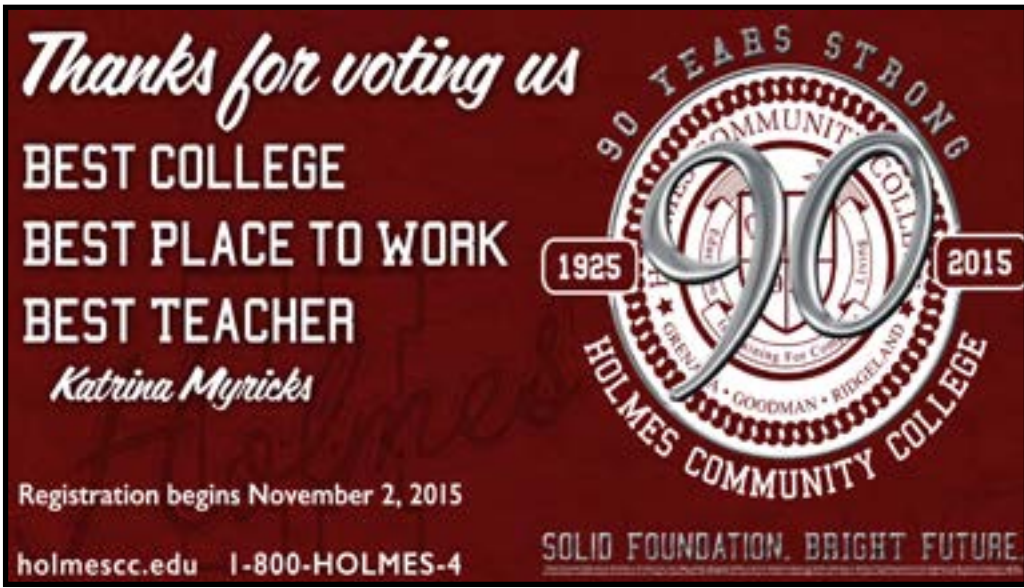
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Send to: mturner@holmescc.edu.

Best (continued from Front Page)

From Staff Reports/Photos



a part of my life; first, growing up the child of a non-traditional student, then as student myself, an alumni, a staff member, and now president. I know I’ve always felt like it is the best place to attend and work, and I thought maybe I was a little biased, but apparently a lot of other great Mississippians feel the same way. I am very proud that Katrina was recognized as well for her decades of work educating and inspiring our students and others.”

Katrina Myricks, named Best Teacher, is a business and office technology instructor and Phi Beta Lambda business society advisor on the Ridgeland Campus. She has taught at Holmes for 24 years, and in that time, has made

quite an impact on her students and colleagues. In 2006, she was named Community College Business Educator of the Year by the Mississippi Business Education Association, and in 2014, the former Mrs. Mississippi USA was named one of the “Coolest People” by Mississippi Business Journal. Myricks attended the Goodman Campus of Holmes on a basketball scholarship before earning her bachelor’s in business administration from Delta State University and her master’s from Mississippi State University. She has also completed additional graduate studies at MSU and Jackson State University.

“I think one of the highest honors an instructor can receive is to be rec-

ognized by his/her students for the job he/she does,” Myricks said. “I consider it an honor to walk into my classroom and help students achieve their dream of a college education and being successful in the world we live in. Just knowing that I have helped a student in his or her educational journey is truly reward enough. However, reading the paper that Sunday morning and seeing the Holmes advertisement was indeed a surprise and a great way to start the day with a smile on my face.”

Ridgeland Campus Vice President Dr. Don Burnham also expressed his delight in learning Holmes was named the “best” in three categories of the statewide contest.

“I am excited that Holmes was selected as the Best College and Best Place to Work in the Clarion Ledger contest, and especially thrilled that Myricks was named Best Teacher,” Dr. Burnham said. “This selection is a testimony about each of our employees who make Holmes the special place that it is. Whether it is instruction for students or maintaining clean and neat facilities, our people are truly the best at what they do.”

Similarly, Grenada Center Vice President Michelle Burney shared what a joy it was for Holmes to be recognized as the great institution she knows it to be.

“I am not surprised at all that Holmes

Community College won Best College and Best Place to Work,” Burney said. “It is very refreshing to wake up each morning and go to a job that I love. Holmes employees and students are the best and the brightest, and I believe what sets us apart even more is how we all work together as one big family.”

As one of the fastest-growing community colleges in the state, Holmes is celebrating 90 years of excellence this fall. In just 90 short years, more than 20,000 alumni have received an education and/or trained for the workforce at Holmes. The institution has grown from an agricultural junior college in Goodman into a multi-campus institution that offers the Associate of Arts degree, Associate of Applied Science degree, technical and career certificates, and workforce training. The college now offers more than 50 academic majors, approximately 30 professional programs, over 50 extracurricular activities, 10 athletic sports, and a variety of student support services across six locations.

Holmes Community College. 90 years strong. Solid foundation. Bright future.

Lamplighters (continued from Front Page)

From Staff Reports/Photos



Ahlich, Faulkner, and Alexander at the Lamplighters Conference.

chitectural engineering instructor, the Engineering Technology Club advisor, the Goodman Challenge Course Facilitator, a SkillsUSA advisor, and Kappa Alpha Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) contact advisor. As SkillsUSA advisor, the chapters have won first place at State and competed at Nationals eight times. As PTK advisor, he has been named the Top International Advisor and top Mississippi/Louisiana Region Advisor, and the chapter has been named Most Distinguished International Chapter twice and Most Distinguished Regional Chapter five times.

A Holmes alumnus, Alexander earned his A.A.S. in Drafting and Design Technology in 1996. As a student, he earned the Drafting and Designing Award, served as president and vice president of VICA, was a member of PTK, and he graduated with highest honors. Prior to earning his associate’s, Alexander obtained his bachelor’s in Technology Teacher Education from Mississippi State University in 1999, serving as an active member of Phi Kappa Phi and Phi Kappa Delta honor societies. Alexander also earned his master’s in Education Administration and Supervision from the University of Phoenix in 2008.

Alexander is also a volunteer firefighter and certified first responder with the Vaughan Fire Department. He serves as the Sunday school superintendent for Ellison United Methodist Church and co-sponsors the Methodist Youth Fellowship program with his

wife Kristin, who also attended the conference as a guest. Alexander has two children; his son, Holden, 10, and his daughter, Aimee Katherine, 8.

“Attending the Lamplighters Conference was an honor,” Alexander said. “The two community colleges who hosted the event, Meridian and East Central, really put on a show for all of the honorees. I enjoyed that immensely, but the best experience I gained actually came on the last day when they instructed us on how to paint during one of our last sessions. The instructor had screen printed images for us to paint that were on a small canvas. As she was going over instructions so that we could paint our lamps, some of her art students were walking around the room putting small globs of paint on our disposable paint pallets and whispering to us how proud they were to be helping with this event. The light bulb in my brain flickered a bit and slowly began to light up to a faint dim as I began to reflect on how I often overlook the simple things in life that make my students feel accomplished. As the instructor was wrapping up her spill, I heard the words “now get after it.” I was literally frozen. The light bulb inside my head went to high beam as I found myself not even knowing where, or how, to start. I am a kinesthetic learner and all I had heard was verbal commands. I found myself looking around at other adults seated at my table and they were fully engulfed with the activity. I was quickly remind-

ed of how students who are seated in front of me on a daily basis could feel after a lecture/demonstration, and I tell them to get busy. So for me, the highlight of this amazing conference was a humbling experience that I hope I will never forget as I survey the student faces in front of me and try to include all styles of learning.”

Meridian native Donna Redgate Ahlrich has been teaching for 25 years; 11 of those at Holmes. In 2012, she was named Holmes’ Higher Education Appreciation Day Working for Academic Excellence (HEADWAE) faculty recipient. HEADWAE is a program that involves the Mississippi Legislature honoring academically talented students and faculty members who have made outstanding contributions in promoting academic excellence. She is also the current treasurer for the Mississippi Association of Developmental Educators (MADE).

Ahlrich holds three degrees from MSU including an Ed.S. in Curriculum and Instruction of Math, a M.S. in Statistics, and a B.S. in Accounting. In addition to her role as a mathematics instructor, she is also the Ridgeland Campus representative for Healthy@Holmes, the college’s faculty/staff organization that promotes healthy living. Outside of Holmes, she teaches aerobics at Fitness Lady.

Ahlrich and her husband, Paul, have four children; Graham, a junior at Louisiana Tech University; Nolan, a senior at Madison Central High School; Carley, a sophomore at Madison Central, and Jami, a freshman at Rosa Scott High School. They are members of First Baptist Church of Madison.

Norman Clark Faulkner brings a wealth of “real world” experience into his welding instruction at the Holmes Grenada Center. Prior to becoming an instructor, he worked as a freight car mechanic/welder for the Canadian National Railroad. Before his stint with the railroad, he owned his own business in Grenada for 12 years, selling outdoor power equipment, repairing equipment, welding, and doing machine work for the public. Faulkner also has prior experience working for

a casket manufacturer as a welder and maintenance tech and working for a local Grenada company as a millwright and maintenance welder.

A native of Charleston, Faulkner graduated Charleston High School in 1982 with a great deal of experience in agriculture and metal trade classes. Upon graduation, he attended Northwest Junior College in Senatobia where he not only completed the welding program, but also met his wife of 31 years. Over the years, Faulkner has continued to pursue his education, earning both an A.A.S. and an A.A. degree from Holmes. He is also currently pursuing a B.S. at The University of Mississippi.

