



The Tom-Tom

A Student Publication of East Central Community College



Scenes from Snow Day '14

Students, faculty and staff enjoy fun in the winter precipitation. **PAGE 18**

Volume 65, Number 3

February 2014

EC Again Ranked Among Nation's Fastest Growing Community Colleges

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

For the second straight year, East Central Community College is included in the list of 25 Fastest Growing Community Colleges in the United States, according to the Dec. 9, 2013, issue of *Community College Week*, a national publication located in Selmer, Tenn.

East Central was ranked 20th in the list of two-year institutions with student enrollments from 2,500 to 4,999.

Information for the report involved enrollment comparisons from 2011 to 2012, when East Central's enrollment actually dropped from 2,675 to 2,494, a decrease of seven percent.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart said the slight enrollment decrease

does not diminish the college's success in attracting students, especially when compared to other state institutions.

"Although we dropped from sixth to 20th on this year's list, East Central is one of only two community colleges in the state of Mississippi still on any list at all," said Dr. Stewart. "And even though our enrollment dipped as

did so many others, it was not as significant as other institutions, which allowed us to remain on this prestigious list. Our inclusion in publications highlighting the work of our nation's community colleges goes a long way in realizing our vision of national recognition as a premier community college!"

East Central Community College

received national recognition earlier in the year by *Washington Monthly*, which included the college in its 2013 College Guide's rankings of America's Best Community College. EC was ranked 23rd in the annual report.

For more information, contact ECCC Student Services, 601-635-6205 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is rlee@ecc.edu.

Apollo 13 Astronaut Fred Haise to Speak at ECCC

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Astronaut Fred Haise, who served as the lunar module pilot during the ill-fated Apollo 13 space mission in 1970 and is portrayed by Bill Paxton in the blockbuster film *Apollo 13*, will speak at East Central Community College on Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2014.

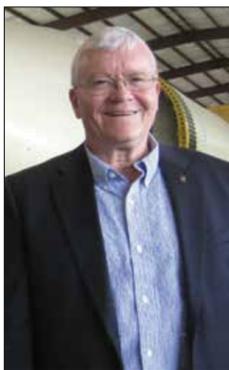
Activities begin at 6 p.m. in Vickers Fine Arts Building Auditorium.

There is no charge for admission and the event is open to the public.

However, due to limited space, seating will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart said, "In his presentation titled *Failure is Not an Option*, Mr. Haise will focus on the importance of education, training, innovation, leadership, teamwork, communication, and individual responsibility as the keys to success in any endeavor.

His speech will address three major events in his life: Apollo 13, a near-fatal plane crash in 1973, and his participation in the



HAISE

See HAISE, PAGE 5

Annual Report Card Shows High Marks for EC

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College recently published its 2011 *Performance Profile* using data compiled by the Mississippi Community College Board (MCCB). The publication, referred to as the Community College Report Card, is an annual report made available by the college in compliance with House Bill No. 1071 approved during the 2010 Mississippi legislative session. The bill created an Education Achievement Council (EAC) which was established to set education achievement goals for institutions of higher learning and community and junior colleges in the state and to assist in monitoring progress towards those goals through the preparation of annual institutional and state report cards.

The Community College Report Card, designed to reflect the unique mission of community colleges, incorporates measures closely aligned with the Voluntary Framework of Accountability developed by the American Association of Community Colleges. Therefore, each report card includes information for the specific community/junior college, along with corresponding figures for the state system which includes all 15 state community/junior colleges. Information contained in the report includes student enrollment, degrees awarded, student success, student retention, student progress, workforce development information, GED® and adult basic education statistics, as well as enrollment and success in development or remedial coursework (college

See REPORT, PAGE 5

Coach Tony Dungy to Speak at ECCC Event

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Former National Football League head football coach Tony Dungy will be the guest speaker at an East Central Community College-sponsored program scheduled March 28, 2014, at the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia.

Coach Dungy, who will visit the EC campus prior to the event, will participate in a fundraising effort for the Warrior football program, led by first-year head coach Ken Karcher, a longtime friend and associate.

Coach Dungy, who retired from coaching in 2008 after a successful career which included a 2007 Super Bowl victory with the Indianapolis Colts, now serves as an analyst for NBC's *Football Night in America*.

He is also the #1 New York Times bestselling author of *Quiet Strength* and *Uncommon*.

In addition, Coach Dungy is involved in a wide variety of charitable organizations, including the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Athletes in Action, Mentors for Life, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Boys and Girls Clubs, Prison Crusade Ministry, All-Pro Dads and many others.

"The College is extremely fortunate to have someone of Coach Dungy's reputation and stature to visit our campus and community," said ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart. "I can say that our football program, our college and our community will be blessed by the presence of Tony Dungy this spring."

For more information, contact Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, Executive Director for Foundation and Alumni Relations, at 601-635-3327 or by e-mail at sholling@ecc.edu.



DUNGY

Valentine's Day Delights



MADISON HERRINGTON/EDITOR

Members of the Culinary Arts' Bon Appetite Club sell "delicious, decadent, divine chocolate goodness" Valentine's Day treats on Thursday, February 13 outside the Mabry Cafeteria. Staff members Sheila Stamper and Emily Smith purchase Valentine's Day gifts from club members Alicia Breedlove and Tamara Boydstrum.

EC, MUW Announce Partnership

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Students enrolled in East Central Community College's Culinary Arts Technology Program can look forward to a "seamless" transition in continuing their studies toward a bachelor's degree at Mississippi University for Women in Columbus, thanks to a partnership announced today (Feb. 3) between the two colleges.

The Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), signed by ECCC President Dr. Billy W. Stewart and MUW President Dr. Jim Borsig during a ceremony provides educational opportunities for students in the Culinary Arts and related hospitality fields, which at ECCC includes Hotel and Restaurant Management Technology.

"Career and technical credits earned within the ECCC program will transfer to The W," said Scott Tollison, dean of the College of Business and Professional Studies, in which culinary arts is administratively housed. "In addition, currently enrolled ECCC students will have access to The W's 'guest chefs' program that brings in leading culinary experts for demonstrations and there will be additional professional development activities for ECCC faculty members."

Regarding the partnership, Dr. Borsig said, "We value our growing relationship with our community college partners, and we're delighted today to partner with ECCC to strengthen



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

College presidents Dr. Jim Borsig (left) of Mississippi University for Women and Dr. Billy Stewart of East Central Community College sign a Memorandum of Agreement allowing EC's Culinary Arts Technology and Hotel and Restaurant Management Technology students to transfer credits toward a bachelor's degree from The W's Culinary program.

the pathway for students in our state to earn a bachelor's degree. Our graduates have a record of success, and we are happy to provide access for ECCC students who want to continue their

See PARTNERSHIP, PAGE 3

EC Mourns Sudden Death of Moore

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College is mourning the sudden loss of sophomore Early Childhood Education Technology major Marquitta Moore of Newton, who died in her sleep Monday (Dec. 2) night.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart said Moore "touched many lives" while attending the college she "loved."

"The college community was saddened to learn about the death of Marquitta," said Dr. Stewart. "She was such a special young lady who touched many lives while a student here at East Central. When I contacted her mother to express our condolences, she told me that Marquitta just loved East Central. I told her that East



MOORE

Central loved her and will miss her greatly."

The 25-year-old was a graduate of Newton High School and

is remembered on the ECCC campus for her smile.

"I feel the world has lost a jewel," said Debra Payton, Director of the ECCC Childcare Center and one of Moore's instructors. "Marquitta Moore went to be with Jesus Tuesday (Dec. 3) morning and the childcare center here at East Central will never be the same. When Marquitta entered the center a ray of sunlight followed her. Marquitta loved these babies and showed that each and every moment she spent with them."

Childcare attendant Karen Townsend described Moore as "an exceptional example of what humanity should exude."

"She wore a smile when there were days I am sure she wanted to give up. Marquitta always

See MOORE, PAGE 3



WILLIAMS

ECCC Plans Black History Month Program

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College will hold its annual Black History Month Program Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2014.

Activities begin at 7 p.m. in the Vickers Fine Arts Center auditorium.

There is no charge for admission.

Andrea Williams of WTOK-TV in Meridian will serve as guest speaker.

Williams began her employment at WTOK in 1999 as an anchor/reporter. She currently anchors the Good Morning Meridian program.

See PROGRAM, PAGE 5

EC Plans Grand Opening for Smithsonian Exhibit

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College was recently selected to serve as a host site for the Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition, *The Way We Worked*, which will be on display for several weeks.

The exhibit officially opens with a special ceremony at 2 p.m. Monday, February 24, 2014, in the Molly McGee Gold Room of Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart will attend the ceremony. See EXHIBIT, PAGE 3

Attention Prospective May Graduates

The deadline for application for May graduation is March 31, 2014.

Those planning to graduate in May MUST fill out a graduation application and get a degree audit signed by their advisor. Both of those items must be returned to Donna Mitchell in Room 172 of the Administration Building (business office).

The application form can be found on MyEC. Go to the Students tab, Student Request Forms, and under the Printable Forms heading.

Applications may also be picked up in the Student Services Building or from Donna Mitchell in the Administration Building.

Please apply as soon as you can. Students must have this completed in order to graduate. The requirements to graduate can be found in the ECCC Student Catalog on page 45. The cost to graduate will be \$40.

Page Two

FEATURE TEACHER

Skipper Shares News & Thoughts on Education

BY ALLISON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

Curt Skipper is a science teacher and Science department chairman at East Central Community College (ECCC). He teaches General Biology I & II, Zoology I & II, as well as other science courses. Skipper is also an advisor for the Environmental Club at ECCC. He is originally from Shuqualak, Mississippi. He is married and has three children.



ALLISON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

Why did you decide to become a teacher?

When I graduated from high school I was not going to be a teacher. I wanted to be a forester and work in the woods all day. At East Mississippi Community College (EMCC), I majored in Forestry and my dad insisted on me also taking academic classes, just in case. Well I finished my degree in forestry and a degree in liberal arts. When I transferred to Mississippi State University (MSU), I decided not to continue in forestry, so science education kind of made sense because I had all of the science classes from EMCC. So I completed my degree in science ed., student taught, and then went to work at a body shop. Again, my father insisted that I at least apply to graduate school, so I did (although

I turned the application in late). The next spring, I received a call from Dr. John McCall at University of West Alabama (UWA) asking about my application and interest in school, and I went to UWA. In their graduate biological sciences program, I really decided I wanted to teach college science. I know how much I enjoyed being a student in those classes, and I wanted to help others enjoy learning science as much as I enjoyed it.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

The students! I absolutely love the interaction with my students, helping guide them in their journey in life. I enjoy teaching them both in the classroom and outside of the classroom, like with the Environmental Club. The Environmental Club is able to take an applied approach to education and teach them the "field work" side of biology.

What would you change about education today?

State Testing. I know there should be some way of evaluating the effectiveness of schools and classrooms, but being able to teach a group of students to take a test may not be the best measure of true learning. I think we should let teachers teach.

What is your opinion of dual credit courses?

Dual Credit courses provide the hardworking, dedicated high school student an opportunity to get ahead in their education, and in that regard, I think they are great.

What brought you to ECCC?

Honestly, I feel that God brought me here. The science department and college had just lost a loved colleague, friend, husband, mentor and advisor in the passing of Mr. Ron Davis. I



MICAH, NOAH & DANIEL SKIPPER

was graduating from UWA at the time and looking for jobs, when I found this opening. I then talked to my advisors there, and Dr. Holland the college president of UWA about the job and we had many long conversations about it. When I applied, I brought my application to campus where I met Dr. Lavonia Sparkman, who I knew many years ago at my high school. She brought me to meet the science faculty, and I met Mr. Joe Johnson and Mrs. Sharon Fisher (then LeJeune) who I had already met at UWA. They both brought the Environmental Club over for a campus tour and prairie restoration project and I worked with them there. I met Mrs. Peggy Clayton, whom I also worked with in a summer workshop at MSU a few years before. I met Mr. Billy Miles, whom I took summer classes with at MSU. So I already knew much of the faculty. I was also able to meet Mrs. Patty Davis and Mrs. Kim Hardy, who I previously didn't know. But have grown to love and respect over the years.

Why did you choose to teach science?

It's fun! Originally because I took so many science classes in my un-



CURT SKIPPER

dergraduate days but then I grew to love it. Also my dad taught science for nearly 40 years. When my friends came over, dad would pull a microscope out and have us all look at something interesting or do some fun experiment.

What is your favorite class to teach and why?

That is hard because I love different parts of each of them. Dendrology is fun because it is almost completely field based and we are outside nearly every week. Zoology I and II and Biology I and II are also fun because I have more students in them and I enjoy the topics we cover in all four of them. So I love teaching all of them.

Did you always want to be a teacher?

No, as a kid I wanted to be a super hero. Also I wanted to join the air force and serve our country. As I went to college, I wanted to be a forester. Then as I progressed in college I felt the calling to be a teacher.

Has anything exciting happened to you recently?

Well let me think.... YES. I am in graduate school working on my PhD, and more importantly, my wife and

I had twin boys! They came a little early, but are doing great.

What do you enjoy doing outside of teaching?

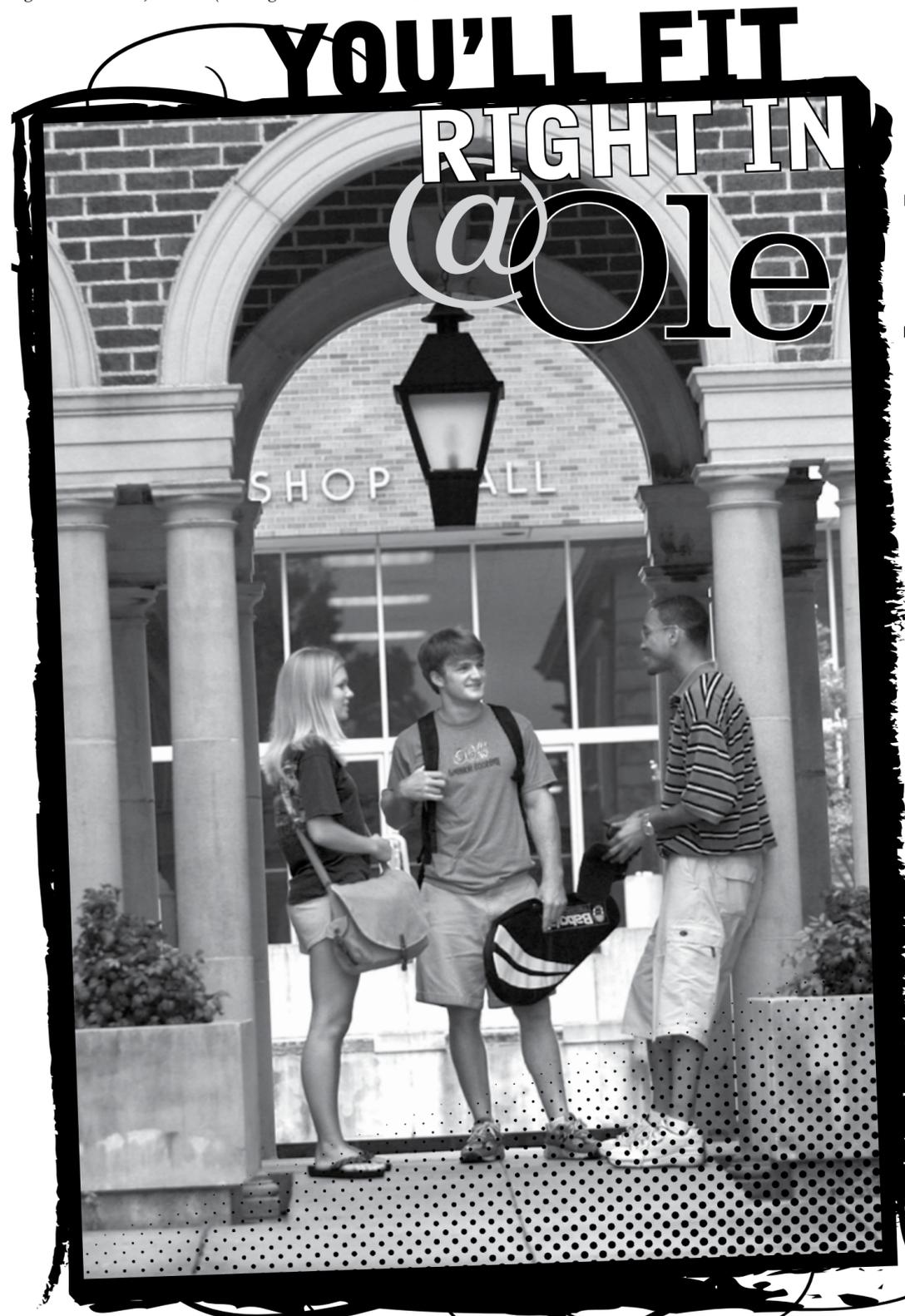
I love the outdoors. I enjoy kayaking and canoeing our beautiful waterways in Mississippi. I enjoy whitewater kayaking. I love taking my family camping, and spending time on wood-working projects with my dad. I love taking the Environmental Club on our various trips and service projects. I also enjoy serving on the East Mississippi Foothills Land Trust Board and working on the projects we do to help protect our rivers in this area.

Was science a favorite subject of yours growing up?

It was and it wasn't. I did enjoy the experiments dad would do with us. Some of my teachers in school did a great job of teaching science and I enjoyed that, but many of them didn't like science or didn't try to make it interesting. So I didn't always enjoy my science classes. I always liked science though.

Do you try to instill your love of science into your own children?

I do and will. I have taken Noah on several camping, hiking and canoeing trips, which helps him learn about nature. We also have great talks about all sorts of animals and plants. He'll ask me to talk about bugs, or something like that and we just spend time talking about it. He loves learning. Children have the curious nature that drives their desire to learn. Too often people get tired of the questions and try to extinguish that desire to learn. I try to encourage Noah to keep asking and keep learning, and when the other two get a little older, I hope to also instill a love of science and learning in them as well.



Miss!

It's the right move

As a community college transfer, your move to The University of Mississippi will be one of the most important in your life—and also one of the smoothest. Here are just a few of the reasons why transferring to Ole Miss is the right move:

- Your academic course work during your first two years will plug right into our bachelor's degree programs and let you stay on track.
- Average junior- and senior-level classes at Ole Miss have 20-30 students and are probably smaller than some of the classes you are taking now.
- Our Financial Aid Office works hard to help you receive the combination of grants, scholarships, loans and employment you will need to finance your education.
- Our Phi Theta Kappa scholarship is worth \$6,000 (\$3,000 per year for two years)! Transfer students with a 3.5 GPA on at least 48 transferable community college credit hours and membership in Phi Theta Kappa are encouraged to apply for this scholarship. Please contact Jason McCormick or Ty Allushuski in the Office of Enrollment Services at 800-OLE-MISS (in Mississippi) or 662-915-7226 for more details.
- Our Community College Excellence Scholarship is worth 1,000 a year (a total of 2,000 over your last two years). Community College students with a 3.0 GPA on 48 transferable hours will be eligible for this scholarship. Contact Jason McCormick or Ty Allushuski in the Office of Enrollment Services at 662-915-7226 for more details.

Come and visit campus, talk with our faculty, staff and students, and see how easy it will be to take the next step!



The University of Mississippi
experience amazing™

MOORE
From Page 1

had a hug and a kind word for me. I never remember one time in the four years I knew her that she was anything but humble and loving.”
Childcare attendant Christa Robinson said she remembers Moore coming into the childcare’s baby room and always smiling at the babies on the days she had lab.

“She so loved our babies and always had that special smile and loving heart,” Robinson said.
Sheri Anders, Moore’s adviser and early childhood education technology instructor, described Moore as a very thoughtful and loving person.
“She loved everyone and was always stopping in to visit and make sure that you were doing OK,” Anders said. “She was passionate about finishing her

degree and determined to make it happen. This week has been very hard during class because her sweet face hasn’t been there to greet everyone. She made more of an impact on those around here than she ever realized.”
Payton said Moore was a student who overcame adversities.
“Marquitta had special needs but she was never hindered by them,” Payton said. “She excelled in everything she did.

She had a character full of grit, determination and loyalty. Our world will never be the same without her but we are sure that Heaven is rejoicing at this very moment.”
Lead teacher Chafony Evans-Poole who had known Moore since Moore was a child described Moore as the most determined child she has ever known.
“She was truly an inspiration to all. She set out to achieve

anything she put her mind to do.”
This semester, Moore was in Evans-Poole’s lab, the preschool age group.
“Every morning the children looked for her to come and play in the block area where they loved to build castles,” Evans-Poole said. “We all know that she is happily building castles in the sky with Jesus and loving on all his little children. The world was a better place

because of her.”
During her time at ECCC, Moore also was a proud member of the Wall O’ Sound Marching Band where she played the clarinet for several years.
Visitation is scheduled from noon to 6 p.m. Monday, December 9 at Dunlap and Thames Funeral Home in Newton.
Services are noon Tuesday, December 10 at St. Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Newton.

EXHIBIT
From Page 1

Stewart will preside at the Grand Opening and provide remarks about the exhibit, which is designed “to rediscover the strength and spirit of American workers through rare archival images, compelling videos and fascinating interviews.”
Project Coordinator Chris Brady, who serves as ECCC art instructor, said the overall focus of the exhibition and its ancillary programs is “to honor and commemorate the diverse forms of work and its impact on the lives in the community.”
Brady said several presentations and events are planned to supplement the Smithsonian exhibition, which will

be on display in the Gordon Room of Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.
The first event features former astronaut Fred Haise, who served as the lunar module pilot during the ill-fated *Apollo 13* space mission in 1970 and is portrayed by Bill Paxton in the blockbuster film, *Apollo 13*. His presentation is scheduled at 6 p.m. Tuesday, February 25 in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. There is no charge to attend his presentation titled Failure is Not an Option.
The first presentation features Rae Nell Vaughn, Director of Development for the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians. Vaughn will speak on The Social and Economic Impact of the Gaming Industry on the Choctaw Nation, beginning at 2 p.m. Tuesday, March

4 in the Gold Room. Included in her presentation is a photo exhibition that documents the social and cultural changes which have taken place over the past 20 years due to the economic impact of gaming.
Dr. G. Everett Morgan, Professor Emeritus of Poultry Science at Mississippi State University in Starkville, will speak on The Scope and Significance of the Poultry Industry in Mississippi, during his remarks scheduled Thursday, March 20. Dr. Morgan’s presentation begins at 11 a.m. in the Gold Room and is part of “Workforce Appreciation Day” activities, which includes a chicken lunch. The program concludes at 1 p.m.
The third presenter is retired ECCC English instructor Ovid Vickers. Vick-

ers, a local historian, folklorist, author, poet and longtime newspaper columnist, will discuss “Work in Literature” beginning at 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 25 in the Gold Room.
The Way We Worked exhibit will also be available during Senior Day activities Friday, March 28, 2014, when high school seniors from throughout the EC five-county district will visit the Decatur campus. The annual event is highlighted by the appearance of Tony Dungy, former NFL head football coach and current commentator on NBC’s Football Night in America.
Coach Dungy, who led the Indianapolis Colts to the 2007 Super Bowl Championship, will deliver his inspiring message to high school and ECCC students at Bailey Stadium to con-

clude Senior Day activities.
He will speak later that day as a fundraising event for the proposed Football Operations Center at Bailey Stadium. The dinner program begins at 7 p.m. at the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia. Tickets to “Laying the Foundation - An Evening with Tony Dungy,” are \$125 and may be purchased by contacting the ECCC Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations.
The Mississippi Humanities Council serves as a sponsor for The Way We Worked Traveling Smithsonian Exhibition.
For more information, contact Chris Brady (601-635-6229 or email cbrady@eccc.edu) or Dr. Teresa Houston, Vice President for Instruction (601-635-6202 or email thouston@eccc.edu).

PARTNERSHIP
From Page 1

studies at the W.”
Dr. Stewart responded, “The announcement of today’s MOA between our college and Mississippi University for Women (MUW) is just one step in the fulfillment of our plan to design and implement coherent, structured educational pathways leading to certificate and/or degree completion as well as stackable credentials that enhance students’ opportunities for career advancement and upward mobility.”
He added, “Today’s announcement serves as an example of the cooperation and collegiality among the state’s community colleges and four-year universities. ...Our students will be the major beneficiaries and that is the way it should be.”
Added Dr. Teresa Houston, ECCC Vice President for Instruction, “This is an exciting opportunity for the students and faculty at East Central Community College to collaborate and expand their educational and professional capabilities. The clear pathways identified by this agreement will provide our students with a seamless transition that will foster their desire to complete a bachelor’s degree.”

earned during their entire career.”
Nan Hartness of Louisville, a sophomore in the Hotel and Restaurant Management Technology program, said, “When I

graduate from college, I plan on opening a restaurant. Now that my classes can transfer to Mississippi University for Women, I can enroll in the bachelor’s degree program in

Entrepreneurship. This degree will help me learn the business side of opening a restaurant. It will also allow me to have a broader range of career choices if I decide to do something

other than open a restaurant.”
Both Brown and Hartness are dually enrolled in the Culinary Arts Technology and Hotel and Restaurant Management Technology programs.

For more information, contact instructors Barry Karrh (601-635-6252) or Lisa O’Neill (601-635-6305). Their email addresses are bkarrh@eccc.edu and loneill@eccc.edu.

EXPERIENCE DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY
WWW.DELTASTATE.EDU

Located in the heart of the Mississippi Delta, our campus is alive with excitement. Our students come from all walks, and there is an energy in the way they carry themselves. Our professors don’t just teach, they create new pathways of thought that lead to ideas you’ve never considered. With every discovery, you will see the world differently.

12:1
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT TO FACULTY RATIO

100%
TUITION PAID
PHI THETA KAPPA MEMBERS

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TRANSFER ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

THE FIGHTING OKRA
the world’s most vicious mascot.

Barry Karrh, now in his second year as ECCC’s Culinary Arts Technology instructor, said he is “very pleased” the agreement is now in place after so much hard work between the two colleges. He added, “I look forward to sending my best and brightest students to MUW.”
One such student is Chris Brown, a sophomore from Forest High School.
“I would like to thank you (EC and MUW) for providing me with this opportunity and I plan to use it to the best of my ability,” Brown said.
ECCC Culinary Arts Technology program began in 2008.
The W’s Culinary Arts Institute is headed by Chef Erich Ogle. He and Karrh both hold bachelor’s degrees from The W and master’s degree from Le Cordon Bleu, the University of Adelaide.
“I’m very excited about the partnership between the Culinary Arts Institute and East Central Community College. I’m personally excited to be working again with my classmate Chef Barry Karrh. The W is thrilled to have this opportunity.”
ECCC’s Hotel and Restaurant Management program is led by instructor Lisa O’Neill. O’Neill holds a bachelor’s degree in Hotel, Restaurant, Management and Tourism Management from the University of Southern Mississippi. She started the Hotel Restaurant Management Technology Program in 2005.
“I believe this agreement will allow an opportunity for all the ECCC Hospitality students to obtain more self-esteem in obtaining a higher degree, more job opportunities, as well as, better jobs just starting out of college, and more money



Attention all ECCC Warriors!
Join me on Thursday, March 20 at the college fair to learn more about Delta State, the Fighting Okra and scholarship opportunities for transfer students.

Chris Gaines | cgaines@deltastate.edu | 662.846.4020 | @cgainesDSU
www.deltastate.edu | 1.800.GO.TO.DSU | admissions@deltastate.edu

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY
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Warrior Viewpoints

FROM THE EDITOR

Don't Fall Asleep Yet

Students are generally on top of everything during their first semester of college, which shows how awake they are. They have their eyes wide open for everything going on with the campus. Many students believe they have to prove to their family that they can make it on their own without them. Others just know they have to work hard to make it to another college or get the grade that they need to pass. A lot of students have amazing grades during their first semester of college because they realize what's at stake; however, second semester is when things start to fall apart.



MADISON HERRINGTON
Editor

After Christmas, students are more relaxed. We all believe we have enough time to do everything even if we do wait till the last minute. Oh, you made a 65 on your first test in Biology? No big deal. You can pull it up, or at least, that's what you think. So what if you made a 67 on your second or third test? You have enough time to pull it up before exams, right? Wrong. Do you really want to have to stay holed up in your room for two weeks before finals? I know that I don't, and frankly, I refuse to. Why should I have to bust my butt to study and learn everything in the span of two weeks when I could just learn it to begin with? Wake up people! This is your future we're talking about here. Don't fall asleep just yet because it's "just" second semester. News flash: your second semester of college matters just as much as your first, third, fourth, etc. Do what you have to do to begin with instead of trying to cram everything into your brain at the last second.

—Madison Herrington, Editor

SBA CHAT

Big Plans Ahead for Student Activities

The Student Body Association has many exciting events planned for the year! We are trying to plan events that the students will enjoy being a part of.

In February, SBA has planned a dance, the theme of it will be "Black and White Affair." It will be semi-formal so come with your black or white dress and nice button up and have a memorable time. We will also host a movie night on the February 24 and will be showing *Apollo 13* in the cafeteria after supper. There will be popcorn provided.

In March, we are still trying to form some fun activities for students so be on the lookout for posters that will be going up.

In April, we have our famous Spring Spree week and the dates for that will be April 7-11. This week will include tons of fun things for everyone to do that include a volleyball tournament, crawfish boil, EC's Got Talent, and lastly the annual spring spree games. Sign-up sheets will be in the housing department and all over campus.

—Allie Killens, SBA President



ALLIE KILLENS
SBA President



BY CLAIRE GRIFFIN, CARTOONIST



BY CLAIRE GRIFFIN, CARTOONIST

FROM DR. LEE'S DESK

Make Grades Top Priority

Spring Break (March 10-14) will be here before you know it! Make sure you are attending every class and studying hard. The rest of the spring semester will fly by! Take advantage of all the various activities, but keep your grades and class attendance as top priorities.



DR. LEE

Graduation should be your ultimate goal at ECCC. So persist and earn that diploma! You need it in today's world. Transferability is seamless, and the cost is so much more at four-year institutions so take all the courses you can here at ECCC. If you have questions please come by Student Services to see an Academic Counselor. We are open 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Friday. If you need an additional class or two check out the second intensive term eight-week classes that begin on March 3. You can register at any time. Remember, dormitory residents, you must maintain 12 hours to stay in the dorms.

Advance Registration begins on April 1 for SUMMER COURSES and FALL 2013 COURSES. Make sure you PAY your debt to the business office and REGISTER THE FIRST DAY to get the classes you need to graduate! They will fill up quickly!

Many events are scheduled, but I do want to highlight Mr. Fred Haise of Apollo 13 fame who will be here on campus on Tuesday, February 25 at 6 p.m. in the Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium. We will show the movie *Apollo 13* on Monday night at 6:45 p.m. in the Mabry Cafeteria. Vickers is a smaller venue so come early to get a seat. Rumors are that some Trekkies may show up!

A great tradition at ECCC is the annual Spring Spree competition near the end of the semester (April 7 - 11). See Ms. Brock (dbrock@eccc.edu/601-635-6213) and Dean Miller (jmillier@eccc.edu/635-6267) for more information. Start getting your teams together!

If you have any questions or concerns let me know. Please let someone know if you are having problems. You can reach me at 635-6375 or e-mail rlee@eccc.edu. The student services' offices are located in the Eddie M. Smith Student Union.

Sincerely,

Randall E. Lee

Dr. Randall E. Lee, Vice President for Student Services

OTHER OPINIONS

The Importance of Voting

Many people do not consider elections important if we are not electing a president. However, this year is a very important election year. It is not a presidential election year, but it is an off year election which means that all of the House of Representatives and one third of the Senate is up for reelection. For Mississippi this means that one of our senators is up for reelection and all four representatives are up for reelection.



ALLISON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

It is important to let your voice be heard in our government, because as the cliché goes "if you don't vote you can't complain." Well that statement is very true. Not only should young people register to vote, they should be well informed before they vote. Elections are not until November, but if you want to make an informed decision it would be wise to start educating yourself on the candidates and their stances on the issues. Americans used to fight and hold protests so they could have the right that we take for granted. It is your responsibility as a citizen to be registered to vote not only to voice your opinion but also so you can serve jury duty, if you are needed.

It is shocking how little some people care about government or politics, but I am positive every person in America has opinions about our government and political system. What many individuals seem to miss is that their opinion will not be taken seriously and the things they do not like may never change unless they take the initiative to do something about it. How can a person claim to be serious about issues if he or she does not participate in government? Our government was designed for public participation. Stand up for what you believe. Start now. Go register, learn about the candidates, and when November rolls around, go vote!

—Allison Johnson, Staff Writer

OTHER OPINIONS

#SmokingZoneProbs

Personally, I'm not a smoker, and I can't even stand the smell of smoke because it makes me feel like I'm going to start coughing up a lung or something equally as disgusting. There are a few places on campus that I have to basically hold my breath to walk through.

Don't get me wrong. I don't care if you smoke or not. I could honestly not care less if you want to take the risk of getting cancer by smoking. I just don't want to have to walk through all of your smoke especially when some people are rude enough to literally blow smoke in your face just because you're making a face while walking through their "zone."

Why do there have to be smoking areas right in front of doorways? I remember when I stayed at Barber Hall last year, the smoking area was to the left of the main doors which mean that when I was walking through after class, I had to walk straight through everyone's smoke. Walking through a cloud of smoke with contacts is not a fun experience. You know the makeup term "smoky" eyes? I literally had "smoky" eyes from walking through the smoke.

I'm not saying that there shouldn't be any smoking zones. I just think that they should be relocated so that people don't have to walk through them all the time. If you don't care about my personal opinion on the matter, then, at least, consider how the children from ECCC's daycare walk around the campus almost every day. Do you want a bunch of kids to start coughing because they are forced to walk through a cloud of smoke? I didn't think so. I just think that we should be smarter with where we put our designated smoking zones around campus.

—Madison Herrington, Editor

WORDS OF A WARRIOR

BY BROOKE SMITH

What's Your New Year's Resolution?

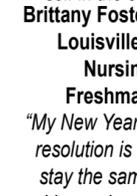
Justin Barfield
Philadelphia •
Marine Biology •
Freshman
"My New Year's resolution is to be more active in school and to make my mother proud."



Darrion Burnside
Philadelphia •
Business Management •
Freshman
"My New Year's resolution is to spend more time with my family and better myself in the classroom."



Kimberly Harrison
Forest • Nursing •
Freshman
"My New Year's resolution is to stop being such a procrastinator!"



Brittany Foster
Louisville •
Nursing
Freshman
"My New Year's resolution is to stay the same me I have always been but try to make better decisions in life."

OTHER OPINIONS

It Really is the Thought that Counts

Valentine's Day is often a day that is both loved and hated. People who are in a relationship typically enjoy celebrating the holiday. However, those who are single sometimes view it as "Single Awareness Day," but for those who celebrate it there are expectations society has set for the "perfect gift."

A good gift for your loved one might be concert tickets, movie tickets, cologne or even nice jewelry. If you are low on funds though, these items may be out of your price range. Flowers and chocolate, or even something handmade is also a good way to show your loved ones that you are thinking of them and care about them. Some would say a bad gift might be a teddy bear, a heart shaped waffle maker, or any household appliance.

Today, Valentine's Day is no longer only for men to give to women, it's a way to show someone that you care about them. The people who dislike Valentine's Day often criticize it because they say you should show love to people 365 days a year, but while this is true, we often get caught up in the hustle and bustle of daily life and take people for granted. This day reminds us to slow down and remind these people that we care.

On another note, whether what someone gives you is "good" or "bad", it truly is the thought that counts. Do not forget to be thankful for everything you receive because someone took the time to do something to show their appreciation for you.

—Allison Johnson, Staff Writer

The Tom-Tom is a student publication of East Central Community College in Decatur, Miss. It is published by the Office of Public Information. For more information, contact the staff at P.O. Box 129, Decatur, MS, 39327 or by phone at 601-635-2111, ext. 364, or toll free at 1-877-462-3222.

Accreditation
East Central Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools 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.

Notice of Non-Discrimination
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 non-discrimination 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.

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

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Brianna Parkman
Kimberly Harrison
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Brooke Smith
Madison Barnett
Taylor Townsend

REPORT
From Page 1

readiness). In the 2011 Community College Report Card, ECCC ranked above the state averages in numerous categories. In the category of Student Success, 28.4 percent of first-time, full-time ECCC students graduated with an Associate of Arts, Associate of Applied Science, or a certificate within three years of beginning a program compared to 23.4 percent statewide.

In addition, total Student Success for ECCC, which considers graduation, transfer, and persistence rates was 59.2 percent for ECCC students compared to the statewide average of 58.1 percent. Finally, success on Licensure Exam Pass Rates for ECCC students totaled 95.2 percent compared to the statewide average of 87.7 percent.

ECCC also retained students at a better rate than the state average. Fall 2011 to Fall 2012 retention in Associate of Arts programs was 64.1 percent at ECCC compared to a statewide percentage of 56.8 percent. In addition, retention for that same time period in

Associate of Applied Science programs was 62.9 percent at ECCC compared to a statewide average of 58.4 percent. Total student retention for ECCC was 63.9 percent compared to a statewide average of 57 percent.

ECCC also graduated 7.7 percent, or a total of 461, of the GED® recipients in the state while enrolling 3.8 percent of adult basic education students in the state.

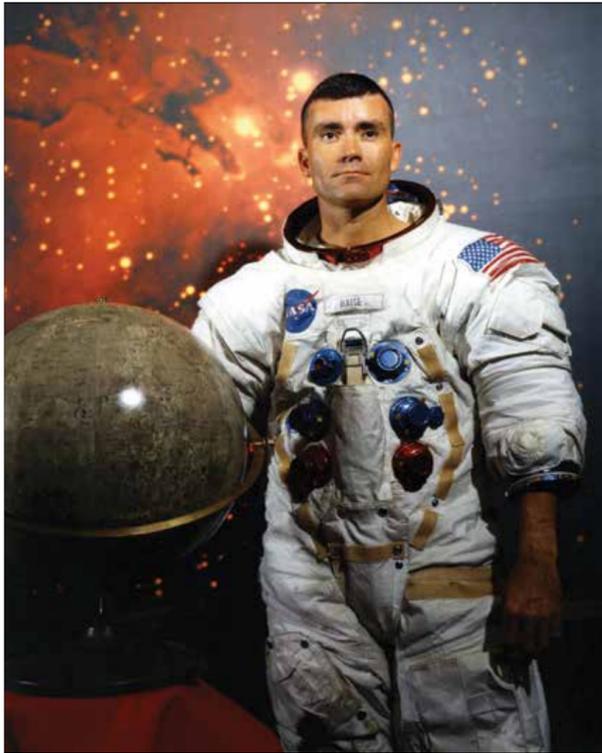
According to the Report Card, economically ECCC Associate of Applied Science graduates increased their incomes by more than \$20,000 annually as compared to their earnings prior to

enrollment in the program. Additionally, ECCC certificate graduates increased their incomes by more than \$15,300 annually as compared to their earnings prior to enrollment.

Dr. Billy W. Stewart, president of ECCC stated, "The 2011 Report Card documents that that ECCC is doing many things well as we continue to fulfill 2020 Vision. We are very proud of that and look to strengthen those aspects of our mission that rank above the state average. However, the Report Card has also identified areas of improvement for our college. Likewise, we look forward to working with our

faculty, staff, and students to improve in those areas as ECCC strives to become nationally recognized and locally preferred. The overall results of the Report Card demonstrate that ECCC is making great progress in many areas that enables our students to experience an excellent postsecondary education right here at home."

The 2011 Performance Profile (Report Card) for ECCC can be found on the college's website at <http://www.eccc.edu/consumer-information.html>. In addition, a copy of the 2011 Performance Profile can be obtained from the Office of the President.



HAISE

HAISE
From Page 1

development of the Space Shuttle that included commanding five test flights of the Space Shuttle Enterprise during the 1977 Approach and Landing Tests."

After his remarks, Haise will

engage in a Question and Answer session in the auditorium.

Following his presentation in Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium, the college will host a reception in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria where attendees will have an opportunity to meet and speak to Haise.

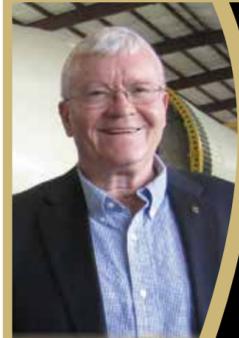
For more information, contact

Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, Executive Director for Foundation and Alumni Relations, at 601-635-6327 or by email at sholling@eccc.edu.

This free event is made possible through the financial support of the East Central Community College Foundation and the Oliphant-Martin Faculty

Excellence Endowment.

East Central Community College gratefully acknowledges the Infinity Science Center for their assistance in securing Fred Haise for this special event. For more information on the Infinity Science Center, please visit <http://www.visitinfinity.com/>.



Fred Haise

East Central Community College
Cordially Invites You to Attend
**An Evening with
Astronaut Fred Haise**

Tuesday, February 25, 2014
6:00 p.m. • Vickers Auditorium

This free event is made possible through the ECCC Foundation and the Oliphant-Martin Faculty Excellence endowment.

Astronaut Fred Haise served as the lunar module pilot during the ill-fated Apollo 13 space missions in 1970 and is portrayed by actor Bill Paxton in the blockbuster film, Apollo 13. This event presents the opportunity to hear from a man who went to outer space and just missed landing on the moon.



EAST CENTRAL

COMMUNITY COLLEGE P.O. Box 129 • Decatur, MS 39327

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East Central Community College is an equal educational and employment opportunity provider.

PROGRAM
From Page 1

A native of Pulaski, Williams is a 1993 honor graduate of Jackson State University. While in college, she studied abroad for a year-and-a-half at the University of Ghana in West Africa. After college, Williams worked for almost two years as an anchor/reporter for the

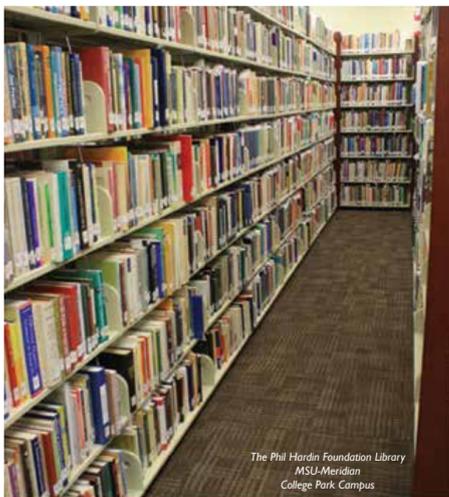
Southern Urban News Network and as an associate producer for WLBT-TV in Jackson.

The ECCC Gospel Choir sponsors the Black History Program and will also perform.

Mrs. Brenda Johnson serves as gospel choir sponsor.

For more information, contact Kathy Sanders at ECCC, 601-635-6215 or email ksanders@eccc.edu.

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Secondary Education
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Concentrations:
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Secondary Education
Counselor Education
School Administration



EARLY REGISTRATION DATES
for Summer & Fall 2014

March 17 - April 14

Summer classes begin June 5.

Fall classes begin August 18.

1000 Hwy 19 North, Meridian 601.484.0134



Clublicity



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Student Body Association Leaders: Selected to lead East Central Community College's student body for 2013-14 are (front row, from left) Clint Walker of Newton, Student Body Association vice president; Allie Killens of Saltillo, SBA president; Sidney Dawkins, DeKalb, sophomore class treasurer; Taylor Gressett of Chunky, sophomore class president; Mary Margaret Bailey of Philadelphia, sophomore class vice president; and Jayhonnie Slaughter of Union, sophomore class treasurer and; (back row, from left) Zack Killion of Crestwood, Ky., SBA secretary; Kennedy McReynolds, freshman class secretary and Hannah Mitchell, freshman class treasurer, both of Meridian; Leah Ferguson of Philadelphia, freshman class president; Mallory Turner of Collinsville, freshman class vice president; and Tyler Pigg of Decatur, SBA treasurer.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

EC Collects 'Toys for Tots': Several boxes of toys and other gifts were recently collected by East Central Community College staff members and students for the annual Toys for Tots campaign sponsored by the U.S. Marine Corps League. The campus project was coordinated by the Career-Technical Division and led by SkillsUSA. Shown with the more than 500 items to be distributed to needy children are from left to right, EC freshman William Minter of Lena, SkillsUSA president; Sherri Cliburn, SkillsUSA sponsor; Ray Trepanier of Flowood and EC alumnus Andrew Gardner of Richland, both from the Central Mississippi Detachment Unit 173.



ECCC Diamond Darlings: Members of the Diamond Darlings at East Central Community College and their respective hometowns include (front row, from left) Taylor Mayes, Decatur; Dakota Hollingsworth and Brianna Parkman, both of Lake; Katherine Jacome-Cluff, Hickory; Jessica Brown, Lake; Nat Reed and Jordan Lovorn, both of Louisville; Courtney Tillman, Decatur; Hillary Williams, Philadelphia; and Felicia Robinson and Emily Jacome-Cluff, both of Hickory; (second row, from left) Kaitlin Bean, Decatur; Kimberly Harrison, Forest; Haley Pierce, Noxapater; Tara Gilmer, Philadelphia; Madelyn Peterson, Louisville; Alana Kron, Decatur; Hannah Watkins, Philadelphia; Katy Ezelle, Decatur; Cara Jackson, Louisville; Hannah Mitchell, Little Rock; and Iris Gray, Lake; and (back row, from left) Shelby McKelvaine and Jessica Moffett, both of Meridian; Sarah Freeman, Decatur; Taylor Gressett, Chunky; Laney Chesney, Little Rock; Jade Smith, Louisville; Sarah Hall, Philadelphia; Bailey Easterling, Forest; Lacie Williams, Lake; Haley Moore, Philadelphia; and Hannah Brown, Decatur. Diamond Darlings provide assistance for the Warrior baseball team. Assistant baseball coach Ronald Sims serves as sponsor.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Art Club: Members of East Central Community College's Art Club include (front row, from left) Courtney Tillman of Decatur, Deeanna Carlson, vice president, of Newton; Jessica Skinner, treasurer, of Philadelphia; Chelsey Smith, president, of Brandon; Dalaney Kilgore of Hickory and Elizabeth Hurt of Louisville; (second row, from left) Matt Pennypacker of Pelahatchie, Sara Thorne of Noxapater, Beth Price, Casey Cherry and Madison Herrington, all of Union; and Janice Poling of Walnut Grove; (third row, from left) Danielle Shelley of Sebastopol, Bristol Buffington of Louisville, Danielle Gregory of Little Rock, Jasmine Yombard of Union, and Jacob Emmons of Lake; and (forth row, from left) John Hausley of Newton and Christopher Brady, art instructor and club sponsor.

STOP BEFORE YOU DROP

...that Class

- Be aware of Refund dates. If you drop a class, you will still have to pay for it!
- Dropping a class may affect your financial aid status for Pell grants and student loans now and in future semesters. Ask a Financial Aid Office employee to be sure!
- Dropping a class may affect scholarships, VA benefits, and other aid programs. Be aware that in most cases you will lose money, and you may lose the entire scholarship or benefits. Ask the VA representative in the Admissions Office how dropping a class will affect your VA funds. Ask someone in the Financial Aid Office to be sure how dropping classes will affect you and your scholarships or other aid programs!
- Dropping to less than full-time status (12 hours) may adversely affect automobile or medical insurance coverage.
- Have you talked to your instructor about dropping the class? Ask your instructor for advice! Hang in there if you can!
- Is the class a prerequisite for another class you need? Will dropping this class delay graduation or transfer plans? Ask your advisor to be sure!
- Are you working too many hours? If so, is there another solution? More work hours often leads to lower grades.
- If after careful consideration you decide to drop a course, please use the proper procedure.
- Go online and login under my EC. Click on the Student tab. Then select Student Request Form. Select Course Withdrawal Form. Last, fill in all the necessary information and submit that form.

Reminder: Wear IDs at All Times!

Clublicity



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Native American Club: Native American Club members for 2013-14 have been announced for East Central Community College. This is an organization for Native American students that seeks to provide a support group for Native American students and culture. Members include: (front row, from left) Hannah Sam of Conehatta, Kayla Mingo and Lacey Willis, both of Choctaw; club president Martika Ball and secretary Joshua Hickman, both of Philadelphia; and (second row, from left) Shawn Smith of Conehatta, Richard Favre of Pearl River, Jeremy Denson of Walnut Grove and Therrick Thomas of Conehatta. Leslie Hughes and Elizabeth Minter are the club sponsors. For more information about ECCC Native American Club, contact club sponsors Hughes or Minter at 601-635-6219 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222 ext. 220.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Phi Beta Lambda Officers: Serving as Phi Beta Lambda officers at East Central Community College are (seated from left) Cindy Burnside of Decatur, secretary; Leah Ferguson of Philadelphia, vice president; and Yashica Ickom of Lake, president; and (standing from left) Tyeshia Meeks of Newton, reporter; and Virginia Easley, historian and Allison Johnson, treasurer, both of Philadelphia. Not pictured is Jeremy Hudson of Philadelphia, parliamentarian. Phi Beta Lambda is an organization for students interested in business-related careers.

COMING SOON WALL O'SOUND

Concerts

Jan. 31- Feb. 1 - ECCC Band Clinic
 Feb. 27 - Symphonic Band Concert - 6:30 p.m. - Huff Auditorium
 April 3 - ECCC Night O' Jazz- 6:30 p.m. - Vickers Auditorium
 April 14 - Symphonic Pops Concert - 6:30 p.m. - Huff Auditorium
 April 24 - ECCC Night O' Percussion - 6:30 p.m. - Huff Auditorium

Audition Dates

March 4 - Centralette Workshop - 5-7 p.m. - South Campus Gym
 March 18 - Centralette Auditions - 5-7 p.m. - South Campus Gym
 April 8 - Color Guard Workshop 1-5 p.m. Auditions 6-8 p.m. South Campus Gym
 April 21 - Drum Major Auditions - 4-5:30 p.m. - Vickers Auditorium
 April 24 - Drum Line/ Front Ensemble Auditions - 12 - 5 p.m. - Band Hall

For more information contact Hunter Corhern at 601-635-6123 or e-mail: hcorhern@eccc.edu

We Want Your News!

E-mail information about your club/organization to gphillips@eccc.edu with identification and any happenings.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

'Titans' Coach Boone Making Memories: Remember the Titans coach Herman Boone autographed footballs and other items following his presentation Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2013, at East Central Community College. Coach Boone is shown signing footballs for ECCC students Jenny Grove (center) of Forest and Bridgette McFarland of Philadelphia during an autograph/photo session held during a reception in the Molly McGee Gold Room in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Coach Boone is the inspiration for the 2000 blockbuster movie starring Denzel Washington in the lead role. The 1971 Titans were the first integrated team at T. C. Williams High School in Alexandria, Va., where controversy developed from the selection of Boone as head coach instead of a popular white coach. Boone led the squad to a state championship amid the controversy. During his inspirational remarks on the Huff Auditorium stage, Coach Boone said the movie "was not about football...but the importance of working together as a team to accomplish a goal." He further commented, "A successful team has one vision...one objective...and one heartbeat." Following his 90-minute presentation, Coach Boone participated in a question and answer session led by ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart. "An Evening with Coach Herman Boone" was made possible through the financial support of the ECCC Foundation and the Oliphant-Martin Faculty Excellence Endowment.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

'Remember the Titans' Coach Speaks at ECCC: Herman Boone, the legendary head football coach at T. C. Williams High School in Alexandria, Va., and the inspiration behind the 2000 blockbuster movie Remember the Titans, addresses a packed Huff Auditorium Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2013, on the East Central Community College campus. Coach Boone said his 1971 state champion Titans squad "broke the mold" and showed the world how to become a "team" through adversity. The 1971 Titans were the first integrated team at the school, where controversy developed from the selection of Boone as head coach instead of a popular white coach. "The movie was not about football...but more about the importance of working together as a team to accomplish a goal." Coach Boone stated during his 90-minute presentation, which included a clip from the movie starring two-time Academy Award winner Denzel Washington who portrayed Boone. Coach Boone later participated in a question and answer session led by ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart. Activities concluded with Coach Boone signing autographs and posing for photos during a reception in the Molly McGee Gold Room in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. "An Evening with Coach Herman Boone" was made possible through the financial support of the ECCC Foundation and the Oliphant-Martin Faculty Excellence Endowment.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Board of Trustees Officers: Continuing their service as officers of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees are (from left) Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake, chairman; Jerry Smith of Philadelphia, vice chairman; and Royce Shaw of Forest, secretary. Dr. Hollingsworth and Smith are beginning their second two-year terms in their respective positions. Shaw is serving his sixth two-year term as secretary. They were reelected by acclamation at the Dec. 17, 2013, Board of Trustees meeting. East Central Community College serves Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Coach Boone Responds to 'Titans' Questions: Herman Boone (left) responds to one of several questions asked by students during his presentation Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2013, at East Central Community College. Coach Boone, shown with ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart during a Q&A session on the Huff Auditorium stage, is the legendary head football coach at T. C. Williams High School in Alexandria, Va., and the inspiration behind the 2000 blockbuster movie Remember the Titans. Boone, who led the first integrated Titans team to the 1971 state championship amid controversy, was portrayed in the film by two-time Academy Award winner Denzel Washington. Boone said some scenes from the movie "were not entirely accurate" and were changed by "Hollywood" as a profit motive. He showed a brief clip of the movie during his presentation before a packed auditorium. Activities concluded with Coach Boone signing autographs and posing for photos during a reception in the Molly McGee Gold Room in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. "An Evening with Coach Herman Boone" was made possible through the financial support of the ECCC Foundation and the Oliphant-Martin Faculty Excellence Endowment.

Dr. McMillin Memorial Scholarship Endowed at EC

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

A scholarship in memory of longtime Leake County optometrist and civic leader Dr. Howard Carlton McMillin was recently endowed at East Central Community College.

Dr. McMillin began his optometric practice in Carthage in 1958 and continued providing optometric services to residents in central Mississippi until his retirement in 1995.

He was also involved in numerous civic and professional activities throughout his career.

He was a co-founder of Leake Academy in Madden, where he served 12 consecutive years on the Board of Directors. He was also co-founder of the Bank of Central Mississippi and the

Leake County Little League Baseball Association. He served as president of the Carthage Lions Club and the Leake County Jaycees. His membership in the Leake County Chamber of Commerce spanned a period of 37 years. He was also a member of the Mississippi State University Agricultural Advisory Council.

His professional memberships included the American, Mississippi and Central Mississippi Optometric Associations. He was also a member of Carthage United Methodist Church and its Friendship Sunday School Class.

Dr. McMillin was an avid and accomplished hunter, fisherman and outdoorsman throughout his life. He shared with many friends his love of



MCMILLIN

hunting, breeding Redbone coonhounds and his second "profession," as a breeder of exotic Simmental cattle. Through these hobbies, he became a trustee of the American Redbone Coonhound Association and served as treasurer of the Mississippi Simmental Association.

He was a 1948 graduate of Louisville High School and attended then ECJC on a football scholarship. He graduated from ECJC in 1950 and received an undergraduate degree in animal science from Mississippi State University in 1952. After two years of active duty in the United States Army, Dr. McMillin completed his education at the University of Houston, where he earned a Doctor of Optometry degree in 1958.

Dr. McMillin often expressed appreciation to ECCC for the opportunity to begin his college education as a result of a football scholarship. He enjoyed visiting the campus to attend football games, Homecoming activities and Warrior Club meetings.

He was inducted into the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame in 2010 in recognition of his outstanding career, which was cut short due to a knee injury.

Dr. McMillin was married for 55 years to the former Shirley Van Hooser of Arcadia, La., when he died in August 2012. They had two children, Lisa and David; five grandchildren; and one great grandchild.

"We are pleased to endow the Dr. Howard Carlton McMillin Memorial Scholarship at East

Central to assist in the education of any freshman or sophomore student who meets the scholarship criteria," said family members.

To qualify, applicants must be a resident of the five-county area served by East Central Community College; must have a financial need; and must maintain a 3.0 grade point average.

Scholarship recipients will be recognized at the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held each summer.

For more information, contact ECCC Student Services, 601-635-6205 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is rlee@eccc.edu.

Huey Stone Memorial Scholarship Established

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Established at ECCC A scholarship in memory of a longtime Scott County educator was recently established at East Central Community College.

The Huey G. Stone Memorial Scholarship honors the former Lake High School principal who retired in 1999 following 32 years of service. Stone was a resident of Lake from 1961 until his death in 2013.

The scholarship was established by family, friends and former students of Mr. Stone in honor of "his love for education,

of students during his tenure." To make contributions to endow the scholarship, contact the ECCC Foundation at 601-635-6327.

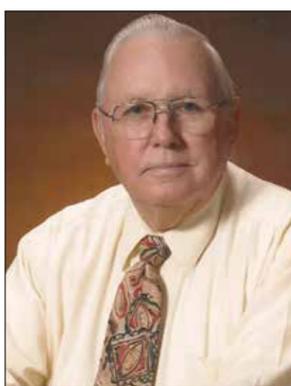
Stone graduated from Harpersville High School prior to enrolling at ECCC in 1957. He received a bachelor's degree from the University of Southern Mississippi and later earned three masters' degrees from Mississippi State University.

The recipient of the Huey G. Stone Memorial Scholarship will be selected annually by the ECCC Scholarship Committee and recognized at the AT&T

scholarship Association Luncheon held each summer.

To be considered for the scholarship, applicants must be a graduate of Lake High School; have a minimum 2.5 grade point average entering ECCC; must be a fulltime student at ECCC and taking classes with an emphasis in education; and must possess leadership qualities. Preference will be given to applicants with a financial need.

For more information, contact ECCC Student Services, 601-635-6205 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is rlee@eccc.edu.



STONE



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Richardson Receives Haywood Scholarship: Brody Richardson (left) of Louisville is the 2013-14 recipient of the Sylvia Graham Haywood Memorial Scholarship provided at East Central Community College. Richardson is a freshman liberal arts major from Winston Academy. She is pictured with academic counselor/recruiter Lanette Hanna. The scholarship was established by Mrs. Haywood's husband, Dr. William Thomas Haywood, who served as ECCC business manager and accounting instructor from 1951-58. Mrs. Haywood, a member of the EC Class of 1954, served as editor of the *Wo-He-Lo* yearbook, performed with the Madrigals and was selected May Queen. She was an English teacher and later experienced a successful career as an attorney before losing her battle with cancer at age 48 in 1984.

Richardson is a freshman liberal arts major from Winston Academy. She is pictured with academic counselor/recruiter Lanette Hanna. The scholarship was established by Mrs. Haywood's husband, Dr. William Thomas Haywood, who served as ECCC business manager and accounting instructor from 1951-58. Mrs. Haywood, a member of the EC Class of 1954, served as editor of the *Wo-He-Lo* yearbook, performed with the Madrigals and was selected May Queen. She was an English teacher and later experienced a successful career as an attorney before losing her battle with cancer at age 48 in 1984.

ECCC Announces Fall Semester Honor Roll

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Students named to the 2013 fall semester honor roll, which includes those selected to the President's List, Dean's List and Honorable Mention List, have been announced at East Central Community College, according to Deanna Rush, Director of Admissions and Records.

PRESIDENT'S LIST

Those named to the President's List, students with a 4.0 grade point average, include the following:

- BENTONIA: Taylor Potter
- BRANDON: Ashlan Culbertson, Danette Harris and Chelsey Smith;
- CALEDONIA: Tyler Armistad;
- CARTHAGE: Conor Bell, Matthew Bishop, Madie Brantley, Gloria Burgess, Kristen Chipley, John Davis, Tyler Faulkner, Anna Girling, Jennifer Hardin, Katessa Hutchins, Alisha Jones, Hanna Kemp, Kamaran Malone, Sherry McKee, Matthew Sullivan, Megan Thaggard, Matthew Tucker, Amber Williams, Florabel Withers and George Woods;
- CHUNKY: Taylor Gressett and David Martin;
- COLLINSVILLE: Katherine Sullivan and Dakota Wright;
- CONEHATTA: Breena Chickaway, Darin Hillman, Tabitha LaBue and Alana Mowdy;
- CRESTWOOD, KY: Zachary Killion;
- DECATUR: Erika Cockrell, Sarah Freeman, Melissa Griffin, Shawn Horn, Katie Sanford, Stephanie Spence, Jessica Thames, William Thompson and Charles Thorne;
- EL DORADO, AR: James Williams;
- FLORENCE: Dalton Smith;
- FLOWOOD: Daniel Myrick;
- FOREST: Erica Bennett, Christopher Brown, Emilee Cox, Kelsey Cox, Dominick Fields, Jennifer Grove, Jay Riser, Justin Rushing and Peggy Sims;
- HICKORY: Aaren Avera, Haley Chapman, Katherine Jacome-Cluff, Jason Johnson, Mackenzie Rowzee and Haleigh Waken;
- KENNEDY, AL: Karoline Holsonback;
- LAKE: Jessie Barrett, Tracy Gray, Yashica Ickom, Matthew Risher and Jesus Toledano;
- LITTLE ROCK: Danielle Gregory, Lacye Harrison, Jacob Oliver and Abbey Rigdon;
- LOUIN: Emily Gully;
- LOUISVILLE: Zachary Allen, Alexander Bucklew, Bryan Burton, Brianna Davis, Hayden Fryery, Laken Fulcher, Alexis Hartness, Cara Jackson, Jessica Moffett and Brody Richardson;
- MENDENHALL: Alana Turner;
- MERIDIAN: Manesha Brown, Kennedy Castleberry, Paige Gower, Steven Harmon, Bailey Laird, Rachel Laird and Hannah Mitchell;
- MORTON: Chauncy Griffin, Hannah McCurdy, Joseph Patrick, Kelsey Porter and Tyler Rannels;

- NEDERLAND, TX: Makayla Kelly;
- NEWTON: Catherine Arrington, Alyssa Barton, William Collins, Rayanne Craven, Mackenzie Gannon, Ryan Godwin and Timothy Laird;
- NOXAPATER: Brooke Smith;
- PASCAGOULA: Alana Walker;
- PELAHATCHIE: Justin Last-er;
- PHILADELPHIA: Mary Bailey, Kendall Brown, Cosper Collins, Elizabeth Curran, Alexey Danilov, Allison Johnson, Anna Lewis, Samuel Lovorn, Bridgette McFarland, Anna Nowell, Zachary Peden, Rachel Rogers, Chandler Smith, Jonathan Tindol, Elauran Vowell, Whitney Waddell and Bradley Winstead;
- PULASKI: Joseph Matuszewski and Katherin Qualls;
- SEBASTOPOL: William Wragg;
- UNION: Emma Burton, Casey Cherry, Erika Clark, Kirstin Eversoll, Nathan Griffin, Chelsea James, Benjamin Killen, Meghan McPherson, Jackie Moore, Courtney Moorehead, Breanna Morgan, Kelley Page, Casey Parker, Hannah Pilgrim, Hailey Stewart, Taylor Townsend and Silvia Cristina Viana-Carvalho; and
- WALNUT GROVE: Shannon McNeill.

DEAN'S LIST

The Dean's List includes the following students who achieved a 3.5 or above grade point average:

- ABERDEEN: Shedrick Fair;
- BATESVILLE: Robert Whitten;
- BILOXI: Jerry Byrd;
- BRANDON: George Bond, Dillon Drake and ShaMyia Evans Patrick;
- BROOKHAVEN: Andrew Morris;
- CANTON: Jonathan Brown;
- CARTHAGE: Richard Ainsworth, Alec Doggett, John Evans, Monica Hamilton, Hannah Jolly, Parker Jones, Kimberly Leflore, Kaitlyn Lofton, Cynthia Middlebrooks, Courtney Moore, Hannah Peoples, Letecia Rome, Kayla Searcy, Laura Shelton, Aaron Shepard, Cody Smith, Brooklyn Stewart, Kendall Wilcher and Gary Winstead;
- CHUNKY: Destinee Buckley;
- CLINTON: Lauren Peterson;
- COLLINSVILLE: Lauren Cantey, Kimberly Talbert and Mallory Turner;
- COLUMBUS: Eric Warnat;
- CONEHATTA: Joanie Chickaway, Christon Flores, Sarah Labue and Darrin Rolison;
- CORINTH: Tesia Keith;
- DEKALB: Sydney Dawkins;
- DECATUR: Acea Ange, Joseph Aulds, Aaron Brown, Latoya Brown, Cindy Burnside, Jage Doss, Christopher Evans, James Gentry, Stephanie Harrison, Latisia Johnson, Alana Knowles, Alana Kron, Guy Loper, William Mott, Felica Robinson, Tyler Spence, Robin Towner, Jesse Vaughn, Jordan Walker and Zachary Yates;
- ETHEL: Brittany White;

- FLOWOOD: Ronald Dixon;
- FOREST: Crystal Anderson, John Bobbitt, Keisha Bobbitt, Shazandra Bridges, Bailey Easterling, Clayton Edmonds, Shawn Evans, Kristen Gordy, Luis Hernandez, Kristine Jenkins, Justin Johnson, Carolyn Keeton, Maria Martinez, Constance Perkins, Tamantha Qualls, Eryn Smith, Stephen Woods and Tasha Yates;
- FOXWORTH: Joshua Parker;
- HICKORY: Emily Jacome-Cluff, Christopher Morgan, Stephen Pugh, Timothy Rose and Bryant Williams;
- LAKE: Gary Cooksey, Jacob Emmons, Wesley Hines, Emma-rald Jones, Mark Shoemaker, Andrea Taffinger, Brittney Taylor and Keifer Wolfe;
- LAUDERDALE: Amanda Breland and Arkeem Johnson;
- LAWRENCE: Dominique Evans and Laura Shook;
- LENA: Tymaiya Gray, Stephanie Latham, Ashley O'Bannon and Elizabeth Wilson,
- LITTLE ROCK: William Cress, Candis Edmonds, Courtney Elliott, Mark Hale, Delton Harrison and William Howington;
- LOUIN: Dustie Chisholm, Shatarra McClendon and Kurtis Simoneau;
- LOUISVILLE: Dianne Ball, Kayla Covington, Jennings Davis, Rebecca Estes, Kaylin Hopkins, Angela Jenkins-Coburn, Jenna Lovorn, Teylor Martinez, Lindsey McCool, Anthony McDaniel, Nakia Miller, Kelsey Nowell, Morgan Parkes, Warner Parkes, Madelyn Peterson, Lesli Pickett and Megan Robinson;
- LUCEDALE: Jordyn Scarborough;
- MADISON: Kyle McCullough;
- MCCOOL: Kierra Griffin;
- MERIDIAN: Brandon Downing, Jonathan Graham, Michael Hughes, Shelby McKelvine, Kennedy McReynolds, Helen Milling, Malauri Robinson, Zachary Sterdivant and Hunter Thrower;
- MORTON: Rachal Aburto, Grayson Harrell, Anna Nichols, Christin Polk, Santana Runnels and Madison Smith;
- NEWTON: Trevor Ayllon, Antonio Body, Emily Bounds, Jack Brand, Tracie Buckley, Deeanna Carlson, Mikayla Carson, Christiana Collins, William Collins, Julian Fuentes, Jasmine Green, Demetria Jones, Nikki Jones, Sara Kilgore, Sonya McKee, Charles Roebuck, Victoria Shimmfessel, Brandon St.Clair, Megan Wall and Stephanie Willis;
- NOXAPATER: Colton Horne, Mitzi Kirk and Haley Pierce;
- PELAHATCHIE: Aaron Cooper;
- PHILADELPHIA: Christopher Boatner, Jessie Boatner, Toni Bryant, Corey Burton, Miranda Clark, Gregory Clemens, Ivey Commer, Emily Cook, Virginia Easley, Kayla Estes, Margurite Ferguson, Shatamia Fulton, LaFera Holt, Willie-sha McDonald, Eden McGee, Nicklas McNair, William Myers, Wendy Parker, Stephanie

- Peavy, Tamie Powe, Jessica Skinner, Keenen Wahwasuck, Scott Walker, Jana Warren, Hillary Williams, Sa'Toya Wilson and Leslie Young;
- PRESTON: Josten Day and Jessica Richardson;
- PULASKI: Kyle Craig and Brady Warren;
- RED BANKS: John Martin;
- RICHLAND: Gage Sullivan;
- SEBASTOPOL: Ashley Barber and Aderian Partain;
- SEMMES, AL: Dylan Little;
- UNION: Brittany Burnham, Tiffany Dorman, Daniel Giles, Candice Gore, Jessie Henning-ton, Jacob Loper, Jennifer McCraw, Jordan McPhail, Marje Moment, Jonathan Moore, Karleigh Moss, Mary Price, Ashlyn Pullin, Jayohnnie Slaughter, Hayley Stephens, Sarah Tatum, Patricia Thweatt, Morgan Tune, Lucas Viverette, Mallory Wilk-erson and Kristien Winstead;
- VOSSBURG: Walter Stallings;
- WALNUT GROVE: Lauren Copeland, Wanda Harrison, Hannah Kersgaard, Brianna May and Carrie Summers Jones; and
- WEST BLOCTON, AL: Jacob Bush.

HONORABLE MENTION

- The following students were named to the Honorable Mention List and earned a 3.0 or above grade point average:
- ADDIS, LA: Cody Daigle;
 - BAILEY: Georgia Doner;
 - BAY SPRINGS: Emileigh Irvin and Amy James;
 - BAY ST. LOUIS: Ramone Tate;
 - BILOXI: Lekerra McGilberry
 - BRANDON: Mary Jefcoat, Kardarius McClendon, Shani-qua Quinn and Casie Tadlock;
 - BROOKHAVEN: Christen Benson;
 - CARTHAGE: Haden Boze-man; Hope Brown, Chelsea Cleveland, Christine Cockroft, Anna Crawford, Evan Dowell, Samantha Farley, Ivy Foster, Stafford Griffin, Victoria Jones, MaChasity Leflore, Gerald Mann, Joseph McBeth, Stephanie Neal, Jordan Peters, Victoria Sanders, Austin Shepard, Johnny Stephens, Kimyatte Townsend and Kristin White;
 - CHOCTAW: Jaric Anderson and Allen Bell;
 - CHUNKY: Jordan Alonso, Taylor Godwin and Heather Johnson;
 - COLUMBIA: Courtney Forbes;
 - COLUMBUS: Taleesha Rice and Matthew Sykes;
 - CONEHATTA: Katie Bradley, TaSheena John, Austin Jordan, Ashley Kirkpatrick, Amy May, Tania Rhodes and Hanna Williams;
 - DALEVILLE: Michael Watts;
 - DEKALB: Bonnie Hedgpepeth and Jeremy Hudson;
 - DECATUR: Christopher Addy, Kim Amerson, Jonathan Amis, Stephen Armstrong, Hannah Brown, Nicole Cater, Jason Forrest, Mary Jones, Michaela Loper, Kara Miller, Angela Reeves, Caitlyn Sant, Adam Savell, Hannah Smith, Chris-

- topher Smith, Shannon Smith, Russell Thompson, Miriam Williams and Seber Williams;
- ENTERPRISE: Morgan Porter;
- FLORENCE: Christopher Yarbrough;
- FOREST: Tony Alford, Christopher Allen, Eliud Alvarez, David Aust, Tanya Bobbitt, Jessica Brown, Chelsea Campbell, Ari-el Carter, Jesse Clark, Briana Cooks, Denzonia Fortune, Zach-ary Gardner, Amy Haralson, Gabriel Harmon, Sean Johnson, Catherine Kyzar, Ian Lanthrip, Ryan McClendon, Erik Moya, Shelby Patterson, Jacy Peoples, Brady Power, John Reiss, Kim-berly Rigby, Ephraim Ringo, Ja-son Stroud, Ananezia Triplett, Dequita Williams, Ernest Wil-iamson, Laura Williamson and Collin Windham;
- GULFPORT: Garrett Blevins;
- HAMILTON: Cojuante Mc-Millian;
- HICKORY: Alisha Dunn, Marquis Ellis, Kelsie Mann and Ashley Priego;
- KOSCIUSKO: Lakresha Cov-ington, Shanika McDonald and Justin Moore;
- LAKE: Allison Colbert, Emily Emmons, Matthew Ferguson, Whitney Fountain, Iris Gray, Rienzi Gray, Jonathon Hodge, Ashley Johnson, Shane Naquin and Brianna Parkman;
- LAUREL: Cory Kitchens and Christina McDonald;
- LAWRENCE: Keoddrick Hill-ie, Johnson Lyles and Tiffany Watkins;
- LENA: Kaitlyn Busby, Lorrie Moore, Katie Pigg, Tracey Riley, Lacie Sessums, Wesley Smith and Haley Watkins;
- LITTLE ROCK: Jeffery Al-exander, William Alexander, Cheyenne Jones, Zachery May, Colby Rigdon and Tiffany Vr-bickly;
- LOUIN: Jalisa Wheaton;
- LOUISVILLE: Justin Bates, Gary Boatner, Chiquita Cham-bers, Noah Corcoran, Tanner Dalton, Amy Hall, Byron Hat-horn, Sidney Hendrix, Joni Hickman, Elizabeth Hurt, Ben-jamin Johns, Joshua Jones, Stephanie Linch, Jordan Lovorn, Bria Marshall, Gloria Moore, Victoria Quinn, Andrew Reel, Sarah Rogers, Sydney Rogers, Kelsey Smith, Kiarah Stewart, Hayden Stokes, Monta-tana Thomason, Keocania Yar-brough and Dacia Young;
- MADISON: John Berry and Ryan Ward;
- MAGEE: Addie Ambrosier;
- MCCOOL: Samantha Mor-gan;
- MEMPHIS, TN: Michael Mat-lock;
- MERIDIAN: Nikki Ward, Lindsey Beard, Jenah Brown, Birdia Butchee, Judd Clinton, Melissa Damiens, Christopher Ford, Tratia Foster, Ashley Green, Leslie Hawkins, Erika Joyner, Yolanda McAlpine, La-tassia McClelland, Bailey McEl-roy, Gregory Mitchell, Matthew Morris, Joseph Pigg, Nathan Powell, Brittani Rhoney and Chris Stephens;
- MILLPORT, AL: Kendra Wil-son;

- MORTON: James Corneli-son, Alanna Crotwell, Paxton Holmes, Justin Nutt, Meghan Schmidt, Tyler Stewart, Dani-ela Vargas and Kara Yates;
- NEWTON: Jerry Beal, Shane-ka Blaylock, Kelli Boulton, Sid-ney Broach, Felicia Broome, Dama Cates-Kilgore, Jennifer Collins, Shana Evans, Lenore Gray, John Hausley, Cathy Johnson, Rachristopher Jones, Morgan Luke, Alma Pickens, Amanda Pientowski, DaQuaun Robinson, Jasmine Skinner, Tiffany Skinner, Kacey Smi-ley, Jeffery Stevens and Robert Walker;
- NOXAPATER: John Bane, Madison Barnett, Brandon Coleman and Zachery Kemp;
- PACHUTA: Natalia Jones;
- PELAHATCHIE: Brittany Smith;
- PHILADELPHIA: Jennifer Anderson, Victoria Atkinson, Cole Barnes, Ashlei Brown, Tylan Buckley, Hannah Clark, Heather Clark, Julie Clark, Jordan Clearman, Lauren Cow-ard, David Creekmore, Tara Gilmer, Ashley Graham, Aaron Hancock, DeShayna Hickman, Donna Hickman, Jared Jim, Bethany Jones, Myeisha Jones, Christian Little, Madison Lov-ern, Walter McCool, Estefania Olmedo Lumberas, Julie Os-borne, Lanna Parker, Tyler Par-tridge, Contessa Peebles, Mi-cheal Reynolds, Austin Savell, Hailey Smith, Lydia Snow, Dustin Sullivan, Christopher Warren, Meagan Warren, Dak-ota Wilcher, Lacey Willis and Asif Zaffar;
- PRESTON: Martin Johnson, Benjamin Rosamond, Ruby Stewart and Terry Wilkinson;
- PULASKI: Kimberly Harri-son and Rebecca Wicker;
- QUITMAN: Macio Jackson;
- RALEIGH: Delphine Ed-wards;
- RIDGELAND: Jacques John-son;
- ROSE HILL: Candace Brad-ley, Ethan Lewis, Jerry Lewis and Jordan Wigington;
- SEBASTOPOL: Quinton Gilmore;
- SHUBUTA: Evan Pugh;
- TAYLORSVILLE: Sheena Nicholson-Barnes and Conner West;
- TOOMSUBA: Aaliyah Smith;
- TUPELO: Clinton McGraw;
- UNION: Amanda Barnett, John Boatner, Ashley Boze-man, Byron Bozeman, Coni Bryant, Jennifer Donald, Alex-ander Farve, James Franklin, Amanda Freeman, Clinton Har-mon, Anna Himebrook, Victoria Malone, Stephanie McCrary, Eric McElhenney, Eric Plai-sance, Sarah Ricamore, Ethan Rigdon, Hannah Robinson, William Schmid, Haley Taylor, Adrian Tucker, Cindy Warrick and Nathan Williams;
- VOSSBURG: Deshawn Pitt-man; and
- WALNUT GROVE: Aleiaha Bloodsaw, Krystan Bolton, Jer-emy Denson, Yasmin Gill, Kelsi Gilmer, Amber Pierce and Jan-ice Poling.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Students Selected for Who's Who: These students at East Central Community College were recently named to Who's Who Among Students in American Community/Junior Colleges for 2013-14. Students were nominated by faculty and staff and are chosen based on academic achievement and involvement in extracurricular clubs and organizations. Pictured are (first row, from left) Brianna Parkman of Lake, Kara Miller of Decatur, Mikayla Carson of Newton, Teylor Martinez of Nanih Waiya, Latisia Johnson of Decatur, Patricia Thweatt of Union, Mary Margaret Bailey of Philadelphia, Nan Hartness of Louisville, Heather Johnson of Chunky, and Andrea McSwain of Decatur; (second row, from left) Brooke Wilson of Good Hope, Kara Beth Johnson of Morton, Ty Buckley and Hillary Wilson, both of Philadelphia; Ashlyn Pullin of Union, Taylor Gressett of Chunky, Kayla Covington of Nanih Waiya, Kelsey Cox of Forest, Felica Robinson of Hickory, Hannah McCurdy of Morton, Meghan McPherson of Union, Sydney Dawkins of DeKalb, Morgan Luke of Newton, Alana Turner of Florence, Jacob Oliver of Little Rock, Jesse Vaughn of Decatur, Kendall Wilcher of Carthage, Sawyer Williams of El Dorado, Ark., Eliud Alvarez of Forest; (third row, from left) Tell Matuszewski of Raleigh, Justin Nutt of Morton, Emilee Cox of Forest, Kelsey Nowell of Nanih Waiya, Denzel Clemons of Philadelphia, Chelsey Smith of Brandon, Madison Herrington of Union, Chelsea Cambell of Forest, Jayohnnie Slaughter of Union, Payton Smith of Forest, Lindsey McCool of Louisville, Kristen Chipley of Carthage, Casey Cherry of Union, Paige Gower of Meridian, Miranda Clark of Philadelphia, Claire Milling of Meridian, Emily Jacome-Cluff of Hickory, Hannah Smith of Decatur, Aderian Partain of Sebastopol; (fourth row, from left) Bryant Williams of Hickory, Zachary Yates, Joseph Aulds and Stephanie Spence, all of Decatur; Rayanne Craven of Newton, Bailey Laird of Meridian, Jessie Boatner of Philadelphia, Clint Walker of Newton, Macy Seale and Zach Peden, both of Philadelphia; Ryan Godwin of Newton; Aaron Brown of Decatur, Elauran Vowell of Philadelphia, Hayden Fryery of Louisville, Allie Killens of Saltillo, Kennedy Castleberry of Meridian, Mackenzie Britt of Florence, Matthew Evans of Forest, Aaron Tucker of Carthage, Maxwell Harmon of Enterprise; and (back row, from left) Russ Thompson and Will Thompson, both of Decatur; Nathan Powell of Enterprise, Brady Power of Forest, Nathan Williams of Union, Conor Bell of Carthage, Paige Wall of Hero, Emily Gully of Bay Springs, Sam Lovorn and Chandler Smith, both of Philadelphia; Jordan Walker of Decatur, Greg Mitchell of Meridian, William Walker Stokes of Philadelphia, Jake Bush of West Blocton, Ala., Conner West of Taylorsville, Caleb Woods of Carthage, and Zach May and Colby Rigdon, both of Little Rock.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Surgical Technology Graduates: Ready to begin careers in the healthcare field are the above graduates of East Central Community College's Surgical Technology program who were recognized at the annual pinning ceremony held Thursday, Dec. 12, 2013, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. Seated from left are Anita Evans of Lawrence, Kristen Carson of Newton, Jada Crain of Morton, Angie Withers of Forest, Meagan Warren of Philadelphia and Taleesha Rice of Columbus. Standing from left are Kristie Pilgrim, instructor; Donna Hickman of Philadelphia; Montana Thomason of Louisville, Angela Stiles and Tina Cargile, both of Forest; Brooke Caraway of Decatur and LeAnn Shirley, program director/instructor. Thomason was selected "Student of the Year." For more information on the ECCC Surgical Technology program, contact Denita Thomas, dean of healthcare education, 601-635-6294 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 294. The email address is dthomas@eccc.edu.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

ECCC Students Collect Christmas Gifts for Area Children: These students enrolled in the "Warrior Path to Success" program at East Central Community College took time away from their studies to collect Christmas toys and other gifts for children at the Blair E. Batson Children's Hospital in Jackson. Participating in the community service project were (front row, from left) Tania Rhodes of Conehatta and Rachel McCord of Newton; and (back row, from left) Johnias Ellis of Raleigh, Sharayne Walton of Carthage, Anthony McGee of Quitman, Erica Tubby of Philadelphia and Shanell Nick of Newton. April Watson serves as program instructor.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Thomason Receives ECCC Surgical Technology Honor: Montana Thomason (center) of Louisville was selected East Central Community College's "Surgical Technology Student of the Year" and received special recognition at the program's annual pinning ceremony held Thursday, Dec. 12, 2013, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. Thomason earned the award for excelling in the classroom and clinical settings. Also pictured are program director/instructor LeAnn Shirley (left) and instructor Kristie Pilgrim who made the presentation. For more information on the ECCC Surgical Technology program, contact Denita Thomas, dean of healthcare education, 601-635-6294 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 294. The email address is dthomas@eccc.edu.

