

## *ECCC Hall of Fame Honorees*



East Central Community College recently announced inductees to the 2014 Hall of Fame, the highest honor a student can receive at the College. They include (from left) Taylor Gressett of Chunky, Conor Bell of Carthage, Allie Killens of Saltillo, Matthew Evans of Forest, Mary Margaret Bailey of Philadelphia and Joseph Aulds of Decatur. The honorees were announced during Awards Day activities held May 1, 2014 in Huff Auditorium. Their photos will hang in the Hall of Fame Collection in the lobby of Huff Auditorium.

## *No Increase in Tuition for 2014-15*

Tuition will remain the same for the upcoming school year at East Central Community College, announced ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

Dr. Stewart made the announcement following the May 13, 2014, meeting of the ECCC Board of Trustees, which approved his request not to raise costs to attend the two-year institution this year.

His recommendation not to raise tuition and general student fees is based on the proposed FY2015 E&G Budget, which is built upon a projected increase in state appropriations and student enrollment.

Dr. Stewart stated, "The 2014 Mississippi legislature increased appropriations to community colleges by 4.6 percent which is proving very helpful in our goal to maintain our current charge for tuition. We appreciate their continued support of our college and the community college system."

"In addition, based on preliminary enrollment reports, the College budgeted for an anticipated enrollment increase of 100 students in FY2015," said Dr. Stewart. He noted that contingencies within the budget have been incorporated should the enrollment increase not materialize. He said the College will monitor actual enrollment figures and make changes as needed.

Dr. Stewart also explained that in an effort to address an action plan in 2020 Vision regarding coherent, structured educational pathways, several classes within Workforce Education programs will be providing opportunities for students to earn stackable credentials through national certification testing. Therefore, the College is planning an increase in fees associated with certification testing in selected Workforce Education

classes.

East Central, which serves Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties, offers one of the lowest tuition and fee schedules among the state's 15 community and junior colleges.

Tuition for in-state students will remain at \$990 per semester. Students who reside out of state or out of country will continue to pay an additional \$1,050 per semester.

Dormitory fees remain at \$675 per semester for all dorms except Barber Hall, where the fee is \$775 per semester.

The two meal plans offered at EC will also remain the same. A five-day meal plan costs \$790 per semester. Students who prefer a seven-day meal plan will pay \$970 per semester.

Dr. Stewart added, "We hope that our decision to not increase tuition and fees will allow more individuals to take advantage of the wonderful educational opportunities East Central has to offer. We are working hard in every aspect of college operations to be viewed locally as the preferred gateway to higher education and training for residents of east central Mississippi due to our focus on students and their success and our commitment to communities and their development."

Several orientation/registration sessions are scheduled this summer for new and transfer students planning to attend the fall 2014 semester.

The first session will be held Saturday, June 7. Additional sessions are scheduled Friday, June 20; Friday, July 11; and Friday, August 8.

Fall classes start Monday, August 18, 2014.

For more information, contact ECCC Student Services, at 601-635-6205 or email [rlee@ecc.edu](mailto:rlee@ecc.edu).



# ECCC Students Named to All-Mississippi Academic Teams

East Central Community College sophomores Mary Margaret Bailey of Philadelphia and Jacob Oliver of Little Rock were recently named to the 2014 All-Mississippi Community College Academic Teams.

They were honored with other outstanding community and junior college students during events held March 5, 2014, in Jackson. Activities began with special recognition by the Mississippi Legislature at the State Capitol followed by an awards luncheon at the Jackson Convention Complex. State Senator Terry C. Burton of Newton served as master of ceremonies at the luncheon.

The All-Mississippi Community College Academic Team recognizes scholarly achievements and leadership accomplishments of students enrolled in the state's two-year colleges.

Bailey was one of 15 students named to the First Team and will receive a \$1,000 scholarship. Recipients of the prestigious honor compete for placement on the national All-USA Community College Academic Team.

Bailey, a President's List Scholar with a perfect 4.0 grade point average, holds various leadership positions and is involved in numerous campus activities.

She serves as president of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges; is co-president of the Warrior Corps, a select group of students selected to represent the college at recruiting endeavors and special events; and serves as sophomore class vice president.

Bailey is also involved in the Baptist Student Union. She serves as Women's Bible Study Leader, Council member and assists with publicity.

She is also a member of the President's Council and cheerleading squad.

Bailey was selected Maid of Honor on the 2013 Homecoming Court and was recently named to Who's Who Among Students in American Community and Junior Colleges.

She is also involved in numerous community service projects. She served as assistant art instructor for the Summer of Arts Program and



*Mary Margaret Bailey*



*Jacob Oliver*

was a camp counselor for the Centri-Kid Church Group. In addition, she also served as director of Christmas plays.