Two of Faulkner’s hobbies include hunting and blacksmithing, and he is a member of the Mississippi Blacksmith Association. He also plays several musical instruments, and formerly traveled and sang with a couple of gospel quartets. Faulkner has also been a member of two different bluegrass groups, and has sang on several recordings. Faulkner and his wife, Barbara, two children, a daughter and a son. His daughter, Amy Eubanks, is an education instructor at Holmes, and his son, Adam Clark Faulkner, is a welder and maintenance tech for Ice Industries.

“I am very much honored to have represented the Grenada Center and would like to thank both East Central and Meridian for such an outstanding job as our hosts,” Faulkner said. “My wife and I had such a great time, thanks to everyone involved. Also, I am in my third year with Holmes, and I have to say, I am enjoying what I’m doing and the people that I’ve been blessed to work with.”

The first Lamplighter Conference was held in 1989 with the goal of bringing in outstanding instructors who could share ideas. “Lighting the lamp” of the participants was to provide them the opportunity to return to their schools and light the lamps of their fellow instructors. The conference recognizes those who have gone above and beyond in and out of their classrooms.

Deaton discusses release of new CD on Mississippi Arts Hour

By Joshua Dilmore
Growl Editor

Holmes English and Foreign Language department chair and Ridgeland instructor Steve Deaton was featured on the Mississippi Arts Hour, which aired Sunday, Nov. 1. Deaton, who also advises the iCreate: Creative Arts Club at Holmes and the student rock band, discussed the upcoming release of his album “The Steve Deaton Three” and the release show scheduled for Nov. 18 in Fondren. The Steve Deaton Three (SD3) played a set and allowed patrons to mingle with the band after. Everyone who paid to get in got a copy of the new CD (or a download code if they no longer bother with CDs).

The SD3 consists of Deaton, Denny Burkes, and Adam Perry. This album is the trio’s debut LP which they describe as “a blend of rockin’ styles from the glory days of FM



radio.” The LP is the trio’s first full-length CD, featuring seven original songs written by Deaton and also three “reworked cover tunes” from notable artists such as The Nazz, The Who, and rockabilly singer and songwriter Jumpin’ Gene Simmons (who is Deaton’s second cousin). The SD3’s debut EP “Tonight I’m Gonna Feel Alright” was released in 2014. Of course, Deaton is no stranger to music.

Creative Writing class attends “Southern Noir” author panel

By Miranda Burchfield
Growl Reporter

On the evening of Oct. 28, a small group of students from the Holmes Community College Creative Writing class traveled to the Mississippi Delta on a field trip with our instructor Mr. Chad Moorer. We visited Turnrow Book Company, a small and lively

bookstore in Greenwood, to attend a panel author event that would be held upstairs. The featured authors were Brian Panowich, David Joy, Michael Ferriss Smith and Jamie Kornegay. They started off the discussion by answering the question of what the term “Southern Noir” meant to each of them and how they felt it applied to their writing. They

then discussed their novels, and answered many questions from the audience. Many interesting questions were posed and each of the writers delivered a lengthy and informative answer. One writer elaborated on developing realistic characters and said that it is important to remember that every character is an individual who has their own back-

ground. After the discussion ended we had the opportunity to meet the writers and talk to each of them and they encouraged us to keep reading and writing. We were able to take away valuable information on writing fiction and were inspired to become better writers ourselves.

Starbucks (continued from Page 2)



This “Krampuspresso” shirt is making fun of claims against Starbucks.

followers (unclear how many of those were gained after his Starbucks “rant” went viral). The somewhat liberal website Daily Kos reported that they first learned of Feuerstein after he posted a video of himself at a Florida bakery, where he ordered a cake with the message: “We Do Not Support Gay Marriage.” The Washington Post reports. After the bakery refused, he and his followers harassed the bakers, even claiming discrimination, until the small business was forced to temporarily shut down.

Feuerstein told The Washington Post in an e-mail that he was preparing a libel suit against the Daily Kos and was

unavailable to comment further.

He has even appeared on CNN, where he claimed that America is a Christian nation because why else would “Obama have to pretend to be one to get elected? Pete Dominick, the other guest on the segment and a talk radio host, attacked Feuerstein as an “entrepreneurial bigot.” Obviously Dominick was intimidated by Feuerstein’s “charisma and his bold, passionate and distinctive communication style” which “resonates with the Millennial Generation,” as described by Feuerstein on his website.

He is also a business man. Yes, Feuerstein’s website details that for a minimum of \$10, \$20, or \$50 monthly he offers partnerships in helping him spread his message of “hope and healing” to his community of 5 million “hurting and helpless people,” The Washington Post reports. Feuerstein also sells a DVD with “nearly 60 minutes of real, raw and relevant discussion about life, hurts, depression, hope, faith and so much more!!!!”

The Washington Post journalist Colby Itkowitz reports that “One of his more popular videos was from May 2014, garnering almost 2 million views

for a nearly five-minute take down of evolution.” She goes on to write, “At the end he urges people to share the video and friend him. ‘I say it’s time we start to believe in intelligent design and God,’ he says in closing.”

In another video Feuerstein claims the “Christian Holocaust has begun” after Kim Davis, Rowan County Kentucky clerk, was jailed for refusing to sign a marriage license for a gay couple. “It is time for us to rise up and begin a revolution,” he says before encouraging people to “invade” Rowan County. Sadly, this video has garnered about 1 million views.

So, what does this business-man-disciple-of-Christ do with the money he earns from his partnerships and DVD sells? Perhaps it is going towards his \$100,000 challenge for any atheist to show evident proof that God does not exist. My question raised to Mr. Feuerstein, however, is how does this challenge help his cause? Is he not challenging his own faith? And, if he wanted to raise awareness about Christians being a targeted people, why not shine a light on the violent persecution of Christians around the world? Seems to me that a “generic red cup” would take second string, but hey, that may

just be me.

Whatever Feuerstein’s motive for posting this video as well as his countless others—whether for publicity or truly for religious reasons—no one will ever know. Many people have found humor in Feuerstein’s video; some people have even made a profit. The online distributor of horror-themed t-shirts Fright-Rags has designed a “Krampuspresso” shirt in honor—or dishonor—of the event.

Needless to say to Mr. Feuerstein has had his five minutes of fame. Sure, those who agree can still take “coffee selfies” and use silly hashtags to support his cause, but I choose to spend my time more constructively...like starting the day off with a tall white chocolate mocha with extra whip from Starbucks.

To watch Feuerstein’s original video, visit <https://www.facebook.com/joshua.feuerstein.5/videos/689569711145714/>. To read more about Joshua Feuerstein and the Starbucks coffee cup “controversy,” visit <http://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2015/11/starbucks-coffee-cups-war-on-christmas/415029/>.

NASA (continued from Page 2)

sity, decided to examine the star now known as KIC 8462852. “We’d never seen anything like this star. It was really weird. We thought it might be bad data or movement on the spacecraft, but everything checked out,” Boyajian told The Atlantic. Alas, Boyajian’s paper concludes that a comet had most likely passed by the planet and been destroyed, leaving behind an odd trail of dust. On the contrary, Jason Wright, an astronomer from Penn State University claims that the light may have been caused by “a swarm of megastructures.”

Wright told The Atlantic, “Aliens should always be the very last hypothesis you consider, but this looked like something you would expect an alien civilization to build.” Apparently Boyajian was so compelled by Wright’s research, that she has joined him in his research. The two alongside Andrew Siemion, the Director of the SETI Research Center at the University of California, Berkeley, hope to point a large radio antenna at the star to see what they can find as soon as January 2016, The Elite reports. The radio antenna will to see if any artificial radio signals

are being transmitted from the star that could be deemed “intelligent.”

If some part of you would like to believe that this exoplanet may actually be an alien megastructure or that alien life exists in general, you are one of many.

In 2005, Leroy Chiao, an astronaut and International Space Station Commander, reported that he had a “close encounter” while conducting a spacewalk. Likewise, in 2014, Senior Astronomer Seth Shostak at the SETI Institute gave a testimony before the US House Committee on Science, Space and Technology, stating, “It is not hyperbolic to suggest that scientists could very well discover extraterrestrial intelligence within two

decades’ time or less, given resources to conduct the search.” Even former president Ronald Reagan told the Wall Street Journal in 1974 that he witnessed a “bright white light” while flying a small plane.

So where do scientists stand with KIC 8462852? It is widely agreed that much more research needs to be done to say that this exoplanet is “proof” that alien life exists. This story may just prove to be a natural phenomenon like the “floating spoon” on Mars which proved to be ventifact, a rock shaped by the wind. Or, what many hope, that this is proof that life exists outside of our own solar system. No one will ever know until the day contact or tangible proof is made.

Grenada Center gets \$10,000 donation from local business

From Staff Reports/Photos



(left) Pictured are (left to right) **Gwen Lott**, ADP division controller, **Chris Taylor**, ADP director of operations, **Steve Holland**, ADP director of advanced engineering, **Dr. Don Phillips**, Holmes Foundation president, **Dynamite Kirk**, Holmes Legacy Club, and **Dr. Myra Harville**, Holmes Grenada Center academic dean.

Holmes Community College Grenada Center has received a \$10,000 donation from Advanced Distributor Products (ADP) of Grenada. As long-

standing supporters of Holmes, ADP has made many important gifts to help fund the college's workforce training efforts. Donations given through the

Holmes Community College Development Foundation are used in areas such as instructional supplies, technology, student scholarships, faculty development, and recruitment.