Public Relations Group Offers Student Scholarships

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

In order to encourage the growth and professional development of students interested in obtaining a degree in the areas of communication, the College Public Relations Association of Mississippi (CPRAM) will award one \$500 scholarship to an undergraduate student entering or enrolled in an accredited two-year institution of higher learning; and one \$500 scholarship to an undergraduate student entering or enrolled in a four-year institution of higher learning.

To be considered for a CPRAM Scholarship, applicants must be in "good standing" and present three letters of recommendation from individuals connected to his/her academic institution. This includes college advisors, high school teacher/official, home-school teacher, etc. Students may be recommended by an active CPRAM member in

lieu of, or in conjunction with those listed above.

Applicants must also complete the application form and return it to the CPRAM scholarship committee on or before the deadline of Feb. 14, 2014. Applications must be accompanied by letters of recommendation. (To obtain an application form, contact Steve Diffey at Holmes Community College, 662-472-9068 or e-mail sdifey@holmescc.edu.)

The application form must be accompanied by a 500-word essay titled, "With All the Changes Being Made in the Field of Communications, What Skills Do I Have to Keep Up with These Changes?"

The scholarship covers a one-year period. However, recipients may re-apply annually for the scholarship but the committee reserves the right to make its decision based on need, merit and the number of applicants each year.

The CPRAM Scholarship Committee will announce the winner(s) during its annual conference scheduled May 19-20, 2014, at the Bancorp South Center in Tupelo. The scholarship will then be awarded for the fall term.

Students applying for the CPRAM scholarship must be majoring in one of the following fields of study: public relations communications, journalism advertising, mass communications, political communications crisis management, graphic design, or other communication oriented major. (The CPRAM scholarship committee reserves the right to determine what major is considered acceptable.)

Applicants must be considered full-time students at their respective institutions.

No student will be discriminated against based on race, religion, age, gender, or financial situation.

THE WAY WE WORKED

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Warrior Athletics

EXTRAORDINARY ATHLETE

Nowell's Game of Life: Inspirationally Successful

BY BRIANNA PARKMAN
Staff Writer

Anna Katherine Nowell, or more commonly known as "Anna Kat," is this edition of *The Tom-Tom's* Extraordinary Athlete. Nowell is a freshman and graduate of Leake Academy. She is part of the Lady Warrior softball and basketball teams at East Central Community College.



BRIANNA PARKMAN
Staff Writer

college is one of the hardest things I think I've ever been a part of." She continued, "First of all, I would not have been given this opportunity if it had not been for my God blessing me with the ability to play, so I thank Him for that!"

Playing two sports is challenging, not only with making it to both practices but doing what needs to be done on the field or court with each sport. Whether it is a three-pointer, a home-run, a lay-up or a caught pop-up, one has to obtain different talents to play a specific role for each ballgame. Nowell has mastered this concept.

She said, "Basketball and Softball both require energy, skills and many hours of practice!"

Although at the beginning of it all she said she was so stressed, with the help of the Lord, her family and friends, she has pressed on.

Nowell has just recently been in-

cluded to join Phi Theta Kappa, the college honor society. Extracurricular activities are always fun to be a part of, but most importantly students attend ECCC to further their education and to succeed academically.

Yet, Nowell juggles the best of both worlds with being a successful athlete and student.



NOWELL

She said, "My parents are the main reason my grades are as well as they are."

For students, it is a blessing to have parents who care about their school life, grades or sports.

Nowell broke her foot during last semester, which can be a depressing time for athletes. With being a part of two teams, she could have given up, but she did not.

She said, "I am thankful for the injury, although at the time, it was not in my plans at all."

Romans 8:28 comes to mind, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." Nowell did not give up, and with that she was able to learn ways to be a team player.

"God used the injury to show me what it really means to be a part of a team. In all my days of playing, I

could take the game in my hands, but the ball was not in my hands throughout the injury. I had to find things, like encouraging them, to help my team other than just playing." Nowell said,

"Pretty much everybody on the campus helps me anyway they possibly can." She summed it all up by saying one very encouraging and praise-worthy sentence.

She said, "So far, East Central has helped me grow spiritually, educationally and athletically."

Editor's note: Anna Katherine Nowell is truly an inspiration, and I wish the Lady Warrior softball and basketball team the best this season doing it the EC way, excellence with class! Hard work pays off. Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and your plans will succeed. Proverbs 16:3 :)

Lady Warriors Softball Squad Sweeps Alabama Southern

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Winning ways continue for East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team following a double-header sweep of Alabama Southern Community College Saturday, Feb. 8 on the Monroeville, Ala., campus.

The Lady Diamond Warriors claimed an 8-0 shutout in the opener and followed with a 7-2 decision in the nightcap to improve to 4-0 under second-year head coach Kristin Chaney.

Ty Buckley belted two home runs, a single and collected four RBIs in leading EC's offense in the opener. She also scored four runs. Buckley, a sophomore infielder, is a product of Neshoba Central High School.

Other hitters were Morgan Porter of Enterprise, double and single; and Kaylin Hopkins of Louisville, Lindsey Beard of Clarkdale, Hayley Stephens of Union, Skyler Simmons, a product of Bob Jones High School in Madison, Ala., Karoline Holsonback of South Lamar High School in Kennedy, Ala., and Makayla Kelly, of Nederland (Texas) High School, singles each.

Beard, Stephens and Kelly were also credited with an RBI each.

Kendra Wilson went the distance on the mound to earn the victory. She allowed four hits, fanned three batters and walked four in the six-inning matchup.

In the second contest, Buckley blasted a two-run homer in helping lead the offense.

Other sluggers were Porter,

triple and single; Kelly, double and single; Stephens, two singles; and Turner, Beard and Simmons, singles each. Turner and Holsonback were also credited with an RBI each.

Kelly went the distance on the mound to claim the victory. She allowed seven hits and fanned five in the seven-inning battle.

East Central hosts Mississippi Delta Community College Friday, Feb. 14. Doubleheader action begins at 2 p.m.

ECCC SOFTBALL SQUAD SWEEPS EMCC IN OPENER

Softball season began on a successful note for the East Central Community College Lady Warriors who earned a pair of victories from rival East Mississippi Community College in non-division matchups held during freezing temperatures Thursday, Feb. 6.

EC cruised 10-3 in the opener and posted an 8-0 shutout to complete the sweep under second-year head coach Kristin Chaney.

Hayley Stephens led Lady Warrior hitters in the first contest with a double, single and two RBIs. She also scored twice.

Stephens is a sophomore infielder and product of Union High School.

Other hitters were Lindsey Beard of Clarkdale, double; and Mallory Turner of West Lauderdale, Kaylin Hopkins of Louisville and Ty Buckley of Neshoba Central, singles each. Turner, Porter, Beard and Skyler Simmons, a product of Bob Jones High School in Madison, Ala., were each credited with an RBI.

Kendra Wilson went the distance on the mound to record the victory. The sophomore hurler fanned five, walked three and allowed five hits in the seven-inning matchup.

Wilson is a product of South Lamar High School in Millport,

Ala.

In the second contest, freshman hurler Makayla Kelly stymied the East MS offense by allowing just four hits and fanning three batters in the five-inning battle.

Kelly is a product of Neder-

land (Texas) High School.

EC's offense was led by Karoline Holsonback, who belted two singles and collected three RBIs.

Holsonback is a freshman utility player from South Lamar High School in Kennedy,

Ala.

Other sluggers were Porter, two singles; Simmons, single and two RBIs; Buckley and Kelly, single and RBI each; and Hopkins and Beard, singles each.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Wilson Records Opening Day Victory: Sophomore hurler Kendra Wilson (5) helped lead East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball squad to a 10-3 season-opening victory over rival East MS Thursday, Feb. 6. Wilson allowed five hits and fanned three batters in the seven-inning opener. She is a product of South Lamar High School in Millport, Ala. The Lady Diamond Warriors posted an 8-0 shutout in the nightcap to complete the sweep.

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

WARRIORS



2014 Softball Schedule

- February 6
East MS • 3 p.m.
- February 8
@ Alabama Southern • 1 p.m.
- February 11
@ Marion Military 1 p.m.
- February 14
MS Delta • 2 p.m.
- February 17
Marion Military • 3 p.m.
- February 19
@ Holmes • 3 p.m.
- February 24
Alabama Southern, AL • 3 p.m.
- February 25
@ Gadsden State AL • 1 p.m.
- March 1
Jones • 1 p.m.
- March 4
@ Meridian • 2 p.m.
- March 7
MS Gulf Coast • 2 p.m.
- March 11
@ Southwest • 3 p.m.
- March 17
@ Baton Rouge, LA • 3 p.m.
- March 19
@ Co-Lin • 3 p.m.
- March 22
Hinds • 1 p.m.
- March 25
Pearl River • 3 p.m.
- March 29
@ Jones • 2 p.m.
- April 2
Meridian • 3 p.m.
- April 5
@ MS Gulf Coast • 12 noon
- April 8
Southwest • 3 p.m.
- April 11
Co-Lin • 2 p.m.
- April 14
@ Hinds • 2 p.m.
- April 16
@ Pearl River • 3 p.m.



For more information visit www.eccc.edu

Warrior Athletics

Diamond Warriors Sweep Pensacola in Season Opener

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Chance Whitten's walk-off homer in the eighth inning provided East Central Community College with a 4-3 extra-inning victory over Pensacola State College and a sweep of the season-opening twin bill played Saturday, Feb. 8, at the Clark Baseball Complex.



HOLLIMAN

The Diamond Warriors held on to win the opener by a 6-5 margin.

Whitten, a freshman outfielder/first baseman from South Panama High School, also singled and finished with two RBIs.



DELOACH

Other hitters were Lane Fazende, a product of Pearl River High School, double; and Jake Bush of Brookwood (Ala.) High School and Kyle McCullough of Madison Ridgeland



SIMS



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Diamond Warriors: Members of East Central Community College's baseball squad include (first row, from left) outfielder (1) Ben Cooley, a product of South Jones High School; infielder (2) Dylan Little, Mary G. Montgomery HS, Semmes, Ala.; short stop/second baseman (3) Hunter Thrower, Southeast Lauderdale; outfielder/left-handed pitcher (4) Jake Bush, Brookwood (Ala.) High School; outfielder (5) Cojuante McMillian, Hamilton; left-handed pitcher (6) Zach Mowdy, Union; right-handed pitcher (7) Courtney Forbes, Columbia; outfielder (8) Zach May, Newton County; right-handed pitcher (9) Mason Woodrow, Taylorsville; outfielder (11) Kyle McCullough, Madison Ridgeland Academy; catcher/right-handed pitcher (12) Lane Fazende, Pearl River Central; left-handed pitcher/outfielder (13) Will Myers, Leake Academy; and catcher (14) Todd Hughes, Clarkdale; (second row, from left) Neal Holliman, head coach; infielder/outfielder (10) Maxwell Harmon, Enterprise; left-handed pitcher (15) Cory Kitchens, Heidelberg Academy; right-handed pitcher/infielder (16) Ryan Ward, Madison Ridgeland Academy; right-handed pitcher (18) Conner West, Taylorsville; outfielder (19) Gage Sullivan, Richland; right-handed pitcher (20) Ty Hendrix, East Webster; left-handed pitcher (21) Nick Wilson, Terry; first baseman (22) Caleb Woods, Leake Central; right-handed pitcher (23) Dillon Drake, Puckett; Scott DeLoach and Ronald Sims, assistant coaches; and (back row, from left) third baseman/first baseman (25) Cody Daigle, Parkview Baptist, Addis, La.; first baseman/outfielder (27) John Morgan Berry, Madison Central; catcher/outfielder (28) Deshawn Pittman, Quitman; outfielder (31) Reagan Warren, Newton County; outfielder/first baseman (33) Chance Whitten, South Panama; right-handed pitcher (34) Kale Fultz, Covington, Tenn.; right-handed pitcher (35) Colby Eaves, Nanih Waiya; right-handed pitcher/catcher (37) Seth Dement, Hamilton; and managers Chris Yarbrough of Florence and Ephraim Ringo of Forest.

Academy, singles each.

Right-hander Ryan Ward picked up the win in relief. He fanned one batter in his one-inning appearance. Ward is a product of Madison Ridgeland Academy. Starter Conner West hurled one inning. The right-hander from Taylorsville allowed three runs on two hits. He fanned a batter and walked one. Ty Hendrix followed with six innings of work. A right-hander from East Webster, Hendrix allowed no runs on one hit. He fanned four batters and walked

one.

In the opener, EC sluggers were Dylan Little, a product of Mary G. Montgomery High School in Mobile, and Caleb Woods of Leake Central, double and single each; Whitten, double; and Ben Cooley of South Jones, Hunter Thrower of Southeast Lauderdale, John Morgan Berry of Madison Central, Todd Hughes of Clarkdale and McCullough, singles each.

Little and Whitten led in RBIs with two each. Thrower also knocked in a

run.

Mason Woodrow was the winning hurler in relief, as the right-hander from Taylorsville allowed five runs on three hits and fanned six batters during five innings of work.

The Diamond Warriors will host the annual Rush Invitational scheduled Feb. 15-16 at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex.

In first-round competition Saturday, EC battles Faulkner State at 1 p.m. followed by the Faulkner State/Baton

Rouge matchup at 3:30 p.m. East Central and Baton meet at 6 p.m.

Sunday's schedule includes contests featuring Baton Rouge and Faulkner State at 11 a.m.; Baton Rouge and Wallace State at 1:30 p.m.; and Wallace State and Faulkner State at 4 p.m.

For more information, contact Diamond Warrior head coach Neal Holliman at 601-635-6374 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 374. His email address is nholliman@eccc.edu.



WARRIORS EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRESENTS

'LAYING THE FOUNDATION' An Evening With Coach Tony Dungy

MARCH 28, 2014 • 7 P.M.
Neshoba County Coliseum
Philadelphia
\$125 • Reserved Seating
(Includes Dinner)

Also Featuring A Silent Auction Including Various Sports Memorabilia and Other Items



Tony Dungy is the #1 New York Times bestselling author of Quiet Strength and Uncommon. He led the Indianapolis Colts to a Super Bowl victory on February 4, 2007 and established an NFL first by leading his teams to the playoffs for ten consecutive years.

Dungy has been involved in a wide variety of charitable organizations, including the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Athletes in Action, Mentors for Life, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Boys & Girls Clubs, the Prison Crusade Ministry, and All Pro Dad. He also works with Basket of Hope, the Black Coaches Association National Convention, Indiana Black Expo, the United Way of Central Indiana, and the American Diabetes Association.

He retired from coaching in 2008 and now serves as an analyst for NBC's Football Night in America. He and his wife, Lauren, are the parents of seven children.



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EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE WARRIORS

2014 Baseball Schedule

- February 8
Pensacola, FL • 1 p.m.
- February 10
@ Wallace - Selma • 5 p.m.
- February 14-16
Rush Invitational • TBA
- February 18
Northwest • 2 p.m.
- February 21
East MS • 12 noon
- February 21
Jeff Davis • 5 p.m.
- February 26
@ MS Delta • 12 noon
- March 1
Wabash Valley • 12 noon
Northeast • 5 p.m.
- March 4
@ Southwest, TN • 1 p.m.
- March 8
Northwest, FL • 12 noon
Itawamba • 5 p.m.
- March 12
@ MS Gulf Coast • 3 p.m.
- March 15
@ Co-Lin • 2 p.m.
- March 18
Jones • 3 p.m.
- March 22
@ Pearl River • 2 p.m.
- March 26
@ Baton Rouge, LA • 2 p.m.
- March 29
Southwest • 2 p.m.
- April 1
Hinds • 3 p.m.
- April 5
MS Gulf Coast • 2 p.m.
- April 9
Co-Lin • 3 p.m.
- April 12
@ Jones • 2 p.m.
- April 15
Pearl River • 3 p.m.
- April 18
Lawson St. • 2 p.m.
- April 23
@ Southwest • 3 p.m.
- April 26
@ Hinds • 2 p.m.

For more information visit www.eccc.edu

Warrior Athletics

Basketball Squads Drop Decisions to Gulf Coast

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

A last-second basket by Hellanisa Young provided the MS Gulf Coast Community College Lady Bulldogs with an 85-83 victory over the East Central Community College women Monday, Feb. 10 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

Kimberly Wallace had tied the contest at 82 with her short jumper and helped rally the Lady Warriors from a 10-point deficit with approximately three minutes remaining in the MACJC South Division matchup.

With the loss, EC drops to 8-12 overall and 3-8 in league play under second-year head coach Crandal Porter.

Andreka Harper was among five Lady Warriors who scored in double figures. Harper, a freshman guard from Forest, tallied 18 points.

Other top point makers were Bryanna McClendon of Lake, 14; Tynika Bender of Newton, 13; and Jaleisha Jones of Wayne County and Anna Katherine Nowell, each with 10 points. Jones led in rebounds with eight.

Wallace, a product of Ouachita Parish High School in Monroe, La., finished with nine points. Tanihija Hughes of Forest had seven and Shaniqua Quinn of Brandon scored two points.

Christa Owen poured in 28 points to lead the Lady Bulldogs, who improved to 8-11 and 4-7.

EC trailed 46-36 at the break. In the men's contest, it was all Gulf Coast as the visitors cruised 81-57.

Keon McKinney, a freshman guard from West Point, tallied 12 points to lead the Warriors, who fell to 6-14 and 2-9 under first-year head coach Robert Thompson.

Also scoring in double figures was Terrance Mujahid, who had 11 points and led in rebounds with eight. Mujahid is a sophomore forward and a product of Westwood High School in Memphis.

Other point makers were Jacques Johnson of Provine, eight; Demarkus Jones of Terry, six; Michael Matlock of Central High in Memphis and Ramone Tate of St. Stanislaus, five each; Quinton Campbell of Mary G. Montgomery High School in Mobile, three each; and Kristian Clark and Kevin Kirk, both of St. Martin, two each.

Chris Bilbo pumped in 23 points to lead the Bulldogs, who improved to 15-5 and 8-3.

The Warriors trailed 47-20 at halftime.

LADY WARRIORS DEFEAT HINDS; WARRIORS FALL

Tynika Bender tallied 19 points and Tanihija Hughes added 18 in leading East Central Community College's Lady Warriors to a 90-72 thumping of Hinds Community College Thursday, Feb. 6 on the Utica campus.

The MACJC South Division victory snapped a five-game slide for the EC women, who improved to 8-11 overall and 3-7 in league play under second-year head coach Crandal Porter.

Bender is a freshman guard and product of Newton High School. Hughes is a sophomore forward from Forest.

Other scorers were Bryanna McClendon of Lake, 11; Jaleisha Jones of Wayne County, eight; Anna Katherine Nowell of Leake Academy, seven; Shaniqua Quinn of Brandon and Kimberly Wallace, a product of Ouachita Parish High School in Monroe, La., six each; Andreka Harper of Forest and Haley Watkins of Scott Central, five each; Breona Foster of Neshoba Central, three; and Shamiya Evans of Lake, two.

EC led 43-28 at the break. In the men's contest, East Central was outscored 61-46 by the host Bulldogs.

Jacques Jones poured in 15 points and Terrance Mujahid contributed 14 to lead the Warriors, who fell to 6-13 and 2-8 under first-year head coach Robert Thompson.

Jones is a sophomore guard/forward and product of Provine High School in Jackson. Mujahid is a sophomore forward and product of Westwood High School in Memphis.

Other point makers were Ramone Tate of St. Stanislaus, seven; Quinton Campbell of Mary G. Montgomery High School in Mobile, six; Keon McKinney of West Point, three; and Demarkus Jones of Terry, one.

ECCC SQUADS FALL TO PEARL RIVER

East Central Community College's basketball squads were swept by Pearl River Community College in MACJC South Division action held Monday,

Feb. 3 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

The Lady Warriors were unable to maintain their slim halftime lead and dropped a 75-67 decision, while the Warriors' rally from a 17-point halftime deficit fell short, 81-76.

Andreka Harper tallied 19 points to lead the EC women, who fell to 7-11 overall and 2-7 in league play under second-year head coach Crandal Porter.

Harper is a freshman guard and product of Forest High School.

Other scorers were Tynika Bender of Newton, 13; Bryanna McClendon of Lake, 11; Jaleisha Jones of Wayne County, nine; Breona Foster of Neshoba Central, four; Shaniqua Quinn of Brandon, Anna Katherine Nowell of Leake Academy and Tanihija Hughes of Forest, three each; and Kimberly Wallace, a product of Ouachita Parish High School in Monroe, La., two. Hughes led in rebounds with 10.

Deante Darjean poured in 25 points to lead the Lady Wildcats, who improved to 12-3 and 7-2.

EC led 37-32 at the break.

Jacques Johnson pumped in 32 points to lead the Warriors, whose record dipped to 6-12 and 2-7 under first-year head coach Robert Thompson.

Johnson is a sophomore guard/forward and product of Provine High School in Jackson.

Also scoring were Terrance Mujahid, a product of Westwood High School in Memphis, nine; Ramone Tate of St. Stanislaus, eight; Michael Matlock of Central High in Memphis, seven; Keon McKinney of West Point and Desmond Morgan of Morton, six each; Quinton Campbell of Mary G. Montgomery High School in Mobile, five; and Kevin Kirk of St. Martin, three. Matlock led in rebounds with seven.

Jeremy Holliman scored 21 points to lead the Wildcats, who improved to 12-5 and 5-4.

EC trailed 47-30 at the break.

ECCC SQUADS CLIPPED BY MCC

Struggles on the hardwood continue for East Central Community College basketball squads following setbacks to Meridian Community College Thursday, Jan. 30 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

The Lady Warriors were outscored by an 82-64 margin and the Warriors were edged 75-71 in the MACJC South Division matchups.

Freshman guard Bryanna McClendon tallied 15 points to lead the EC women, who fell to 7-10 overall and 2-6 in league play. McClendon is a product of Lake High School.

Also scoring in double figures were Jaleshia Jones of Wayne County, 14; and Leake Academy product Anna Katherine Nowell of Philadelphia, 11.

Other point makers were Kimberly Wallace, a product of Ouachita Parish in Monroe, La., and Tynika Bender of Newton, eight each; Andreka Harper of Forest, four; and Shaniqua Quinn of Brandon and Haley Watkins of Scott Central, two each. Wallace was top the rebounder with 10 boards.

Kristen Sampson poured in 27 points to lead the Lady Eagles, who improved to 14-3 and 6-2.

EC trailed 47-32 at the break.

The Warriors were led by Jacques Johnson's 15 points. Johnson is a sophomore guard/forward and product of Provine High School in Jackson.

Other top point makers were Quinton Campbell, a product of Mary G. Montgomery HS in Mobile, 13; and Terrance Mujahid of Westwood HS in Memphis, 10. The 6-7, 210-pound sophomore forward led in rebounds with 10.

Also scoring were Kristian Clark of St. Martin, nine; Ramone Tate of St. Stanislaus, eight; Keon McKinney of West Point, seven; Michael Matlock of Central High in Memphis, five; and Demarkus Jones of Terry and Demond Morgan of Morton, two each.

Kenny Davis pumped in 24 points to lead the Eagles, who improved to 4-12 and 3-5.

The visitors held a 41-31 advantage at the break.

ECCC SQUADS DROP

DECISIONS TO SOUTHWEST

East Central Community College's basketball squads dropped decisions to Southwest Mississippi College in MACJC South Division action held Thursday, January 23 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

The Lady Warriors, who held a 31-30 lead at the break, were outscored 35-13 in the second half and fell 65-44

to the Lady Bears.

Tanihija Hughes was the only scorer in double figures for the Lady Warriors, whose record dipped to 7-8 overall and 2-4 in league play under second-year head coach Crandal Porter.

Hughes, a sophomore forward from Forest, tallied 11 points and grabbed four rebounds.

Other EC point makers were Tynika Bender of Newton, nine; Bryanna McClendon of Lake, seven; Jaleisha Jones of Wayne County, six; Shaniqua Quinn of Brandon, Anna Katherine Nowell of Leake Academy and Kimberly Wallace, a product of Ouachita Parish High School in Monroe, La., three each; and Shamiya Evans of Lake, two. Bender led in rebounds with seven.

Katrina Littlepage poured in 16 points to lead the Southwest women, who improved to 13-2 and 5-1.

In the men's contest, East Central was unable to overcome a 39-26 halftime deficit and fell 86-65 to the Bears.

Sophomore guard/forward Jacques Johnson tallied 14 points to lead the Warriors, whose record now stands at 6-9 overall and 2-4 in the division under first-year head coach Robert Thompson. Johnson, a Provine product, was also credited with seven rebounds.

Also scoring for EC were Terrance Mujahid, a product of Westwood High School in Memphis, 13; Ramone Tate of St. Stanislaus, 10; Michael Matlock of Central High School in Memphis, nine; Quinton Campbell of Mary G. Montgomery High School in Mobile, eight; Demarkus Jones of Terry and Keon McKinney of West Point, four each; and Kevin Kirk of St. Martin, three.

Chris Jones, Corey Williams and Twymond Howard each had 14 points to lead the Bears, who improved to 9-6 and 3-3.

ECCC SQUADS FALL TO COPIAH-LINCOLN

East Central Community College's basketball squads dropped decisions to Copiah-Lincoln Community College in MACJC South Division action Tuesday, Jan. 21 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus.

Despite a 27-point effort by freshman forward Jaleisha Jones, the Lady Warriors fell 82-73 to the Lady Wolves and saw their record dip to 7-7 overall and 2-3 in league play under second-year head coach Crandal Porter.

Jones, a product of Wayne County High School, was also the team's top rebounder with 13 boards.

Also scoring for EC were Tynika Bender of Newton, 13; Tanihija Hughes of Forest, 11; Bryanna McClendon of Lake, six; Andreka Harper of Forest, five; Kimberly Wallace, a product of Ouachita Parish in Monroe, La., and Breona Foster of Neshoba Central, four each; and Shaniqua Quinn of Brandon, three.

Tyra Gibson and Kierra Collins each had 15 points to lead the Co-Lin women, who improved to 8-6 and 1-4.

EC trailed 40-37 at the break. In the men's contest, Co-Lin pulled away late from a close contest to claim a 73-65.

Jacques Johnson pumped in 18 points to lead the Warriors, who fell to 6-8 and 2-3 under first-year head coach Robert Thompson.

Johnson, a sophomore guard/forward, is a product of Provine High School in Jackson.

Other point makers were Quinton Campbell, of Mary G. Montgomery HS in Mobile, 13; Terrance Mujahid of Westwood HS in Memphis, 12; Ramone Tate of St. Stanislaus, seven; Kevin Kirk of St. Martin, six; Demond Morgan of Morton, four; Michael Matlock of Central High in Memphis, three; and Demarkus Jones of Terry, two.

Campbell led in rebounds with 10. Anthony Davis poured in 17 points to lead the Wolves, who improved to 7-7 and 3-2.

The visitors held a 34-31 advantage at halftime.

LADY WARRIORS WIN, WARRIORS FALL AT GULF COAST

Tanihija Hughes poured in 24 points and led the East Central Community College women to a 64-57 victory over MS Gulf Coast Community College Thursday, Jan. 16 on the Perkinston campus.

Hughes also led in rebounds with 13 for the Lady Warriors who improved to 7-6 overall and 2-2 in the MACJC South Division under second-year head coach Crandal Porter.

Hughes is a sophomore forward and

product of Forest High School.

Other scorers were Tynika Bender of Newton, 13; Jaleisha Jones of Wayne County, nine; Kimberly Wallace, a product of Ouachita Parish HS in Monroe, La., eight; Shaniqua Quinn of Brandon, five; Andreka Harper of Forest, three; and Ty-neisa Mickens of Noxubee County, two.

Christa Owen led the Lady Bulldogs with 17 points.

EC held a 39-23 advantage at the break.

The Warriors were not as fortunate and fell 76-58 to the home standing Bulldogs.

Ramone Tate pumped in 17 points to lead East Central, which dropped to 6-7 overall and 2-2 in league play under first-year head coach Robert Thompson.

Tate is a freshman guard and product of St. Stanislaus High School.

Other EC point makers were Quinton Campbell, a product of Mary G. Montgomery High School in Mobile, 13; Terrance Mujahid of Westwood HS in Memphis, nine; Jacques Johnson of Provine, eight; Demond Morgan of Morton, three; and Demarkus Jones of Terry, Michael Matlock of Central HS in Memphis, Keonn McKinney of West Point and Kiese Kirkland of Yazoo City, two each.

Rashad Perkins led Gulf Coast with 16 points.

The Warriors trailed 32-27 at halftime.

EC SQUADS DEFEAT HINDS

It was "sweep night" for East Central Community College's basketball squads as they posted MACJC South Division victories over Hinds Community College Monday in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

The Lady Warriors cruised 70-59 and improved to 6-6 overall and 1-2 in division play under second-year head coach Crandal Porter.

Jaleshia Jones led EC with 26 points. Jones is a freshman forward and product of Wayne County High School.

Also scoring in double figures were Tynika Bender, 18; and Tanihija Hughes, 13. Bender is a freshman guard from Newton and Hughes is a sophomore forward from Forest. Hughes was also credited with 16 rebounds.

Rajee McDonald and Felicia Guynes each had 11 points to lead the Lady Bulldogs, who fell to 0-12 and 0-2.

EC led 41-35 at halftime.

In the men's contest, EC held on for an 85-82 decision to improve to 6-6 overall and 2-1 in league competition under first-year head coach Robert Thompson.

Jacques Johnson led the Warriors with 30 points. Johnson is a sophomore guard/forward and product of Provine High School in Jackson.

Other scorers in double figures were Michael Matlock, 16; and Quinton Campbell, 10. Matlock is a freshman guard/forward from Central High School in Memphis. Campbell, a freshman forward, hails from Mary G. Montgomery High School in Mobile. Campbell led in rebounds with 14.

Rod Taylor pumped in 25 points to lead the Bulldogs, who dropped to 2-10 and 0-2.

EC held a 44-36 advantage at the break.

ECCC SQUADS FALL TO EMCC

A packed Brackeen-Wood gym watched two longtime rivals battle on the hardwood Tuesday, Jan. 7, but this night belonged to the visiting East Mississippi Community College squads who pulled away late to claim victories over East Central Community College's Lady Warriors and Warriors.

In the women's contest, the Lady Lions held on for a 76-68 decision, and the Lions completed the sweep with a 77-71 victory.

Tynika Bender pumped in 23 points to lead the Lady Warriors, who fell to 5-6 overall under second-year head coach Crandal Porter.

Bender is a 5-3 freshman guard and product of Newton High School.

Also scoring for EC were Jaleisha Jones of Wayne County, 14; Shaniqua Quinn of Brandon and Tanihija Hughes of Forest, seven each; Ty-neisa Mickens of Noxubee County and Anna Katherine Nowell of Leake Academy, six each; and Bryanna McClendon of Lake, five. Jones led in rebounds with seven.

Jaylen Cox of Gulfport had 15 points to lead the Lady Lions, who evened their record at 5-5.

The Lady Warriors trailed 37-25 at the break.

Jacques Johnson poured in 20 points to lead the Warriors, who dropped

to 5-6 overall under first-year head coach Robert Thompson.

Other EC point makers were Terrance Mujahid, a product of Westwood High School in Memphis, and Quinton Campbell, of Mary G. Montgomery High School in Mobile, 10 each; Ramone Tate of St. Stanislaus and Michael Matlock of Central High School in Memphis, nine each; Kristian Clark of St. Martin, seven; and Demarkus Jones of Terry and Demond Morgan of Morton, three each. Campbell was the top rebounder with seven.

Avery Woodson of Waynesboro had 24 points to lead the Lions, who improved to 7-2.

EC trailed 35-28 at halftime.

ECCC SQUADS DROP DECISIONS AT PEARL RIVER

East Central Community College's basketball squads completed 2013 competition by falling to Pearl River Community College in MACJC South Division action Monday, Dec. 9 in Poplarville.

The Lady Warriors were clipped 67-58 and fell to 5-5 overall and 0-2 in league play under second-year head coach Crandal Porter.

The Warriors were outscored 70-53 and dropped to 5-5 overall and 1-1 in the division under first-year head coach Robert Thompson.

Lady Warrior point makers were Jaleshia Jones of Wayne County, 14; Tynika Bender of Newton, 10; Tanihija Hughes of Forest and Ty-neisa Mickens of Noxubee County, nine each; Bryanna McClendon of Lake, six; Shamiya Evans of Lake, Andreka Harper of Forest and Haley Watkins of Scott Central, three each; and Whitney Williams, a product of Percy L. Julian High School in Chicago, one. Mickens led in rebounds with seven.

Shanta Echols poured in 23 points to lead the Lady Wildcats, who improved to 4-1 overall and 2-0 in division play.

EC trailed 24-19 at the break.

In the men's contest, Quinton Campbell was top Warrior scorer with 18 points and 10 rebounds. Campbell is a product of Mary G. Montgomery High School in Mobile.

Other EC scorers were Jacques Johnson of Jackson Provine, 12; Michael Matlock of Terry, seven; Terrance Mujahid of Westwood HS in Memphis and Ramone Tate of St. Stanislaus, six each; and Terry Carter of Louisville, four.

Lester Crosby pumped in 20 points to lead the Wildcats who improved to 9-0 and 2-0.

Pearl River held a 33-31 advantage at halftime.

WARRIORS CLIP MCC IN DIVISION OPENER; LADY WARRIORS FALL

Jacques Johnson poured in 23 points and grabbed nine rebounds in helping lead East Central Community College's Warriors to a 71-69 victory over Meridian Community College Thursday, Dec. 5 at Graham Gymnasium on the MCC campus.

With the win, East Central improved to 5-4 overall and 1-0 in the MACJC South Division under first-year head coach Robert Thompson.

Johnson is a sophomore guard/forward and product of Provine High School in Jackson.

Other scorers were Quinton Campbell of Mary G. Montgomery HS in Mobile, 16; Terrance Mujahid of Westwood HS in Memphis, 14; Demarkus Jones of Terry, 10; and Michael Matlock of West Point and Desmond Morgan of Morton, three each.

Campbell led in rebounds with 12 and Mujahid contributed 10 boards.

Will Sherriff had 18 points for MCC, which dropped to 1-6 and 0-1.

EC trailed 44-43 at the break.

In the women's contest, EC was no match for the Lady Eagles who cruised to a 92-65 victory.

Jaleisha Jones pumped in 23 points and hauled in 13 rebounds to lead the Lady Warriors, who fell to 5-4 overall and 0-1 in league play under second-year head mentor Crandal Porter.

Jones is a freshman forward from Wayne County High School in Waynesboro.

Also scoring were Ty-neisha Mickens of Noxubee County, 14; Bryanna McClendon of Lake, 10; Keocania Yarbrough of Louisville, seven; Tynika Bender of Newton, six; and Andreka Harper, three, and Tanihija Hughes, two, both of Forest.

Kristen Sampson tallied 20 points for the Lady Eagles, who improved to 6-1 overall and 1-0 in division competition.

The Lady Warriors trailed 46-29 at the break.

Warrior Athletics



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Soccer Players Judge NCES Robotics Competition: Members of the East Central Community College's soccer teams volunteered as judges for a Robotics competition held recently for fourth-grade students in TAG Class at Newton County Elementary School. In the above photo, fourth-grader Baleigh Boutwell demonstrates her Robotics project as (from left) Warrior head coach Kenneth Thompson, team members Zack Killion of Crestwood, Ky., and Clarkdale High School product Matt Taylor of Meridian evaluate her efforts. Other soccer team members who participated in the community service project include Will Thompson, Russ Thompson and Jordan Walker, all products of Newton County High School; Taylor Potter, MS School for Math and Science; Kennedy Castleberry, Clarkdale; and Alana Turner, Florence. Pam Keith and Chris Whittle serve as TAG Class instructors.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC 'Little Dribblers' Perform: Providing special entertainment during halftime activities of East Central Community College's division matchup with Copeiah-Lincoln Community College Tuesday, January 21, 2014, were members of the recently organized "ECCC Warriors Dribbling Club." The young athletes demonstrated various skills learned through instruction provided by Warrior head basketball coach Robert Thompson and assistant Devarus "Scooter" Walker. For more information, contact Coach Robert Thompson, 601-635-6243 or e-mail rthompson@ecc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Intramural Softball Championship Runners-Up: "The Outlaws" finished second in the intramural softball competition held recently at East Central Community College. Team members include (kneeling from left) Blake Bateaste, Biloxi; Anthony Triplett, Philadelphia; Marko Franks, State Line; Anthony Ruffin, Kemper; Wesley Smith, Morton and Donnie Farmer, Saucier; and (standing from left) Christian Wraggs, Louisville; Desmond Grayson, Meridian; Brandon Davis, Decatur; Tyler Pace, Newton; Andy Morris, Liberty; and Derrick Farrow, Cochran, Ga.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Intramural Softball Champs: "Super Smash Bros" captured top honors in the intramural softball competition held recently at East Central Community College. Team members include (kneeling from left) Tim Nit, D'Iberville; Tyler Pigg, Decatur; Dalton Smith, Florence; Zack Killion, Crestwood, Ky.; Mason Boyer, New Orleans; and Kennon Craft, Clinton, coach; and (standing from left) Forest Muller, New Orleans; Matt Taylor, Meridian; Tyrvan Miller, Moss Point; Jordan Walker, Decatur; Clint McGraw, Tupelo; and Matt Sykes, Columbus.

Scholarship Honors Former Coach

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

DECATUR—A scholarship in honor of former East Central Community College head football coach John Grace was recently established by his former players.

Grace, who resides in Madison, led the Warrior football program from 1951 to 1953. Team members established the John Grace Scholarship to honor him "as an outstanding coach and mentor."

The award provides \$250 annually to an East Central Community College student who meets the scholarship criteria.

To be eligible, a recipient must enroll as a fulltime student at ECCC and reside in the five-county district. A minimum 3.0 grade point average is also required.

Scholarship recipients will be selected by the ECCC Scholarship Committee.

For more information, contact ECCC Student Services, 601-635-6205 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is rlee@ecc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Samuels Signs with Jacksonville State: East Central Community College offensive lineman Kyron Samuels (seated) of Fairhope, AL, has signed a national letter of intent to continue his athletic career at Jacksonville State University in Jacksonville, AL. The 6'2," 315-pound center/guard was an All-State and All-American selection at Fairhope High School and was chosen a team captain for the Alabama-Mississippi All-Star game. Following his sophomore season at East Central, Samuels was named a Dandy Dozen Junior College offensive lineman and was ranked 20th overall by Rivals.com. He is the son of James and Sha'Wanda Samuels of Fairhope, AL. Also pictured is ECCC head coach Ken Karcher.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Warrior Golf Team: Above are members of East Central Community College's golf team for the 2014 campaign. Kneeling from left are Sawyer Williams, a product of Parkers Chapel High School, Eldorado, AR, and Jonathan Amis of Newton County High School in Decatur. Standing from left are Michael Jones, a product of Forest High School; Karlton Ginn, Franklin (La.) High School; Sam Williams, Newton County Academy, Decatur; Taylor York, Choctaw Central, Choctaw; Aaron Tucker, Leake Central, Carthage; and Kirk Stonestreet, a product of Kosciusko High School. Also pictured is Chris Clark, Warrior golf coach.

We Want Your News!

E-mail information about your club/organization to gphillips@ecc.edu with identification and any happenings.

Warrior Athletics

ECCC Honors Fall Sports Athletes

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Numerous awards and honors were presented to East Central Community College football and soccer players and cheerleaders at the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet held Dec. 4, 2013 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart recognized academic award winners in each sport and provided comments. Additional awards were presented by coaches of the respective sports. Athletic Director Chris Harris served as master of ceremonies.

In football, award winners and their respective high schools include running back Lamarus Franks, a product of Greene County High School, most valuable player and offensive captain award; running back Martin Johnson of Nanih Waiya, academic award; defensive lineman Daryl Rogers of Laurel, most improved defensive player; defensive back

JaDerrick Farrow, a product of Bleckley County High School in Cochran, Ga., defensive captain award; and wide receiver Jimmy Cockrell of Columbus, most improved offensive player.

Head coach Ken Karcher and assistants Cody Wilson, Todd Bates, Charles Jones and Eric Gray presented awards. Sophomore players were recognized by assistant coaches Mickey Mays and Scott Brock.

Receiving honors in women's soccer were Miranda Clark of Neshoba Central, hustle award; Paige Gower of Clarkdale, team captain, defense award and MACJC All-Star and honorable mention MACJC All-State; Kenney Castleberry, also of Clarkdale, academic award, Warrior Award, MACJC All-Star and honorable mention MACJC All-State; Florence High School product Alana Turner of Mendenhall, academic award, most valuable player, MACJC All-Star Game MVP, honorable mention MACJC All-State and recipient of the

Halbrook Award, presented to the outstanding female and male student-athlete in the MACJC; and Ashlan Culberson of Brandon, honorable mention MACJC All-State and Golden Boot Award, presented to the team's top scorer. Culberson scored six goals and had one assist for a total 13 points.

Head coach Gray Massey presented awards and recognized sophomore team members.

Awards in men's soccer went to Jesse Vaughn, a product of Newton County High School, defensive player award, MACJC All-Star and honorable mention MACJC All-State; Taylor Potter of Bentonina and a product of the MS School for Math and Science, team captain award, Warrior Award and honorable mention MACJC All-State; Kennon Craft of Clinton, hustle award; Zack Killion, a product of South Oldham High School in Crestwood, Ky., honorable mention MACJC All-State; Clint McGraw of Tupelo Christian Prep., honorable mention

MACJC All-State; Matt Taylor of Clarkdale, honorable mention MACJC All-State; Jordan Walker of Newton County, academic award, defensive award and MACJC All-State; Russ Thompson of Newton County, most valuable player, MACJC All-Star and honorable mention MACJC All-State; and Will Thompson of Newton County, All-Region 23, MACJC All-State, MACJC All-Star and Golden Boot Award, presented to the team's top scorer. Thompson scored six goals and had two assists for a total 14 points. He was the fourth leading scorer in the MACJC North Division and finished 16th overall. He also qualified as an NJCAA All-American nominee.

Head coach Kenneth Thompson presented awards and recognized sophomore players.

Presented awards in cheerleading were Laken Fulcher of Nanih Waiya, Academic Award; Hannah Kemp of Leake Academy, Captain Award; Darrin Hillman of Sebastopol, Warrior



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Fall Sports Awards Banquet: A packed Mabry Memorial Cafeteria was the setting for the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet held Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2013, at East Central Community College. ECCC Athletic Director Chris Harris is shown addressing the large crowd prior to the presentation of awards and honors to members of the football, women and men's soccer, and cheerleading squads by ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart and the respective coaches.

Award; Payton Smith of Scott Central, Coach's Award; and Maxie Parker of Noxapater, Warrior Award.

Cheer coach Pam McKnight presented awards and recognized sophomore cheerleaders. For more information on ECCC Athletics, contact Athletic Director Chris Harris, 601-635-6401 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 401. The email address is charris@ecc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Football Players Honored: These members of the 2013 East Central Community College football squad received honors at the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet held Wednesday, Dec. 4 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. From left are running back Lamarus Franks, a product of Greene County High School, most valuable player and offensive captain award; running back Martin Johnson of Nanih Waiya, academic award; defensive lineman Daryl Rogers of Laurel, most improved defensive player; defensive back JaDerrick Farrow, a product of Bleckley County High in Cochran, Ga., defensive captain award; wide receiver Jimmy Cockrell of Columbus, most improved offensive player. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart, head coach Ken Karcher and assistants Cody Wilson, Todd Bates, Charles Jones and Eric Gray presented awards. Sophomore players were also honored by assistant coaches Mickey Mays and Scott Brock.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Receive ECCC Cheerleader Awards: These East Central Community College cheerleaders received honors at the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet held Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2013, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. From left are Laken Fulcher of Nanih Waiya, Academic Award; Hannah Kemp of Leake Academy, Captain Award; Darrin Hillman of Sebastopol, Warrior Award; Payton Smith of Scott Central, Coach's Award; and Maxie Parker of Noxapater, Warrior Award. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart and cheer coach Pam McKnight of Forest presented awards.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Presented ECCC Warrior Soccer Awards: Members of the 2013 East Central Community College men's soccer team received various honors at the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet held Wednesday, Dec. 4 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Honorees include (seated from left) Jesse Vaughn, a product of Newton County High School, defensive player award, MACJC All-Star and honorable mention MACJC All-State; Taylor Potter of Bentonina and product of the MS School for Math and Science, team captain award, Warrior Award and honorable mention MACJC All-State; Kennon Craft of Clinton, hustle award; and Zack Killion, a product of South Oldham High School in Crestwood, Ky., honorable mention MACJC All-State; and (standing from left) Clint McGraw of Tupelo Christian Prep. and Matt Taylor of Clarkdale, honorable mention MACJC All-State; Jordan Walker of Newton County, academic award, defensive award and MACJC All-State; Russ Thompson, most valuable player, MACJC All-Star and honorable mention MACJC All-State, and twin Will Thompson, All-Region 23, MACJC All-State, MACJC All-Star and Golden Boot Award, presented to the team's top scorer, both products of Newton County High School. Will Thompson scored six goals and had two assists for 14 points. He was the fourth leading scorer in the MACJC North Division and finished 16th overall. He also qualified as an NJCAA All-American nominee. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart and Warrior head coach Kenneth Thompson presented awards.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Women's Soccer Award Winners: Various honors were received by the above members of the East Central Community College women's soccer team at the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet held Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2013, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. From left are Miranda Clark of Neshoba Central, hustle award; Paige Gower of Clarkdale, team captain, defense award, MACJC All-Star and honorable mention MACJC All-State; Kenney Castleberry of Clarkdale, academic award, Warrior Award, MACJC All-Star and honorable mention MACJC All-State; Florence High School product Alana Turner of Mendenhall, academic award, most valuable player, MACJC All-Star Game most valuable player, honorable mention MACJC All-State and recipient of the Halbrook Award, presented to the outstanding female and male student-athlete in the MACJC; and Ashlan Culberson of Brandon, honorable mention MACJC All-State and Golden Boot Award, presented to the team's top scorer. Culberson scored six goals and had one assist for a total 13 points. She was the sixth-leading scorer in the MACJC North Division and 18th overall. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart and Lady Soccer Warrior head coach Gray Massey presented awards.

Reminder: Wear IDs at All Times!

Warrior Athletics

Warriors Selected MACJC All-Stars

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Three East Central Community College football players were selected to participate in the annual MACJC All-Star Football Classic scheduled Dec. 5, 2013 at Northeast Mississippi Community College in Booneville.

Wide receiver Hakeem Parker of New Orleans, tight end/H-back Layton Holcomb of Hattiesburg and punter Austin Franklin of Petal are members of the South squad in the 40th annual event. Kickoff is set for 1 p.m. at Tiger Stadium.

Parker (6-4, 205) is a product of Joseph S. Clark High School; Holcomb (6-2, 220), Oak Grove; and Franklin (6', 180), Petal.

Northeast has served as host of the annual matchup of the MACJC's best sophomore athletes for 27 consecutive years dating back to the mid-1980s. The 2013 game is the first time during that span in which the contest has been moved from its usual Saturday afternoon slot.

"We are really proud of the administration helping us make that move," said Tigers head coach Ricky Smither. "It's a great game, so I'm glad that we were able to continue it. This is best for the whole state



HOLCOMB



FRANKLIN



PARKER

with us doing this."

Sophomores from all 14 institutions of the MACJC are eligible to participate in the annual tradition. However, student-athletes from East Mississippi Community College and Hinds Community College will not participate due their selections for National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA)-sanctioned bowl games.

Thirty-three players comprise both the North and South rosters with each college contributing three athletes. The All-Star coaches select the remainder

of the roster, but no more than eight players from one school are allowed.

Players are slated to report to Booneville at noon Tuesday, Dec. 3. The gridiron standouts will have three practices before the contest - one session Tuesday and two workouts Wednesday.

Pearl River Community College head coach William Jones and his staff will direct the South squad. Headman Jeff Tatum and the Mississippi Delta Community College coaches will lead the North.

The MACJC All-Star Football

Classic has been a springboard to the next level since its inception. Numerous athletes from past matchups have received scholarships at four-year institutions in NCAA Divisions I and II and NAIA.

The practice sessions allow coaches from the various levels of competition to come to one location and scout the best talent that each MACJC member has to offer.

"It gives these schools an opportunity to make one trip and see a multitude of players from probably the best league in the country," Smither said. "It's huge and it helps the kids a lot."



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Golfers Assist Area Kids: Members of East Central Community College's golf team assisted Clarke-Venable Baptist Church with its after-school ESL Program by helping students with math, spelling and reading assignments. Pictured are (from left) Newton County Elementary student Eduardo Ramirez, EC golfer Sam Williams of Newton, NCE student Elena Fernandez, and golfer Jonathan Amis of Decatur. Chris Clark serves as Warrior golf coach.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Williams, EC Golfers Assist Area Kids: Warrior linkster Sawyer Williams (right) of El Dorado, Ark., and other members of East Central Community College's golf team assisted Clarke-Venable Baptist Church with its after-school ESL Program recently by helping students with math, spelling and reading assignments. He is shown providing assistance to Newton County Elementary student Brian Millan. Chris Clark serves as Warrior golf coach.

Franklin's Field Goals Provides South All-Stars with 6-3 Victory

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Field goals by East Central Community College kicker Austin Franklin provided the winning margin for the South squad in a 6-3 victory in the 2013 MACJC All-Star Classic held Dec. 5, 2013 at Tiger Stadium on the Northeast Mississippi Community College campus in Booneville.

Franklin's 20-yard field goal midway in first quarter action gave the South All-Stars a 3-0 advantage, and his 16-yarder late in the second period broke a 3-3 tie and gave the South the lead for good. Matt Spencer of Holmes connected on a 19-yard field goal for the North's only score.

The opening half was played in two regulation 15-minute

quarters, but due to inclement weather threatening the Booneville/Prentiss County area, the second half was reduced to one period of 25 minutes with a running clock.

Franklin, a product of Petal High School, was joined on the South squad by Warrior teammates Hakeem Parker, a wide receiver from Joseph S. Clark High School in New Orleans,

and Layton Holcomb, a tight end from Oak Grove.

Sophomores from 14 institutions of the MACJC (Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges) are eligible to participate in the annual classic.

Pearl River Community College head coach William Jones and his staff directed the South squad. Head mentor Jeff Tatum



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Diamond Warrior Bush Inks UWA Scholarship: East Central Community College baseball standout Jake Bush (seated center) of West Blocton, Ala., is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue his career in 2014-15 at the University of West Alabama in Livingston. Bush, a 5-11, 190-pound outfielder/pitcher, helped lead the 2013 Diamond Warriors to the MACJC State Baseball Championship. Prior to joining the ECCC squad in 2012, Bush experienced a stellar career at Brookwood High School in Tuscaloosa, Ala., where he served as team captain and was a three-time recipient of most valuable offensive player honors and was a most valuable defensive player award recipient. Joining the outstanding student-athlete at a recent signing ceremony on the Decatur, MS, campus are (seated from left) his parents, Stephanie and Jeff Bush; and (standing from left) his sisters, Hannah and Molly Bush; and ECCC head baseball coach Neal Holliman. "Jake has been a joy to coach and has represented our institution well on and off the field," said Coach Holliman. "Jake gives us multiple abilities in the fact that he can play left or right field. He also hits from the left side and possesses the ability to pitch from the left side. I can relate back to the recruiting process with Jake and as I watched him in high school, I remember coming back and telling my staff that I simply believe this young man is a winner and I want him at East Central, and that has held true."

Turner Named Soccer MVP All-Star

East Central Community College soccer standout Alana Turner of Mendenhall received North Division most valuable player honors following the inaugural MACJC All-Star Soccer Games held Saturday, Nov. 16, 2013, at Freedom Ridge Park in Ridgeland. The South All-Stars won the historical matchup by a 2-0 margin. Turner, a keeper, is a product of Florence High School. Sponsors for the MACJC All-Star matches were Holmes Community College, JucoWeekly.org, MS National Guard, City of Ridgeland and Mississippi Sports Medicine and Orthopaedic Center.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Lady Soccer Warrior Sophomores: These sophomores on the 2013 East Central Community College women's soccer team received special recognition at the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet held Wednesday, Dec. 4 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Completing their careers as Lady Warriors are (seated from left) Heather Johnson, a product of Newton County High School; Florence High School product Alana Turner of Mendenhall, Claire Milling of West Lauderdale, and Bailey McElroy and Paige Gower, both of Clarkdale; and (standing from left) Morgan Luke of Newton County, Miranda Clark of Neshoba Central, Mackenzie Britt of Florence, and Kennedy Castleberry and Sydney Dawkins, both of Clarkdale. Gray Massey serves as head coach.



Addy Family Participates in ECCC Softball Season Opener

Special recognition was given to the late Bobby Addy of Decatur during pre-game activities of East Central Community College's softball season opener held Feb. 6. Family members of the longtime Lady Warrior softball program and ECCC supporter are shown following the ceremony. From left are former Lady Diamond Warrior Lindsey Blount (granddaughter), who delivered the ceremonial first pitch and her husband, Jody Blount; Pat Addy (Bobby's widow); son, David Addy and daughter, Brooks Stevens, who are shown with Kristin Chaney, ECCC head softball coach. "Mr. Bobby attended every home game," said Coach Chaney. "He was either grilling hamburgers or sausage dogs, or handing out gum to players. Mr. Bobby will always be remembered...and he will always be part of the Lady Warrior family." The Lady Diamond Warriors posted 10-3 and 8-0 victories over their arch rival to begin the 2014 campaign.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Faculty Corner



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Blaylock Performs During Humanities Program: Vicki Blaylock of Newton was recently selected East Central Community College's Humanities Instructor of the Year and is shown performing as part of her presentation, "Music: The Ripple Effect." The annual program was held Nov. 12 in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. Blaylock was accompanied on this particular vocal selection by her son, Clanton Blaylock, on drums; and fellow ECCC music instructor Chas Evans, on guitar. Blaylock, a music educator for 31 years, joined the ECCC faculty in 2000. In addition to teaching music, Blaylock serves as director of the Ac'cents Show Choir and Concert Choir. During her presentation, Blaylock discussed the impact of music economically, socially and educationally. The special recognition was made possible through a grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council.



RICHARD KOPP/SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Lead State's College Public Relations Association: Selected to lead the College Public Relations Association of Mississippi (CPRAM) in 2014 are (seated from left) Bubby Johnston, president/hospitality room chairman and Maria McLeod, secretary, both of East Central Community College in Decatur; Donna Thomas, treasurer, Itawamba Community College in Fulton; Judy Isbell, past president, University of Southern Mississippi, Gulf Park campus; and Steve Diffey, scholarship chairman, Holmes Community College in Goodman; and (standing from left) Board members Caron Blanton, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning; Phillip Smith, Mississippi State University, Starkville; Julie Bauer (also serves as awards chairman), Northwest MS Community College in Senatobia; Tracy Duncan, Hinds Community College in Raymond; and Clotee Lewis, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning. Not pictured are Danny Blanton, vice president, University of Mississippi in Oxford; and Board members Barbara Tillery, William Carey University in Hattiesburg; Kell Smith, Mississippi Community College Board; and Barin von Foregger, Holmes Community College, Ridgeland campus. The 2014 CPRAM Conference is scheduled May 19-20 in Tupelo. (Photo courtesy Richard Kopp, MS Gulf Coast Community College)

Brock Named Housing/Student Activities Director

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Daniele Brock was recently selected Director of Housing and Student Activities at East Central Community College, announced ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

Brock, who officially began her new duties on Dec. 15, 2013, previously held the position on an interim basis since August 12, 2013.

Dr. Stewart said Brock's performance during the interim period has been "exemplary," and that she has demonstrated her ability "to work with students of various backgrounds."

He said she has also demonstrated "strong communication, customer service and organizational skills" since assuming her duties.

Brock, who also serves as an adjunct instructor at ECCC,



BROCK

is a former elementary and secondary education teacher, serving in schools in Tennessee and Georgia. She is also a former high school choral director.

Prior to joining the ECCC

staff, Brock served as Worship Leader/Music Director at Folkston United Methodist Church in Folkston, Ga., from August 2010 to June 30, 2013.

Brock, a native of Mountain City, Tenn., received a bachelor's degree in music from Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, Tenn., in 1991, and earned a master's degree in post-secondary education from Troy University in Brunswick, Ga., in 2010. She completed an education specialist degree from Valdosta State University in Valdosta, Ga., in 2012.

She is married to Scott Brock, who serves as defensive coordinator and linebackers coach for the Warrior football team.

They have a daughter, Makaeya, a 10th grader; and a son, Brooks, a seventh grader, who both attend Newton County schools.

Williams to Lead EMT-Paramedic Technology Program

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Michael "Eric" Williams of Bay Springs was recently selected Director of the EMT-Paramedic Technology Program at East Central Community College announced ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

Williams, who also serves as program instructor, began his new duties on Jan. 2, 2014.

Dr. Stewart noted Williams' "passion for the field of emergency medical technology, his vision for the EMT-Paramedic Technology Program, his effective, student-centered teaching demonstration and his ideas for recruiting students into the program," as among his strengths.

Prior to joining the ECCC faculty, Williams served the past year as an instructor of emergency medical technology

at Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson.

He also has 10 years of experience in emergency medical services, having served as a field paramedic for AAA Ambulance Services from 2003-2011. He also served the past two years as a field paramedic and educational liaison to Copiah County for Hardy Wilson Memorial Hospital.

A 2002 graduate of Stringer High School, Williams received an Associate of Applied Science at Jones County Junior College in Ellisville in 2008 and earned a bachelor of health science degree from the University of Mississippi in Oxford in Dec. 2013. He is currently pursuing a master's degree in health science from Ole Miss.

He is married to the former Jessica Cagle of Collins.



WILLIAMS

Williams is the son of Carla and Jerry Moore of Bay Springs and the late Mike Williams, also of Bay Springs.

NOTICE!

Safety Memo: Natural Gas Safety

Natural gas is one of the safest, most reliable, efficient, and environmentally friendly fuels in use today delivering natural gas for heating, water heating, and cooking as well as other natural gas appliances. Natural gas for East Central Community is delivered through a jurisdictional natural gas pipeline system. Like any form of energy, though, it must be handled responsibly. East Central Community College is known as a Master Meter Operator and has valves, regulators, and pressure stations on campus. Always remember safety first when operating natural gas appliances of any kind.

Natural gas is a nontoxic, colorless, and odorless fuel that is lighter than air. This lighter-than-air quality is an important safety factor. If a leak occurs, natural gas will mix readily with air and rise into the atmosphere. As a safety measure the natural gas that is piped to your home or business has a harmless odor similar to rotten eggs so that you can easily detect even the smallest amount of gas that might escape.

From design and construction to operations and maintenance, natural gas utilities like ours set high standards to keep natural gas pipelines incident-free.

Damage Prevention

Although safe, tested, and regulated, the system's most common hazard is from 3rd party damage from excavation. Before any excavations are done, contact Dig Safety - Mississippi One-Call System, Inc. 1-800-227-6477 or 811 and call East Central Community College at 601-635-6266. Always call before you dig. It's as easy as dialing 8...1...1, and it's the law!

Detecting A Natural Gas Leak

Natural gas is one of the safest, most reliable, and environmentally friendly fuels in use today, but leaks can occur. There are three key ways to recognize a natural gas leak.

~ Look. Blowing dirt, bubbling creeks or ponds, dry spots in moist areas or dead plants surrounded by green, live plants also may indicate a natural gas leak.

~ Listen. An unusual hissing sound near gas lines or appliances may indicate a natural gas leak.

~ Smell. In its raw state, natural gas is colorless and odorless. Natural gas utility companies add a substance called mercaptan to create the familiar, rotten-egg-like odor usually associated with natural gas. You should take action even if you detect only a faint odor of natural gas in the air.

Natural Gas Safety Tips:

Here are some key words to help you remember what to do if a natural gas leak is suspected:

~ Leave. Leave the area immediately. Do not try to find or stop the leak.

~ Don't Touch. Do not smoke, use a cell phone, flashlight, turn on or off any lights or appliances or operate any kind of vehicle or equipment that could create a spark.

~ Dial. Immediately notify us. If a leak is suspected call the following number 601-635-6266 or 601-917-6119.

Remember - Never try to find the leak yourself!!!

To Report a Gas Leak call East Central Community College at 601-635-6266 or 601-917-6119 or Campus Police at 601-527-8939.

For additional information, contact East Central Community College 601-635-6266 or 601-635-6298.



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Compare our cost for yourself. You'll be surprised.

Ranked #1 Best Value Among Regional Colleges and Universities by U.S. News & World Report

Compare Carey's costs at WMCAREY.EDU/COMPARE

Warrior Scene Scenes from Snow Day

SUBMITTED PHOTOS





ECCC Announces 2014 Hall of Fame

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Recipients of Hall of Fame were recognized during the annual Awards Day program held May 1, 2014, at East Central Community College.

Selection to the Hall of Fame is considered the highest honor a student can receive at the College, according to Dr. Billy Stewart, ECCC president, who presented the awards.

"To be considered for the prestigious honor," Dr. Stewart said, "students must demonstrate exemplary character, superior scholarship, worthy leadership and contribute to the betterment of East Central Community College."

Hall of Fame inductees for 2014 include Joseph Aulds of Decatur, Mary Margaret Bailey of Philadelphia, Conor Bell of Carthage, Matthew Evans of Forest, Taylor Gressett of Chunky and Allie Killens of Saitillo.

JOSEPH AULDS

Joseph Aulds of Decatur is a President's List Scholar with a perfect 4.0 grade point average at East Central Community College.

He is a leader in the Baptist Student Union. He leads the Praise Team Band, The Way, and is a Council member.

Aulds is involved in numerous campus activities. He is a member of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges; drummer for the Collegians, the college's Rock-n-Roll band, and

Warrior Corps, a select group of students selected to represent the college at recruiting endeavors and special events. He is also a member of the Concert Choir, Alpha Alpha Epsilon engineering club, and President's Council.

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

He was also awarded the Freshmen Engineering Award for 2012-13 and is a Presidential and ACT scholar.

He serves as a work-study for the college's technology management department.

Aulds' nominators describe him as a model student.

"Joseph is an outstanding young man who is well grounded in his faith, academics, social behavior and emotional stability. He is an engineering major with a 4.0 career GPA while attending ECCC. His morals are high along with his integrity. He represents the results of our mission and vision for this institution."

Another nominator said, "Joseph is very smart and one of the hardest working, most dedicated students I have ever seen. He strives to excel in every aspect of a very difficult major. He is involved and supportive in so many endeavors, I don't know when he sleeps. He manages to perform at a top level in everything he does. Joseph is also always willing to help any faculty member or student who needs his ex-

pertise. A true servant! Joseph is an 'ideal' ECCC student."

Aulds is a 2012 graduate of Newton County High School.

His parents are Deanne and Chris Harris of Decatur.

Aulds plans to pursue an engineering degree at Mississippi State University.

MARY MARGARET BAILEY

Mary Margaret Bailey of Philadelphia was named to the 2014 All-Mississippi Community College Academic First Team.

The President's List Scholar with a perfect 4.0 grade point average holds various leadership positions and is involved in numerous campus activities at East Central Community College.

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 chosen 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 Warrior cheerleading squad.

Bailey was selected Maid of Honor on See AWARDS, Page 2



AULDS



BAILEY



BELL



EVANS



GRESSETT



KILLENS



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Coach Dungy Addresses ECCC Senior Day Crowd: Former NFL head football coach Tony Dungy shared his message with more than 1,000 area high school seniors during Senior Day activities held 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. The special program served as a fundraiser for a new Football Operations Center at ECCC's Bailey Stadium. Coach Dungy's appearance in Decatur and Philadelphia is a result of his longtime friendship with ECCC head football coach Ken Karcher. 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."



Architectural rendering of Cross Hall

Cross Hall Renovations Near Completion

BY WILL STOKES
OPINIONS EDITOR

Since the construction of the original Cross Hall in 1961 a lot has changed. Cross Hall has been around for nine U.S. Presidents, 10 Mississippi Governors, and six of the eight presidents of East Central Community College. Cross Hall has also welcomed a countless number of students through its doors in its 53-year history.



WILL STOKES
Opinions Editor

However, with all this historical data, Cross Hall has been renovated with the future in mind, according to ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart. The "new" Cross Hall will feature

two new auditorium-style classrooms, both with the capacity to seat approximately 100 students. It is anticipated that these new classrooms will be utilized by the science department and occasionally other classes with traditionally large enrollments. The auditorium classrooms feature swivel style seating, electrical outlets for laptops, tiered tables, motion sensor lights, and the most up-to-date classroom technology. Also, the "new" Cross Hall will feature two additional classrooms with your typical table seating. These two classrooms will be able to easily accommodate approximately 60 students each. There is also a large chemistry lab and lab space for biology in the building.

Now, with all this being said, to the relief of just about every commuter student, there will be an additional 60-70 parking spaces available near the new building. The new parking lot will feature handicap accessible sidewalks and parking for both Cross Hall and Huff Auditorium. Students will soon be able to enjoy the instructional space in Cross Hall as classes are scheduled to be held in the building this summer.

ECCC Mourns Deaths of Loper, Ganann & Peters

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Students, faculty and staff mourn the deaths of three East Central Community College students. Guy Loper, Chris Ganann and Jordan Peters all died approximately one month apart.



LOPER

Loper, 21, was shot and killed on afternoon of February 13 outside the city of Decatur on Good Hope Road. He was a sophomore automotive technology major of Decatur.

Chris Ganann, 23, of Carthage died in a motor vehicle accident on March 16. He was a sophomore licensed practical nursing major.



GANANN

Jordan Shaquille Peters, 20, also of Carthage, died March 11 in an automobile accident. He was an engineering major.



PETERS

Mr. & Miss EC Selected

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

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 See MR. & MISS EC, PAGE 3



VIVERETTE, GRESSETT

The Tom-Tom Staff Receives Awards

FROM STAFF REPORTS

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

See TOM-TOM, PAGE 2



Award-Winning Newspaper Staff: Members of East Central Community College's newspaper staff display various awards presented at the O.C. McDavid Journalism Conference held March 27. Pictured (front row, from left) 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. SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

EC Announces Annual HEADWAE Honorees

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Sophomore Lindsey McCool and math instructor Robin Fulton, both of Louisville, were recently selected to represent East Central Community College at the 2013-14 Higher Education Appreciation Day: Working for Academic Excellence (HEADWAE) program held Feb. 18 in Jackson.

The annual HEADWAE observance was established by the Mississippi Legislature to honor the academically talented students and faculty members from each of the 36 public and private member institutions of the Mississippi Association of Colleges.

Honorees are invited to the State Capitol where they are welcomed by Lt. Gov. Tate Reeves and recognized in each Legislative chamber.

A luncheon was held at the Jackson Marriott Hotel in downtown Jackson, during which each student and faculty honoree is recognized in front of their guests, institution leaders, corporate

sponsors and legislators.

In addition to the public recognition, a booklet will be published featuring photos and biographical sketches of each honoree.

McCool is a sophomore at East Central, where she currently has a 3.95 grade point average. Her career goal is to become an occupational therapist.

She is a member of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges; Warrior Corps; Sigma Sigma Mu Tau;



MCCOOL



FULTON

Baptist Student Union; and Warrior Cheerleading squad.

Honors include her selection as a freshman and sophomore class favorite.

She was also recently named to Who's Who Among Students in American Ju-

nior Colleges.

McCool is a 2012 honors graduate of Winston Academy, where selection to the Hall of Fame was among her numerous honors and awards.

She was also chosen a Mississippi Scholar.

McCool was a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Spanish Club, yearbook staff and cheerleading squad.

She received the Spanish Club and Cheerleading awards and was also selected an All-Star Cheerleader.

McCool is the daughter of Marc and Carrie McCool of Louisville.

Fulton joined the ECCC math faculty in August 2009.

She served the previous 10 years as a math instructor at East Mississippi Community College in Scooba. While at EMCC, she was selected HEADWAE Instructor of the Year and chosen a Lamplighter, which recognizes the state's outstanding community and junior college faculty members.

She is also a former math instructor at Central Academy in Macon and Nanih Waiya Attendance Center and was chosen STAR Teacher at both schools.

In addition, she is a former adjunct instructor at ECCC.

At EC, Fulton serves as co-sponsor of

Alpha Alpha Epsilon, an organization for pre-engineering majors.

She served as Common Core strategies presenter to high school teachers at the IMPACT Institute held at Mississippi State University during the summer of 2013. She will also participate in the 2014 event.

A graduate of Winston Academy, Fulton holds bachelor and master's degrees in mathematics from MSU.

She is married to Buddy Fulton and they have two grown children: Blake, an attorney for the Jones Walker firm in Jackson; and Anna, an ECCC Hall of Fame member currently attending physical therapy school at University Medical Center in Jackson.

Robin and her husband are members of Good Hope Baptist Church, where she teaches a college Sunday school class.

Her parents are former State Rep. Bobby Moody and Ann Moody of Louisville.

EC Mourns Death of Former College President Dr. Smith

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Services were held at 11 a.m. April 16, 2014, at Clarke-Venable Baptist Church in Decatur for former East Central Community College President Dr. Eddie M. Smith with visitation from 9 to 11 a.m.

Dr. Smith died April 14, 2014, at his home in Decatur, following a lengthy illness.

Dr. Billy Stewart, president of East Central, said, "Our college and community lost a great man earlier today. Dr. Smith served as president of this institution with honor, integrity, and a commitment to excellence for 15 years. He left an indelible mark on East Central Community College and on the lives of those who were fortunate to know him. We are a stronger and better institution today because of Dr. Smith's leadership. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Charlotte, and daughters, Kelli and Wendy."

Dr. Smith, 71, led the institution from 1985 to 2000 and served his alma mater as its sixth president.

Ovid Vickers, retired ECCC faculty member, said of his former student

and fellow educator:

"Dr. Smith was a devoted family man and a devout Christian, whose contributions to the Mississippi Community College System are too numerous to list. He was a very dedicated educator and had devoted his life to the process of education. He served well as the President of ECCC."

During Dr. Smith's tenure, the college experienced unprecedented growth in numerous areas, especially in enrollment, program offerings, campus facilities and workforce education and training. He also led the college through two re-accreditations by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

An increased emphasis was placed on recruiting students of all ages. As a result of a closely followed recruitment and retention plan, enrollment increased each of his 15 years at the helm.

Serving students remained Dr. Smith's top priority throughout his administration. The Student Union Building bears his named in recognition of his dedication to providing the best education and college experience

for students of all ages.

East Central began offering programs in the health-related field during his administration. Those programs include surgical technology, licensed practical nursing, and associate degree nursing.

The college also increased its evening class schedule by offering classes at locations throughout the five-county district to assist students with their educational needs.

