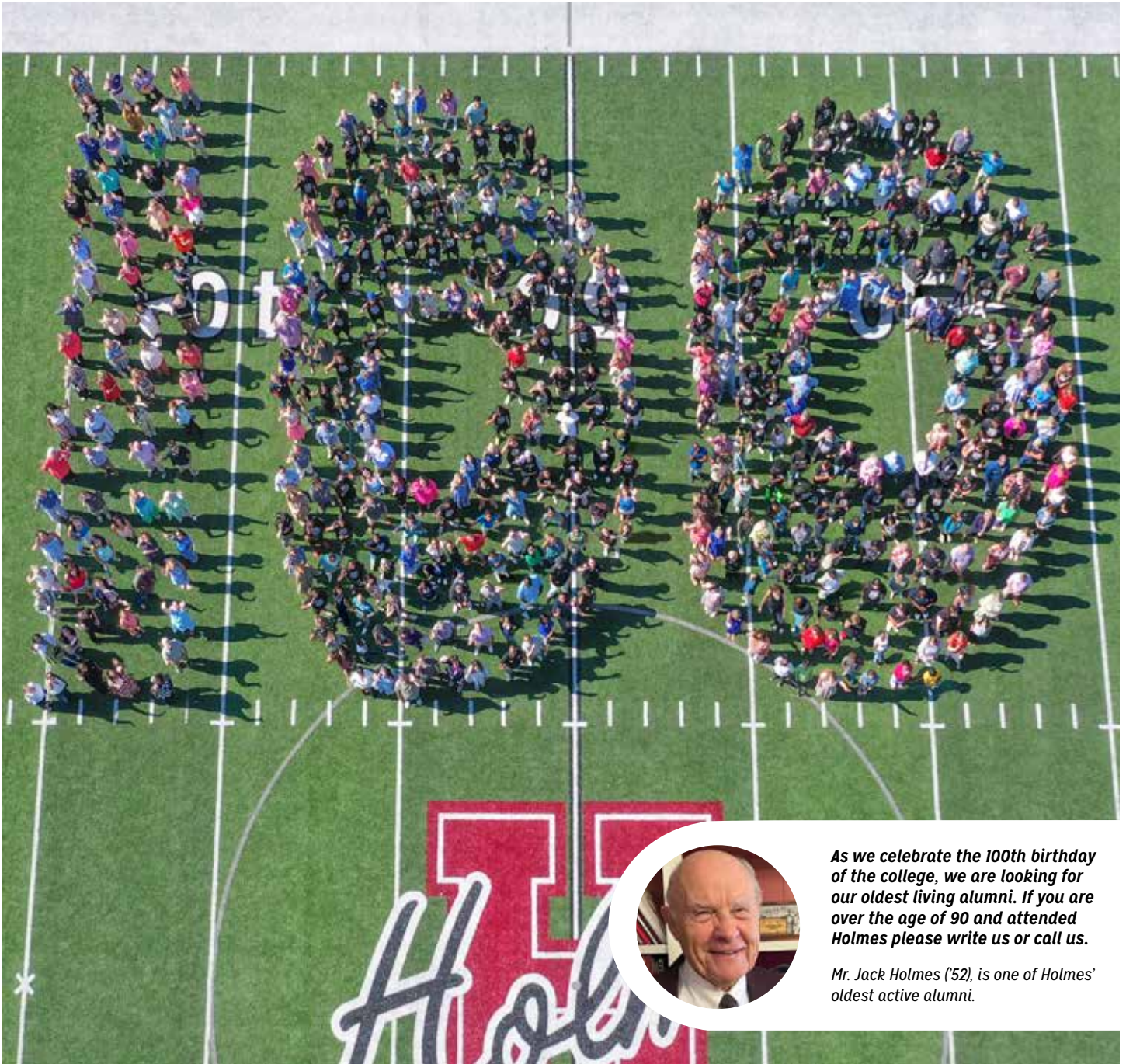


HOLMES COMMUNITY COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

PAW PRINTS

FALL 2025 | VOLUME 40 – ISSUE 2



As we celebrate the 100th birthday of the college, we are looking for our oldest living alumni. If you are over the age of 90 and attended Holmes please write us or call us.

Mr. Jack Holmes ('52), is one of Holmes' oldest active alumni.