Bailey is a 2012 honor graduate of Philadelphia High School.

Her parents are David and Dee Dee Bailey of Philadelphia.

Bailey plans to pursue a nursing degree at Mississippi University for Women.

Oliver was named to the All-Mississippi Academic Second Team.

He is also a President's List Scholar with a perfect 4.0 grade point average.

Oliver serves as vice president of leadership for Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa and is vice president of the Astronomy Club. In addition, he serves as secretary/treasurer of Alpha Alpha Epsilon, "The

Engineers."

He is also a member of the Baptist Student Union and Environmental Club.

He was recently named to Who's Who Among Students in American Community and Junior Colleges.

Oliver is a 2012 honor graduate of Newton County High School.

His parents are Amy and Brian Oliver of Little Rock.

Oliver plans to major in chemical engineering at Mississippi State University in Starkville.

The All-Mississippi Academic Team program is coordinated by *The Clarion-Ledger*, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges and the Mississippi Community College Board.

Students named to the All-Mississippi Academic Team compete for placement on the national All-USA Community College Academic Team, sponsored by Follett Higher Education Group, presented by *USA Today* and additional support provided by the American Association of Community Colleges and Phi Theta Kappa.

This year, more than 1,800 nominations were received for the All-USA Community College Academic Team competition.

Mississippi ranks in the top six states in the nation having students named to the All-USA Community College Academic Team.

## ACCREDITATION

East Central Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award the Associate Degree. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of East Central Community College

## NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

East Central Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age or qualified disability in its educational programs and activities, employment practices, or admissions processes. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies of East Central Community College:

Inquiries regarding compliance with Title VI, ADEA, and Title IX is coordinated by Dr. Teresa Houston, Vice President for Instruction, Walter Arno Vincent Administration Building, Room 171, Post Office Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, Phone: 601-635-6202, Fax: 601-635-4011, [thouston@eccc.edu](mailto:thouston@eccc.edu).

Inquiries regarding compliance with Section 504 and ADA is coordinated by Dr. Randall Lee, Vice President for Student Services, Eddie M. Smith Student Union, Room 201, Post Office Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, Phone: 601-635-6375, Fax: 601-635-3247, [rllee@eccc.edu](mailto:rllee@eccc.edu).

*The EC Express, a publication for high school juniors and seniors in ECCC's five-county district (Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties), is published three times a year (December, February and May) by the Office of Public Information with assistance provided by the Office of the Vice President for Student Services.*





## ECCC Class Favorites

Freshman and sophomore classes for 2013-14 were announced following an election by the student body association. Those elected and their respective high schools, include: (front row, from left) freshman class favorites MaChasity Leflore, Leake Central; Warner Parkes, Nanih Waiya; Hannah Mitchell, Newton County; Marko Franks, Greene County; Emily Cook, Leake Central; Robert Strong, Forest; Mallory Turner, West Lauderdale; and Tyler Pace, Newton; and (back row, from left) sophomore class favorites Allie Killens, Saltillo; Aaron Brown, Newton County; Payton Smith, Scott Central; Conor Bell, Leake Central; Lindsey McCool, Winston Academy; Clint Walker, Newton County Academy and Kara Beth Johnson, Morton. Not pictured is Sawyer Williams, Porters Chapel Academy, El Dorado, Ark.

## eLearning Offers Options for EC Students

Not an early bird?  
Can't make it to class at 8:00a.m.?  
Working nights?

East Central Community College understands that not all students can attend courses through the traditional classroom setting.

EC offers hundreds of online courses each Fall, Spring, and Summer through the Mississippi Virtual Community College (MSVCC), a consortium of 15 Mississippi Community Colleges that offers distance education courses.

Through the use of the Internet, students have the opportunity to complete courses from home, at work, or on the go.

Whether one completes an entire Associate's degree online or completes just a few courses, EC's commitment to student success will ensure students receive the same services and support in online courses as one would coming to campus.

Register today in an online course! EC Online: Excellence with Class anytime, anywhere.

For more information, contact Dr. Krista LeBrun, Dean of eLearning Education, 601-635-6322. The email address is [klebrun@eccc.edu](mailto:klebrun@eccc.edu).



## Buckley Named MACJC Softball Player of the Year



*Ty Buckley*

Ty Buckley's success at the plate did not go unnoticed as the former East Central Community College fast-pitch softball standout was recently named MACJC Softball Player of the Year.