Various renovations of college buildings and additions to the Decatur campus were also made during this period. East Central purchased the former Newton County High School property (earlier Decatur High School) and made extensive renovations. The area



SMITH

is now referred to as South Campus and includes classrooms and laboratory space, faculty offices, and a library for the Town of Decatur.

New buildings constructed under Dr. Smith's leadership included the Associate Degree Nursing/Child Care Technology Building (now named for former ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin), the Workforce Development Center (previously referred to as the Skill/Tech One-Stop Career Center), Erma Lee Barber Hall (named in honor of the former dean of women) and the Student Union (named in honor of Dr. Smith).

Efforts in workforce education and training continue at the college, as various services are provided individually, businesses and industries in skills training, career counseling, job placement and customized personal development.

The college also increased its efforts in the area of alumni relations and fundraising with the creation of the Office of Development and Alumni Relations. Among projects sponsored through the Foundation include the Welcome Home Archway and electronic mar-

quee. The archway is a re-creation of a similar structure that greeted campus visitors from 1950 to the early 1970s. The Warrior, the college's alumni publications, began publication early in the early years of the Smith administration and is still published today.

In the area of athletics, new sports added during Dr. Smith's presidency included women's softball and men's soccer. Rodeo competition also began as an intercollegiate but has since been discontinued.

A graduate of Noxapater High School, Dr. Smith received an associate's degree from ECCC and earned bachelor and master degrees from Mississippi State University, and a doctorate from the University of Southern Mississippi.

He was married to the former Charlotte Flowers of Natchez. He had two daughters, Dr. Kelli Smith, a family medical physician with Magee Medical and Surgical Group in Magee; and Wendy Smith, who serves as director of choral and music instruction at East Mississippi Community College in Scooba.

TOM-TOM

From Page 1

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.

The *Tom-Tom* is a student-led newspaper representative of the student body of East Central Community College in Decatur. The staff is led by Madison Herrington of Union, editor; Stokes, opinions editor; Smith, design editor and Griffin, cartoonist. ECCC Publications Coordinator Gennie Phillips of Forest serves as adviser.

AWARDS

From Page 1

the 2013 Homecoming Court and was recently named to Who's Who Among Students in American Community and Junior Colleges.

Her nominators describe her as a leader.

"She has made a positive impact on the student body of ECCC... She is one of the most genuine, caring, dependable, hardworking students I have ever met."

Another nominator said, "Mary Margaret has impeccable character, is a humble servant of a student, and has an engaging, charming personality. She is truly a young lady who everyone wishes his or her child would emulate... She is wonderful."

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.

CONOR BELL

Conor Bell is a President's List Scholar with a perfect 4.0 grade point average who holds various leadership positions and is involved in numerous campus activities at East Central Community College.

He is a leader in the student publications' department serving as editor of the *Wo-He-Lo* yearbook for 2013-14 and assistant editor in 2012-13. He also served on *The Tom-Tom* newspaper staff both his freshman and sophomore year.

He earned a first place award for Best Spot News Story/Investigative Package and a second place award for Best General Interest Column in the Mississippi Press Association's 2014 Better Newspaper Contest Student Division for Community Colleges.

In addition, Bell serves as secretary of the President's Council.

He also is very active in the Fine

Arts Department, serving as Student Director of ENCORE's production of *Shrek*. He is also a member of the *Wall O'Sound* Marching Band, Jazz Band, Percussion Ensemble and Concert Choir.

Bell is also a member of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges; and EC Players drama club.

Bell was selected for Who's Who Among Students in American Community and Junior Colleges.

He received Presidential, Coach Ken Pouncey, ATCO Loan and ACT scholarships at ECCC.

His nominator describes him as an exemplary student.

"Conor is dependable and dedicated to all of his academic classes and extracurricular endeavors. He has maintained a 4.0 while being involved in numerous club activities and has assumed leadership roles in many of them. Conor goes above and beyond the call of duty in all that he does. He is one of the most devoted students I have ever had the pleasure of advising and is a worthy candidate for this highest honor."

Bell is a 2012 graduate of Leake Central High School.

His parents are Robert and Sherry Bell of Carthage.

Bell plans to pursue a music degree at Delta State University.

MATTHEW EVANS

Matthew Evans of Forest holds various leadership positions and is involved in numerous campus activities at East Central Community College.

He serves as co-president of the Warrior Corps, a select group of students chosen to represent the college at recruiting endeavors and special events; and serves as president of the Baptist Student Union. He traveled with other members of the BSU to China during Christmas to do mission work.

The Dean's List scholar is a member of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges.

Evans is also a member of the President's Council, Alpha Alpha Epsilon engineering club and the *Wo-He-Lo* yearbook staff.

He is also an active participant in intramural sports, competing in softball, soccer and basketball.

Evans was named to Who's Who Among Students in American Community and Junior Colleges, and selected as a 2013 Homecoming Court escort.

He received the Freshman Engineering and Hutchinson scholarships at ECCC.

His nominators describe him as a hard working dedicated student.

"He exhibits a great moral character and genuinely cares about people. He has made a tremendous impact on the campus of ECCC through his leadership and involvement with the BSU and the Men's Bible Study. Matthew is one of those rare students who is willing to invest in the lives of others to make a difference. He is a great representative and ambassador for the college."

Another nominator said, "Matthew is one of the most faithful and loyal students I have ever had the pleasure of having as one of my students. He works hard and goes the extra mile to do the best at everything he does. He is a great example of an ECCC Warrior."

Evans is a 2012 graduate of Forest High School.

His parents are Mike and Lori Evans of Forest.

Evans plans to pursue an engineering degree at Mississippi State University.

TAYLOR GRESSETT

Taylor Gressett of Chunky was chosen Miss East Central Community College by the institution's student body.

The Dean's List Scholar with a 3.8 grade point average holds various leadership positions and is involved in numerous campus activities.

She serves as sophomore class president and is a member of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the in-

ternational honor society for two-year colleges.

Gressett is very active in the college's music department as a member of the Concert Choir, Ac'cents show choir, vocalist for the Collegians Rock-n-Roll band and the Centralettes, the *Wall O'Sound* Marching Band's dance team.

She also is a member of the Diamond Darlings.

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

Gressett serves as a work-study for the college's financial aid department.

She received academic achievement recognition, ACT, Polk and Jennie Pace and Distinguished Young Woman scholarships at ECCC.

Gressett's nominator said, "Taylor exemplifies EC - Excellence with Class! She is involved in every aspect of college life at East Central. She participates in MANY extra-curricular activities from athletics to student government and the arts. She works as a work-study in the financial aid office which requires great character and personality and a lot of patience. Best of all, she has done all of this while maintaining a 3.8 GPA. She handles herself with grace and poise and has proven to be an exemplary role model for her peers."

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

Gressett 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.

ALLIE KILLENS

Allie Killens of Saltillo was selected President of the student body of East Central Community College.

The Dean's List scholar holds various leadership positions and is involved in numerous campus activities.

She serves as secretary of the Residence Hall Council and represented her freshman class as vice president in 2012-13.

Killens is a member of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges and Warrior Corps, a select group of students chosen to represent the college at recruiting endeavors and special events. She is also a member of Phi Beta Lambda, Baptist Student Union, Warriorettes, President's Council and the *Wo-He-Lo* yearbook staff.

She was selected a sophomore homecoming maid, freshman class favorite and was named to Who's Who Among Students in American Community Colleges.

She received a leadership and Kayljic Peers scholarships at ECCC.

Killens is a dedicated work-study in the Dean of Students office.

Her nominators describe her as a leader.

"Allie is one of the most active students on the ECCC campus. She is a leader in all aspects of her career here at EC. She always greets you with a smile and is a delightful young woman. She loves EC and her devotion and dedication to the college radiates from her throughout her college activities."

Another nominator said, "Allie is an outstanding student. She has been exemplary with her contributions as an East Central Warrior. Allie represents the character, morals and academic standards we hope for all our students to possess at East Central. She has represented EC very well!"

Killens is a 2012 graduate of Saltillo High School.

She is the daughter of Joe and Terri Killens of Philadelphia and Susan Killens of Saltillo.

She plans to continue her education at the University of Mississippi and major in business with an emphasis in human resources.

ECCEC Kids' College Includes Numerous Activities

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

A Spa Kamp for ages 5-15 on July 1-2 kicks off the 2014 Kids' College Program at East Central Community College. Activities for ages 5-12 continue during the month of July with classes ranging from athletics to chefs in training and mad scientists.

The registration fee is \$50 per class. Each participant receives a Kids' College T-shirt. Daniele Brock, ECCEC Housing and Student Activities Director, serves as Kids' College director. The registration deadline is May 30, 2014.

"We are excited about this year's Kids College, which offers a variety of classes that participants will enjoy. We had a great turnout last year and are looking forward to a larger one this year!" Brock said.

Course offerings include the following:

JULY 1-2

Spa Kamp: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; Ages 5-9, Tuesday, July 1; ages 10-15, Wednesday, July 2. Students will learn the steps of a guided facial, have their hair washed and styled, have their nails painted and receive a foot bath and pedicure. ECCEC cosmetology instructors Wanda Brackeen and

Carla Jacome-Cluff will supervise the day's activities and cosmetology students will perform procedures.

JULY 7-11

Little Warrior Cheerleading: Ages 5-8, 8:30 to 10:15 a.m.; Ages 9-12, 10:30 a.m. to noon. Participants will learn cheers and stunts. Chafoney Poole will provide instruction.

Little Warrior Soccer: Ages 5-8, 10:30 a.m. to noon; Ages 9-12, 8:30 to 10:15 a.m. Participants will learn the techniques of dribbling, passing, defending and scoring. ECCEC men's soccer coach Kenneth Thompson will serve as instructor.

Little Warrior Basketball for Boys: Ages 5-8, 8:30 to 10:15 a.m.; Ages 9-12, 10:30 a.m. to noon. Participants will receive instruction in the areas of dribbling, passing, shooting and offensive and defensive plays. ECCEC assistant men's basketball coach Devarus Walker will serve as instructor.

Theatre: Ages 5-8, 10:30 to noon; Ages 9-12, 8:30 to 10 a.m. Participants will learn theatre skills and techniques through creative exercises, games and performances of short theatre plays. ECCEC English instructor and director of the EC Players Stacey Pollock, will serve as instructor.

Art: Ages 5-8, 8:30 to 10:15 a.m.;

Ages 9-12, 10:30 a.m. to noon. Participants will learn techniques in drawing, painting, printmaking and sculpture to make them a better artist! ECCEC art instructor Chris Brady will serve as instructor.

JULY 14-18

Drawing/Painting: Ages 5-8, 8:30 to 10:15 a.m.; Ages 9-12, 10:30 a.m. to noon. Participants will learn basic drawing and painting techniques and learn to use a variety of different art utensils. Ben Wall will provide instruction.

Little Warrior Baseball: Ages 5-8, 8:30 to 10:15 a.m.; Ages 9-12, 10:30 a.m. to noon. Participants learn various skills including pitching, hitting, catching and running, along with offensive and defensive plays. Scott DeLoach, ECCEC assistant baseball coach, will provide instruction.

Little Warrior Tennis: Ages 5-8, 8:30 to 10:15 a.m.; Ages 9-12, 10:30 a.m. to noon. Participants will learn and practice basic grips, forehand, and backhand strokes, how to serve and volley. Coach Pete Mazzella will serve as the instructor.

Archery: Ages 5-8, 10:30 to noon; Ages 9-12, 8:30 a.m. to 10. Archery for beginners is sponsored by Archery Adicts Anonymous. Learn the basics of

shooting a compound bow like a PRO in competitive 3-D, Field, and hunting applications. Terry Rivers will serve as instructor.

Little Warrior Basketball for Girls: Ages 5-8, 10:30 to noon; Ages 9-12, 8:30 to 10 a.m. Participants will receive instruction in the areas of dribbling, passing, shooting and offensive and defensive plays. ECCEC assistant women's basketball coach Kiara Ruffin will serve as instructor.

Musical Creations: Ages 5-8, 10:30 to noon; Ages 9-12, 8:30 a.m. to 10. Participants will take part in a week of singing, choreography, playing rhythm instruments and handbells, creating, listening and responding to music. ECCEC keyboard and music instructor Natalie Emmons will provide instruction.

JULY 21-25

Dance Into Shape: Ages 5-8, 8:30 to 10:15 a.m.; Ages 9-12, 10:30 a.m. to noon. Participants will have fun dancing to the latest music while getting healthy with exercising. Chafoney Poole will serve as instructor.

Little Warrior Football: Ages 5-8, 8:30 to 10:15 a.m.; Ages 9-12, 10:30 a.m. to noon. Participants will learn skills needed to pass, score, catch and kick while mastering offensive and de-

fensive plays. Eric Gray and Charles Jones, ECCEC assistant football coaches, will provide instruction.

Little Warrior Softball: Ages 5-8, 10:30 a.m. to noon; Ages 9-12, 8:30 to 10:15 a.m. Participants will learn the skills needed to pitch, hit, catch and run, along with offensive and defensive plays. Courtney Nunn, ECCEC assistant softball coach, will provide instruction.

EC's Chefs in Training: Ages 5-8, 10:30 a.m. to noon; Ages 9-12, 8:30 to 10:15 a.m. Participants will learn to make simple dishes full of flavor and fun! Culinary Arts Technology instructor Barry Karrh will serve as instructor.

Mad Scientists: Ages 5-8, 10:30 a.m. to noon; Ages 9-12, 8:30 to 10:15 a.m. Participants will experiment with making lots of crazy concoctions. Make gruesome goo, monster bubbles and an active volcano. Learn that Science is fun. ECCEC Biology instructor Curt Skipper will provide instruction.

For more information, contact Brock at 601-635-6213. The e-mail address is dbrock@eccc.edu. The registration form can be downloaded from the college's Web site at www.eccc.edu.

MR. & MISS EC

From Page 1

ECCEC," 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 ECCEC.

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 ordi-

nary."

After receiving his associate's degree at 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 ECCEC 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 Association 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 schol-

arships at ECCEC.

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."

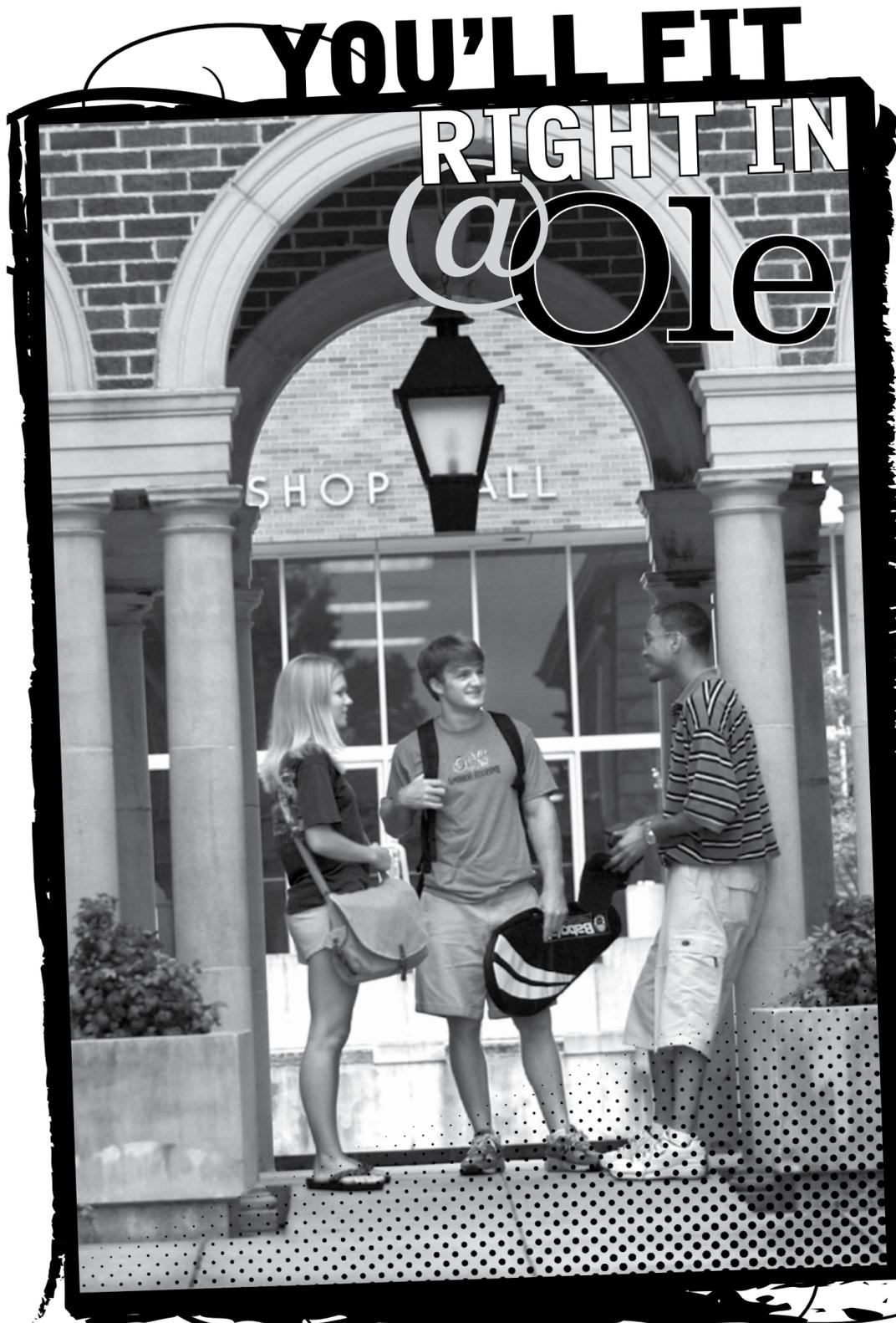
Gressett is a liberal arts major, but plans to attend the University of Southern Mississippi

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."



Miss!

It's the right move

As a community college transfer, your move to The University of Mississippi will be one of the most important in your life—and also one of the smoothest. Here are just a few of the reasons why transferring to Ole Miss is the right move:

- Your academic course work during your first two years will **plug right into our bachelor's degree programs** and let you stay on track.
- Average junior- and senior-level classes at Ole Miss have **20-30 students** and are probably smaller than some of the classes you are taking now.
- Our **Financial Aid Office** works hard to help you receive the combination of grants, scholarships, loans and employment you will need to finance your education.
- Our **Phi Theta Kappa scholarship** is worth **\$6,000** (\$3,000 per year for two years)! Transfer students with a 3.5 GPA on at least 48 transferable community college credit hours and membership in Phi Theta Kappa are encouraged to apply for this scholarship. Please contact Jason McCormick or Ty Allushuski in the Office of Enrollment Services at 800-OLE-MISS (in Mississippi) or 662-915-7226 for more details.
- Our **Community College Excellence Scholarship** is worth **1,000 a year** (a total of 2,000 over your last two years). Community College students with a 3.0 GPA on 48 transferable hours will be eligible for this scholarship. Contact Jason McCormick or Ty Allushuski in the Office of Enrollment Services at 662-915-7226 for more details.

Come and visit campus, talk with our faculty, staff and students, and see how easy it will be to take the next step!



The University of Mississippi.
experience amazing™

Warrior Viewpoints

FROM THE EDITOR

Absentee Letters: Waste of Paper

I'm Madison Herrington. This past year I've been a cheerleader, assistant editor of the *Wo-He-Lo*, editor of *The Tom-Tom*, a member of Warrior Corps, member of the art club and so on and so forth. Basically, I do a little bit of everything. I said all those to prove that no matter what everyone tells me, I will do what I want no matter what anyone else says.



MADISON HERRINGTON
Editor

Therefore, sending me a letter in the mail telling me that I have missed a day or two of class will do absolutely nothing but waste paper and someone's precious time. I don't mind getting an email saying, "Hey, you've missed Chemistry twice already this semester; therefore, you only have four more times that you can miss." However, sending me a letter means that my parents are going to ask why I missed, what I did instead, what else I've missed, etc. Honestly, my parents don't really care what I do as long as I keep my grades up, but let's be honest. Some parents will care about their child missing a class that they are paying for.

Okay, I got a little off my topic, but all I'm saying is that I'm going to do what I want no matter what East Central says in a letter. If I want to see how many times I can skip class without flunking out, I will. If I want to go to class every day, I will. A letter isn't going to change my mind. If I want to know how many times I've missed a class, I will go to my eclass and find out myself. I love the thought and dedication, but it's honestly not necessary.

—Madison Herrington
Editor

SBA CHAT

Best Wishes on Your Future Endeavors

Who knew it would be the end of the year so fast? I sure didn't! I hope everyone has had a GREAT year of meeting new friends, getting involved around campus and making memories that will last you a lifetime!



ALLIE KILLENS
SBA President

For us sophomores it's time to move on to either a university or onto your career. Freshmen that still have another year to stick around, I hope all of you make it worth your while! Whichever one it maybe I hope for the best and always remember to follow your dreams! For me, I will be headed to the school up north and couldn't be more excited!! (HOTTY TODDY)

I hope everyone has a great and safe summer!

Your SBA prez,
Allie Killens

OTHER OPINIONS

Student Elections Should Be Online

Elections at East Central are great opportunities for allowing the students to have a vote at their school. It allows the students to feel empowered that they actually have a choice in deciding their representatives for the year. There is one problem though: Not everyone has the chance to go to the Grill or the Café to vote.

Commuters don't even think about going to vote because they aren't on campus at all times during the day or the week for that matter. Some people only go to class on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays or Tuesdays and Thursdays. Therefore, why can't we have online elections?

We could have everyone's name and what they are involved in on the college Web site while we vote. They could have a paragraph for why he or she would be a good representative for East Central. Also, maybe just once, people could vote for people not just based on popularity. Not that the vote by popularity option would completely change, but at least there is a possibility that someone not as well-known could actually win a position. Excellence with Class not Excellence by Popularity.

—Madison Herrington
Editor



BY CLAIRE GRIFFIN, CARTOONIST

OTHER OPINIONS

The Classy Cross Hall

Today was pretty good day for me. I feel like one of the most important students on campus. I was lucky enough to be the first East Central Community College student to go on a tour of the new Cross Hall. And I would like to say, to all of you who get to have classes in this building...I'm jealous. It's great. Lucky for me, Dr. Stewart was my tour guide.



WILL STOKES
Opinions Editor

This building has it all. I just wish I was into chemistry and physics so I could be able to enjoy this building. I just wanted everyone to know how great I thought it was. Obviously, ECCC really cares about us. This administration has done what the students wanted. They've added sidewalks, they are adding additional parking to Cross Hall and there is going to be a brand new building!

One of the nicest things I couldn't help but notice in the new building was the re-use of the old hardwood tiers that were in the old Cross Hall. This building is the epitome of "Excellence with Class."

—Will Stokes
Opinions Editor

OTHER OPINIONS

How Much Difference Do Two Points Make?

Recently there has been a lot of buzz regarding news pertaining to a new grade scale coming to East Central in the fall 2014 semester. The new grading scale will be a 10-point grading scale instead of the current 8-point grading scale. This means that an A at East Central right now is a 92. In the fall an A will be a 90. There are two ways you can view this.



ALLISON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

One way to view the grading scale change is that now East Central's students will be on a level playing field with the students of most other 2 year colleges. Which means that we will no longer be at a disadvantage when it comes to getting selected for scholarships and programs that have a G.P.A. requirement. Students preparing to transfer from East Central to a university are likely to love this grade scale change because they really will be on a more level playing field than they were previously. East Central students might have missed an opportunity that students from other colleges did not miss because of an ECCC student's transcript if they had a 91 in a class it showed a B but if a student from another two-year college had a 91 in a class theirs would show an A, but now this will change.

Another view point is that currently ECCC students may be having to work a little harder to have that A on their transcript, and this possibly makes ECCC students a little tougher or more prepared to work hard. Some would also say that if you worked for those extra two points then you deserved it a little more.

I, myself, see both sides having validity, but if most other 2 year colleges and universities use a ten point grading scale then it is probably time for a change here also because the truth is if a student has set their mind to having an A they will do what it takes to have it whether that means they work for a 90 or 92. The same also applies to a B and so on and so forth. Either way we will implement a new grading scale in the fall 2014 semester.

—Allison Johnson
Staff Writer

Congratulations Class of 2014

It is hard to believe that I will soon be completing my second year as president of East Central Community College (ECCC). It has been an honor and a privilege serving the Class of 2014 as president during their educational career at ECCC. I hope that all of our graduating sophomores are leaving East Central changed and are now prepared to begin a career in their field of study or to transfer to a college or university to continue their postsecondary education. We wish all of our graduates Godspeed and hope that you will continue to support your alma mater. Thank you for the contributions you have made to our college during your time as a student.

The EC Way



By Billy W. Stewart, Ph.D.

In this last edition of *The Tom-Tom* for 2013-2014 you will find an update on the renovations the college is making to Cross Hall. We look forward to offering science and other classes beginning this summer in the newly renovated facility. You will also find the Class of 2014 Hall of Fame members. I congratulate these well-deserving students for this tremendous honor. Speaking of student honors, we have been blessed to celebrate several examples of student success over the past few months at ECCC! From PTK, to PBL, to SkillsUSA, to athletics, to *The Tom-Tom* staff, we are blessed with great students who are experiencing success in college while also being prepared for success after college by some of the most gifted instructors anywhere.

Wonderful things are happening all around our college as we make progress each day on fulfilling 2020 Vision. I am so blessed and honored to be a part of this family! It is indeed a GREAT day to be a Warrior!!

—Dr. Billy Stewart
ECCC President

FROM DR. LEE'S DESK

Pursue the College Diploma

My how time has flown! We have reached the end of the academic year! Many of you have worked hard for two years and are getting ready for that memorable walk on Saturday, May 10, at 11 a.m. in the Neshoba County Coliseum. Congratulations! We have certainly enjoyed the Class of 2014 as you have accomplished many things. God's speed on your future endeavors and don't forget us back at ECCC. Keep in touch through the ECCC Alumni Association. We are very interested in your future and love to hear from you!



DR. LEE

Graduates, you may want to take other courses required for your major so take them at ECCC for one-third the tuition price. Summer courses are available for registration. If you have questions about this please come by Student Services and see an academic counselor or just email me.

For other students, GRADUATION should be your ultimate goal at ECCC. Persist and earn that diploma! You need it in today's world.

Freshmen—Advance Registration for the fall semester continues, and more than 700 students have already registered. Classes are already filling up for next August so REGISTER EARLY before you leave for the summer. If you are undecided about returning I would go ahead and register now because classes will fill up, and the withdrawal fee is only \$40 if you choose to not return.

If you have any questions or concerns please let me know. You can reach me at 635-6375 or e-mail rlee@eccc.edu.

Sincerely,
Randall E. Lee, Ph.D.
Vice President for Student Services

OTHER OPINIONS

Cross Hall Construction is a Burden

I know everyone has been wondering what is going on with the construction on Cross Hall. If I am being honest, it has been very inconvenient and at times annoying. The construction has required that a very vital piece of sidewalk be closed off. Due to this sidewalk being closed off many people have had to alter their routes to class which can prove strenuous and time consuming. The bright side of this issue is that everyone is receiving a little more exercise than normal. However, I'm sure most students and faculty would like to have the side walk back as soon as possible.

Another issue involving the continuing construction is the noise level. At different times during the construction the noise level has been very high. If you are a student taking a class in Davis Hall or Newton Hall or a teacher with an office in Davis, Newton or Huff then I'm sure you have been distracted or bothered at some point during the process. I know I have experienced it often during General Biology I and II.

But I do have good news, the end appears to be in sight. According to Mr. Mickey Vance, Vice President for Business Operations, Cross Hall is progressing nicely after some weather delays. The projected completion date is the end of this month, and the facility is expected to be fully functional for the fall 2014 semester. This means that if and when you return to school in the fall we will be free of the noise and hopefully have our sidewalk back.

—Allison Johnson
Staff Writer

The Tom-Tom is a student publication of East Central Community College in Decatur, Miss. It is published by the Office of Public Information. For more information, contact the staff at P.O. Box 129, Decatur, MS, 39327 or by phone at 601-635-2111, ext. 364, or toll free at 1-877-462-3222.

Accreditation
East Central Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools 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.

Notice of Non-Discrimination
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 non-discrimination 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. Inquiries regarding compliance with Section 504 and ADA is coordinated by Dr. Randall Lee, Vice President of Student Services, Eddie M. Smith Student Union, Room 201, Post Office Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, Phone: 601-635-6375, Fax: 601-635-3247, rlee@eccc.edu.

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ECCC Ac'cents To Present Spring Concert May 1

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Members of the East Central Community College show choir, The Ac'cents, will present their fall campus concert at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 1, in Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium. There is no charge for admission and the public is invited to attend.

This year's music includes "Shake, Shake, Shake" by KC and the Sunshine Band, "If You Don't Know Me By Now" by the Temptations, "Suit and Tie" by Justin Timberlake, "Respect" by Aretha Franklin and "Man in the Mirror" by Michael Jackson.

Performers and their respective hometowns include Kara

Miller and Claire Griffin, both of Decatur; Zach Peden, Sam Lovorn and Chandler Smith, all of Philadelphia; Krissy Winstead and Jayohnnie Slaughter, both of Union; Mak Rowzee of Hickory, Ryan Godwin of Newton, Dee Jay Rolison of Conehatta, Taylor Gressett of Chunky and Houston Martin of Edinburg.

The Ac'cents perform throughout the ECCC district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties, as well as various community events and campus concerts.

For more information contact director Vicki Blaylock at 601-635-6225 or e-mail vblaylock@ecc.edu.



ECCC Ac'cents to Perform May 1: Members of the East Central Community College show choir and their respective hometowns include (from left) Kara Miller of Decatur, Zach Peden of Philadelphia, Krissy Winstead of Union, Sam Lovorn of Philadelphia, Mak Rowzee of Hickory, Ryan Godwin of Newton, Jayohnnie Slaughter of Union, Dee Jay Rolison of Conehatta, Taylor Gressett of Chunky, Houston Martin of Edinburg, Claire Griffin of Decatur and Chandler Smith of Philadelphia.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

EC Students Named to All-Mississippi Academic Teams

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

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 place-

ment 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 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 Schol-



BAILEY



OLIVER

ar 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.



ECCC Hosts 1,000 Students for Senior Day Event: More than 1,000 area high school seniors attended Senior Day activities held Friday, March 28, 2014, at East Central Community College. In the above photo, some of the special campus visitors 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. This year's event was highlighted by an inspirational message from former NFL head football coach Tony Dungy. Coach Dungy spoke later that day for a fundraising event at the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia. Efforts are under way to fund a new Football Operations Center at Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus. East Central Community College serves Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

EXTRAORDINARY STUDENTS

ECCC Students Spend Christmas in China

BY SAMANTHA MORGAN
Staff Writer

In the fall of 2013, four students from East Central Community College, Zach Butler, Matthew Evans, Zach Killion and Matthew Morris, decided to give up their family Christmas dinners and their presents under the tree, so they could travel across

the world to spend Christmas in China.

With financial support from family, local churches, East Central's Baptist Student Union and God's provision, they embarked December 15. The group drove to Hattiesburg, where they joined with other college students who also sacrificed their Christmas to spread the Gospel of Christ.

The group left Hattiesburg and drove to Houston, Texas where they boarded a plane to Beijing, China. Flying 7,205 miles, the flight lasted 14 hours.

They said God started working through these students before they reached China. Two of these students shared the Gospel of Christ on the plane. One lady they witnessed to had never even heard the name Jesus!

Matthew Morris's first thoughts was, "Wow! The pollution is everywhere. The city always looked overcast and cloudy."

When asked what his favorite part of the trip was, Matthew Evans replied, "When I got there, there was a man who had never heard the name Jesus. With two days left this same man was witnessing to someone else."

One of the worst experiences they had was watching people completely shut out God and ignores what He is doing. With the selfless nature of these people, the people of China experienced that the Gospel is powerful and will stand on its own two feet. Having people respond and wrestle with God's love for them made this trip more than worth it, they said.

EXTRAORDINARY STUDENT

Danilov: Not Your Ordinary American Community College Student

BY SAMANTHA MORGAN
Staff Writer

Alexey Viktorovich Danilov, a freshman nursing major at East Central Community College, is a normal college student... or most might think.

Danilov was born on March 10, 1989 in Saint Petersburg, Russia. His parents' names are Victor and Marina Danilov. He is a twin and he also has a younger brother. Both of Danilov's brothers live in Canada.

He is a practicing Catholic. Danilov attended Krasnogvar-

deyskaya Shkola #1, a Russian high school in Saint Petersburg. He played hockey throughout school, which gave him an athletic scholarship to attend the University Of Washington in Seattle.

Danilov first went to college at the University Of Saint Pe-

tersburg in Russia where he started climbing the ladder to obtain his bachelor's degree in finance.

In 2009, Danilov relocated to the United States on account of his grandfather. He received his American residency as a direct grandson of American

citizens. Once Danilov settled in America, he started school at the University Of Washington. He later transferred to Palm Beach State College, and shortly thereafter, transferred to West Palm Beach, both in Florida. When asked how he felt about America, Davilov re-

plied, "I love America. It's super safe and everyone follows the law."

Although, Danilov got his bachelor's degree in finance, he decided not to stop there. Now Danilov is attending East Central Community College pursuing a nursing degree.

West Chosen ECCC Most Beautiful: Haleigh West (left) of Decatur was crowned Most Beautiful during the annual East Central Community College Beauty Pageant held Tuesday, February 18. She is shown receiving her crown from 2013 Most Beautiful Kelsey Bounds of Newton.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Beauties: These East Central Community College students were selected beauties during the annual Beauty Pageant held Tuesday, February 18. Winners and their respective high school are (from left) beauties Hannah Smith of Leake Academy and Casey Cherry of Union; Most Beautiful Haleigh West of Newton County; and beauties Hannah Mitchell and Taylor Gressett, both of Newton County.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Top 10 Beauties: These ladies were selected for the Top 10 during the annual Beauty Pageant held February 18, at East Central Community College. Beauties and their respective hometowns are (from left) Grayson Harrell, Morton; Payton Smith, Forest; Hannah Smith, Decatur; Casey Cherry, Union; Haleigh West, Decatur; Hannah Mitchell, Meridian; Taylor Gressett, Chunky; Emily Gully, Bay Springs; Jayohnnie Slaughter, Union; and Mackenzie Gannon, Decatur.

'Be Better, Not Bitter'- ECCC Black History Month Speaker:

Andrea Williams of WTOK-TV in Meridian served as keynote speaker for the annual Black History Month program held Feb. 19, 2014, at East Central Community College. Williams' message for the evening was "Be Better, Not Bitter." She said, "Black history is American history. It's not saying that one group is better than another or that one group is more superior. It means that we all have worked together to make this country what it is today." She continued, "Right has no color - black, white or any other. Right is what right is." Williams also emphasized the importance of following the words of the Bible in everyday life. "The Bible is our guiding post in life and God shows us how to be better and not bitter. His son Jesus, who suffered so much, became better not bitter. That's the example we all have to follow." Williams joined the WTOK-TV staff in 1999 and currently serves as host of the popular Good Morning Meridian program. The ECCC Black History Month event is sponsored by the college's Gospel Choir, which also performed. Mrs. Brenda K. Johnson serves as gospel choir sponsor.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



'Apollo 13' Astronaut Fred Haise at ECCC: Astronaut Fred Haise, who served as the lunar module pilot during the ill-fated Apollo 13 space mission in 1970 and is portrayed by Bill Paxton in the blockbuster film Apollo 13, is shown speaking to East Central Community College students and guests February 25, 2014, in the Vickers Fine Arts Building Auditorium. During his remarks, which included highlights about Apollo 13, a near-fatal plane crash in 1973, and his participation in test flights of the Space Shuttle Enterprise, Haise said, "Looking back, I feel fortunate to have enjoyed the career I have. I am extremely fortunate to have been around during the Apollo missions and to have been included in the program...I encourage students today to try to figure out the talent you've been blessed with. Figure out how best to use it. Figure out what's fun in school and what your talent is. Put it into a career and that will help you succeed and have fun. Steer yourself into something you will enjoy doing every day." Following his presentation, Haise participated in a question and answer session led by ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart. "An Evening with Fred Haise" was made possible through the financial support of the ECCC Foundation and the Oliphant-Martin Faculty Excellence Endowment. East Central Community College gratefully acknowledges the Infinity Science Center for their assistance in securing Mr. Fred Haise. For more information on the Infinity Science Center, please visit <http://www.visitinfinity.com/>.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

USM Professor Presents Civil War Info for ECCC-Hosted Smithsonian Exhibit: Dr. Max Grivno, associate professor of history at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, presents Workshop of the Confederacy; East Mississippi in the Civil War during remarks March 4, 2014, at East Central Community College. Dr. Grivno's presentation was held as part of the Traveling Smithsonian Exhibition, The Way We Worked, which will be on display through March 28, 2014, in the Gordon Room of Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Several other presentations are scheduled in association with the Smithsonian exhibit. Dr. G. Everett Morgan, professor emeritus at Mississippi State University in Starkville will present The Scope and Significance of the Poultry Industry in Mississippi, as part of Workforce Education Appreciation Day and guest luncheon, scheduled from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, March 20. Ovid Vickers, retired ECCC faculty member and local historian/author, will discuss Work in Literature, beginning at 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 25. Both presentations will be held in the Molly McGee Gold Room in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. For more information and to schedule tours of The Way We Worked exhibit, please contact Dr. Teresa Houston, at 601-635-6202 (thouston@eccc.edu) or Chris Brady, at 601-635-6229 (cbrady@eccc.edu).



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Holds Grand Opening for Smithsonian Exhibit: East Central Community College held Grand Opening ceremonies for "The Way We Worked," a Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition, which was on display for several weeks. Executive director Stuart Rockoff (shown above) spoke on behalf of the Mississippi Humanities Council, which helps sponsor the event. The exhibit is designed "to rediscover the strength and spirit of American workers through rare archival images, compelling videos and fascinating interviews." Several presentations and events were held to supplement the Smithsonian exhibition. For more information, contact Chris Brady (601-635-6229 or email cbrady@eccc.edu) or Dr. Teresa Houston, Vice President for Instruction (601-635-6202 or email thouston@eccc.edu).

We Want Your News!

E-mail information about your club/organization to gphillips@eccc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

To Present Sophomore Recital April 16: These East Central Community College music students presented their sophomore recital at 1 p.m. Wednesday, April 16, in the Vickers Fine Arts Building Auditorium. From left are Samantha Farley (clarinet) who will present "Four Seasons-Mvt. III (Winter)" by Vivaldi and "Time Pieces" by Muczynski; Leslie Young (tuba) who will present "Sonata No. 1" by Benedetto Marcello and "Suite" by Vanclav Nelhybel; and Matthew Graham (trumpet) who will perform "Andante Et Allegro" by Guy Ropartz and "Hummel Trumpet Concerto." Farley and Young are both graduates of Neshoba Central High School and Graham is a product of Lake High School.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

To Present Sophomore Recital April 30: These East Central Community College music students presented their sophomore recital at 1 p.m. Wednesday, April 30, in the Vickers Fine Arts Building Auditorium. From left are Conor Bell (piano) of Carthage who will present "Waltz in C# Minor" by Chopin and "Prelude in G Major" by Bach; Clint Walker (tenor) of Newton performing "Love Went A Riding" by Frank Bridge and "Per La Gloria d'adoravi" by Bononcini; Samuel Lovorn (baritone) of Philadelphia who will present "Vergil Tutt' Amor" by Francesco Durante, "La Bloma" by Vradier and "Bubble Boogie" by Jack Fina; and Chandler Smith of Philadelphia (percussion/tenor) who will perform "Tambourin Chinois" by Kreisler/Green, "South Kolora" by Alex Stopa, "Purdicesti, O bocci Bella" by Lotti, "Go Lovely Rose" by Quilter and "Horses On A Red Dirt Trail" by C. Bell.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Pit Orchestra for ECCC Musical: Pit Orchestra members for the East Central Community ENCORE production of Shrek the Musical are (from left) staff members Natalie Emmons, pianist; Ed Girling, percussionist; Ryan Clarke, bass guitarist; and Chas Evans, rhythm guitarist. The spring musical was held April 7-12 in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. Emmons also serves as director.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Students Selected for All-State Band: The above members of the Wall O' Sound Band at East Central Community College were selected for the Mississippi Community/Junior College Band Association All-Collegiate Band. Honorees and their respective hometowns are (front row, from left) Anna Girling (trombone) and Samantha Farley (clarinet), both of Carthage; and (back row, from left) Matt Graham (trumpet) of Meridian and Chandler Smith (mallets), Zach Peden (saxophone) and Leslie Young (tuba), all of Philadelphia. For more information on the ECCC Band Department, contact Hunter Corhern, Director of Bands, at 601-635-6123 or e-mail hcorhern@eccc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Bookstore Hosts Valentine's Day Giveaway: The Bookstore at East Central Community College held a Valentine's Day Giveaway for its patrons. Bookstore employee Ashley Patterson (left) presents the winners, freshmen Shana Evans of Lawrence (middle) and Melanie Moore of Lake (right), with their prize teddy bears.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Green Donates Letterman Jacket to ECCC: Robert Green (right) of Walnut Grove, a 1967 graduate of East Central Community College, presents his basketball letterman's jacket to Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, Executive Director for Foundation and Alumni Relations. Green is a 1965 graduate of Walnut Grove High School and was a member of the 1965-66 and 1966-67 Warrior basketball teams lead by head coach Joe Clark. For more information regarding the college's collection of athletic memorabilia, contact Dr. Hollingsworth at 601-635-6327 or by email at sholling@eccc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Lions Club Makes Donation to ECCC Warrior Club: The Decatur Lions Club presented a \$500 check to the East Central Community College Warrior Club recently. Lions Club member Camp Keith (left) is shown presenting the check to ECCC staff members Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth (center), Executive Director for Foundation and Alumni Relations, and Chris Harris, Athletic Director. Harris said half the money is earmarked for the Warrior Club's Post-Season Play fund and the other half is undesignated. For more information on the ECCC Warrior Club or to make a donation, contact Dr. Hollingsworth at 601-635-6327 or email sholling@eccc.edu.

**Reminder:
Wear IDs
at All Times!**



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

La-Z-Boy Participates in ECCC Expo: Julie Rowzee (left), benefits manager for La-Z-Boy in Newton, talks with East Central Community College students (left to right) Shondrick Russell of Philadelphia, Marcus Quince of Newton and Chris Lyons of Philadelphia during East Central Community College's Business, Education and Healthcare Expo held recently in Brackeen-Wood Gymnasium. Approximately 350 people attended the Expo and more than 50 vendors participated in the annual event.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

SuperTalk Radio GM Harrison Participates in ECCC Expo: Wanda Harrison (right), general manager of SuperTalk Radio 103.3 FM in Meridian, talks with East Central Community College students Rebecca Veazey (left) and Payton Smith (middle), both of Forest during East Central Community College's Business, Education and Healthcare Expo held recently in Brackeen-Wood Gymnasium. Approximately 350 people attended the Expo and more than 50 vendors participated in the annual event.

New Scholarships Established at ECCC

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Each year, alumni and friends of East Central Community College provide much-needed financial support for students in the five-county district through various annual and endowed scholarships.

Three new scholarships were recently approved by the College's Board of Trustees and include the Etheridge Family Scholarship, Square County Auctions Scholarship and the Eastside Pawn and Gun Scholarship.

The Etheridge Family Scholarship was established by Tam H. Etheridge through the T.H. Etheridge trust on behalf of his three sisters and himself, all of whom attended East Central Community College. They are the children of James and Pauline Etheridge of Louisville.

Etheridge is a member of the East Central Community College Class of 1953 and was selected Alumnus of the Year in 1998. He served as editor of the Wo-He-Lo yearbook his sophomore year and met his future spouse, Nora Reagan, while she was visiting ECCC at Homecoming in 1952. They have two children.

He continued his education at Mississippi State University and majored in accounting. Following three-and-a-half years of active duty military service as a carrier pilot in the U.S. Navy, he went to work for R&R Hatchery & Milling Company, Inc., in Carthage. He later became the owner of this company, then named Choctaw Maid Farms, Inc., with operations in several counties of central Mississippi.

Jamie Etheridge Harrell is a member of the East Central Community College Class of 1949 and was selected May Queen her sophomore year. She continued her education at the

University of Southern Mississippi and the University of Louisiana at Monroe. She earned a master's degree in music education and taught music in a number of schools before her retirement. She lives in Rayville, La., with her husband, James, and plays the organ and piano at Rayville Methodist Church. The Harrells have one son.

June Etheridge Addkison is a member of the ECCC Class of 1951 and also began dating her future spouse, Dwight Addkison, while both were students at the college. The Addkisons continued their education at Mississippi State University and settled in Louisville following college.

June continues to teach music education and private piano lessons. For 28 years she has been the music director at Calvary Baptist Church west of Louisville. Dwight had a career in the business world until his death in 1980. The Addkisons have two children.

Etta Etheridge Carpenter enrolled at East Central in 1953 on a band scholarship. Following her freshman year, she married sophomore Mel Carpenter, a 2006 inductee in the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame, and they continued their education at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Mel began a career in athletics at Perkinston Junior College and later became Director of Athletics and a professor at Central Florida Community College in Ocala, Fla. The Carpenters retired in Florida and have four children.

The Etheridge Family Scholarship will be awarded annually to an ECCC student who has completed his or her freshman year in the field of business, preferably with an emphasis in accounting.

To qualify, candidates must meet the following criteria: 1)

Be a resident of the college's five-county district; 2) be enrolled full-time at East Central his or her freshman year after high school graduation; 3) attain sophomore standing; 4) have maintained a 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale; 5) major in business with an emphasis in accounting; and 6) must show need for financial assistance.

This is a two-semester scholarship and recipients must maintain a 3.0 grade point average and must continue full-time study at East Central to continue receiving the award.

The Square County Auctions Scholarship was established by Joe Andy Helton and will be awarded annually to a graduate of Leake Central High School who enrolls full-time in the fall following high school graduation.

Also established by Mr. Helton, the Eastside Pawn and Gun Scholarship will be awarded annually to a graduate of Leake Academy who enrolls full time following high school graduation.

Recipients of both scholarships will be selected by the ECCC Scholarship Committee.

"The ECCC Foundation would like to thank our donors who continue to support the scholarship program," said Dr. Hollingsworth. "We also encourage others to establish scholarships and help meet the financial needs of students."

During 2013, the East Central Community College Foundation awarded approximately 130 scholarships valued at \$71,340.

For more information, contact Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations, 601-635-6327 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 327. Her email address is sholling@eccc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Griffin, Jones Attend ECCC Expo: Audrey Griffin (left) of Louisville and Alisha Jones (center) of Carthage are shown talking with Bethney Smith, assistant director of nursing and Teresa Busby, director of nursing with MS Care Center of Morton, during the East Central Community College Business, Education and Healthcare Expo held recently in Brackeen-Wood Gymnasium. Griffin and Jones are students in the associate degree nursing program at ECCC. Approximately 350 people attended the Expo and more than 50 vendors participated in the annual event.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College freshmen (from right) James Cornelison of Morton and Brittney Taylor and Faith Emmons, both of Lake, visit the "One-Stop Shop" set up in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria recently. Angela Bradley, assistant to the director of financial aid, and Mae Thornton, business office clerk, (pictured from left) were among staff members from several offices who met with students to ensure they were clear to advance register for the summer and fall terms.

'One-Stop Shop' Assists EC Students

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

The new "One-Stop Shop" makes it easier than ever for East Central Community College students to plan their next semester.

ECCC staff members set up in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria the week of March 24 to assist students with advance registration, which began April 1.

According to Deanna Rush, Director of Admissions and Records, "Representatives from

Business Office and Counseling staff met with students to ensure they are clear to advance register for the summer and fall terms and to provide advisement on courses if the students need assistance."

The new program fulfills part of the college's 2020 Vision, which seeks to help students succeed in their academic, career and personal goals.

College President Dr. Billy Stewart said, "Offering the One-Stop Shop during the week

of advance registration for summer and fall terms addresses two Institutional Commitments of 2020 Vision: Student Success and Communication. I appreciate the extra effort of all of our staff in making student services, advising, financial aid and the business office easily accessible for our students. I also look forward to enhancing and increasing these types of services to our students. After all, their achievement is the focus of our work at East Central."

Register Now!

Sign Up TODAY for Summer or Fall Classes!

ECCC Chooses Class Favorites:

The favorites for freshman and sophomore classes of 2013-14 have been announced for East Central Community College, following a recent student body election. 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, Sallito; 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 Sawyer Williams, Porters Chapel Academy, El Dorado, Ark.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



ECCC Daycare Celebrates 100 Days of School: Faculty, staff, and students at East Central Community College's Daycare Center dressed in decorated T-shirts on Tuesday, Feb. 11, to celebrate the 100th school day of the year. In addition to celebrating with decorated T-shirts, students in the Daycare spent the day practicing with the number 100 in their counting lessons.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

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SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Participants at Capitol Day: Administrators, faculty members and students representing East Central Community College were among participants at Capitol Day held Feb. 25, 2014, at the Mississippi Legislature in Jackson. The annual event is sponsored by the Mississippi Faculty Association for Community and Junior Colleges (MFACJC) to voice support for the state's 15 community and junior colleges and their efforts to achieve Mid-Level funding. ECC representatives are shown with area legislators following a press conference in the Capitol Rotunda. Front row, from left, are State Rep. Mike Evans of Preston and ECC students Zachary Allen and Teylor Martinez (featured student speaker at press conference), both of Louisville; Joseph Aulds of Decatur; Leah Ferguson of Philadelphia; Jenna Lovern of Louisville; and Yashica Ickom of Lake; and State Rep. Randy Rushing of Decatur. Back row, from left, are Dean of Athletics/Personnel Services Chris Harris; faculty members Wanda Hurley and Lynn Selman; ECC President Dr. Billy Stewart; faculty member Sherri Cliburn; Vice President for Instruction Dr. Teresa Houston; and faculty member Christy Ferguson.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Student Featured at Capitol Day Event: East Central Community College sophomore Teylor Martinez of Louisville represented the state's community college students during the annual Capitol Day event held Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2014, at the State Capitol in Jackson. During her remarks at the mid-morning Press Conference, Martinez expressed appreciation to EC's 'caring faculty' in providing her with a quality education. "I will transfer to a university well-prepared for the next step in my education because the faculty and staff took a personal interest in helping me achieve a degree." She urged lawmakers to support community and junior college students by providing funding as requested for the 15-college system. Martinez is a product of Nanih Waiya High School.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Students Visit Area Legislators: Students from East Central Community College visited several lawmakers during Capitol Day activities held Feb. 25, 2014, at the State Legislature in Jackson. The annual event is sponsored by the Mississippi Faculty Association for Community and Junior Colleges (MFACJC) and includes a Press Conference during which lawmakers and community/junior college representatives voice support to increase funding for the state's two-year colleges. Pictured with Senator Giles Ward (sixth from left) of Louisville and Rep. Mike Evans of Preston (seventh from left) are ECC students (from left) Courtney Moore of Carthage, Leah Ferguson of Philadelphia. Yashica Ickom of Lake, Matthew Evans of Forest, Joseph Aulds of Decatur, Denzel Clemons of Philadelphia, Zachary Allen and Jenna Lovern, both of Louisville; Maykayla Carson of Newton and Teylor Martinez (featured student speaker at Press Conference) of Louisville.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Students Visit State Legislature: East Central Community College students were among participants at Capitol Day held Feb. 25, 2014, at the State Legislature in Jackson and sponsored by the Mississippi Faculty Association for Community and Junior Colleges (MFACJC). Students and other representatives of the state's two-year colleges along with several lawmakers participated in a Press Conference in the Capitol Rotunda to voice support for the colleges and their efforts to achieve Mid-Level funding. College students also had an opportunity to visit with area legislators. In the above photo, State Senator Terry C. Burton (center) of Newton is shown with ECC students (from left) Courtney Moore of Carthage, Leah Ferguson of Philadelphia, Yashica Ickom of Lake, Matthew Evans of Forest, Joseph Aulds of Decatur, ECC faculty member Marc McCool; Teylor Martinez (featured student speaker at Press Conference), Denzel Clemons of Philadelphia, Zachary Allen and Jenna Lovern, both of Louisville; and Maykayla Carson of Newton.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Winston County Officials Visit ECC: Winston County officials recently visited the East Central Community College campus and were special luncheon guests of the college's Board of Trustees at the March 18, 2014 meeting. Pictured are (seated, from left) Mike Peterson, District 3 Supervisor and Board President; Gloria Turnipseed, District 4 Supervisor; Kim Ming, Circuit Clerk; Julie Cunningham, Chancery Clerk; and ECC Board of Trustees member Patsy Clark; and (back row, from left) James L. "Burr" Warner, District 1 Supervisor; Luke Parkes, District 2 Supervisor; ECC trustees Randal Livingston and Leo Parker; and Larry Woodward, Tax Collector/Assessor. Not pictured are trustees Delane Hudson, Jerry Nance and Ken McMullan. ECC Board Chairman Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake and ECC President Dr. Billy Stewart expressed their appreciation to the Winston County officials for their support of the College. East Central Community College's support district includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Alumni Board Making Plans for 2014 Activities: The East Central Community College Alumni Board recently held its spring semester meeting. Topics of discussion included the annual MS Community College Sports Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, scheduled Tuesday, April 29, 2014, at the Muse Center on the Rankin County campus of Hinds Community College. Former basketball standout Evelyn "Snoopy" Bender of Newton will represent ECC in this year's prestigious group of former standout athletes and coaches. Plans are under way for the 13th Annual Warrior Golf Classic, set for Thursday, June 26, 2014, at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club. The four-person scramble will be held on the Oaks Course. Activities are also being planned for the 2014 Homecoming, which will be held Saturday, October 11. A list of reunion groups to be honored will be announced at a later date. Seated from left are Dr. Stacy Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations; Ann Burkes of Decatur, Newton County representative; Cheryl L. Comans of Cleveland, Out-of-District representative; Jeanette Beevers Thrash of Decatur, Association vice president; and ECC staff members Sherri Cliburn, 2013-14 Faculty Club President, Amanda Walton, career-technical counselor; and Dr. Teresa Houston, vice president for instruction. Standing from left are Pete Lucovich of Carthage, Leake County representative; Bruce Lee of Louisville, Winston County representative; Bart Gregory of Starkville, Out-of-District representative; Harvey Trapp of Decatur, Newton County representative; Dr. Bob Tom Johnson of Forest, Association past president; Dr. Randall Lee, ECC vice president for student services; and ECC President Dr. Billy Stewart. Dr. Stewart also addressed the group and provided an update of college events and activities.

Clublicity



ECCC Students Presented MS SkillsUSA Awards: These students at East Central Community College received honors at the annual Mississippi SkillsUSA and Leadership Conference held recently in Jackson. Award winners include (first row, from left) Ashton Graham of Little Rock, third place, Job Skills Demonstration A; Sheneka Spivey of McCool, first place, Food and Beverage Service; Danni Calliham of Raleigh and Charquella Hill of Carthage, third place, Promotional Bulletin Board; (second row, from left) Trevor Graham of Decatur, third place, Welding Fabrication; Brandon Weaver of Forest, third place, Welding Sculpture; Nathan Griffin of Union, third place, Diesel Technology; and Chauncy Griffin of Morton, third place, Precision Machining; (third row, from left) Haden Austin Bozeman of Carthage, second place, CNC Turning; and Jake Boatner of Philadelphia, third place, Welding Fabrication; and (fourth row, from left) Blake Faulkner of Carthage, first place, Carpentry; Jay Riser of Forest, first place, Cabinetmaking; Zach Yates of Decatur, third place, CNC Milling; JJ Chesnut of Philadelphia, third place, Welding Fabrication; and William Milner of Lena, third place, Residential Wiring. Not pictured are Briana Cooks of Forest, second place, Major Appliance Repair; and William Alexander of Little Rock, second place, Collision Repair. First-place winners (Faulkner, Riser and Spivey) advance to the National SkillsUSA Conference at Kansas City, MO, in June.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Announces SkillsUSA District Winners

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College recently hosted the Mississippi SkillsUSA Championships for Region 3. More than 200 area students participated in the annual event.

All first through third place winners advance to state competition scheduled February 25-26 in Jackson. Those receiving top honors in the respective categories include:

Architectural Drafting: Xavier Mattison, first place, Leake County Career-Technical Center; and Lacey McLain, second, A.P. Fatherree Career-Technical Center.

Automotive Service Technology: James McLain, first place, Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center; Christian White, second, Winston/Louisville Career-Technical Center; and Jakeb Cooksey, third, Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center.

Cabinetmaking: Jared Revette, first place, Smith County Career Center; Scottie Neyman, second, Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center; and Santrell Ramsey, third, Ross Collins Career-Technical Center in Meridian.

Carpentry: Ty Swindle, first place, Choctaw County Career-Technical Center; Andrew Pankrat, second, Smith County Career Center; and Laderrius Richardson, third, Noxubee County Career-Technical Center.

Chapter Business Procedures: Noxubee County Career-Technical Center (Donte Brewer, Christian Holder, Tyshala Jackson, Aliysha Jones, Demorris Roby and Kenterrius Turner), first place.

Extemporaneous Speaking: Dylan Johnson, first place, Leake County Career-Technical Center; and Mahlon Robinson, second, Noxubee County Career-Technical Center.

Job Skills Demonstration A: Taylor Patterson, first place, West Point Career-Technical Center; and Devin Anderson, second, Winston/Louisville Career-Technical Center.

Job Skills Demonstration Open: Andrew Donald, first place, A.P. Fatherree Career-Technical Center in Laurel; Baylan Myrick, second, Leake County Career-Technical Center; and Tyler Wilson, third, Smith County Career Center.

Job Interview: Jacob Dendy, first place, and Haiden Nowell, second, both students at the Choctaw County Career-Technical Center; and Terance Bryant, third, Noxubee County Career-Technical Center.

Masonry: Bryce Turner and Kedrick Cheatham (assistant), first place, Noxubee County Career Center; Tommy Bell and Cortez Johnson (helper), second, Choctaw County Career-Technical Center; and Zachary Emmons and Shawn Fisher (helper), third, Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center.

Opening and Closing Ceremonies: Choctaw County Career and Technical Center (Jennifer Bigley, Tyler Cagle, Macy Clement, Michael Davis, Darian Fulgham, Zac Lawrence and Caylin Smith), first place; Winston/Louisville Career-Technical Center (Elizabeth Eaves, Laterrica Hunt, Jordan Maury, Darius Miller, Shenicka Triplett, Hillary Wragg and Ashley Young), second; and Winston/Louisville Career-Technical Center (Victoria Burt, Trey Carter, Darius Dora, Roxanna Johnson, Ashley Mills, Jalon Sangster and Tabitha Mayo), third.

Precision Machining: Cody Reed, first place, Winston/Louisville Career-Technical Center; Kyle Gordon, second, West Point Career-Technical Center; and Bryant Crosby, third, Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center.

Prepared Speech: Terrence Tate, second place, Noxubee County Career-Technical Center.

Quiz Bowl: Leake County Career-Technical Center (Austin Anderton, Joseph Atkison, Nathan Burns, Laurenz Turner and Jessy Withers), first place; A.P. Fatherree Career-Technical Center in Laurel (Amanda Harper, Hannah Maxcey, Hannah Heiden, Rachel Reon and A'Jaycia Thames), second; and A.P. Fatherree Career-Technical Center in Laurel (Blake Massey, Austin Mullins, Hayden Sumrall, Jarvis Ulmer, Langston Gains and Andrew

McDade), third.

Related Technical Math: Douglas Kennedy, first place, Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center; Kellen Lang, second, Choctaw County Career-Technical Center; and Bay White, third, Winston/Louisville Career-Technical Center.

Residential Wiring: LeKilo White, first place, Wayne County Career-Technical Center; Justin Barrett, second, Scott County Career and Technology Center; and Raheem Gillespie, third, Noxubee County Career-

Technical Center.

Sheet Metal: Dusty Burton, first place, Winston/Louisville Career-Technical Center; Dezmund Lockett, second, Noxubee County Career-Technical Center; and Dustin Pinter, third, Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center.

Technical Drafting: Austin Malone, first place, A.P. Fatherree Career-Technical Center in Laurel.

Welding: Dale Chancellor, first place, Winston/Louisville Career-Technical Center;

Christopher Mobbs, second, Smith County Career Center; and Omar Lemus, third, West Point Career-Technical Center.

Welding Fabrication: West Point Career-Technical Center (Cody DeNise and Tyler Taylor), first place; Wayne County Career-Technical Center (Chase Bedwell, John Green and Michael Hutcherson), second; and Winston/Louisville Career-Technical Center (Isaiah Woods, Austin Long and Darrian Reed), third.

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SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Receive GED Diplomas at ECCC: These Leake County residents received high school equivalency diplomas during the semi-annual GED Graduation ceremony held March 20, 2014, at East Central Community College. Graduates and their respective hometowns include (front row, from left) Alyson Reed, Madden; Debbie Rogers, Walnut Grove; and Hannah McGuire, Carthage; and (back row, from left) Terrell Moorehead, Walnut Grove; Robert Oliphant, Carthage; and Desiree Quick of Denham Springs, La., formerly of Carthage. Dr. Eric Clark, Executive Director of the Mississippi Community College Board, served as guest speaker. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart awarded diplomas to graduates. Other program participants included Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake, Vice President for Instruction Dr. Teresa Houston, and ABE/GED instructor Bryan Burt. ECCC offers free ABE/GED-Preparation classes throughout the College's five-county district. For more information on ECCC's Adult Basic Education/GED Program, contact Ryan Clarke, program director, 601-635-6387 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 387. His e-mail address is rclarke@eccc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Receive GED Diplomas at ECCC: These Scott County residents received high school equivalency diplomas during the semi-annual GED Graduation ceremony held March 20, 2014, at East Central Community College. Graduates and their respective hometowns include (front row, from left) Jameisha Plummer, Forest; Angela Coley, Pulaski; Mikaela Harris, Forest; and Skylar Gouldson, Lake; and (back row, from left) John Harvey, Forest; Ernest Druery, Morton; and Steven Williams, LaSha Bridges and Danny Anderson, all of Forest. Dr. Eric Clark, Executive Director of the Mississippi Community College Board, served as guest speaker. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart awarded diplomas to graduates. Other program participants included Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake, Vice President for Instruction Dr. Teresa Houston, and ABE/GED instructor Bryan Burt. ECCC offers free ABE/GED-Preparation classes throughout the College's five-county district. For more information on ECCC's Adult Basic Education/GED Program, contact Ryan Clarke, program director, 601-635-6387 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 387. His e-mail address is rclarke@eccc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Receive GED Diplomas at ECCC: These Neshoba County residents received high school equivalency diplomas during the semi-annual GED Graduation ceremony held March 20, 2014, at East Central Community College. Graduates and their respective hometowns include (front row, from left) Preston Foster, Lindsey Giles, Nate Bowen, Landon Dupree, Ashley Brown and Shakena Hughes, all of Philadelphia; and (back row, from left) Brittany Rowell, Abby Fulton, Tatyana Fox, Nykia Ford, Brittany Bagwell and Lakeisha Thomas, all of Philadelphia. Dr. Eric Clark, Executive Director of the Mississippi Community College Board, served as guest speaker. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart awarded diplomas to graduates. Other program participants included Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake, Vice President for Instruction Dr. Teresa Houston, and ABE/GED instructor Bryan Burt. ECCC offers free ABE/GED-Preparation classes throughout the College's five-county district. For more information on ECCC's Adult Basic Education/GED Program, contact Ryan Clarke, program director, 601-635-6387 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 387. His e-mail address is rclarke@eccc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Receive GED Diplomas at ECCC: These Winston County residents received high school equivalency diplomas during the semi-annual GED Graduation ceremony held March 20, 2014, at East Central Community College. Graduates and their respective hometowns include (front row, from left) Brittany McClendon, Latundria Miller, Ashley Mays and Debra Triplett, all of Louisville; and (back row, from left) Martez Hopkins, Tatyana Coleman, LaTonia Johnson, Ella Mae Taylor and Kalongin Logan, all of Louisville. Dr. Eric Clark, Executive Director of the Mississippi Community College Board, served as guest speaker. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart awarded diplomas to graduates. Other program participants included Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake, Vice President for Instruction Dr. Teresa Houston, and ABE/GED instructor Bryan Burt. ECCC offers free ABE/GED-Preparation classes throughout the College's five-county district. For more information on ECCC's Adult Basic Education/GED Program, contact Ryan Clarke, program director, 601-635-6387 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 387. His e-mail address is rclarke@eccc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Receive GED Diplomas at ECCC: These Newton County residents received high school equivalency diplomas during the semi-annual GED Graduation ceremony held March 20, 2014, at East Central Community College. Graduates and their respective hometowns include (front row, from left) Jade Ratcliff, Little Rock; Layla Smith, Hickory; Beatrice Moore and Terri Giblin, both of Newton; and Sara Pellegrin, Hickory; (second row, from left) Trey Dennis, Lawrence; Timothy Graham, Decatur; Jeffery Stevens, Newton; Kasie Farmer, Chunky; and Daniel Gainey, Union; and (back row, from left) Cole Goss, Cody Stephens, Ronald Farmer, Mark Farmer and Willis Brown, all of Newton. Dr. Eric Clark, Executive Director of the Mississippi Community College Board, served as guest speaker. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart awarded diplomas to graduates. Other program participants included Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake, Vice President for Instruction Dr. Teresa Houston, and ABE/GED instructor Bryan Burt. ECCC offers free ABE/GED-Preparation classes throughout the College's five-county district. For more information on ECCC's Adult Basic Education/GED Program, contact Ryan Clarke, program director, 601-635-6387 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 387. His e-mail address is rclarke@eccc.edu.

Are eBooks the Future for ECCC?

BY MADISON HERRINGTON
Editor

the ability to do whatever I want with it.

Today we have all these different types of technology in small compact packages such as iPads, Nooks, Kindles, etc. Understandably, the thought of having eBook versions of a text book for classes would come up. This brings up the question of whether East Central Community College as a college should have eBooks or printed books.

Personally, I vote for printed books. I like having the option of highlighting, underlining, or just writing in general in my book. I know that students now days spend a lot of time on computers playing games, getting on Facebook, checking Twitter, or viewing Instagram. However, do you really want to stare at a computer for many hours a day trying to read a book? I would rather have a book myself. If I am going to have to pay for a book anyway, I want my money's worth to have

Plus, there is the matter of getting money back for my book. With a printed book, I can return my book for money at the book store. What about my eBook? Can I get money back from those as well? Probably not. I am a broke college student. I need that money back for whatever else I need whether its paper and pens or a taco from Taco Bell. I want to be able to make at least some of my money back for all of those expensive books.



MADISON HERRINGTON
Editor

**ECCC Graduation
11 a.m.
May 10, 2014
Neshoba Co. Coliseum**

Clublicity



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC PTK Inductees: The above students were recently inducted into Theta Xi chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of the two-year college, at East Central Community College. Induction ceremonies were held Thursday, Feb. 6, on the Decatur campus. More than 75 students joined the prestigious organization, whose mission is to recognize and encourage the academic achievement of two-year college students and provide opportunities for individual growth and development through participation in honors, leadership, service and fellowship programming. To qualify, students must have completed at least 12 hours of coursework that may be applied to an associate degree and must have a grade point average of 3.5. Inductees and their respective hometowns include (front row, from left) Cara Jackson and Brody Richardson, both of Louisville; Mackenzie Gannon, Decatur; Mak Rowzee, Hickory; Sarah Freeman, Decatur; and Regan Reiss, Forest; (second row, from left) Shelby McKelvaine, Meridian; Emily Cook, Carthage; Jessica Moffett, Meridian; Daniel Giles, Union; Stephanie Willis, Newton; Hillary Williams, Philadelphia; Amy Seibel, Lawrence; Alex Bucklew, Louisville; Haley Pierce, Noxapater; and Grayson Harrell, Morton; (third row, from left) Katie Sanford, Decatur; Hannah Pilgrim, Rachel Rogers, Morgan Warren and Anna Lewis, all of Philadelphia; Taylor Townsend and Breanna Morgan, both of Union; Bailey Easterling, Forest; Kaitlin Miles and Krissy Winstead, both of Philadelphia; Tabitha LaBue, Conehatta; Dustie Chisholm, Louin; Shannon McNeill, Sebastopol; Colton Horne, Noxapater; and David Andersen, Union; (fourth row, from left) Chauncy Griffin Morton; Kayla Covington, Nanih Waiya; Haleigh West, Hickory; Rachel Laird, Meridian; Madison Smith and Kelsey Porter, both of Morton; Kristen Gordy and Jenny Grove, both of Forest; Bridgette McFarland, Neshoba; Amber Williams, Morton; Leah Ferguson, Philadelphia; Madelyn Peterson and Jenna Lovorn, both of Louisville; Brooke Richardson, Nanih Waiya; and Allison Johnson, Dakota Wright and Will Myers, all of Philadelphia; (fifth row, from left) Ben Killen and Casey Parker, both of Union; Hunter Collins, Newton; Julian Fuentes, Tyler Spence and Ryan Mott, all of Decatur; Kendall Brown, Philadelphia; Tyler Armistad, Caledonia; Houston Martin, III, Edinburg; Parker Jones, Carthage; Arkeem Johnson, Lauderdale; Emmerald Jones, Lake; Zachary Allen, Louisville; and Ivey Commer, Philadelphia; and (back row, from left) Delton Harrison, Little Rock; Blain Rose, Hickory; Tyler Runnels, Morton; Keifer Wolfe, Lake; DeeJay Rolison, Conehatta; Matthew Bishop, Carthage; William Howington and Mark Hale, both of Little Rock; Ronald Dixon, Flowood; William Collins, Newton; Charles Thorne, Decatur; John Davis and Cody Smith, both of Carthage; Caleb Stallings, Enterprise; and Bryan Burton, Louisville. Career-Technical counselor Amanda Walton and instructors Chris Ryals and Jenna Wright serve as advisers.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Art Club Raises Funds for SMA Victim: East Central Community College Art Club president Chelsey Smith of Brandon presents a \$500 check to Jeff Horton, president of Stop SMA (Spinal Muscular Atrophy) and his daughter Evie Horton during a recent presentation at the Horton house in Flowood. Also pictured is Chris Brady, ECCC art instructor, who said funds were raised through the sale of the art club's annual Christmas print. Brady said "Stop SMA" is a local non-profit organization based in Flowood that is dedicated to raising money and awareness by hosting events and educating the public about Spinal Muscular Atrophy. SMA is a genetic disease that weakens the muscles, making it difficult or, in most cases, impossible for a person with SMA to move around and do routine physical tasks like getting dressed. "People with SMA may be able to stand when they are very young, but few ever possess the ability to walk. And for those who do, the ability is short-lived." For more information, go to www.stopsma.org.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC PTK Receives Regional Awards: Members of East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of the two-year college, are shown displaying awards received during the annual Mississippi/Louisiana Region competition held March 21-23 at Jones County Junior College in Ellisville. Theta Xi was named a Five Star Chapter, received a first place award for Honors in Action Theme 6 and ninth place overall for the Honors In Action category; second place in College Project for Team Twocan, a mentoring project at Lake Elementary; and fourth place for Distinguished Chapter in the region. In addition, Jacob Oliver of Little Rock was named to the prestigious Order of the Golden Key and Zach Allen of Louisville, Theta Xi President, was elected Region President. Advisors Chris Ryals, Jenna Wright and Amanda Walton also received the Horizon Award for Advisors. Theta Xi competed again 43 chapters in the Mississippi/Louisiana region. Pictured are (from left) Kristen Gordy, Vice President for Fellowship, and Jenny Grove, Vice President for Service, both of Forest; Lauren Cantey of Collinsville, Vice President for Leadership; Allison Johnson of Philadelphia, reporter; Oliver; Allen; Amber Williams of Morton, Vice President for Scholarship; Mary Margaret Bailey, outgoing Theta Xi President, and Bridgette McFarland, webmaster, both of Philadelphia. Also pictured is advisor Chris Ryals.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Sophomore Centralettes Honored: Sophomore members of the Centralettes, the dance line for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band at East Central Community College in Decatur, were recognized for service during a recent basketball game in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. Honorees include (front row, from left) Kasey Logan of Lake, Kelsey Cox of Forest, Emma Burton of Union, Emilee Cox of Forest, Caitlyn Saint of Decatur and Hillary Williams of Philadelphia; and (back row, from left) Kara Beth Johnson of Morton, Kayla Covington of Louisville, Emily Gully of Louin, Jayohnnie Slaughter of Union and Taylor Gressett of Chunky. Tina Sanders serves as Centralette Coordinator. Hunter Cornern is Director of Bands and Ed Girling is assistant director.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Students Presented MS SkillsUSA Awards: These students at East Central Community College in Decatur received honors at the annual Mississippi SkillsUSA and Leadership Conference held recently in Jackson. Award winners include (first row, from left) Ashton Graham of Little Rock, third place, Job Skills Demonstration A; Sheneka Spivey of McCool, first place, Food and Beverage Service; Danni Callihan of Raleigh and Charqulla Hill of Carthage, third place, Promotional Bulletin Board; (second row, from left) Trevor Graham of Decatur, third place, Welding Fabrication; Brandon Weaver of Forest, third place, Welding Sculpture; Nathan Griffin of Union, third place, Diesel Technology; and Chauncy Griffin of Morton, third place, Precision Machining; (third row, from left) Haden Austin Bozeman of Carthage, second place, CNC Turning; and Jake Boatner of Philadelphia, third place, Welding Fabrication; and (fourth row, from left) Blake Faulkner of Carthage, first place, Carpentry; Jay Riser of Forest, first place, Cabinetmaking; Zach Yates of Decatur, third place, CNC Milling; JJ Chesnut of Philadelphia, third place, Welding Fabrication; and William Milner of Lena, third place, Residential Wiring. Not pictured are Briana Cooks of Forest, second place, Major Appliance Repair; and William Alexander of Little Rock, second place, Collision Repair. First-place winners (Faulkner, Riser and Spivey) advance to the National SkillsUSA Conference at Kansas City, MO, in June.

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your club/organization
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Warrior Athletics

Diamond Warriors Take Twin Bill from Lawson State

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College's baseball team posted a pair of victories over Lawson State Community College during the regular season home finale held April 18, at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex.

ECCC held on for a 3-2 decision in the opener and blanked the visitors 4-0 in the nightcap.

In the first game, Chance Whitten led the offense with two singles and two RBIs. Whitten is a product of South Panola High School.

Other hitters were John Morgan Berry of Madison Central, RBI single; and Ben Cooley of South Jones, Dylan Little of Mary G. Montgomery (Ala.) High School, Cody Daigle of Parkview Baptist (La.) High School and Kyle McCullough of Madison Ridgeland Academy, singles each.

Runs were scored by Hunter Thrower of Southeast Lauderdale, Daigle and McCullough.

Mason Woodrow recorded the win. He allowed one earned run on four hits through four innings. He also fanned four batters and walked three. The sophomore right-hander is a product of Taylorsville High School.

Offensive leaders in the second contest included Berry, who belted an RBI double; and Lane Fazende of Pearl River Central and Zach May of Newton County, who each contributed RBI singles.

Other hitters were Little, McCullough and Maxwell Harmon of Enterprise, singles each.

Runs were scored by Little, Berry and McCullough (2).

Ty Hendrix was the winning pitcher. Hendrix hurled two scoreless innings and fanned two batters. He also walked a batter. Hendrix is a product of East Webster High School.

DIAMOND WARRIORS RALLY TO

SPLIT DECISIONS WITH GULF COAST

After nine lead changes, Cojuante McMillian gave ECCC the game-winning run as the Hamilton High School product crossed home plate following an error by the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Bulldogs in a 7-6, eight-inning victory April 5.

EC rallied from a 16-7 loss in the nine-inning opener to gain a split of the MACJC South Division doubleheader at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex. A seven-inning battle was scheduled in the second game but the contest went into extra innings tied at 6-6.

In the nightcap, Jake Bush led the offense with a two-run single.

Maxwell Harmon and Dylan Little each contributed run-scoring singles.

Other hitters were Cody Daigle, two singles; and Ryan Ward, Zach May and McMillian, singles each.

Runs were scored by May (2), McMillian (2), Ward, Harmon and Bush.

Will Myers picked up the win in relief. The southpaw went 2 1/3 innings and allowed one earned run on one hit. He fanned two batters and walked one.

Starter Mason Woodrow went five innings and allowed three earned runs on seven hits. He fanned four batters and walked five.