As we celebrate the centennial anniversary of Holmes, we reflect on a century of academic excellence and college milestones. This monumental occasion invites us to honor our rich legacy and our alumni who have enriched communities worldwide. Let us celebrate our past achievements and also the bright future that lies ahead.

Alumni *Happenings*



1. SHOUTOUT TO OUR OWN SUPER-STARS Desmond Purnell and Jan Reid Bunch for their work at this year's Miss Mississippi Pageant. Purnell emceed while Bunch provided entertainment during the preliminaries and finals. Purnell played football for Holmes in the late 90s. Bunch served Holmes as an administrator, choir director and spearheaded the Holmes Connection!



2. THE 1975-1980 CLASSES celebrated a reunion at the Goodman Campus on July 19. Want to join in the fun? Start a reunion for your class! We can help you get in touch with old friends and host your event.



3. SPORTS HALL OF FAME honored past recipients at our 100-year gathering. Front Row (L to R): Alton Wright, Elton Wright, Randy Martin, Quinby Morgan, Clarence Harmon, Coach Sheila Hickman. Back Row (L to R): Tony Stanford, Martin Latiker, Candice Parish, Monkey Grantham, Elizabeth Ellis, Michael Ellis, and Coach Hugh Shurden. Back Row: Tommy Worthey, Keith Gray, Reatha Greer, Coach Ron Aldy, Wil Browning, Coach Joe Gant, Derek Starling, Kimberly Wingard, and Clint Thompkins.



4. HOLMES MENS SOCCER HOSTED ITS ANNUAL ALUMNI SOCCER GAME August 16, 2025 at the Ridgeland Campus. We are proud of each of you and the way you have grown up to be great Christians, husbands and fathers. Thank you for taking the time to speak with our current players after the game. Please keep in touch and we hope to see you back at future alumni games.

Alumni Association *Awards*



**Candice
Edwards Parish, '96**
Alumna of the Year

Holmes Community College will honor Candice Edwards Parish as its 2025 Alumna of the Year, the highest award given by the Holmes Alumni Association. She will be recognized during the college's annual Homecoming celebration.

A Holmes County native and 1996 graduate of Holmes, Parish has spent over 20 years in nursing, currently serving as a family nurse Practitioner with Premier Medical Group in Goodman and Kosciusko. She holds a bachelor's from the University of Southern Mississippi and a master's from the University of Mississippi.

Parish is active in the community, serving on local nonprofit boards and participating in international medical missions. In 2013, she was inducted into the Holmes Sports Hall of Fame for basketball and softball.



Jacob Black, '08
Young Alumnus of the Year

Jacob Black, a 2008 graduate of Holmes, has been selected as the Young Alumnus of the Year.

Black, originally from McCool, completed the pre-law curriculum at Holmes and played football during his time here. As a sophomore offensive tackle, he was named Second Team All-State. He earned a Juris Doctorate from Mississippi College and currently serves as the executive deputy director for programs at the Mississippi Department of Human Services.

He previously served as president of the Holmes Alumni Association and continues to serve on the college's Alumni Association Executive Committee.

Black said he chose Holmes because it provided a supportive environment where he could play football and prepare for his career.

Black and his wife, Ryan, also a Holmes graduate, met on the Goodman Campus in 2007 and credit the college for bringing them together. They now live in Gluckstadt with their two sons and daughter.



**Dr. Sidney
Wiggins Bondurant**
Distinguished Service Award

Dr. Sidney Bondurant will be awarded the Distinguished Service Award for his lifelong contributions to medicine, military service, and public leadership.

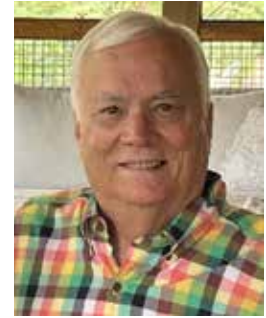
A Forest native, Dr. Bondurant earned his bachelor's from Mississippi State University and his medical degree from Vanderbilt University. He served as a U.S. Navy medical officer during the Vietnam War and retired from the Naval Reserve as a lieutenant commander in 1993.

His civic service includes time as a Mississippi state representative (2004–2012), reserve deputy sheriff, historical society president and Veterans Affairs adviser to Governor Phil Bryant.