"We are continually inspired by the generosity of ADP, who has answered the call to support Holmes Community College yet again. ADP has demonstrated a deep commitment to our mission of providing a quality education at an affordable price, and we are very grateful for their dedication to the college," said Michelle Burney, Vice President of Holmes Community College, Grenada Center.

ADP supplies over 500 HVAC distributors at more than 3,000 points of distribution throughout North America

and is the #1 producer of residential evaporator coils in the USA.

For more information on the Holmes Community College Development Foundation contact Diane Harman at 662.472.9017 or dharman@holmescc.edu.

Chisolm receives Bill Pope Property Award

From Staff Reports/Photos



Hommunity College Director of Purchasing and Receiving Roxanne Chisolm recently received the Bill Pope Property Award during the Mississippi Association of Government Purchasing and Property Agents annual meeting.

The award is named for Bill Pope, a veteran employee of the State Auditor's Office serving as chief of staff for State Auditor Stacey Pickering. Pope served as Chisolm's mentor when she began building a tracking process of fixed as-

sets at Holmes Community College in 1999.

"I was totally humbled to be the recipient of this award," Chisolm said. "I have been a lone member of this organization at Holmes since 1995 so to be nominated by others across the state was amazing."

Chisolm's other contributions to MAGPPA included: secretary, 2014; conference opening ceremony, 2010 and 2014; conference attendee in 2015;

and contributing writer on purchasing and inventory control in the community college system, 2002. She also was a speaker in 2013 and served as moderator of a property round table discussion in 2011. She is TAP certified and served as a NPMA (National Property Management Association) delegate for the Magnolia Chapter for the past nine years. She was named Property Manager of the Year in 2009.

Booker receives prestigious Miss. Library Association award

From Staff Reports/Photos



Blair Booker

Holmes Community College Ridgeland Campus' Blair Booker, branch librarian for Adcock Library, recently received the 2015 Mississippi Library Association (MLA) Past President's

Award. The Past President's Award is given to an outstanding professional librarian who is an active MLA member.

Booker has been a member of MLA since moving to Mississippi in 2007. She has served on various committees with the organization, and held the title of Registration Chair in 2012-2013. She currently serves as MLA Treasurer; a role she will serve a second term in next year.

"Blair Booker is very deserving on the 2015 MLA Past President's Award," said Jennifer Smith, assistant librarian on the Ridgeland Campus. "She is not only a wonderful librarian but also an avid supporter of Holmes Community College. Ms. Booker is tirelessly serving the Mississippi library community in her 'soon-to-be' second term as Treasurer for MLA.

That is a hard volunteer job to have, but Blair carries out her duties with grace and charm."

A 2014 graduate of the Mississippi Library Leadership Institute, Booker also earned her M.L.I.S. from the University of Alabama in 2007, and her B.S. in English from the University of North Alabama in 2004. Prior to becoming branch librarian, she served as assistant librarian at Holmes from 2008-2014, and before Holmes, worked as a reference librarian at the Mississippi Library Commission.

In addition to her role as librarian, Booker also volunteers as co-advisor for the Alpha Lambda Sigma Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa honor society. In the past she has served as assistant editor of Mississippi Libraries and as a volunteer for QuestionPoint Ask-a-Li-

brarian. Booker also uses her musical talents to serve her community; she is a flute player in the Mississippi Community Symphonic Band, and a pianist for Monterey United Methodist Church in Florence.

For more information about the Holmes Community College library, contact Booker at 601.605.3303 or bbooker@holmescc.edu.

the Goodman Campus, were among 68 outstanding faculty and students from 34 Mississippi public and private universities and colleges chosen to be honored by the Mississippi Legislature at the 29th Annual Higher Education Appreciation Day – Working for Academic Excellence (HEADWAE). The recognition program is scheduled for Feb. 2, 2016, at the State Capitol with the Awards Luncheon following at the Jackson Marriott Hotel.

A native of Prentiss, Coulter was named Holmes Humanities Teacher of the Year in 2014 and presented a lecture titled, "You Can't Go Home Again: Women's Agency in the Novels of Kamala Markandaya." She has

been a well-respected member of the Holmes family for nine years, and served in the field of higher education for a total of 15. Prior to her employment at Holmes, she taught English courses at Davidson County Community College, the University of LaVerne, Copiah Lincoln Community College, as well as Mississippi College.

Coulter recently earned her Ph.D. in English from Claremont Graduate University in Claremont, California. Prior to that, she obtained an M.A. in English from Wake Forest University and a B.A. in English from Mississippi College. Coulter and her

See HEADWAE, Page 7



Stacey Coulter

Holmes Community College's Dr. Stacey Coulter, English instructor on



Taylor Adcock

the Ridgeland Campus, and Taylor Adcock of Sallis, a sophomore on

Magnolia Gold program expands to Ridgeland Campus

From Staff Reports/Photos



Pictured are Holmes Magnolia GOLD students (left to right) **Jasmine Gibson** and **Cleveland Whiteside** with instructor **SFC Timothy Harper** manning the Magnolia GOLD booth during a football games on Oct. 8.

The Holmes Community College Magnolia GOLD program is proud to announce that it will be expanding to the Ridgeland Campus in the spring of 2016. Magnolia GOLD, in conjunction with the Mississippi Army National Guard to offer a new military science program called Magnolia GOLD. The

"GOLD" stands for Guard Officer Leadership Development.

During the spring of 2015, students will have the opportunity to take a different course; Foundations of Leadership. This is a three-hour course. Additional courses will be added in the fall of 2016, giving students the chance to complete a total of four Magnolia GOLD classes.

Courses are open to all students, with no prerequisites necessary. Two elective credit hours will be awarded for the first two courses, and three credit hours for each of the second two. The Foundations of Officership course introduces students to the personal challenges and competencies that

are critical for effective leadership. Students will learn how the personal development of life skills such as cultural understanding, goal setting, time management, mental/physical resiliency, and stress management relate to leadership, Officership, and the Army profession.

"I am so pleased that we will be offering the Magnolia Gold classes on the Ridgeland Campus this spring," said SFC Timothy Harper, instructor for the Magnolia GOLD courses at Holmes. "If the Ridgeland students demonstrate the same attitude and commitment that the Goodman students have demonstrated, then I expect we will all learn together and grow as leaders. I cannot overstate how impressed I have been by the support of the students and the staff of Holmes Community College."

This program lends itself to students interested in becoming National Guard officers, whether they choose Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) or Officer Candidate School (OCS). Although there are additional opportunities for those already in the National

Guard, there is absolutely no military obligation required to take Magnolia GOLD courses, and it doesn't mean that you will be required to join the Guard.

SFC Harper, a native of Rankin County, who has worked with the Marines and the National Guard for 20 years, brings of wealth of knowledge and experience to the program.

"I have been extremely impressed with how motivated and dedicated this first cohort of students has been since day one," SFC Harper said. "They are a great group of students, and I look forward to seeing their progress over the course of the semester."

For more information about the Magnolia GOLD program, contact SFC Harper at tiharper@holmescc.edu.

Holme-Towne Players present "Check Please"

From Staff Reports/Photos

The Holmes Community College Holme-Towne players presented a drama production "Check Please" Nov. 17-18 in the Montgomery Fine Arts Building on the Goodman Campus. "Check Please" follows a series of blind dinner dates that couldn't get any worse...until they do.



Greyson Dye gives a stellar performance alongside **Tudy Hardy** in "Check Please."

(left) **Deborah Tolbert** gets in full character during "Check Please."



Drew Nunley pays the price for being a bad date with **Lizzy Mc-Lemore** in "Check Please."

Students explore USM Polymer Science and Engineering program

From Staff Reports/Photos



Troy Milliken took several Holmes science majors from the Ridgeland

exposed to specialized instruments

Campus to visit the Polymer Science and Engineering program at The University of Southern Mississippi on Oct 30. Students were exposed to what polymers are and careers involving polymers. Students were also

pertaining to polymers: Transmission Electron Microscope, Scanning Electron Microscope, Extruders, Rheology, and Differential Scanning Calorimeter. The field of polymer science has been rapidly growing since 1960. It started out with the generic name of plastics, which includes saran wrap, car tires, and plastic bags. It has now expanded to aerospace technology, carpet fibers, and Kevlar.

"Polymer Science is a growing field and industries accepting polymer scientists include 3M, Dow, Dupont,

and GM to name a few," Dr. Milliken said. "Job placement is nearly 100 percent for USM polymer graduates."

The USM nationally-ranked Polymer Science and Engineering program provides training for careers in academia, commerce and manufacture which process and use polymeric materials. Many of the graduates are able to secure prominent scientific and technical positions across the nation.

HEADWAE (continued from Page 6)

husband, Reuben, reside in Fondren with their three-year-old son Jackson and their dogs.

Taylor Adcock, daughter of Jeremy and Beth Adcock, is a 4.0 student who has remained on the President's List throughout her time at Holmes. She is

the College Project Head for Phi Theta Kappa honor society, a HolmesPlus scholar, an Ambassador, a work-study for the Department of Natural Sciences, an academic tutor, and a member of the Baptist Student Union. As a student at Central Holmes Christian School in

Lexington, she was named Valedictorian, as well as a STAR (Student-Teacher Achievement Recognition) student by the Mississippi Economic Council's M.B. Swayze Foundation.

Upon graduating from Holmes, she plans to obtain a Doctor of Pharmacy

from The University of Mississippi Medical Center.

The Mississippi Legislature established HEADWAE in 1988 to recognize outstanding students and faculty in Mississippi's colleges and universities.