Buckley led the nation in home runs through most the 2014 campaign and finished tied with two other players with 20 round-trippers. She posted a .408 batting average and collected 66 RBIs in helping lead the Lady Diamond Warriors to the post-season playoff series en route to a 33-16 record.

Buckley also received NJCAA All-Region 23 and MACJC All-State honors and is an NJCAA All-American nominee.

The former Neshoba Central High School standout was also named the Lady Diamond Warriors' most valuable player and received the Most Outstanding Offense Award.

Kristin Chaney, who completed her second year as head coach, said Buckley is obviously

most deserving of all her honors.

"Ty is an outstanding young lady who has accomplished so much throughout her career here at EC," said Chaney. "She has taken everything in stride and remained humble. I was very fortunate to coach a player with Ty's athletic ability and also with her work ethic and personality. She is one of the greatest to ever come through this program. She definitely left her mark at EC and will definitely be missed."

EC qualified for the post-season by finishing fourth in the MACJC South Division with a 17-11 mark. The Lady Diamond Warriors completed season action by dropping a best-of-three series to the home standing Itawamba Community College Lady Indians, the top seed in the MACJC North Division.

Members of Coach Chaney's staff include graduate assistant Courtney Nunn and volunteer assistant Kacie Buckley.

## ECCC Newspaper Staff Receives Awards

East Central Community College's student newspaper, *The Tom-Tom*, was among the top student newspapers in the state recognized during the 2014 O.C. McDavid Journalism Conference held March 27, 2014 at the Mississippi Craft Center in Ridgeland.

East Central students earned 15 awards in the Mississippi Press Association's Better Newspaper Contest in the Community and Junior College Division, including second place in the general excellence award, the top award granted for student newspapers in the community college division for the state.

*The Tom-Tom* also received two first place, five additional second place, five third place and two honorable mention awards in the competition. In the Better Newspaper Competition, members of *The Tom-Tom* staff earned the following awards:

- A first place finish for May 2013 graduate Jessica Barnett of Forest and sophomore Conor Bell of Carthage, Best Spot News or Investigative Package;
- A first place award for Opinions Editor Will Stoke of Philadelphia, Best General Interest Column;
- Bell was recognized with a second place award for Best General Interest Column;
- A second place finish for May 2013 graduate and former *Tom-Tom* editor Adreonna Seger of Lawrence, Best Feature Story;
- Sophomore Design Editor Payton Smith of Forest was awarded a second place award for Best Layout & Design;
- A third place finish for sophomore Claire Griffin of Decatur, Best Cartoon;
- Sophomore Candice Stewart of Morton was recognized with a third place award for Best Feature Photograph;
- A third place award for May 2013 graduate Emily Marler of Morton for Best Sports Feature;
- Honorable mention awards for Barnett, Best Spot Photograph and Best Sports Feature.
- The *Tom-Tom* staff also received two additional second place honors for Best Single Advertisement and Best Front Page and two third place honors for Best Single Advertisement and Best Web site.

ECCC Publications Coordinator Gennie Phillips of Forest serves as adviser.



Displaying various awards received at the O.C. McDavid Journalism Conference are newspaper staff members DeeJay Rolison of Hickory, editor Madison Herrington of Union and Dominick Fields of Forest; (second row, from left) cartoonist Claire Griffin of Decatur, Conor Bell of Carthage, opinions editor Will Stokes of Philadelphia, Candice Stewart of Morton and Madison Barnett, Noxapater; and (back row, from left) design editor Payton Smith of Forest, Ashley Bozeman of Decatur and Kimberly Harrison of Forest.



# Dungy Visit Highlights EC Senior Day

Former NFL head football coach Tony Dungy (at right, top photo) shared his message with more than 1,000 area high school seniors during Senior Day activities held Friday, March 28, at East Central Community College. During his inspirational message, Coach Dungy told the special campus visitors “to believe in themselves...believe and trust in the Lord...and don’t be afraid to break away from the crowd.” He also stressed the importance of setting and achieving goals. In addition, Coach Dungy told the high school seniors “to learn how to bounce back from disappointments.” Coach Dungy was on campus prior to serving as keynote speaker later that day for the ECCC-sponsored, “Laying the Foundation: An Evening with Coach Tony Dungy,” at the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia. Coach Dungy retired from coaching after leading the Indianapolis Colts to the 2007 Super Bowl championship. He currently serves as an analyst for NBC’s “Football Night in America.” He is also the #1 New York Times best-selling author of “Quiet Strength: The Principles, Practices, and Priorities of a Winning Life” and “Uncommon Marriage: Learning about Lasting Love and Overcoming Life’s Obstacles Together.”