In 2012, he established the Bondurant Family Scholarship at Holmes to support local students.

Dr. Bondurant continues to contribute to the medical field through ongoing research and journal publications.

He and his wife, Aida, live in Madison and have two children and three grandchildren.



**Lt. Col. Norman Hitchcock,
USMC (Ret.), '72**
Distinguished Veteran Award

Retired Marine Lt. Col. Norman Hitchcock, a Grenada native and 1972 Holmes graduate, is being honored for his 29-year military career marked by leadership, global deployments, and academic achievement.

After earning degrees from Delta State, Old Dominion, and the Naval War College, Hitchcock served in the U.S. Marine Corps as an artillery officer, commanding Marines in Europe, the Pacific and during humanitarian missions in Cuba. He also led the Marine Embassy Security Battalion, overseeing 250 Marines in 26 global locations.

Hitchcock held staff roles in Hawaii, Spain and Camp Lejeune, and served as a professor at the Naval War College and Old Dominion University.

Since retiring, he and his wife, Gretchen, reside in Sparta, where he remains active in his church, community, and Masonic Lodge.

Hitchcock is remembered at Holmes as "Friendliest" of his class and continues to embody a spirit of service and leadership.

October 23, 2025

HOMECOMING 2025



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

8:30 AM VISUAL ARTS SHOW

View art from Holmes' Visual Arts Students in McMorrough Library. Library closes at kick-off.

9 AM BASEBALL / SOFTBALL HIGHLIGHT

Watch as our teams hold practices. Alumni and families are encouraged to attend.

9 AM CAREER & TRANSFER FAIR

Grow with us and explore your future! Our career and college transfer fair is for all Holmes students in the Grove, hosted by Academic Programs and Career Technical Education.

9:15 AM WOMEN'S BASKETBALL OPEN PRACTICE

The Lady Bulldogs kick off their season with an open practice. All are invited to visit the newly renovated Frank Branch Coliseum for a glimpse of what you'll see this season.

9:30 HEALTH FAIR

Hosted by the Holmes practical nursing program. PN students will talk to the community about health issues and perform health screenings.

10 AM MAJOR'S TRUCK EXPO

Come to the Chapel parking lot to check out the big trucks that Holmes' Workforce Development programs use for training.

10 AM HONOREE RECOGNITION

We will honor recipients of Alumnus of the Year, the Distinguished Service Award, Young Alumnus of the Year, and Veteran of the Year in McDaniel Auditorium.

10:20 AM COACHMEN & CONNECTION! PERFORMANCE

Join us in McDaniel Auditorium to watch the Coachmen & Holmes Connection! - an energetic pop ensemble that loves entertaining on stage.

11 AM FUN & GAMES IN THE GROVE

Fun activities for all ages!

11 AM LUNCH

Get your fill at Carroll Cafeteria, the Lorange Student Center, or one of the food trucks in front of McDaniel Hall.

NOON BASKETBALL ALUMNI GAME

Frank Branch Coliseum livens up as former basketball players put on a show.

12:15 PM CONCERT CHORALE PERFORMANCE

The Chorale performs music from all periods and styles in the Chapel on the Hill.

1 PM TAILGATING EXPERIENCE

Set up a tent near the practice field! Gather your class, department, or Alumni group and tailgate with us. Feel free to unload your items until 1 p.m. then loading station will be closed.

1:45 PM ANNUAL ALUMNI MEETING

If you are an alumnus, we would love for you to join us at the Tailgate area in the Alumni Tent.

2 PM PEP RALLY AT TAILGATE AREA

Get fired up with the cheerleaders and band as we prepare for the big game.

2:30 PM BAND ENTERS STADIUM

2:45 PM HONOREES RECOGNIZED ON FOOTBALL FIELD

2:55 PM NATIONAL ANTHEM

Performed by the HCC Chorale

3 PM KICK-OFF!

3:05 PM MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT STARTS ON MAIN STAGE

HALF-TIME HOMECOMING COURT

Presentation of Homecoming Court and the crowning of the 2025 Homecoming Queen.

5:00 PM FEATURE ACT ON THE MAIN STAGE

Holmes is proud to present our main act who will get people on their feet.