HOMECOMING COURT '15

Goodman Campus



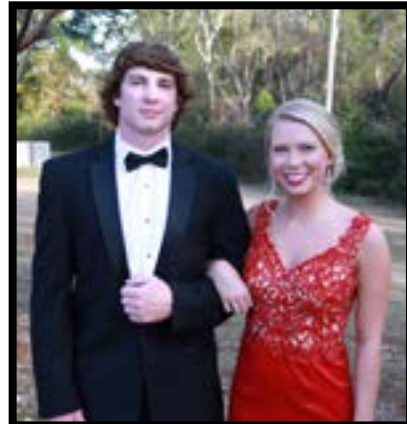
Lane Spell and Goodman Campus Freshman Maid Haley Pate



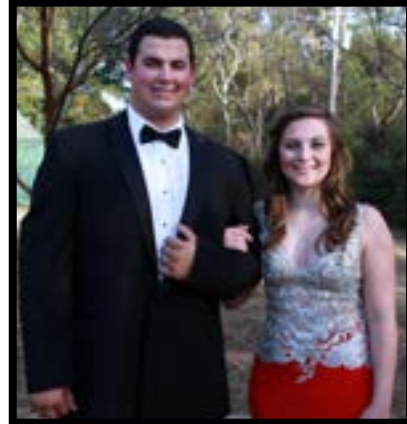
Timothy Wallace and Goodman Campus Freshman Maid Nikki Merchant



Fred Johnston and Goodman Campus Student Body Maid Kayla Neal



Dalton Veazey and Goodman Campus Sophomore Maid Sydney Coleman



Justin Milner and Goodman Campus Sophomore Maid Sara Grace Weaver



Dr. Jim Haffey crowning Brittany Dance.



Arron Laborde and Homecoming Queen Brittany Dance



Pictured are Arron Laborde, Brittany Dance, Robert Paul Dance, and Wilton Neal, president of the Holmes Alumni Association.

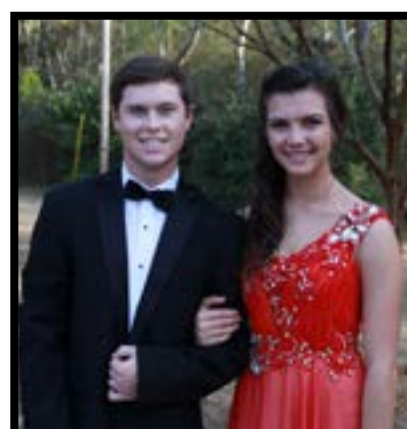
Ridgeland Campus



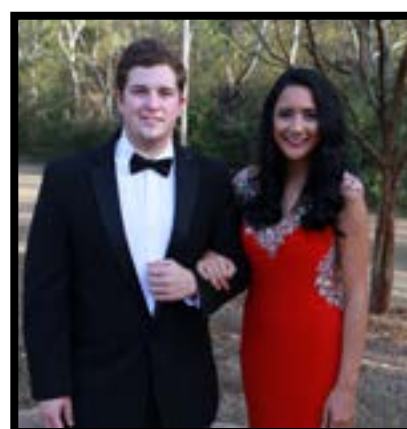
Gregory Miller and Ridgeland Campus Freshman Maid Kindalin Blocker



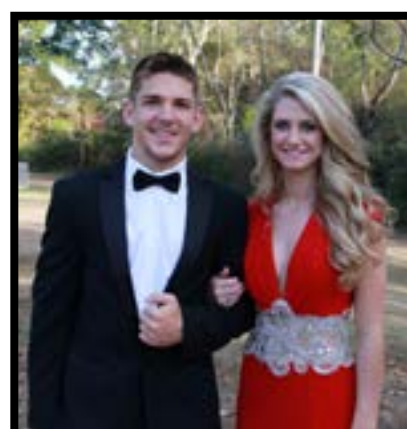
Christian Gomez and Ridgeland Campus Freshman Maid Tralysia Dixon



Ryan Wiltshire and Ridgeland Campus Student Body Maid Mallory Corley

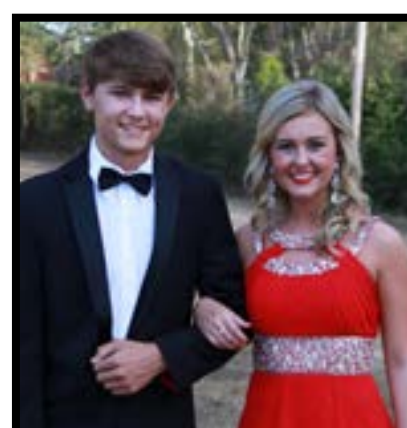


Will Neihaus and Ridgeland Campus Sophomore Maid Sena Hope

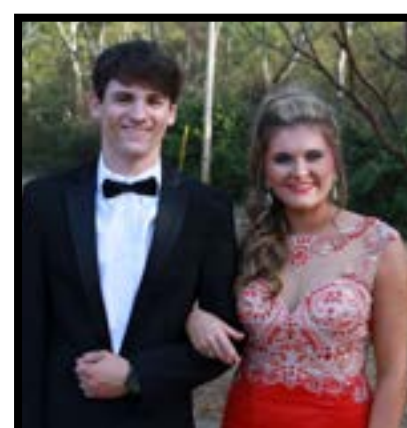


Shayne Hopkins and Ridgeland Campus Sophomore Maid Avery Huff

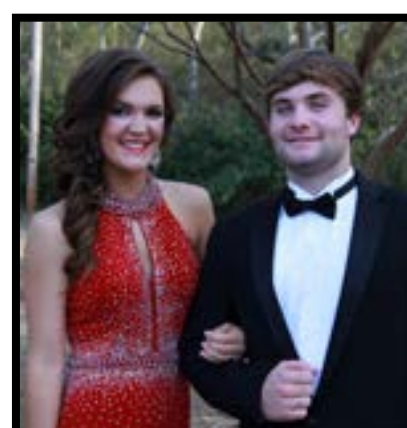
Grenada Center



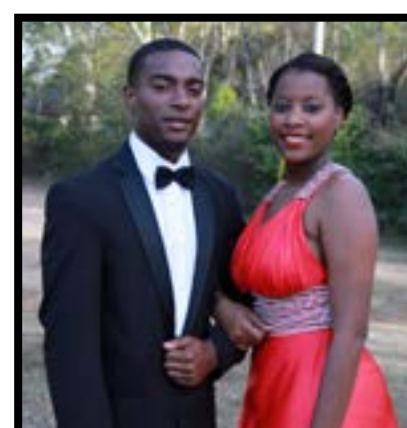
Grant Martin and Grenada Center Freshman Maid Hannah Waters



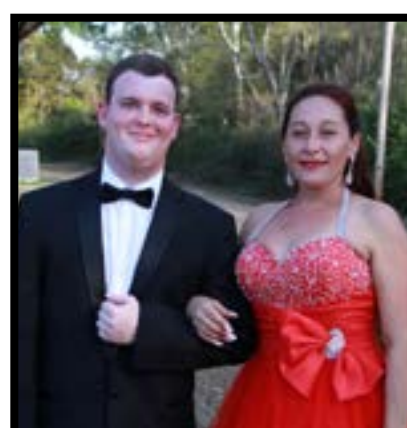
Brantley Shaw and Grenada Center Freshman Maid Anna Catherine Lancaster



Grenada Center Student Body Maid Abby Vance and Dillon Deweese



Zamyron Everett and Grenada Center Sophomore Maid Felicia Murray



Colton Toler and Grenada Center Sophomore Maid Jennifer Tehan



2014 Homecoming Queen Shelby Soyars



Christian Gomez and Ridgeland Maid Tralysia Dixon



Grenada Center Student Body Maid Abby Vance



Goodman Maids Haley Pate and Nikki Merchant



Colton Toler and Grenada Maid Jennifer Tehan



Ridgeland Maids Avery Huff and Sena Hope

SCENES FROM HOMECOMING '15



The 1965 Holmes football team show off their Bulldog spirit at Homecoming 2015. A reception was held in their honor, and the team was also recognized prior to the Homecoming game.



Pictured are (left to right) Distinguished Service Award recipient Bill Bailey, President Dr. Jim Haffey, Alumnus of the Year Robby Robertson, and Distinguished Service Award recipient James Young.



The Holmes Community College Marching Band leads the Homecoming parade.



The Holme-Towne Players perform a children's drama production.



The Holmes Coachmen singers performed the National Anthem before kickoff of the Homecoming game.



Magnolia GOLD represents at the Homecoming tailgate.



Connection! performs a high-energy routine for the crowd.



The Dazzlers stop for a photo with their Homecoming Maids from the team.



The cheerleaders get the crowd pumped up at the Homecoming pep rally.



The Steel Band performs in the Grove.



Holmes softball players hang out in the Grove following the alumni softball game.



Alumni Coordinator Hilliary O'Brian's daughter Charlie leaves her handprint on the bulldog in the Grove.



Head Cheer Coach Heather Jones stops for a photo with her two boys, Jon Wiley and Pierce, during Homecoming 2015.

District-wide voter registration drive nets 230 students

From Staff Reports/Photos



(left to right) Goodman PTK officer **Anna McCrory** and Goodman Campus history instructor **Caroline Barton** register students to vote on their way into the cafeteria during the Voter Registration Drive.

Holmes Community College held voter registration drives on all three of the main campuses during the month of September, encouraging students to vote in the Nov. 3 elections. The voter drives, coordinated by the History and Political Science Department, yielded a total of 230 students registering to vote; 133 from the Ridgeland Cam-

pus, 55 from Grenada, and 42 from Goodman.