At right, a few of the more than 1,000 area high school seniors attending Senior Day activities are shown attending an Information Showcase in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. The showcase was an opportunity for students to learn more about the college’s academic, career-technical, health-related and athletic programs, clubs and organizations, and other offerings. The college’s Jazz Band, Ac’cents Show Choir and Collegians provided entertainment.



## 2014 Warrior Football Schedule

Aug. 28	MS Delta	Away	7 p.m.
Sept. 4	Coahoma	Away	7 p.m.
Sept. 11	Gulf Coast	Home	6:30 p.m.
Sept. 18	Holmes	Home	6:30 p.m.
Sept. 25	Co-Lin	Away	7 p.m.

Oct. 2	Hinds	Away	6:30 p.m.
Oct. 11	Jones*	Home	2:30 p.m.
Oct. 18	Southwest	Away	5 p.m.
Oct. 23	Pearl River	Home	6:30 p.m.

\*Homecoming



## ECCC's *Shrek the Musical* Cast

At right are cast members for the East Central Community College ENCORE production of *Shrek the Musical* presented April 7-12 in the Vickers Fine Arts Center auditorium. The talented cast included (in front) Chandler Smith (as Shrek) of Philadelphia; (first row, from left) Bristol Buffington, El Paso, Texas; Jordan Lovorn, Louisville; Mackenzie Gannon, Decatur; Annslee Calhoun, Lake; McCoy Compton, Forest; Karise Parkman, Lake; Claire Griffin and Alana Kron, both of Decatur; Cara Jackson, Louisville; and Emily Cook, Carthage; (second row, from left) DeeJay Rolison, Conehatta; Charles Taylor, Philadelphia; Brianna Parkman, Lake; Anna Girling, Carthage; Courtney Tillman, Decatur; Tallie Johnston, Lake; Leah Ferguson, Philadelphia; Hannah Robinson, Union; Georgia Doner, Bailey; and Hailey Mitchell, Meridian;



Gloriana Latham and Kara Beth Johnson, both of Morton; Kayla Covington, Nanih Waiya; Emilee Cox and Kelsey Cox, both of Forest; Kasey Logan, Lake; Laney Frasier, Carthage; Hannah Brown, Decatur; Hailey Moore, Carthage; Haleigh West, Hickory; Sarah Hall, Philadelphia; Danielle Gregory, Little Rock; and Kara Yates, Morton; and (fourth row, from left) David Wilson, Collinsville; Dominick Fields, Forest; Sam Lovorn, Philadelphia; Ryan Godwin, Newton; Zach Peden, Philadelphia; Tate Emmons, Lake; David Fortenberry, Philadelphia; Jonathan Hodge, Lake; Kirk Griffin, Union; Ian Lanthrip, Forest; Conor Bell, Carthage; Clint Walker, Newton; Nathan Williams, Union; and Houston Martin III, Edinburg. Not pictured are Jayohnnie Slaughter of Union and Hillary Williams of Philadelphia. ECCC music instructor Natalie Emmons served as director.

## 2014-15 Cheerleaders Chosen at ECCC

East Central Community College recently announced members of the 2014-2015 Cheerleading Squad following tryouts held on the Decatur campus.

Cheerleaders and their respective high schools include Shelby Renee Hemphill and Hunter Brown, both of Leake Academy; Lauren Coward, Layne Lepard and Cody Warner, all of Neshoba Central; Alana Kron, Adam Porter, Haleigh West and Mak Rowzee, all of Newton County; Natalie Lyles, Newton County Academy; Keri Ann Mayfield, Union; Warner Parkes, Nanih Waiya; Katlyn Patrick and Lauren Peterson, both of Forest; and Madison Taylor Pettigrew and Kaitlin Smith, both of Scott Central.

Pauline Karcher serves as cheerleader sponsor.

For more information, contact Karcher at [pkarcher@eccc.edu](mailto:pkarcher@eccc.edu) or by calling the college's athletic department at 601-635-6310.

## ECCC Ac'cents Selected for 2014-15

Members of the 2014-2015 Ac'cents show choir at East Central Community College were recently announced following auditions.

Members include sopranos Haleigh West of Hickory, Kelli Boulton of Decatur and Kaishanna Young of Philadelphia; altos Tallie Johnston of Lake, Mak Rowzee of Hickory and Cara Jackson of Louisville; tenors Ryan Godwin of Newton, Zach Peden of Philadelphia and Dee Jay Rolison of Conehatta; and basses Ben Pace of Philadelphia, Kirk Griffin of Decatur and Eli Parker of Little Rock.

In addition to the group's annual fall and spring campus concerts, the Ac'cents perform for various schools, civic clubs and events throughout the college district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties. Members receive full tuition scholarships.