See homecoming details at

EVENTS.HOLMESCC.EDU/HOMECOMING

Tailgate info, food trucks, live music and more!



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: BRYAN LOVELACE, '11

Bryan Lovelace, a Benton native and former HCC football player, is now the general and purchasing manager at Davis Feed and Farm Supply in Yazoo City.

While at Holmes, Lovelace was an Engineering Technology student and a member of the Bulldog football team. After

Holmes, he transferred to Delta State University, where he played on a team that competed in the NCAA Division II Regional Playoffs. He completed his degree in environmental geoscience at Mississippi State University in 2015.

Following graduation, Lovelace began his career as a superintendent and project manager with Century Construction. He spent two years in the construction industry before returning home to help run his family's business, Davis Feed and Farm Supply.

Lovelace soon realized his true calling was helping people. Through his work in the agricultural supply industry, he has found deep purpose in supporting local farmers,

ranchers and families across the region.

Working in the family business has taught him how to communicate with a wide variety of people and meet them where they are—whether it's providing advice, offering a product solution or simply being a listening ear.

"While owning a business isn't always easy, there's nothing like it," Lovelace said. "You get to see it grow and develop into what you want it to be."

Lovelace is committed to running the business to the best of his ability—not just for today, but for the future. His hope is to one day see his children help run the store and expand it even further, carrying on the legacy for another generation.

He credits much of his success to the guidance of two important mentors—his father and his father-in-law—both of whom have played significant roles in shaping his personal and professional journey.

Lovelace is married to Kelsey and they are proud parents of four: Davis, age 3, and 9-month-old triplets Addy, Brewer and Barrett. He looks back on his time at Holmes as a formative chapter that helped prepare him for the challenges and rewards of both business and family life.



You are cordially invited to an

OPEN HOUSE

Hosted by
HOLMES ATHLETICS

Showcasing recent renovations to
Frank Branch Coliseum

OCTOBER 16, 2025 | 1:45 - 7:00 PM

(Come and go)

Holmes Community College
Goodman Campus



Foundation *Golf Tournament*

The Holmes Development Foundation hosted its annual golf tournament May 1, 2025 at Deerfield Golf Club in Canton, MS. Pictured are first place winners Team Precision Turf for Flight A, and Team Sunstar Insurance, for Flight B. Details for the 2026 tournament will be announced in the Spring.





Goodman / Ridgeland / Grenada
P.O. BOX 527, Goodman, MS 39079

Stay in touch! Helping you stay connected to Holmes Community College and to each other is what the HCC Alumni Association is all about. Update your contact information by sending an email to: kellard@holmescc.edu.



FACEBOOK

@holmesccmississippi
@HolmesCCAlumni
@HolmesAthletics



INSTAGRAM

@holmes_cc
@HolmesCCAlumni
@holmesathletics



OFFICIAL HASHTAG

#NoPlaceLikeHolmes



LINKTREE

linktr.ee/holmescc



LET'S ADD OUR NEW GRADUATES

At the 2025 commencement ceremony the college graduated 880 students and we would like to welcome all of them into the alumni association. Scan here to join!



HELP US MEET ONE OF OUR 100TH CELEBRATION GOALS

If you have been alumni for a while and want to step up, we need mentors from the workforce in all professions. Sign up here.

From the *Alumni President*

Another year is upon us here at Holmes and we are excited and looking forward to all that it has in store. The Alumni Association is committed to the success of Holmes and to the alumnae of our great college. Our role as alumni association is to create, enhance, and support the connections between alumni and the College.



The Alumni Association counts on your support to arrange and organize events throughout each year. We host class reunions, Sports Hall of Fame, and more. Currently, we are hard at work planning our largest yearly event, homecoming. We welcome you to join us at our 100-year homecoming celebration Thursday, October 23rd. Join in and help foster connections between the alumni association and you, our alumni.

It has been my honor to serve as the president of the Holmes Alumni Association this year. I encourage every new graduate to join the association and get involved. Join our online Alumni Community, organize a class reunion, serve on the alumni association executive committee, or become a student mentor.

The Alumni Association provides an excellent avenue for each of its members to give back to Holmes and to get involved with the bright future of our beloved alma mater. We continue to work tirelessly to ensure that there truly is no place like Holmes!

Matt McCrory, Alumni Association President