“We held the voter registration drive on September 17-18 in Ridgeland,” said Kay Kelly, history instructor on the Ridgeland Campus. “We decided on September 17 because that’s Constitution Day. The idea here was to couple the celebration of our long-

standing constitution, the very document that gives us the right to vote, with a drive to get students registered to exercise that right.”

At the Grenada Center, student activities coordinator Bronwyn Robertson said her Student Government Association (SGA) was a tremendous help in coordinating the drive, and even took the registration forms to the local circuit court as a group.

Caroline Barton, a history instructor for the Goodman Campus, commented that “This year’s voter drive resulted in a much larger number of completed registrations than in the past several years. Mr. Kelly and I appreciate the great response from the Goodman students.”

The committee involved in the Registration Drive included Laura Canard, chair of the History and Political Science Department; J.R. Hall, history instructor on the Ridgeland Campus; Amanda Kay Kelly, history and political science instructor on the Ridgeland Campus; Jason Kelly, history instructor on the Goodman Campus; Caro-

line Barton, history instructor on the Goodman Campus; Mark Rummage, history and political science instructor at the Grenada Center; Jay Wilson, history instructor at the Grenada Center, and Bronwyn Robertson, student activities coordinator at the Grenada Center. Student leaders in various organizations including Ambassadors, Phi Theta Kappa honor society, and SGA also helped run the voter registration drives.

“We are all very blessed to live in a country that affords all adults the opportunity to vote,” said Holmes President Dr. Jim Haffey. “I would like to encourage all Holmes employees (and students) to take the time to vote tomorrow. Tuesday’s general election contains many races and issues that are extremely important to our college and district. Regardless of your position or party affiliation, the most important thing is that you are knowledgeable of the issues, and fulfill your civic duty to vote.”

Holmes African American Literature students get enhanced teaching

From Staff Reports/Photos

On Oct. 13, several Holmes Community College Ridgeland Campus students, along with African American Literature Instructor Arnetra Pleas and English Instructor Mary Brantley, had the opportunity to hear Dr. Henry Louis Gates speak at the historic Galloway United Methodist Church in downtown Jackson. A distinguished African American studies professor, scholar, author, and filmmaker, Dr. Gates spoke as part of the 2015 Medgar Wiley Evers Lecture Series, addressing a full-capacity crowd on the topics of economics, education, and politics.

Dr. Gates serves as the director of the Hutchins Center for African and American Research at Harvard University; is the Emmy-Award winning producer and host of The African Americans: Many Rivers to Cross; hosts the series Finding Your Roots;



Pictured is (back row) Holmes Community College African American Literature Instructor **Arnetra Pleas** with (left to right) her students **LaShunda Brown**, **R.J. Hurston**, and **Genesis**

is the co-founder of TheRoot.com, and author/co-author of 19 books. Glenn Hutchins, chairman of the

board of SunGard Corp., director of the NASDAQ Stock Market, Inc., and director of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, facilitated the discussion.

Pleas believes that these types of outside classroom learning experiences can be more impactful on students than learning information within the confines of a physical space.

“Dr. Gates’s lecture is an opportunity for my students to witness firsthand the genius of the co-author of our textbook, but it is also a chance for them to see how the world beyond the classroom is an essential part of learning and personal development,” Pleas said.

Pleas first met Dr. Gates in 2013 as an NEH Institute Fellow at Harvard University. She notes, “I am extremely grateful to the National Endowment for the Humanities for its vision and

continued support of humanities education, as well as Dr. Gates and the other program facilitators for welcoming me to the then DuBois Institute.”

Through her participation in the summer institute “African American Struggles for Freedom and Civil Rights,” she has implemented much of the program’s information into her African American Literature class on the Ridgeland Campus.

“Dr. Gates’s work has been such an inspiration to me, and it is my goal is replicate that same interest and enthusiasm in my own students,” she said.

Pleas plans to continue offering her students such enrichment opportunities to complement and enhance classroom learning. The recent lecture is only one of several planned activities.

Holmes on cutting edge of safety

From Staff Reports/Photos



Pictured are the **Holmes Community College police and security officers**. These men and women are diligent in their responsibility to keep Holmes student, faculty, and staff safe on campus.

Holmes is continuously doing its part to stay up-to-date with any measures necessary to ensure campus safety for its students, faculty and staff. The college utilizes police officers on each campus, and technology plays a major role in getting pertinent information out quickly.

Nineteen police officers patrol each of Holmes’ three main campuses

either on foot or in marked patrol cars, and the college has hired a new District Director of Public Safety, Chief Christopher Dill.

In addition to the on-campus police department, Holmes also has many programs in place to keep students safe and informed about potential risks on campus. One such program is the Rave Alert System. Rave is set up to

notify students of any on-campus emergency, whether it be a campus lockdown due to an active shooter, a weather event, or any kind of evacuation. Students, faculty and staff must opt-in to this system through the MyHolmes portal. The link to activate Rave on their smartphone is under the Free Technology link, and they should enter their cell number and email to receive these notifications. Students are especially encouraged to sign up to receive texts, which will increase the likelihood of seeing the notifications right away.

“Students, faculty and staff should utilize the Rave System because it automatically sends the necessary messages straight to their phones,” McDaniel said. “The messages can come in the form of a text or email. This system is imperative to our campus safety operation. It only takes a second to sign-up for Rave, and everyone affiliated with Holmes Community College should opt-in.”

Holmes also utilizes the Alertus

System feature, which takes over all computers on the Holmes network and displays a notification of any campus emergency.

“This is another way we can quickly get information to the people already on our campuses and let them know of the emergency,” McDaniel said. “It automatically blocks out their screen and tells them what’s going on. They will not be able to work or use their computers while this message is up and will have to give their attention to whatever is going on.”

Holmes also encourages students, faculty and staff to utilize all social media sites, including Facebook and Twitter, as well as the website (www.holmescc.edu), to stay up-to-date on campus safety information. Notifications will be posted on these channels when the Holmes family needs to be notified of an emergency situation.

Also, each campus is equipped with an overheard siren system that is set off during any campus emergency.

The siren system can be heard in every

See Security, Page 11

Security (continued from Page 10)

building and dorm on the campus, and is tested periodically.

To alert the campus that there is an active shooter or armed intruder, the siren will sound an on-and-off air horn in short bursts. Everyone should remain in place and lock the classroom or office they are in. Those in the hallways or on sidewalks during this siren should seek shelter in a safe, lockable location.

To alert the campus of a tornado or other serious weather conditions, an overhead siren will sound a long, steady tone. This will signal everyone to move into the hallway, or to the interior of the building away from windows if there is no hallway.

If a fire is discovered, the fire alarm should be sounded immediately by whomever discovers it. This lets everyone know to evacuate the building immediately and proceed to a clear area that is at least 500 feet away from the affected building.

Whether it be a medical emergency, tornado warning, hostile/disruptive behavior, bomb threat, campus lockdown or fire alarm/building evacuation; the college has a plan in place to deal with the situation as quickly and effectively as possible. For detailed

instructions on what to do in case of campus emergencies, students, faculty, and staff should visit <https://www.holmescc.edu/administration/safety/>.

Each campus is making individual efforts to increase safety, as well. On the Goodman Campus - the college’s only residential facility - the main entrance is protected by a guard house, and all other entrances are locked down at 6 p.m. each night. Unless they have prior approval, no outsiders are allowed on campus during the hours of 6 p.m. - 7 a.m. Students and guests entering campus must present identification, and their information is recorded in case it is needed at a later time.

“These men and women [police officers] have the faculty, staff, students and any guest of the college in their best interest,” Goodman Campus Police Chief Tony McDaniel said. “They are in full uniform and here to help with any issue that may arise.”

Additionally, each dormitory on the Goodman Campus has an assigned security guard, and there are surveillance cameras throughout the dorms and in the parking lots.

“These cameras are very important to our operation,” McDaniel said. “We have plans in the very near future to

install cameras in major parking lots besides the ones near the dorms. I was excited to hear that we were installing more cameras.”

In Grenada, increased safety measures have been taken through campus updates and partnerships. Specifically, extra lighting has been added to the parking lots, and campus officers are working on emergency plans with both area agencies, such as the Grenada Police Department, and state agencies, as well.

In Ridgeland, Chief Dill will be reviewing safety protocols and working with local law enforcement, state and federal agencies to improve response capabilities for the campus. Chief Dill notes that the Ridgeland campus is surrounded by other local law-enforcement agencies who would respond quickly to assist officers in an emergency situation should assistance from other agencies be necessary.

“In light of recent school shootings, all officers will train over the Thanksgiving Holidays,” Chief Dill said. “We want to be better prepared to deal with any serious situations that could occur on our campuses. The plans to increase the number of cameras throughout the campuses will also allow personnel

to view more areas without officers present.”

Holmes recognizes that a proactive approach to handling crises is the best way to prepare for emergencies. Therefore, our Department of Public Safety has placed emergency protocol posters in every classroom and in the common areas of each building. The posters also include campus police numbers, and the Holmes family is encouraged to save the numbers in their phone.

Goodman Campus Police can be reached at (601) 940-0089, Grenada Campus Police at (662) 809-6845, and Ridgeland Campus Police at (601) 603-3333.

To help inform Campus Police of any suspicious activity on campus, Holmes has a Silent Witness program. Students, faculty and staff can use the Silent Witness function to inform police of areas that need attention and remain anonymous at the same time. To use this program, users may enter information at <https://www.holmescc.edu/forms/silentwitness.aspx>.