Bush was on the mound for two-thirds of an inning and allowed two hits. He also walked a batter.

In the first game, the visitors held an 11-0 lead in the third inning until the Diamond Warriors pushed across three runs in the bottom of the frame. EC cut the deficit to 11-7 in the seventh but Gulf Coast responded with five runs in the eighth and held on for the victory.

Little had two singles and knocked in three runs and Whitten was credited with two singles and two RBIs to lead the offense. Daigle had two singles and one RBI and Bush was credited with an RBI single.

Other sluggers were Harmon, two singles; McMillian and Lane Fazende of Pearl River Central, singles each.

Runs were scored by Hunter Thrower (2), Whitten (2), Harmon, Bush and McMillian.

Starter Cory Kitchens took the loss.

ECCC, HINDS SPLIT BASEBALL

DOUBLEHEADER

After falling 6-5 in the opener, ECCC's baseball squad rallied for 2-1 decision to split a twin bill with Hinds Community College April 1 at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex.

In the first contest, the score was tied 1-1 until the fourth inning, when the visitors scored four runs. EC responded with three runs in the bottom of the frame and added another run in the fifth to deadlock the score at 5-5. Hinds scored the go-ahead run in the sixth and held on for the victory.

Jake Bush slapped a two-run single to lead the offense.

John Morgan Berry contributed a run-scoring double and Cody Daigle was credited with a single and RBI.

Other hitters were Maxwell Harmon, double; and Hunter Thrower, single.

Zach Mowdy took the loss. The freshman southpaw from Union hurled 1/3 inning and walked a batter.

Starter Kyle Fultz went 3 1/3 innings and allowed two earned runs on five hits. He also walked a batter.

In the second game, Hinds grabbed a 1-0 lead in the third inning but the Diamond Warriors rallied to tie the contest in the fourth. EC won the game on Harmon's walk-off bunt that scored Ben Cooley in the bottom of the seventh. Cooley is a product of South Jones High School.

Other EC hitters were Will Myers of Leake Academy, double; and Bush, Chance Whitten of South Panola and Lane Fazende, singles each. Whitten scored the game-tying run.

Courtney Forbes picked up the win. He hurled 1/3 inning of shutout ball.

ECCC DIAMOND WARRIORS TAKE TWIN BILL FROM SOUTHWEST

ECCC's baseball squad improved to 5-3 in the MACJC South Division following a doubleheader sweep of Southwest Mississippi Community College March 30 at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex.

ECCC held on for a 5-4 win in the opener and posted an 8-4 decision in the nightcap of the twin bill.

Todd Hughes slapped a two-run single to lead EC's offense in the first contest.

Other hitters were Jake Bush and Chance Whitten, who had singles each.

Dylan Little was credited with an RBI.

Ryan Ward was the winning pitcher. He tossed two-thirds of an inning of shutout ball.

In the second game, Caleb Woods led the offense with two singles and two RBIs.

Bush contributed two singles and knocked in a run.

Other hitters were Little, RBI single; Kyle McCullough, triple; Whitten, double; and Lane Fazende, single.

Maxwell Harmon of Enterprise was credited with two RBIs.

Runs were scored by McCullough (2), Hunter Thrower, Zach May, Bush, Whitten, Little and Ward.

Nick Wilson picked up the win. The southpaw went four innings and allowed no earned runs while giving up three hits. He fanned five batters and walked three.

PITCHING DOMINATES IN EC'S DH SWEEP OF BATON ROUGE

ECCC right-hander Kyle Fultz hurled a shut-out in the first game and three pitchers combined talents for a no-hitter in the nightcap in leading ECCC to a doubleheader sweep of Baton Rouge Community College March 26 on the Baton Rouge campus.

East Central won the opener 3-0 and cruised 6-1 in the second contest.

Fultz went the distance in the nine-inning battle. He fanned eight batters and allowed five hits.

Cody Daigle and Dylan Little lead the EC offense, as each slapped a run-scoring single.

Other hitters were Todd Hughes, double and single; and Chance Whitten, single.

In the second game, right-handers Ty Hendrix and Conner West, and Zach Mowdy were superb on the mound in shutting down the Baton Rouge offense.

Hendrix went six innings and allowed the one run. He fanned six batters and walked two.

West hurled 2/3 inning and fanned two batters and walked one.

Mowdy went 1/3 inning.

Kyle McCullough homered and Caleb Woods belted a two-run single to lead the EC offense.

Other hitter were Daigle, two singles and RBI; Hunter Thrower, RBI single; and Maxwell Harmon, Jake Bush, John Morgan Berry and Ben Cooley, singles each.

ECCC DIAMOND WARRIORS DROP TWIN BILL AT PRC

After jumping out to a 3-1 record to begin MACJC South Division action, ECCC's baseball squad has dropped a second-straight division doubleheader following weekend action at Pearl River Community College March 22 on the Poplarville campus.

ECCC was edged 2-1 in the first contest and were outscored by a 9-4 margin in the nightcap.

The EC offense was stymied in the first contest as Dylan Little's single was the only hit. He also scored the lone run following a sacrifice fly by Maxwell Harmon.

Ryan Ward took the loss. The right-hander allowed one hit and no earned runs through 2 1/3 innings. He also fanned a batter.

Nick Wilson went 3 2/3 innings and allowed two earned runs on five hits.

He also fanned three batters and walked one.

In the second game, EC took a 1-0 lead in the first stanza following Cody Daigle's RBI double scoring Ben Cooley who had earlier singled.

Pearl River tallied three runs in the third inning and added two runs in each of the fourth, fifth and sixth innings.

A three-run sixth inning - sparked by Ward's RBI double - helped EC close the gap at 6-3. But the home standing Wildcats held on for the division sweep.

Chance Whitten led the offense with a double and single.

Hunter Thrower contributed an RBI single.

Cory Kitchens was charged with the loss. Kitchens went two innings and allowed two earned runs on two hits. He also fanned a batter and walked two.

ECCC DIAMOND WARRIORS DROP TWIN BILL TO JONES COUNTY

ECCC's baseball squad dropped a pair of decisions to Jones County Junior College in MACJC South Division action March 18 at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex.

ECCC was blanked 4-0 in the opener and fell 5-1 in the nightcap to division leader Jones County, rated the top squad in the latest NJCAA Division II poll.

EC managed just three hits in the first game - a double by Dylan Little; and singles from Ben Cooley and John Morgan Berry.

Mason Woodrow took the loss, as the right-hander allowed three earned runs on five hits thorough 6 2/3 innings. He fanned three batters and walked two.

Cody Daigle belted a double and single to lead EC's offense in the second contest. He also knocked in the Diamond Warriors' lone run.

Other hitters were Lane Fazende, Hunter Thrower and Ryan Ward, singles each.

Ty Hendrix took the loss. The right-hander went 5 1/3 innings and allowed two earned runs on four hits. He fanned three batters and walked three.

ECCC DIAMOND WARRIORS POST 3-1 MARK TO BEGIN DIVISION PLAY

ECCC's baseball squad began MACJC South Division competition with a doubleheader sweep of MS Gulf Coast Community College and a twin bill split with Copiah-Lincoln Community College.

ECCC registered 11-7 and 3-1 victories over Gulf Coast on March 12 in Perkinston. They journeyed to Co-Lin's Wesson campus on March 15, where they fell 8-7 in the opener and rallied for a 10-6 win in the nightcap.

In the first win over Gulf Coast, several EC players collected multiple hits to lead the offense.

John Morgan Berry belted two doubles and a single, and Dylan Little and Ryan Ward, each had a double and two singles. Berry and Ward were also credited with two RBIs each.

Other sluggers were Chance Whitten, double and single; Jake Bush, double and RBI; Cody Daigle and Cojuante McMillian, single and RBI; and Hunter Thrower and Lane Fazende, singles each.

Ward was also the winning pitcher. The right-hander went 2 1/3 innings and allowed one earned run on two hits. He also fanned three batters.

In the second contest, Berry drove in the go-ahead run in the sixth inning for a 3-2 lead and EC held on for the victory.

Ward led the offense with a double and single. Little and Daigle had singles each.

Thrower and Whitten were credited with an RBI each.

Ty Hendrix picked up the win, as the right-hander allowed one earned run on six innings through 6 2/3 innings. He fanned eight batters and walked four.

In the first matchup with Co-Lin, EC jumped out to a 2-0 lead but the home standing Wolves rallied for the victory.

Bush had two singles, knocked in a run and scored twice to pace the Diamond Warrior offense.

Other hitters were Whitten and Ward, two singles each; Ben Cooley, triple and RBI; Little, single and two RBIs; and Daigle and Caleb Woods, single and RBI each.

Bush took the loss on the mound. He hurled one-third inning and allowed one earned run on three hits. He also walked a batter.

In the nightcap, Whitten led the offense with a double and two singles. He also knocked in a run.

Other sluggers were Daigle, two singles and two RBIs; Berry, two singles and RBI; Little, single and two RBIs; and Fazende, single and RBI.

Nick Wilson picked up the win. The southpaw from Terry went two innings and allowed one earned run on one hit. He also fanned three batters and walked one.

ECCC DIAMOND WARRIORS RALLY FOR WEEKEND VICTORIES

ECCC's baseball team rallied from 7-0 and 2-0 deficits to post impressive victories over two different opponents Saturday, March 1 at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex.

Ryan Ward's walk-off single in the bottom of the 11th inning provided the Diamond Warriors with an 8-7 victory over Wabash Valley in the first contest, and Dylan Little scored the eventual game-winning run in the sixth inning, as EC held on for a 3-2 decision over Northeast Mississippi Community College in a seven-inning battle late Saturday night.

Ward scored twice in helping EC rally from the 7-0 deficit.

Cody Daigle doubled, singled and collected three RBIs to lead EC's offense in the first contest. He also scored a run.

Hunter Thrower also had a productive outing at the plate, as he contributed a two-run double and scored twice.

Other hitters were Chance Whitten and Zach May, each with a single and RBI; Little, Todd Hughes and Kyle McCullough o, singles each.

Little, McCullough and Gage Sullivan of Richland scored the other runs.

Courtney Forbes picked up the win in relief. He hurled a shut-out inning and fanned a batter.

In the win over Northeast Mississippi, Daigle again led the offense with his two-run single in the sixth inning.

Other hitters were Little, Thrower, John Morgan Berry and Lane Fazende, singles each.

Whitten and Jake Bush scored to tie the contest at 2-2.

Conner West earned the victory in relief. West went 1 2/3 scoreless innings and fanned two batters.

ECCC DIAMOND WARRIORS DROP TWIN BILL AT MS DELTA

Struggles on the diamond continue for ECCC's baseball team following a doubleheader loss to Mississippi Delta Community College Feb. 27 on the Moorhead campus.

EC was edged 3-2 in the opener and was outscored 11-9 in the nightcap.

ECCC jumped out to an early 1-0 lead but Delta rallied for three runs in the second inning and held on for the victory in the first contest.

EC hitters were Ben Cooley, Dyan Little, John Morgan Berry and Kyle McCullough, singles each.

Zach May was also credited with an RBI.

In the second contest, EC grabbed an early 3-0 lead following Jake Bush's solo homer and RBI singles from McCullough and Lane Fazende.

ECCC stretched their lead to 9-0 in the third but the Trojans rallied for three runs in the bottom of the frame and later tied the contest at 9-9 in the bottom of the sixth. Delta took the lead for good with two runs in the sixth and held on for the win.

Other hitters for EC were Cody Daigle, two singles; and Hunter Thrower, Chance Whitten and Little, singles each.

Also credited with RBIs were Little and Will Myers, who each knocked in a run.

ECCC DIAMOND WARRIORS DROP WEEKEND CONTESTS

A doubleheader loss to rival East Mississippi Community College Friday followed by setbacks to Mineral Area and Holmes Community College squads Saturday in Goodman.

In the twin bill with East Mississippi, EC was edged 6-5 in the opener and were shut out 3-0 in the nightcap at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex.

Hunter Thrower, Dylan Little, Cody Daigle and Caleb Woods each had two singles to lead EC's offense in the first contest. Thrower led in RBIs with two.

Other hitters were Ben Cooley, Ryan Ward and Todd Hughes, singles each.

Cooley, Hughes and Chance Whitten were credited with an RBI each.

Jake Bush took the loss in relief. He went 3 1/3 innings and allowed three runs on three hits. The southpaw fanned four batters and walked two.

In the second contest, EC hitters were Bush, Little, Woods, Thrower, Lane Fazende and Kyle McCullough, singles each.

Starter Ran Ward was the losing pitcher, as the right-hander from MRA went six innings and allowed two earned runs on two hits. He also fanned five batters and walked three.

East Central participated in the Holmes Invitational held Saturday and Sunday in Goodman.

The Diamond Warriors fell 4-3 loss to Mineral Area and dropped a 5-4 de-

cision to Holmes during competition.

Whitten doubled and singled and collected an RBI to lead EC's offense against Mineral Area.

Fazende contributed a two-run double.

Other hitters were Bush and Ward, singles each.

Right-hander Ty Hendrix took the loss. He went five innings and allowed four runs on four hits. He also fanned four batters and walked two.

In the Holmes game, EC hitters were Thrower, double; and Bush, Ward and Hughes, singles each.

Thrower was also credited with an RBI and McCullough knocked in two runs.

Right-hander Conner West took the loss. West went two innings and allowed two runs on two hits. He fanned eight batters and walked three.

EC DIAMOND WARRIORS/NORTHWEST SPLIT TWIN BILL

Home runs by Dylan Little, Ben Cooley and Lane Fazende helped lift ECCC to an 8-4 victory over Northwest Mississippi Community College in the first of two contests held Feb. 18 at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex.

The visiting Rangers responded with a 10-4 decision in the nightcap to earn a split of the non-division matchups.

Fazende also contributed a double and led the squad with two RBIs.

Cooley added a single to his totals for the opener.

Zach May and Ryan Ward were also credited with multiple hits.

May belted two singles and knocked in a run.

Ward collected two singles.

Other hitters were Jake Bush, Cody Daigle and Hunter Thrower o, singles each. Bush also knocked in a run.

Conner West picked up the win. He allowed one hit and no earned runs during his two-inning appearance. He fanned three batters and walked one.

Southpaw Cory Kitchens went six innings and allowed two earned runs on three hits.

Nick Wilson hurled one inning and allowed one earned run on one hit. He also walked two batters.

In the nightcap, Thrower led the EC offense with a double and single. He was also credited with an RBI.

Other hitters were Little, Bush and Kyle McCullough, singles each.

Bush took the loss, allowing three earned runs on three hits in one-third inning of work. He fanned a batter and walked one.

Fazende went two-thirds of an inning and fanned a batter.

Kale Fultz was on the mound for five innings and allowed three earned runs on five hits. The right-hander struck out five and walked two.

Will Myers went one inning and allowed one earned run on one hit. He also fanned three batters and walked one.

DIAMOND WARRIORS CRUSH BATON ROUGE 16-7 IN RUSH INVITATIONAL

A 16-7 blowout over Baton Rouge Community College late February 15 completed competition for ECCC's baseball squad in the annual Rush Invitational held this weekend at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex.

A six-run seventh inning sealed the win for ECCC, who improved to 3-1 on the young season under head coach Neal Holliman.

Kyle McCullough and Hunter Thrower led the offensive attack with three hits each.

McCullough belted a double and two singles. He also scored three runs and collected an RBI.

Thrower had three singles and was credited with two RBIs. He also scored twice.

Also having multiple hits were Dylan Little and Chance Whitten, who each had two singles. Little also scored three runs. Whitten was also credited with two RBIs.

Other sluggers were Cody Daigle, double and RBI; Jake Bush, single and two RBIs; Will Myers, Lane Fazende, single and RBI; and Zach May, single and three RBIs.

Also scoring runs were Ben Cooley (two), Daigle (two), Myers, May and Todd Hughes.

Starter Ryan Ward was credited with the win. He hurled one-third inning and allowed one run on one hit. He also walked a batter.

Also appearing on the mound were Zach Mowdy, who allowed four runs on two hits and fanned a batter during one-third inning; Ty Hendrix, who hurled five scoreless innings and allowed two hits, fanned seven and walked one; Kale Fultz, who went one inning and allowed one run, fanned one and walked two; Courtney Forbes, who hurled one inning and allowed one run; and Conner West, who pitched 1 1/3 scoreless innings and walked a batter.

Warrior Athletics

EXTRAORDINARY COACH

Coach DeLoach Shares Love for Baseball

BY KIMBERLY HARRISON
Staff Writer

East Central Community College Diamond Warrior Assistant Coach Scott DeLoach was chosen as this edition's Extraordinary Coach.



KIMBERLY HARRISON
Staff Writer

DeLoach said he is the youngest of three children. He describes himself as open, fun loving and always happy.

Coach DeLoach said he feels his job is a dream. He said he loves baseball and loves the fact he gets to come to work every day and watch these boys grow, both on the

field and off makes it so worth. One might say DeLoach's passion for baseball just shines right through him.

DeLoach said he truly enjoys coaching at ECCC because it has one of the best administrations.

DeLoach began his road to coaching by playing at Itawamba Community College and Mississippi State University, where he earned his masters. He said his times playing baseball were some of the best times of his life.

DeLoach said his baseball playing career didn't go without holding some of the pranks along the way which eventually helped them grow as a team.

When asked what one of his greatest achievements was, he said it was becoming an uncle. He said he loves being with both his nieces and nephews. He loves guiding them spiritually with their walk with Christ.

When asked where he sees himself in five years, he replied, "hopefully coaching somewhere." He continued

to say he would love to be married and then have children one day.

Prior to joining the EC staff, DeLoach served the past two years as an assistant baseball coach at Millsaps College in Jackson.

He helped lead the 2013 Diamond Majors to their first Southern Athletic Association regular season and tournament championships and a first-ever berth in the NCAA Division III World Series. The talented squad com-



DELOACH

pleted season action ranked eighth in the country with an impressive 38-14 record.

While at Millsaps, DeLoach worked extensively with catchers and hitters and assisted pitchers and outfielders. He also assisted in recruiting high school and community college players. In addition, he implemented and oversaw off-season and in-season workouts and conditioning and helped organize and run seasonal baseball camps.

The Madison native was a standout baseball player at Mississippi State University in Starkville prior to beginning his coaching career at Millsaps.

DeLoach played three years for the Diamond Dawgs and led the team in hitting during his senior season in 2009. The starting catcher posted a .353 batting average with one home run, a triple, seven doubles and 21 RBIs in 47 games played.

He was a member of the 2007 MSU squad that advanced to the NCAA

College World Series in Omaha, Nebraska.

DeLoach was a two-time Southeastern Conference Honor Roll recipient and graduated in 2009 with a degree in physical education. He earned a master's degree in sports administration in the spring of 2011.

He was also a standout at Itawamba Community College, where he was named MACJC Defensive Player of the Year during his sophomore season in 2006, during which he batted .338 with 32 RBIs. As a freshman, he helped lead the Diamond Indians to a 41-16 record and a berth in the NJCAA Super Regionals in St. Katherine, Ky.

DeLoach was an All-State selection at Madison Central High School and a member of the 2002 State Championship squad led by head coach Gregg Perry.

ECCC Basketball Squads Fall to JCJC in Season Finale

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College's basketball squads completed season competition with losses to Jones County Junior College Feb. 20 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

The Lady Warriors were outscored 98-88 and the Warriors were clipped by a 72-67 margin.

Tynika Bender poured in 32 points to lead EC's women, who finished 8-14 overall and 3-11 in MACJC South Division play under second-year head coach Crandal Porter.

Bender is a freshman guard and product of Newton High School.

Other scorers were Niya Hughes of Forest, 18; Jaleshia Jones of Wayne County, 15; Anna Katherine Nowell of

Leake Academy, eight; Bryanna McClendon of Lake, seven; Shaniqua Quinn of Brandon and Kimberly Wallace, a product of Ouachita Parish High School in Monroe, La., three each; and Whitney Williams of Percy L. Julian High School in Chicago, two. Hughes led in rebounds with seven.

Hughes, Wallace, Tyler Hearn of West Jones and Tynesia Mickens of Noxubee County

were honored as part of Sophomore Appreciation Night.

Kaylan Hughes pumped in 27 points to lead the playoff-bound Lady Bobcats, who improved to 16-7 and 10-4.

EC trailed 50-35 at the break.

In the men's contest, Ramone Tate tallied 18 points to lead the Warriors, who finished 9-14 and 4-10 under first-year head coach Robert Thompson.

Tate is a freshman guard and

product of St. Stanislaus High School in Bay St. Louis.

Other point makers were Jacques Johnson of Jackson Provine, 11; Quinton Campbell of Mary G. Montgomery High School in Semmes, Ala., 10; Keon McKinney of West Point, nine; Michael Matlock of Central High School in Memphis, seven; Terrance Mujahid of Westwood High in Memphis and Kristian Clark

of St. Martin High School in Ocean Springs, five each; and Demarkus Jones of Terry, two. Campbell led in rebounds with seven.

Johnson and Mujahid were recognized as part of Sophomore Appreciation Night activities.

Leo Garrett pumped in 14 points to lead the playoff-bound Bobcats, who improved to 19-4 and 11-3.

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Warrior Athletics

EC Tennis Teams Defeat Holmes

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College's tennis teams recorded victories over Holmes Community College in matches held April 16, in Goodman.

The Lady Warriors cruised 8-1 and the Warriors posted a 7-2 victory.

In women's singles, Hannah Peoples of Winston Academy defeated Johanna White, 6-1, 6-0; Alana Turner of Florence beat Laurie Alvis, 6-2, 6-2; Amber Pierce of Leake Academy defeated Jennifer Rule, 6-2, 6-4; Nan Hartness of Winston Academy beat Katherine Woods, 6-1, 6-0; Hannah Smith of Leake Academy beat Lori Nesbitt, 6-1, 6-2; and Katlyn Patrick of Forest defeated Anna Claire Shores, 7-5, 6-1.

EC winners in women's doubles were Turner and Pierce, who defeated Alvis/White, 8-4; and Peoples and Hartness, an 8-0 winner over Rule/Woods. Kristine Jenkins and Lauren Peterson, both of Forest, were clipped 8-6 by Shores and Elizabeth Petro.

In men's singles, Juan Miranda of Morton beat Devin Langham, 6-2, 6-2; Daniel Giles of Union defeated Dylan Throgmorton, 6-1, 6-2; Javon Yarbrough of Louisville beat Rami Jamileh, 6-2, 6-1; Brandon St. Clair of Newton County High School defeated Will Godfrey, 7-6 (7-4), 6-2; Robert Strong of Forest beat Justin Sawyer, 6-2, 6-0; and Tanner Moore of Winston Academy beat John Crews, 1-6, 6-2, (10-6).

Miranda and Giles won their doubles match by an 8-1 decision over Throgmorton/Sawyer.

Yarbrough and Moore fell 8-6 to Godfrey/Jamileh, and St. Clair and Rigdon were clipped 8-4 by Langham/Crews.

EC's tennis program is led by head coach Robert Thompson and adjunct coach Dianne O'Neill.

EC TENNIS SQUADS DEFEAT NORTHEAST

EC's tennis squads scored victories over Northeast Mississippi Community College in matches played, April 1 on the Booneville campus.

The Lady Warriors cruised to a 7-2 win and the nationally ranked Warriors held on for a 5-4 decision.

EC captured four of six matchups in women's singles, as Hannah Peoples defeated Allison Wiltshire, 6-2, 6-0; Alana Turner beat Hannah Billingsley, 6-1, 6-1; Amber Pierce beat Erica Whitten, 6-0, 6-1; and Nan Hartness rallied to clip Haley Brown, 3-6, 7-5, (10-6). In other results, Hannah Smith fell to Emily Wiltshire, 6-0, 6-3; and Katlyn Patrick lost to Allie Downs, 6-4, 6-1.

The Lady Warriors won all three contests in doubles. Turner and Pierce beat Wiltshire/Billingsley, 8-1; Peoples and Hartness defeated Brown/Whitten, 8-3; and Lauren Peterson and Kristine Jenkins, both of Forest, clipped Nikki/Lindsey Clark, 8-5.

In men's singles, EC winners were Juan Miranda, who beat Micah Page, 7-5, 7-6 (7-5); Daniel Giles edged Wesley Brandon, 6-4, 6-3; and Javon Yarbrough defeated Ande Mills, 6-0, 6-1. In other results, Brandon St. Clair lost to Reid Price, 7-6 (7-3), 6-1; Ethan Rigdon fell to Wesley Tye, 7-5, 1-6 (10-4); and Tanner Moore fell to Noah Wright, 6-2, 6-4.

Miranda and Giles teamed to win their doubles match with Page/Brandon by an 8-4 margin, and Yarbrough and Moore were also victorious in posting an 8-3 decision over Mills/Price. St. Clair and Rigdon fell 8-5 to Tye/Wright.

The Warriors are ranked 25th in the latest NJCAA poll.

EC NETTERS FALL TO ITAWAMBA

EC's tennis squads traveled to Itawamba Community College March 31.

The Lady Warriors were edged 5-4 and the Warriors

were blitzed 9-0.

Pierce and Smith were the lone winners in women's singles. Pierce defeated Anna Clair Griffin 7-6 (3) 6-3, and Smith was victorious over Angela Hudson, 6-7 (3) 6-0 (10-5). In other results, Peoples lost to Kristen Eley, 6-0, 6-0; Turner fell to Taylor Patterson, 6-4, 6-1; Hartness lost to Aleisha Hudson, 6-0, 6-0; and Patrick fell to Sabrina Holloway, 6-0, 2-6 (10-0).

In women's doubles, Peoples and Hartness beat Aleisha Hudson/Griffin, 8-5; and Peterson and Jenkins beat Frederick/Angela Hudson, also by an 8-5 margin. Turner and Pierce dropped their match to Eley/Patterson by an 8-3 score.

In men's singles, Miranda lost to Nathan Pinkey, 6-0, 6-0; Giles lost to Austin McElwain, 6-1, 6-0; Yarbrough fell to David McElwain, 6-1, 6-1; St. Clair lost to Cody Coins, 6-1, 6-1; Rigdon fell to Joseph Summers, 6-2, 6-1; and Moore fell to Drew Ballard, 6-0, 6-1.

In men's doubles, Miranda and Giles lost to Pinkey/McElwain, 8-2; Yarbrough and Moore fell to McElwain/Coins, 8-1; and St. Clair and Rigdon dropped an 8-1 decision to Summers/Ballard.

EC TENNIS SQUADS FALL TO MCC, ITAWAMBA

East Central Community College's tennis squads dropped decisions to Meridian and Itawamba teams in recent competition.

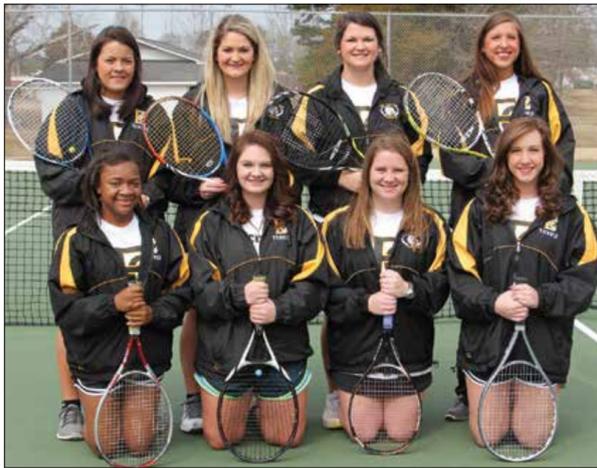
The Lady Warriors and Warriors were each blanked 9-0 by visiting MCC March 25. EC's women were clipped 6-3 by Itawamba's Lady Indians and the Warriors were blanked 9-0 by ICC's men in matches played March 26 at Gaddis Park.

Regarding competition with MCC, results were as follows: women's singles - Hannah Peoples lost to Mallory Davis, 6-1, 6-1; Alana Turner lost to Jennifer Smith, 6-3, 6-4; Amber Pierce lost to Madison Gillette, 6-4, 6-3; Nan Hartness lost to Caroline Terry, 6-3, 6-0; Hannah Smith lost to Molly Davis, 6-1, 7-5; and Kristine Jenkins lost to Taylor White, 6-2, 6-0; women's doubles - Turner and Pierce lost to Mallory Davis/Smith, 8-4; Peoples and Hartness lost to Molly Davis/Gillette, 8-5; and Katlyn Patrick/Jenkins lost to White/Terry, 8-1; men's singles - Juan Miranda of Morton lost to Kevin Millet, 6-0, 6-2; Daniel Giles lost to Will Rogers, 6-2, 6-2; Javon Yarbrough lost to Chris Mallet, 6-4, 6-4; Brandon St. Clair lost to TJ Carter, 7-6 (7-4), 6-4; Ethan Rigdon lost to Reed Wade, 6-2, 6-2; and Tanner Moore lost to Christian Jackson, 6-1, 6-1; and men's doubles - Miranda and Giles lost to Miller/Mallet, 8-2; Yarbrough and Moore lost to Wade/Cody Gollenbeck, 8-0; and Rigdon and St. Clair lost to Carter/Wade, 8-4.

In women's competition with Itawamba, Pierce won her singles match by defeating Amber Federick, 5-2. In other results, Peoples lost to Kristen Eley, 6-1, 6-0; Turner lost to Taylor Patterson, 6-4, 6-4; Hartness lost to Anna Clair Griffin, 6-2, 4-6, 12-10; Smith lost to Aleshia Hudson, 6-2, 6-2; and Patrick lost to Angela Hudson, 6-2, 6-1. The Lady Warriors won two of three matches in doubles, as Peoples and Hartness beat Aleisha Hudson/Griffin, 9-8 (7-0); and Jenkins and Lauren Peterson of Forest beat Frederick/Angela Hudson, 8-6. Turner and Pierce fell 8-2 in their doubles match with Eley/Patterson.

Results from men's competition with Itawamba are as follows: singles - Miranda fell to Nathan Pinkey, 6-1, 6-4; Giles fell to Austin McElwain, 6-0, 6-0; Yarbrough fell to David McElwain, 6-1, 6-2; St. Clair fell to Cody Coins, 6-1, 6-3; Rigdon fell to Joseph Summers, 6-0, 6-3; and Moore fell to Jordan Trice, 6-0, 6-0; and doubles - Miranda and Giles fell to Pinkey/McElwain, 8-3; Yarbrough and Moore fell to

McElwain/Coins, 9-7; and Rigdon and St. Clair fell to Drew and Caleb Ballard, 8-1.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Women's Tennis Team: Members of the 2014 women's tennis team at East Central Community College and their respective hometowns include (kneeling, from left) Katlyn Patrick and Kristine Jenkins, both of Forest; Nan Hartness, Louisville; and Lauren Peterson, Forest; and (standing, from left) Hannah Peoples, Carthage; Alana Turner, Florence; and Amber Pierce and Hannah Smith, both of Madden. Robert Thompson serves as head coach and Dianne O'Neill is assistant coach.

McElwain/Coins, 9-7; and Rigdon and St. Clair fell to Drew and Caleb Ballard, 8-1.

EC TENNIS WARRIORS BLITZ HINDS, 9-0

ECCC men's tennis team easily defeated the Hinds Community College squad by winning all nine matches in competition held March 18 on the Raymond campus.

In men's singles, Juan Miranda defeated Devonte Thomas, 6-2, 6-1; Daniel Giles beat Aaron Gray, 6-3, 6-0; Javon Yarbrough clipped Julian Johnson, 6-3, 7-6 (7-2); Brandon St. Clair o beat Austin Pevey, 6-2, 6-2; Ethan Rigdon defeated Johnathan Bethea, 6-3, 6-3; and Tanner Moore beat Melvin McNair, 7-5, 6-2.

In men's doubles, Miranda and Giles beat Thomas/Gray, 8-5; Yarbrough and Moore defeated Johnson/McNair, 8-4; and St. Clair and Rigdon clipped Pevey and A.J. Walker, 8-3.

The Lady Warriors were not as fortunate and fell 7-2 to the Hinds women.

Nan Hartness was the lone winner in women's singles, as she defeated Jessica Parker, 4-6, 6-0 (10-5).

In other results, Hannah Peoples fell to Brittany DeCamp, 6-4, 4-6 (10-6); Alana Turner lost to Kelly Carlson, 6-4, 5-7 (10-6); Amber Pierce fell to Jenae Lofton, 7-5, 3-6 (10-8); Hannah Smith lost to Reagan Chisolm, 6-1, 6-1; and Lauren Peterson fell to Cayla Fox, 6-3, 6-1.

Peoples and Hartness won their doubles match by posting an 8-4 decision over Chisolm and Lofton. Turner and Pierce fell to DeCamp/Carlson, 8-4; and Katlyn Patrick and Kristine Jenkins, both of Forest, lost to Parker/Hicks, 8-5.

EC TENNIS TEAMS TOPPLE HOLMES

Winning ways continue for EC's tennis squads following a pair of 8-1 victories over Holmes Community College March 5.

In women's singles, Hannah Peoples defeated Anna Clair Shores, 6-0, 6-1; Alana Turner beat Johanna White, 6-0, 6-3; Amber Pierce clipped Jennifer Rule, 6-1, 6-0; Nan Hartness beat Katherine Woods, 6-2, 6-0; and Katlyn Patrick blitzed Sarah Walden, 6-0, 6-0. Hannah Smith fell to Elizabeth Petro, 6-1, 6-3.

In women's doubles, Turner and Pierce shutout Walden/White, 8-0; Peoples and Hartness blitzed Rule/Woods, 8-0; and the Forest team of Lauren Peterson and Kristine Jenkins held on to clip Shores/Petro, 8-6.

In men's singles, Juan Miranda beat Devin Langham, 7-5, 6-2; Daniel Giles edged Dylan Throgmorton, 5-7, 6-0 (10-8); Javon Yarbrough defeated Rami Jamileh, 6-4, 6-4; Brandon St. Clair blitzed Will Godfrey, 6-0, 6-0; Ethan Rigdon cruised past Justin Saw-

yer, 6-0, 6-1; and Tanner Moore posted a 6-1, 7-5 victory over John Crews.

In men's doubles, Miranda and Giles clipped the Langham/Throgmorton team, 9-8 (7-2), and St. Clair and Rigdon blitzed Sawyer/Crews, 8-0. Yarbrough and Moore fell 9-7 to the Godfrey/Jamileh team.

EC TENNIS SQUADS DEFEAT NORTHEAST

East Central Community College's tennis teams defeated Northeast Mississippi Community College in matches held March 4, 2014.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors both cruised to 7-2 victories in the non-division contests.

In women's singles, EC winners were Hannah Peoples, who beat Allison Wiltshire, 6-0, 6-1; Alana Turner, who blanked Nikki Baird, 6-0, 6-0; Amber Pierce, who defeated Emily Wiltshire, 6-3, 6-0; and Nan Hartness, a 6-3, 6-1 victor over Hannah Billingsley.

Lady Warriors Hannah Smith and Lauren Peterson fell in their respective matches. Smith was edged 7-6 (7-3), 6-4 by Erica Whitten, and Peterson dropped a pair of 6-2 decisions to Haley Brown.

EC's women won all three doubles matches, as Turner and Pierce blanked Billingsley/Whitten, 8-0; Peoples and Hartness clipped Brown/Baird, 8-4; and Katlyn Patrick and Kristine Jenkins nipped the Lindsey Clark/Allie Downs team by an 8-6 margin.

Winning their respective matchups in men's singles were Warriors Daniel Giles, who beat Wesley Brandon, 6-3, 6-0; Javon Yarbrough, who defeated Ande Mills, 6-1, 6-0; Ethan Rigdon, who rallied to down Wesley Tye, 3-6, 7-5 (10-6); and Tanner Moore, who clipped Noah Wright, 6-4, 6-3.

In other results, Juan Miranda fell to Micah Page, 6-2, 6-1; and Brandon St. Clair was edged 3-6, 7-5, (10-7).

The Warriors were also victorious in all doubles competition. Miranda and Giles defeated Page/Brandon, 8-6; Yarbrough and Moore beat Mills/Price, 8-5; and Rigdon and Robert Strong of Forest edged Tye/Wright, 8-5.

EC TENNIS SQUADS FALL TO GULF COAST

East Central Community College's tennis squads dropped decisions to Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in matches held Feb. 28 in Wiggins.

The Warriors were edged 5-4 and the Lady Warriors were outscored by a 7-1 margin.

EC winners in men's singles were Juan Miranda, who defeated Matt Barlow, 7-5, 1-6, 11-9; Javon Yarbrough, who clipped DeAngelo Vaxter, 6-1, 6-1; and Ethan Rigdon, who beat Tyler Youngblood, 0-6, 6-2, 10-6.

In other results, Daniel Giles lost to Travous Wilson, 6-4, 6-2;



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Men's Tennis Team: Members of the 2014 men's tennis team at East Central Community College and their respective hometowns include (kneeling, from left) Robert Strong, Forest; Tanner Moore, Louisville; and Daniel Giles and Ethan Rigdon, both of Union; and (standing, from left) Dominic Fields, Forest; Juan Miranda, Morton; Brandon St. Clair, Decatur; and Javon Yarbrough, Louisville. Robert Thompson serves as head coach and Dianne O'Neill is assistant coach.

Brandon St. Clair fell to Bobby Vo, 6-0, 6-4; and Tanner Moore dropped a 6-3, 6-1 decision to Josh Johnson.

In men's doubles, Warriors Miranda and Giles teamed to defeat Wilson/Johnson, 8-6. In other results, Yarbrough and Moore fell to Barlow/Vaxter, 8-6; and St. Clair and Rigdon fell to Vo/Youngblood, 8-2.

Alana Turner was the lone Lady Warrior winner, as she earned a 6-3, 6-3 victory over Kit Chowdhary in women's singles.

In other results, Hannah Peoples fell to Christa Owen, 6-0, 6-1; Amber Pierce lost to Tori Rose, 7-6 (7-5), 0-6, 10-6; Nan Hartness fell to Brittany Buker, 6-2, 6-0; Hannah Smith lost to Annessia Johnson, 6-1, 6-3; and Lauren Peterson fell 6-1 6-3 to Aleisha Barlow.

In women's doubles, Turner and Pierce were edged by Owen/Chowdhary, 8-5; Peoples and Hartness were clipped by Rose/Buker, 8-5; and Peterson and Katlyn Patrick were blanked 8-0 by Johnson/Barlow.

EC TENNIS SQUADS SPLIT WITH HINDS

East Central Community College's tennis squads split decisions with Hinds Community College in matches held Feb. 25.

The Warriors cruised to an 8-1 victory while the Lady Warriors fell by a 6-3 margin.

EC winners in men's singles were Juan Miranda, who beat Devonte Thomas, 0-6, 6-3, 12-10; Javon Yarbrough, a 6-1, 6-2 victor over Aaron Gray; Brandon St. Clair, who defeated Jonathan Bethea, 6-2, 6-1; Ethan Rigdon, who posted a 6-4, 7-5 decision over Melvin McNair; and Tanner Moore, who edged Austin Pevy in by a 6-3, 6-3 decision. Daniel Giles dropped his match to Julian Johnson by a 7-5, 6-2 score.

The Warriors won all three doubles matches, as Miranda and Giles defeated Thomas/Gray, 9-7; Yarbrough and Moore beat Johnson/McNair, 8-4; and St. Clair and Rigdon clipped Bethea/Pevy, 8-3.

In women's singles, EC winners were Amber Pierce, who beat Jenae Lofton, 7-6 (7-3), 6-3; and Lauren Peterson, who edged Reagan Chisolm, 6-4, 6-4.

Hannah Peoples fell to Brittany DeCamp, 6-1, 6-1; Alana Turner fell to Kelly Carlson, 3-6, 6-2, 11-9; Nan Hartness lost to C. Fox, 2-6, 6-2, 10-7; and Hannah Smith dropped a 6-0, 6-2 decision to Jessica Parker.

Peoples and Hartness were the lone doubles winner, as they posted an 8-5 win over Carlson/Parker.

In other results, Turner and Pierce fell to DeCamp/Lofton, 8-1; and Katlyn Patrick and Kristine Jenkins lost to Chisolm/Hicks by an 8-3 margin.

EC TENNIS SQUADS FALL TO JONES COUNTY

East Central Community College's tennis squads dropped

decisions to Jones County Junior College in matches played Feb. 18 on the Ellisville campus.

The Lady Diamond Warriors were blitzed 8-0 and the Warriors fell 8-1.

In women's singles, Hannah Smith fell to Anna Ready, 6-3, 6-0; Alana Turner lost to Jenna Hegwood, 6-2, 6-2; Amber Pierce fell to Brenda Hegwood, 6-2, 6-3; Nan Hartness lost to Krissy Stutts, 6-0, 6-0; Katlyn Patrick fell to Elizabeth Wright, 6-0, 6-0; and Lauren Peterson was defeated by Brooke Martin, 6-0, 6-1.

In women's doubles, Turner and Pierce fell to Anna Ready/Jenna Hegwood, 8-0; Peoples and Hartness were edged by Brenda Hegwood/Martin, 9-7; and Peterson and Patrick were blitzed by Stutts/Wright, 8-0.

Brandon St. Clair was the winner for EC, as he defeated Ryan Young, 6-4, 4-6 (10-6).

In other singles results, Juan Miranda fell to Graham Lightsey, 6-2, 6-1; Daniel Giles lost to Eric Swisher, 6-3, 6-1; Javon Yarbrough fell to Josiah Lim, 6-3, 4-6 (10-6); Ethan Rigdon lost to Ryan Young, 6-1, 6-0; and Tanner Moore fell to Caleb Byrd, 6-2, 6-4.

EC/CO-LIN TENNIS SQUADS SPLIT DECISIONS

After several delays due to inclement weather, EC's tennis teams begin season action by hosting Copiah-Lincoln Community College Feb. 17.

The Warriors were victorious by a 5-4 margin and Lady Warriors dropped a 6-3 decision.

In men's singles, EC winners were Javon Yarbrough, who defeated Graham Watson, 6-2, 6-2; Brandon St. Clair, who beat Brandon Nettles, 6-2, 6-4; and Tanner Moore, a 6-4, 6-1 victor over Josh Smith.

In other results, Juan Miranda fell to Dwain Perkins, 5-7, 6-3 (10-6); Daniel Giles lost to Brock Smith, 4-6, 6-3 (10-6); and Ethan Rigdon was clipped 6-4, 6-4 by Coleman Carraway. Capturing wins in men's doubles were Miranda and Giles, who defeated Perkins/Watson, 9-8 (7-5); and Yarbrough and Moore, who posted an 8-5 decision over Brock Smith and Josh Smith.

EC winners in women's singles include Amber Pierce, who beat Savannah Brister, 2-6, 6-4 (10-2); and Nan Hartness, who defeated Carlianne Alderman, 6-0, 6-4.

In the other results, Hannah Peoples fell to Courtney Watts, 6-1, 6-4; Alana Turner lost to Melody Smith, 6-3, 6-4; Hannah Smith dropped a 6-1, 6-2 decision to Erika Dear, and Laura Peterson fell to Allie Dear, 6-0, 6-2.

Peoples and Hartness teamed to win their doubles match with Brister and Alderman by an 8-5 score.

In other results, Turner and Pierce fell 8-5 to Watts/Smith, and the Patrick/Smith team dropped an 8-6 decision to Alderman and Carly Riley.

Warrior Athletics

Post-Season Bound Lady Diamond Warriors Drop Season Finale

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

The post-season bound East Central Community College fast-pitch softball team dropped its regular season finale to Pearl River Community College in a MACJC South Division doubleheader held April 22 on the Poplarville campus.

ECCC fell 4-3 in the opener and were outscored 7-3 in the nightcap.

EC fell to 32-14 overall and 17-11 in league play following the twin bill. ECCC begin post-season play as the No. 4 seed in the South and will battle North #1 seed Itawamba Community College in a best-of-three series scheduled April 25-26, on the Fulton campus. The No. 17-ranked Lady Indians completed regular season action with 33-10 overall mark and 21-3 record in North Division competition.

The playoff series will be broadcast on the Itawamba Web site: <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/letsgoicc>, and on the ECCC Web site, www.eccc.edu.

The series winner earns a berth in the MACJC State Tournament set May 2-4.

In the first game with Pearl River, EC rallied to tie the contest at 3-3 in the top of the seventh and send the game into extra innings. The Lady Wildcats scored the winning run in the bottom of the eighth off an RBI single by Allie Flint.

Ty Buckley led the ECCC offense with a double and two singles. She also knocked in a run. Buckley is a product of Neshoba Central High School.

Other hitters were Morgan Porter of Enterprise, two singles and RBI; Kaylin Hopkins of Louisville, double and single; Hayley Stephens of Union, two singles; and Karoline Holsonback of South Lamar (Ala.) High School, Mallory Turner of West Lauderdale and Anna-Katherine Nowell of Leake Academy, singles each.

Runs were scored by Hopkins, Nowell and Christen Benson of Brookhaven.

Kendra Wilson went the distance in recording the loss. She allowed two earned runs on 10 hits and walked three batters. Wilson is a product South Lamar (Ala.) High School.

In the second contest, Buckley belted her 20th home run and is currently tied for most homers in NJCAA Division II competition. She was also credited with two singles and collected three RBIs.

Other hitters were Turner, three singles; Lindsey Beard of Clarkdale, RBI single; and Nowell, Stephens, Porter, Hopkins and Amber McBroom of Brandon, singles each.

Runs were scored by Turner (2), Nowell and Buckley.

Makayla Kelly took the loss. She hurled 5 1/3 innings and allowed four earned runs on five hits. Kelly is a product of Nederland (Texas) High School.

Wilson pitched two-thirds of an inning and allowed one earned run on two hits.

ECCC/CO-LIN SOFTBALL TEAMS SPLIT TWIN BILL

After a 14-3 drubbing in the first contest, ECCC's fast-pitch softball squad responded with an 11-4 thumping of division foe Copiah-Lincoln Community College April 11.

In the opener, Morgan Porter slapped three singles, Amber McBroom doubled and singled, and Hayley Stephens contributed two singles to lead the offense. McBroom was also credited with two RBIs.

Ty Buckley belted her 19th homer and continues to lead the NJCAA Division II in home runs.

Other hitters were Karoline Holsonback, double; and Kaylin Hopkins, single.

Runs were scored by Buckley, Porter and Nikki Triplett.

Kendra Wilson took the loss, allowing six earned runs on six hits through one inning. She walked three batters.

Makayla Kelly hurled five innings and allowed six earned runs on 10 hits. She walked a batter.

EC's offense came alive in the nightcap as several players collected multiple hits.

McBroom homered and sin-

gled and collected three RBIs; Porter hit a two-run triple; Beard doubled and singled and knocked in a pair of runs; Holsonback doubled and singled and was credited with an RBI; and Hopkins had two singles.

Mallory Turner contributed a single and Stephens was credited with an RBI.

Wilson went the distance to pick up the win. She allowed two earned runs on 12 hits and fanned five batters. She also walked a pair.

EC SOFTBALL SQUAD DROPS TWIN BILL AT GULF COAST

ECCC's fast-pitch softball squad dropped a pair of decisions to MS Gulf Coast Community College April 5 on the Perkinston campus.

ECCC fell 7-3 in the opener and were blanked 9-0 in the second contest of the MACJC South Division doubleheader.

In the first game, Porter and Holsonback led the offense with two hits each. Porter belted two singles and knocked in a run. Holsonback doubled and singled and was credited with two RBIs.

Other hitters were Turner, Beard and Stephens, singles each.

Runs were scored by Beard, Stephens and Porter.

Wilson took the loss. She went six innings and allowed four earned runs on nine hits. She also fanned a batter and walked four.

In the second game, EC managed just four hits - singles by Beard, Stephens, Porter and Nowell.

Kelly took the loss. She went 4 1/3 innings and allowed eight earned runs on 11 hits.

ECCC SOFTBALL TEAM SWEEPS MCC

ECCC's nationally ranked fast-pitch softball squad recorded its second doubleheader sweep of Meridian Community College in 2014 following a pair of victories April 2.

EC cruised 10-2 in the opener and pounded the Lady Eagles 11-3 in the nightcap to improve to 27-9 overall and 12-6 in the MACJC South Division. MCC fell to 2-27 and 1-17. The Lady Diamond posted scores of 12-3 and 13-0 in earlier matchups.

An RBI double by Beard and a two-run double from Stephens in the first inning set the tone early in the easy victory. Stephens also belted a two-run double in the second frame. She collected a team-leading four RBIs in the opener. Beard also contributed a single.

Other offensive leaders were Turner, three singles; Buckley, double, single and RBI; Holsonback, two doubles; Hopkins, triple, single and RBI; Nowell, RBI single; and Porter, single.

Scoring runs were Buckley (3), Turner (2), Nowell, Beard, Benson.

Wilson got the win for EC. She went five innings and allowed one earned run on four hits. She fanned four batters and walked three.

Kelly hurled one shutout inning and allowed a hit.

In the second game, Porter belted a three-run home to lead the offense.

Other sluggers were Nowell, triple; Stephens and Holsonback, each with two singles and RBI; and Hopkins, double, single and RBI. Beard was also credited with an RBI.

Runs were scored by Stephens (2), Porter (2), Hopkins (2), Triplett (2), Buckley, Beard and McBroom.

Kelly got the win, allowing three earned runs on six hits through 3 1/3 innings. She fanned three batters.

Wilson hurled 1 2/3 shutout innings. She fanned four batters and walked three.

EC SQUAD DEFEATS

PREVIOUSLY UNBEATEN JCJC

Ty Buckley's three-run homer and Hayley Stephens' solo blast helped lead ECCC's fast-pitch softball squad to an 8-6 victory over nationally ranked and previously unbeaten Jones County Junior College in the opener of a twin bill played March 30 on the Ellisville campus.

The Lady Bobcats responded with a 9-5 decision in the sec-

ond contest to earn a split of the MACJC South Division matchup, which was originally set for Saturday but was rescheduled due to wet grounds.

In addition to her three-run blast, Buckley was credited with another RBI in the opener.

Stephens also contributed a double and single and finished with two RBIs.

Also having productive outings at the plate were Morgan Porter of Enterprise, two doubles; Lindsey Beard, double, single and RBI; and Anna-Katherine Nowell, Mallory Turner, and Karoline Holsonback, two singles each.

Nowell and Turner also scored two runs each. Nikki Triplett and Christen Benson scored a run a piece.

Kendra Wilson went the distance to record the victory. She allowed six earned runs on 10 hits in the seven-inning battle. She also fanned three batters and walked five.

The Lady Diamond Warriors out-hit home standing Jones County by an 11-10 margin in the second game but were unable to capitalize on scoring opportunities.

Buckley again was the top run producer, as she slapped two singles and knocked in two runs. She also scored a run.

Turner led in hits with three singles and scored twice.

Other sluggers were Stephens, two singles and RBI; Beard and Porter, RBI singles each; and Nowell and Kaylin Hopkins, singles each. Nowell also scored twice.

Makayla Kelly took the loss. She went six innings and allowed four earned runs on 10 hits. She also fanned three batters and walked three.

ECCC SOFTBALL SQUAD SWEEPS HINDS

ECCC's fast-pitch softball squad earned a pair victories over Hinds Community College March 22.

ECCC held on for a 5-2 decision in the opener and cruised 10-2 in the second contest.

Morgan Porter homered and Anna-Katherine Nowell slapped an RBI double to lead EC's offense in the first game. Nowell also scored a run.

Other hitters were Hayley Stephens, double; and Kaylin Hopkins, single.

Lindsey Beard was credited with an RBI.

Also scoring runs were Amber Broom, Nikki Triplett and Christen Benson.

Kendra Wilson went the distance to record the victory. She allowed no earned runs on four hits in the seven-inning matchup. She fanned eight batters and walked two.

In the second contest, Ty Buckley led EC's offense with two home runs and a single. She was also credited with four RBIs.

Stephens also homered and singled and finished with two RBIs.

Other hitters were Beard, double and two RBIs; Nowell and Turner, RBI single each; and Porter and Holsonback, doubles each.

Also scoring runs were Turner (2), Porter, Hopkins, Beard, Holsonback and Benson.

Kelly picked up the win in the five-inning contest. She allowed no earned runs on eight hits and walked a batter.

ECCC SOFTBALL SQUAD SWEEPS CO-LIN

ECCC's fast-pitch softball squad recorded a pair of victories over Copiah-Lincoln Community College in MACJC South Division action March 19 on the Wesson campus.

Ty Buckley belted two home runs and collected five RBIs to lead the Lady Diamond Warriors to a 8-0 shutout in the first contest, and Morgan Porter slapped three singles in helping provide a 7-2 victory in the nightcap.

Buckley's homers came in the third and seventh innings.

Mallory Turner also had a productive outing at the plate, as the West Lauderdale High School product doubled and singled and finished with two RBIs. She also scored twice.

Other sluggers were Anna

Katherine Nowell, three singles; Karoline Holsonback, double and single; Amber McBroom, two singles; and Kaylin Hopkins, Lindsey Beard and Hayley Stephens, singles each.

Kendra Wilson picked up the victory. She allowed four hits, fanned five batters and walked one.

In the second game, EC's success continued at the plate and on the mound.

Porter led the offense with her three singles and also scored twice.

Also recording multiple hits were Beard, Stephens and Nowell, two singles each. Hopkins and Turner each contributed an RBI single and Holsonback was credited with an RBI.

Makayla Kelly earned the win. She went five innings and allowed two earned runs on two hits. She also fanned a batter.

Wilson hurled two innings. She fanned two batters and walked three.

ECCC SOFTBALL SQUAD SWEEPS MCC

ECCC's fast-pitch softball team cruised to a pair of victories over rival Meridian Community College in MACJC South Division action March 5 on the MCC campus.

A seven-run sixth inning led to a 12-3 victory in the first contest, and Haley Stephens' two home runs helped provide a 13-0 shutout in the nightcap.

In the first contest, several EC players were credited with multiple hits.

Stephens belted a double and a single and was the top run producer with three RBIs. She also scored two runs. Stephens is a sophomore infielder from Union.

Karoline Holsonback blasted two doubles and knocked in a run. She also scored a run.

Ty Buckley slapped two singles and scored three runs.

Other hitters were Lindsey Beard, double and two RBIs; Kaylin Hopkins, single and RBI; and Mallory Turner, single. Anna Katherine Nowell was credited with an RBI.

Also scoring runs were Beard (2), Hopkins, Morgan Porter (2) and Amber McBroom.

Kendra Wilson picked up the win. She allowed three runs on four hits over 3 2/3 innings. She also fanned five batters and walked five.

In the nightcap, EC jumped out to an early 7-0 lead and coasted to victory after five innings.

Stephens' home runs came in the fourth and fifth innings. She also singled, scored three runs and collected three RBIs.

Beard also homered in the fifth inning. She was also credited with two singles and was the top run producer with four RBIs. She also scored three runs.

Other sluggers were Turner, double and two singles; Buckley, two doubles and three RBIs; Porter, double; Holsonback, two singles and RBI; and McBroom, single.

Also scoring runs were Turner (3), Porter (2) and Buckley (2).

Makayla Kelly picked up the win. She allowed just four hits and fanned a batter in the five-inning shutout.

ECCC SOFTBALL SQUAD FALLS IN DIVISION OPENER

Division action began on a disappointing note for ECCC's fast-pitch softball squad, which dropped a twin bill to Jones County Junior College March 1.

The Lady Diamond Warriors (12-4, 0-2) were outscored 14-5 in the opener and fell 14-7 in the second contest to the No. 15 Lady Bobcats (15-0, 2-0).

Ty Buckley belted a three-run homer and Lindsey Beard blasted a two-run dinger to lead EC's offense in the first game.

Other EC hitters were Hayley Stephens, double; and Mallory Turner and Morgan Porter, singles each. Turner scored twice and Porter tallied once.

Kendra Wilson took the loss in the six-inning matchup. She allowed eight earned runs on 13 hits. She fanned four batters and walked eight.

In the second contest, Buckley and Beard each homered to

again lead the offense. Buckley belted a two-run shot in the sixth inning and Beard sent a solo shot over the wall in the second inning. Beard also doubled and singled.

Anna Katherine Nowell also had a productive outing at the plate, as she belted two singles and collected two RBIs.

Other hitters were Turner, Stephens, Amber McBroom and Kaylin Hopkins, singles each.

Porter was credited with an RBI.

Runs were scored by Beard (2), Nikki Triplett (2), McBroom, Porter and Buckley.

Makayla Kelly recorded the loss in the seven-inning battle. Kelly allowed 11 earned runs on 14 hits. She fanned one batter and walked three.

ECCC SOFTBALL TEAM SWEEPS MARION MILITARY

ECCC's softball team recorded a pair of victories over Marion Military Feb. 27.

The Lady Diamond Warriors held on for 6-5 decision in the opener and cruised 11-3 in the second contest to improve to 14-2.

Karoline Holsonback belted at two-run double and Hayley Stephens contributed a two-run single in leading the EC offense.

Morgan Porter ripped a double and Mallory Turner singled.

Makayla Kelly picked up the win. She went 6 1/3 innings and allowed three earned runs on five hits.

In the nightcap, Porter led the offense with two doubles and a single. She also knocked in a run.

Holsonback, Amber McBroom and Lindsey Beard had two singles each. McBroom and Beard were also credited with an RBI each.

Other hitters were Anna Katherine Nowell, double and two RBIs; Stephens, single and RBI; and Turner, single.

Kendra Wilson went 4 2/3 innings and picked up the win. She allowed two earned runs on three hits. She also fanned three batters and walked five.

EC/GADSDEN STATE SPLIT SOFTBALL TWIN BILL

ECCC's fast-pitch softball team split decisions with Gadsden State Community College Feb. 25 on the Gadsden, Ala., campus.

The Lady Diamond Warriors were edged 2-1 in the opener but rallied for a 7-2 victory in the nightcap.

Ty Buckley ripped an RBI double to lead EC's offense in the first contest.

Other hitters were Mallory Turner, Morgan Porter and Makayla Kelly, singles each. Porter scored the lone run.

Kendra Wilson took the loss on the mound. Wilson allowed two earned runs on five hits during the seven-inning matchup. She also fanned two batters and walked three.

In the second contest, EC's offense came alive with Kaylin Hopkins and Karoline Holsonback leading the attack by belting three singles each.

Buckley contributed a double and a single, and was credited with an RBI.

Also recording multiple hits were Amber McBroom and Anna-Katherine Nowell. Each had two singles and an RBI.

Other hitters were Turner and Porter, RBI singles each. Hayley Stephens was also credited with an RBI.

Kelly picked up the win and allowed no earned runs on six hits. She also fanned three batters.

EC SQUAD EARNS SECOND SWEEP OF ALABAMA SO.

ECCC's fast-pitch softball team recorded its second doubleheader sweep of Alabama Southern in 2014 by posting a 4-1 win in the opener followed by a 10-1 thumping in the nightcap Feb. 24.

In the first game, Ty Buckley and Lindsey Beard each had solo home runs to lead the EC offense. Beard also contributed a single.

Other EC hitters were Kaylin Hopkins, double; and Mallory Turner, single.

Kendra Wilson went the distance to record the win. The

sophomore hurler allowed no earned runs and four hits in the seven-inning matchup. She also fanned three batters and walked one.

The second contest was called after five innings.

EC hitters were Turner, two singles; Beard, Morgan Porter and Amber McBroom, singles each.

Beard and McBroom led in RBIs with two each. Hayley Stephens and Karoline Holsonback were credited with an RBI each.

Makayla Kelly picked up the win and allowed one run on five hits. She also fanned a batter.

EC SOFTBALL SQUAD SUSTAINS FIRST LOSS AT HCC

After cruising to a 5-0 decision in the opener, ECCC's fast-pitch softball squad was edged 2-1 in the nightcap of a non-division doubleheader with Holmes Community College Feb. 19 on the Goodman campus.

Ty Buckley belted two doubles and collected two RBIs to lead the offense in the first game.

Haley Stephens also recorded multiple hits and belted two singles.

Other hitters were Morgan Porter, double; and Mallory Turner, Lindsey Beard, Skyler Simmons and Karoline Holsonback, singles each.

Simmons, Holsonback and Makayla Kelly, were credited with an RBI each.

Runs were scored by Turner, Porter, Buckley, Stephens and Nikki Triplett.

Kendra Wilson went the distance to record the shutout victory. She allowed two hits, fanned six batters and walked two in the seven-inning battle.

In the second contest, Kelly homered for the ECCC's lone run.

Porter contributed two doubles and Holsonback had two singles. Buckley also singled.

Kelly took the loss despite not allowing an earned run. She gave up six hits and fanned a batter.

ECCC SOFTBALL SQUAD SWEEPS MS DELTA

ECCC's fast-pitch softball squad improved to 6-0 on the young season following a doubleheader sweep of Mississippi Delta Community College Feb. 14.

ECCC cruised 16-0 in the opener and posted an 8-0 shutout in the nightcap.

Lindsey Beard had two extra-base hits to lead EC's offense in the first contest, as she doubled in the second inning and homered in the third. She finished with two RBIs and scored four runs.

Also having multiple hits were Morgan Porter and Karoline Holsonback, double and single each; and Mallory Turner, Kaylin Hopkins and Ty Buckley, two singles each.

Porter led in RBIs with four. Turner and Buckley knocked in two runs each and Hopkins was credited with an RBI.

Other hitters were Hayley Stephens and Christen Benson, who each contributed a single. Stephens also knocked in two runs.

Amber McBroom was credited with an RBI.

Hurlers Kendra Wilson and Megan Robinson were superb on the mound, as they combined efforts to register a no-hitter.

Starter Wilson went three innings and fanned seven batters. She also walked a batter.

Robinson pitched the final two innings.

In the second contest, it was again all EC as they jumped out to a six-run lead after three innings.

Porter homered and singled to lead the offensive attack.

Also recording multiple hits were Buckley, double and single; and Turner and Hopkins, two singles each. Buckley led in RBIs with three.

McBroom and Stephens each pounded doubles. Stephens was also credited with an RBI.

Other hitters were Holsonback and Benson, who each singled and registered an RBI.

Hurler Makayla Kelly went the distance in the five-inning battle. She fanned three batters while recording the shut out.

Warrior Athletics

EC's Buckley, Fultz Named MACJC Players of the Week

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College softball slugger Ty Buckley of Philadelphia and baseball hurler Kale Fultz of Covington, Tenn., received MACJC Player of the Week honors for their respective performances last week. They are also under consideration for NJCAA Player of the Week recognition.

Buckley had a superb week at the plate in games with Pearl River and Jones County. Against Pearl River, she went three for six, which included a grand slam home run and four RBIs. In the matchup with Jones County, Buckley led the team with six RBIs. She went three for seven, including a home run and sacrifice fly.

Buckley belted her 17th dinger against Jones County and currently leads NJCAA Division II competition in home

runs. She is also one of the nation's top run producers with 55 RBIs.

The sophomore first baseman is a product of Neshoba Central High School.

The Lady Diamond Warrior fast-pitch softball program is led by head coach Kristin Chaney, assistant Courtney Nunn and volunteer assistant Kasie Buckley.

Fultz, a sophomore right-hander, tossed a shutout in helping lead the Diamond Warriors to a 3-0 victory over Baton Rouge Community College. He kept the home-standing Bears off the scoreboard during the nine-inning contest. Fultz fanned eight batters and allowed five hits.

Fultz is a transfer from Southwest Tenn. Community College.

EC's baseball program is led by head coach Neal Holliman and assistants Scott DeLoach and Ronald Sims.



BUCKLEY



FULTZ

Buckley Joins EC Softball Staff

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Kasie Buckley is serving as a volunteer assistant softball coach at East Central Community College.

Buckley was a standout member of the 2010 and 2011 ECCC fast-pitch softball squads, led by former head coach Scott Hill and current head mentor Kristin Chaney who served as an assistant coach.

Buckley, an infielder/pitcher, helped lead the 2010 Lady Diamond Warriors to the program's first Region 23 Tournament title and a fourth-place finish in the NJCAA Division II Softball National Tournament en route to a record 47 wins and just 11 losses.

She was chosen on the 12-member NJCAA All-American squad as a utility player and also received most valuable player honors following the national competition held in Normal, Illinois, during which EC captured three of five matchups in the double-elimination event.

During tournament action, Buckley posted a .636 batting average and belted three home runs, a double and three singles. She was also credited with seven RBIs.

Buckley received All-Region 23 and MACJC All-State hon-

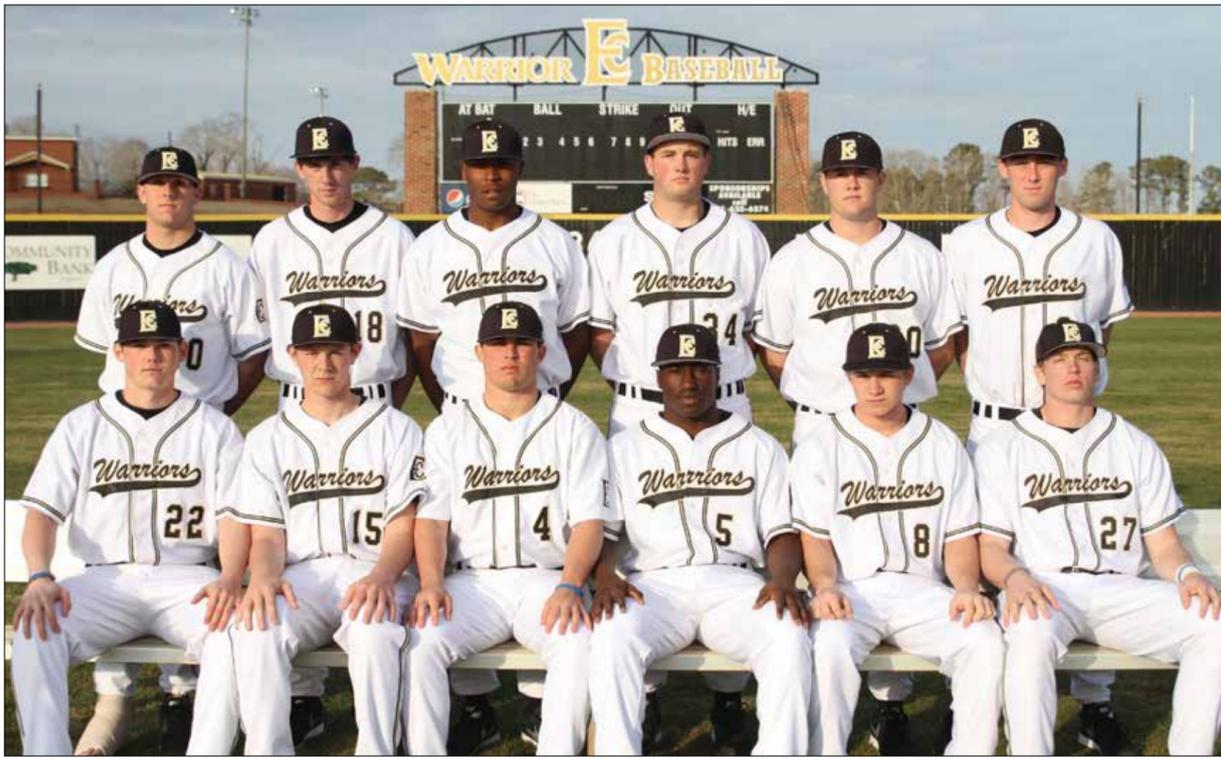


BUCKLEY

Following the championship season, Buckley received All-Region 23 and MACJC All-State honors. She was also selected team captain.

She continued her career at the University of West Florida in Pensacola, FL where she played two years for the Lady Argos. She received All Gulf South Conference for the Lady Argos during her senior campaign.

A product of Newton County High School, Buckley is the daughter of Steve and Gina Buckley of Little Rock, MS.



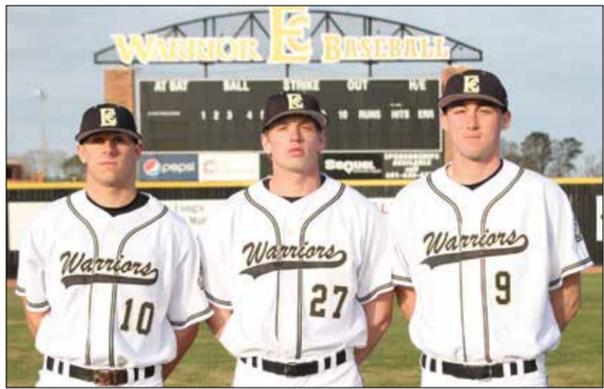
SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Diamond Warrior Sophomores: Sophomores on the 2014 East Central Community College baseball squad include (seated from left) first baseman Caleb Woods (22), a product of Leake Central High School; left-handed pitcher Cory Kitchens (15), Heidelberg Academy; outfielder/left-handed pitcher Jake Bush (4), Brookwood (Ala.) High School; outfielder Cojuante McMillian (5), Hamilton; outfielder Zach May, Newton County; and first baseman/outfielder John Morgan Berry (27), Madison Central; and (standing from left) infielder/outfielder Maxwell Harmon (10), Enterprise; right-handed pitcher Conner West (18), Taylorsville; right-handed pitcher Courtney Forbes (7), Columbia; right-handed pitcher Kale Fultz (34), Covington, Tenn.; right-handed pitcher Ty Hendrix (20), East Webster; and right-hander pitcher Mason Woodrow (9), Taylorsville. The Diamond Warriors are the defending MACJC State Baseball Champions. Neal Holliman serves as head coach. Assistants are Scott DeLoach and Ronald Sims.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Buckley Leads NJCAA Division II in Home Runs! East Central Community College softball slugger Ty Buckley continues to lead the NJCAA Division II in home runs, according to the most recent statistics. Buckley belted her 17th dinger – a three-run blast – Sunday, March 30 in helping lead the Lady Diamond Warriors to an 8-6 win over previously unbeaten and nationally ranked Jones County Junior College in the opener of a twin bill on the Ellisville campus. Buckley is also among the nation's top run producers with 55 RBIs. She collected six RBIs in the double header split with Jones County. The sophomore first baseman is a product of Neshoba Central High School. EC's record stands at 24-7 overall and 9-5 in league play under second-year head coach Kristin Chaney.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Baseball Captains: Captains for the 2014 East Central Community College baseball team are sophomores (from left) Maxwell Harmon (10) of Meridian, an infielder/outfielder and product of Enterprise High School; John Morgan Berry (27) of Madison, a first baseman/outfielder from Madison Central High School; and Mason Woodrow (9) of Taylorsville, a right-handed pitcher and product of Taylorsville High School. The ECCC Diamond Warriors are led by head coach Neal Holliman and assistants Scott DeLoach and Ronald Sims.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Holliman Addresses First Pitch Crowd: East Central Community College head baseball coach Neal Holliman addresses a large crowd in attendance for the eighth annual First Pitch Dinner held Saturday, Feb. 1 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. The event is held to recognize team members and program supporters in preparation for the new season. This year's event featured Mississippi State University associate head baseball/pitching coach Butch Thompson as guest speaker.

EC Announces 2014-15 Cheerleaders

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College in Decatur 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 Leopard and Cody Warner, all of Neshoba Central; Alana Kron, Adam Porter, Ha-

leigh 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 or by calling the college's athletic department at 601-635-6310.

ECCC First Pitcher Dinner Speaker: East Central Community College's First Pitch Dinner featured Mississippi State University associate head baseball coach Butch Thompson (second from left) who is shown with ECCC baseball coaches (from left) Neal Holliman (head) and assistants Scott DeLoach and Ronald Sims following the Feb. 1 program held. During his remarks, Coach Thompson, who is regarded as one of the premier pitching coaches in the nation, challenged the defending MACJC State Champion Diamond Warriors to "aim high...find your identity...and never quit! He also told team members, "To be a leader, you must first be a servant." The eighth annual event is held to recognize team members and program supporters in preparation for the new season.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



Reminder: Wear IDs at All Times!

Warrior Athletics

ECCC Taps 'Snoopy' Bender for JUCO Sports Hall of Fame

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

"Basketball was Evelyn's game and no other player in the state of Mississippi played it better."

These are the words of former East Central Community College women's head basketball coach Lucille Wood in describing the standout athlete when she was inducted into the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame in 1992.

Bender's accomplishments on the hardwood are now recognized on a statewide level as the former standout at ECCC, Jackson State University and the New York Stars professional basketball team is among inductees for the 2014 Mississippi Community College Sports Hall of Fame.

Bender will be enshrined with other representatives of the state's community and junior colleges at the eighth annual ceremony scheduled Tuesday, April 29, at the Muse Center on the Rankin County campus of Hinds Community College in Pearl.

The Newton resident said she is "excited" and "honored" to receive the prestigious award.

"I never dreamed I would even be considered good enough to be in the Mississippi Community College Sports Hall of Fame," she said.

But Bender was more than "good enough" for membership in the prestigious group.

She was a standout member of the East Central Community College women's basketball teams during the

1974-75 and 1975-76 seasons.

Bender helped lead the Warriorettes (as referred to then) to the 1976 state championship. The talented squad was led by Coach Wood, who was inducted into the Mississippi Community College Sports Hall of Fame in 2007.

Bender set numerous records during her career, many of which still stand today: most field goals (20) in a game; and best two-year scoring average (25.7 points in 42 games) for a total of 1,081 points.

She twice received first team All-State honors and both times was a unanimous first choice of the state's junior college coaches.

Bender would have been a candidate for NJCAA All-American or All-Region recognition had EC been a member of the National Junior College Athletic Association.

She also excelled in tennis and was a two-year member of the varsity squad.

Regarding her career at East Central, Bender said she "enjoyed (just) playing (basketball) the most" but that "having a chance to go places I had never been let alone heard of was just as enjoyable."

She does recall at least one "unusual" or "humorous" incident during her days at East Central.

"We had an outstanding speech instructor (Bruce Peterson) who would always write a poem to be read to the team before we played a game. His poems were so inspiring!" she said.

Bender said it was the "people" who



BENDER

made her time at East Central most enjoyable.

"Everyone knew everyone," she said. "We helped each other and cared for each other...we took care of each other. We were a family!"

Bender also reflected on how she was recruited to attend East Central.

"I had never given any thought to attending EC until Mr. James 'Creeper' Nelson told me that Denver Brackeen and Coach (Lucille) Wood wanted to talk to me. We talked...and that was that. I was coming to EC!"

She said playing for Coach Wood was a "super experience."

"She never tried to alter us, just managed to muse the crew into a championship squad," she said. "That was awesome in that we were a varied group of individuals."

Bender continued her basketball career at Jackson State University, regarded at the time as the top team in the state. She helped lead the Lady Tigers to the National Black College Tournament Championship and Regional titles. She capped her college career by earning a bachelor's degree in physical education in 1979.

Bender continued her career on the professional level in the Women's Professional Basketball League, which has since disbanded. She was drafted by a team in Washington, D.C., and later played for the New York Stars in Madison Square Garden. Her success was highlighted in numerous major newspapers and sports magazines.

After the team folded due to financial reasons, Bender returned to Jackson State and received a master's degree in physical education in 1982. While at JSU, she served as a trainer for the basketball and football squads.

She later returned to her high school alma mater, Newton Public Schools, where she coached basketball and track for 10 years and assisted with softball for five years.

Bender currently works for the Newton Parks and Recreation Department. She is also in her 27th year as a

high school basketball official and has served the past five years officiating softball and baseball games.

She spends most of her day helping young people grow physically and mentally.

"Seems like teaching is a part of me, and to see one of them excel is a good feeling," she said.

She has a daughter, Kotrecee Bender, who is also a former ECCC basketball standout. Kotrecee, a former women's basketball assistant at ECCC, is completing her first year as girls' head basketball coach at Lake High School.

In reflecting on her basketball career at all four levels, Bender said highlights include: (high school) being nominated to play in the high school All-Star game; (college) helping lead EC to a state championship and later her induction into the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame; (senior college) playing basketball at a level she never imagined and to be helpful in a program of such magnitude; and (professional) and realizing the dream of playing professional basketball, which she described was "the ultimate goal. I had always hoped I would have the opportunity to go pro...and when I did, I felt I had made it...all the hard work had paid off!"