For more information contact director Vicki Blaylock at 601-635-6225 or email [vblaylock@eccc.edu](mailto:vblaylock@eccc.edu).



# Viverette, Gressett Selected Mr. and Miss East Central

Luke Viverette of Union and Taylor Gressett of Chunky were recently selected Mr. and Miss East Central Community College by a vote of the student body.

Viverette is the son of Todd and Kim Viverette of Union and is a 2012 graduate of Union High School.

Viverette said he enjoys watching ECCC's sporting events and playing intramural sports on campus.

"I enjoy meeting new people and making new friendships here at ECCC," Viverette said.

He said his favorite memory from East Central was being a part of Spring Spree 2013 and Snow Day of 2013.

Viverette said he is inspired by his grandparents (James and Martha Murphy and Elsie Hagan.) "They inspire me because of the lives they lead and the kind of people they are," he said. "I am also inspired by Donald Trump and his desire to succeed."

Viverette is a sports studies/communications major and is a member of the college's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of the two-year college. He is also involved in the intramural sports program on the EC campus.

In addition, he was selected freshman class favorite and is a Dean's List scholar.

He received an ACT scholarship at ECCC.

Viverette said he enjoys playing basketball, fishing and socializing with friends.

His favorite quote is by Lou Holtz, "I can't believe that God put us on this earth to be ordinary."

After receiving his associate's degree at



***Mr. and Miss ECCC, Luke Viverette and Taylor Gressett***

East Central, Viverette plans to continue his education at Mississippi State University and pursue a career in the sports industry.

Gressett is the daughter of Kevin and Christy Gressett of Chunky. She is a 2012 graduate of Newton County High School.

"My favorite thing about ECCC that it is a close-knit family," said Gressett. "Everybody knows everybody."

Like Viverette, Gressett said her favorite campus activity "hands-down" is Spring Spree.

"I love how everyone comes together to enjoy lots of laughs, while making memories that will last a lifetime," she said.

Gressett is involved in numerous activities including Phi Theta Kappa, Concert Choir, Ac'cents, Collegians, Presidents' Council, Warrior Corps, Centralettes, and Diamond Darlings and she is a Student Body Associa-

tion officer.

In addition, she was selected for Who's Who Among Students in American Community & Junior Colleges, freshman class favorite, sophomore class president and was a freshman and sophomore homecoming maid.

She received achievement recognition, ACT, Polk and Jennie Pace and Junior Miss scholarships at ECCC.

When asked where she could be found "hanging out" on campus, Gressett said, "Who has time to 'hang-out'?' You can find me working in financial aid!"

Gressett said her parents inspire her.

"No matter what obstacle comes their way, they always push through. They have taught me to never settle for less and to reach for the stars," she said. "They have also taught me that if I keep my eyes locked on the Savior, then I can achieve all through Him."

Gressett is a liberal arts major, but plans to attend the University of Southern Mississippi and earn a bachelor's degree in nursing before attending the anesthesia school at USM to become a nurse anesthetist.

She said she enjoys singing and spending time with family in her free time.

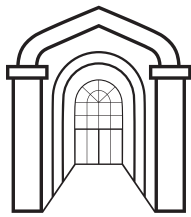
Her favorite scripture is Psalms 56:3: "What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee."

"When life gets crazy, this particular verse reminds me where my trust lies," Gressett said. "It puts me at great ease knowing that I have a God bigger than any issue or obstacle that comes my way. It's then that I know nothing is impossible."

## Interested in Attending ECCC?

**Contact the Student Services Office to Arrange a Campus Visit!**

**601-635-6205 or toll free 877-462-3222, ext. 205**



# EAST CENTRAL

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## ***Registration Checklist***

(Should Be Completed Prior to Attending Orientation)

- \*Complete the ECCC Application for Admission
- \*Send ACT or COMPASS scores to ECCC
- \*Send High School/College transcripts to ECCC
- \*Apply for Housing
- \*Apply for Financial Aid



## ***Orientation Checklist***

(To Be Completed During Orientation Session)

- \*Complete Fall Class Schedule
- \*Make Student ID Photo (Also used for College Yearbook)
- \*Apply for Parking Decal (Needed for all students bringing cars to campus;  
Must have tag number and \$10 fee)
- \*Complete Online Orientation



## **Summer Orientations**

Friday, June 20  
Friday, July 11  
Friday, August 8

***Begin the process  
anytime between  
8 a.m. and 1 p.m. at  
the Smith Student  
Union Building***

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**Fall Classes Begin  
Monday, Aug. 18**

For more information,  
contact Student Services at  
601-635-6205