Idea for holiday fun: Christmas in Canton

By Angel Cooper
Growl Reporter

Canton, the “City of Lights,” brings holiday cheer each Christmas Season with attractions and events for all ages. From the Victorian Festival to old-fashioned carousel rides, there’s something to put each family in the holiday spirit, no matter the desired preference! The festivities in Canton all take place around the Historic Courthouse Square, decorated with over 200,000 glittering lights. Can-



ton’s Square is honored as a National Register Landmark. The festival received honorable mention from the Arts & Entertainment Network’s 2003 contest, “Best Small Town Christmas Spirit.” This event is all time fun for family and friends to enjoy the Christmas Holidays with loved ones. Event dates are Nov. 27 - Dec. 23, 2015. For more information, visit www.cantontourism.com.

left: The “City of Lights.”

Appreciative Advising workshop held

From Staff Reports/Photos



(above) **Sean Glassberg** leads the Appreciative Advising workshop at Holmes held on Oct. 30 in Frank Branch Coliseum.

HALS goes out into the community

From Staff Reports/Photos



(Pictured, left to right) Paralegal Technology instructor **Darleen Dozier** and **Terri Spurk**, a recent graduate of the Paralegal Technology program, represented Holmes Community College at the interactive Career Exploration Fair for Jackson public schools held Nov. 18.

Holmes Community College
presents

*Carols of
Christmas
2015*

The Holmes Community College
Concert Chorale & Coachmen Singers
Joel C. Hill, Director
Dr. Donna Banks, Accompanist

Tuesday,
December 1, 2015
7 pm
*McDaniel Auditorium
Goodman Campus*

The Holmes Connection!
Michael Yates, Director

*General Admission - \$5
Holmes CC Students - \$3
Children 12 & Under - Free
**1 Free Admission with every item
purchased at Holiday Bakes Sale*

GRENADA FALL FEST

From Staff Reports/Photos

There was no shortage of music, dancing, and fun at the Grenada Center Fall Fest held on Nov. 12. Faculty, staff, and students enjoyed delicious barbeque, fellowship, games, and fun on a gorgeous Thursday afternoon. Student organizations held bake sales, hosted cake walks, sold handmade goodies, and more. Students also had the opportunity to enjoy a rock wall and inflatable obstacle course, as well as a trampoline jumper. A great time was had by all who participated.



Pictured are BSU members (left to right) Kimleang Kangheng, Ella Katherine Jennings, Kayla Dees, Alexandra Perry, Shelby Ferguson, Alex Gillespie, and BSU Director Jeremy Richey at Fall Fest.



Holmes alumnus and Delta State recruiter John Mauney is ready to talk to students about options after Holmes at Grenada Fall Fest 2015.



Hannah Waters gives cornhole her best shot at Grenada Fall Fest 2015.



The ADN nursing students stop for a photo with their Cake Walk table during Grenada Fall Fest 2015.



The rock wall is always popular at Fall Fest.



Some of the nursing students gather around their fun Fall Fest booth during Fall Fest 2015.



Faculty/staff serve up bbq at Grenada Fall Fest 2015. Pictured (left to right) are Cynthia Abel, Michelle Burney, Kathryn Cox, Bronwyn Robertson, and Tracey Herring.



Grenada students battle in a game of tug-o-war during Fall Fest 2015.



Students get into an intense cornhole match during Fall Fest 2015.



There was no shortage of dancing at Fall Fest 2015. Mrs. Bettye shows the students how it is done.



Who knew winning the cake walk could bring such joy?

RIDGELAND FALL FEST

From Staff Reports/Photos

Music and the smell of Backyard Burgers filled the air during the Ridgeland Campus Fall Fest held on Wednesday, Oct. 14. Student organizations sold t-shirts, set up bake sales, held cake walks, provided carnival games, raised money for breast cancer awareness, and so much more. Live music was provided by the iCreate Creative Arts Club. Following Fall Fest, students, faculty, and staff walked down to the soccer practice field to see the Bulldogs Men's Soccer Team take on Hinds Community College. As part of the Fall Fest/Faculty Appreciation Soccer Game, students and Holmes employees enjoyed free snow cones while they watched the game.



Holly Cobb, Amanda Lindsey (student activities coordinator), Simone Lewis, and Caitlyn Mizelle pose for a photo at Fall Fest 2015.



Instructor Katrina Myricks and Tracie Wade with the American Cancer Society pose by the breast cancer awareness car at Fall Fest.



Holmes students box it out in the inflatable ring provided by the Mississippi National Guard at Fall Fest 2015.



iCreate: Creative Arts Club member Sara Hill performs for her peers at Fall Fest 2015.



Students are all smiles playing the Musical Chair Cake Walk at Fall Fest 2015.



The Occupational Therapy Assistant students gather around their fun Fall Fest booth during Fall Fest 2015.



Blair Booker, Erin Renfro, and Elise Fullwood sell Fall Fest t-shirts for Phi Theta Kappa honor society during the 2015 Fall Fest.



Ridgeland Campus students gather up for a quick pic at Fall Fest 2015.



Students start a game of football on the lawn during Fall Fest 2015.



Dejah Watkins, Jazzueline Sumler, and Teanna Marie Denson smile for the camera at Fall Fest 2015



The Social Science Club stops for a photo in front of their booth. They are (left to right) Cody Wallen, Nathaly Espinoza, Keisha Williams, Daquon Benton, Anna Williams, Katie Rose Anthony, Rachel Shelton, and advisor Makeba Latiker.

From Staff Reports/Photos

On Friday, Oct. 30, Holmes celebrated Halloween and raised money for a great cause all in one day with the Second Annual Pink-O-Ween Breast Cancer 5K, sponsored by Healthy@Holmes. Faculty and staff showed up dressed in pink-themed costumes with creative signs to show support.

Each participant also purchased a t-shirt and collected donations prior to the walk to go to the Susan G. Komen foundation. Following the 5K, a chili cook-off was held, and everyone enjoyed chili, hamburgers, and other treats during the picnic on the football field.



"Pat's Bats" show off their first-place costumes. They are (front, left to right) Sawyer Mooney the dog, Angela Crain, Bronwyn Martin, (back, left to right) Heather Mooney, Sandra Hultz, Mark Galtelli, Yancy Brewer, Michael Pawlik, Lena Lopez, and Rachel Deer.



The five little piggies (left to right) Terrell Hammett, Brandy Culpepper, Dana Nichols, Kala Moody, and Pam Sills and the Big Bad Wolf, Matt Surrrell, get in full character during the Pink-O-Ween 5K.



(left to right) Jennifer Brunson, Amy Eubanks, Pam Moore, and Heather Wood chant P-I-N-K as they make their way around the track in their togas.



(left to right) Bully cheers Joshua Guest and Josh Neagle on as they finish their first lap of the Pink-O-Ween 5K.



(left to right) Dr. Jim Haffey, Sue Ellen Stubbs, and Stephanie Blue won third, first, and second place, respectively, in the chili cook-off.



Bully and the Holmes cheerleaders take a group photo after cheering on the Pink-O-Ween participants.



(left to right) Suzanne Lawshe, Amy Whittington, and Allison DeWeese are ready to "Save the Tatas" at Pink-O-Ween 2015.



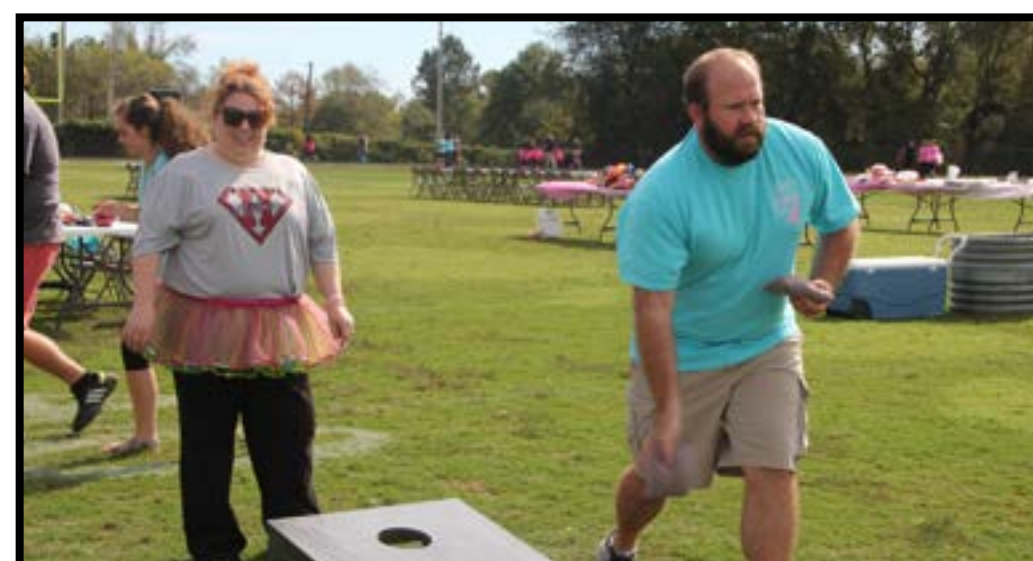
(left to right) Hilliary O'Briant, Steve Diffey, Mary Margaret Turner and Chloe the Dog show off their "Save a Rack" costumes at Pink-O-Ween 2015.



(left to right) Bully and Sherrie Cheek stop for a photo at Pink-O-Ween 2015.



(left to right) Pamela Fells, Kerri Edwards, and Tonya Lawrence, the "80's Ladies" get photobombed by Bully at Pink-O-Ween 2015.



(left to right) Heather Roberts and Will Alexander play cornhole on the football field following the Pink-O-Ween 5K.