Bender can now add another highlight of her stellar career - induction into the Mississippi Community College Sports Hall of Fame.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Warrior Soccer Signees: These standout high school soccer players plan to continue their careers at East Central Community College. Joining the Warrior squad in 2014-15 are (seated from left) Jacob Johnson, a 5-7, 140-pound forward and product of Destrehan (La.) High School; Cesar Diaz, a 5-7, 130-pound forward from Newton County High School; Jackson Oliver, a 5-11, 163-pound midfielder/forward and Tyler Aaron, a 6-1, 150-pound forward, both products of Clinton High School; and (standing from left) John Mark Howell, a 6', 225-pound keeper from Amory High School; Durham Norman, a 6', 147-pound defender from Florence High School; Connor Brenham, a 6'1, 150-pound midfielder from Pearl High School; and Kellen Clark, a 6', 150-pound defender from Newton County High School. Johnson is a first-team All-District selection. The 2012-13 team also reached the State 4A semi-finals. Oliver was team captain of the 2013-14 squad, which won the District championship. He also helped lead Clinton to the State 6A championships in 2008-09 and 2011-12. Aaron helped lead Clinton to the 2014 District championship. Howell is a recipient of Amory's Scholar Athlete award. Norman served as captain of the 2014 Florence squad, which finished State Class 4A runners-up. Brennan helped lead Pearl to the 2013-14 State 5A Championship. He was also a member of several recreation and travel soccer championship squads. Clark's honors include 2011-12 All-District Keeper, 2012-13 Defender of the Year and 2012-13 first team All-District. He helped lead Newton County to the 2012-13 and 2013-14 State 4A semifinals. Also joining the Warrior soccer squad in 2014-15 but not pictured is Jamar Simms, a 5-9, 150-pound defender from Pascagoula High School. EC's Warrior soccer program is led by head coach Kenneth Thompson.

Alexander Joins EC Football Staff

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Dennis Alexander was recently selected an assistant football coach at East Central Community College.

Alexander will serve as offensive line coach, announced head coach Ken Karcher.

Prior to joining the ECCC coaching staff, the former University of Alabama football standout served the past year as offensive line coach and run game coordinator at Shades Valley High School in Irondale, Ala.

Alexander served from 2010-13 as head football coach and head track coach at Bessemer City High School in Bessemer, Ala.

He served a brief stint in 2009 as offensive line coach for the semi-pro Birmingham Wildfire.

Alexander began his coaching career as offensive line assistant coach and substitute teacher at Jess Lanier/Bessemer City High School, from 2007-10.

A standout lineman, Alexander played professional football



ALEXANDER

man All-American and Freshman All-SEC teams for the 2000 season and received the "Jerry Duncan's Like to Practice Award" the same year.

Alexander served as co-captain in 2002-03 and was awarded the "Paul Crane Most Improved Offensive Lineman Award" for the 2003 campaign.

The Memphis native received a four-year athletic scholarship to attend the University of Alabama following a stellar career at Westwood High School in Memphis, where he received First Team All-Metro, First Team All-State and Second Team All-South honors.

Alexander received a bachelor's degree in family financial planning from the University of Alabama in 2003. He completed additional coursework in 2004.

He is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in kinesiology at the University of Montevallo.

He is married to the former Niva King of Columbus. They have three sons, Dennis Alexander III, Javin King and Jemarcus King.

on two teams - first with the NFL's Tennessee Titans in 2004 followed by a stint with Cologne Centurions in the NFL Europe league from March 2005 to December 2006.

Alexander won numerous honors as a member of the University of Alabama Crimson Tide squad from 1999 to 2003.

He was named to the Fresh-



ECCC Sophomore Cheerleaders Honored: These sophomore cheerleaders at East Central Community College received special recognition during the season-ending basketball games held Thursday, Feb. 20 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. Honorees and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) Jordan Landry, Newton County; Lindsey McCool, Winston Academy; Heather Johnson, Newton County; Mary Margaret Bailey, Philadelphia; Laken Fulcher, Nanih Waiya; and Kamaran Malone, Leake Academy; and (back row, from left) David Williams and Madison Stringer, both of Newton County; Payton Smith, Scott Central; Madison Herrington, Union; Hanna Kemp, Leake Academy; Maxey Parker, Noxapater; and Hannah Smith, Leake Academy. Pauline Karcher serves as cheer coach.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Smith Inks ECCC Softball Scholarship: Kaitlin Smith (seated, center), a 2014 graduate of Scott Central High School, is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue her softball career at East Central Community College in Decatur. Smith is a six-year member of the Lady Rebels softball team, was named all-state her sophomore year, received five hustle awards and was recognized in the 400 club. Also pictured are (seated) Lady Rebel softball coach Taylor Hughes and the signee's mother, Pam Smith of Forest; and (standing, from left) Scott Central Attendance Center Athletic Director Johnny Mills and the signee's father, Tim Smith, also of Forest. (Photo Courtesy of Chris Allen Baker/The Scott County Times)

Warrior Athletics

EC Golfers Participate in MACJC State Tourney

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC GOLFERS FINISH FIFTH IN NORTHWEST TOURNEY

East Central Community College's golf team completed the 2014 campaign by participating in the MACJC State Championship held April 22-23, 2014, at the Pine Burr Golf Club in Wiggins.

The Warrior linksters carded a two-day total of 639 (319-320) in the 36-hole competition, won by the Meridian Community College team, which shot 606 (315-291).

MS Gulf Coast finished second at 607 (305-302), followed by Copiah-Lincoln, 609 (312-297); East MS, 611 (316-295); Northwest MS, 615 (311-304); Jones County, 629 (321-308); ECCC; Northeast MS, 640 (319-321); and Itawamba, 655 (330-325).

East Central was led by Aaron Tucker, who carded rounds of 80 and 73 for a 153. Tucker is a product of Leake Central High School.

Taylor York of Choctaw Central shot 157 (74-83) for a 157 total, followed by Sawyer Williams, a product of Parkers Chapel in Eldorado, Ark., at 159 (79-80); Sam Williams of Newton County Academy, 171 (87-84); and Karlton Ginn of Franklinton (La.) High School, 174 (86-88).

Tucker, York and Sawyer Williams qualified to compete in the NJCAA Regionals scheduled May 2-3 at the Wolf Hollow Golf Club at Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson. Williams was also selected on the MACJC All-State Second Team.

Chris Clark serves as EC golf coach.

East Central Community College's golf team placed fifth in MACJC Event #4 held March 31-April 1, 2014, at the Wedgewood Golf Club in Olive Branch.

The Warrior linksters carded 613 (303-310) in the 36-hole event, won by Meridian Community College at 579 (288-291). MS Gulf Coast finished second at 590 (293-297), followed by Copiah-Lincoln, 610 (302-308); East MS, 611 (309-302); ECCC; host Northwest MS, 614 (305-309); Jones County, 619 (313-306); Northeast MS, 646 (332-314); Hinds, 655 (320-335); and Itawamba, 698 (354-344).

Aaron Tucker led EC by posting rounds of 72 and 77 for a five over par 149 total. Tucker is a product of Leake Central High School.

Other Warrior team members and their respective scores include Taylor York of Choctaw Central, 152 (71-81); Sawyer Williams of Parkers Chapel HS in Eldorado, Ark., 156 (78-78); Sam Williams of Newton County Academy, 159 (82-77); and Karlton Ginn of Franklinton (La.) High School, 164 (86-78).

ECCC GOLFERS FINISH SEVENTH IN MERIDIAN EVENT

Golfers representing East Central Community College participated in MACJC Event #3 held March 3-4, 2014, at Northwood Country Club in Meridian.

The Warriors linksters posted a score of 490 (331-159) in the 27-hole event, won by Meridian Community College's 463 (316-147). Competition was shortened to nine holes on the second day due to inclem-

ent weather.

MS Gulf Coast Community College finished second at 467 (314-153), followed by Northwest Mississippi (321-147) and Jones County, (316-152), at 468; East Mississippi, 482 (330-152); Copiah-Lincoln, 485 (326-159); ECCC; Northeast MS, 493 (332-161); Hinds, 495 (343-152); and Itawamba, 501 (336-165).

Aaron Tucker led the Warriors with rounds of 78 and 40 for a 118 total. Tucker is a product of Leake Central High School.

Other top scorers were Sawyer Williams (83-39) and Karlton Ginn (84-38), who tied at 122. Williams is a product of Parkers Chapel High School in Eldorado, AR, and Ginn hails from Franklinton (La.) High School.

Jonathan Amis, a Newton County High School product, shot 128 (86-42), followed by Taylor York of Choctaw Central, 129 (87-42); Sam Williams of Newton County Academy, 135 (92-43); and Michael Jones of Forest, 138 (95-43).

EC GOLFERS FINISH FOURTH IN HINDS TOURNEY

East Central Community College's golf team tied for fourth following competition in the MACJC Event #2 held Feb. 22-23 at the Eagle Ridge Golf Club at Hinds Community College in Raymond.

The Warrior linksters carded a score of 625 (317-308) in the 36-hole event, won by Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College which posted a 593 (298-295) total.

Meridian finished second at 619 (312-307) followed by East Mississippi, 621 (309-312); ECCC and Jones County (311-



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Golf Team Fundraiser: Members of the East Central Community College golf team are selling calendars as a program fundraiser. Cost is \$20 each. The purchase price includes an opportunity to win \$50 in a monthly raffle. For more information, contact any golf team member or Coach Chris Clark, at 601-917-7396.

314) at 625; Copiah-Lincoln, 632 (315-317); host Hinds (334-308) and Northwest Mississippi (327-315), at 642; Northeast Mississippi, 665 (337-328); and Itawamba, 675 (334-341).

EC golfer Sawyer Williams received medalist runner-up honors by posting a pair of 73s for a 146 total. Williams is a product of Parkers Chapel High School in Eldorado, Ark.

Williams and teammate Taylor York of Choctaw qualified for the All-Tournament Team. York fired rounds of 77 and 74 for a 151 total. York is a product of Choctaw Central High School.

Other Warrior scorers and their respective high schools

include Aaron Tucker of Leake Central, 159 (80-79); Jonathan Amis of Newton County, 166 (89-77); Karlton Ginn of Franklinton (La.), 170 (87-83); and Kirk Stonestreet of Kosciusko, 173 (91-82).

EC GOLFERS BEGIN SEASON AT GULF COAST TOURNEY

East Central Community College's golf team began the 2014 season by participating in the MACJC Event #1 held Feb. 9-10 at the Great Southern Golf Course in Gulfport.

The Warrior linksters placed sixth with a 635 total in the 36-hole event, won by Meridian Community College with a 588 score.

Tournament host MS Gulf

Coast Community College finished second at 595, followed by Copiah-Lincoln, 610; Northwest MS, 624; East MS, 631; ECCC; Jones County, 646; Hinds, 655; and Itawamba, 674. Northeast MS also participated but did not finish.

Sawyer Williams led EC with rounds of 79 and 75 for a 154 total. Williams is a product of Parkers Chapel High School in Eldorado, AR.

Other scorers were Taylor York of Choctaw Central, 156 (83-73); Aaron Tucker of Leake Central, 159 (79-80); Karlton Ginn of Franklinton (La.) High School, 166 (83-83); and Sam Williams of Newton County Academy, 184 (97-87).

ECCC Golfers Qualifying for Regionals:

These East Central Community College golfers qualified to participate in the NJCAA Regionals scheduled May 3-4 at the Wolf Hollow Golf Course at Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson. From left are Sawyer Williams, a product of Parkers Chapel High School in Eldorado, Ark.; Taylor York of Choctaw Central; and Aaron Tucker of Leake Central. The trio led East Central in the MACJC State Tournament held April 22-23, 2014, at the Pine Burr Golf Club in Wiggins. Tucker was low scorer at 153 (80-73), followed by York, 157 (74-83); and Williams, 159 (79-80). Williams was also named to the MACJC All-State Second Team. Chris Clark serves as EC golf coach.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

EC Golfers Make All-Tourney Team: These East Central Community College golfers qualified for the All-Tournament Team following competition in MACJC Event #2 held Feb. 22-23 at the Eagle Ridge Golf Club at Hinds Community College in Raymond. From left are Sawyer Williams, a product of Parkers Chapel High School in Eldorado, Ark., and Taylor York of Choctaw and a product of Choctaw Central High School. Williams carded a pair of 73s for a 146 total in the 36-hole event. He finished runner-up to tournament medalist Hayes Weathersby of MS Gulf Coast, who posted rounds of 71 and 69 for a 140 total. York had rounds of 77 and 74 for a 151 total. Chris Clark serves as EC golf coach.



Sophomore Lady Diamond Warriors Honored: Sophomore members of the East Central Community College fast-pitch softball team were recognized Friday, April 11, 2014, prior to the home finale against Copiah-Lincoln Community College. Honorees were joined by family members for the special ceremony. Sophomore players and their respective high schools include (from left) Hayley Stephens (24), Union; Ty Buckley (23), Neshoba Central; Morgan Porter (19), Enterprise; Lindsey Beard (17), Clarkdale; Kaylin Hopkins (8), Louisville; Kendra Wilson (5), South Lamar (Millport, AL); and Amber McBroom (3), Brandon. The Lady Warriors fell 14-3 in the opener but rallied for an 11-4 win in the nightcap to improve to 30-12 overall and 15-9 in the MACJC South Division. Kristin Chaney serves as head coach.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Warrior Athletics



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Diamond Warrior Leadership Council: Leadership Council members for the 2014 East Central Community College baseball team include (seated from left) right-handed pitcher Mason Woodrow of Taylorsville, infielder/outfielder Maxwell Harmon of Enterprise and first baseman/outfielder John Morgan Berry of Madison Central, who also serve as team captains; and (standing from left) right-handed pitcher Conner West of Taylorsville, outfielder/left-handed pitcher Jake Bush of Brookwood (Ala.) High School; and first baseman Caleb Woods of Leake Central. Also pictured is Diamond Warrior head coach Neal Holliman. Council members were recognized at the eighth annual First Pitch Dinner held Saturday, Feb. 1 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. The Diamond Warriors are the defending MACJC State Baseball Champions.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Receive ECCC Baseball Awards at First Pitch Dinner: These East Central Community College baseball players received various honors at the eighth annual First Pitch Dinner held Saturday, Feb. 1, 2014, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are outfielder Zach May, a product of Newton County High School, Warrior Challenge Champion; infielder/outfielder Maxwell Harmon of Enterprise, Team Captain Award; and outfielder/right-handed pitcher Lane Fazende of Pearl River Central, Home Run Derby Champion. Harmon was also recognized for receiving most valuable defensive player and most improved position player for the 2013 season. Standing from left are right-handed pitcher Mason Woodrow of Taylorsville and first baseman/outfielder John Morgan Berry of Madison Central, Team Captain Awards; and right-handed pitcher Courtney Forbes of Columbia, recognized for providing the team's slogan for 2014: "Today I will do what others won't, so tomorrow I can do what others can't." Also pictured is Diamond Warrior head coach Neal Holliman. Holliman recognized additional award winners from the state championship 2013 campaign. Major Leaguer Tim Anderson, a product of Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa, was named most valuable player; southpaw Caleb McGee of Neshoba Central was chosen most valuable pitcher; and right-hander Severino Signa, a product of Deer Creek High School was selected most improved pitcher. Anderson was a first-round draft choice by the Chicago White Sox. Signa is continuing his career at the University of West Alabama.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Basketball All-Stars: Representing East Central Community College in the annual MACJC All-Star Basketball Games were (second from left) Lady Warrior Tannahja Hughes of Forest and Warriors Terrance Mujahid, a product of Westwood High School in Memphis, and Jacques Johnson of Jackson Provine. The standout athletes are shown with Lady Warrior head coach Crandal Porter (left) and Warrior head coach Robert Thompson. Hughes scored five points for the South women who fell 81-69 to the North All-Stars. Mujahid tallied 10 points and Johnson chipped in four points in lead the South men to a 121-117 victory over the North squad. ECCC serves as host of the annual competition, which was held Friday, April 11, 2014, in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. Event sponsors include the Pearl River Resort, JUCO Weekly, Judge Little and ECCC.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Sophomore Lady Warriors Honored: Sophomore players on the 2014 East Central Community College women's basketball team were honored during the season finale with Jones County Junior College Thursday, Feb. 20 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. Pictured are manager LaRome McKee (second from left), a product of Scott Central High School, with parents Linda Allen and Ceasar McKee; center Kimberly Wallace (fourth from left), a product of Ouachita Parish High School in Monroe, La., with her mother LaKeshia Wallace; forward Niya Hughes (sixth from left) of Forest, with her mother, Jackie Hughes; forward Ty-neisa Mickens (eighth from left), a product of Noxubee County High School in Macon, with her mother, Sheia Mickens; and guard Tyler Hearn-Ferguson (tenth from left) a product of West Jones High School, with her mother, Erica Ferguson. Also shown are Lady Warrior coaches Kiara Ruffin (assistant) and Crandal Porter (head). EC fell 98-88 to the visiting Lady Bobcats and completed season action with an 8-14 overall record and 3-11 mark in the MACJC South Division.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Sophomore Warriors Honored: Sophomore members on the 2014 East Central Community College men's basketball team were honored during the season finale with Jones County Junior College Thursday, Feb. 20 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. Honorees include (second from left) forward Terrance Mujahid, a product of Westwood High School in Memphis, Tenn.; and guard/forward Jacques Johnson, who hails from Provine High School in Jackson. Also pictured is Robert Thompson, Warrior head coach. EC fell 72-67 to the visiting Bobcats and completed season action with a 9-14 overall record and 4-10 mark in the MACJC South Division.

NOTICE!

Safety Memo: Natural Gas Safety

Natural gas is one of the safest, most reliable, efficient, and environmentally friendly fuels in use today delivering natural gas for heating, water heating, and cooking as well as other natural gas appliances. Natural gas for East Central Community is delivered through a jurisdictional natural gas pipeline system. Like any form of energy, though, it must be handled responsibly. East Central Community College is known as a Master Meter Operator and has valves, regulators, and pressure stations on campus. Always remember safety first when operating natural gas appliances of any kind.

Natural gas is a nontoxic, colorless, and odorless fuel that is lighter than air. This lighter-than-air quality is an important safety factor. If a leak occurs, natural gas will mix readily with air and rise into the atmosphere. As a safety measure the natural gas that is piped to your home or business has a harmless odor similar to rotten eggs so that you can easily detect even the smallest amount of gas that might escape.

From design and construction to operations and maintenance, natural gas utilities like ours set high standards to keep natural gas pipelines incident-free.

Damage Prevention

Although safe, tested, and regulated, the system's most common hazard is from 3rd party damage from excavation. Before any excavations are done, contact Dig Safety - Mississippi One-Call System, Inc. 1800-227-6477 or 811 and call East Central Community College at 601-635-6266. Always call before you dig. It's as easy as dialing 8...1...1, and it's the law!

Detecting A Natural Gas Leak

Natural gas is one of the safest, most reliable, and environmentally friendly fuels in use today, but leaks can occur. There are three key ways to recognize a natural gas leak.

~ Look. Blowing dirt, bubbling creeks or ponds, dry spots in moist areas or dead plants surrounded by green, live plants also may indicate a natural gas leak.

~ Listen. An unusual hissing sound near gas lines or appliances may indicate a natural gas leak.

~ Smell. In its raw state, natural gas is colorless and odorless. Natural gas utility companies add a substance called mercaptan to create the familiar, rotten-egg-like odor usually associated with natural gas. You should take action even if you detect only a faint odor of natural gas in the air.

Natural Gas Safety Tips:

Here are some key words to help you remember what to do if a natural gas leak is suspected:

~ Leave. Leave the area immediately. Do not try to find or stop the leak.

~ Don't Touch. Do not smoke, use a cell phone, flashlight, turn on or off any lights or appliances or operate any kind of vehicle or equipment that could create a spark.

~ Dial. Immediately notify us. If a leak is suspected call the following number 601-635-6266 or 601-917-6119.

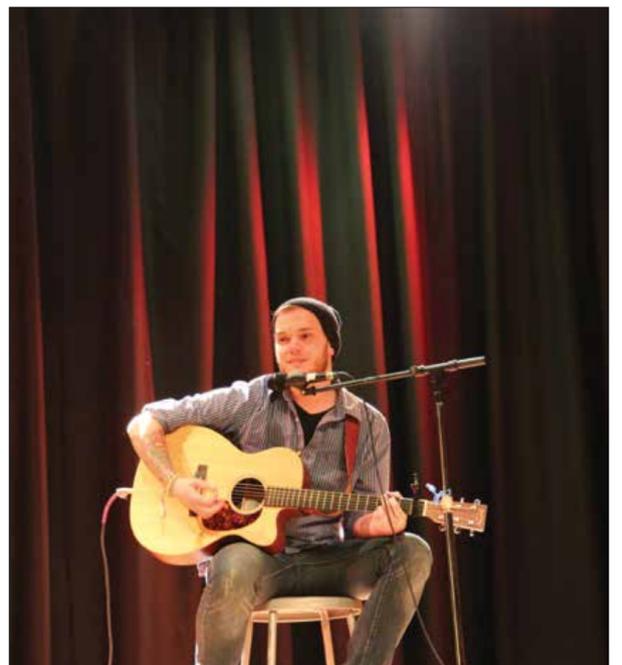
Remember - Never try to find the leak yourself!!!

To Report a Gas Leak call East Central Community College at 601-635-6266 or 601-917-6119 or Campus Police at 601-527-8939.

For additional information, contact East Central Community College 601-635-6266 or 601-635-6298.

Warrior Scene

Scenes from Spring Spree 2014



The Tom-Tom

A Student Publication of East Central Community College

Volume 66, Number 1

August 2014



SBA Officers

ECCC student government officers announced. **PAGE 3**



The Tom-Tom Editors

The Tom-Tom staff announces editorial board. **PAGE 2**

EC Leads Nation in Student-Athlete Honors

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College leads the nation in the number of community/junior college student-athletes receiving academic honors for 2013-14, according to the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA).

According to the report, 24 ECCC student-athletes qualified for the special recognition.

ECCC honorees include four student-athletes who received the Pinnacle Award for Academic Excellence (4.0 GPA); five student-athletes recognized for Superior Academic Achievement (3.8-plus GPA); and 15

student-athletes who earned Exemplary Academic Achievement honors (3.6-plus GPA).

"A great, big thank you goes to these 24 student-athletes for their hard work and commitment to their academic endeavors while playing their respective sport at ECCC," said ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart. "Also a great big thank you goes our faculty and staff for their support and encouragement of these students and their commitment to STUDENT SUCCESS and TEACHING and LEARNING."

Recipients of the NJCAA Pinnacle Award for Academic Excellence are former baseball players Maxwell

Harmon of Meridian and Caleb Woods of Carthage, and former golf team members Aaron Tucker of Carthage and Sawyer Williams of Eldorado, Arkansas. Student-athletes



DR. STEWART

receiving NJCAA Awards for Superior Achievement include former women's soccer players Kennedy Castleberry of Meridian; former women's soccer and tennis player Alana Turner of Florence; former women's tennis player Nan Hartness of Louisville; and former men's soccer team members Jordan Walker of Decatur and Zach Killion of Crestwood, Kentucky.

Those who earned NJCAA Exemplary Awards for Excellence include former men's soccer players Jesse Vaughn, Will Thompson and Russ Thompson, all of Decatur, and Taylor Potts of Benton; former women's soccer players Miranda Clark of Philadelphia, Sydney Dawkins of DeKalb,

Paige Gower of Meridian and Heather Johnson of Chunky; former men's tennis player Brandon St. Clair of Newton; former women's tennis player Hannah Smith of Carthage; former fast-pitch softball players Haley Stephens of Union and Kaylin Hopkins of Louisville; former baseball players Mason Woodrow of Taylorsville and Jacob Bush of West Blocton, Alabama; and former basketball player Shedrick Fair of Aberdeen.

The outstanding student-athletes will be recognized with other honorees in an upcoming issue of JUCO Review.

ECCC Transfer Students Achieve Highest GPA at Four-Year Institutions

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Students who transfer from East Central Community College to four-year institutions are once again recognized for academic success, according to a recent report from Mississippi's Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL).

Results from the IHL report revealed that transfer students from ECCC achieved a 3.22 grade point average, which represents the highest cumulative grade point average of all community college transfers at the state's eight public, four-year institutions.

Students from the community/junior college in second place earned a 3.17 GPA, and the average for all 15 community colleges combined was a 3.12 GPA.

The report again showed that community college transfer students performed academically as well or better in university courses than students who began their education at the senior institutions. The "native" students earned a 3.09 GPA.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart said he was "elated and proud" at the news that East Central Community College

students are once again recognized for academic success.

Dr. Stewart added, "This data, compiled and reported by IHL, confirms the results of our college's dedication to Student Services and Teaching and Learning, two hallmark commitments of 2020 Vision, our strategic plan for the future. Our faculty and staff are preparing East Central transfer students well for the academic challenges of a university, and based on the performance of our transfer students, no one does that any better!"

East Central Community College offers the first two years of a four-year degree for more than 201 areas of concentration in academic studies. These academic courses are guaranteed to transfer as a result of an Articulation Agreement between Mississippi's community colleges and the state's public four-year colleges and universities.

The College also offers two-year terminal degrees in health-care, career and technical fields of study.

For more information, contact ECCC Student Services, at 601-635-6205 or e-mail rlee@ecc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College held "EC Day" activities at the Neshoba County Fair on July 28. ECCC representatives spoke with potential students and other fairgoers during the day's events. The Warrior Cheerleaders, Ac'cents, Centralettes and the Collegians were among special groups who performed at 1 p.m. at Founders' Square Pavilion during the festivities. The Centralettes also provided entertainment later that evening during the Miss Neshoba County Fair Pageant at the Grandstand. Pictured above Dean of Admissions and Records Deanna Rush and Warrior Path to Success instructor Daniele Brock speaks with a prospective student during the day. For more scenes from "EC Day at the Fair" see page 16.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC's PBL Chapter Receives National Honors: East Central Community College was well represented at the National Phi Beta Lambda Leadership Conference, as an adviser and students representing Theta Chi chapter received various honors at the annual competition held earlier this summer in Nashville. Award winners include (seated from left) Hannah Clark, fifth place, Parliamentary Procedure and Leah Ferguson, 14th place, Small Business Management Plan and Who's Who in Phi Beta Lambda or Mississippi, both of Philadelphia; Patricia Thweatt and Latisha Johnson, 14th place, Business Ethics, both of Decatur; and Jessie Boatner, fourth place, Local Chapter Annual Business Report and fifth place, Parliamentary Procedure, and Virginia Easley, eighth place, Integrated Marketing Campaign and 14th place, Small Business Management Plan, both of Philadelphia; and (standing from left) adviser Thomas Fortenberry of Union, computer networking technology instructor; Chance Lovern of Philadelphia, fifth place, Parliamentary Procedure; participant Josh Bradley of Union; Jeremy Hudson of DeKalb, fifth place, Parliamentary Procedure; Denzel Clemons of Philadelphia, 14th place, Small Business Management Plan; Austin Jordan of Conehatta, fifth place, Parliamentary Procedure; and business technology instructor Christy Ferguson of Philadelphia, who was selected PBL Adviser of the Year in Mississippi. In addition, Theta Chi was one of two state chapters to receive the prestigious Gold Seal recognition.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

EC Receives International Phi Theta Kappa Honors: Students and advisers representing East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa display the various awards received earlier this year at the organization's international convention held in Orlando, Florida. The EC chapter received a Top 25 Most Distinguished College Project award, was recognized as one of the top 100 international chapters and was once again selected a Five-Star Chapter. Pictured are (front row, from left) advisers Chris Ryals (drafting and design technology instructor), Jenna Wright (math instructor) and Amanda Walton (workforce education counselor); and (standing from left) chapter members Kristen Gordy of Forest, Will Myers of Philadelphia; and Zach Allen of Louisville. Phi Theta Kappa is the international honor society for two-year colleges.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

EC Students Receiving National SkillsUSA Honors: These East Central Community College students received awards at the 2014 SkillsUSA National Skills and Leadership Conference held in Kansas City, MO, June 23-28. Jay Riser (from left) of Forest placed 15th in Cabinetmaking; Sheneka Spivey of McCool finished 19th in Restaurant Service; and Tyler Blake Faulkner of Carthage placed 10th in Carpentry. The outstanding students qualified for the national contest by winning first-place honors in their respective areas of competition on the state level.

Page Two

STRIKE A POSE



MARY BOSWELL

**SOPHOMORE • COMPUTER NETWORKING TECHNOLOGY
NOXAPATER**

What goals have you set for yourself this year? *To graduate with the highest grade point average possible.*

What are you most excited about this coming up year? *I'm most excited about seeing all my returning classmates, friends, and teachers.*

What organizations are you apart of? *None*

What is some friendly advice you would give to the upcoming freshman? *Enjoy the college atmosphere but still stay focused on your main priority, your academic studies.*

Since being a "college" student what lesson has taught you the most? *Attend class daily, pay attention, and don't forget to study.*

What are your future plans after EC? *I'm currently undecided on where I will attend college to further my degree.*

— Brooke Smith, staff writer



WARNER PARKES

SOPHOMORE • PRE-DENTAL • NANIH WAIYA

What goals have you set for yourself this year? *The main goal I have set for myself this year is to make the presidents list both semesters.*

What are you most excited about this coming up year? *I'm just excited to meet the entire upcoming freshman class and have an all-around excellent year.*

What organizations are you apart of? *I'm a Student Body Association (SBA) officer, cheerleader, and keep the stats for the basketball team.*

What is some friendly advice you would give the upcoming freshman? *I would advise all freshman to get involved in every extracurricular activity that they can. Campus involvement makes going to school way more fun.*

Since being a "college" student what lesson has taught you the most? *Since being a college student I've learned to study the right way, and use my time wisely.*

What are your future plans after EC? *After EC, I plan to either attend Delta State University or Mississippi State University to continue studying to become a dentist.*



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Members of *The Tom-Tom* newspaper staff's editorial board include (front row, from left) Macken'z Smith of Philadelphia, cartoonist; Kimberly Harrison, of Forest, features editor; DeeJay Rolison, of Decatur, news editor; and (back row, from left) Hannah May, of Little Rock, design editor and Madison Barnett, of Noxapater, editor. Not pictured is Allison Johnson of Philadelphia, opinions editor.

**Reminder: Wear IDs
at All Times!**

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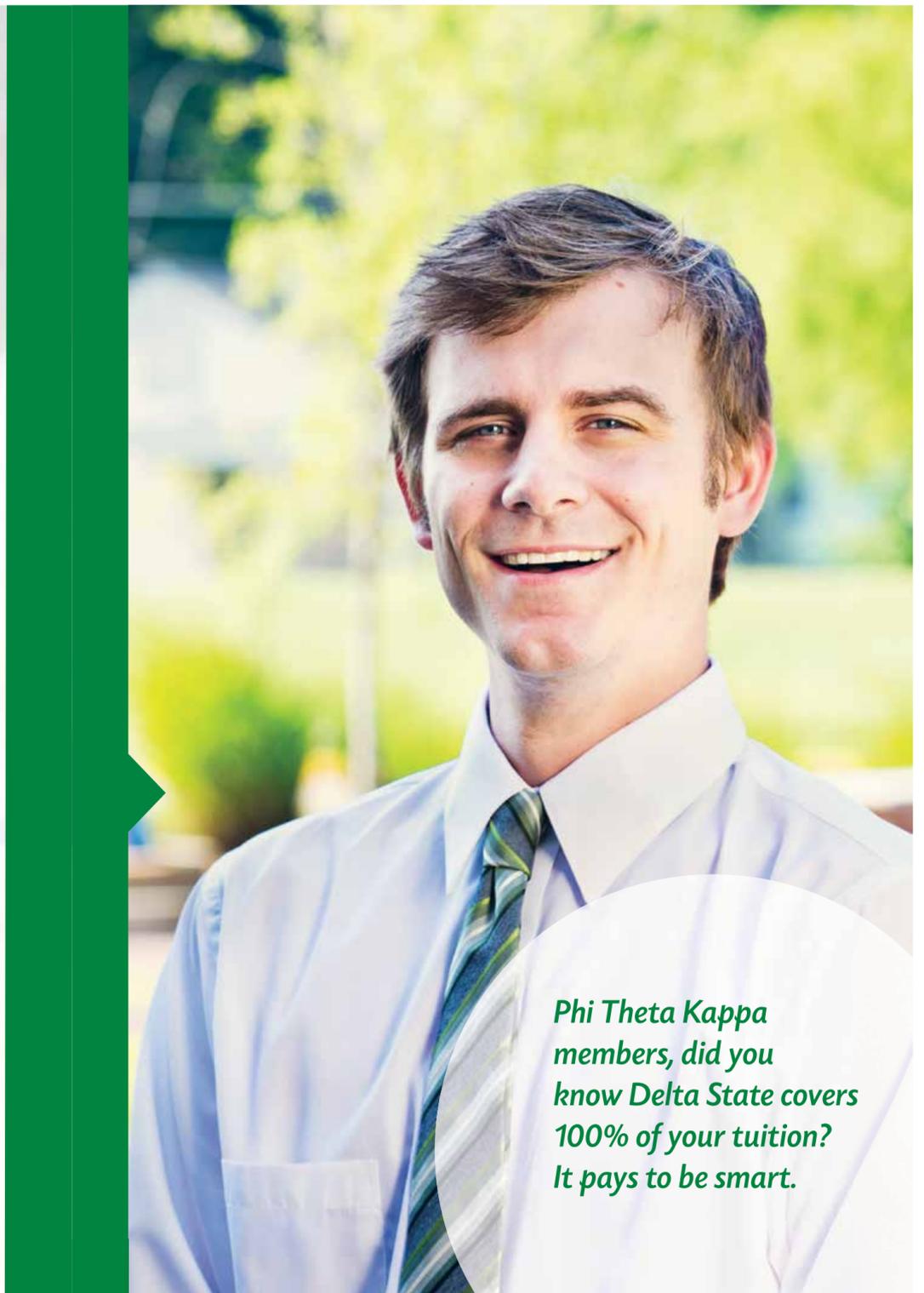
The transition from community college to university is easy at Delta State. Our campus offers small class sizes and commitment to teaching in a community where you live, learn and grow. Transfer credits are accepted for our programs, and with no tuition increase, scholarships and financial aid, Delta State is an affordable option for your next step in life. With over 100 student clubs, it's easy to get involved and make new friends and memories to last a lifetime.

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Phi Theta Kappa members, did you know Delta State covers 100% of your tuition? It pays to be smart.

Welcome Back Week Festivities Set for EC

BY MADISON BARNETT
Editor

Students, faculty and staff at East Central Community College will be welcomed back to campus with fun-filled events. Sponsored by the Student Body Association, the festivities will include a guest speaker Andy Taggart, an Ice Cream Social and slip-n-slide, Picnic with the President, Clubs Unite, a Foam Party/Dance and Meet the Warriors.

"I am so excited about all the things planned for Welcome Back Week!"



MADISON BARNETT
Editor

said SBA President Leah Ferguson. "There are different activities for every type of person. Come one and come all!"

The following events are planned for the campus:

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17

From 2 – 6 p.m. students will move in to their assigned dorms

Supper will be served in the Cafeteria from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

There will be a dorm meeting at 6 p.m. with a special speaker Andy Tag-



FERGUSON

gart at 7p.m.

MONDAY, AUGUST 18

ECCC classes start. There will be an Ice Cream social and slip-n-slide at the pavilion from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 19

Picnic with the President at the pavilion, 5-6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20

Clubs Unite at Brackeen-Wood gym, 6:30-8 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21

Foam party/dance at Brackeen-Wood parking lot, 8:30-11:30 p.m.

MONDAY, AUGUST 25

The SBA will also host the "Meet the Warriors" Night at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, August 25, during which the Wall O' Sound Marching Band, Centralettes, and cheerleaders will perform. Members of the Centralettes, cheerleaders, football team and soccer teams will be introduced.



FILE PHOTO



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

EC Campus Leaders: Pictured above are 2014-2015 student government officers at East Central Community College. Students and their respective hometowns include (from left) Leah Ferguson, Student Body Association (SBA) president, of Philadelphia; Warner Parkes, SBA treasurer, of Nanih Waiya; Hannah Mitchell, SBA vice president, of Meridian; and Addie Ambrosier, SBA secretary, of Magee. Director of Housing/Student Activities Kristi Smith serves as sponsor.

Meet the Warriors, Turf Ribbon Cutting Set

BY KIMBERLY HARRISON
Features Editor



KIMBERLY HARRISON
Features Editor

East Central Community College will host the annual Meet the Warriors event on August 25. But this year not only will the event kick off football and soccer season, it will also be the unveiling and ribbon cutting event for the new synthetic turf field at Bailey Stadium.

Meet the Warriors is considered a "must do" for the year to start off by

many ECCC students. It has been described as a "fun-filled" event that "really starts the football season off right."

Meet the Warriors will begin at 4:45 p.m. on August 25 starting with a picnic on the deck followed by a pep rally at 6:30 at Bailey Stadium. The Wall O' Sound Marching Band members, cheerleaders, Centralettes, men/women's soccer team, and the football team members will also be introduced to their fans.

Reminder: Wear IDs at All Times!



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- Ranked #68 of over 1,200 colleges in Educate to Career's national college survey based on costs of attendance and student employability after graduation
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- 28 undergraduate majors, 28 minors and 13 concentrations
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- A caring, family atmosphere
- An ideal place to learn, grow and serve



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WMCAREY.EDU

Warrior Viewpoints

FROM THE EDITOR

Make College Life Fun

Hello Warriors and Welcome to ECCC! I am Madison Barnett, editor of *The Tom-Tom*. I am thrilled to begin another great year here at East Central! Honestly, East Central was an awesome experience for my first year of college.

For the freshmen, welcome to EC and I really hope you enjoy this year just as much as I did my freshmen year! College life is way different from high school. There are new doors opening, adventures and freedom but don't let having too much freedom ruin your education. Just stay focused and whatever you do, do not give up! You are basically one step closer to your future so don't stop now! You all may have heard the buzz around campus or by e-mail about Welcome Back Week. This week has fun activities going on each day! Wear your IDs because you will more than likely get a fine for not having it on you! Be on time for class. Park where you are supposed to, with a decal declaring whether you are a student or faculty/staff. Walk on the crosswalks. I encourage every single one of you to get involved in a club or activity because being active helps contribute to one having an excellent year here! There are many clubs here at EC and from what I have heard or know. They are extremely active and FUN! I know from experience that you're probably really anxious, nervous or scared but don't fret because college is not as bad as you think! As long as you get involved, stay focused, and don't give up, you will breeze through college really well!

As for the sophomores, welcome back! It is very good to see your faces again. I am pretty sure you know the rules and procedures, so I'm not going to tell you about them but I do encourage ya'll to get involved too! Maybe some of you did not know about the many activities or clubs like others did; well here is your chance to get INVOLVED!

There are many places to visit around EC! The activity center is open to all students and has games, pool, TV and a fitness center. You can take a walk to the park located behind the softball field. Turkey Creek is a beautiful place to visit with your friends and maybe enjoy a swim in the lake! There are many shops downtown and also the Mexican Restaurant if you love to eat!

College is what you make it, so MAKE IT FUN! This year can be adventurous or boring, it all depends on you and what you want it to be!

Enjoy this year and I hope to meet some of you, if not all of you!

—Madison Barnett, editor



MADISON BARNETT
Editor



BY MACKEN'Z SMITH, CARTOONIST

FROM DR. LEE'S DESK

Welcome Back Students

Welcome to East Central Community College. We are excited that you are here and look forward to a great year!

The number one reason for failure in college is absences so do not miss a class. Cramming the night before a test will not work in college, so study hard in advance.

Student Services personnel are here to assist you. You are the reason we are here so let us know how we can help you. We cannot read minds so talk to us so that we can steer you in the right direction. We maintain office hours Monday through Thursday until 6 p.m. and 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Fridays.

Other offices in the Smith Student Union to utilize are the Activity Center - available from 8 a.m. until 10 p.m. Monday - Thursday and until 2:30 p.m. on Fridays. It has areas to relax and play games and a fitness center; the new Student Success Center available 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. daily for a quiet study area and a computer lab; and the Student Grill is open for supper until 7 p.m. each night.

This is going to be an exciting semester! There is so much happening! Take advantage of the various activities and join a club or two as we have more than 40 different student organizations. If you have suggestions about improving campus life, see the Director of Housing & Student Activities, Ms. Kristi Smith (e-mail ksmith@eccc.edu/635-6213).

Speaking of activities and things you do not want to miss... Homecoming 2012 will be here before you know it on Saturday, October 11. ECCC has a day of activities celebrating our traditional "homecoming" of alumni from 60 years back. We encourage you to stay on campus Friday night and attend Homecoming 2014. I challenge student organizations to run as a group in the annual 5K run/walk that morning at 7:30 a.m.

If you need anything at all you can reach me at 635-6375 or e-mail rlee@eccc.edu. The student services' offices are located in the Eddie M. Smith Student Union.

Sincerely,

Dr. Randall E. Lee, Vice President for Student Services



DR. LEE

SBA CHAT

Plans Underway for Student Activities

Hello, Welcome to East Central Community College! I really hope I was the first to welcome you. My name is Leah Ferguson and I am the 2014-2015 Student Body President. The Student Body Association plans several activities that go on at EC such as Welcome Back Week, dances, movie nights, and even Spring Spree! If you are interested in being involved with activities like this then you should look into joining many of the other student organizations on campus! I hope that as your school year goes by, you can find different activities to make your time worthwhile.

Being elected President of the Student Body was such an exciting moment for me last year! I really encourage everyone to go out and be involved in everything that EC has to offer. One of my other favorite organizations is the Baptist Student Union. I have also been elected as one of the presidents and I would love to see new students in the crowd on Monday nights. So let's get the school year started off with new friends and goals!

—Leah Ferguson, SBA President



LEAH FERGUSON
SBA President

OTHER OPINIONS

Surviving College 101

Hello new and returning Warriors! I hope all is well with classes and campus life. If not and you have some questions, I'm here to help! (Maybe. I can certainly try!) Grade trouble? Money probs? I've gathered some advice to help with frequent college issues. Good luck!

To Go to Class or Not to Go to Class?: Go. The number one reason kids drop out of college is missing class. Sure, classes can be early or dull, but you need classes to get a degree. And you need a degree to obtain a job and survive in the world. It's hard work, but worth it.

Failure Isn't an Option (But neither are stress attacks!): Classes can be hard and grades can slip. It's okay to ask for help! Fellow students usually don't mind helping out. Some even tutor as a job. And hey!, some do it for free! Most teachers have a designated time and day when they can be found in the student union to offer help with materials. If that isn't for you, round up some friends and create a study group. If at the end of the day you get a less than satisfactory grade, that's okay! Just try again.

Friends and On-Campus Organizations: Making friends can be tough. Luckily, here at EC we have Welcome Week. It is fun time where there is a different activity planned for each day of the week. I am a fan of the foam party myself. Try going to a few nights of Welcome Week to meet people. Also, try joining some campus organizations that sound appealing to your interests. You can meet people with like interests and make easy friends. Another tip is to try speaking to that cool chick or dude in class. Compliment their shirt, make jokes or even talk about notes. Be friendly and friends will come.

Sleeping Essentials: Rest is very important. It keeps you charged and helps retain information from all the studying that goes on. A little fun fact about exercise is that it does tire your body out, but it can also be used to wake your mind up. It gets the blood flowing. If you have to stay up late, though, try using www.sleepyti.me, which is an online bedtime calculator that will tell you when it is best for you to fall asleep as to avoid waking up sleepy.

Dress: Sophomore staffer DeeJay Rolison adds this piece of advice: "the dress code is here for a reason. I'm almost positive no one cares to see your skin or your underwear. In case you didn't know, the dress code was built by students to help create a better learning environment. Just follow the rules and things will go much smoother."

Hopefully that helps a bit. If not, drop a question by the publications office. Maybe we'll feature it in the next edition of *The Tom-Tom*.

—Aaren Avera, Staff Writer



AAREN AVERA
Staff Writer

EC Developments

The EC Way

I want to take this opportunity to welcome all of our students to the #1 Community College in the State of Mississippi according to the June 14, 2014, edition of the *Clarion Ledger*. East Central Community College (ECCC). Whether you are a returning sophomore or a new freshman, we are so glad you are a part of the Warrior family. Some very exciting things happened at our campus this past year and I am looking forward with great expectation to even greater things this year—the 87th academic session for our institution.

Let me begin by sharing that the exciting developments at our campus are being driven by 2020 Vision. 2020 Vision reflects the culmination of a shared vision for the future of our institution that we began implementing last year. The adoption of this "roadmap for the future" was and will remain an important step in establishing the expectation that ECCC will continue to build upon its history of excellence. During the strategic planning process, our college clarified our vision and mission statements, identified core values, and clearly defined the institutional commitments that will be the main focus of our future efforts to enrich and transform lives through quality educational programs and services offered the "EC Way—Excellence with Class."

We had a busy summer here at ECCC and I hope that you will notice several improvements recently completed and/or ongoing. We have paved and/or striped several parking lots throughout campus. We have added parking at the newly renovated Cross Hall. Speaking of Cross Hall renovations, classes will begin in that facility this fall. We have replaced the carpet in Burton Library as well as flooring in various offices and other areas throughout campus. We have added a sidewalk and are in the process of adding pedestrian lights behind Bailey Stadium so students and employees will no longer walk in the street to get to the Livingston Recreational Trail, Softball Field, and Soccer Field. We have added bicycle racks at three locations around campus for those students who wish to ride their bike to class. We have upgraded several restroom facilities to make them more accessible. We have removed all of the seating from Huff Auditorium and will soon replace those chairs with new, more comfortable seats. We installed new lighting on North Warrior Drive from Highway 15 to the Baseball Field that now lights up that area of campus at night. And of course, we have transformed our football field with the addition of a synthetic turf field that will also be used to host a few soccer games. I hope that you will take the opportunity to walk around campus and personally witness the improvements completed this summer through the efforts of Mr. Artie Foreman, Superintendent of the Physical Plant, and his talented staff. I would also encourage you to take time to thank them for what they do for our college each day. Also, please know that many of these improvements were a result of the input we received and continue to receive from you, our students.

Speaking of responding to input from students, an architect assigned by the Bureau of Building, Grounds, and Real Property Management visited campus this summer and has begun the creation of specifications for renovations to our dormitories. It is anticipated that these renovations will be phased-in over several summers due to the cost to renovate each residence hall. I am hopeful that the first phase will be completed during the summer of 2015. In addition, students will soon have the opportunity to experience a coffee house environment in the lobby of Burton Library. Our food service partner, Valley Services, will be staffing a café in the lobby so we invite you to come by when the setup is complete and enjoy some great coffee as you fellowship with one another.

Studies show that involvement in campus activities greatly enhances student success in college and enhances the quality of the student experience. Therefore, I want to encourage you to participate in the many student clubs and organizations as well as the intramural program offered at ECCC. I also want to encourage you to attend campus-wide events such as athletic contests, Homecoming, and other college activities. Stay connected to East Central while you are here. I look forward to seeing all of you around campus and at all of our campus activities.

—Dr. Billy Stewart, ECCC President



By Billy W. Stewart, Ph.D.

OTHER OPINIONS

New Full-time Status Will Help Students

I want to be completely honest about this. I think it can be seen as a good thing to make students full-time at 15 hours, but adding that extra three hours to the already overly-stressed life of most college students is challenging.

I'll use myself as an example: I'm a member of Ac'cents, the Wall O' Sound Band, Encore, The East Central Concert Choir, *The Tom-Tom* and the *Wo-He-Lo*. I'm currently taking 20 hours because most of the scholarships I receive and activities I'm in require at least one credit hour, and some even require extra time outside of my schedule. Excluding Band, Choir and Ac'cents, I'm at 17 hours, and I added an extra academic course to my schedule so that I would be able to drop a course if it became absolutely necessary.

While there are negative aspects to this change, there are also some positive aspects to consider. Fifteen hours will require the students to challenge themselves and to accept more responsibility. Once students graduate/transfer from East Central, most of them go off to a university, a technical school, or another community college.

The 15-hour minimum change will help prepare students for whatever comes after East Central. Although it seems unfair or overly difficult, this change is for the best, and it will probably help us in the long run.

—DeeJay Rolison, News Editor



DEEJAY ROLISON
News Editor

The Tom-Tom is a student publication of East Central Community College in Decatur, Miss. It is published by the Office of Public Information. For more information, contact the staff at P.O. Box 129, Decatur, MS, 39327 or by phone at 601-635-2111, ext. 364, or toll free at 1-877-462-3222.

Accreditation
East Central Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools 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.

Notice of Non-Discrimination
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 non-discrimination 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.
Inquiries regarding compliance with Section 504 and ADA is coordinated by Dr. Randall Lee, Vice President of Student Services, Eddie M. Smith Student Union, Room 201, Post Office Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, Phone: 601-635-6375, Fax: 601-635-3247, rlee@eccc.edu.

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Design Editor: Hannah May	Proofreader: Ashley Bozeman
News Editor: DeeJay Rolison	Adviser: Gennie Phillips
Staff writers/photographers: Candice Stewart Dominick Fields	Samantha Morgan Aaren Avera Katy Ezelle Brooke Smith

EC Selects 2014 Homecoming Honorees

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Recipients of Alumni of the Year and Athletic Hall of Fame honors were recently selected at East Central Community College.

The prestigious group will receive special recognition during Homecoming activities scheduled Saturday, October 11, 2014.

Cheryl Lynne Comans (Class of 1981) of Cleveland was chosen Alumna of the Year and Dr. Michael W. Waldrop (Class of 1968) of Clinton was selected Alumnus of the Year.

New members of the Athletic Hall of Fame are former football standouts Richard Fulmer (Class of 1959) of Deatsville, Ala., and Troy Henderson (Class of 1954) of Raymond.

Comans, a Decatur native, serves as Customer Service Manager for Entergy Mississippi, Inc., for the Cleveland, Greenwood, Grenada and Winona areas and previously served as manager for the Vicksburg area. She began her employment with Entergy in 1986 and has received numerous honors throughout her career.

Comans is a current member of ECCC Alumni Association Board of Directors and served as Association president in 2009-10.

Waldrop, formerly of Morton, was a longtime educator in Senatobia prior to assuming his current position as Executive Director and Workers' Compensation Trust Administrator for the Mississippi School Boards Association (MSBA). He served as Deputy Executive Director of MSBA from 2000 to 2004, before being named Executive Director.

He served as Superintendent of the Senatobia Municipal School District from 1987 to 2000 after previous serving stints as Special Education Program Developer, Curriculum and Federal Projects Coordinator, Middle School Principal, and Assistant Superintendent. Waldrop began his career as a teacher and coach at Senatobia High School in 1971.

Henderson, a Forest native, was a two-year letterman at ECCC and was recognized as one of the league's outstanding defensive end and offensive halfback. He continued his athletic career as a member of the Maxwell Base Mentors while serving in the U.S. Air Force. Following his honorable discharge from the Air Force, Henderson attended Louisiana College, where he was a standout defensive end and punter on the 1960 and 1961 Wildcat squads.

He recently retired as Vice President for Physical Plant and Auxiliary Services at Hinds Com-

munity College in Raymond.

Fulmer, a Montgomery, Alabama, native, also began his post-high school career on a military team during his stint with the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict. Since he was drafted during his senior year in high school, he qualified to play three years at East Central, first as a senior at Newton County Agricultural High School, located at that time on the EC campus, followed by two years as an ECCC student-athlete. Fulmer continued his career in semi-pro football as a member of the Montgomery Confederates of the North American Football League for two seasons.

Fulmer is retired as a self-employed manufacturing sales representative.

The Homecoming honorees will receive special recognition at the annual Alumni Association Awards Luncheon scheduled at 11 a.m. in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

Homecoming activities begin with the annual 5K Run/Walk/One-Mile Fun Run starting at 7:30 a.m. near the Pavilion on North Campus. Registration for the annual competition begins at 7 a.m.

Registration for alumni attending Homecoming 2014 begins at 9 a.m. at the Founders Gym breezeway. During this time, retired ECCC faculty member Ovid Vickers will sign copies of his recently published book, "The East Central I Knew."

Refreshments will be available during registration.

The Memorabilia Room in Burton Library and the newly renovated Cross Hall Science Building will be open for tours from 9 to 11 a.m.

Also scheduled is the biennial Diamond Warrior Alumni Game beginning at 10:30 a.m. at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex. Player registration is set for 10 a.m. at the baseball stadium.

Reunions are scheduled for various groups beginning at 1 p.m. at the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

This year's honorees include the Classes of 1957, 1958 and 1959; Class of 1964, whose members will receive Golden Anniversary Diplomas during a special ceremony; Class of 1949; the 1994 Lady Warrior Basketball Team; and members of all classes ending in "4".

The annual Warrior Club meeting is scheduled for 1 p.m. on the deck inside Bailey Stadium.

The Lil' Warrior Kid Zone is once again available for youngsters. Activities are scheduled from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. inside Bailey Stadium.

Homecoming activities conclude with the Warriors' battle with Jones County Junior College. The MACJC South Division matchup kicks off at 2:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium.

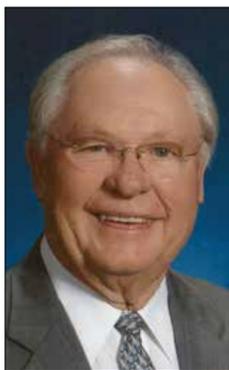
Halftime activities include recognition of Homecoming honorees, presentation of the queen and her court and a full performance by

the Wall O' Sound Marching Band.

For more information on Homecoming 2014, contact Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations, at 601-635-6327 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 327. The email address is sholling@eccc.edu.



COMANS



FULMER



WALDROP



HENDERSON

NOTICE!

Safety Memo: Natural Gas Safety

Natural gas is one of the safest, most reliable, efficient, and environmentally friendly fuels in use today delivering natural gas for heating, water heating, and cooking as well as other natural gas appliances. Natural gas for East Central Community is delivered through a jurisdictional natural gas pipeline system. Like any form of energy, though, it must be handled responsibly. East Central Community College is known as a Master Meter Operator and has valves, regulators, and pressure stations on campus. Always remember safety first when operating natural gas appliances of any kind.

Natural gas is a nontoxic, colorless, and odorless fuel that is lighter than air. This lighter-than-air quality is an important safety factor. If a leak occurs, natural gas will mix readily with air and rise into the atmosphere. As a safety measure the natural gas that is piped to your home or business has a harmless odor similar to rotten eggs so that you can easily detect even the smallest amount of gas that might escape.

From design and construction to operations and maintenance, natural gas utilities like ours set high standards to keep natural gas pipelines incident-free.

Damage Prevention

Although safe, tested, and regulated, the system's most common hazard is from 3rd party damage from excavation. Before any excavations are done, contact Dig Safety - Mississippi One-Call System, Inc. 1800-227-6477 or 811 and call East Central Community College at 601-635-6266. Always call before you dig. It's as easy as dialing 8..1..1, and it's the law!

Detecting A Natural Gas Leak

Natural gas is one of the safest, most reliable, and environmentally friendly fuels in use today, but leaks can occur. There are three key ways to recognize a natural gas leak.

- ~ Look. Blowing dirt, bubbling creeks or ponds, dry spots in moist areas or dead plants surrounded by green, live plants also may indicate a natural gas leak.
- ~ Listen. An unusual hissing sound near gas lines or appliances may indicate a natural gas leak.
- ~ Smell. In its raw state, natural gas is colorless and odorless. Natural gas utility companies add a substance called mercaptan to create the familiar, rotten-egg-like odor usually associated with natural gas. You should take action even if you detect only a faint odor of natural gas in the air.

Natural Gas Safety Tips:

Here are some key words to help you remember what to do if a natural gas leak is suspected:

- ~ Leave. Leave the area immediately. Do not try to find or stop the leak.
- ~ Don't Touch. Do not smoke, use a cell phone, flashlight, turn on or off any lights or appliances or operate any kind of vehicle or equipment that could create a spark.
- ~ Dial. Immediately notify us. If a leak is suspected call the following number 601-635-6266 or 601-917-6119.

Remember - Never try to find the leak yourself!!!

To Report a Gas Leak call East Central Community College at 601-635-6266 or 601-917-6119 or Campus Police at 601-527-8939.

For additional information, contact East Central Community College 601-635-6266 or 601-635-6298.



2014 Schedule



August 28
MS Delta
@ Moorhead
7 p.m.



September 4
Coahoma
@ Clarksdale
7 p.m.



September 11
MS Gulf Coast
@ Decatur
6:30 p.m.



September 18
Holmes
@ Decatur
6:30 p.m.



September 25
CO-LIN
@ Wesson
7 p.m.



October 2
Hinds
@ Raymond
6:30 p.m.



October 11
Jones (HC)
@ Decatur
2:30 p.m.



October 18
Southwest
@ Summit
5 p.m.



October 23
Pearl River
@ Decatur
6:30 p.m.

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

P.O. Box 129 • Decatur, MS 39327 • 1-877-462-3222 • www.eccc.edu

East Central Community College is an equal educational and employment opportunity provider.

Clublicity



ECCC Centralettes – Dance Line for Wall O’ Sound Marching Band: The East Central Community College Centralettes, the danceline for the Wall O’ Sound Marching Band, were among special groups who performed July 28 at Founders’ Square Pavilion during “EC Day” activities at the Neshoba County Fair. They also provided entertainment later that evening during the Miss Neshoba County Fair Pageant at the Grandstand. Centralettes and their respective hometowns include (front row, from left) Courtney Hamilton, Madden; Grayson Harrell, Morton; Lauren Cassel, Union; Kaylee Yates, Decatur; Ashley Young and Jordan Lovorn, both of Louisville; Hannah Mitchell, Meridian; Meshach Martin, Newton; Delia Wilder, Carthage; La’Kimberly Patrick, Forest; Cara Jackson, Louisville; and Mackenzie Gannon, Decatur; and (back row, from left) Kelli Boulton, Decatur; Taylor Alexander, Megan Robinson and Joelle Hill, all of Louisville; Malorie Hunt, Collinsville; Jessica Moffett, Meridian; Emily Cook, Carthage; Anna Claire Webb, Noxapater; Brittney Rawson, Forest; Sydney Keith, Philadelphia; and Kaley Bufkin, Decatur. Also pictured is Tina Sanders of Little Rock who serves as coordinator/choreographer.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Third in State: East Central Community College finished third overall in the 2013-14 Mississippi Community and Junior College Press Association Yearbook Competition. Members of the 2013-14 *Wo-He-Lo* yearbook staff include (front row, from left) Samantha Morgan of Louisville, Bailey Easterling of Forest, Anna Girling of Carthage, DeeJay Rolison of Conehatta, Shannon McNeil of Sebastopol, and Emily Cook of Carthage, assistant editors; Madison Herrington of Union and Payton Smith of Forest, senior assistant editors; and Conor Bell of Carthage, editor; and (second row, from left) Brianna Parkman of Lake, Will Stokes of Philadelphia, Allie Killens of Saitlo, Brooke Smith of Noxapater, Estefania Olmedo of Carthage, Madison Barnett of Noxapater, Kimberly Harrison of Forest and Dominick Fields of Forest.

Wo-He-Lo Takes Third Place in State Competition

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College was one of eight Mississippi Community and Junior Colleges participating in the 2013-14 Mississippi Community and Junior College Press Association Yearbook Competition. ECCC’s *Wo-He-Lo* finished third overall.

Category placings for ECCC include: cover, tied for first; theme, tied for first; typography, second; copy, second; structure, third; design, third; and photography, seventh.

Jones County Junior College took the overall top honor followed by Northwest Commu-

nity College in second. The remaining order of overall finish was: Southwest Community College, fourth; Itawamba Community College, fifth; Holmes Community College, sixth; Northeast Community College, seventh; and Gulf Coast Community College, eighth.

The 2013-14 yearbook staff members include Samantha Morgan of Louisville, Payton Smith, Kimberly Harrison, Katlyn Patrick, Brady Power, Matthew Evans, Dominick Fields and Bailey Easterling, all of Forest; Anna Girling, Emily Cook, Estefania Olmedo and Conor Bell, all of Carthage; Martin Johnson of Nanih Waiya,

DeeJay Rolison of Conehatta, Shannon McNeil of Sebastopol, Madison Herrington of Union, Brianna Parkman of Lake, Will Stokes of Philadelphia, Allie Killens of Saitlo, Claire Griffin, Axie Jones and Zach Yates, all of Decatur; and Brooke Smith and Madison Barnett, both of Noxapater.

Serving on the *Wo-He-Lo* editorial board were Morgan, Easterling, Girling, Rolison, Cook and McNeil, all assistant editors; Herrington and Smith, both senior assistant editors; and Bell, editor. ECCC Publications Coordinator Gennie Phillips of Forest serves as adviser.

EC Announces 2014-15 Show Choir Members

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

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 Kaisahanna 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.

EC’s Allen Elected PTK Regional President

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College freshman Zachary Allen of Louisville was elected President of the Mississippi/Louisiana Region of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of the two-year college.

Elections were held during the group’s annual convention held March 21-23 at Jones County Junior College in Ellisville.

Allen was earlier selected incoming President of ECCC’s Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa and will serve concurrently in both positions during his sophomore year.

“I decided to run for regional president because I felt that I could better engage myself to better serve my community not only on East Central’s campus but throughout the Mississippi/Louisiana Region,” Allen said. “I am looking forward to developing projects to serve my community. I plan to lead Theta Xi to be the Distinguished Chapter of the Region and to make our regional chapter the Most Distinguished Chapter internationally.”

Amanda Walton, Theta Xi co-adviser, said, “We decided to run Zach for president and



ALLEN

his speech was nothing short of amazing! He spoke of how our chapter was going places, not unlike our college, which was just named the 23rd fast growing community college in the nation.

“This opportunity to represent the Mississippi/Louisiana region as President is the first stepping stone for Theta Xi to be the Most Distinguished Chapter in the world by doing things the EC way: Excellence with Class.”

Allen is a 2013 honor graduate of Winston Academy, where he was named to the Hall of Fame and received the Citizenship Award. He also received

the Citizenship and Spanish Awards, was a Boys’ State Delegate and was selected Most Intellectual and Most Likely to Succeed during Who’s Who elections.

He served as Senior Class president and was a member of the Honor Society, Gazette staff, Student Council, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and tennis and track teams. He served as captain of the Quiz Bowl team and was named 2013 MAIS AA Outstanding Honor Society Member.

At East Central, he is a member of Warrior Corps and Students Against Destructive Decisions.

Allen has served on the Mayor’s Youth Council, volunteered for the Boys and Girls Club and the Winston County Library, received a Presidential Community Service Award, and has been involved in many local, state and national political campaigns.

He is a member of the South Louisville Baptist Church Youth Group and placed superior in the Mississippi Southern Baptist Association Bible Drills.

Along with Walton, Jenna Wright and Chris Ryals also serve as Theta Xi advisers.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Smith Addresses ECCC Gospel Choir Members: Jerry Smith (right) of Philadelphia provided remarks for the East Central Community College Gospel Choir Banquet. Smith, who serves as vice chairman of the ECCC Board of Trustees, spoke on the topic, “Making and Maintaining Lifelong Relationships.” Smith urged choir members “to be selective” with their relationships and “to always make right decisions.” In addition, he emphasized the importance of communication skills. “Students must be able to communicate effectively in order to achieve success in whatever field they choose for a profession.” The program was held in the Molly McGee Gold Room in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Mrs. Brenda K. Johnson serves as Gospel Choir adviser.

ECCC PBL Adviser, Student Honored at National Conference

East Central Community College business technology instructor Christy Ferguson (left) and her daughter, sophomore Leah Ferguson, both of Philadelphia, received special recognition at the National Phi Beta Lambda Conference held earlier this summer in Nashville. Christy Ferguson was recognized as PBL Adviser of the Year in Mississippi, and Leah was selected for Who’s Who in Phi Beta Lambda for Mississippi. Leah also placed 14th with other Theta Chi chapter members in the Small Business Management Plan competition. The Fergusons have been affiliated with FBLA-PBL for a combined 20 years. Several students representing the two-year college also received honors at the annual competition. In addition, Theta Chi was one of only two state chapters to receive the prestigious Gold Seal recognition.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



We Want Your News!

E-mail information about your club/organization to gphillips@eccc.edu with identification and any happenings.

Faculty Corner

LeBrun Selected EC Dean of e-Learning

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Dr. Krista M. LeBrun of Meridian was recently selected Dean of e-Learning at East Central Community College, announced ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

"I am confident that Dr. LeBrun, under the leadership of Dr. Teresa Houston (Vice President for Instruction), will serve ECCC and our e-Learning students well," said Dr. Stewart. "Also, I am confident that she has a desire to help the college fulfill our 2020 Vision as she demonstrated knowledge of our strategic plan during her interview."

Dr. LeBrun, who began her new duties on May 1, 2014, previously served as Director of e-Learning at Meridian Community College since 2010. She earlier served as Distance Learning Coordinator.

She is also a former online academic adviser and interim director of online marketing for the University of West Alabama in Livingston.

In addition, Dr. LeBrun is a former adjunct instructor at MCC and UWA.

She began her career in education as a computer instructor at the Meridian Activity Center and later served as an elemen-



LEBRUN

tary school teacher from 2004-07 for the Lauderdale County School District.

Dr. LeBrun is a member of numerous professional organizations and currently serves as Mississippi Virtual Community College (MSVCC) e-Learning Association President for 2014-15. She also serves as Chair of the eLearning Association Support Committee. Dr. LeBrun will also represent ECCC at the Mississippi Community College Leadership Academy (MCCLA) this year.

She is also a member of the Association for Advancement in Computing in Education (AACE), the International So-

ciety for Technology in Education (ISTE), the American Association for Community Colleges (AACCL) and the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi and the Honor Society of Kappa Delta Pi.

After receiving her GED diploma, Dr. LeBrun continued her education by earning an associate's degree from Meridian Community College in 2004; a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Mississippi State University-Meridian in 2006; a master's degree in curriculum and instruction in adult education with emphasis in distance learning at the University of Phoenix (online) in 2008; and a doctorate in instructional leadership with emphasis in instructional technology from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, in 2012.

She was recognized as a dean's list scholar at MCC and a president's scholar at MSU-Meridian, where she twice received the William Winter Scholarship. She was a recipient of the Susan D. Bedsole Scholarship at the University of Alabama.

Dr. LeBrun is married to Patrick R. LeBrun, a Meridian police officer. They have a daughter, Lorelei M. LeBrun.

Case Returns to EC Staff as VP

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

David Case was recently selected Vice President for Institutional Research and Effectiveness at East Central Community College, announced ECCC President Dr. Billy W. Stewart.

Case, who began his new duties on May 1, 2014, previously served as Director of Monitoring at the Mississippi Community College Board in Jackson, where he assisted in developing an improved statewide audit system for community colleges for more than 80,000 students.

Case has more than 21 years of experience in higher education, which includes 18 years of service at ECCC, where he first served as Director of Technology Management and later as Dean of Admissions, Records and Research.

While at ECCC, Case was actively involved in the devel-



CASE

into the needs of ECCC and is excited about the opportunity to assist us in our endeavors to fulfill 2020 Vision," said Dr. Stewart.

A graduate of Jim Hill High School in Jackson, Case received a bachelor's degree in engineering from the University of Mississippi and earned a master's degree in business administration from Millsaps College. He has completed additional coursework toward a doctorate in management science at the University of Alabama.

He is married to the former Paige Sullivan of Brookhaven, a Spanish and English instructor on the high school and collegiate levels. They have three daughters, Karen Elizabeth and Catherine Lovorn, both upperclassmen at Mississippi State University in Starkville, and Mary Madelon, a high school senior.

opment and submissions of the college's 10-year reaffirmation report to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. He was also involved in educational research for a number of years.

"Mr. Case has unique insight

Smith Selected EC Director of Housing & Student Activities

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Kristi J. Smith of Decatur was recently selected Director of Housing and Student Activities at East Central Community College, announced ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

Smith, an ECCC alumna, began her new duties on July 1, 2014. She previously served as an English, reading and written communications teacher at Newton County Middle School since 2003. In addition, she served as head varsity cheer coach.

After receiving her associate's

degree at ECCC, Smith continued her education by earning a bachelor of science degree in elementary education from Mississippi State University-Meridian in 2002 followed by a master's degree in elementary education from MSU-Meridian in 2008, where she was inducted in the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.

Smith is married to Ryan Smith, a native of Noxapater. They have four children, Kaillee, Kaden, Kye and Kollins. They are active members of Clarke-Venable Baptist Church in Decatur.



SMITH



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Administrative Assistants Honored: These East Central Community College staff members were honored for years of service at the annual Administrative Assistants Appreciation Luncheon held. Ginnie Barker (left) of Philadelphia was recognized for 28 years of service, and Karen Robertson (center) of Decatur and Linda McKee of Lake were each honored for 20 years of service. Barker is administrative assistant at the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center, a division of ECCC. Robertson serves as administrative assistant to the Vice President for Public Information, and McKee is administrative assistant for Workforce Education. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart presented certificates of appreciation to the honorees at the annual event, held April 21, 2014, in the Molly McGee Gold Room in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Retirees: The above East Central Community College retirees were honored during the college's end-of-the-year luncheon held May 9, 2014 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Pictured are (seated, from left) Ann Durham of Forest (English instructor), Maudean Sanders (Dean of Institutional Effectiveness) and Brenda Johnson (Computer Technology instructor), both of Philadelphia; and Stella Dickerson (Computer Technology instructor) of Union; and (standing, from left) Paula Kerr (ABE/GED® Data Input Manager) of Newton, R.T. Purvis (Information Technology Specialist) of Decatur, Danny Gressett (Precision Machining Technology) of Little Rock, Chris Jenkins (Dean of eLearning) of Meridian and Roger Whitlock (Dean of Workforce Education and Development) of Union.



Johnston Honored for CPRAM Service: Bubby Johnston (left), vice president for public information at East Central Community College, receives a plaque of appreciation for his service as past president of the College Public Relations Association of Mississippi (CPRAM) from incoming president Danny Blanton, director of public relations at the University of Mississippi in Oxford. The presentation was made during the 2014 CPRAM Conference held May 19-20 in Tupelo.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Daigle Selected EC Science Instructor

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Sharli Moulds Daigle was recently selected biology instructor at East Central Community College.

Daigle, who will begin her full-time duties this fall, previously served as an adjunct biology instructor at ECCC in 2011 and since the fall of 2013. She joins ECCC after previously serving as an environmental engineer at ESCO Corporation in Newton.

Daigle and her husband, Joel Daigle, own Signature D Hors-

es where she is a horse trainer.

A 2006 ECCC graduate, Sharli Daigle, was a graduate assistant while completing her master of arts in teaching in biology from the University of West Alabama. She earned her bachelor of science degree in environmental science in 2009 followed by her master's degree in 2010, both from UWA.

Daigle attends Decatur Church of God.

In addition, she is an avid horseman and a member of the National Barrel Horse Association.



DAIGLE

Savell Joins EC IT Department

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Robert Savell of Conehatta was recently selected IT software support specialist at East Central Community College.

Savell, who recently began his new duties at ECCC, previously served as regional technician/helpdesk support specialist at Community Bank since 2004.

He previously served as computer technician for Magee Enterprises, Inc. in Brandon.

After receiving his associate's

degree from ECCC in 2000, Savell earned his bachelor's degree in business administration from Mississippi State University in 2002. Savell continued his education by earning a master's of science in instructional technology degree from MSU in 2003.

Savell is a native of Lake. He is married to Diane Savell, who is also an ECCC alum and a native of Meridian. They have two children, Parker, 6 and Jamey, 4. They are active members of Salem Baptist Church in Lake.



SAVELL

Faculty Corner

Lee Selected EC Sociology Instructor

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Michelle Li Lee was recently selected sociology instructor at East Central Community College.

Lee, who will begin her full-time duties this fall, previously served as an adjunct sociology instructor at ECCC and East Mississippi Community College. She also taught marriage and family at EMCC. She earlier served as an English instructor and AmericaCorps tutor and supervisor with ECCC.

She is also a former pre-school and Spanish teacher.

Lee said her favorite part of teaching besides the fact that she is "endlessly intrigued by my subject matter" is the students.

"I learn so much from my students and I feel so privileged to



LEE

get to know so many great people," Lee said. "I am regularly moved by their intelligence and insight and their kindness."

Lee has lived in 11 states and is originally from Maine but said she considers Mississippi her home.

"I love the state of MS and its

unique history, people and culture," Lee said.

The 1998 graduate of ECCC earned her bachelor of arts degree in social sciences in 2008 from Southern New Hampshire University in Brunswick, Maine and her masters of arts in teaching degree with emphasis in sociology in 2013 from Mississippi State University-Meridian.

Lee is married to her husband of 26 years, Dr. Randall E. Lee. They have two grown children, one daughter and one son, and a daughter-in-law, and their first grandchild is "on the way."

She is active in the MS Auxiliary of the Gideons International, and she is a member of Beulah Baptist Church in Little Rock where she teaches Sunday School to the youth.

Wilhite Selected EC eLearning Coordinator

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Christa Wilhite of Lauderdale was recently selected e-Learning coordinator at East Central Community College.

Wilhite, who recently began her new duties at ECCC, previously served as director of e-Learning at the Holladay Center for eLearning at Meridian Community College. Prior to assuming the director's role, she served as eLearning support specialist for MCC.

She is also a former coordinator of the online testing center for the Office of Information Technology at University of West Alabama, where she served from January 2011 until November 2012.

In addition to her service in the Office of Information Technology at UWA, Wilhite is a former online academic advisor for UWA's Division of Online Programs.

After receiving her Bachelor of Science in psychology from the University of West Alabama in 2005, Wilhite continued her education by earning a Master of Science in Continuing Education with emphasis in counseling and psychology at UWA in 2006. She is currently pursuing her Doctorate of Philosophy in educational psychology from the University of Alabama.

She was a recipient of the Paul W. Terry Scholarship at UA in 2010-11 and the Trustee Scholarship at UWA from 2001-2004.



WILHITE

Wilhite is married to Michael Wilhite of Little Rock. She is the daughter of Joe and Janis Sayers of Lauderdale.

White Joins EC Financial Aid Department

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Leslie K. White of Philadelphia was recently selected Financial Aid administrative assistant at East Central Community College.

White, who began her duties July 14, was previously employed at Newton County Bank in Newton.

The 2008 graduate of ECCC said she was excited to return to her alma mater. "It feels like home to me," White said. "I was welcomed back with open arms."

Working with the Financial Aid Department is something she said she is enjoying.

"I love helping people and working with students," White



WHITE

said about her new position.

In addition, she said she is excited to reunite with the ECCC

family only this time, not as a student but as a member of the college personnel.

"I look forward to being able to work with and help students and to attend sporting events on campus with my family," White said.

The Scott Central High School graduate is pursuing her bachelor's degree, which she plans to complete in December of this year, at Mississippi State University-Meridian.

White has been married to Matthew White for nine years. They have a six-year-old daughter, Audri Ann.

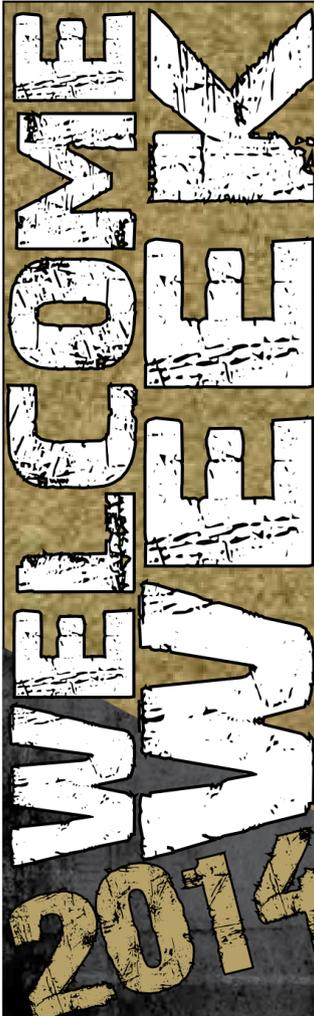
They are members of Longino Baptist Church in Philadelphia, where Leslie White works with the youth group.

STOP BEFORE YOU DROP

...that Class

- Be aware of Refund dates. If you drop a class, you will still have to pay for it!
- Dropping a class may affect your financial aid status for Pell grants and student loans now and in future semesters. Ask a Financial Aid Office employee to be sure!
- Dropping a class may affect scholarships, VA benefits, and other aid programs. Be aware that in most cases you will lose money, and you may lose the entire scholarship or benefits. Ask the VA representative in the Admissions Office how dropping a class will affect your VA funds. Ask someone in the Financial Aid Office to be sure how dropping classes will affect you and your scholarships or other aid programs!
- Dropping to less than full-time status (15 hours) may adversely affect automobile or medical insurance coverage.
- Have you talked to your instructor about dropping the class? Ask your instructor for advice! Hang in there if you can!
- Is the class a prerequisite for another class you need? Will dropping this class delay graduation or transfer plans? Ask your advisor to be sure!
- Are you working too many hours? If so, is there another solution? More work hours often leads to lower grades.
- If after careful consideration you decide to drop a course, please complete the appropriate paperwork.

GET INVOLVED with Campus Life!



August 17
Mandatory Dorm Meetings
6 p.m. • Brackeen-Wood Gym

August 18
Ice Cream Social & Slip-n-Slide
6:30-7:30 p.m. • Pavilion

August 19
Picnic with the President
5-6:30 p.m. • Pavilion

August 20
Clubs Unite
6:30-8 p.m.
Brackeen-Wood Gym

August 21
Foam Party/Dance
8:30-11:30 p.m.
Brackeen-Wood Parking Lot

August 25
Meet the Warriors
Bailey Stadium • 6:30 p.m.



EAST CENTRAL
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2014 Warrior Soccer Schedule

Friday, August 22	Southwest	Summit	2/4 p.m.
Saturday, August 23	Meridian	Meridian	5/7 p.m.
Tuesday, August 26	Co-Lin	Wesson	4/6:30 p.m.
Friday, August 29	MS Gulf Coast	Decatur	3/5 p.m.
Wednesday, September 3	Jones	Ellisville	5/7 p.m.
Tuesday, September 9	Itawamba	Decatur	3/5 p.m.
Friday, September 12	Northwest	Senatobia	2/4 p.m.
Tuesday, September 16	Hinds	Raymond	5/7 p.m.
Friday, September 19	Holmes	Decatur	2/4 p.m.
Tuesday, September 23	Pearl River	Poplarville	5/7 p.m.
Friday, September 26	Southwest	Decatur	2/4 p.m.
Tuesday, September 30	Co-Lin	Decatur	5/7 p.m.
Friday, October 3	Meridian	Decatur	3/5 p.m. MW
Friday, October 10	Itawamba	Fulton	2/4 p.m.
Wednesday, October 15	Northwest	Decatur	2/4 p.m.
Friday, October 17	Hinds	Decatur	2/4 p.m.
Wednesday, October 22	Holmes	Ridgeland	12/2 p.m.
Friday, October 24	Pearl River	Decatur	2/4 p.m.
Tuesday, October 28	Quarterfinals	#2 Seed Home	TBD
Saturday, November 1	State Tourney	Semi-Finals	TBD
Sunday, November 2	State Tourney	Finals	TBD



EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
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ECCC Wall O' Sound Band Exhibition: East Central Community College's Wall O' Sound Marching Band completed Band Camp activities with the annual Exhibition performance August 8, 2014. The 175-plus musicians provided a preview of this year's halftime show, "We Will Rock You," featuring songs by Queen. A large crowd was on hand to watch the Wall O' Sound's performance on the band practice field. Hunter Corhern serves as director of bands and Ed Girling is assistant director. The Wall O' Sound will be led by drum majors Katie Sanford of Decatur, Sarah Hall of Philadelphia, and Louise Berryhill and Danielle Horne, both of Union.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Practical Nursing Program Graduates: Careers in the healthcare field await the above graduates of East Central Community College's Practical Nursing Program, who received special recognition at the annual pinning ceremony held July 29 2014, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. Students who completed the 12-month program and their respective hometowns include (first row, from left) Savannah Hillman, Conehatta; Brooklynn Paige Boyette, Noxapater; Traitia Foster, Meridian; Candace Irine Bradley, Rose Hill; Alyssa Norwood and Miriam Williams, both of Decatur; Stephanie Hope Linch, Louisville; Sharonnie Barney, Bailey; and Callie Craig, Carthage; (second row, from left) Arianna Creekmore, Philadelphia; Hope Ware, Union; Jenah Brown, Meridian; Amy Ishee, Bay Springs; Heather Hannah, Louisville; LaShondra Hall and Brittani Rhoney, both of Meridian; Ashleigh Hutson, Pulaski; and Ashley Green and Crystal Carter, both of Meridian; Allyson Nichols, Morton and Hadley Shea Tate, Philadelphia; and (third row, from left) Christy Wilson, instructor; Tommy Kelley, Meridian; Kelli Dailey, Decatur; Natalia Jones, Pachuta; Conashya Headd, Louisville; Tony Alford and Sean Johnson, both of Forest; Vicki Brown (Practical Nursing Student of the Year), Carthage; Lauren Humphries, Decatur; and Theresa Cole, instructor. A tribute to deceased classmate Chris Ganaan of Carthage was provided by Vicki Brown and Stephanie Hope Linch. Ganaan, who lost his life earlier this year in an automobile accident, was described "as a joy to be around. His smile could brighten the darkest room and he will forever be missed. May each of us remember what a compassionate, caring young man Chris was, one who would have made an amazing nurse. Tonight we accept these pins in honor of Chris." For more information, contact Denita Thomas, dean of healthcare education,



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Thigpen Attends ECCC Orientation: Rodney Thigpen (left) of Bay Springs was among area students who attended orientation activities held July 11 at East Central Community College. The Bay Springs High School graduate is shown planning his fall semester class schedule with assistance from Sheri Anders, early childcare education technology instructor. Fall classes begin Monday, August 18. For more information, contact ECCC Student Services, at 601-635-6205 or e-mail rllee@ecc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Special Tribute for ECCC Nursing Student: Chris Ganann of Carthage was on schedule to complete the Practical Nursing Program at East Central Community College. However, his young life was cut short due to an automobile accident earlier this year. His parents, Thomas (left) and Vicki Ganann of Carthage, were special guests at the program's annual pinning ceremony and are pictured with Denita Thomas, dean of healthcare education, at the July 29, 2014, event. Also shown is a display provided by nursing program students in tribute to their fallen classmate. The display features photos of Ganann and the artwork he provided publicizing the Practical Nursing program. Mrs. Ganann holds an award presented in memory of her son from the Mississippi Licensed Practical Nursing Association. Ganann was EC's MLPNA Ambassador and also served as vice president of the 2013-14 Practical Nursing class." During the pinning program, Vicki Brown of Carthage and Stephanie Hope Linch of Louisville paid tribute to Ganann, whom they described "as a joy to be around. His smile could brighten the darkest room and he will forever be missed. May each of us remember what a compassionate, caring young man Chris was, one who would have made an amazing nurse. Tonight we accept these pins in honor of Chris." Thomas added, "Chris had the heart of a nurse. He was caring and had a sincere desire to help others in need."



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College ADN Graduates: These East Central Community College students received their Associate Degree Nursing pins during a special ceremony held May 2, 2014, in Huff Auditorium. Graduates and their respective hometowns include (front row, from left) Kristen Everett, Forest; Chelsy Ezell and Axie Jones, both of Decatur; Kristen Williams, Lawrence; Kelsey Lewis, Philadelphia; Brittany Edwards, Lake; Andrea Ezelle, Edinburg; Meghan Schmidt, Morton; Lacie Sessums, Carthage; Davina Smith, Jackson; Ashley Bishop, Hickory; and Holly Jones, Louisville; (second row, from left) Alyse Webb, Noxapater; Kim Round, Conehatta; Summer Spivey, Philadelphia; Chelsea Ricamore, Union; Bonnie Hedgepeth, DeKalb; Lindsey Adams, Carthage; Alex Stuart, Philadelphia; Rhonda Cooksey, Conehatta; Audrey Griffin, Louisville; Amber McDaniel, Forest; Kelsie Mann, Hickory; Wendy Burns, Carthage; and Whitney Bowden, Newton; (third row, from left) Jesse Stokes, Philadelphia; Erica Blanton, Carthage; Yancey Tillman, Union; Sarah Stewart, Sharon McCown Hobby and Denise Boatright, all of Philadelphia; Whitney Owens, Brandon; Patti Ethridge, Hickory; Amy Haralson, Forest; Kelsi Gilmer, Sebastopol; Audriann Thomas, Conehatta; Erin Platt, Decatur; Jennifer Collins, Newton; and Elizabeth Satcher, Heidelberg; and (back row, from left) Alisha Jones, Carthage; Lauren Oakley, Sebastopol; Ava Marie Adkins, Union; Holly Schneller, Decatur; Jamie Lewis, Meridian; Heidi Colston, Madison; Irvin Chamberlain, Meridian; Micah Stewart, Philadelphia; Colby Rigdon, Little Rock; Justin Gates, Decatur; Shatory Logan, Newton; Gabriel Harmon, Forest; Jeremy Nowell, Philadelphia; and Calvin Smith, Decatur. Graduates will also receive diplomas during the College's Commencement ceremonies scheduled at 11 a.m. May 10, in the Neshoba County Coliseum. Denita Thomas serves as Dean of Healthcare Education.

EC Presents \$88,972 in Student Scholarships at Annual Event

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Attending East Central Community College became even more affordable for approximately 120 students who received scholarships presented at the annual Scholarship Appreciation Program held June 12.

Provided by numerous alumni, individuals, businesses and industries, the ECCC Foundation scholarship awards are valued at \$88,972, according to Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations.

"The ECCC Foundation would like to thank our donors who continue to support the scholarship program," said Dr. Hollingsworth. "We also encourage others to establish scholarships and help meet the financial needs of our future alumni."

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart provided remarks at the annual event and expressed appreciation to donors for their support and congratulations to scholarship recipients.

Dr. Randall E. Lee, Vice President for Student Services, served as master of ceremonies.

Scholarships presented and the respective recipients/high schools are as follows:

ATCO Loan Inc. - Mia Coleman, Leake Central; Bank of Morton - Tynequa Bryant, Morton; BankPlus - Peyton Cain, Newton County; Dr. Conrad Barnes Math & Science - Louise Berryhill, Newton County; Pleas Clayton and Amanda Breazeale Blount Memorial - Jacob McNeil, Raleigh; Board of Trustees - Lillian Shuler, Leake Central; Iris Boggan - Rachel Rogers, Neshoba Central;

Dr. Frank and Bobbie McPhail Bowen - Enoc Reynoso, Leake Central; Denver Brackeen Memorial - Logan Alford, East

Rankin Academy; Ann Burkes Phi Theta Kappa - Kristen Gordy, East Rankin Academy; Landon Bryan Burt Memorial - Colton Horne, Winston Academy; Jessica Cager Memorial - James McElhenney, Union; Mable Moore Carr Educational - Bryce Power, Forest; The Citizens Bank of Philadelphia - Taylor Lott, Scott Central;

Classes of 1957, 1958 and 1959 - Aaren Avera, Newton County; Class of 1964 - Jennifer Grove, East Rankin Academy; Prentice and Dorothy Copeland - Kaylyn White, Neshoba Central; SouthGroup Cox - Austin Anderton, Leake Central; Frances Brown Crenshaw Nursing - Haleigh West, Newton County; Aaron R. Davis Memorial - Jennifer Grove, East Rankin Academy; Tony Dobbs Memorial Golf - Christopher Brown, Forest;

Kyle Dunkerson Memorial - Chelsea Taylor, Newton County; James and Luvie Thomas East Central Scholars - Ryan Gardner, Neshoba Central; Eastside Pawn and Gun - Shelby Hemphill, Leake Academy; Leon Eubanks KALJYC-PEERS - Leah Ferguson, Neshoba Central; Robert G. Fick - Houston Martin, Edinburg; Hubert Gilmore - Tyler Sistrunk, Union; Clyde B. and Flossie H. Goodson - Joshua Reed, Winston Academy;

R.O. and Bertha Hannah - Anthony Emmons, Lake; Pam Harris Memorial - Duster Allgood, Newton County; Harrison Memorial - Lindsey Savell, Newton County; Dan Harrison Memorial - Sarah Wysocki, Newton County; Jeffrey G. and Kathy L. Hitt Memorial - Candace Barrett, Grace Christian School; Hogue-Brantley - Colby Amis, Newton County; Albert F. and Fannie M. Hollingsworth - Matthew Mitchell, Lake;

Hudspeth - Victoria Burt,

Louisville; Kelley Humphries Nursing - April Evans, Lanier; S. Lebrun Hutchison - Daniel Giles, Union; James E. Land - Lalah McMullan, Newton County; Andrew Wilson Lathem - Devon Campbell, Newton County; La-Z-Boy - Dylan Raines, Newton County, and Hannah Mitchell, Newton County; William Wade Long Memorial - AnnaLea Clarke, Newton County;

Edwin and Marie Lowe - Leticia Rome, Edinburg; Thomas Rudolph Mayes - Justin Thornton, Raleigh; Russell McCann Memorial - Shelby McGrew, Lake; Dr. Howard Carlton McMillin Memorial - Everett Fisher, Newton County;

Mississippi Association of Supervisors (Neshoba County) - Terry Bystrom, Union, and James Buckley, Neshoba Central; Mississippi Association of Supervisors (Winston County) - Brittany Black and Joelle Hill, both of Louisville; Mississippi Association of Supervisors (Leake County) - Wesley Jelen and Kaitlyn Harthcock, both of Leake Academy, and Ariel Enoch, Leake Central; Mississippi Association of Supervisors (Scott County) - Garrett McDill, Sebastopol; Mississippi Association of Supervisors (Newton County) - Catherine Yohe and Erick Bishop, both of Newton County, and Alexa Roberts, Newton County Academy;

Mississippi Automotive Association Scholarship - David Banks, Scott Central, and Eduardo Santillan, Forest; Mississippi Land Bank - Zachary Allen, Winston Academy; Robert J. Moody, Jr. Special Education - Leah Ferguson, Neshoba Central; Ben Myers Memorial - Devin Skinner, Neshoba Central; Reverend John Lambert Neill - Alana Knowles, Newton County; Nellie Neill Cross - Anna Wells, Winston Academy;



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Scholarship Awards Luncheon: Approximately 300 donors, scholarship recipients and other special guests attended the annual East Central Community College Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held June 12, 2014, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. The luncheon was held following the scholarship awards ceremony in Huff Auditorium, during which approximately 125 students received ECCC Foundation Scholarships valued at approximately \$89,000. For more information, contact Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations, at 601-635-6327 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 327. Her email address is sholling@eccc.edu.

Newton Rotary Club - Hannah May, Newton County; Polk and Jennie Pace - Evan Derrick, Morton; Charles P. and Bonnie Saxon Phillips - Kaylee Yates, Newton County; Roscoe C. Pugh - Emily Cook, Leake Central; Shirley Renaud Memorial - JoHannah Smith, Newton County; Ruth Round Volunteer - Jessica Buffington, Newton County; Sam Rush Memorial - Kimberly Watkins and Caleb Brown, both of Neshoba Central; Willie E. Blum and Frances Gaines Blum Slagle Memorial - Brandi Kilpatrick, Neshoba Central;

Jay B. and Frances Harris Smith - Shelly Dowell, Leake Academy; Willis W. "Bubba" Smith Memorial - Courtney Williams, Newton County; Square County Auctions - Chaiydreanna LeFlore, Leake County; State Farm Insur-

ance - Mable Rayner, Raleigh; Taylor Advanced Machining - Bay White, Louisville; Taylor Advanced Welding - Ratrae Carter, Louisville, and Lamonte Donald, Neshoba Central; Larry B. Therrell Memorial - Wes Brown, Leake Academy; Charles and Judy Dowdle Thomas - Rashada Boler, Philadelphia;

Kinoth and Ella Mae Thornton & Emerson Electric - Katy Ezelle, Newton County; Thomas W. Thrash Memorial - Tyler Spence, Newton County; Dustan Todd Memorial - Victoria Dumas, Newton County; U.S. Electrical Motors - Crystal Holdiness, Nanih Waiya; James M. Vance - Dylan Jones, Chocataw County; Ovid S. and Carol F. Vickers - Hannah Bryan, Newton County; Arno and Ruth Carr Vincent - Kaitlin Thrash, Germantown;

Lavern and Elizabeth Vowell - Channing Parkes, Nanih Waiya; Warrior Golf Classic Alumni Association - Stephen Stewart, Newton County; Weems Family - Samuel Mitchell, Leake Academy; J.C. White - Rebecca Hitt, Sebastopol; Jack and Mary Jo White - Stefan McClellan, Newton County; Bob Wilkerson Memorial Vo-Tech - Taylor Bone, Lake Wilks-Palmer - Jamey Kinard, Winston Academy; General William Patrick Wilson - Bridgette McFarland, Neshoba Central; Lucille Wood - Makenzie Rowzee, Newton County;

For more information, contact Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations, at 601-635-6327 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 327. Her email address is sholling@eccc.edu



La-Z-Boy Makes Generous Donation to ECCC: Officials at La-Z-Boy, Inc., in Newton, are shown presenting a \$5000 check to East Central Community College representatives for the proposed Football Operations Center. La-Z-Boy took advantage of the naming opportunities made available in the new facility and will have the company name on an assistant coach's office. A longtime supporter of the college, the company was also one of 20 table sponsors for Laying the Foundation: An Evening with Tony Dungy, which also benefited the new football facility. La-Z-Boy also sponsors an annual scholarship at the college. From left are Tom Keith, Human Resources Manager, and Don Mather, Vice President and General Manager, both of La-Z-Boy; Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, ECCC Executive Director for Foundation and Alumni Relations, and Chris Harris, ECCC Athletic Director. Estimated to cost \$4.8 million, the new Football Operations Center will be located in the north end of Bailey Stadium and will include a state-of-the-art weight room and athletic training facility for all student-athletes. Also included in the plans is a \$1 million turf field to replace the existing grass surface.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

EC Announces Spring Semester Honor Roll

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Students named to the 2014 spring semester honor roll, which includes those selected to the President's List, Dean's List and Honorable Mention List, have been announced at East Central Community College, according to Deanna Rush, Director of Admissions and Records.

PRESIDENT'S LIST

Those named to the President's List, students with a 4.0 grade point average, include the following:

BAY SPRINGS: Cassandra Phillips;

BRANDON: Ashlan Culbertson, Mary Jefcoat and Chelsey Smith;

CARTHAGE: Conor Bell, Matthew Bishop, Madie Brantley, Kristen Chipley, John Davis, Tyler Faulkner, Anna Girling, Parker Jones, Kamaran Malone, David Martin, Joseph McBeth, Hannah Moore, Lori Smith, Matthew Tucker, Amber Williams, Gary Winstead and George Woods;

CHUNKY: Denise Glover and Taylor Gressett;

CLINTON: Lauren Peterson;

COLLINSVILLE: Lauren Cantey and Dakota Wright;

CONEHATTA: Laryssa Gonzalez and Tabitha LaBue;

DECATUR: Aaron Brown, Leah Corhern, Melissa Griffin, Shawn Horn, Clayton Karcher, Alana Knowles, Stephanie Spence, Russell Thompson, William Thompson, Charles Thorne and Jesse Vaughn,

EL DORADO, AR: Sawyer Williams;

FLOWOOD: Ronald Dixon;

FOREST: Erica Bennett, Christopher Brown, Emilee Cox, Kelsey Cox, Kristen Gordy, Jennifer Grove, Kristine Jenkins, Maria Martinez, Jay Riser, Justin Rushing and Peggy Sims;

FOXWORTH: Joshua Parker;

HICKORY: Aaren Avera, Katherine Jacome-Cluff, Jason Johnson, Makenzie Rowzee and Haleigh West;

LAKE: Brittney Taylor and Keifer Wolfe;

LAUDERDALE: Amanda Breland;

LAWRENCE: Amy Seibel;

LENA: Tymaiya Gray;

LITTLE ROCK: Danielle Gregory, Mark Hale, Delton Harrison, Lacye Harrison, William Howington, Jacob Oliver and Jessica Wright;

LOUISVILLE: Bryan Burton, Laken Fulcher, Cara Jackson, Lindsey McCool, Jessica Moffett, Warner Parkes and Brody Richardson;

MCCOOL: Samantha Morgan;

MENDENHALL: Alana Turner;

MERIDIAN: Kennedy Castleberry, Steven Harmon, Bailey Laird, Rachel Laird, Hannah Mitchell, Gregory Mitchell, Malauri Robinson and Zachary Sterdivant;

MORTON: Sarah Drew, Kelsey Porter, Tyler Runnels and Santana Runnels;

NEDERLAND, TX: Makayla Kelly;

NEWTON: Catherine Arrington, Tracie Buckley, Rayanne Craven, Scott Doss, Mackenzie Gannon, Timothy Laird, Johnnie Spires and Megan Wall;

NOXAPATER: Colton Horne, Haley Pierce and Brooke Smith;

PELAHATCHIE: Aaron Cooper;

PHILADELPHIA: Christopher Boatner, Kendall Brown, Gregory Clemons, Cosper Collins, Emily Cook, Elizabeth Curran, Alexey Danilov, Dustin Glenn, Allison Johnson, Anna Lewis, Bridgette McFarland, Anna Nowell, Zachary Peden, Daniel Skipper, Chandler Smith, Cydney Stuart, Elauran Vowell, Whitney Waddell and Ronald York;

PRESTON: Jessica Richardson;

PULASKI: Joseph Matuszewski;

SEBASTOPOL: Aderian Parntain;

STATELINE: Dewayne Parker;

TAYLORSVILLE: Mason Woodrow;

UNION: Casey Cherry, Erika Clark, Tiffany Dorman, Daniel Giles, Benjamin Killen, Jonathan Moore, Courtney Moorehead, Sarah Tatum, Patricia Thweatt, Taylor Townsend and Jeffrey Vowell;

VOSSBURG: Walter Stallings; and

WALNUT GROVE: Krystan Bolton and William Wragg.

DEAN'S LIST

The Dean's List includes the following students who achieved a 3.5 or above grade point average.

BATESVILLE: Robert Whitten;

BAY ST. LOUIS: Tyler Berry;

CALEDONIA: Tyler Armistad and Danette Harris;

CARTHAGE: Haden Bozeman, Hope Brown, Gloria Burgess, Samantha Farley, Katesa Hutchins, Hannah Jolly, Victoria Jones, Kaitlyn Lofton, Sherry McKee, Hannah Peoples, Letecia Rome, Aaron Shepard, Cody Smith, Matthew Sullivan, Jonathan Tindol, Jenna Tolleson, Kristin White and Kendall Wilcher;

CHOCTAW: Rakisha Guyette;

CHUNKY: Jordan Alonso, Jeremy Buckley and Heather Johnson;

COLLINSVILLE: Katherine Sullivan and Mallory Turner;

CONEHATTA: Rochelle Anderson, Katie Bradley, Christon Flores and Christy Williams;

DECATUR: Jonathan Amis, Stephen Armstrong, Joseph Auld, Cindy Burnside, Erika Cockrell, Kaitlin Dean, Jage Doss, Alisha Dunn, Sarah Freeman, Stephanie Harrison, Alana Kron, Katie Sanford, Adam Savell, Hannah Smith, Tyler

Spence, William Stokes, Jessica Thames, Jordan Walker, Joseph Wansley and Caleb Weaver;

ENTERPRISE: Morgan Porter;

FLORENCE: Dalton Smith;

FOREST: Eliud Alvarez, Crystal Anderson, Jessica Brown, Chelsea Campbell, Briana Cooks, Lori Cox, Bailey Easterling, Clayton Edmonds, Shawn Evans, Dominick Fields, Lucretia Gaddis, Justin Johnson, Tamantha Qualls, Davita Ragsdale, Kimberly Rigby, Eryn Smith and Ananezia Triplett;

HAMILTON: Cojuante McMillian;

HICKORY: Emily Jacome-Cluff, Ashley Priego, Stephen Pugh, Timothy Rose and Bryant Williams;

KENNEDY, AL: Karoline Holsonback;

KOSCIUSKO: Justin Moore;

LAKE: Jessica Alford, Jessie Barrett, Emily Emmons, Tracy Gray, Wesley Hines, Jonathon Hodge, Christian Kelly, Shane Naquin, Pamela Robinson, Andrea Tafinger and Jesus Tole-dano;

LAWRENCE: Laura Shook;

LENA: Wesley Smith, Zachary Williams and Elizabeth Wilson;

LITTLE ROCK: Abbey Rigdon and Colby Rigdon;

LOUIN: Dustie Chisholm and Emily Gully;

LOUISVILLE: Zachary Allen, Alexander Bucklew, Kayla Covington, Jennings Davis, Hayden Fryery, Alexis Hartness, Kaylin Hopkins, Elizabeth Hurt, Jenna Lovorn, Teylor Martinecz, Kelsey Nowell, Madelyn Peterson, Andrew Reel, Megan Robinson and Kelsey Smith;

MADISON: Kyle McCullough;

MERIDIAN: Lindsey Beard, Manesha Brown, Paige Gower, Jonathan Graham, Kennedy McReynolds and Chris Stephens;

MIDLAND, TX: Mitzi Kirk;

MILLPORT, AL: Kendra Wilson;

MORTON: Makenzie Aycock, Chauncy Griffin, Grayson Harrell, Kara Johnson, Hannah McCurdy and Joseph Patrick;

NEWTON: Trevor Ayllon, Emily Bounds, Jack Brand, Mikayla Carson, William Collins, Lillian Curry, Julian Fuentes, Ryan Godwin, Rachristopher Jones, Sara Kilgore, Morgan Luke, Zachery Mason, Wesley Robinson, Charles Roebuck, Victoria Shimfessel, Brandon St. Clair, Robert Walker and Stephanie Willis;

PASCAGOULA: Alana Walker;

PELAHATCHIE: Brittany Smith;

PHILADELPHIA: Brittany Anderson, Mary Bailey, Jessie Boatner, Alicia Breedlove, Tylan Buckley, Corey Burton, Miranda Clark, Ivey Commer, Adrian Dennis, Virginia Easley, Margurite Ferguson, Shatamia Fulton, Glenda Gardner, Jared Jim, Christian Little, Samuel

Lovorn, Justin Marcangeli, Nicklas McNair, Pamela Melendez, Melissa Miles, Natalie Morrison, Wendy Parker, Tamie Powe, Jessica Skinner, Mackenz Smith, Keenen Wahwasuck, Jana Warren, Brendon Williams and Hillary Williams;

PULASKI: Kimberly Harrison;

RALEIGH: Danielle Callihan;

RICHLAND: Gage Sullivan;

TOOMSUBA: Aaliyah Smith;

UNION: Ashley Bozeman, Matthew Callahan, Jonathan Fortenberry, Madison Herrington, Lindsey Holland, Chelsea James, Jill LaShea, Meghan McPherson, Marje Moment, Breanna Morgan, Karleigh Moss, Kelley Page, Casey Parker, Ashlyn Pullin, Hayley Stephens, Haley Taylor, Lucas Viverette, Mallory Wilkerson and Kristien Winstead;

WALNUT GROVE: Lauren Copeland, Wanda Harrison, Hannah Kersgaard, Brianna May, Shannon McNeill, Janice Poling, Carrie Summers Jones; and

WEST BLOCTON, AL: Jacob Bush.

HONORABLE MENTION

The following students were named to the Honorable Mention List and earned a 3.0 or above grade point average:

BAY ST. LOUIS: Ramone Tate;

BILOXI: Jerry Byrd and Lekerra McGilberry;

BRANDON: Dillon Drake, ShaMyia Evans Patrick, Kardarius McClendon, Casie Tadlock and Brandon Woodis;

BROOKHAVEN: Christen Benson;

CANTON: Jonathan Brown;

CARTHAGE: Lindsey Adams, Mariah Boyd, Hunter Brown, Wendy Burns, Stevie Coghlan, William Coleman, Jimmi Craig, Anna Crawford, Ashley Devine, Alec Doggett, Evan Dowell, Monica Hamilton, Jerry Henson, Alisha Jones, Hanna Kemp, Vincent May, Cynthia Middlebrooks, Courtney Moore, Amber Morris, Bradley Moss, Jennifer Russell, Kayla Searcy, Austin Shepard, Kelsey Sikes and Jon Smith;

CHOCTAW: Erin Cantrell;

CHUNKY: Destinee Buckley and Brandon Davis;

CLINTON: ConBrianna Evans;

COLLINSVILLE: Savannah Alawine and Kimberly Talbert;

COLUMBUS: Quanterris Newby;

CONEHATTA: Savannah Hillman, Courtney Johnson, Amber Jones, Austin Jordan, Ashley Kirkpatrick, Alana Mowdy, Genieveve Nichols, William Porter, Tania Rhodes, Darrin Rolison, Kimberly Round, Brittany Tatum and Hanna Williams;

CORINTH: Tesia Keith;

CUBA, AL: Lizzie Price;

DEKALB: Sydney Dawkins;

DECATUR: Angela Anderson, Joseph Bishop, Hannah Brown,

Nicole Cater, Katy Ezelle, Jason Forrest, James Gentry, Trevor Graham, Latishia Johnson, Mary Jones, William Mott, Erin Platt, Caitlyn Sant, Shalonda Singleton, Shannon Smith, Madison Stringer, John Thames, Robin Towner, Sky Tucker, Robert Walton and Jalisa Wheaton;

DEKALB: Bonnie Hedgepeth and Jeremy Hudson;

ENTERPRISE: Nathan Patrick;

FLORENCE: Mackenzie Britt;

FOREST: Tony Alford, Christopher Allen, Tanya Bobbitt, Arieel Carter, Kristen Everett, Denzonia Fortune, M'Kenya Gray, Crystal Hernandez, Ian Lanthrip, Tesa Lockett, Judy Massey, Ryan McClendon, Mae Patrick, Shelby Patterson, Brady Power, John Reiss, Matthew Risher, Kirstie Shaw, Jason Stroud, Rebecca Veazey, Ernest Williamson, Laura Williamson and Tasha Yates;

FORT MYERS, FL: Graham Clark;

FRANKLINTON, LA: Karlton Ginn;

HARPERVILLE: Shaticeka Kincaid;

HICKORY: Marquis Ellis, Patrick Embrey, Kelsie Mann, Felicia Robinson;

HOUSTON: Kenrick Maxwell;

KOSCIUSKO: Tiffany Harmon;

LAKE: Allison Colbert, Rionzi Gray, Rico Graydon, Dakota Hollingsworth, Yashica Ickom, Emmarald Jones, Melanie Moore, Brianna Parkman, Mark Shoemaker, Elizabeth Tafinger;

LAUREL: Christina McDonald;

LAWRENCE: Dominique Evans, Brandi Massey, Tiffany Watkins and Samuel Williams;

LENA: Kaitlyn Blanton, Kaitlyn Busby, William Milner, Lorie Moore, Tracey Riley, Lacie Sessums and Haley Watkins;

LITTLE ROCK: Jeffery Alexander, William Cress, Candis Edmonds, Courtney Elliott, Zachery May and Amber Yeager;

LOUISVILLE: Mary Boswell, Tamara Boydston, Bristol Buffington, Noah Corcoran, Shane Cumberland, Diamond Goss, Audrey Griffin, Lillian Hatcher, Byron Hathorn, Joni Hickman, Claybourne Holdiness, Angela Jenkins-Coburn, Jordan Lovorn, Bria Marshall, Lesli Pickett, Victoria Quinn, Brittney Rhodes and Sarah Rogers;

MABEN: James Hendrix;

MADISON: Holly Logan and Ryan Ward;

MAGEE: Addie Ambrosier;

MCCOOL: Kierra Griffin;

MERIDIAN: Pamela Brown, Ashley Green, Michael Hughes, Maresha Lewis, Shelby McKelvaive, Helen Milling, Matthew Morris, Nathan Powell, Hunter Thrower, Nikki Ward and Porsche Williams;

MORTON: Melissa Barham, Joshua Blackburn, James Cor-

nelison, Claude Epting, Gloria Latham, Maya Lofton, Daigen Meek, Juan Miranda, Allyson Nichols, Mary O'Cain, Meghan Schmidt, Madison Smith;

NEWTON: Glenn Bender, Antonio Body, Sidney Broach, Deeanna Carlson, Kristen Carson, Jennifer Collins, William Collins, Jazmine Evans, Kenneth Gipson, Lenore Gray, John Hasley, Cathy Johnson, Nikki Jones, Jordyn Landry, Sonya McKee, Toretha Norman, Alma Pickens, DaQuaun Robinson, Tiffany Skinner and Kiyanna White;

NOXAPATER: John Bane, Madison Barnett, Zachery Kemp and Sara Thorne;

OCEAN SPRINGS: Kristian Clark and Romario Cobb;

PELAHATCHIE: Matthew Pennypacker;

PHILADELPHIA: Jerrie Boatright, Heather Bradley, Toni Bryant, Joshua Chesnut, Heather Clark, Julie Clark, Lauren Coward, David Creekmore, Ashley Cumberland, Welton Dennis, Kayla Estes, Lillion Fulton, Dylan Goines, Ashley Graham, Aaron Hancock, Sharon Hobby, Robin Isaac, Myeisha Jones, Kelsie Lewis, Madison Lovorn, Brandon McCarty, Caleb McCown, Stephanie McCrary, Kaitlin Miles, Stephanie Miles, William Myers, Jeremy Nowell, Estefania Olmedo Lumbreras, Julie Osborne, Lanna Parker, Tyler Partridge, Contessa Peebles, Hannah Pilgrim, Brett Pope, Odalys Portell, Daniel Powell, Micheal Reynolds, Tanner Salter, Jamian Savage, Barbara Scott, Thomas Sellers, Jon St. Clare, Ruby Stewart, Sarah Stewart, Jessica Stokes, Carly Thomas, Scott Walker, Christopher Warren, Dakota Wilcher, Bradley Winstead, Leslie Young and Asif Zaffar;

PRESTON: Stephen Triplett;

PULASKI: Heather Hayman, Kathern Qualls, Katrena Rayner, Brady Warren and Rebecca Wicker;

ROSE HILL: Jerry Beal, Candace Bradley, Ethan Lewis and Jerry Lewis;

SEMMES, AL: Dylan Little;

STARKVILLE: Kathy Davis;

SUMRALL: Trenton Haden;

TAYLORSVILLE: Conner West;

UNION: Raven Bane, Joshua Bradley, Brittany Burnham, Jennifer Donald, Chireatha Drummond, Kirstin Eversoll, Nathan Griffin, Jessie Hennington, Jasmine Lombard, Jessica Loper, Victoria Malone, Matthew Mason, Jennifer McCraw, Shawna Peets, Mary Price, William Schmid, Jayohnie Slaughter, Ethan Smith, Yancey Tillman, Adrian Tucker, Morgan Tune, Hope Ware and Nathan Williams; and

WALNUT GROVE: Mark Beasley, Lauren Davidson, Kelsi Gilmer, Tanisha Imhof, Tatyana Johnson and Amber Pierce.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
Henry Attends ECCC Orientation: Jayce Henry (right) of Choctaw was among area students who attended orientation activities held July 11 at East Central Community College. The Choctaw Central High School graduate is shown receiving assistance from ECCC staff members Candy Anderson (left) and Tina Harris (right). The last orientation session is scheduled Friday, August 8. Fall classes begin Monday, August 18. For more information, contact ECCC Student Services, at 601-635-6205 or e-mail lee@eccc.edu.

Scholarship in Memorial of Thompsons Established at ECCC

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Each year, alumni and friends of East Central Community College provide much-needed financial support for students in the five-county district through various annual and endowed scholarships.

A new scholarship was recently approved by the College's Board of Trustees in memorial of Albert P. and Blanche W. Thompson. The Albert P. and Blanche W. Thompson Memorial Scholarship was established by their four daughters, Rosalyn T. Mayes, Christine T. Riley, Ellen T. Johnson and Janice T. Tingle.

Albert Thompson was valedictorian of the East Central Junior College Class of 1935 and of his Decatur Agriculture High School graduating class. The lifelong Decatur resident married Blanche Williams of

Meridian in 1938. They resided at the family farm home with his widowed mother and his three younger sisters, who were later also graduates of ECJC.

They had four daughters who also attended or graduated from ECJC and their spouses also attended or were graduates of ECJC. Most of their 11 grandchildren attended ECCC.

The Albert P. and Blanche W. Thompson Memorial Scholarship will be awarded annually to an ECCC student who will be entering his or her freshman year after graduation from high school with a 2.5 grade point average or high school equivalency diploma from the five-county area served by ECCC.

In addition, candidates must meet the following criteria: 1) be able to present definable career goals, plans and aspirations; 2) be willing to participate in an award ceremony and agreeable

to publicity regarding the scholarship; and 3) not involved in any activity which would bring discredit to ECCC.

Recipients of the scholarship will be selected by the ECCC Scholarship Committee.

"The ECCC Foundation would like to thank our donors who continue to support the scholarship program," said Dr. Hollingsworth. "We also encourage others to establish scholarships and help meet the financial needs of students."

During the 2014-2015 school year, the East Central Community College Foundation will award approximately 125 scholarships valued at \$89,000.

For more information, contact Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations, 601-635-6327 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 327. Her email address is sholling@eccc.edu

Reminder: Wear IDs

at All Times!

Warrior Athletics

Karcher & EC Warriors 'Excited' to Begin Year Two

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Ken Karcher admits his first year as East Central Community College's head football coach was a learning experience for him and his staff.

However, Karcher, whose first taste of Mississippi JUCO football resulted in a 1-8 season in 2013, stated the league was everything he expected. "The league in general was everything that people told me it would be," said the former NFL quarterback and NCAA Division I head coach. "It's a very competitive league with great football players on every team, and it is fun being a part of this league. The first year was more of a learning curve for us...but we are very much excited about year two!"

Now with more than a year under his belt as Warrior head coach, Karcher has quickly attracted a lot of attention with the type program he plans to build. A successful recruiting season coupled with the fact that 70-plus players reported to camp in hopes of making the 55-man roster are signs of anticipated success. But Karcher cautions that success takes time to accomplish.

"We are trying to build a successful program here but it will not happen overnight...there are no quick fixes," he stated. "Hopefully each year we will get better, we will attract better players and more people will become interested in the program."

Regarding the 2014 recruiting class, Karcher said he is "very encouraged" with the results.

"It's early but we are very encouraged because of the little things we did not see the previous year," Karcher stated. "We now have kids who are eager to be here, who understand the basis of work ethic, who understand football acumen and who do not have to be taught everything from square

one. This is a very competitive group of freshmen who enjoy what they are doing and have fun doing it. They are also a very athletic group."

Karcher gave credit to his assistant coaches for attracting such a quality group. In addition, anticipated new athletic facilities have generated a lot of excitement.

"Our coaches did a great job recruiting...we also have new facilities being built, which is especially exciting for the young athletes...so we are very excited about how the future looks for our football program."

Success for the Warriors last year came with the lone victory - a thrilling 36-31 homecoming victory over Mississippi Delta Community College, which came in the final seconds of the non-division battle Oct. 12 at Bailey Stadium.

"When we started practice in August, I was not confident that we would win any games," Karcher admitted. "But I thought our kids did a good job of trying to buy in for the most part to what we were doing, and when the season started they competed for 60 minutes every game even though they were out-manned."

Karcher recalled how the victory provided a tremendous boost to the players and coaches as well.

"It was a big win and came at the right time - homecoming! There were a lot of people there and it was especially great seeing the kids with smiles on their faces having gone through a tough year."

Expected to provide the "nucleus" for success this season, are sophomores JaDerrick Farrow, a 6' 200-pound safety from Bleckley High School in Cochran, Georgia; Lamarcus Franks of State Line, a 5-7, 150-pound running back from Greene County High School in Leakesville; Jimmy Cockrell, a 5-10, 170-pound wide receiver from Columbus; Darryl Rogers, a 6-3, 215-pound defensive lineman from Laurel; Tyler Pace, a 6-2, 280-pound tight end from Newton; and Trent Haden, a 5-9, 190-pound long snapper from Sumrall.

Karcher said Farrow is attracting attention from several university programs and is expected to be the defensive leader.

Franks, who won a starting position about mid-season, is expected to be the offensive leader. Franks had his "banner day" as a Warrior in the win over MS Delta, as the speedster rushed for



ECCC Warriors Prepare for 2014 Campaign: Preseason workouts are well under way for the East Central Community College football squad, which begins season action Thursday, August 28 at MS Delta Community College. Kickoff for the non-division battle is set for 7 p.m. on the Moorhead campus. The Warriors' home opener is scheduled at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 11, with MS Gulf Coast Community College. The MACJC South Division battle will be played on the recently installed synthetic turf at Bailey Stadium.

211 yards on 28 carries and scored twice. He finished the season with 610 yards on 126 carries and three TDs.

"We are looking for big things from them as they lead our football team," commented Karcher.

Karcher said Rogers and Pace will also play key roles on defense, and Cockrell is also expected to be a leader on offense.

Karcher chuckled when mentioning long-snapper Haden as a key returnee, but added, "It's a position no one thinks about until the snap goes over a punter's head! But Trent does a good job, too!"

Overall, Coach Karcher said he expects the Warriors to be "more physical" on offense, defense and special teams; a team that will be "fundamentally sound" with minimum mistakes; and a team that will be "exciting" for fans to watch.

The Warriors start the 2014 campaign by traveling to MS Delta for a 7 p.m. matchup Thursday, August 28 in Moorhead.

The home opener with MS Gulf Coast Community College is set for 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 11, and will

be played on the new synthetic turf.

Coach Karcher said the welcomed addition to Bailey Stadium will benefit more than just the football program.

"What the new turf brings is vision and hope for the future not only for our football team but for all the College's sports programs," Karcher stated. "It's also great for the local community. I've noticed local folks looking at the new surface and we've had several coaches from local high schools and other campus visitors come see the new turf as well. Obviously the new surface will drastically affect football recruiting because the 18-year-old athlete is attracted to the best facilities, and our facilities will be as nice if not the nicest in the state. And next year we hope to start construction on the Football Operations Center, which will really make things happen and provide a tremendous boost to our program."

Whether the top returnees, a talented recruiting class or new facilities will result in wins this season remains to be seen.

But what is even more important to Coach Karcher, is the individual player.

"What is sometimes lost in any athletic program and is most important are the people playing the sport and the lives that are involved. Often we as fans make the mistake by looking at a player and just seeing his jersey number or name on the back and forget he is someone's kid and a young person who may be going through a tough time. We like to believe that our football program, like many other programs, is a tool to touch lives of kids. Sure, we hope to win championships every year but realistically that will not happen...we may just win one or two games a year or none at all. But as I tell my players, we win every day at East Central football."

Serving on Coach Karcher's staff are Scott Brock, defensive coordinator and linebackers coach; Mickey Mays, defensive line coach and special teams coordinator; Charles Jones, defensive backs coach and head strength coach; Dennis Alexander, offensive line coach; Ben Cooper, tight ends and running backs coach; and Tylan Martin, wide receivers coach. Karcher also serves as offensive coordinator.

EC Warrior Golf Classic Nets \$10K in Student Scholarships

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Golfers representing SouthGroup Cox in Carthage claimed the championship trophy but students are once again the real winners following the 13th annual East Central Community College Warrior Golf Classic held earlier this summer at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club, located on the Pearl River Resort in Choctaw.

Sponsored by the ECCC Alumni Association, the four-person scramble netted \$9,850 for student scholarships, according to event coordinator Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations at ECCC in Decatur.

"We want to thank all participants and sponsors for another successful Warrior Golf Classic," said Dr. Hollingsworth. "Net proceeds from the tournament provide much-needed and appreciated scholarships for very worthy students. We truly appreciate the support received the past 13 years and encourage others to participate in this worthwhile event."

The SouthGroup Cox team posted an 18-under par 54 in the 18-hole event, held on the Oaks Course. Team members include Bob Jordan of Kosciusko, and Pat Hardage, Jimmie Bell and Jimmy Brown, all of Carthage.

Finishing second with a 56

was the Howard Industries team, whose members included Rusty Thoms of Madison, Michael Green of Starkville and Gordon McClokey and Shane Lowrimore, both of Hattiesburg.

Southern Pine Electric Power Association placed third, also with a 56. Team members were Chad Lewis and Jason Mangum, both of Decatur; and Lake Thoms and Hank Thoms, both of Newton.

Also competing in the championship flight were Community Bank (Tim Leitaker of Carthage, Steve Gibson of Forest, and Ray Riley and Gary Jolly, both of Madison), 58; First Financial Bank Team #1 (Brad Ogletree of Carthage and Jerry Bullard, Melissa Jerry and Chris Hegi, all of El Dorado, Arkansas, 58; Polo Custom Products (Casse Carpenter of Ackerman and Chris Covington, Tyler Moffitt and Tanner Long, all of Louisville), 59; and the Chris Harris Team (Dr. Billy Stewart, Chris Harris and Cole Harris, all of Decatur; and Barry Boatner of Meridian), 60.

SECOND FLIGHT

Junction Team # 1 took top honors in the second flight with a 60. Team members included Neil Pettigrew and Ryan Jenkins, both of Philadelphia; Denise Hollingsworth of Forest; and Joey Walters of Union. IN Sports, Inc. (Greg Nowell and

Jim Eakes, both of Philadelphia; Wes Kight of Louisville; and Andy Woidtke of Canton) placed second with a 60. Finishing third was Junction Team # 2 (J.B. Ware of Union, Wayne Heilbronner of Kosciusko, Mark Fleming of Philadelphia and Larry Hollingsworth of Forest), with a 61. Also competing in the second flight were First Financial Bank Team #2 (Gayden Bell, Terry Thomas and Van Ray Bowman, all of Carthage; and Steve Cameron of Hot Springs, Arkansas), 62; Milton Walker and Associates, Inc. (Milton Walker, Larry Dale and Jay Ott, all of Brandon; and Haywood Reeves of Forest), 63; Trustmark Bank (Doug Daly, Lance Duncan, Wright Griffis and Justin Webb, all of Philadelphia), 64; and PCA (Melanie Roland and Ken Ricketts, both of Brandon; Donnie Crabtree, Morton; and Steven Tyson, Pearl), 64.

THIRD FLIGHT

Industrial Training Solutions won the third flight with a 65. Team members included Chris Crawford, Ridgeland; Roger Whitlock, Union; and Chris Clark and Joe Barrett, both of Decatur. La-Z-Boy Team #2 (Ronnie Poythress, Meridian; Dustin Yeager and Kevin Rigdon, both of Union; and Troy Simmons, Newton) finished second with a 68. The Citizens Bank of Philadelphia

and Neshoba County General Hospital team (Camp Keith, Hickory; Bruce Lee, Louisville; Dale Joyner, Philadelphia; and Johnny Crenshaw, Union) placed third with a 68. Other third flight participants were ESCO Corporation (Trent Floyd, Brandon; Percy Pearson and James Kiker, both of Decatur; and Andy Rowzee, Hickory), 69; Sequel Electrical Supply LLC and ECCC (Duane Ashmore, Collinsville; Artie Foreman, Little Rock; Sean Mowdy, Union; and Tim Pilgrim, Philadelphia), 72; Mississippi Power Company (Eddie Kelly and Kevin Thrash, both of Meridian; and Tommy Jackson, Lauderdale), 72; La-Z-Boy Team #1 (Danny Simoneau, Louin; Tom Keith and Chris Davis, both of Decatur; and Randy Loper, Rose Hill), 72; and Valley Services, Inc. (Tau Iosia, Meridian; Marty Puckett and Randy Roberts, both of Brandon; and Truman Abbe, Ridgeland), 73.

ON-COURSE PRIZE WINNERS

Participants who won various on-course competitions and were presented ECCC golf bags included Rusty Thoms (Howard Industries) of Madison; Bob Jordan (SouthGroup Cox) of Kosciusko; Chris Covington and Tanner Long (Polo Custom Products), both of Louisville. Chris Hegi (First Financial Bank Team # 1), of El Dorado, Arkansas, won the Drive the

Middle contest, sponsored by Birdies for Charity, and received a gift certificate.

LA-Z-BOY WINNER

La-Z-Boy team member Kevin Rigdon of Union won the La-Z-Boy recliner.

SPONSORS

Gold Corporate sponsors included Community Bank (Forest), SouthGroup Cox (Carthage), ESCO Corporation (Newton), First Financial Bank (Carthage), Howard Industries (Laurel), Industrial Training Solutions (Madison), IN Sports, Inc. (Philadelphia), La-Z-Boy South (Newton), Milton Walker and Associates, Inc. (Brandon), Mississippi Power Company (Newton), Southern Pine Electric Power Association (Newton), Trustmark Bank (Carthage), Tyson Foods, Inc. (Forest) and Valley Services, Inc. (Jackson).

Silver Corporate sponsors were The Citizens Bank of Philadelphia and Neshoba County General Hospital in Philadelphia.

Bronze Corporate sponsors include B&G Equipment, Inc. (Philadelphia), Bank of Forest, State Senator Terry C. Burton (Newton), Greg and Flo Henley (Starkville), John O'Neil Johnson Motor Company (Meridian), Long's Building Materials, Inc. (Decatur), Old Mexico of Philadelphia, LLC, Popeyes/Vaughn Brothers, Inc. (Forest

and Philadelphia) and Jeanette B. Thrash (Decatur).

Team sponsors were Junction (Philadelphia), La-Z-Boy South (Newton), PCA (Pearl), Polo Custom Products, Inc. (Louisville) and Sequel Electrical Supply LLC (Meridian).

T-shirt sponsors included Bowell Media (Kosciusko), Marshall Ford Co., Inc. (Union), Dr. Craig Martin (Philadelphia), Sam M. Nowell/State Farm Insurance (Philadelphia), State Representative Randy Rushing (Decatur), Union Discount Drugs and Watkins, Ward and Stafford (Philadelphia).

Drive the Middle Contest sponsor was Birdies for Charity (Jackson).

Food and beverages provided by Jerald and Rita Everett (Clinton) and Valley Services, Inc. (Jackson).

Prizes provided by Auto Zone (Newton), BankPlus (Newton), John Boutwell (Clinton), Cheryl L. Comans (Cleveland), ECCC Alumni Association, ECCC Warrior Golf Team, Flo Henley (Starkville), Pete Lucovich (Carthage), Mississippi Department of Transportation (Newton), Newton County Bank, Strebeck's (Newton), Jeanette Thrash (Decatur) and Walmart (Newton).

For more information, contact Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, 601-635-6327 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 327. Her email address is sholling@ecc.edu.

Save the Date: Homecoming 2014
2:30 p.m., Saturday, October 11, 2014

Warrior Athletics

EC Baseball Team Award Winners Announced

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Several East Central Community College baseball players received post-season honors following the recently completed 2014 campaign.

At the top of the list is right-handed pitcher Conner West who was named first team MACJC All-State. The Taylorsville High School product was also selected the Diamond Warriors' most valuable pitcher.

Also receiving post-season accolades are right-handed pitchers Kale Fultz of Covington, TN and Ty Hendrix of Maben; infielder Dylan Little of Semmes, Ala., and outfielder Kyle McCullough of Madison, who were named second team MACJC All-State. McCullough, a right fielder, is also a nominee for an NJCAA Golden Glove award.

Fultz is a transfer from Southwest TN Community College. Hendrix is a product of East Webster High School, and Little hails from Mary G. Montgomery High School near Mo-



FULTZ



WEST



HENDRIX

bile. McCullough, a right fielder, played high school ball at Madison Ridgeland Academy.

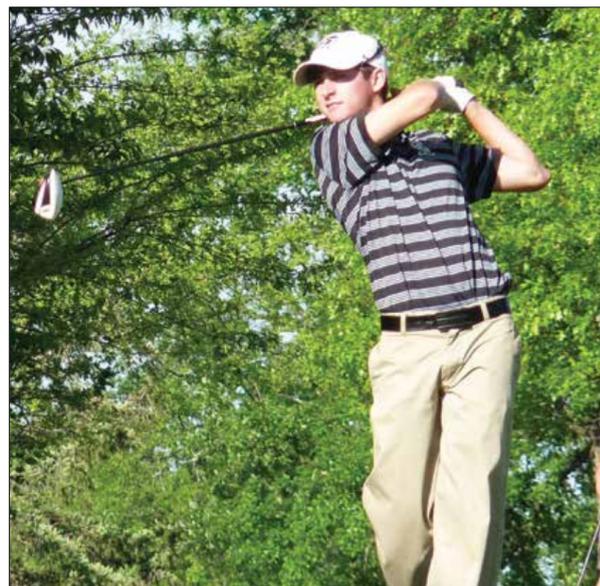
Receiving team honors were infielder Maxwell Harmon of Meridian, who was named most valuable player, most valuable defensive player and shared scholar athlete award honors with Caleb Woods of Carthage, and Zach May of Little Rock,

who received the most improved player award. May has also been nominated to receive an NJCAA Golden Glove award. Harmon is a product of Enterprise High School and Woods hails from Leake Central. May is a product of Newton County High School.

East Central finished fourth in the MACJC South Division

and began post-season competition by defeating North top seed East Mississippi Community College in a best-of-three series.

The defending state champion Diamond Warriors advanced to the MACJC State Tournament and Region 23 Tournament en route to a 25-29 record under head coach Neal Holliman and assistants Scott DeLoach and Ronald Sims.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Sawyer Williams represented ECCC in the 2014 NJCAA Division II Men's Golf National Championship. He is shown watching one of his drives in the four-day event held at Swan Lake Resort in Plymouth, IN. Williams finished 63rd in the 128-person field.

EC Golfer Participates in NJCAA Division II Tourney

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College golfer Sawyer Williams finished in the middle of the pack in the 2014 NJCAA Division II Men's Golf National Championship held May 20-23 at Swan Lake Resort in Plymouth, IN.

Williams recorded rounds of 77-82-80-77 for a 316 total and finished 63rd in the 128-person field.

Williams earned a spot in the prestigious tournament based on his season scoring average.

He was earlier selected second team MACJC All-State and was named the Warrior golf team's most valuable player. In addition, he was also a co-recipient of the Scholar Athlete award.

Williams is a 2014 graduate of ECCC, where he received numerous other honors.

He is a product of Parkers Chapel High School in Eldorado, AR.

ECCC golf coach Chris Clark said of the outstanding student-athlete: "I'm very proud of Sawyer for the success he has had playing golf at ECCC the past two years. I am even more proud of him for being the outstanding young man that he is. East Central Community College could not have had a better representative in the NJCAA National Golf Tournament than Sawyer Williams. We will miss him and wish him the best of luck in all his future endeavors."

Jones Named EC Assistant Football Coach

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

After serving the past year as a graduate assistant football coach at East Central Community College, Charles Jones was recently named a full-time assistant on Coach Ken Karcher's staff.

Jones, who coaches safeties, officially began the 10-month position on August 1, 2014.

Karcher, who begins his second year as Warrior head mentor, said Coach Jones "believes in the mission of the football program, is a good communicator and teacher, has a heart for young men and is a hard worker."

Jones, a native of Waynesboro, Georgia, and a product of Burke County High School, is a 2005 graduate of the University of Alabama, where he earned a bachelor's degree in marketing and played in the defensive

backfield for the Crimson Tide football team from 1999-2003. He was a three-year starter at safety and was named the All-Southeastern Conference Team as a de-



JONES

fensive back in 2003. He also received the Bobby Jones Most Improved Defensive Back Award in 2001. Jones served as team co-captain his senior season in 2002-2003.

After graduating from the University of Alabama, Jones was signed as an undrafted free agent by the NFL's New York Giants. Following a brief period with the Giants, he played for the Georgia Force of the Arena Football League for two seasons.

He began his coaching career as a graduate assistant at Mississippi State University in Starkville, where he coached defensive backs from July to December in 2008.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff as a part-time assistant, Jones held coaching positions at three high schools in Alabama - Central High School, Bessemer City High School and Jackson-Olin High School, serving as defensive coordinator at two of the schools.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Groundbreaking for New Turf Field: Participating in groundbreaking ceremonies Friday, June 13 for a new Synthetic Turf Field at East Central Community College's Bailey Stadium included (from left) Chris Harris, ECCC dean of athletics and personnel services; Ken Karcher, head football coach; James M. Bateman, EnviroTurf, Flowood; Dr. Billy Stewart, ECCC president; Jerry Smith of Philadelphia, vice chairman, ECCC Board of Trustees; and Taylor Guild III, principal architect with Eley Guild Hardy Architects, Biloxi. CR Construction, Inc. of Flowood was the successful bidder for the eight-week project, estimated to cost \$727,000. Funding for the installation of the turf field is provided in part from net proceeds of the recently held "Laying the Foundation: An Evening with Coach Tony Dungy." Installation for the new surface is expected to be completed in time for the Warriors' 2014 home opener with Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Thursday, Sept. 11.

Cooper Joins EC Football Coaching Staff

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Ben Cooper of Abilene, Texas, was recently selected a graduate assistant football coach at East Central Community College, announced Warrior head football coach Ken Karcher.

Cooper will serve as tight ends coach. Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Cooper served the past two years as an assistant coach for the Abilene Bombers of the Arena Football League, and the past four years as a graduate assistant at Hardin-Simmons University, also located in Abilene.

His duties with the Abilene Bombers included coaching offensive linemen, tight ends and fullbacks. He also assisted with special teams.

Cooper helped lead the Bombers to the 2013 playoffs. His offensive line was voted "Best Line in the League" following the 2012 and 2013 seasons. Cooper was also selected to coach in the 2013 Arena Football All-Star Game.

He began his coaching career in 2010 at Hardin-Simmons, where he coached linebackers, quarterbacks and tight ends. He also served as a recruiter and was responsible for all out-of-state recruiting.

Cooper is a 2004 graduate of Austin (Texas) Hyde Park Baptist School, where he was a foot-

ball standout at quarterback. He also excelled in basketball and track.

He continued his football career at Texas Lutheran University in Sequin, Texas, where he was a two-year letterman at tight end. He was also a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Cooper received a bachelor's degree in theological studies at Texas Lutheran in 2009, and earned a master's of divinity in family ministry at Hardin-Simmons in 2014.

He is the son of Walter and Juanita Cooper of Austin. He has a brother, Alexis Cooper.



COOPER

EC Athletic Teams Recognized for Academic Excellence

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Seven East Central Community College athletic teams were recognized for academic excellence in 2013-14 by the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA).

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart said the academic honors reflect the type of athletic program the College strives to achieve each year.

"I want to congratulate and thank our coaches and our student-athletes for their efforts in the classroom this year," said Dr. Stewart. "They performed the EC Way - Excellence with Class, and I am so proud of each of them!"

The Lady Warrior fast-pitch softball team achieved a 3.54 grade point average and finished second in the nation.

Kristin Chaney serves as head coach.

The Lady Warrior soccer team had a 3.51 GPA and finished second nationally.

Gray Massey serves as head coach.

The Warrior soccer team achieved a 3.16 GPA and was ranked fourth nationally.

Kenneth Thompson is head coach.

The Lady Warrior tennis team earned a 3.58 grade point average and finished fourth in the nation.

The Warrior tennis squad

posted a 3.25 GPA and was ranked 14th nationally.

Both programs are led by head coach Robert Thompson and adjunct coach Dianne O'Neill.

The Warrior baseball team finished 13th nationally with a 3.23 GPA.

Neal Holliman serves as head coach.

EC's golfers posted a 3.14 GPA and placed 17th nationally.

Chris Clark is head coach.

For more information on ECCC's athletic programs, contact Chris Harris, Dean of Personnel Services and Athletics, at 601-635-6401 or email charis@eccc.edu.

Reminder: Wear IDs at All Times!

Warrior Athletics



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Diamond Warriors Receiving Diplomas: A "special" graduation ceremony was held for the above East Central Community College baseball players who were unable to attend the college's 85th Commencement May 10, 2014, due to their participating in the MACJC State Baseball Tournament hosted by Northeast Mississippi Community College in Booneville. Diamond Warriors who received diplomas and special honors at the May 13, 2014, ceremony included (first row, from left) Mason Woodrow, Phi Theta Kappa, and Conner West, Achievement Scholar, both of Taylorsville; and Ty Hendrix of Maben, Achievement Scholar; and (back row, from left) Maxwell Harmon of Meridian, President's Scholar, Phi Theta Kappa and NJCAA Academic All-American; Jacob Bush of West Blocton, Ala., Dean's Scholar, Phi Theta Kappa and NJCAA Academic All-American; Caleb Woods of Carthage, President's Scholar, Phi Theta Kappa; John Morgan Berry of Madison, Achievement Scholar; and Zach May of Little Rock, Achievement Scholar. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart presented diplomas and provided in inspirational message to the outstanding student-athletes. The Diamond Warriors finished fourth in the MACJC South Division and advanced to the MACJC and Region 23 tournaments. EC's baseball program is led by head coach Neal Holliman and assistants Scott DeLoach and Ronald Sims.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Baseball Team Assists in Clean-Up Efforts: Members of East Central Community College's baseball team assisted in clean-up efforts following the April 28 tornado that damaged several areas in Decatur. In the above photo, Diamond Warriors are shown picking up tin that was blown off cart houses at Decatur Country Club, which received extensive damage. The ECCC athletes spent several hours helping clean up the golf course as one of their many community service projects. EC's baseball program is led by head coach Neal Holliman and assistants Scott DeLoach and Ronald Sims, who also participated in the clean-up efforts.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Diamond Warrior Scholar Athletes: These members of the 2014 East Central Community College baseball team are co-recipients of the Scholar Athlete Award presented at the annual Spring Sports Awards Banquet. From left are Caleb Woods of Carthage and Maxwell Harmon of Meridian, who both earned perfect 4.0 grade point averages. Woods is a product of Leake Central High School and Harmon hails from Enterprise High School. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart and Warrior head coach Neal Holliman presented awards.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Presented ECCC Women's Basketball Awards: These members of the 2013-14 East Central Community College women's basketball team received honors at the annual Spring Sports Banquet. Award winners and their respective high schools include (seated from left) Niya Hughes of Forest, Most Improved and MACJC All-Star; Tynika Bender of Newton, Most Valuable Defense; and Haley Watkins of Scott Central, Lady Warrior Award; and (standing from left) Jaleshia Jones of Wayne County, Most Valuable Player, Most Valuable Offense and first team MACJC All-State; Tyler Hearn-Ferguson of West Jones, sophomore letter-winner; Ty-Neisa Mickens of Noxubee County, Hustle Award; and Leake Academy product Anna Katherine Nowell of Philadelphia, Scholar Athlete. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart and Lady Warrior head coach Crandal Porter presented awards.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC's Award-Winning Softball Players : Above are members of the 2014 East Central Community College fast-pitch softball team who received honors at the Spring Sports Banquet. Award winners and their respective high schools include (seated from left) Kendra Wilson of South Lamar (Ala.) High School, Pitching Award and MACJC All-State; Kaylin Hopkins of Louisville, Base Running Award; Mallory Turner of West Lauderdale, Hustle Award; and (standing from left) Makayla Kelly of Nederland (Texas) High School, Lady Warrior Award; Ty Buckley of Neshoba Central, Most Valuable Player, Most Outstanding Offense, MACJC Player of the Year; All-Region 23 and MACJC All-State; and Haley Stephens of Union, Most Improved. Not pictured is Lindsey Beard of Clarkdale, Most Outstanding Defense. Buckley was among the nation's top sluggers as she tied two other players for most home runs with 20 and posted a .408 batting average with 66 RBIs. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart and Lady Warrior head coach Kristin Chaney presented awards.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Receive ECCC Men's Basketball Awards: These members of the 2013-14 East Central Community College men's basketball team received honors at annual Spring Sports Banquet. Award winners and their respective high schools include (seated from left) Shedrick Fair of Aberdeen, Scholar Athlete; Jacques Johnson of Jackson Provine, Most Valuable Player, second team MACJC All-State and MACJC All-Star; and Ramone Tate, a product of St. Stanislaus High School, Warrior Award; and (standing from left) Demarcus Jones of Terry, Hustle Award; Kristian Clark of St. Martin, Hustle Award; Terrance Mujahid of Westwood High in Memphis, Most Valuable Defensive Player, MACJC All-Star; and Quinton Campbell of Mary G. Montgomery High in Mobile, Most Valuable Offensive Player. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart and Warrior head coach Robert Thompson presented awards.

Warrior Athletics

EC's Buckley Named MACJC Softball Player of the Year

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

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 of 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



BUCKLEY

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.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Sophomore Golfers Honored: Sophomores on the 2014 East Central Community College golf team were presented framed EC letters at the annual Spring Sports Awards Banquet. Honorees and their respective high schools include (from left) Aaron Tucker of Leake Central, Taylor York of Choctaw Central, Sam Williams of Newton County Academy and Sawyer Williams, a product of Parkers Chapel High School in Eldorado, Ark. Chris Clark serves as Warrior golf coach.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Sophomore Tennis Players Honored: Sophomores on the 2014 East Central Community College tennis teams were presented framed EC letters at the annual Spring Sports Awards Banquet held recently on the Decatur campus. Honorees and their respective high schools include (from left) Alana Turner, Florence; Nan Hartness, Winston Academy; Amber Pierce, Leake Academy; Brandon St. Clair, Newton County; and Hannah Smith, Leake Academy. Adjunct tennis coach Dianne O'Neill made the presentation.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Golf Award Winners: East Central Community College golfers Aaron Tucker (left) of Carthage and Sawyer Williams of Eldorado, Ark., were presented honors at the annual Spring Sports Awards Banquet. Tucker and Williams were co-recipients of the Scholar Athlete Award and Williams received Most Valuable Player and second team MACJC All-State honors. Williams also qualified to participate in the NJCAA Division II National Golf Tournament scheduled May 20-23, 2014, at Swan Lake Resort in Plymouth, IN. Tucker is a product of Leake Central High School, and Williams hails from Parkers Chapel High School. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart and Warrior golf coach Chris Clark presented awards.

ECCC Names New Baseball Assistants

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

New assistant baseball coaches were recently selected at East Central Community College, announced Neal Holliman, head baseball coach.

Jake Rowell of Orange, Texas, and Austin Golden of Cullman, Alabama, joined the Diamond Warrior staff during August 2014.

Holliman said he "could not be more pleased" with his new assistants.

"I am truly ecstatic about their abilities and willingness to work to help our program continue to grow," said Holliman, whose Diamond Warriors captured state titles in 2008 and 2013. "It has truly been reinforced through these two hiring processes that it is more important to hire the right people who are the right fit than any other factor to grow our baseball program."

Rowell previously served a brief stint as head coach of the Prospects National Travel Baseball Team in Kyle, Texas.

He is also a former head baseball coach at Marion (Ala.) Military Institute, serving from August 2012 to September 2013. He served the previous year as an assistant coach.

Rowell's coaching experience also includes serving as head coach of the Beaumont (Texas) Gladiators Select Baseball Club and his participation in several summer baseball league programs.

He also has several years of experience as a private instructor for all phases of the game.

In addition, Rowell is a former baseball official and umpire for the Texas Association of Sports Officials.

Rowell is a 2011 graduate of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, where he received a bachelor's degree in science, health and exercise science and was a standout baseball player. A two-year starter and letterman, he helped lead the Trojans to the 2011 Sun Belt Conference Tournament Championship and the university's

first NCAA Tournament appearance. He served as team captain during the historic season. The previous season Rowell helped lead the squad to the 11th best "turnaround" in college baseball.

He was also a Dean's List Scholar at Arkansas-Little Rock and was included on the Sun Belt Conference Academic Honor Roll.

Rowell began his college career at Angelina College in Lufkin, Texas, where he received an associate's degree in arts, physical education and health sciences in 2009. He was also a member of the Roadrunners baseball team.

He is a 2007 honor graduate of Little Cypress-Mauriceville High School in Orange, Texas, where he was a member of the Bears baseball and golf teams.

Prior to joining the Diamond Warrior staff, Golden was as an assistant baseball coach at Troy University in Troy, Alabama, from 2012-14. He helped lead the Trojans to the 2013 Sun Belt Conference title. He received a bachelor's degree in criminal justice in 2014.

Golden's coaching experience also includes a brief stint as assistant coach for an American Legion team in Troy.

He was a member of the Troy baseball team from 2011-12.

Golden began his college career at Northwest Shoals Community College in Muscle Shoals, Alabama, in 2009-11. He was a member of the 2010 Patriot squad that claimed the Alabama Community College Regular Season Championship.

He is a 2009 graduate of Cullman High School and was a member of the 2007 and 2008 baseball squads, which captured Alabama High School Athletic Association 5A State Championships.

For more information about Diamond Warrior baseball, contact Coach Neal Holliman, at 601-635-6374 or email nholliman@eccc.edu.



ROWELL



GOLDEN



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Receive ECCC Men's Tennis Team Honors: These members of the 2014 East Central Community College men's tennis team were presented honors at the annual Spring Sports Awards Banquet. Award winners and their respective high schools include (from left) Javon Yarbrough of Louisville, Most Valuable Player; Daniel Giles of Union, Warrior Award; Dominick Fields of Forest, Academic Award; and Juan Miranda of Morton, Captain's Award. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart and adjunct tennis coach Dianne O'Neill presented awards.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Presented ECCC Women's Tennis Awards: These members of the 2014 East Central Community College women's tennis team received honors at the annual Spring Sports Award Banquet. Award winners and their respective high schools include (from left) Nan Hartness of Winston Academy, Captain's Award; Alana Turner of Florence, Academic Award; Amber Pierce of Leake Academy, Lady Warrior Award; and Hannah Peoples of Leake Academy, Most Valuable Player. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart and adjunct tennis coach Dianne O'Neill presented awards.

Warrior Scene

Scenes from EC Day at the Fair





ECCC Presents Turf Field

ECCC holds ribbon-cutting ceremony for synthetic turf field. **PAGE 12**

The Tom-Tom

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Evers Exhibit Opens

ECCC hosts Medgar Evers Exhibit. **PAGE 3**

Numerous Activities Scheduled for Homecoming, Oct. 11

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

The annual 5K Run/Walk and Kids' One-Mile Fun Run begins a full day of homecoming activities scheduled Saturday, October 11, 2014, at East Central Community College.

Competition starts at 7:30 a.m. at the North Campus Pavilion. A \$20 entry is required for participation.

Registration for alumni begins at 9 a.m. near the Founders Gymnasium Breezeway. Retired ECCC English instructor Ovid Vickers will be available during the registration period to autograph copies of his recently published book, "The East Central I Knew: A His-

tory of East Central Community College." Refreshments will be available during registration.

The Memorabilia Room in Burton Library will be open from 9 to 11 a.m. as will the "This is Home: Medgar Evers, Mississippi and The Movement" exhibit, currently on display. Tours of the recently renovated and reconstructed Cross Hall will also be available during this time period.

The ECCC Bookstore will be open from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for those wanting to purchase College merchandise and other items.

Former Diamond Warriors are invited to participate in the biennial ECCC

Alumni Baseball Game beginning at 10:30 a.m. at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex.

The Alumni Association Awards Luncheon gets under way at 11 a.m. in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. The annual event is highlighted by the recognition of alumni of the year and athletic hall of fame inductees.

This year's honorees include Cheryl L. Comans (Class of 1981) of Cleveland, Alumna of the Year; Dr. Michael W. Waldrop (Class of 1968) of Clinton, Alumnus of the Year; Richard L. Fulmer (Class of 1959) of Deatsville, Ala., and Troy H. Henderson (Class of 1954) of Raymond, Athletic Hall of Fame

inductees; and James Bobby Everett (Class of 1948) of Decatur, Lifetime Achievement Award.

Special reunion groups include the Class of 1949; Class of 1964; Classes of 1957, 1958 and 1959; the 1994 Lady Warrior Basketball Team; and members of all classes ending in "4."

Members of the 1964 Class will receive 50th Anniversary Diplomas from ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart during a special ceremony beginning at 1:30 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

Other activities scheduled for Homecoming Day include the Lil' Warrior Kid Zone, from 1 p.m. to approximately

4 p.m. at Bailey Stadium, and Warrior Club tailgating and annual meeting beginning at 1 p.m. on the deck inside Bailey Stadium.

The Warrior football team hosts Jones County Junior College at 2:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium.

The homecoming court will be presented during halftime ceremonies, followed by a performance by the Wall O' Sound Marching Band.

For more information about Homecoming 2014, contact Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations, at 601-635-6327. Her e-mail address is sholling@eccc.edu.

Comans Selected 'Alumna of the Year'

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Cheryl Comans (Class of 1981) of Cleveland was recently selected "Alumna of the Year" at East Central Community College. The Decatur native said she is "deeply honored" to join such an elite group of women.

"There are many successful women, whom I hold in great esteem, who have graduated from ECCC and have previously been selected for this honor. I am deeply moved to have been chosen to be a part of such a prestigious group of former alumnae and extremely grateful to those who thought me worthy to be nominated and those who selected me for this award." Comans said.

ECCC Alumnus Billy Pierce was among those nominating Comans and in his supporting letter wrote of her, "Cheryl's love for East Central Community College has been evident in her involvement in various campus activities and her attendance at numerous campus events.....Along with her personal financial support, she has also helped secure grants for the school. She never misses an opportunity to speak positively about East Central Community College and is definitely one of the college's most avid supporters."

Comans has spent the past 28 years with Entergy Corporation. Currently, she works with Entergy Mississippi in the Cleveland office and is responsible for providing customer service to more than 31,000 customers and 10 major accounts in 30 communities located throughout the Mississippi Delta.

"I spend many hours working with the farmers of the Delta in resolving issues that require escalated attention to what may arise in providing electrical service to his or her farming operation," she said. "I am very involved in my communities representing



COMANS

See COMANS, PAGE 3



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Homecoming Court: Above are members of the 2014 Homecoming Court at East Central Community College, who were selected during elections held recently. Pictured are (seated from left) sophomore maids Anna Katherine Nowell, of Philadelphia and Cara Jackson of Nanih Waiya; queen Nikki Triplett of Forest; maid of honor MaChasity Leflore of Carthage; and sophomore maid Mallory Turner of Meridian; and (standing from left) freshman maids Courtney Hamilton of Philadelphia, Kaley Bufkin of Decatur, Skylar Davidson of Morton and Sydney Keith of Philadelphia. The queen and her court will be presented during halftime of the Warriors' Homecoming battle with Jones County Junior College scheduled for 2:30 p.m. Saturday, October 11.

Waldrop 'Truly Honored' Upon Selection as 'Alumnus of the Year'

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

"Truly honored" is how Dr. Michael Waldrop (Class of 1968) of Clinton described his feelings upon being selected "Alumnus of the Year" at East Central Community College.

"I realize that the best of my college days were at EC," Waldrop said. "My mind drifts back to the campus, the dorms, the faculty, the basketball games and other fond memories. I see this honor as being one of the highlights of my life because of my fond feeling about the time I spent at EC."

Dr. Waldrop, a Morton native, currently serves as the Executive Director of the Mississippi School Boards Association (MSBA), a position he has held since 2004. MSBA is a nonprofit organization that provides training, state and federal legislative advocacy, technical assistance, and information to public school boards and school superintendents across the state.

In addition, he serves as Trust Administrator for the MSBA's Workers' Compensation Trust, and Property & Casualty Pool.

"One hundred percent of the public school systems are members of MSBA, and the majority of school districts participate in one or more of our insurance pools."

Dr. Waldrop previously served as Deputy Executive Director of the Mississippi School Board Association from 2000-2004.

During his tenure, MSBA has grown in both size and scope. "We have been able to enlarge the Association (MSBA) from a small, somewhat obscure organization to an organization looked upon by educators and state leaders as an organization capable of providing solutions to complex problems," Dr. Waldrop said. "I am also pleased that the organization has increased its number of employees, its financial position, and its ability to offer more specialized services to school board members and school districts, especially in the technology area."

From 1987 to 2000, he was employed as Superintendent of the

See WALDRUP, PAGE 3

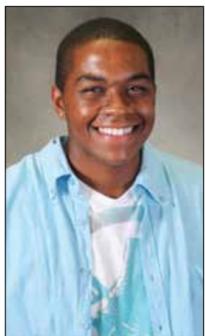


WALDRUP

The 'New' Cross Hall Unveiled

BY DOMINICK FIELDS
Staff Writer

The newly rebuilt and renovated Cross Hall opened for use in August as another science hall on the East Central Community College Campus. The 14,093 square-foot building includes two tiered classrooms that can seat up to 100 students per room, two classrooms with 60-student capacity and additional classrooms that can seat up to 30 students each. In addition, the hall includes a renovated chemistry lab; and additional office space. The two-year, 3.7 million dollar project was funded by State Bond Funds appropriated by the Mississippi Legislature.



DOMINICK FIELDS
Staff Writer

Teachers, as well as students, have said they are enjoying the new building. Spanish teacher,

"We are all thrilled that Cross Hall is open and we are able to teach classes in there again," said Curt Skipper, Science Department Division Chair. "It is truly an amazing renovation and addition to our school. Cross Hall paves the way in energy efficiency for the future of EC. I dream about all of the future doctors, nurses, pharmacists, veterinarians and all of the bright futures our students will have as they begin their college science classes in Cross Hall. I know that Mr. Frank Cross and the science teachers who have come after him would all be



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Holds Ribbon-Cutting for 'New' Cross Hall: A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held Sept. 9, 2014, to officially unveil the recently reconstructed and renovated Cross Hall at East Central Community College. Former ECCC President Dr. Phil Sutphin performs the ribbon-cutting duties assisted by Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake and current ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart. Also participating in the ribbon-cutting ceremony were State Sen. Terry C. Burton, State Rep. Randy Rushing, Decatur Mayor Pat O'Neill; Henry B. "Bubba" Hudspeth of Louisville, representing the Mississippi Community College Board; Bureau of Buildings Grounds and Real Property representatives Glenn Kornbeck, director, and Mike Beauchamp, project manager; Randall Lewis, H&H Architects; Hugh Bergin, project manager, Chris Albritton Construction; several ECCC Board of Trustees members, several ECCC retired faculty members and current instructors.

thrilled to see it today."