Electrical Linemen graduates Class of Fall 2015

From Staff Reports/Photos

On Nov. 19 the Electrical Linemen program graduated their Fall 2015 class. The ceremony was held in the Chapel on the Hill and was followed by a reception for the class and their families in the Carroll Cafeteria.

In October, the Electrical Linemen students held a Field Day, where they showed off the skills they learned over the course of the program.



left: Pictured are the Fall 2015 Electrical Linemen graduates with their instructors.

below: Pictured are the Fall 2015 Electrical Linemen graduates with their instructors.



A Thanksgiving Favorite: Sweet Potato Casserole

By Santia Williams
Growl Reporter



tato casserole; it's something you and

A recipe I think will be good for Thanksgiving is creamy sweet potato casserole. I think it is a good recipe because you can't go wrong with sweet potato

your family will enjoy eating.

Ingredients:

- 1 chopped yellow onion
- 6 oz cream cheese, cubed
- 1 can of chicken broth
- 1/4 cup packed brown sugar
- 2 lbs sweet potatoes (about 6) peeled, thinly sliced
- 36 Ritz crackers, crushed
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans

Directions:

1. Preheat the oven on 350°F.
2. Cook onions in large skillet

- sprayed with cooking spray on medium-high heat 5 to 7 min. or until crisp-tender, stirring frequently.
3. Add cream cheese, broth and sugar; cook 5 to 7 min. or until cream cheese is melted and sauce is well blended, stirring frequently.
4. Place potatoes in 13x9 inch baking dish sprayed with cooking spray; cover with sauce.

5. Bake 45 min.
6. Combine cracker crumbs and nuts; sprinkle over potatoes.
7. Bake 10 min. or until potatoes are tender.
8. Serve warm.
9. Enjoy!

Healthy@Holmes Heroes 5K Team hits the Jackson area

From Staff Reports/Photos

This fall Healthy@Homes started a 5K Walking Team, Healthy@Homes Heroes, which includes employees from all three campuses. The walks will be at various locations throughout the school year.

The Healthy@Holmes team recently participated in the Mistletoe Market Place 5K on Nov. 7 in Jackson. The team also held a Maintain Don't Gain walk and potluck on Nov. 20 on the

Ridgeland Campus.

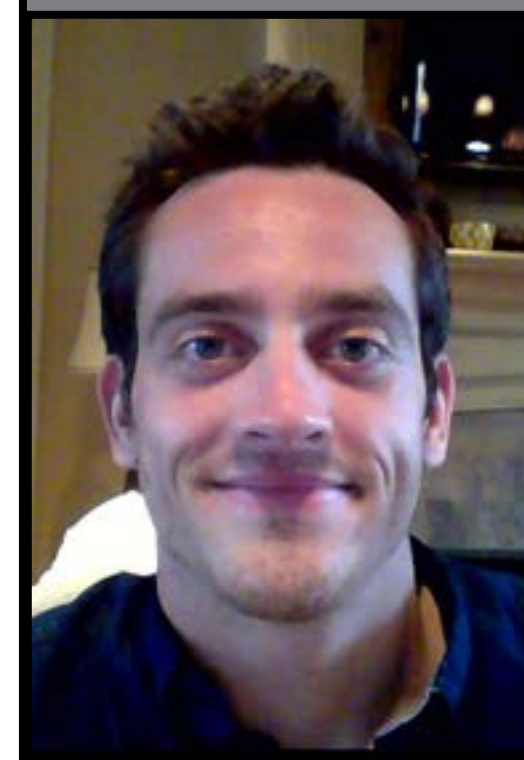
In order to be a part of the team, Healthy@Homes is asking that each member commit to at least two walks per semester.

The sponsors for each campus are Wyndy Peeples for Goodman, Kathryn Cox for Grenada, and Donna Alrich for Ridgeland.

Ridgeland- Donna Ahlrich dahlrich@holmescc.edu



Student Spotlight



Ricky Murray

Hometown: Olpe, Kansas

Holmes Campus: Ridgeland

Major: Radiology

Post Holmes plans: My plan is after I get my AA degree at Holmes, I will enroll into a four-year program at Mississippi State or Millsaps.

Hobbies: My hobbies include reading sci-fi/fantasy books and playing golf.

Special Talent/Skill: A skill of mine is that I am good at MMO [massively multiplayer online] video games.



Pictured Pictured are (left to right) Ridgeland residents McCrea and Paul Shelton, CPA, with Holmes Community College Career Technical Counselor Allison DeWeese at the Mayor's Fun Walk in Ridgeland on Oct. 21. The Sheltons are longtime supporters of Holmes, and Paul, a 1958 Holmes graduate, was recognized with the Distinguished Service Award at the college's 2012 Homecoming celebration. DeWeese represented Healthy@Holmes at the walk,

Ridgeland High all-around athlete commits to Lady Bulldogs

From Staff Reports/Photos



Britain Welzien has committed to the Holmes Community College Lady Bulldogs soccer team for the 2016-2017 school year. Photo credit: Jan Richardson

Holmes Community College Lady Bulldogs soccer team is excited to announce that Ridgeland High School (RHS) athletic standout Britain Welzien has committed to the team for 2016-2017. Welzien met with Holmes Head Women’s Soccer Coach James “Gleddy” Gledhill in July, and made her commitment in September.

“I’m delighted that Britain will be playing at Holmes next fall,” Coach Gledhill said. “I first coached her when she was a 12-year-old playing club soccer at Jackson Futbol Club. I know Britain will bring strong leadership to our program along with a wealth of soccer knowledge and experience of playing at a high level.”

Welzien is no ordinary female athlete. Her success on the soccer field led Ridgeland Head Coach Kenny Burton to recruit her to kick for the football team. Coach Burton happened to catch her making field goals while

playing around one day after soccer practice, and although was half serious at the time, told her she should join the team.

“I see the ball go in, didn’t really pay that much attention, and it was her kicking the football,” Coach Burton told WJTV News. “And about two minutes later, I heard another solid thump, which is what you want to hear as a coach. I turn around and look and it was her. She was hitting them PAT’s right down the middle. So I stopped what I was doing with the rest of the guys and watched her.”

The 18-year-old soccer star and high school football sensation has been playing soccer for 11 years. She is ambidextrous; a rare player who considers both her left and right foot to be dominant. Welzien plays defense in soccer, so playing kicker has given her the opportunity to be in the goal-scoring position in football. She is very accurate from the extra point placement, and her range is approximately 35 yards.

In addition to keeping busy with football and soccer, Welzien is also a cheerleader, flute player, honor student, and golfer. RHS offers its athletes the option to go “split-time,” which allows her to go to half the practices since she is involved in multiple sports. She has made school history for the RHS Titans, and Holmes Community College looks forward to adding her to the Lady Bulldog soccer roster next fall.

For more information about Holmes soccer and other athletics, visit www.holmesathletics.com.

To learn more about Britain, check out the newest edition of Ridgeland Life magazine at http://www.ridgelandms.org/wp-content/uploads/RidgelandLife_Fall2015.pdf.

Lady Bulldogs Basketball Team defeats Hinds, 48-44

From Staff Reports/Photos



The Holmes Community College Lady Bulldogs went to 3-2 on the season at home Nov. 19 with a 48-44 win over the Hinds Community College Lady Bulldogs.

Holmes hosts Southern University-Shreveport on Saturday at 2 p.m.

The team will then travel to LSU-Eunice on Monday, Nov. 30 at 5:30 p.m.

Holmes trailed Hinds 7-6 after the first quarter and then went up 28-22 at halftime. Holmes 38-33 after the third quarter and then were outscored 11-10 in the fourth quarter but hung on for the win.

Aja Williams led the Lady Bulldogs with 13 points. Tiffany Jones had 11 rebounds for the Lady Bulldogs.

Holmes shot 33 percent from the floor, 12.5 percent from the three-point line and 27.8 percent from the free throw line.

Men’s Basketball gets 82-71 win over Hinds

From Staff Reports/Photos



Southern University-Shreveport tomorrow in Goodman at 4 p.m.

Holmes led 43-32 at halftime, and both teams tied at 39 in the second half.

Macon finished the first half with 26 points. He shot 8-of-15 from the floor including 5-of-10 from the three-point line and 18-of-21 from the free throw line. He also pulled in 11 rebounds. Dietrich Taylor was the only other Bulldog in double figures with 12.

As a team, the Bulldogs shot 46 percent from the floor, 41.2 percent from the three-point line and 82.9 percent from the free throw line.

Holmes Community College sophomore guard Daryl Macon lit the Hinds Community College Bulldogs at home Nov. 19 with 39 points shooting nearly 50 percent from the floor and 85 percent from the free throw line as Holmes won the non-division contest, 82-71.

With the win, the Bulldogs move to 6-0 on the season. Holmes hosts

skills. Once he gets better on those things it’ll be great for him.”

Having nine players return for this season, Macon expects the Bulldogs to have a great season. “We are playing as a team and trusting each other,” Macon said. “We are working hard in practice. We still have to stay focused because it’s early and have a long season ahead of us. We have a lot more experience than the other teams and should do a lot better this season.”

Harrison said Macon is well-known throughout the MACJC and won’t be able to sneak up on teams. “He has to be a smarter player obviously because he’s not sneaking up on anyone,” Harrison said. “Everyone knows who he is. He’s a household name in the state.

“He has to take what the defense gives him. If he can score, score. I want him making more plays for his teammates. If everybody is clicking on all cylinders, you just can’t just key-in on him. Just like the other night when he got into foul trouble. The guys still played. We demand a lot from him and all the guys as well. Those guys understand they have a role to play. Everybody has to do their role. They take coaching and do what we ask them to do. So far it’s worked out. We still have a long season to

North women, South men win All-Star games hosted by Holmes

From Staff Reports/Photos



Pictured is sophomore Lady Bulldog **Byankuh Shelby** playing for North Division women.