Spanish instructor, Carla Gray, whose classes are now located in Cross Hall said, "I really like the technology that is available to use to enhance instruction. I also like the nice big windows that allow the natural light into the classroom. This enhances the learning environment."

The classrooms are equipped with up-to-date technology that enhances the learning experience for the East Central students. Comfort is also key for the new building.

"For many students including myself, one of the best amenities of Cross are the comfortable seats," said sophomore DeeJay Ro-

lison of Decatur.

Former ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin initiated the project during his tenure in 2012. Construction began a few months following a ground breaking ceremony on June 12, 2012. Construction was supervised by the Bureau of Buildings, Grounds and Real Property Management

Constructed in 1961, Cross Hall originally contained classrooms for biological and chemical sciences. A chemistry lab was also located in the building, named for chemistry instructor Frank Cross. Cross was a member of the ECCC faculty from 1933 to 1970. He also served as science division chairman.

Page Two

FEATURE TEACHER



Price shares life

BY WIL JOHNSON
Staff Writer

Madison Price is a history professor at East Central Community College. He is new to East Central Community College, but has also taught at Holmes Community College in the past. He teaches American History I and II at East Central.

What made you want to become a teacher? *The thought of getting to stand in front of people was fun and seeing the surprise when they learn something new and amazing.*

Why did you choose to teach history? *History covers everything from art to politics.*

Where all have you taught? *Some high school: private and public and Holmes Community College.*

What is the highest degree you hold? *Masters degree*

What are some of your hobbies outside of school? *Playing with my two dogs, watching any sport on television and spending time with my wife.*

What are some of the differences of teaching at high school and junior college? *The desire to learn, maturity and respect.*

What college would you like to teach at? *University of North Carolina*

How do you like it here at East Central Community College? *It's enjoyable, I like the small campus feel.*

What is one thing you want to do before you get old? *Travel the world.*

Who would you say is your favorite person from history? *George Washington because he could have been king, but acted selfless and walked away from the power. Most people would not have been that selfless.*



WIL JOHNSON
Staff Writer

STRIKE A POSE



KRISTEN GORDY
SOPHOMORE • EDUCATION • FOREST

Why did you choose East Central? *My sister attended EC and she absolutely loved it!*

Are you a part of any extracurricular activities? If so, what are they? *Phi Theta Kappa, Warrior Corps, and various clubs.*

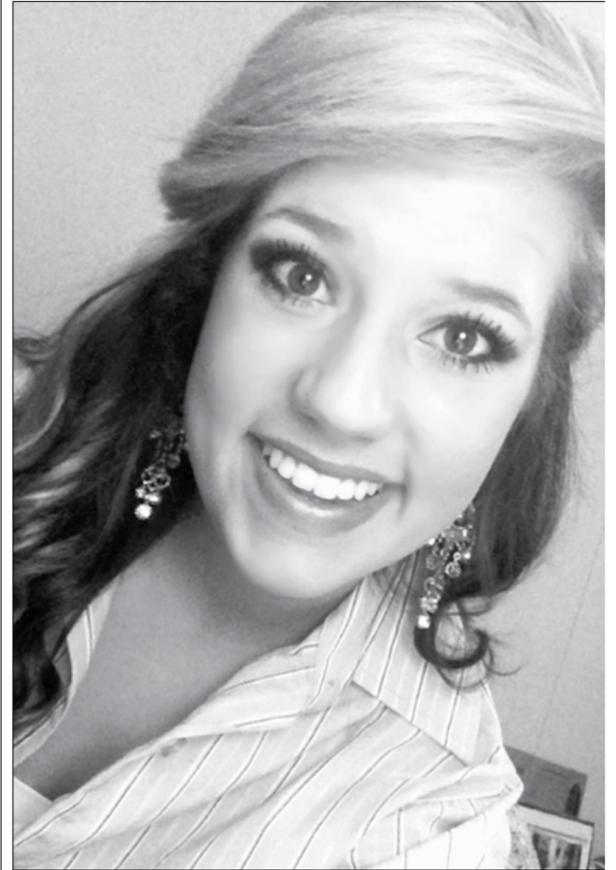
Who is your favorite faculty member at East Central? *Mrs. Jenna Wright, Mrs. Robin Fulton and Ms. Amanda Walton.*

What do you believe could change at East Central? *The smoking needs to stop and more time between classes.*

What are your plans after East Central? *I want to attend Mississippi State University and be a counselor.*

— Madison Barnett, editor

STRIKE A POSE



MALLORIE HUNT
FRESHMAN • COSMETOLOGY
COLLINSVILLE

Why did you choose East Central? *It is a small school close to home and it is a great college.*

Are you a part of any extracurricular activities? If so, what are they? *The Centralettes*

Who is your favorite faculty member at East Central? *Mrs. Wanda Brackeen*

What are your plans after East Central? *To open my own salon business*

— Madison Barnett, editor



MADISON BARNETT
Editor

Where can an Ole Miss degree take you? Across the globe.

HALEY, a former transfer student from Mississippi, is majoring in Mechanical Engineering. Last summer, Haley traveled to Togo, Africa with the group Engineers Without Borders after becoming involved during her first year on campus.

“Ole Miss provides so many unique opportunities for involvement. My experience abroad changed my entire perspective.”

—Haley, Mechanical Engineer



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EC Hosts Medgar Evers Exhibit

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College is serving as a host site for the Medgar Evers exhibit, *This is Home*, which will be on display through Friday, November 21, 2014, in the newly modernized Burton Memorial Library.

An opening reception for the exhibit was held on Monday, Sept. 29 in Burton Library. Refreshments were provided by the college's Culinary Arts Technology students. Barry Karrh serves as instructor. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart and the Board of Trustees invite the public to view the exhibit as often as possible.

"Our institution made a commitment to Community Partnerships in its strategic plan, 2020 Vision. An action within this commitment includes exploring and offering unique cultural events and activities

to enhance the quality of community life. Please join us for this very important occasion as we celebrate the fulfillment of another action plan of the college's 2020 Vision," said Dr. Stewart.

"This is Home" details the life of one of Mississippi's most prominent Civil Rights activists, Medgar Wiley Evers.

A native of Decatur and World War II veteran, Evers was hired by the NAACP in 1954 as a field secretary. In that role, he crisscrossed the state, logging thousands of miles as he investigated cases of racial violence and intimidation, organized local NAACP branch offices, and registered voters. Evers also worked closely with regional and national NAACP offices and other civil rights organizations. His reports to the national office, speaking tours, and media interviews helped

focus national attention upon the intense social and political issues plaguing the state, raising the profile of Mississippi's Civil Rights Movement.

The night of June 12, 1964, after returning home from a community meeting, Evers was shot and killed in his Jackson driveway. He had known his life was at risk, but even at the end, facing entrenched opposition and grave danger, Evers never relented in his fight for justice, a legacy that has lived on today. "This is Home" celebrates the life, legacy and accomplishments of Evers upon the fiftieth anniversary of his death.

"This is Home: Medgar Evers, Mississippi and the Movement" was sponsored by the following organizations: Mississippi Department of Archives and History, the Foundation for Mississippi History, and the Medgar



Evers Exhibit Opens at ECCC: "This is Home: Medgar Evers, Mississippi and the Movement," an exhibit detailing the life of one of Mississippi's most prominent Civil Rights activists, Medgar Wiley Evers, opened Sept. 29, at East Central Community College. The collection will be on display through Friday, November 21, 2014, in Burton Memorial Library.

and Myrlie Evers Collection, with the special permissions of Myrlie Evers and Reena Evers-

Everett.

For more information about this exhibit or the traveling ex-

hibits program, contact the Department of Archives and History at 601-576-6997.

Armstrong To Present EC Humanities Program Oct. 27

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

English and literature instructor Jason Armstrong of Meridian was recently selected 2014 Mississippi Humanities Council Teacher of the Year at East Central Community College.

Each year, the Mississippi Humanities Council honors one faculty member from each of the state's community colleges and four-year colleges and universities.

In recognition of his selection, Armstrong will present a pro-

gram titled "What Did Socrates Say to the Chicken Farmer" at 6:30 p.m., October 27, in Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium. The event is free and open to the public.

"I will relate my personal and professional experiences outside of education; discuss the importance of a Humanities-focused curriculum in education; and explain why the community college system is the most unique position to emphasize this focus."

Armstrong graduated with a bachelor's degree from the Col-

lege of Agriculture (Poultry Science) at Mississippi State University in 1997, was awarded a Master's in Business Administration in 1998, and a Master of Arts in Teaching (Community College Education with English emphasis) in 2009.

Prior to joining the East Central family in August 2009, he served as an adjunct professor of management at Mississippi State University in Meridian, as well as a Commercial Relationship Banker in Meridian, Tupelo, and Jackson.

Armstrong is a 2010 gradu-

ate of the Mississippi Community College Leadership Academy, and he was chosen as the HEADWAE Outstanding Faculty Honoree in 2011. In addition to these honors, he has attended the Southeastern School of Commercial Lending at Vanderbilt University and the Graduate School of Banking at Louisiana State University.

The son of Meridian natives Charlotte and Richard Armstrong, a retired Colonel in the United States Marine Corps, Armstrong currently splits time between Meridian and New

Orleans, where his girlfriend, Danielle, a former East Central student, is pursuing a master's degree in nursing and certification as a family nurse practitioner at Nichols State University.

He has recently published articles in America's Civil War magazine as well as LEGENDS magazine, in which he interviewed East Central alumnus, Randy Houser.

For more information, contact Dr. Teresa Houston, ECCC vice president for instruction, at 601-635-6203, or e-mail thouston@eccc.edu.



ARMSTRONG

COMANS

From Page 1

Entergy Mississippi where I also work with state and local governments."

From 1996 to 2000 she was employed in the Little Rock, Ark., office as the Training Supervisor for all of Entergy's six call centers.

"I was able to acquaint myself with many employees throughout the Entergy system through participating in meetings and on various teams. One team that comes to mind is the Entergy Renewal Team. With this team I was privileged to have input into a new training program called Horizon, which proved to be a great tool for adult on-the-job learning."

One highlight of her career has been working with farming operations throughout the Mississippi Delta through varied types of farming accounts.

"Some of Entergy's most tedious rates are in our seasonal accounts for farming operations such as cotton gins, grain bins and irrigation wells. To work with these accounts is a chal-

lenge, but a pleasure, due to the many advancements in the farming operation today," Comans said.

She began her career with Entergy in 1986 as a Customer Energy Advisor.

Comans said she has been affected by many people who have come in and out of her life through the years; however, she said the two biggest influences have been her parents, Raymond and Glenda Comans.

"My father promoted hard work and security, whereas my mother influenced how to live life, faith in God and character," Comans said.

Comans said although there is no way she could single out just one or two individual professors, she was influenced greatly by many East Central Community College faculty members who still play an important role in her life today.

She said she also learned valuable leadership skills at ECCC, which have served her well in her chosen career.

"While at East Central, I was a very active student participating in many campus activities. I truly believe that through my involvement in campus

life it helped to develop many skills I would go on to use, especially in the area of leadership, which has played a very important part in my career achievements," she said.

Comans was involved in many clubs and activities at ECCC, but acknowledges most of her time outside the classroom was spent on the tennis courts at EC.

"From the time I was in the eighth grade at Decatur, until I graduated from East Central, many hours were spent on the court in the afternoons trying to develop my talent as a tennis player," Comans said. "As I reminisce over the years, many cherished memories and friendships were made on EC's courts with students that came through East Central during that time."

It was obviously time well spent considering she was selected Most Valuable Tennis Player both her freshman and sophomore years.

Comans is also a former Warrior cheerleader and one 'special' memory for her was the day she was charged with leading her history class in a

cheer for the football team.

"One of the funniest moments for me occurred in Mr. Simmons' 8 a.m. class on the first Friday morning of my freshman year," Comans explained. "EC had a football game the following day and Mr. Simmons wanted a cheer led in his class that morning. He asked for any cheerleaders to come to the front of the room to lead the class in a cheer."

"The room was filled with numerous football players, which at the time made me most nervous. I slumped down in my chair and looked around for other cheerleaders to go to the front to lead in the cheer, but neither Mr. Simmon nor I saw anyone in the class but me. To no avail and with much pleading to spare me from having to lead the group in a cheer, Mr. Simmons won the round and from that day till the end of football season I had to lead the class in a Friday morning cheer. I look back and laugh over my shyness and thank Mr. Simmons for helping me overcome stage fright!"

After graduation from East Central, Comans continued her education at

Mississippi State University where she received her Bachelor's Degree in Communication and Marketing. She later earned a Master's Degree in Business from Delta State University.

An active participant in her community, Comans serves as chairman of the Cleveland-Bolivar County Economic Development Foundation and is a member of the East Central Community College Alumni Board, Cleveland-Bolivar County United Way Board and Rotary.

She is past president of Mississippi Association of Partners in Education, East Central Community College Alumni Association and Vicksburg Chamber of Commerce.

She is a member of the Delta State University Beta Rho Chapter of Delta Mu Delta International Honor Society and was named to the Mississippi Delta Business Journal's Top 50 Women in Business.

Additional honors include her selection as a Pinnacle Award Finalist (1993), Peak Performer Award Recipient (1996) and Team Excellence Award Recipient (1998).

WALDROP

From Page 1

Senatobia Municipal School District was Assistant Superintendent for Special Education Services, Curriculum and Federal Projects from 1982 to 1987.

He said, "As a school superintendent, I took great pride in the fact my school district was one of the top academic school districts in the state and that we were able to balance the academic side of education with a strong extracurricular program."

In my 14 years as school superintendent, our students consistently scored in the top 5% of school systems on state test and the high school won The Clarion-Ledger All Sports Award for the best overall athletic program in the state, in its classification, 10 or 11 out of my 13½ years as superintendent of schools.

Dr. Waldrop began his career as a teacher and coach at Senatobia High School from 1970 to 1978. He served as an administrative assistant for the Senatobia Municipal School District from 1978 to 1979 and as middle school principal/administrative assistant from 1979 to 1982.

He has spent a combined 44 years in the field of education in Mississippi.

Dr. Waldrop credits his parents, W.J. and Lo Waldrop, with teaching him early in life the benefits of hard work.

"They offered tremendous support and love to me in whatever endeavor I undertook and instilled in me an extremely strong work ethic," Dr. Waldrop said. "Looking back, I cannot say I ever outsmarted anyone, but can say I did out work a few people."

A fellow educator who had a profound impact on the young teacher was his first boss.

"As a young person straight out of college, C.R. Rials, the superintendent of the Senatobia Municipal School District where I worked, took me under his wing. Through his influence, I matured both spiritually and professionally. I owe him greatly for my success," Waldrop said.

Dr. Waldrop was also quick to recognize his wife, Sondra, for always supporting his endeavors.

"My wife, Sondra, has stood by me in the easy and difficult times. She is my best friend and my retreat. Nothing I have accomplished would have been possible without her love and support."

Dr. Waldrop acknowledged East Central Community College with providing the focus he needed to complete his education and succeed in his chosen career.

"EC matured me," he said. "When I arrived at EC, I was not properly focused. Through the influence of the faculty, I began to change, although slowly and with the gnashing of teeth, from an unfocused adolescent to someone with a purpose. This paradigm shift gave me purpose, and the quality of education I received while at EC equipped me to succeed in my career."

What memories highlight his time at East Central?

"My fondest remembrances center on basketball games, dorm life, and the interaction with the EC faculty. I can remember leaving on the 'yellow dog' on Thursdays for a basketball road trip and getting back to EC late at night on Friday or Saturday. The games, the people, the coaches are all still vivid in my mind," Dr. Waldrop said.

He added, "I also reminisce about the professors and my time in class. Looking back, I now realize how fortunate I was to have such capable professors. I learned in spite of myself. More importantly, what I learned in class at EC has stayed with me."

As with many former students, the names of Thrash, Vickers and Clark appear among a long list of Dr. Waldrop's favorite instructors.

He said, "After a semester of world history under Mr. (Tom-

my) Thrash, I was convinced that my life's career would be a community college history professor. To this day history is my primary hobby."

"I still apply the life lessons Mr. (Ovid) Vickers taught me using English Literature. Ode to a Louse always kept me from becoming too serious about myself. And then there was my basketball coach, Joe Clark. The lessons I learned from Coach Clark were not fully appreciated until years later, the most important lesson being that basketball is temporary, but being a person of high morals is forever. Coach Clark was truly a good man, and I owe him much."

Dr. Waldrop does admit to one comical blunder involving an intimidating professor and the chemistry lab.

He explained, "I will never forget how intimidated I was by my chemistry professor. I was struggling with chemistry my freshman year and wanted to remain obscure to my professor. In chemistry lab I had just lined up all the chemistry paraphernalia (test tubes, jars, Bunsen burners, etc.) I would be using in conducting a chemistry experiment when the professor walked up, startled me, and I knocked everything off the lab table; glass was everywhere. The rest of the semester the professor used me as an example of how not to prepare

for chemistry experiments! So much for obscurity!"

In addition to his duties with the Mississippi Association of School Boards, Dr. Waldrop currently serves on the National School Boards Association (NSBA) Liaison Committee, which attempts to shape national education policy working through NSBA.

He has also served on the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) Blue Ribbon Commission for the Redesign of Administrative Preparation, the Mississippi Institutes of Higher Learning (IHL) Blue Ribbon Committee for the Redesign of Teacher Preparation, and the MDE Career Pathways Oversight Committee.

Dr. Waldrop has served on numerous other state committees including the MDE Advisory Committee on Dropout Prevention, the University of Mississippi School of Education Alumni Chapter Board of Directors, and the Board of Directors of the Commission on Secondary and Middle Schools of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and was appointed by the Governor to serve on a state policy team to oversee the development of a "turnaround" plan for under performing schools.

He is a former member of the Mississippi Commission on School Accreditation, the Mississippi Effective School Con-

sortium, and the National Assessment Governing Board.

His community involvement includes serving as past president of the Senatobia Rotary Club and the Tate County Economic Council, a Baptist deacon, and a Rotary International "Paul Harris Fellow."

Dr. Waldrop's honors include being recognized by the Mississippi Association of Superintendents for outstanding educational leadership and the prestigious "Golden Lamp" leadership award from the Mississippi Association of School Administrators.

He received the "Excellence in Leadership Award" from the Delta Rural Systemic Initiative, the "Distinguished Alumni Award" from Delta State University, and "Alumni of the Year for the School of Education" by the University of Mississippi.

Dr. Waldrop earned a Ph.D. and a M.Ed. in educational administration from the University of Mississippi and a B.S.E. from Delta State University.

He and his wife, the former Sondra Baugh, have been married 45 years. They have two sons: Jason Baugh Waldrop and his wife, Christine, who reside in Oxford; and William Dirk Waldrop and his wife, Michelle, who live in Mountain Home, AR. The Waldrops have eight grandchildren: Fisher, Elise, Worth, William Brick, Tyler, Gabe, Sara and Jase.

Warrior Viewpoints

FROM THE EDITOR

The 'New' East Central

Have you all recognized the new additions to campus? These spectacular additions have made East Central Community College even better! Dr. Billy Stewart's "20/20 Vision" is a part of what has made East Central No.1. Cross Hall, new side walks, Bailey Stadium turf field and other renovations have been made to better our campus. These renovations are an awesome description of what "20/20 Vision" really is all about.



MADISON BARNETT
Editor

Many other renovations are needed to contribute to the "20/20 Vision." The dorm life here is not the greatest, the rooms need extreme renovations. Many girls from Jackson Hall complain about the Internet connections, heating and air conditioning, bathrooms and room situations. Personally, I do not agree with the room situations many of the students are dealing with. Three people in one dorm room is very hectic. Living with just one roommate in Barber Hall was hectic so just imagine three. In addition, building more dorms would be less stressful on the housing department. The waiting list for a dorm room was extremely long during the summer. Many students who paid their deposit were placed on a waiting list, possibly with no hope of having a room by the middle of the semester. Constructing more parking places would be more convenient for students because they would be able to park closer to dorms or classrooms. Lighting is getting better around campus but more is needed. It is not safe for a girl or guy to have to walk in darkness to their cars, rooms or even night classes. Last year walking to Barber Hall on the side of the Decatur library made me very uncomfortable.

The "20/20 Vision" is an excellent plan for EC to grow and remain No.1 in everything! With that being said, EC is most definitely "EXCELLENCE WITH CLASS!"

—Madison Barnett, editor

OTHER VIEWS

E-books Vs. Textbooks

In this technologically advanced age, E-books have become the up and coming thing as far as college education is concerned. I suppose you could say that there are ups and downs to both, but I definitely prefer old fashioned text books with actual pages that I can turn, highlight, and write on. I like to be able to keep my notes for the current unit in my course inside my book so I'll know where I am. I also like to write in the margins of my books, and underline/highlight things that stick out to me in class. I don't want to have to worry about bringing a laptop, Ipad, Kindle, Nook, or any other device to class so I will have my book. I find it rather inconvenient to have to remember to charge your text book. I do not like to stare a screen for long periods of time when I am studying, and of course having a technical difficulty the night before a big test could mean that you don't get to finish studying at all. There is also the monetary issue with E-books. They are definitely more expensive since you obviously can not buy a used copy, but on top of that you can't sell your E-book back at the end of the semester.

One of the few positive things I can say about E-books is that they probably would improve the well-being of students across the globe because we would no longer have 4 or 5 fifteen pound text books and a binder or two to carry around. Backpacks really do cause back problems for young people everywhere. Even though I wish I did not have such a heavy load that makes my back ache I still prefer my text books. I guess as the saying goes "No pain, no gain."

—Allison Johnson, Opinions Editor



BY MACKEN'Z SMITH, CARTOONIST

OTHER VIEWS

Cafeteria vs. Grille

The Mabry Cafeteria and the Grille both have their advantages and disadvantages. If you are new to East Central Community College, it is important that you are well informed about each of these on-campus eateries. The cafeteria is closest to most of the buildings that contain classes, unless you are a nursing or cosmetology student. In that case the cafeteria and the Grille are both a considerable distance away from your building. The cafeteria offers three meals a day that are part of the meal plan. Also, those three meals are different each day of the week. However, don't worry, the most famous meals are served on a specific day every week, for example the famous "Fried Chicken Thursday." In the cafeteria there is no limit to the number of times you may go through line to get more food. This is true for those that have a meal plan and those that just pay to eat that day upon entry. There is usually a good dessert option and a couple of entre choices. If you like salads as much as I do then you will agree the salad bar is "to die for." There is much more seating available in the cafeteria. If you have any food allergies, you can just inform the administration at East Central, and the cafeteria will be informed of your allergies so that they can fix your meals to the specifications required.

Also, the cafeteria serves food on the weekends. However, the cafeteria's hours are not as convenient if you have a tight schedule, or if you participate in many extracurricular activities. The cafeteria is open from 7 to 8:15 a.m. for breakfast, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for lunch, and 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. for dinner. The weekend hours are a little different. On Friday dinner is from 5 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. On Saturday breakfast is from 9 until 10 a.m. and lunch is from 3 until 4 p.m. On Sunday lunch is from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and dinner is 5 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. There is no Saturday dinner or Sunday breakfast.

The Grille, located in the Eddie Smith Student Union, has some advantages of its own. The best thing the Grille has to offer is more flexible hours for those that have busy schedules. The Grille's hours are as listed: Monday-Thursday Breakfast is from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., Lunch is from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and Dinner is from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Friday breakfast is 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. and lunch is from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. My favorite attribute of the Grille is you can choose to go to the sandwich bar and pick your choice of bread, meats, extras and dressings. Also, something that is very important to me, is that the Grille has honey mustard, and the cafeteria does not.

However, the Grille does have its disadvantages. The Grille, for the most part, serves the same foods every day, and you cannot go through the line an unlimited number of times. Also, Breakfast at the Grille is not included in the meal plan so keep that in mind if you have a meal plan and were planning to eat most of your meals there due to the bad reputation that cafeterias have! Now that you have been given the ups and downs of the Mabry Cafeteria and the Grille, I will let you do the deciding!

—Allison Johnson, Opinions Editor

OTHER VIEWS

EC: Our Temporary Home

East Central Community College does a fantastic job of providing adequate dorms for the men and women at East Central but there are just not enough rooms. This year, there has been a record of 130 on the waiting list. This is outrageous. The men have six dorms compared to the women who have two. Even though the female dorms are a little nicer than the men's, we still need more rooms. More than half of EC's population is women, and I feel like we should be provided with the housing we deserve.

Now, let's discuss the males' situation with their residence. Even though they have multiple places they can stay, not all of them are ideal. There have been rumors of leaky roofs and moldy showers. That is something nobody wants to live through. So the males need dorm renovations desperately.

Dorms are places that we as students live in for 10 months out of the year. It is our "temporary home" and because of that, they need to be renovated and updated.

—Kimberly Harrison, Features Editor



ALLISON JOHNSON
Opinions Editor



KIMBERLY HARRISON
Features Editor

EC Offers Opportunities

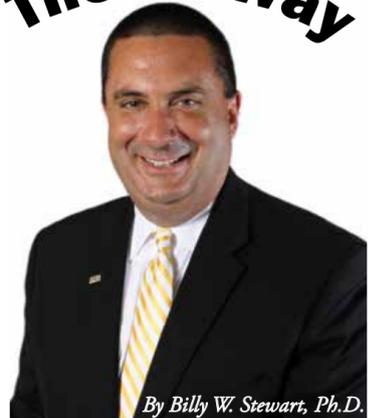
Greetings East Central students! I trust that your fall semester is going well! The administration hopes that all of our students are participating in the many campus activities offered for them. We've seen several students at our athletic contests and movie nights, as well as in the coffee shop/cafe, just to name a few. No doubt, being a member of the EC family provides several opportunities for meaningful interactions with others. Take advantage of all of them!

We also hope you are attending class and spending quality time studying each day. It is our greatest desire that every one of you complete degree requirements and participate in commencement exercises. We believe the recent changes in curriculum, full-time credit hours and graduation requirements will provide increased opportunities for your success, so work hard and take full advantage of them as well!

I always enjoy seeing all of you as I walk around campus. It simply reminds me how blessed I am to be in the position God has entrusted to me. As we enter the activities of homecoming week, I am also reminded how special this college is and what it has meant in the lives of so many alumni. I trust that it is coming to mean as much to all of you!

See you around campus!

The EC Way



By Billy W. Stewart, Ph.D.

—Billy W. Stewart, ECCC President

FROM DR. LEE'S DESK

Dr. Lee Sets Homecoming Challenge

Homecoming 2014 is almost here! On Saturday, October 11, ECCC has a day of activities celebrating the "homecoming" of alumni. I challenge the clubs to show up in force and win the prizes as the three clubs with the highest attendance will be recognized and awarded money! The top club will also win a pizza party! There will be a table for you to check in during the football game. We encourage you to stay on campus Friday and attend Homecoming.

With Homecoming just around the corner we are approximately at the one-half way point of the semester already! Time truly does fly by! By now you have learned that you cannot miss class and keep up with your studies. You will be tempted to take a day off, but there is no such thing as a "free" absence. It always costs you because you cannot make up what you miss! The number one preventable reason for failure in college is absences!

Always watch the bulletin boards for updates. Lots of things are going on so check the boards and your e-mails for messages. If you have suggestions for improving campus life see the Director of Housing and Student Activities, Ms. Kristi Smith. You can e-mail her at ksmith@eccc.edu or call her at 635-6213.

We (old & young faculty & staff) challenge you student groups to run or walk in the 5K at 7:30 a.m. Saturday, October 11! Who can hang with the old folk!? See Ms. Fox-Smith (sfoxsmith@eccc.edu/601-635-6307) or Mr. Hill (shill@eccc.edu/601-635-6124) if you are interested. Students get to run and earn a t-shirt at one-half the price (\$10)!

We are here to assist you. Let me know if you need help. You can reach me at 635-6375 or e-mail rlee@eccc.edu.

Sincerely,
Dr. Randall E. Lee, Vice President for Student Services



DR. LEE

OTHER VIEWS

Swag Vs. Chivalry

Recently, the population has become obsessed with the idea of a guy having "swag" which according to dictionary.com can be defined as "a swaying or lurching movement". However, society seems to believe that "swag" means "wearing pants that fall down to a person's ankles and thinks selfishly". What happened to romance novels with knights in shining armor with chivalry, which dictionary.com defines as "the sum of the ideal qualifications of knight, including courtesy, generosity, valor, and dexterity in arms"? I don't want a guy with his pants down to his ankles where everyone can see his underwear hanging out of the top. Is that supposed to elicit romantic notions in my mind?

Has our generation already forgotten all of the fairytale stories that we grew up reading or watching? You don't even have to remember Prince Charming because guys would claim he was "perfect," and none of them could possibly be that perfect. Instead, let's think about Flynn Ryder from the Disney movie Tangled. Flynn was nowhere near the perfect gentleman. He was a thief for goodness sake; however, he still came through and saved the princess in the end!

I'm not asking that a guy buy a woman a \$400 purse "just because". I'm not asking for a dozen roses every week. Opening a door for your significant other isn't asking much. All I want is a guy who will make me more than just an option in his life. Most guys with "swag" are so consumed with being what others consider "cool" they forget that they have a significant other sitting at home waiting for them. Don't be that guy.

People always say "you never know what you have until it's gone." Do you want to miss out on the most important person in your life because you made stupid decisions?

—Madison Herrington, Staff Writer



MADISON HERRINGTON
Staff Writer

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Accreditation
East Central Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools 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.

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

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Warrior Viewpoints

GUEST COLUMN

Sid Salter: 'Yik Yak' app represents irresponsible descent

I know absolutely nothing about the facts surrounding the arrest of a University of Southern Mississippi student on charges that he charged with felony «posting a computer threat to cause injury» on the social media application Yik Yak. But I know the danger posed by anonymous social media is real.

Every time a one of these false anonymous threats on social media is made, the more desensitized young people became to threats of any kind. That leads to ignoring legitimate safety warnings and that can lead to injury or worse.

According to a USM press release sent Monday night, their 20-year-old student is accused of making an anonymous post on Yik Yak on Monday morning that threatened members of the USM community at Joseph Greene Hall.

The legal process will take its course. It appears USM handled the matter with great skill and concern for their students, faculty and staff. But for the rest of the state's higher education community, the reaction was likely uniform – there but by the grace of God goes all of us.

What is Yik Yak? It's a smart phone application that allows users to post comments anonymously. The app was launched in December 2013 by entrepreneurs Brooks Buffington and Tyler Droll, two recent college graduates who designed the app to work like a "virtual bulletin board" in a limited geographic radius.

Essentially, it's Twitter with absolutely no accountability. A "yakker" can post anything he desires, no matter how absurd, hurtful, malicious or untrue and do so safe in the darkness of anonymity.

One enterprising "yakker" told the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Daily Cardinal student newspaper that Yik Yak was "the virtual version of bathroom graffiti." That's a fairly apt description.

I began following Yik Yak a few months ago. Most of the "yaks" and I'm talking about the vast majority of them were sophomoric observations of a sexual nature – with about an equal split between male and female students.

There were introspective "yaks" about roommates, classes, homework, hangovers, dating fiascos and midnight food runs as well. But there were also really mean-spirited attacks people's appearance, intellect, and morals.

The great problem with Yik Yak isn't that it's insensitive, misogynistic, profane, unenlightened, shallow or even cowardly. And rest assured, it's all those things. But it is also occasionally funny, unexpectedly insightful, unintentionally poignant and incredibly addictive – at least, it likely would have been to my 20-year-old self.

My 55-year-old self finds Yik Yak a huge pain in the posterior. Why? The anonymity of Yik Yak is simply too much for some college students to handle. The temptation to assume that the supposed anonymity of Yik Yak provides sufficient cover to smokescreen truly bad, truly dangerous cyber behavior is simply too much for many to withstand.

Incidents in which students allegedly used Yik Yak as a means of making threats that could spread fear and panic on campuses have happened at the University of Georgia, the University of Alabama, and now allegedly at USM.

Trouble is, this isn't spray painting graffiti or swallowing goldfish or cramming 15 people in a Volkswagen. After 9-11, the legal system has no patience with crying "wolf" or making prank threats. The danger those false threats hold for these young people and their friends is real.

Social media and the Internet foster false bravery on the part of many. People make comments at the end of news story, hurl accusations and insults that they would never utter face-to-face. That's gone on so long that society now accepts a certain amount of incivility as par for the course.

But there's a difference in incivility and irresponsibility, as some of these young students are learning the hard way.

Sid Salter is a syndicated columnist and director of public affairs at Mississippi State University. Contact him at (601) 507-8004 or sidsalter@sidsalter.com.

OTHER OPINIONS

We Want to Hear from YOU!

I would like to start by saying Hello and Welcome to East Central Community College (ECCC) to all of you who are new this year. I'm positive that your experience and time at ECCC will be very enjoyable and pleasant. I would like to encourage each of you to get involved on campus because that will make your time here much more fun and memorable. Plenty of organizations are available for you to be involved with so there is no excuse for you not to be! Also, I would like to specifically extend the opportunity for you to express your opinions. We love hearing from you, so you can write letters to the editor, write a guest column about something that you have an opinion on that involves ECCC and/or our faculty and students, or even become a member of the newspaper staff.

Now, I want to say welcome back to those of you who are returning this year. We would like to hear from you too. Please write to us or join our staff. Share your opinions because I know you have them, especially since you have been here and know the ropes! Do not be afraid to use your voice. ECCC is student-friendly and strongly encourages all students to get involved and have fun while you obtain a great education from a school that is one of, if not the best, community college that exists!

—By Allison Johnson, Opinions Editor



ALLISON JOHNSON
Opinions Editor

WORDS OF A WARRIOR

BY MADELON TAYLOR

What Motivates You?

MALLORY TURNER
Collinsville
Nursing
Sophomore



"The thing that motivates me is just wanting to be a better me in everything I do, not only sports."

TALLIE JOHNSON
Lake • Music
Freshman



"I am motivated to be a better performer."



JERRY BYRD
D'Iberville
Biology
Sophomore

"My teammates and coach motivate me. I play with everything I have for them. I strive to be successful every game I play."

RYAN MOTT
Decatur
Vocal Music
Sophomore



"My motivation comes from my dream of a successful future."

What is the Most Valuable Lesson You Would Tell Students?

VICKI BLAYLOCK
Fine Arts
Chairwoman,
Vocal/Choral
instructor



"ALWAYS PRAY. Pray about all of your decisions. Choose a career in life that you will get up every morning and enjoy going to and doing each day you live."

KEVIN RYALS
Public Speaking
Instructor



"Finish school. Don't stop- it is hard to go back."



NATALIE EMMONS
Keyboard
Instructor

"Don't wish your life away. Enjoy today how today is- It will never come back."

SUSAN FOX-SMITH
Decatur
Psychology
Instructor



"Attitude reflects leadership and everything happens for a reason."

WORDS OF A WARRIOR

BY MADELON TAYLOR

What Upgrades or Events Would you Like to See at EC?

ANNA GIRLING
Carthage
Music, Piano •
Sophomore



"I would love to see EC get a new, bigger band hall and better practice rooms for music majors. Something that would be very helpful to students at EC would be to bring more people into the school to talk to students about their field of study."



LACYE HARRISON
Little Rock
Secondary
Education
Sophomore

"Many parking problems have been fixed, but additional parking space would be nice. Temperature in the classrooms need to be controlled, it is too cold in classes."



KAELIN GENTRY
Philadelphia •
Dental Hygiene •
Freshman

"A bigger band hall would be a very good upgrade. I'd also like to have different speakers to come and talk to students."

TYLIN SORRELS
Decatur •
Liberal Arts
• Freshman



"I'd like to see some concerts for us students to go to."

MEET THE STAFF

Johnson Tells Her Story

Hello, I am Allison Johnson and *The Tom Tom's* Opinions Editor for the 2014-15 school year.

I am a sophomore at East Central, and a secondary education major. I am from Neshoba Central High School in Neshoba County.

I am in Phi Beta Lambda, Environmental Club and Warrior Corps. I am the reporter of Phi Theta Kappa, President of the Student Education Association and a member of the *Wo-He-Lo* staff.

I love to read, hang out with friends and family and play with my miniature pig! If you have any questions about anything, feel free to ask!

—By Allison Johnson, Opinions Editor

OTHER VIEWS

Society Can Make or Break a Relationship

Relationships are hard. They have ups and downs and twists and turns. Half the time, you can't even remember which way is up. They are hard enough as they are without all of the added complications with it especially when they are things that don't even matter.

I usually see things about how girls get mad that a guy didn't text her back, but he was able to get on Twitter and tweet about something. So what? What does it matter if the guy hasn't text you back yet? Are you completely incapable of not texting him for 10 minutes? Is there supposed to be an acceptable time frame for your significant other to text you back? If so, I'm sure that I'm a failure when it comes to actually remembering or sometimes wanting to text someone back. Depending on what I have going on such as studying, eating, etc., it might take me hours to text a guy back. I can't stand my phone blowing up when I'm trying to study ESPECIALLY when you know I have a test coming up. I'm not saying that I don't want you to text me at all; I'm just saying that you don't have to send me a text for every three minutes I don't text you back.

"Who is that girl/guy who 'liked' your Instagram/Facebook picture," is also a frequently asked question in a relationship. Newsflash girls and guys, other people actually CAN like your significant other's posts. It isn't illegal, in case you're wondering. Instead of worrying about careless things that deal with social media, why not focus on something more important?

What could be more important than social media relationship problems you may ask? Oh, I don't know. Don't you think that rumors about him or her cheating is more important? Now, I'm not saying to believe rumors right away. What I'm saying is, "ASK them." Don't sit there and think about it and think about it until you finally explode and have a big blowout of a fight. Figure out the truth and move forward from there.

Cheating has sadly become a normal part of relationships in this generation. Have you ever noticed how most of the time relationships are a viscous cycle? Everything starts with a cheater and a loyal person. Once the loyal person gets deeply hurt, they either become really guarded about who they talk to or they become the cheater to avoid being hurt themselves, and the cycle continues. Since I'm a girl, I'll use this example: The "good" girl falls for the "bad" boy in hopes of changing them into a faithful guy until she gets hurt. Then, she becomes hard-hearted and cynical, but she'll date the "good" guy until she possibly cheats so that she has control of the situation and cannot get her feelings hurt. On the other hand, she might just become cautious about who she talks to next which causes problems due to trust issues. Not all girls or in some cases guys turn out this way, therefore, I won't continue to stereotype. Take me for example, I have the problem where a guy will stop talking to me because he's "not ready for a good girl like me yet" (at least this is what I am told from his parents/sisters/friends). There is always the chance for an abnormality, in case you're wondering. Sorry for the rant; I'll get back to the topic at hand.

If you read closely, I'll give you a little secret to a lasting relationship. Are you ready? Trust. If you don't have trust, you can't have a relationship. As a couple, you might still have little petty fights about social media, but if you trust your significant other, it won't cause an issue. There's a small chance that your significant other is going to run off into the sunset with that one person who liked their last social media post. Trust in your relationship, and when you start having problems with trusting your significant other, talk to your partner about it. Don't just rant to your friends or family. Talk to him or her about it instead. It might cause you both less heartache in the end.

—Madison Herrington, Staff Writer

MEET THE STAFF

Harrison Shares Her Life

Hello, I am Kimberly Harrison. I'm from Forest and currently a sophomore at East Central Community College.

My major is nursing. I am *The Tom-Tom* features editor, staff member of *Wo-He-Lo*, a diamond darling, warrior corp member, and Sigma Sigma Mu Ta member. I am a member of Christian Life Fellowship. I currently work at the EC football offices.

I am obsessed with Disney. I love everything about Disney. My hobbies include shopping and hanging out with my friends.

I'm super excited about my sophomore year. I think it will be an amazing year!

—Kimberly Harrison, Features Editor



MADISON HERRINGTON
Staff Writer



KIMBERLY HARRISON
Features Editor

We Want Your News!

E-mail information about your club/organization to gtaylor@eccc.edu.

Reminder: Wear IDs at All Times!

Clublicity

EC Wall O' Sound Band to 'Rock' in 2014

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Another entertaining half-time performance is scheduled by East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Marching Band during the 2014 football season, according to Hunter Corhern, now in his third year as director of bands.

Corhern said the 175 talented musicians will perform several selections by the rock band Queen, as part of this year's halftime show, titled "We Will Rock You."

"This show has been a dream of [Assistant Director of Bands] Ed Girling for many years, but he has waited until we had the right group to put it together," Corhern said. "Last fall, based on returning members and recruitment numbers, we realized that it was finally time to bring the show to life!"

The Wall O' Sound Marching Band made its 2014 debut during halftime of the Warrior's home opener with Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Thursday, Sept. 11 at Bailey Stadium.

Song selections include We Will Rock You, Bohemian Rhapsody, Crazy Little Thing Called Love and We Are the Champions, among other famous Queen hits.

The Wall O' Sound is led on the field by drum majors Katie

Sanford of Decatur, Sarah Hall of Philadelphia, and Louise Berryhill and Danielle Horne, both of Union.

Members of the 2014 Wall O' Sound and their respective hometowns include Parker Jones, Brandon; Jonathan Brown and Darnell Myrick, both of Canton; Austin Anderson, Kenshelsa Boyd, Mariah Boyd, Rhet Bradshaw, Emily Cook, Blake Faulkner, Anna Girling, LaRavia Griffin, Stafford Griffin, Shannon Keene, MaChasity Leflore, Maryanna Sikes, Cody Smith and Delia Wilder, all of Carthage;

Houston Martin and JoHannah Smith, both of Chunky; Malorie Hunt, Ben Pace and David Wilson, all of Collinsville; Katie Bradley, Joshua Finley, Nina LaBue and De-Jay Rolison, all of Conehatta; Brii Bout, Kaley Bufkin, Anna-Lea Clarke, Katy Ezelle, Sarah Freeman, Rachael Havar, Ryan Packer, Tylis Sorrels, Stephen Stewart, Courtney Tillman, Benji Walton, Radance Wright and Kaylee Yates, all of Decatur; Jennifer Argueta-Martinez, Acacia Brown, Jeremy Collins, Bri Cooks, Katie Fortenberry, Alan Graham, Lindsay Hedge, Symone Ickom, Ian Lanthrip, Ryan McClendon, Kim Patrick, Brittney Rawson, Thomas Robertson, and Thomoz Smith, all of Forest;

Josh Parker, Foxworth; Acea Ange, Aaren Avera, Ben Avera, Jeremy Dade, Patrick Embrey, Katherine Jacome-Cluff, Courtney Williams and KK Williams, all of Hickory; Reuben Fleming and Justin Moore, both of Kosciusko; Taylor Bone, Amanda Brown, Anthony Emmons, Faith Emmons, Zachary Emmons, Dustin Fisher, Jonathon Hodge, Dakota Hollingsworth, Mikenia Ickom, Tallie Johnston, Surpriyce McDaniel and Brittney Taylor, all of Lake; Glenn Bender and Hannah Mitchell, both of Lawrence; William Milner, and Lorrie Moore, all of Lena;

Duster Allgood, Dylan Raines and Hunter Vance, all of Little Rock; Jacob McNeil, Louin; Taylor Alexander, Bristol Buffington, Joelle Hill, Cara Jackson, Roxana Johnson, Jordan Lovorn, Malek Penro, Megan Robinson, Tammie Triplett and Ashley Young, all of Louisville; Holly Logan, Madison; Hannah Mitchell, Jessica Moffett and Jacob Robinson, all of Meridian; Taylor Cornelison, Evan Derrick, Caleb Franklin, Grayson Harrell, Rachel Lopez, Malcolm McBride, Kayla Suduth, Daniela Vargas and Kara Yates, all of Morton;

Kelli Boulton, Michael Buntyn, Jeremiah Chapman, Jazmine Evans, Mackenzie Gannon, Ryan Godwin, Jurnee Jordan, Chris Kelley, Meme

Martin, Meilii Tumbling-Jordan, and Catherine Yohe, all of Newton; Colton Horne, Sara Thorne and Anna Claire Webb, all of Noxapater;

Justice Boler, Paige Brown, Kelcey Burrage, Erin Cumberland, Tyieasha Evans, David Fortenberry, Kaelin Gentry, Courtney Hamilton, Aaron Hancock, Cameron Higgason, Katie Hillman, Jeremy Huddleston, Amber Jones, Sydney Keith, Randi Kelly, Damien Lewis, Quormesha Lindsey, Elora Nicholas, Zach Peden, Keona Sanders, Damian Savage, Jamian Savage, Brittnae Smith, Cady Smith, Rissa Smith, Shardae Spears, Nohemi Velez, and Kaishanna Young, all of Philadelphia;

Charles Taylor, Preston; Justin Thornton, Raleigh; Che'Darius McGuire, Sturgis; Jameccia Bailey, Ashley Bozeman, Lauren Cassel, Chireatha Drummond, Kaylie Edwards, Rebecca Hitt, Jacolby Jenkins, Rachael Justice, Tori Malone, Matthew Mason, Austin McElhenney, Shauney Rich, Brad Taylor and Thomas Whinery, all of Union; and Mark Beasley and Steven Bloodsaw, both of Walnut Grove.

For more information on the ECC Wall O'Sound Marching Band, contact Director of Bands Hunter Corhern, 601-635-6123 or e-mail hcorhern@ecc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Wall O' Sound Drum Majors: Drum Majors for the 2014 East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Marching Band and their respective high schools are (from left) Sarah Hall, Philadelphia; Louise Berryhill, Newton County; Danielle Horne, Union; and Katie Sanford, Newton County. Hunter Corhern is beginning his third year as ECC Director of Bands. Additional staff members include Ed Girling, assistant director; Tina Sanders, Centralette coordinator/choreographer; and Kelsey Sikes, Color Guard coordinator.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC's Phi Beta Lambda Officers: These students serve as Phi Beta Lambda officers at East Central Community College. Seated from left are Virginia Easley, president, of Philadelphia; Jessica Price, vice president, of Decatur; and Leah Ferguson, secretary, of Philadelphia. Standing from left are Mark Hale, treasurer, of Little Rock; Kelsey Sikes, historian, of Carthage; Dominique Rush, parliamentarian, and Devin Skinner, reporter, both of Philadelphia. Phi Beta Lambda is an organization that allows students to develop leadership, communication and team skills. Members meet and network with others at the local, state or national levels. For more information about membership, contact Christy Ferguson, PBL adviser, at 601-635-6292 or email cferguson@ecc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Student Body Association Leaders: Selected to lead East Central Community College's student body for 2014-15 and their respective high schools are (front row, from left) Kaley Bufkin, freshman class president and Kaylee Yates, freshman vice president, both of Newton County; Anna Claire Webb, freshman class secretary, Noxapater and Hannah May, freshman class treasurer, also of Newton County; (back row, from left) Zack Allen, sophomore class president of Neshoba Central; Megan Robinson, sophomore class vice president and Cara Jackson, sophomore class secretary, both of Nanih Waiya; Matt Ferguson, sophomore class treasurer, Lake; Leah Ferguson Student Body Association (SBA) president, Neshoba Central; Hannah Mitchell SBA vice president, Newton County; Addie Ambrosier, SBA secretary, Magee; and Warner Parkes, SBA treasurer, Nanih Waiya.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Practical Nursing Club Makes Donation to Winston County Students: Members of the Practical Nursing Program at East Central Community College recently donated school supplies to students in the Winston County School District. Pictured with the donated items include Practical Nursing Club officers, Lydia Wolfe and Megan McElhenney, both of Decatur, president and vice president, respectively; Lauren Whitehead of Louisville, secretary; and Nikki Tucker of Philadelphia, treasurer.

Campus Organizations Begin Projects

BY CLARRISA SMITH
Staff writer

East Central Community College has numerous clubs and organizations that stay busy with activities throughout the year. Here are a few current club activities.

BONAPETITE CLUB

Buy a Sweet Treat from the Bonapetite Club: The Bonapetite Club is selling Amish bread made with a sour dough starter. They offer apple, apple spice and plum flavored bread for \$5-\$7. The club is raising money to buy the utensils that they need for Garde

Manger and materials for their final in December.

ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB

The Environmental Club adds the Finishing Touch to EC's Football Games: After the audience has gotten heated and excited by the intense football plays, the Wall O' Sound's performance, and the muggy heat, environmental club members offer audience members sweet, refreshing treats at the snowcone booth located across from the concession stands. Snowcones cost \$3 and icecream costs \$1. All of the money raised goes towards the club's trips to study and to benefit the environment.

BAPTIST STUDENT UNION

The Baptist Student Union Announces New Members of the Way Ministry Team: The Way's praise band consists of the following: Jeremy Collins, Sam Davis, Mark Beasley, Ian Lanthrip, Alex Bucklew, Caleb Franklin, Troy Gregory, Danielle Gregory, Daniel Giles, and Jonathan Hodge. The drama/interpretation movement includes the following: David Fortenberry, Dylan Jones, Ryan Gardner, Parker Jones, Devin Skinner, Joshua Parker, Kaishanna Young, Sarah Hall, Matt Sykes, Tylis Sorrellis, Hannah Bryan, and Mikayla May.

The Baptist Student Union's Lunch Encounter Receives Great Reviews: On Wednesdays at noon, EC students are offered free lunch at the BSU; however, \$1 donations are greatly appreciated and the money goes towards summer mission trips. Students have reported that the food is excellent and possibly the best food on campus. Not only do students receive free delicious food, but also they receive an uplifting spiritual message.

To share information about your club, e-mail staff member [Clarissa Smith at rissmithh@yahoo.com](mailto:Clarissa.Smith@ecc.edu) or adviser [Gennie Taylor at gtaylor@ecc.edu](mailto:Gennie.Taylor@ecc.edu).

EC Collegians Announced

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Members of the 2014-2015 Collegians rock-n-roll band have been selected at East Central Community College, announced director Chas Evans.

Those selected and their respective high schools include vocalists Ryan Godwin, Newton County; Garrett McDill, Sebastopol; Nick Stewart, Neshoba Central; Anna Wells, Winston Academy; Cara Jackson, Nanih Waiya; and Tallie Johnston, a homeschooler from Lake; rhythm section members Houston Martin (bass guitar) and Stephen Stewart (guitar), both of Newton County; Anna Girling (keyboard), Leake Central; Chris Kelly (drums), New-

ton; and Matt Mason (auxiliary percussion), Union; horn section members Zach Peden (saxophone) of Neshoba Central; Evan Derrick (trombone) of Morton; Nina Labue (trumpet), Newton County; and Daniella Vargas (trumpet), Morton; and technicians Acea Ange, Michael Buntyn, Hannah Mitchell, Patrick Embrey, Ryan Packer and Ben Avera, all of Newton County; Justin Moore, Leake Academy; Ryan McClendon, Forest; and Jeremy Collins, Scott Central.

The group's fall campus concert is scheduled for 7 p.m. November 17, 2014 in Huff Auditorium.

For more information, contact Evans at 601-635-6227 or email ceevans@ecc.edu.

Clublicity



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Students Tapped for PTK Honor Society: These outstanding East Central Community College students were inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, at the annual PTK Fall Induction Ceremony held Monday, Sept. 22, 2014, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. New members of the prestigious organization include (front row, from left) Samantha Morgan, Louisville; Kaylee Yates, Decatur; Jamey Kinard, Louisville; and Faith Emmons, Lake; (second row, from left) Nikki Triplett, Forest; Kelsey Smith, Louisville; Aaren Avera, Hickory; and Alana Knowles, Decatur; and (back row, from left) Brooke Smith, Noxapater; Justin Moore, Kosciusko; and Joshua Parker, Foxworth. Not pictured are inductees Mikayla May of Chunky and Justin Marcangeli of Philadelphia. Casie Page, student pastor at Northcrest Baptist Church, served as guest speaker. He was also inducted as an honorary Theta Xi member and adviser. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart and Vice President for Instruction Dr. Teresa Houston also provided remarks and congratulated inductees. Workforce education counselor Amanda Walton, math instructor Jenna Wright, and drafting and design technology instructor Chris Ryals serve as Theta Xi Chapter advisers.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Phi Theta Kappa Leaders: Advisers and officers of East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, are shown following the annual PTK Fall Induction Ceremony held Sept. 22, 2014. Front row, from left, are student officers Bridgette McFarland of Philadelphia, webmaster; Kristen Gordy of Forest, vice president of fellowship; Jenny Grove of Forest, vice president of service; Allison Johnson of Philadelphia, chapter reporter; Amber Williams of Morton, vice president of scholarship; Hannah Mitchell of Meridian, secretary/treasurer; and Lauren Cantey of Collinsville, vice president of leadership. Back row, from left are guest speaker Casie Page, student pastor at Northwest Baptist Church, who was also recognized as an honorary member and Theta Xi adviser; Theta Xi advisers Amanda Walton (workforce education counselor) and Jenna Wright (math instructor); Zach Allen of Louisville, chapter president who also serves as president of the MS/LA Region of Phi Theta Kappa; Will Myers of Philadelphia, vice president of leadership; and Theta Xi adviser Chris Ryals (drafting and design technology instructor). Thirteen students were inducted into the prestigious honor society during the annual program, held in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart and Vice President for Instruction Dr. Teresa Houston also provided remarks and congratulated the new inductees.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Native American Club Officers: These students were recently selected to lead the Native American Club in 2014-2015 at East Central Community College. From left are Emily Shoemake, president, Breanna Lasilou, vice president, and Shaneisha Willis, treasurer, all products of Choctaw Central High School, and Gary Willis, secretary, of Neshoba Central High School. Leslie Hughes, Dean of Learning Resources, and Elizabeth Minter, librarian, serve as Native American Club sponsors.

If you or someone you know is

Talking about suicide
Writing about suicide
Thinking about suicide

*Don't keep it a secret
shatter the silence!*

For help call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK or the Mississippi Department of Mental Health at 1-877-210-8513 or visit www.dmh.ms.gov for more information.

Supporting a Better Tomorrow...Today
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Nearly 50 percent of our students are transfers, so we understand where you're coming from and where you want to go.

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www.usm.edu/undergraduate

Apply for admission:
www.usm.edu/admissions



THE UNIVERSITY OF
**SOUTHERN
MISSISSIPPI.**

Faculty Corner

EXTRAORDINARY FACULTY

Daigle Returns to EC Because of Positive Experience

BY ALLISON JOHNSON
Opinions Editor

Sharli Daigle is a new faculty member at East Central Community College (ECCC) this year. As a member of the science department, she teaches Biology and Nutrition.

Daigle was a 2003 graduate of Newton County High School. She attended EC from 2003-2006 where her major was pre-veterinary medicine. She then attended the University of West Alabama (UWA) where she received her Bachelor's degree in environmental science. She also obtained her master of arts in teaching biology degree at

UWA. Some of Daigle's favorite subjects in school were immunology and parasitology. Daigle has previously served as an adjunct biology instructor at EC in 2011 and



ALLISON JOHNSON
Opinions Editor



DAIGLE

since the fall semester of 2013. She also served as an environ-

mental engineer at ESCO Corporation in Newton.

Daigle said she returned to EC to teach because she had such a positive experience, and it felt like home to her now just as it did when she was a student.

Daigle and her husband, Joel Daigle, are expecting a new baby. They also own Signature D Horses where she trains horses. Mrs. Daigle enjoys spending her time doing things outdoors and with horses of course. She also enjoys barrel racing, and is a member of the National Barrel Horse Association.

At right: Photo credit: Jeff Homan Photography



Kelly Named Interim Director of EMT-Paramedic Program

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Chris Kelly of Union was recently selected Interim Director for the East Central Community College EMT-Paramedic Program, announced Dr. Billy Stewart, college president.

Kelly, who began his new duties on August 4, 2014, previously served as a paramedic with SCRMC of Laurel.

He has also served stints with North Mississippi Medical Center in Oxford, American Medical Response of Jackson and Neshoba General Hospital.

His experience also includes serving as a safety manager for



KELLY

various businesses and industries including Avery Dennison,

MTD Products, GE Aviation, Weyerhaeuser, Kuhlman Electric and La-Z-Boy South.

Kelly is a graduate of Newton High School and received his associate of arts degree from East Central Community College in 1990. He completed a certificate in Para-medicine at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in 1993 and received the bachelor of science degree in Manufacturing Technology from Mississippi State University-Meridian Campus in 2001.

Kelly has four children: sons, Dent, Corey, Tanner and Samuel; and a daughter, Maygan.

Miles Joins EC Mathematics Faculty

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Michael Miles of Sebastopol recently joined the faculty at East Central Community College as mathematics instructor, announced Dr. Billy Stewart, college president.

Miles was previously employed by the Scott County School district as a high school mathematics instructor at Scott Central Attendance Center, a position he held since 1995.

In addition, he served as division chairperson, senior sponsor/advisor, new teacher mentor and participated in various staff development presentations.

Miles was selected STAR Teacher on three occasions, re-

ceived the Excellence in Teaching Award from the Forest Area Chamber of Commerce nine times, and was selected Scott Central Teacher of the Year in 2012. He was also selected Mississippi Alliance for Minority Participation Outstanding Teacher in 1996 and 1998 and was named to Who's Who Among America's Teachers.

He is a member of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics and the Mississippi Association of Educators.

Miles attended East Central Community College and received his bachelor of science degree in mathematics education from Mississippi State University. He was awarded the master of science degree in



MILES

mathematics from Mississippi College.

He and his wife, Rachel, have three children: Evan, Nina Marie and Morgan.

Mott Joins EC Financial Aid Office

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Kimberly Mott of Decatur was recently selected Assistant Director of Financial Aid/Loans at East Central Community College, announced Dr. Billy Stewart, college president.

Mott transferred from the college's Workforce Development Center, where she had served as marketing specialist since 2006. She earlier served as a financial aid counselor at ECCC from 2002 to 2006.

Her first stint at the college was in 1996-1997 when she served as assistant to the director of development and alumni relations.

Mott also has teaching experience,

including four years as a business/computer teacher at Newton County Academy, serving as an adjunct business and office technology instructor for ECCC and as a marketing/business and office technology instructor at Meridian Community College.

She received the associate's degree from Meridian Community College, a bachelor's degree in business and industry with emphasis in marketing from Mississippi State University and a master's degree in workforce training and development from the University of Southern Mississippi.

Mott and her husband, John, have three children: Joshua,



MOTT

Jacob and Jesslyn. They attend First Baptist Church in Newton.

Thornton Joins EC Financial Aid Department

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Mae Thornton of Decatur was selected Assistant Director of Financial Aid (Work Study) at East Central Community College.

Thornton, an ECCC alumna, began her new duties in August. She previously served as accounts payable clerk for the college's business office since 2013. Prior to her time at ECCC, Thornton was employed with Central Mississippi

Residential Center in Newton, where she served as an administrative assistant for the nursing department since 2007.

After receiving her associate's degree at ECCC in 2001, Thornton continued her education by earning a bachelor of science degree in business administration from Mississippi State University-Meridian in 2003.

Thornton is married to Neil Thornton. They have two daughters, Emma Claire and Molly.



THORNTON

Price Selected EC History Instructor

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Madison Price was recently selected history instructor at East Central Community College, announced Dr. Billy Stewart, college president.

A Wiggins native, Price previously served as U.S. and World history instructor at Choctaw County High School and also served as an adjunct professor for Holmes Community College.

He earlier taught courses in American government/economics, world history, American history and world geography/

Christian School.

Price is also a former teaching assistant in the Department of History at Mississippi State University.

He received his associate's degree from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College and earned both the Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees from Mississippi State University.

He and his wife, Jessica, reside in Decatur. His parents are John and Dana Price of Wiggins and he has one sister, Jana Ball of Ridgeland.



PRICE

NOTICE!

Safety Memo: Natural Gas Safety

Natural gas is one of the safest, most reliable, efficient, and environmentally friendly fuels in use today delivering natural gas for heating, water heating, and cooking as well as other natural gas appliances. Natural gas for East Central Community is delivered through a jurisdictional natural gas pipeline system. Like any form of energy, though, it must be handled responsibly. East Central Community College is known as a Master Meter Operator and has valves, regulators, and pressure stations on campus. Always remember safety first when operating natural gas appliances of any kind.

Natural gas is a nontoxic, colorless, and odorless fuel that is lighter than air. This lighter-than-air quality is an important safety factor. If a leak occurs, natural gas will mix readily with air and rise into the atmosphere. As a safety measure the natural gas that is piped to your home or business has a harmless odor similar to rotten eggs so that you can easily detect even the smallest amount of gas that might escape.

From design and construction to operations and maintenance, natural gas utilities like ours set high standards to keep natural gas pipelines incident-free.

Damage Prevention

Although safe, tested, and regulated, the system's most common hazard is from 3rd party damage from excavation. Before any excavations are done, contact Dig Safety - Mississippi One-Call System, Inc. 1800-227-6477 or 811 and call East Central Community College at 601-635-6266. Always call before you dig. It's as easy as dialing 8.1.1.1, and it's the law!

Detecting A Natural Gas Leak

Natural gas is one of the safest, most reliable, and environmentally friendly fuels in use today, but leaks can occur. There are three key ways to recognize a natural gas leak.

~ Look. Blowing dirt, bubbling creeks or ponds, dry spots in moist areas or dead plants surrounded by green, live plants also may indicate a natural gas leak.

~ Listen. An unusual hissing sound near gas lines or appliances may indicate a natural gas leak.

~ Smell. In its raw state, natural gas is colorless and odorless. Natural gas utility companies add a substance called mercaptan to create the familiar, rotten-egg-like odor usually associated with natural gas. You should take action even if you detect only a faint odor of natural gas in the air.

Natural Gas Safety Tips:

Here are some key words to help you remember what to do if a natural gas leak is suspected:

~ Leave. Leave the area immediately. Do not try to find or stop the leak.

~ Don't Touch. Do not smoke, use a cell phone, flashlight, turn on or off any lights or appliances or operate any kind of vehicle or equipment that could create a spark.

~ Dial. Immediately notify us. If a leak is suspected call the following number 601-635-6266 or 601-917-6119.

Remember - Never try to find the leak yourself!!!

To Report a Gas Leak call East Central Community College at 601-635-6266 or 601-917-6119 or Campus Police at 601-527-8939.

For additional information, contact East Central Community College 601-635-6266 or 601-635-6298.

Faculty Corner

Parks Selected EC Police Officer

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Cornelius Parks of Daleville was selected as a police officer for East Central Community College.

Parks returns to ECCC after previously working for the college in 2011. Since 2012, Parks worked for Performance Contractors, Inc./Southern Company Project. He also has numerous years law enforcement and military experience, working with other police departments and as an airman for the Mississippi Air National Guard.

Parks received his police certification in 2003 at the Mississippi Law Enforcement Officers Training Academy. He also received training while in the Guard including the U.S. Armed Forces Diversity and Basic training courses in 2002. In addition, Parks was certified in forensic interviewing by the Center for Interviewer Standards and Assessment in 2006.

Parks is married to Cassie Cox Parks of DeKalb. They have seven children; Cameron, Christian, Charity, Candace, Chandler, Catelynn and Caleb.



PARKS



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

New ECCC Faculty Members: New faculty members were welcomed for the 2014 fall semester at East Central Community College. The new instructors and their respective subject areas include (first row, from left) Harold Hollingsworth, heating and air conditioning technology; Betsy Anderson, history; Michelle Lee, sociology; Sharli Daigle, biology; Michael Miles, mathematics; and Jody Addy, precision machining and manufacturing technology;; and (back row, from left) Madison Price, history; Chris Kelly, EMT-Paramedic Technology Program Director/Instructor; Blake Everett, English; Danielle Brock, Warrior Path to Success; Dr. Talmage Graham, physics; and Valerie Nicholson, nursing. Not pictured is Marcia Russell, who is also a recent addition to the nursing faculty. For more information, contact Dr. Teresa Houston, Vice President for Instruction, at 601-635-6202 or email thouston@eccc.edu.

Allman Joins ECCC Louisville Staff

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Melissa Allman was recently selected Personal Development Specialist/Site Coordinator for the East Central Community College Career Advancement Center in Louisville, announced Dr. Billy Stewart, college president.

Allman, a Louisville resident, previously served as an administrative assistant for the Winston/Choctaw County Regional Correctional Facility.

From 2010 to 2013, she was employed as Distance Learning Specialist at Hinds Community



ALLMAN

College where she previously served as an admissions clerk.

In addition, her experience includes a stint as dual enrollment coordinator/distance education assistant at Mississippi Delta Community College.

Allman completed her associate of arts degree at Mississippi Delta Community College and received her bachelor of science degree in business administration from Mississippi University for Women.

She and her husband, Breck, have two daughters: MeriEvelyn, 11, and Mia, 9, who both attend Winston Academy.

Fitzgerald Selected ABE/GED® Input Manager/Examiner for ECCC

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Tammie Fitzgerald of Little Rock was recently selected ABE/GED® Input Manager/Examiner at East Central Community College.

Fitzgerald, who recently began her new duties at ECCC, also serves as an adjunct psychology instructor at ECCC. In addition, she previously served as accounts payable clerk for the ECCC Business Office. Fitzgerald earned her master of

arts in teaching in community college education from Mississippi State University-Meridian in 2011. In addition, she received her bachelor of science in interdisciplinary studies, summa cum laude, from MSU-Meridian. She earned her associate in arts degree from ECCC in 2007.

Fitzgerald has two children: daughter, Casey Fitzgerald Young of Flowood; and son, Cory Fitzgerald of Little Rock.



FITZGERALD



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Adult Basic Education Program Instructors: Providing instruction for East Central Community College's Adult Basic Education/GED® Testing Program are (seated from left) Mary Burt, Newton; Yolanda Wright, Lena; Shelby Varner, Louisville; Delore Nelson, Forest; Carol McAdory, Noxapater; Cindy Thomas, Philadelphia; and Susan Hisaw, Louisville; (second row, from left) Kimberly Ricks, Lena; Modean Cross, Pelahatchie; Kay Ward, Louisville; Amanda Walton, Lake; Barbara Booker, Philadelphia; Whitney Amis, Decatur; and Peggy Wallace, Louisville; and (back row, from left) Tammie Fitzgerald of Little Rock, AEMS/GED® Data Input Manager; Ryan Clarke of Decatur, Director, Adult Basic Education/GED® Testing; Bryan Burt, Newton; Robin Milling, Decatur; Nancy Quates, Carthage; and Caleb Smith, Forest. Not pictured are Daphne Donald of Louisville and Jeanne Vares of Newton. ECCC offers free Adult Basic Education and GED® Preparation classes in various locations in the ECCC District, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties. For more information, contact Ryan Clarke, 601-635-6387 or email rclarke@eccc.edu.

Addy Joins EC Workforce Education Staff

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Jody Addy of Decatur recently joined the staff at East Central Community College and will serve as Precision Machining and Manufacturing Technology instructor, announced Dr. Billy Stewart, college president.

Addy, who began his duties August 11, 2014, previously served as Manufacturing Fundamentals instructor at the Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center, a position he held since 2010.

He was employed by the Mississippi Department of Transportation as a Survey Party Chief from 2007 to 2010 and was a Tool and Die Maker at La-Z-Boy South from 2000-



ADDY

2007. A graduate of Newton County High School, Addy received his

Associate of Applied Science degree in Precision Machining from East Central Community College in 2000. He is certified in Machining Level I through the National Institute for Metalworking Skills (NIMS) and has attained certification in IC3, a global certification program designed to certify an individual's digital literacy skills associated with basic computer and Internet use. In addition, he has earned The National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) instructor certification.

Addy and his wife, the former Brook Winstead of Philadelphia, have a one year old son, Jebson Ray. They attend Mt. Zion Congregational Methodist Church.



ECCC Policeman Reed Honored: Officer Scott Reed (left) of the East Central Community College Police Department recently graduated from the Mississippi Delta Law Enforcement Police Training Academy hosted by Mississippi Delta Community College in Moorhead. Officer Reed also received special recognition for winning top overall honors in the Class B-48 Physical Fitness Training Competition. The Meridian resident is shown displaying a law enforcement certificate he received for completing the demanding 12 weeks of police training. At right is ECCC Chief of Police John Harris.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Everett Joins EC English Faculty

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Blake Everett of Collinsville recently joined the faculty at East Central Community College and will serve as an English instructor, announced Dr. Billy Stewart, college president.

Everett, who began his new duties on August 11, 2014, previously served as an English instructor for West Lauderdale Middle School and an adjunct professor for East Central Community College.

He served as an English instructor/English division chairperson at Sebastopol Attendance Center from 2009 to 2013 and was employed as an

English instructor at Kemper Academy from 2007 to 2009.

Everett received the Associate of Arts degree from Shelton State Community College and was awarded the Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Alabama. He earned his Master of Arts in Teaching at the University of West Alabama.

He attends Pine Grove Church in Martin where he serves as a Sunday school teacher and deacon. In addition, he is the Cub Master of Pack 16 of the Boy Scouts of America in Collinsville.

He is married to Jennifer Huey of Collinsville. They have two sons: Cole and Wesley.



EVERETT

Nicholson Joins EC Nursing Faculty

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Valerie Goss Nicholson of Philadelphia is a recent addition to the nursing faculty at East Central Community College, announced ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

Prior to beginning fulltime employment on August 14, 2014, Nicholson served part-time at ECCC since 2011, teaching certified nurse assistant classes as well as serving as clinical instructor for several levels of nursing students.

She has also served as a full-time nurse with Rush Health Systems for seven years, at Homecare Hospice of Sebastopol for one year, and at the Sebastopol Medical Clinic for two years.

An honor graduate of Sebastopol Attendance Center, Nicholson continued her education at ECCC, where she completed



NICHOLSON

the Licensed Practical Nursing program in 2004. She was also recognized as LPN Student of the Year and received Student of the Month honors.

Nicholson returned to EC to complete the Associate Degree Nursing program in 2010. In addition, she was a member of

Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges.

She is a cum laude graduate of Mississippi University for Women, where she received a bachelor's degree in nursing in 2012. While attending MUW, she became a member of the Zeta Rho Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International, a nursing honor society.

Nicholson earned a master's degree in nursing from William Carey University earlier this year.

Her community activities include serving as pianist at Rocky Hill Church of God in Sebastopol and volunteering with the local 4-H Club.

She is married to Billy Nicholson of Philadelphia. They have four children: son, William and three daughters, Breann, Olivia, and Heather.

EC Receives High Marks in Annual 'Report Card'

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

In accordance with House Bill No. 1071 from the 2010 Legislative session, East Central Community College has released its 2012 Community College Performance Profile, or Report Card. The bill created an Education Achievement Council (EAC) which was established to set education achievement goals for institutions of higher learning and community and junior colleges in the state and to assist in monitoring progress towards those goals through the preparation of annual institutional and state report cards.

The Community College Report Card, designed to reflect the unique mission of community colleges, incorporates measures closely aligned with the Voluntary Framework of Ac-

countability developed by the American Association of Community Colleges. Therefore, each report card includes information for the specific community/junior college, along with corresponding figures for the state system which includes all 15 state community/junior colleges. Information contained in the report includes student enrollment, degrees awarded, student success, student retention, student progress, workforce development information, GED® and adult basic education statistics, as well as enrollment and success in development or remedial coursework (college readiness).

In the 2012 Community College Report Card, ECCC ranked above the state averages in numerous categories. In the crucial category of Student Success, ECCC excelled in the area of

overall graduation percentages, particularly among pre-baccalaureate and technical students. Also evident is ECCC's top tier performance in preparing students to transfer to 4-year institutions. In the overall summary measurement of student success, ECCC exceeded the state average.

Other categories of comparative strength for ECCC within credit programs were overall student retention and percentage wage gains for associate of arts, technical, and career graduates. In the area of licensure pass rates for healthcare professionals, ECCC graduates passed these exams on first write at a rate of 94.9 percent, significantly surpassing the state average of 87.7 percent.

In workforce training activities, the data reveals ECCC as a leader in the number of individuals served and in-

dustry credentials awarded. Trainees from ECCC workforce programs increased wages by a percentage higher than state norms.

In addition, ECCC continues to display a commitment to outreach and excellence in the awarding of GED's, again ranking in the upper half of the state.

Dr. Billy W. Stewart, president of ECCC stated, "Results of the 2012 Report Card demonstrate that ECCC is continuing to make progress on the Institutional Commitments contained in our strategic plan, 2020 Vision. We are very proud of that and look to strengthen those aspects of our mission that rank above the state average on the Report Card. However, as in previous years, the Report Card has identified areas of improvement for our college as well. Likewise, we look

forward to working with our faculty staff and students to improve in those areas as ECCC strives to become Nationally Recognized and Locally Preferred. The overall results of the Report Card demonstrate that ECCC is making great progress in Student Success, Community Partnerships and Teaching and Learning. Progress in these Institutional Commitments enables our students to experience an excellent postsecondary education right here at home."

The 2012 Performance Profile (Report Card) for ECCC can be found on the college's Web site at <http://www.eccc.edu/consumer-information>. In addition, a copy of the 2012 Performance Profile can be obtained from the Office of the President.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Celebrates Surgical Technologist Week: As part of Surgical Technologist Week held September 15-19, East Central Community College celebrated with a pizza party honoring its students. The third week of September is recognized statewide to honor surgical technologists by the Mississippi Legislature. Taking part in the celebration are (front row, from left) Tywonna Harris of Lena, Shawna Peets of Union, Jessica Thames of Decatur, Kierra Griffin of Louisville, Victoria Smith of Morton, Nikla Wilson and Dakota Wilcher, both of Philadelphia; and (back row, from left) Veronica Ramsey of Meridian, Heather Clark of Philadelphia, Marcus Brown of Meridian, Brianna Evans of Clinton and Julie Pierce of Philadelphia.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Rowlett Speaks to ECCC Students: Lauren Rowlett (right), Regional Admissions Counselor for the University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy, is shown speaking to East Central Community College pre-pharmacy and pre-medical students Tuesday, September 16, 2014. Bartlett provided information on admissions policies and course offerings at Ole Miss. For more information on ECCC pre-medical or pre-pharmacy offerings, contact Curt Skipper, Science Department Chairperson, at 601-635-6222, or email cskipper@eccc.edu.

ECCC Again Recognized as Military Friendly School

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

For the third consecutive year, East Central Community College has been designated as a Military Friendly School by Victory Media, the leader in successfully connecting the military and civilian worlds.

Now in its sixth year, the Military Friendly Schools designation and list by Victory Media is the premier, trusted resource for post-military success. Military Friendly provides service members transparent, data-driven ratings about post-military education and career opportunities.

The Military Friendly Schools designation is awarded to the top 15 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools in the country that are doing the most to embrace military students,

and to dedicate resources to ensure their success in the classroom and after graduation. The methodology used for making the Military Friendly Schools list has changed the student veteran landscape to one much more transparent, and has played a significant role over the past six years in capturing and advancing best practices to support military students across the country.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart said he is "extremely proud" the college has again earned recognition as a Military Friendly School.

"East Central Community College has a strong commitment to our country's men and women in the military as evidenced by being named a Military Friendly School for the third year in a row. We will continue to provide

high-quality programs and services to assist military personnel in meeting their educational goals. I want to thank Jessica Gibson and Deanna Rush in the Office of Admissions and Records, and Dr. Randall Lee in Student Services for their leadership in providing these important services as well as applying for and securing the prestigious award," said Dr. Stewart.

The Military Friendly Schools designation process includes extensive research and a data-driven survey of schools nationwide approved for Post-9/11 GI Bill funding. The school survey, methodology, criteria and weightings are developed with the assistance of an independent Academic Advisory Board comprised of educators from schools across the country, and are independently tested by Ernst & Young

LLP based upon the weightings and methodology established by Victory Media. The survey is administered for free and open to all post-secondary schools who wish to participate. Criteria for consideration can be found on the Military Friendly Schools website, <http://www.militaryfriendly.com>, and a complete list of schools can be found through Schools Matchmaker tool on <http://www.gijobs.com>.

The survey captures over 50 leading practices in supporting military students and is available free of charge to the more than 8,000 schools approved for Post-9/11 GI Bill funding. As in year's past, the 2015 Military Friendly Schools results were independently tested by Ernest and Young LLP based upon the weightings and methodology developed by Victory Media with input

by its independent Academy Advisor Board.