The North Division women defeated the South Division women 2-1 and the South Division men defeated the North Division men 5-3 here Saturday in the third annual MACJC All-Star Soccer Games at Holmes Community College.

In the women’s match, Abigail Morales of Northwest and Cara Harrison of Hinds each had a goal in the

match for the North Division while Sarah Fortenberry of Pearl River had the only goal for the South.

In the men’s match, Jacob Johnson of East Central had one goal while Juan Flores of Holmes had two goals for the North while Jordan Parron, Gio Freitas and Juan Salazar of Gulf Coast each had a goal and Chance Bourdene of Pearl River had two goals for the



Pictured are sophomore Bulldogs **Jaylon George, Alexis Alonso-Gaytan, Juan Flores, Hunter Barras, and Geovanni Garcia.**

South.

Madison Parham of Itawamba was named the North Division MVP on the women’s side along with Lyndsey Lee of Pearl River. On the men’s side, Juan Flores of Holmes was named the North Division MVP along with Chance Bourdene of Pearl River.

Along with Flores, Hunter Barras and Alexis Alonso-Gaytan suited up

for the North while Geovanni Garcia and Jaylon George played for the South Division. For the North women, Holmes was represented by Logan Yeatman, Byankuh Shelby and Dominique Butler.

Williams signs with CSU Bakersfield

From Staff Reports/Photos



California State University Bakersfield’s dedication to Holmes Community College sophomore guard Aja Williams over the last few years in the recruiting process paid off for them Nov. 11 as she inked with the Roadrunner basketball program. CSU Bakersfield, who finished the 2014-15 with a record of 23-9 and 11-3 in the Western Athletic Conference, made an appearance

in the Women’s NIT last season. On their 2015-16 schedule, they will face nationally-ranked South Carolina, Oregon State and Arizona State.

“I decided to sign with Cal. State Bakersfield because throughout high school and Juco they have remained loyal by constantly checking on me to make sure I’m doing good in school and on the court,” Williams said. “Out of all they schools they stayed by my

side through everything. They also have a history of sending girls off to play overseas.”

“I’m an all-around guard,” Williams said of their pursuing her. “I can bring a lot to the table. I play differently than a lot of girls on the west coast.”

In 2014-15, Williams averaged 18 points per game and helped lead the Lady Bulldogs to postseason play in both the MACJC and Region XXIII Tournaments. She pulled in 130 rebounds and had 2.7 assists per game and 1.3 steals per game. So far this season, Williams is 10th in the NJ-CAA with 23.3 points per game. She is shooting 50.9 percent from the floor and is averaging 4.3 rebounds per game and 1.7 steals.

Williams said she’s worked hard on her game since last year. “I’ve improved since last year,” she said. “I am still working to improve my defense and reduce my turnovers.”

Even though the Lady Bulldogs are

1-2 on the season, Williams expects this year’s team to have a great year. “I think we will go all the way and compete,” Williams said. “Even if we don’t win, we want compete and show that we have the talent to compete against any team. We have amazing girls this year. We just have to come together as a team.”

“I’m very proud of Aja,” Holmes Head Coach Jamilah Andrews said. “She has worked diligently on improving her all-around game and has committed herself to doing well in the classroom.”

“It makes me very proud to see my players advance to the next level,” she said. “Again, they work extremely hard. We as coaches also work exceptionally hard in preparing the girls for the transition. Seeing them mature into young ladies and further their career means a lot.”

MDOT Awards STEM Scholarship to Holmes baseball player

Submitted Report/Photo



Pictured are (left to right) MDOT Human Resources Division Training Manager and Scholarship Coordinator **Terry Winstead, Jalyn Baker,** and Goodman Campus Director **Andy Wood.**

The Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) has awarded a \$500 scholarship to Jalyn J. Baker, a baseball player at Holmes Community College in Goodman.

Baker, a resident of Clinton, is pursuing a career in architectural engineering. The MDOT scholarship is awarded to students studying STEM (Science, Engineering, Technology and Math) toward a career path in transportation engineering, and majoring in computer science, urban or community planning, or other transportation related technology fields.

“Supporting future generations of transportation professionals will help advance Mississippi’s multi-modal transportation infrastructure,” said Transportation Commissioner Dick Hall. “MDOT’s scholarship program

acknowledges the need to support educational opportunities for students in these fields.”

Funded in support by the Southeastern Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (SASHTO), the MDOT scholarship is awarded to help defray education expenses, which may include academic fees, tuition and books, room and board, and other related expenses. This is the 12th year of the scholarship program. Student eligibility is determined by GPA and a desire to pursue a career path in transportation STEM.

For more information on MDOT scholarships, visit GoMDOT.com.

Hard work pays off as Macon inks with the Razorbacks

From Staff Reports/Photos



Holmes Community College sophomore guard Daryl Macon has picked up this season right where he left off in last year’s NJCAA Elite Eight finish and by doing so has landed him a Division I scholarship with the University of Arkansas Razorbacks for next season.

Last season, Macon averaged 23 points, 4.1 rebounds and 3.1 assists per game. He shot 46.5 percent from the arc, 36.9 percent from beyond the arc and 88.5 percent from the foul line, which was fourth in the NJCAA. He was named the Region XXIII Player of the Year and was a NJCAA All-American.

Macon of Little Rock, Arkansas,

who is averaging over 23 points per game through five games of the 2015-16 campaign, made it official last week by signing with the Razorbacks.

“It was a fun process but at times it got annoying,” Macon said of the whole recruiting process. “I’m happy it’s over now so I can focus on school and the national championship.

“They need me to be an immediate impact with the team and score the ball,” he said of the Razorbacks. As far as his skill level, Macon said, “Scoring is number one, leadership is number two and defense is number three. I’m blessed. A lot of people don’t have that.”

Over 75 people attended Macon’s

signing day party last week in Little Rock, and he was glad to have support coming from all areas. “It always important to have people in your corner that support you and will always have your back,” Macon said. He thanked all of his basketball coaches. “All those coaches helped me get better at what I do now. I have to thank them because without them I don’t think I would be here right now.”

Macon was quick to thank his Holmes family. “The important thing is I have to thank my teammates,” Macon said. “They put up with me the whole year last year. Without them this would not have ever happened.”

Holmes Assistant Coach Jason Harrison said he’s proud of Macon’s timing and his choice. “It’s important because Daryl in a unique talent,” Harrison said. “He could fit in with any school in the country. That comes with a lot of heartache and phone calls. He made his decision and can focus back on school and leading us to a national championship.

“He’s a natural scorer,” Harrison added. Macon played point guard most of his life, but he grew seven inches later in life and transitioned to a shooting guard. “He’s a scorer so he needs to work on his defense and his leadership



The Growl Staff

Fall 2015



Miranda Burchfield

Hometown: Ethel

Major: Business Administration

Campus: Goodman

Future plans: To continue my education at a university.

About me: I am the current Miss Holmes Community College, a Holmes Ambassador, a member of Phi Theta Kappa, and the Horizons Yearbook Editor. I enjoy creative writing and photography.



Savannah Campbell

Hometown: Madison

Major: Nursing

Campus: Ridgeland

Future plans: I plan on going to USM or Holmes for nursing school. After that I plan on working in a hospital hopefully in a pediatric department.

About me: A native of the area, I graduated from Madison Central. I am a very outgoing person, and enjoy being around people at all times.



Angel Cooper

Hometown: Jackson

Major: Pre-Health

Campus: Ridgeland

Future Plans: I plan to enroll in the Holmes LPN program and continue on to an RN program afterward.

About me: I am a proud mother, wife, daughter, and sister. Since I was a little girl, it has always been my dream to be a nurse and to take care of ones who are in need. I am a hard-working student and mother, and rarely have free time, but when I do I enjoy spending time with family and friends. I also enjoy shopping; it is somewhat I like to think of as my therapy.



Joshua Dilmore

Hometown: Clinton

Major: English

Campus: Ridgeland

Future Plans: I plan on graduating Holmes before attending Mississippi College next fall to major in English. My ultimate goal is to earn a masters in English and teach on the college level.

About me: I am a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the Growl newspaper staff, and president of iCreate Creative Arts club. I work as a tutor in the writing center at Holmes, as well as a bookseller at Barnes and Noble Booksellers. In my off time, I enjoy reading, writing, painting, cooking, and watching movies - I am a huge movie buff! My biggest dream is to become a published and successful author.



Mason McAdory

Hometown:

Major: Kinesiology

Campus: Ridgeland

Future Plans: Finish my degree in kinesiology and then attend Physical Therapy school.

About Me: I love Ole Miss and Dallas Cowboy football. I also love to be outdoors.



Stephfon "Shay" Robinson

Hometown: Kosciusko

Major: Criminal Justice

Campus: Goodman

Future plans: To attend Ole Miss after graduation, and enroll in their NROTC program.

About me: I'm a former Kosciusko Whippet JV defensive end, varsity mid-linebacker. I'm quiet most of the time, although I'll talk openly with anybody, though I do shy away from directly starting a conversation with people I don't know.



Santia "Tia" Williams

Hometown: Jackson

Major: Pharmacy Tech

Campus: Ridgeland

Future plans: To find a job in pharmacy technology.

About me: I'm 26, and I'm the youngest of three other siblings. I don't have any children, I love to shop, I love to work and make my own money, and love to hang out with friends and family.

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