Victory Media is service-disabled veteran-owned business serving the military community since 2007. The company's data-driven Military Friendly lists are published in G. Jobs, Military Spouse, Vetpreneur media channels, republished in periodicals like USA Today, Wall Street Journal, Fortune, Bloomberg BW are frequently cited on national TV on NBC, ABC, CBS, CNN, CNBC, Fox News and others.

For more information regarding services provided military veterans at ECCC, contact Jessica Gibson in the Office of Admissions and Records, at 601-635-6392 or call toll free, 877-463-3222, ext. 392. The email address is jgibson@eccc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Howington Receives MDOT Scholarship: The Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) recently presented East Central Community College freshman William Howington (center) of Little Rock with a 2014 Southeastern Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (SASHTO) Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000. The engineering major is shown with Southern Transportation Commissioner Tom King (left) and MDOT Executive Director Melinda McGrath. The scholarships are awarded to individuals for Mississippi Community College study toward career paths in engineering, math, science, computer science, urban or community planning, or other transportation-related technology fields. The scholarships are intended to help defray education expenses, which may include academic fees, tuition and books, room and board, and other related expenses.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC students commemorate Constitution Day: Students at East Central Community College celebrated Constitution Day on September 17 with the student-led reading of the U.S. Constitution, distribution of copies of the Constitution and an American history trivia questions session to win prizes. Pictured Madison Pettigrew of Forest signs in to take part in the reading of the U.S. Constitution in the mall area outside Mabry Cafeteria on Constitution Day. ECCC History instructor Betsy Anderson led the event.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Trustees Honored for Service: Several members of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees received special recognition for years of service at the annual Mississippi Community Junior College Trustees' Association Conference held in Biloxi July 11-13, 2014. Beverly Hart (center) of Union has served 15 years and Vernon Crotwell (right) of Morton, 20 years. Also recognized but not pictured is Janie Wilbanks of Carthage, whose service has now reached 25 years. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart is shown with the honorees, who also received special recognition at the August 2014 Board of Trustees meeting.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Finalizing ECCC Homecoming Plans: Making final preparations for East Central Community College's Homecoming scheduled Saturday, October 11, 2014, are the above Alumni Association officers and Board of Directors. Seated from left are Bruce Lee of Louisville, Winston County representative; Ann Hunter Burkes of Decatur, Newton County representative; Dr. Teresa Houston, vice president for instruction; Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for foundation and alumni relations; Dow Thomas of Louisville, Association president; and Matt Alford of Forest, Scott County representative. Standing from left are Paul Chamblee and Pete Lucovich, both of Carthage, Leake County representatives; Bill Freeman of Forest, Scott County representative; Harvey Trapp of Decatur, Newton County representative; Dr. Billy Stewart, ECCC President; and Dr. Bob Tom Johnson of Forest, Association past president. For more information on Homecoming 2014, contact Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, at 601-635-6327 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 327. Her email address is sholling@eccc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Taggerts Address EC Students About Son's Death: Andy Taggart talks about his late son Brad to a packed Brackeen-Wood gym at the start of the 2014 fall term. Taggart, a prominent attorney, author, columnist political analyst and former chief of staff to the now late Gov. Kirk Fordice, said his 21-year-old son took his own life as a result of a drug addiction. Taggart described his son as "as a maddening combination of attitude and winsome boyish joy that charmed everyone around him." Brad, an avid hunter and fisherman, finished his junior year at the University of Mississippi and was attending Mississippi College at the time of his death. Taggart's wife, Karen, is shown reading their son's suicide note, which alluded to Brad's overwhelming challenges due to his drug addiction. Taggart said his son was "drug free" at the time of his death. The Taggerts also presented their message of faith and hope before ECCC administrators, faculty members and staff at the College's pre-session workshop.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

LA Screenwriter/Actor Visits ECCC Class: Barlow Jacobs, a screen writer and actor residing in Los Angeles, Calif., discusses the "Hollywood life" to students in Jason Armstrong's Film as Literature class during his recent visit to East Central Community College. Jacobs, a longtime friend of Armstrong, has worked with Joaquin Phoenix, Phillip Seymour Hoffman, Michael Shannon, Ray McKinnon, Hal Holbrook, David Gordon Green and many others. He has worked on several featured-length films including Shotgun Stories, The Master, That Evening Sun and many more. Jacobs is married to Ruth De Jong, a production designer on major Hollywood productions, including There Will Be Blood and Water for Elephants, as well as nationally distributed commercials.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Again Designated a 'Military Friendly School': For the third consecutive year, East Central Community College has been designated as a Military Friendly School for its commitment to providing educational services to military students. ECCC received the prestigious award from Victory Media, which honors the top 15 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools nationwide that embrace America's military service members, veterans and spouses as students and ensure their success on campus. Jessica Gibson (second from left) Coordinator of Veteran's Affairs and Enrollment Services, and Deanna Rush, Director of Admissions and Records, are shown displaying a plaque signifying the honor. Also pictured are ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart (left) and Dr. Randall Lee, Vice President for Student Services. For more information regarding services provided military veterans at ECCC, call 601-635-6392 or call toll free, 877-462-3222.



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Warrior Athletics

Two Former Football Standouts to Join Athletic Hall of Fame

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

A pair of former East Central Community College standout football players will be enshrined into the College's Athletic Hall of Fame during Homecoming activities scheduled Saturday, October 11.

Troy Henderson of Raymond and Richard Fulmer of Deatsville, Ala., will be inducted into the prestigious group during the annual Alumni Association Awards Luncheon, which begins at 11 a.m. in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

TROY HENDERSON

Troy Henderson was regarded as one of the top defensive ends in the Mississippi Junior College Conference during the 1952 and 1953 seasons.

Henderson, who also excelled at defensive back, was known for his hard tackling and numerous fumble recoveries. Many of those fumbles were caused by his aggressive style of defense.

Henderson, who retired in the late 1990s following a distinguished career at Hinds Community College in Raymond, said he was "extremely honored and happy" to receive the honor, and added, "I was overjoyed to get that phone call from (ECCC President) Dr. Billy Stewart!"

Henderson was a two-year letterman at East Central and helped lead the Warriors to a 4-6 record as a freshman and a 6-5 mark his sophomore season under head coach John Grace.

The 1952 squad began the season with victories over MS Delta (32-6), Northeast (14-6), Jones County (7-6) and Holmes (27-6). Losses followed to Southwest (13-7), Hinds (26-13), East MS (40-20), Co-Lin (20-14), Pearl River (27-20) and Gulf Coast (13-6).

EC improved to 6-5 the following year, with wins over MS Delta (12-7), Northeast (20-13), Holmes (12-7), Southwest (33-13), Marion Institute (40-7) and Co-Lin (7-0). Setbacks were to Jones County (34-7), Hinds (35-0), Pearl River (51-13) and Gulf Coast (23-6).

While reflecting on his athletic career at EC, the 1954 graduate said the "relationships" mattered most.

"The fellowship and friendships with my teammates is what I enjoyed most," Henderson said.

He said he enjoyed attending East Central as a student-athlete because the college "was close to home and I got a full scholarship, which included books and food!"

His least favorite experience as a football player involved preseason workouts, which were "very long and hot....extremely hot!"

In addition to playing football at EC, Henderson was sports editor for the Wo-He-Lo yearbook and served two years as a member of the Future Teachers Association. He was also a freshman

class officer, Athletic Committee member and a member of the Social and Hospitality Committee.

Henderson came to East Central following a stellar career at Forest High School, where he was a three-year letterman in football, basketball and track.

During his senior season, Henderson was named co-captain of the Bearcat football team. He also received the Babe Ruth Sportsmanship Award. He completed his high school career by playing a prominent role as fullback in the first Mississippi High School All-Star Football Game held at Jackson Memorial Stadium in August 1952.

Not only did Henderson experience success at Forest and East Central, he also excelled as a member of the Maxwell Base Football Team, the "Mentors" while serving in the U.S. Air Force, beginning in 1955. By a vote from his teammates, A-1C Henderson was awarded a personal trophy as the outstanding member of the Mentor varsity squad. He was also named most valuable player as tailback for the single wing formation used by the Mentors. Additional honors include begin rated honorable mention All Air Force. He and the Mentors traveled over much of the United States playing again other Air Force base teams.

Upon discharge from the Air Force, Henderson attended Louisiana College, where he distinguished himself as a defensive left end and punter on the Wildcat squad. He was awarded a letter for both the 1960 and 1961 seasons. Henderson was also elected senior class vice president, and was a member of the Athenian Literary Society and the L Club.

He achieved a perfect 4.0 grade point average when he received a bachelor's degree in education from Louisiana College in 1961.

Henderson began his career in education as football coach and biology teacher in Many, La., followed by a stint at West Blocton High School in Alabama. While serving at West Blocton, Henderson received a master's degree in education from the University of Alabama.

In 1965, Henderson became principal of Sebastopol Attendance Center. During his tenure, Henderson served as president of the Cherokee Athletic Conference and vice president of the



HENDERSON

Scott County Teachers' Association.

A move to Liberty Attendance Center in Liberty, MS, made Henderson the youngest principal at that time in the Mississippi Public School System. In 1971, he was named Superintendent of West Jasper Schools, a position held for eight years. It was during this period Henderson was selected president of the Mississippi Association of Schools Superintendents.

In 1979, Henderson was chosen Vice President of the Physical Plant and Auxiliary Services at Hinds Community College in Raymond.

During his tenure, numerous buildings were constructed under his supervision, and he was responsible for a large portion of the Hinds staff, including maintenance, custodial, grounds, golf course, bookstore, new construction, etc.

Henderson was awarded the college's highest employee honor, the 3E Award, for his "emphasis on enrichment and excellence."

He was a founding member of the Mississippi Association of School Plant Managers and served as the organization's president for several years.

Henderson is an active member of Raymond Baptist Church, where he served as deacon and deacon chairman. He was chair of the building committee when the new Christian Life Center was constructed, which nearly doubled the church's meeting space.

He is married to the former Delores Underwood of Forest. They have three daughters, Mrs. James (Pam) Reeves, Mrs. David (Judy) Bufkin and Mrs. Mike (Leigh) James; six grandchildren; and one great grandchild.

Henderson said he continues to enjoy sports and considers his years on the gridiron as some of his best!

RICHARD FULMER

He was described by a teammate as "the biggest and meanest football player" he had ever seen.

Dan Chatwood, who would later lead the Warrior football program in the mid-1960's, also said of Richard Fulmer, "I soon learned that all the players on the team looked up to him as a true leader. He had many successes on the field at East Central Community College and many successes off the field throughout his life."

Fulmer has the unique distinction of being a three-year starter on the Warrior football squad. A standout fullback and linebacker at 5-11, 200 pounds, the 1959 ECCC graduate said his selection to the college's Athletic Hall of Fame "is one of the highlights and honors of my lifetime."

He explained how he played football for three years at East Central.

"In 1953, my senior year at Lanier High School in Montgomery, Ala., I signed a football scholarship with the University of Florida. That same year, I was drafted into the U.S. Army

during the Korean War. I was stationed at Ft. Bliss, Texas, and while in the service, I played two years on the Ft. Bliss Falcons base football team and we won the Fourth Army Championship my first year.

"In 1956, I was invited with a friend, who was an All-American High School player named Earl Mills, to visit East Central. We both liked ECJC, and Coach Clayton Blount gave both of us a three-year scholarship. Earl had also not completed his senior year so we were both classified as high school players. In November of that same year, my wife and I were blessed with our first child, a baby boy. After three years at ECJC, I was offered a scholarship at Troy University, Hardin Simmons University and McNeese State. I signed with McNeese."

Fulmer referred to his time at East Central as "some of the best times of my life."

One particular incident - described as funny and usual - stands out during his football career.

"Our quarterback, Jerry Hall, was told by Coach (Clayton) Blount not to get caught scrambling and lose yardage, and to throw the ball away even if he had to throw it to the guy in the front row in the red coat! Later in the game when Hall was about to get caught, he actually threw the football to the 'guy in the red coat,' who had to duck but still got hit with the ball! Bob First, who was the assistant coach at the time, asked Jerry why the heck he threw the ball at the guy in the red coat and Jerry replied, 'Because Coach Blount told me to.'"

Fulmer, who helped lead his Lanier High School team to the 1950 Alabama High School State Football Championship, said beating "Scooba" while a member of the 1956 Warrior squad was just as memorable!

In addition to the 13-7 win over "Scooba" (East Mississippi), the Warriors posted victories that year over Northwest (20-6), Itawamba (20-14) and Northeast (forfeit). Losses were to Co-Lin (27-12), Holmes (14-0), Delta (26-19), Hinds (14-12), Pearl River (20-6) and Jones County (46-15).

The 1957 squad went 2-6-2 with wins over Holmes (12-7) and Jones County (12-6), ties with East MS (7-7) and Co-Lin (20-20), and setbacks to

Delta (6-0), Hinds (45-0), Southwest (14-7), East MS (20-6), Itawamba (39-13) and Pearl River (53-0). (The second contest with East MS was played in Meridian.)

Fulmer and the Warriors finished 7-4 in 1958, capturing victories over East MS (14-12), Northwest (6-0), Holmes (14-0), Delta (24-0), Hinds (36-18), Itawamba (18-0) and Jones County (8-6). Losses were to Co-Lin (12-6), Southwest (24-6), East MS (20-6) and Pearl River (14-8).

Fulmer has fond memories of his time at EC and living in Decatur.

"The faculty and the administration of East Central took a genuine interest in each student, and you knew they had your best interest at heart; plus, just living in Decatur was a pleasure. The small town atmosphere along with the wonderful people was something I will always treasure."

He further commented, "I cherish all the teachers I had and the many friends I made there that I still visit from time to time. I also enjoy coming to Decatur for EC's Homecoming each year."

During his time in Decatur, Fulmer also coached Little League baseball with Clayton Blount. Fulmer said team members "included Joe Blount at catcher, Kenny Blount at shortstop, and 'Blue' Blount's son at third base, Melton Smith at pitcher, and many other outstanding young athletes."

Fulmer added, "Some of my earliest sales experiences came from selling Blount Hair and Scalp Conditioner to my dad's barbershop in Montgomery, Ala."

Fulmer continued his athletic career by playing semi-pro football with the Montgomery Confederates in the North American Football League.

In 1960, Fulmer began his career as sales and office manager for Gilpin Brokerage Company, a position held until 1965, when he became president of Teena Originals Furniture. In 1967, he began Richard L. Fulmer Associates and was a self-employed manufacturing sales representative until retiring in 2010.

During this period, he received nine national sales awards and was a member of United Commercial Travelers Association for more than 50 years.

His community service included serving as a junior high football coach in Montgomery, Ala., where he also served on the Jimmy Hitchcock Award Committee.

Fulmer served as Chairman of the Terry Veazey Evangelistic Association and served on the Board of Deacons at Taylor Road Baptist Church, where he also taught Sunday school classes for 25 years.

He is married to the former Louise Weathers. They have three grown children, Daron Fulmer, Kim Fulmer Martin and Tracy Fulmer Norris.



FULMER



ECCC Holds Ribbon-Cutting for New Turf Field: East Central Community College President Dr. Billy Stewart performs ribbon-cutting duties to officially unveil the recently installed synthetic turf on Warrior field during the annual "Meet the Warriors" Pep Rally/Player Introductions held August 25, 2014, at Bailey Stadium. Dr. Stewart provided comments to a packed stadium prior to the ceremony and noted the turf installation would not have been possible without the support from former NFL coach Tony Dungy, whose appearance earlier this year on campus and at the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia netted approximately \$160,000 for the \$727,000 project. Participating in the ribbon-cutting ceremony were (from left) ECCC Board of Trustees members Royce Shaw (secretary) of Forest, Jerry Smith (vice chairman) of Philadelphia, Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth (chairman) of Lake and Rodney Bounds of Newton; ECCC staff members Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations; Artie Foreman, Supt. of the Physical Plant; Chris Harris, Dean of Personnel Services and Athletics; Dr. Stewart; Ken Karcher, head football coach; James Bateman, EnviroTurf of Flowood; and ECCC Board of Trustees members Pat Cleveland of Conehatta, William E. Kitchings of Carthage, David Byars of Philadelphia and J.O. Amis (Newton County Supt. of Education) of Decatur. Following ribbon-cutting activities, the cheerleading squad and Centralettes dance line performed and received special recognition followed by introductions of the Lady Warrior and Warrior soccer teams, and the Warrior football squad. The Wall O' Sound Band also performed.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

EXTRAORDINARY COACH

Coach Rowell: The Man Behind the Glove at EC

BY KIMBERLY HARRISON
Features Editor

East Central Community College Assistant baseball coach Jake Rowell was chosen as this edition's Extraordinary Coach.

Rowell was born and raised in Orange, Texas. He describes his family as being very close knitted. He was raised in a Christian household and has one sister. When asked what one word describes him, he said "loyal."

Rowell began his college career at Angelina College in Lufkin, Texas, where he received an associate's degree in arts, physical education and health sciences in 2009. He was also a member of the Roadrunner's baseball team.

Rowell continued his baseball career at the University of Arkansas where he received a bachelor's degree in science, health and exercise science. While there, he was also considered a baseball standout and



ROWELL

helped lead the Sun Belt Trojans to the 2011 Sunbelt Conference Tournament Championship. Rowell helped lead the team to the 11th best "turnaround" in college baseball. During this time, he was also a dean's list scholar at Arkansas-Little Rock and was included on the Sun Belt Conference Academic Honor Roll.

Prior to joining the EC staff, Rowell was the head coach at Marion (Ala.) Military institute for one year while being the assistant coach the previous year. He also served as head coach of the Beaumont (Texas) Gladiators Select Baseball Club and participated in several baseball clubs. Rowell is a former baseball official and umpire for the Texas Association of Sports Offi-

cials.

Rowell said that he loves being a baseball coach. He goes on to say, baseball is something you can't get away from. Many coaches that Rowell has worked with before have encouraged him to go into this particular field. Coach Holliman, head coach of the EC Dia-

KIMBERLY HARRISON
Features Editor

mond Warriors, has been a big part of this. Rowell is described as being very passionate about his job. He says he wants to make a big impact on these boys' lives. When asked if he could have gone into anything else, he says, "No, coaching is something that I thoroughly enjoy to do." Something that sets Rowell apart from other coaches is his ability to communicate with the players. He feels like communication is a huge key to success.

One of Rowell's greatest achievements is playing baseball for four years on a scholarship and still walking away with a bachelor's degree.

When asked where he sees himself in five years he replies, "Hopefully still in the game of baseball."

Warrior Athletics



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Men's Soccer Team: Members of the 2014 East Central Community College men's soccer team and their respective high schools include (first row, from left) forward Landry Lofton (2), Pascagoula; defenders Hector Ortiz (3), Enterprise, and Kellen Clark (4), Newton County; forwards Cesar Diaz (5), Newton County, and Tim Nix (6), D'Iberville; forward/keeper Jacob Johnson (7), Destrehan (LA); and midfielders Connor Brennan (8), Pearl, Eliud Alvarez (9), Forest, and Jordan Alonso (10), Newton County; (second row, from left) midfielder Chase McNair, Neshoba Central; forward Tyler Aaron (12), Clinton; midfielder Hunter Collins (13), Noxapater; defenders David Williams (14), Newton County, Jamar Simms (15), Pascagoula, and Dalton Smith (16), Florence; midfielder Abimael Rivera, Oxford; and defender Carlos Gutierrez and midfielder Omar Gutierrez, both of Mooreville; and (third row, from left) Gray Massey, assistant coach; managers Teelisa Kennedy of Scott Central and Kaitlin Sellers of South Jones; defenders Jerry Byrd (20), D'Iberville, and Durham Norman (21), Florence; keeper Matt Sykes (1), Heritage Academy; midfielders Jackson Oliver (23), Clinton, and Lazaro Hernandez (25), Forest; managers Nathan Patrick, Enterprise, and Julien Fuentes, Newton County; and Kenneth Thompson, head coach. Not pictured is defender Tyler Cook (22), Daphne (AL).



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Women's Soccer Team: Pictured is the 2014 East Central Community College women's soccer squad. Team members and their respective high schools include (first row, from left) keeper Rachel Davis (0), Petal; midfielders Gabby Stapp, West Harrison, and Kaitlyn Blue (3), South Jones; defender Mikayla May (4), Newton County; and midfielders Allie Turner (5), Horn Lake; Megan Parrish (6), Pascagoula; Katelyn Denton (7), Lewisburg; and Kayla Anderson (8), Florence; (second row, from left) forward Carrissa Stevenson (9), Harrison Central; defenders Dru Elkins (10), South Jones, and Christa Breazeale (11), Harrison Central; forward Tamia Cavett (12), Murrah; defender Erin Golden (13), Petal; forward Lacey Field (14), Lewisburg; midfielder Megan Yarbrough (15), Center Hill; forward Ashlan Culberson (16), Brandon; and defender Tesia Keith (17), Corinth; and (third row, from left) Kenneth Thompson, assistant coach; managers Teelisa Kennedy of Scott Central and Kaitlin Sellers of South Jones; defenders Pashien Kelley-Johnson (18), West Harrison and Brittany Rasco (19), Pascagoula; forward Addie Ambrosier (22), Magee; keeper Alana Walker (25), Pascagoula; managers Nathan Patrick, Enterprise, and Julien Fuentes, Newton County; and Gray Massey, head coach.

EC, Co-Lin Battle in Historic Soccer Matches

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

History was made on the East Central Community College campus on Sept. 30, when soccer games were played for the first time at night and on the new synthetic turf at Bailey Stadium.

The non-division matchups between ECCC and Copiah-Lincoln Community Colleges resulted in a 9-0 victory for the Lady Soccer Warriors and 3-3 double-overtime deadlock in men's action.

Ashlan Culberson tallied three goals and Carrissa Stevenson scored twice to lead Lady Warriors, who improved to 9-1-1 under second-year head coach Gray Massey. The Lady Wolves remained winless in 12 starts.

Culberson is a sophomore forward and product of Brandon High School. Stevenson is a freshman forward from Harrison Central. She was also credited with two scoring assists.

Also scoring for EC were Allie Turner of Horn Lake, Kaitlyn Blue of South Jones, Megan Parrish of Pascagoula and Tamia Cavett of Murrah. Blue and Parrish were also credited with scoring assists.

Kayla Anderson of Florence led in scoring assists with two. Also credited with scoring assists were Gabby Stapp of West Harrison, Lacey Field of Lewisburg and Addie Ambrosier of Magee.

The Lady Warriors achieved their 9-0 advantage at halftime. In the men's contest, EC led 3-1 until late goals by the visiting Wolfpack forced the extra periods.

Omar Gutierrez of Mooreville High School, Eliud Alvarez of Forest and Jacob Johnson of Destrehan (La.) High School scored for the Warriors, whose record is 5-5-1 overall under head coach Kenneth Thompson.

ECCC SOCCER SQUADS

BLITZ SOUTHWEST

East Central Community College's soccer squads recorded victories over Southwest Mississippi Community College teams in non-division action Friday, Sept. 26.

The Lady Warriors cruised to a 4-0 shutout over the visiting Lady Bears and improved to 8-1-1 overall under head coach Gray Massey. The Southwest women fell to 2-10-0.

Allie Turner was top scorer for EC, as the freshman midfielder from Horn Lake tallied three goals and was credited with a scoring assist on Tamia Cavett's goal. Cavett is a freshman forward from Jackson Murrah.

Gabby Stapp was credited with a scoring assist on Turner's first goal, and Katelyn Denton received scoring assists on Turner's final two goals. Stapp is a freshman midfielder from West Harrison High School and

Denton is a freshman midfielder from Lewisburg.

The Lady Warriors currently sit atop the MACJC North Division standings with a 3-0-1 record. Northwest is second at 2-0-2.

In men's action, the Warriors held on for a 2-0 decision and evened their record at 5-5-0 under head coach Kenneth Thompson. Southwest dropped to 2-10-0.

Jacob Johnson and Eliud Alvarez scored for EC. Johnson is a freshman forward/keeper from Destrehan (LA) High School, and Alvarez is a sophomore forward from Forest.

LADY WARRIORS BEAT HINDS

3-1; WARRIORS FALL 2-1

Winning ways continue for the East Central Community College women's soccer team following a 3-1 victory over Hinds Community College Tuesday, Sept. 17 on the Raymond campus.

The Lady Soccer Warriors are now 6-1-1 overall and 2-0-1 in the MACJC North Division competition under second-year head coach Gray Massey.

Freshman midfielder Allie Turner of Horn Lake gave EC a 1-0 lead with her goal in the eighth minute. Sophomore Ashlan Culberson of Brandon was credited with a scoring assist.

Culberson extended the lead to 2-0 with her goal in the 52nd minute. Turner received a scoring assist.

Freshman midfielder Kayla Anderson of Florence tallied an unassisted goal in the 85th minute.

Hailey Claiborne scored the lone goal for Hinds in the 72nd minute.

In the men's contest, the Warriors were edged 2-1 by the home standing Eagles.

Freshman forward Tyler Aaron of Clinton scored for EC. Freshman midfielder Omar Gutierrez of Mooreville was credited with a scoring assist.

EC SQUADS BLITZ ITAWAMBA

Division competition began on a successful note for East Central Community College's soccer squads, which posted victories over Itawamba Community College Tuesday, Sept. 9.

The Lady Warriors cruised 3-0 and the Warriors held on for 1-0 decision.

Allie Turner scored twice and Tamia Cavett completed the scoring as the EC women improved to 5-1 overall and 1-0 in the MACJC North Division.

Turner is a freshman midfielder from Horn Lake and Cavett, a freshman forward from Jackson Murrah.

Turner was also credited with a scoring assist along with sophomore forward Ashlan Culberson of Brandon and Carrissa Stevenson, a freshman forward from Harrison Central.

Tyler Aaron scored the lone goal in the men's contest and

Connor Brennan was credited with an assist.

Aaron is a freshman forward from Clinton and Brennan is a freshman forward from Pearl.

The Warriors improved to 4-2 overall and 1-0 in league play following the impressive victory over the previously unbeaten Indians, who dropped to 5-1 and 1-1.

EC SOCCER SQUADS FALL

AT JONES COUNTY

East Central Community College's soccer squads fell to Jones County Junior College in non-division action held Wednesday, Sept. 3 on the Elsville campus.

The Lady Warriors were shut out 4-0 by the 19th-ranked Lady Bobcats and fell from the unbeaten ranks at 4-1. Jones County remained unbeaten at 4-0.

EC's Warriors were blanked 3-0 and dropped to 3-2 on the young season. The Bobcats are now 1-2.

LADY WARRIORS BEAT MGCCC

TO REMAIN UNDEFEATED

The East Central Community College women's soccer team is off to a 4-0 start following a 1-0 victory over Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Friday, August 29.

Ashland Culberson made the game-winning goal in the 72nd minute of the non-division battle. Culberson is a sophomore forward and product of Brandon High School. Lacey Field was credited with a scoring assist. Field is a freshman forward and product of Lewisburg High School.

The men's contest was also decided by a 1-0 score, but it was the visiting Bulldogs who claimed the non-division matchup and knocked the Warriors from the unbeaten ranks.

ECCC SOCCER SQUADS

REMAIN UNDEFEATED

Winning ways continue for East Central Community College's soccer squads following matchups held Tuesday, August 26 at Copiah-Lincoln Community College.

The Lady Warriors cruised 7-0 and the Warriors posted a 3-1 decision, as both squads improved to 3-0 on the young season.

Kayla Anderson and Allie Turner each scored twice for the EC women, who are led by second-year head coach Gray Massey.

Anderson and Turner are freshman midfielders and products of Florence and Horn Lake high schools, respectively.

Also scoring were Lacey Field, a freshman forward from Lewisburg, and defender Christa Breazeale and forward Carrissa Stevenson, both products of Harrison Central.

Gabby Stapp was credited with three scoring assists. Stapp is a freshman midfielder



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Field Helps Lead EC to Division Win: Freshman forward Lacey Field (14) was among scorers during East Central Community College's 3-1 victory over Holmes Community College Sept. 19. The Lady Soccer Warriors improved to 7-1-1 overall and 3-0-1 in the MACJC North Division following division matchup. Field is a product of Lewisburg High School. In the background is teammate Katelyn Denton, a freshman midfielder, also of Lewisburg.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Sykes Stops Scoring Threat: East Central Community College sophomore goalkeeper Matt Sykes demonstrates his leaping ability in keeping Holmes Community College from scoring during the MACJC North Division battle held Sept. 19. The Warriors took an early 1-0 lead but the visiting Bulldogs rallied for two goals and held on for a 2-1 victory. Sykes is a product of Heritage Academy in Columbus.

from Harrison Central.

Ashlan Culberson and Megan Parrish also contributed a scoring assist. Culberson is a sophomore forward from Brandon, and Parrish is a freshman midfielder from Pascagoula.

In the men's contest, Landry Lofton scored twice and was credited with a scoring assist. Lofton is a sophomore forward from Pascagoula.

Eliud Alvarez also scored for EC and contributed a scoring assist. Alvarez is a sophomore midfielder from Forest.

Jordan Alonso, a sophomore midfielder from Newton County, was also credited with a scoring assist.

ECCC SOCCER TEAMS

BEGIN SEASON 2-0

Soccer season began on a successful note for East Central Community College squads, which claimed road victories

over Southwest Mississippi Community College and Meridian Community College in non-division action.

The Lady Warriors posted a 6-0 decision and the Warriors held on for 1-0 shutout over Southwest squads in the season opener held Friday, August 22 on the Summit campus.

Sophomore forward Ashlan Culberson scored twice for the Lady Warriors in the easy victory. Culberson is a product of Brandon High School.

Also scoring were freshman midfielders Megan Yarbrough of Center Hill and Allie Turner of Horn Lake, and freshman forwards Tamia Cavett of Jackson Murrah and Carrissa Stevenson of Harrison Central.

In the men's matchup, freshman forward/keeper Jacob Johnson provided the lone goal in the 28th minute. Johnson is a product of Destrehan (La.)

High School.

Freshman forward Tyler Aaron of Clinton and sophomore defender Dalton Smith of Florence, were each credited with scoring assists.

EC squads traveled to Meridian Community College Saturday, August 23 and came away with another pair of victories. The Lady Warriors won 1-0 as Culberson tallied her third goal in early season action.

The Warriors continued their winning ways with goals by sophomore midfielder Jordan Alonso, a product of Newton County High School; sophomore forward Landry Lofton of Pascagoula; and sophomore midfielder Eliud Alvarez of Forest.

Johnson was credited with scoring assists on the first two goals, and freshman midfielder Jackson Oliver of Clinton received a scoring assist on Alvarez's score.

Warrior Athletics



ECCC Cheerleaders: Members of the 2014-15 cheerleading squad at East Central Community College and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) Natalie Lyles, Newton County Academy; Shelby Hemphill, Leake Academy; Kaitlyn Patrick, Forest; Layne Leopard, Neshoba Central; Mak Rowzee, Newton County; Keri Ann Mayfield, Union; and Kaitlin Smith and Madison Pettigrew, both of Scott Central; and (back row, from left) Lauren Coward, Neshoba Central; Lauren Peterson, Forest; Adam Porter, Newton County; Cody Warren, Neshoba Central; Hunter Brown, Leake Academy; Warner Parkes, Nanih Waiya; and Alana Kron and Haleigh West, both of Newton County. Pauline Karcher serves as cheer coach.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Baseball Team Sponsors Annual Golf Tournament

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

The annual East Central Community College Benefit Baseball Golf Tournament will be held Saturday, October 25, 2014, at Decatur Country Club.

Registration begins at 8 a.m. followed by a shot gun start at 8:30 a.m. for the two-person scramble.

The \$30 per person fee includes lunch and a beverage.

Hole sponsorships are available for \$100.

All proceeds benefit the Diamond Warrior program.

To enter or receive more information, contact head coach Neal Holliman, at 601-635-6374 or email nholliman@eccc.edu.

EC Tennis Players Claim Victories at Meridian Tourney

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Several East Central Community College tennis players captured victories in the USTA/ITA Southern JUCO Regional Championship Tennis Tournament held Sept. 25-27, 2014, at the Northeast Tennis Center in Meridian.

Javon Yarbrough of Louisville won his opening match with Bobby Vo of MS Gulf Coast Community College, 6-2, 6-0.

Juan Miranda of Forest defeated Walt Harrington of Meridian Community College with a pair of 6-1 results.

Cole Duty of Louisville beat Brian Allen of Gulf Coast by scores of 6-3 and 6-1.

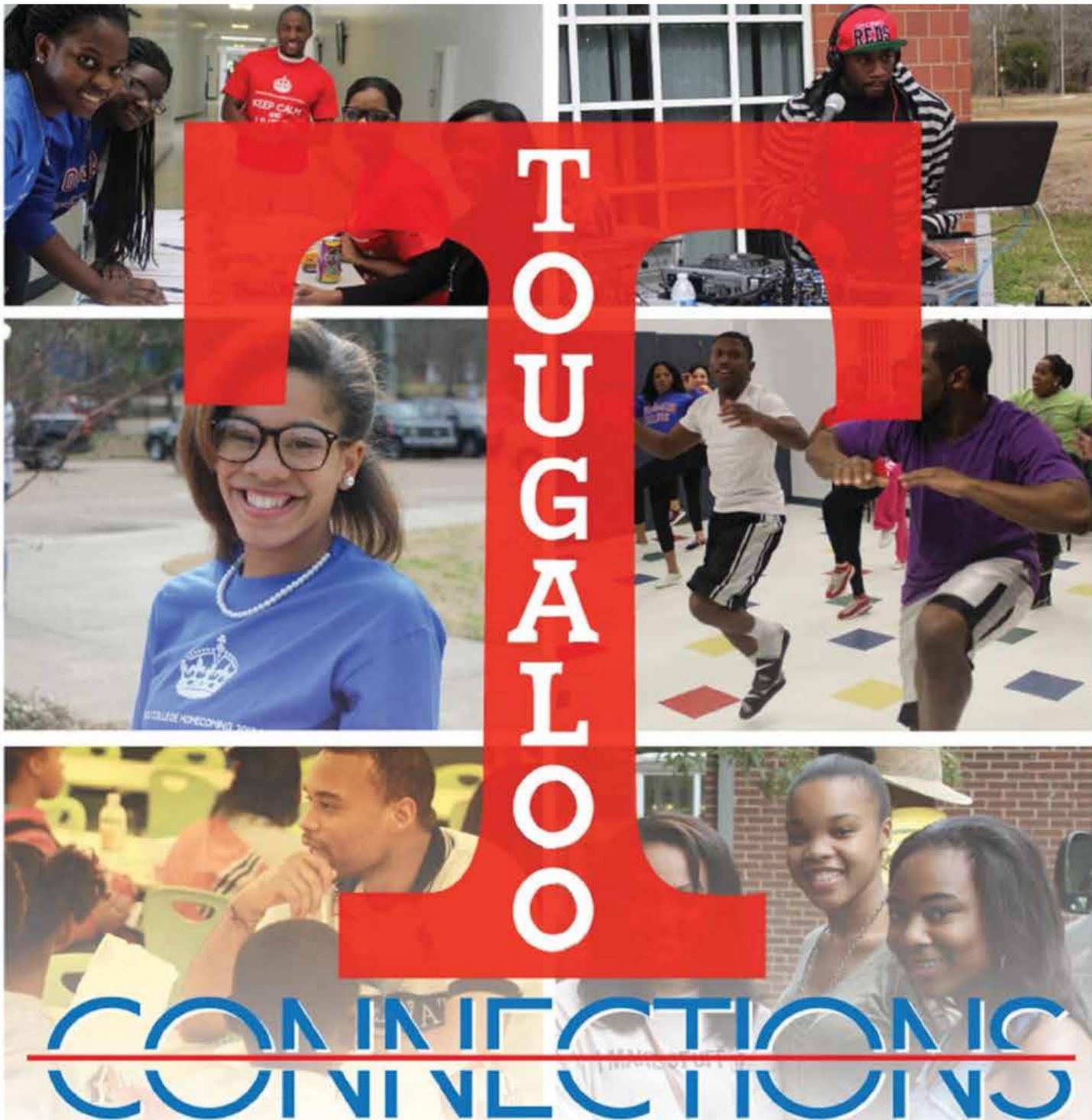
Robert Strong of Forest cruised past Peter Bethra of Hinds, 6-1, 6-2.

Devin Skinner of Philadelphia, Tanner Moore of Pheba, Ethan Rigdon of Union and Caleb Thomas of Newton all advanced to the consolation bracket in men's singles, as did the doubles' teams of Miranda and Yarbrough, Duty and Moore, Strong and Eduardo Santillan of Forest, and Rigdon and Skinner.

Rigdon advanced to the semi-finals by defeating Aaron Gray of Hinds, 8-6, and Reed Kasper of MCC, 8-3. Rigdon lost in the semi-final match to Cody Coins of Itawamba.

Skinner beat Austin Peavey of Hinds 8-2, then fell 8-1 in the quarter-finals to Ahmed Gonna of Marion Military Institute. Duty and Moore defeated EC teammates Miranda and Yarbrough in the semi-finals by an 8-5 margin, and later captured the consolation bracket by beating the Hinds team of Gray and Peavey, 8-5.

ECCC tennis teams are led by head coach Robert Thompson and adjunct coach Dianne O'Neill.



TRANSFER DAY FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENTS

This event underscores the benefits of attending Tougaloo College and showcases the many special services and programs available at our campus.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2014
TOUGALOO COLLEGE
BENNIE G. THOMPSON CENTER
9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
JAMES REED AT 601-977-7919
OR JREED@TOUGALOO.EDU
****PLEASE RSVP BY OCTOBER 30, 2014****

Warrior Athletics



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Warrior Football Team: Members of the 2014 East Central Community College football squad and their respective high schools include (first row, from left) defensive back Trey Sloan (1), Oak Grove; wide receiver Gary Triplett (2), Central/Baton Rouge; defensive back JaDerrick Farrow (3), Bleckley County/ Cochran, GA; quarterback Andrew Dunn (4), Pascagoula; defensive backs Jaylen Lofton (5) of Forest and Jalen Kingston (6) of Clinton; wide receiver Kabion Ento (7), Dollarway/Pine Bluff, AR; quarterback Ethan Hamilton (8), Noxapater; wide receiver Xavier Willis (9), Newton County; quarterback Austin Balthazor (10), Seminary; tight end Jordan Thomas (11), Sumrall; (second row, from left) quarterback Trey Willis (12), Forest Hill; defensive back Devontae Wilson (13), Warren Central; kickers Brennan O'Keefe (14) of St. Martin/Ocean Springs, and Chandler Powell (15) of Forest; running backs Marquis Hedge (21) of Forest Hill and Lamarus Franks (22) of Greene County/State Line; linebacker Grant Landrum (26), Sumrall; defensive back Johna Myers (27), Petal; running back SaVon Robinson (33), Raymond; linebacker Thomas McCool (38), Neshoba Central; and defensive back Raphael McClain (39), Starkville; (third row, from left) defensive backs Kenadria Watts (40) of Newton and Tevell Fair (41) of Hattiesburg; linebacker Darrion Burnside (42), Neshoba Central; running back Donta Johnson (43), Thibodaux, LA; linebacker Henry Smith (44), Richton; defensive lineman Tyler Pace (45), Newton; linebackers Aubrey Bourn (46) of Hattiesburg, Eric McPhearson (47) of Jim Hill and Quanterris Newby (48) of New Hope; long snapper Trent Haden (50), Sumrall; and offensive lineman Micah Parten (55), Northwest Rankin; (fourth row, from left) offensive linemen Eddie Houston (60) of Newton and Brett Warren (61) of Northwest Rankin; tight end/offensive lineman Lucas Morgan (64), Morton; offensive lineman Mauricio Hernandez (65), Oak Grove; defensive lineman Dexter Charles (71), Church Point, LA; offensive linemen Wade Grady (72) of Ridgeland, Hunter Soileau (76) of Forrest County AHS, Dustyn Breckley (77) of Bay/Waveland, James McGee (78) of Raymond and Marcus Johnson (79) of New Hope; and tight end Devaughn Brown (80), Thibodaux, LA; (fifth row, from left) tight end Connor Landrum (81), Neshoba Central; wide receiver Rashad Moore (82), D'Iberville; running back Ben Marchbanks (83), Caledonia; free safety Quinshay Heard (84), Hamilton; wide receivers Chad Kincaid (85) of Forest, Allen Fails (88) of North Forrest and Jimmy Cockrell (89) of Columbus; defensive linemen Kendrick Maxwell (90) of Houston and Darryl Rogers (91) of Laurel; linebacker Jerry Magee (92), Collins; and defensive lineman Keionda Smith (94), Forrest County AHS/Hattiesburg; (sixth row, from left) managers Troy Gregory and Kirk Griffin, both of Newton County, and Blaise Gibbs, Brandon; defensive linemen Jonathan Young (95) of Lamar, Lane Batiste (97) of Carencro, LA, Jadarius Ceasar (98) of Paul W. Bryant/Tuscaloosa, AL, and Zachary Graves (99) of Magee; and managers Blake Miller of Ocean Springs and Tyler Armistad of Caledonia; and (back row, from left) T. J. Robbins, Rush Sports Medicine certified athletic trainer; coaches Tylan Martin, Charles Jones, Ken Karcher (head coach), Dennis Alexander, Ben Cooper, Mickey Mays and Scott Brock; and Derrick Jones, Rush Sports Medicine certified athletic trainer.

Hinds Rallies Late to Clip Warriors 24-16

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College's Warriors jumped out to a 13-0 first-quarter lead over rival Hinds Community College October 2, but the home standing Eagles rallied late to claim a 24-16 decision at Renfro Stadium.

East Central fell to 2-4 overall and 0-3 in league play following the MACJC South Division battle, while Hinds improved to 4-2 and 2-1.

Freshman Trey Willis made his debut as the Warriors' starting quarterback, and the Forest Hill High School product did not disappoint as he scored on a one-yard plunge on the game's opening possession and later connected with freshman tight end Jordan Thomas of Sumrall on a four-yard touchdown toss. Freshman kicker Brennan O'Keefe was successful on the first PAT but the second effort was blocked. O'Keefe is a product of St. Martin High School.

The first scoring drive was set up by Gary Triplett's 38-yard return to the EC 42 on the opening kickoff. It took just eight plays for Willis to cross the goal line for the Warriors' early lead. Key plays during the 58-yard march included sophomore speedster Lamarus Franks' 21-yard scamper to the Hinds' 24-yard-line followed by freshman SaVon Robinson's 12-yard burst to the Eagle five. Franks is a product of Greene County High School and Robinson hails from Raymond High School.

EC's second score was set by defensive back Raphael McClain of Starkville, who recovered a Hinds fumble at the Eagle 35-yard-line and returned the pigskin to the six yard line. The Warrior offense stalled mainly due to a personal foul penalty and O'Keefe got the nod to attempt a 33-yard field goal on fourth down. However, his attempt was wide left but a penalty during the kick gave EC a first-and-goal situation on the Eagle eight-yard-line. Two plays later Willis and Thomas hooked up on the scoring pass play.

Hinds got on the scoreboard late in the opening stanza on sophomore Joseph Houston's 31-yard field goal, which cut the EC advantage to 13-3. Houston is a product of East Rankin Academy.

The Eagles narrowed the EC scoring advantage to 13-10 following Joshua Dixon's 19-yard run to pay dirt with 4:10 left before halftime. Houston added the PAT. Dixon is a sophomore running back from Clinton.

East Central continued its 13-10 lead at the break.

The Warriors stretched their advantage to 16-10 when O'Keefe split the uprights from 31 yards out late in the third quarter.

On the ensuing kickoff, a Warrior penalty gave Hinds possession on its 40 yard line and it took just one play for Eagle quarterback James Summers to find the end zone. The sophomore speedster from Greensboro, North Carolina, burst through the Warrior defense on a 60-yard jaunt to pay dirt. Houston's PAT gave Hinds a 17-16 lead after three periods.

After the EC offense was stymied on the ensuing possession, the Eagles marched 80 yards on 12 plays with Summers again finding pay dirt, this time on a one-yard run. Houston kicked the PAT and extended the Eagle advantage to 24-16 with 9:34 left in the division contest.

The Warriors responded with an impressive drive that began at the EC 25 but ended deep in Hinds territory when Willis' pass attempt from the Eagle 24 on fourth and 10 was intercepted in the end zone by Hinds defensive back Christopher Lyles of Jim Hill.

Hinds took possession on its own 20 and drove to the Warrior one-yard line, where the offense "took a knee" and settled for the eight-point margin of victory.

Willis finished the night by completing nine of 17 passes for 90 yards and the one TD pass. His favorite target was freshman wide receiver Kabion Ento who had three catches for 40 yards. Ento is a product of Dollarway (Ark.) High School.

Franks was again the top rusher for EC, as the 5-7, 142-yard running back compiled 102 yards on 29 carries. Robinson had 46 yards on seven carries.

Freshman punter Chandler Powell averaged 34 yards on four kicks. His longest effort went for 38 yards. Powell is a product of Forest High School.

The Warriors continue division play by hosting Jones County Junior College Saturday, October 11 in the annual homecoming battle. Kickoff is set for 2:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium.

The Bobcats were 4-1 overall prior to their non-division matchup with East Mississippi Community College Saturday, Oct. 4 in Scooba. Jones County is 2-1 in league action.

ECCC WARRIORS THUMPED BY NATIONALLY RANKED CO-LIN

An early three-touchdown deficit was too much to overcome for the East Central Community College Warriors,

who were blitzed 43-0 by nationally ranked Copiah-Lincoln Community College Thursday, Sept. 25 at H.L. Stone Stadium on the Wesson campus.

East Central fell to 2-3 overall and 0-2 in the MACJC South Division following the setback, while the No. 19 Wolfpack improved to 3-2 and 1-1.

Co-Lin scored on the second play of the division battle when defensive back Arthur Maulet of Harvey, La., picked off Warrior quarterback Ethan Hamilton's pass attempt and returned the pigskin 28 yards to pay dirt. Greg Nickles made the first of his five PAT's on the night for the 7-0 advantage. Hamilton is a Noxapater product and Nickles hails from East Rankin Academy.

Wolfpack return specialist Donald Gray showed why he is a top NJCAA Division I prospect as the freshman speedster from Memphis returned Chandler Powell's punt 47 yards for a touchdown, extending the Co-Lin advantage to 14-0 with 8:37 left in the first stanza.

DeLance Turner made it 21-0 when he crossed the goal line on his 24-yard scamper with just over five minutes remaining in the initial period. Turner is a product of Perry Central High School.

Gray, a Mississippi State University commit, scored his second TD via punt return on his 52-yard effort with 7:26 left before halftime and a 28-0 advantage.

Co-Lin completed first-half scoring when running back Diquan Davis tallied on a 14-yard run with 35 seconds remaining before the break. Davis is a product of Greenville-Weston High School.

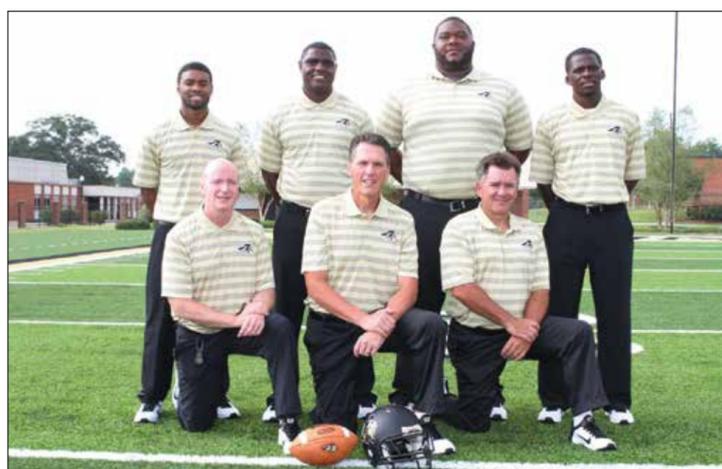
The Wolfpack went to the air for their final TD of the night, as quarterback Daniel Fitzwater connected with wide receiver Courtney Foy on a 17-yard scoring pass play with 7:43 left in the third stanza. Fitzwater is a product of Calvary Baptist Academy in Shreveport, and Foy hails from Midfield High School in Birmingham.

Co-Lin's final points came on a safety late in the contest.

East Central finished with 163 total yards compared to 319 for Co-Lin.

Hamilton completed seven of 16 passes for 46 yards. His longest completion was a 36-yard strike to wide receiver Gary Triplett, a product of Central High School in Baton Rouge.

Trey Willis, who relieved Hamilton in the second half, connected on two of five passes for 28 yards. His top target was Kenadria Watts, who hauled in a



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Football Coaches: Ken Karcher (kneeling center) begins his second year as head football coach at East Central Community College in Decatur. Karcher also serves as offensive coordinator. Assistant coaches and their respective areas of responsibility include (kneeling from left) Scott Brock, defensive coordinator/linebackers; and Mickey Mays, defensive line/special teams; and (standing from left) Tylan Martin, wide receivers; Ben Cooper, tight ends and running backs; Dennis Alexander, offensive line; and Charles Jones, defensive backs and head strength coach.

21-yard reception. Willis is a product of Forest Hill High School and Watts hails from Newton.

Lamarus Franks led EC rushers with 86 yards on 18 carries. The longest run for the Greene County High School product went for 51 yards.

Powell, a Forest High School product, averaged 38.5 yards on eight punts.

Linebacker Eric McPhearson of Jackson Jim Hill led EC's defenders with five tackles. Other top tacklers were linebacker Jerry McGee of Collins and defensive lineman Jadarius Ceasar of Paul W. Bryant High School in Tuscaloosa, four each; and defensive back JaDerrick Farrow of Bleckley County HS (Cochran, Ga.) and defensive lineman Kendrick Maxwell of Houston, three each.

ECCC WARRIORS RALLY TO BEAT HOLMES 14-6

East Central Community College's Warriors overcame an early deficit and several miscues to post a 14-6 victory over Holmes Community College September 18.

The start of the MACJC non-division matchup was delayed almost an hour due to lightning strikes in the area.

But EC fans did not seem to mind the delay or the slight drizzle that fol-

lowed, as a large crowd remained at Bailey Stadium to watch the Warriors improved to 2-2 overall under second-year head coach Ken Karcher.

"This is great for the kids," Karcher said in a post-game interview. "There are a lot of people who are working hard, from our practice players and to our players playing in the game. So it was very exciting to see them as excited and as happy as they are. It was a tough game, but I'm glad we came out on top!"

Sophomore speedster Lamarus Franks, who tips the scales at just over 140 pounds on his 5-7 frame, was the workforce for the Warrior rushing attack and even made a key "defensive" play that possibly saved a Holmes score late in the contest.

Franks, a former standout at Greene County High School, finished the night with 158 yards on 27 carries. His eight-yard touchdown run early in third period provided the Warriors with the eight-point margin of victory. The short scoring march was set up when EC defensive lineman Jadarius Ceasar of Tuscaloosa recovered a Bull-dog fumble on the Holmes 30 yard line.

"You can count on him to run," said Karcher of Franks. "He's the guy to

Warrior Athletics

FOOTBALL

From Page 15

spark our offense, and I can't say enough about him. On the field and off the field, he's a leader for our football team."

Franks played the role of defensive back when he tackled a Holmes defender as it appeared he would intercept an Ethan Hamilton pass deep in Warrior territory. But Franks' jarring tackle separated the defender from the pigskin and the Warriors maintained possession.

It was Hamilton's 27-yard touchdown strike to freshman wide receiver Kabion Ento that tied the contest at 6-6 with just 31 seconds left before halftime. Brennan O'Keefe gave EC a 7-6 lead with the first of his two PATs.

Hamilton, a sophomore signal caller from Noxapater, finished the night by completing seven of 14 passes for 64 yards. He had one interception.

Ento led EC receivers with four grabs for 57 yards and the one TD. Ento is a product of Dollarway High School in Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

O'Keefe is a freshman and product of St. Martin High School.

The two scores were all EC needed to notch the victory, thanks to a stubborn Warrior defense, which registered six quarterback sacks and limited the Bulldogs' potent Flexbone rushing attack.

"I take my hat off to our defensive coaches," said Karcher. "They did a heck of a job defensively. To prepare for that type of offense is very difficult, and they've been going up and down the field on everybody."

The Bulldogs, who fell to 1-3 overall, began the season by beating Hinds Community College 28-21, followed by a 28-14 setback to Pearl River Community College and a 19-3 loss to Itawamba Community College.

The lone Holmes score against EC came on Javon Arnett's one-yard plunge with 7:32 left in the opening stanza. Cole Ballard's PAT attempt was no good. Arnett is a freshman running back from Waco, Texas, and Ballard is a sophomore kicker from Newton.

Holmes had one last chance to possibly tie the contest late in fourth quarter action, but the scoring threat ended following an incomplete pass on fourth and five on the EC 28-yard line with under a minute remaining.

"Our defense for the most part shut Holmes down," Karcher said. "I can't say enough about what our staff and our kids did, and the kids that ran the scout team in practice to prepare for Holmes. It was a great defensive effort."

Defensive leaders for EC were defensive lineman Jadarus Ceasar of Paul W. Bryant High School, five solo tackles, four assists and two quarterback sacks; linebacker Eric McPherson of Jackson Jim Hill, six tackles, and two assists and two quarterback sacks; defensive lineman Darryl Rogers of Laurel, three tackles and five assists; defensive lineman Jonathan Young of Lamar School, two tackles and four assists; defensive back JaDerrick Farrow of Bleckley County High School in Cochran, Ga. three tackles and two assists; and defensive tackle Tyler Pace of Newton, two tackles, three assists and two quarterback sacks.

WARRIORS HANG TOUGH IN LOSS TO MGCCC

For almost three quarters, East Central Community College's football squad provided a tougher opponent than most expected against nationally ranked Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Thursday night at Bailey Stadium.

The Warriors trailed the No. 4 Bulldogs by only a 14-7 margin with a few minutes remaining in third stanza, but the visitors capitalized on EC miscues in fourth-quarter action and pulled away for a 35-7 victory in the MACJC South Division opener for both squads.

It was also an historic night for East Central, as the contest was played for the first time on the recently installed synthetic turf. Although attendance numbers are not available, a possi-

bly record crowd was on hand to watch the division battle on a warm and humid night.

Warrior head coach Ken Karcher said he was pleased with his squad's effort, especially against such a formidable foe as the Bulldogs, who began season action with convincing wins over Northeast (41-8) and Northwest (63-7).

"I am extremely proud of my team," said Karcher, now in his second year at EC. "We had every opportunity to win the football game. But in the second half, we had some mistakes that hurt us. But I thought we played them toe-to-toe and physical, and I think that people are starting to recognize that East Central football is changing."

The Bulldogs (3-0, 1-0) and Warriors (1-2, 0-1) committed turnovers on their opening possessions, and the visitors missed a scoring opportunity late in the first stanza when Tristan Reynolds' 27-yard field goal attempt was off target.

Gulf Coast managed to reach pay dirt early in the second quarter when highly touted quarterback Jason Smith of Mobile completed a 21-yard TD pass to wide receiver Tevaris McCormick of Biloxi, capping a 12-play, 55-yard drive. Reynolds, a Petal High School product, made the first of his five PATs on the night.

The Bulldogs extended their lead to 14-0 on their next possession, as Smith tossed his second TD pass, this time a 10-yard strike to wide receiver Tyrone Williams of Diamondhead. The scoring drive took just five plays and covered 60 yards.

East Central responded with an eight-play, 75-yard scoring march, culminating on quarterback Ethan Hamilton's 35-yard TD pass to wide receiver Xavier Willis with 1:21 left before halftime.

Hamilton, a 6-2, 242-pound product of Noxapater High School, scrambled to escape defensive pressure from the Bulldogs and managed to find his target cutting across the field for the score. Willis is a 5-5, 165-pound product of Newton County High School.

Karcher had high praise for the sophomore signal caller, especially his efforts during first-half action.

"I thought Ethan really managed the game well in the first half," Karcher said. "They (Gulf Coast) came out and started pressuring us in the second half, and I thought that's what got to us."

The Bulldogs threatened to add to their 14-7 lead just before halftime, but a four-yard sack of Smith by Warrior defensive lineman Dexter Charles and an intentional grounding penalty nipped the threat.

Gulf Coast did find the end zone again midway in the third stanza, as Smith and Williams hooked up again, this time on a 10-yard scoring pass play, capping a six-play, 51-yard march, which extended the Bulldog lead at 21-7.

The Warrior defense would later nix a possible Bulldog score, by forcing another Gulf Coast fumble and taking possession deep in EC territory.

"I've been proud of our defense all year," said Karcher. "Our kids have played hard, and the coaches have had them in good position to make plays. The defense has been the guys who have established the physical toughness to our team, and I look for them to continue to improve as we move through the season."

But any hopes of a comeback were dashed early in the final stanza, when Hamilton's pass attempt was picked off by Bulldog defensive back Tony Bridges who returned the pigskin 24 yards to pay dirt and stretched the Bulldog lead to 28-7. Bridges, an Auburn commit, is a product of Hattiesburg High School.

Gulf Coast later capitalized on Hamilton's second interception deep in Warrior territory, as Smith found the end zone on an eight-yard scamper with 6:06 remaining for the game's final points.

"The two turnovers gave them a touchdown and great field position on the other," Karcher said. "But I thought Ethan



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

EC Defenders Gang-Tackle Bulldog: A host of East Central Community College defenders corral Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College quarterback Jason Smith (7) during the Thursday night battle at Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus. Making the stop are defensive back Trey Sloan (1) of Oak Grove, defensive lineman Daryl Rogers (91) of Laurel, linebacker Eric McPherson (47) of Jackson Jim Hill and defensive lineman Jadarus Ceasar (98), a product of Paul W. Bryant High School in Tuscaloosa. EC trailed Gulf Coast 14-7 at halftime, but the No. 4 ranked Bulldogs capitalized on Warrior miscues in the final stanza to post a 35-7 victory in the MACJC South Division opener for both teams.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Franks Leads Warrior Offense: Sophomore running back Lemarcus Franks (22) had another stellar night at running back as he helped lead East Central Community College to a 14-6 victory over Holmes Community College Thursday, Sept. 18 in Decatur. Franks, shown trying to elude a Bulldog defender in the non-division battle, compiled 158 yards on 27 carries and provided EC with the winning margin on his eight-yard TD scamper early in third period action.

"I thought our guys played a very physical football game," said Karcher in a post-game interview. "They had to overcome some early mistakes but I felt they grew up a little more tonight."

After a scoreless first quarter, Hedge hauled in a six-yard strike from quarterback Ethan Hamilton early in second quarter action to give EC a lead it would not relinquish. Freshman kicker Brennan O'Keefe connected the first of his five PATs for the 7-0 advantage. O'Keefe is a product of St. Martin High School.

Hedge, a 5-9, 185-pound sophomore running back from Forest Hill High School, scored again on a five-yard burst with under a minute left before halftime.

Hedge tallied twice in the third period, first on a two-yard scamper with 9:32 left followed by a three-yard run near the end of the period.

Coahoma avoided a shutout when quarterback Anthony Mitchell of Moss Point hooked up with wide receiver Marcel Williams of McLaurin on 61-yard pass play with 5:30 left in the contest. Cody Spears of Pisgah kicked the PAT.

EC responded with a score about a minute later when freshman running back SaVon Robinson burst through the Tiger defense on a 48-yard scamper to pay dirt. Robinson, a 6', 185-pound freshman, is a product of Raymond High School.

Coahoma tallied the game's final points on a five-yard run by Mickey Ridley with less than two minutes remaining. Ridley is a product of McNair High School in Atlanta. Spears added the PAT.

STATS

Hedge finished the night with 100 yards on 22 carries.

Teammate Lemarcus Franks also registered a 100-yard performance, as the sophomore speedster with a 5-7, 142-pound frame compiled 100 yards on 13 attempts. Franks is product of

the winning margin for the home standing Mississippi Delta Community College Trojans who held on for a 21-12 decision over East Central Community College at Jim Randall Field Thursday, August 28.

The Warriors trailed throughout the non-division battle but closed the gap to 7-6 in second-half action following freshman Brennan O'Keefe's second field goal of the night.

O'Keefe, a product of St. Martin High School, put EC on the scoreboard with his 34-yard field goal midway in the second quarter, and drilled a 38-yarder with 6:32 remaining in the third stanza.

East Central scored its lone touchdown when sophomore quarterback Ethan Hamilton connected with wide receiver Xavier Willis on a 46-yard TD pass late in the game's final minutes.

Hamilton, a product of Noxapater High School, finished the night by completing 14 of 34 passes for 233 yards and the one score.

Willis had three grabs but netted 46 total yards. He is a product of Newton County High School.

Freshman Rashad Moore was the top receiver with six catches for 88 yards. Moore is a product of D'Iberville High School.

EC's running game was led by sophomore Lemarcus Franks, who compiled 53 yards on 12 carries. Franks is a product of Greene County High School.

Sophomore running back Marquis Hedge had nine rushes for 24 yards. Hedge is from Forest Hill High School.

Delta jumped out to a 7-0 lead on Roshard Burney's three-yard burst with 1:17 left in the first quarter. Zacarion Goodman booted the first of his three PATs. Burney is a sophomore running back from West Palm Beach, Florida. Goodman is from Greenville.

The Trojans added two fourth-quarter scores, the first on another three-yard run by Bur-



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

QB Hamilton Leads EC Offense: Sophomore quarterback Ethan Hamilton (8) put up impressive numbers during East Central Community College's season opener at Mississippi Delta Community College. Hamilton, a Noxapater High School product, completed 14 of 34 passes for 233 yards and one score – a 46-yard TD strike to sophomore wide receiver Xavier Willis of Newton County High School. The home standing Trojans held on for a 21-12 in the non-division battle.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Warrior Kicker O'Keefe Has Successful Debut: Brennan O'Keefe (14) had a successful start to his East Central Community College career as the freshman kicker from St. Martin High School connected on field goals of 34 and 38 yards in the Warriors' season opener at Mississippi Delta Community College. The Trojans held on for a 21-12 decision in the non-division matchup.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Pace Sacks Holmes Quarterback: East Central Community College defensive lineman Tyler Pace (45) tackles Holmes Community College quarterback Jamario Benson (4) for a loss during the Warriors' 14-6 win over the visiting Bulldogs Thursday night. Pace finished with two quarterback sacks, two tackles and three assists in the non-division matchup. He is a product of Newton High School.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Willis Scores for EC: East Central Community College speedster Xavier Willis (9) sprints to the end zone for the Warriors' lone score against nationally ranked Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Thursday night at Bailey Stadium in Decatur. Willis, a 5-5, 165-pound wide receiver, was on the receiving end of a 35-yard TD toss from quarterback Ethan Hamilton late in first-half action. The Warrior TD trimmed the Gulf Coast advantage to 14-7 at the break, but the visiting Bulldogs capitalized on Warrior miscues in the final stanza to post at 35-7 victory in the MACJC South Division opener for both teams. Willis is a product of Newton County High School and Hamilton hails from Noxapater High School.

ton, who had two interceptions, one of which was made in the end zone and stopped a possible Trojan score. Lofton is a product of Forest High School.

EC's defense was led by freshman defensive back Jaylon Lof-

Warrior Athletics

EC's Walker Receives NJCAA Honor

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College soccer standout Alana Walker was selected National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Women's Goalkeeper of the Week for August 22-24, 2014.

Walker earlier received MACJC Women's Goalkeeper of the Week for the same time period.

The sophomore from Pascagoula posted two shutouts dur-

ing the Lady Warriors' victories over Southwest (6-0) on August 22 and Meridian (1-0) on August 23. She was credited with six saves on 10 shots at the goal.

She is a product of Pascagoula High School.

The Lady Warriors improved to 4-0 after posting blanking Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College 1-0 Friday, August 29.

Gray Massey serves as Lady Warrior head coach.



WALKER

Martin Selected EC Football Assistant

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Tylan Martin was recently selected a graduate assistant football coach at East Central Community College, announced head coach Ken Karcher.

Martin, formerly of Oxford, Ala., serves as wide receivers coach.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Martin served as volunteer assistant at the John Grass Football Camp in June 2014, and worked as an assistant football coach at White Plains High School in Anniston, Ala., in the fall of 2013.

Martin is a 2009 graduate of Oxford (Ala.) High School, where he earned an advanced



MARTIN

diploma. He twice received All-County honors in football and was selected to play in the

North-South All-Star Football Game. He also excelled in varsity basketball and track. In addition, he received Student of the Week honors on two occasions.

He continued his football career at Jacksonville State (Ala.) University, where he was a standout wide receiver from 2009-11.

Martin received a bachelor's degree in exercise science and wellness at JSU in August 2014. He also minored in coaching.

His parents are Regina and Trenice Martin of Oxford, Ala. He has a brother, Todd, who also resides in Oxford.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Basketball Players Assist Students During 'Move-In Day': East Central Community College men's basketball players (from left) Keon McKinney of Starkville, Kiese Kirkland of Yazoo City, Derrick Dandridge of Memphis and Ravion Henry of Carthage were among team members who provided assistance to female dormitory students during "Move-In Day" Sunday, August 17. The Warrior squad is led by second-year head coach Robert Thompson and assistant Devarus "Scooter" Walker, who also helped students as they moved into their respective dormitory rooms. Coach Thompson said providing assistance during "Move-In Day" is one of several community projects scheduled each year for the Warrior student-athletes.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Soccer Alumni Return to Campus: These former East Central Community College Warrior soccer players participated in "Soccer Alumni Day" held Saturday, August 16. Activities included a scrimmage with the 2014 squad and a picnic for former and current Warrior and Lady Warrior soccer team members. Soccer Alumni and their current residences include (seated from left) Miguel Lewis, Forest; Ryan Artman, Grenada; Russ Thompson, Decatur; Kennon Craft, Clinton; Jose Aju, Houston; Taylor Potter, Benton; Webb Compton, Purvis; and Alejandro Chavez, Starkville; (kneeling from left) Jacob Norman, Gulfport; Edgar Alvarez, Starkville; Will Thompson, Decatur; Jarvis Jordan, Long Beach; Jared Canoy, Gulfport; Clay Aikens, Brandon; David Galvin, Long Beach; Sam Wilson, Decatur; and Paul Sewell, Leesburg, Ala.; and (standing from left) Kenneth Thompson, Warrior head coach; Daniel Casaca, Forest; Forest Muller, Luling, LA; Clint McGraw, Brandon; Joey Walker, Hickory; Jordan Walker, Decatur; Ryne Riebock, Florence; Drew Norman, Florence; DeShawn Kitchens, Florence; David Hammond, Brandon; Jordan Galvin, Long Beach; and Chris Denney, Flowood. Also participating but not pictured are Garret Blevins, Gulfport; Ronnie Tisdale, Pascagoula; Zack Killion, Crestwood, Kentucky; Tyler Reeves, Decatur; and Zach Kilpatrick, Philadelphia.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Warrior Football 'Voices': Returning as the "voices" of East Central Community College football for the 2014 campaign are longtime announcers (from left) Frank Edmondson, Melvin Wooten and Gilbert Barham. Edmondson begins his 17th year as public address announcer for home football games. Wooten returns for his 11th year as the play-by-play announcer on radio, and Barham is in his 20th year as game analyst for radio broadcasts. All ECCC football games can be heard on 98.3 "The Groove" and on the ECCC Web site, www.eccc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Former ECCC Women's Soccer Players Reunite: These former East Central Community College Lady Soccer Warriors participated in "Soccer Alumni Day" held Saturday, August 16. Activities included a scrimmage with the 2014 squad and picnic for former and current Lady Warrior and Warrior team members. Soccer Alumni and their current residences include (kneeling from left) Bailey McElroy, Meridian; Haley Covert, Collinsville; Paige Gower, Meridian; Claire Milling, Meridian; Kennedy Castleberry, Meridian; Kimbo Seale, Gautier; and (standing from left) Mackenzie Britt, Florence; Kristen Pillsbury Tibbetts, Decatur; Marcia Guerreiro, Richland; Kacy Covert Aubic, Collinsville; Skye Tindall, Newton; Chelsey Vincent, Decatur; Jessy Harrison, Little Rock; Brooke White Compton and Sebastian Webb Compton, Purvis; and soccer coach Kenneth Thompson. Thompson previously led Lady Warrior and Warrior programs and now serves as Warrior head coach. Also attending the event but not pictured are Hannah Tindall Savell of Newton and Anna-Rose Blaylock of Newton.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Soccer Warriors Prepare for Season: Members of the 2014 East Central Community College men's soccer team scrimmage on the new synthetic turf at Bailey Stadium in preparation for the 2014 campaign. The Soccer Warriors begin season action with a 4 p.m. matchup Friday, August 22 at Southwest Mississippi Community College in Summit. East Central soccer squads will play their first match on the new turf and first home game "under the lights" when they host Copiah-Lincoln Community College Tuesday, Sept. 30. Game times are 5 and 7 p.m.

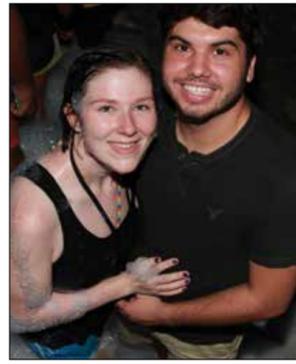


SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Pre-Season Workouts Continue for ECCC Lady Soccer Warriors : The East Central Community College women's soccer team practice on the new synthetic turf at Bailey Stadium in preparation for the 2014 season. The Lady Soccer Warriors start the new season with a 2 p.m. matchup Friday, August 22 at Southwest Mississippi Community College in Summit. East Central soccer squads will play their first match on the new turf and first home game "under the lights" when they host Copiah-Lincoln Community College Tuesday, Sept. 30 on the Decatur campus. Game times are 5 and 7 p.m.

Warrior Scene

Welcome Back Week 2014





Warrior Wonderland
Scenes from the inaugural Warrior Wonderland. PAGE 18

The Tom-Tom

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ECCC Receives \$2.5 Million Grant

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

DECATUR—East Central Community College was recently awarded a \$2.5 million grant to provide workforce training opportunities in Winston County, one of the College's five support counties.

ECCC is among 270 community colleges nationwide and the only Mississippi community college to receive the grant, which is provided by the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TA-

ACCCCT) competitive grant program and co-administered by the U.S. Department of Labor and the U.S. Department of Education. The



DR. STEWART

announcement was made Monday, Sept. 29, 2014, by Vice President Joe Biden.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart said the College applied for the \$2,499,950 grant in response to the unemployment rate and the number of dislocated workers in Winston County.

"Funds will also be used to assist with the training needs of Trade Adjustment Act (TAA) eligible workers in the county as well as qualified individuals who were affected by the

tornado damage in the county in late April of 2014," said Dr. Stewart. "We look forward to partnering with the Montgomery Institute in providing this much-needed training and service to the people of Winston County and the surrounding area."

The grant will specifically be used to provide training in information technology, healthcare, energy and advanced manufacturing at the Louisville Career Advancement Center.

Dr. Stewart said several college staff members participated in the grant ap-

plication process, including Dr. Teresa Houston, Vice President for Instruction; Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, Executive Director for Foundation and Alumni Affairs; David Case, Vice President for Institutional Research and Effectiveness; Derek Pace, Dean of Information Technology; Lucretia Williams, Director of Workforce Development; and Wayne Eason, Director of Workforce Education.

East Central Community College serves Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Military Veterans Honored at ECCC: Brigadier General Billy Pierce (left) of Decatur addresses a packed room full of fellow veterans at the second annual Military Appreciation Breakfast held Nov. 12, 2014, on the East Central Community College campus. Pierce, an ECCC alumnus, served 36 years in the Mississippi Army National Guard prior to his retirement in 2004. Other program participants included ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart, welcome and invocation; Warrior football player Darryl Rogers of Laurel, singing of the national anthem; Wall O' Sound trumpeter Nina Labue of Decatur, playing of "Taps;" and presentation of colors by Wesley Boykin and John Michael Everett, members of Boy Scout Troop 46. The military veterans received a standing ovation from ECCC students as they entered Mabry Memorial Cafeteria after leaving the Molly McGee Gold Room, where the breakfast/program was held.

ECCC Pays Tribute to Military Veterans

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Inspiring performances by East Central Community College students, followed by a patriotic message from a retired brigadier general, capped by a rousing ovation from EC students in tribute to the special campus visitors, highlighted the annual Military Appreciation Breakfast/Program held Nov. 12, 2014, on the ECCC campus.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart welcomed and thanked the packed crowd of military veterans who gathered in the Molly McGee Gold Room in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria for the special ceremony, held in honor of Veterans' Day, which is officially observed on Nov. 11.

Daryl Rogers of Laurel and Nina Labue of Decatur provided special music for the early morning program. Rogers, a member of the Warrior football team, sang the national anthem a cappella. He also performed "The Star Spangled" at EC's homecoming football game. Labue, a trumpeter with the Wall O' Sound Marching Band, played "Taps" following a presentation of colors by area youngsters Wesley Boykin and John Michael Everett, both of Boy Scout Troop 46.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Students Show Appreciation for Veterans: Students at East Central Community College show their support for military veterans by providing a standing ovation as the special campus guests exit through Mabry Memorial Cafeteria following the College's Military Appreciation Breakfast held Nov. 12.

Brigadier General (Ret.) and ECCC alumnus Billy L. Pierce of Decatur served as guest speaker. Pierce began his military career when he enlisted in the Mississippi Army National Guard in 1968. After 36 years of military service, he retired in 2004. The following year Brigadier General Pierce was inducted into the OCS Hall of Fame in Fort Benning, Georgia. He has received numerous awards and decorations throughout his career.

Excerpts from Brigadier General Pierce's speech are included below:

"On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, an armistice between Germany and the Allied Nations came into effect for the first time: the end of World War I, the war to end all wars.

"An act was approved on May 13, 1938, which made Nov. 11 each year a legal holiday, known as Armistice Day. On June 1, 1954, Congress changed the word Armistice to Veterans' Day.

"Veterans' Day is intended to honor and thank all military personnel who served in the USA in all wars, particularly all living veterans.

See TRIBUTE, PAGE 3



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

'Fine Arts Christmas Spectacular': As part of the inaugural season of East Central Community College's Cultural Arts Series, the Fine Arts Department presented a "Fine Arts Christmas Spectacular" on December 4, 2014, in Huff Auditorium. The Christmas Music Spectacular, which served as a fundraiser for the Series, featured performances by various East Central musical groups, including the Concert Choir, Ac'cents show choir, Wall O' Sound Band, and various other ensembles. The art department also presented a display of various mediums. A reception in the Molly McGee Gold Room followed the performances. The Cultural Arts series will also bring performing artists and visual artists to the campus throughout the year for both EC students and the community, according to Vicki Blaylock, ECCC Fine Arts Department Chair. "Throughout the years there have been visiting artists come to East Central and perform for our music majors. I couldn't help but notice the enthusiasm and interest that our students displayed when a visiting artist performed for them. I hope through the effort of the Cultural Arts Series we can afford all the students at East Central, not just the music majors, an opportunity to enhance their education by providing these cultural opportunities," Blaylock said. For more information, contact Vicki Blaylock at 601-635-6225 or email vblaylock@eccc.edu.

ECCC Honors Everett With 'Lifetime Achievement Award'

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Decatur attorney James B. Everett will be honored with a "Lifetime Achievement Award" Oct. 11, 2014, during East Central Community College's annual Homecoming festivities.

Everett (Class of 1948) served as attorney for the college's Board of Trustees since 1996 and retired recently due to health reasons.

He and other Alumni Association honorees will be recognized during the annual Homecoming luncheon scheduled at 11 a.m. in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

A native of Newton County, Everett is a graduate of Stratton School. He continued his education at East Central Community where he was a member of the basketball

team and met his wife, the late Jessie May Stewart Everett.

Everett earned a bachelor's degree in accounting from Mississippi State University. He then entered the U.S. Air Force during the Korean



EVERETT

War and was stationed in Pittsburgh, CA. After an honorable discharge, Everett then entered the University of Mississippi Law School where he received his degree in 1956.

Passing up an opportunity to work for Exxon Mobil in Atlanta, GA, Everett returned to Decatur where he has practiced law for nearly 60 years.

Everett served as attorney for the Newton County Board of Supervisors more than 30 years and was also counsel for the Newton County School Board and the Town of Decatur. In addition, he was instrumental in starting the Mid-Mississippi Development District in the early 1960s and has been a member of the Decatur Chamber

See AWARD, PAGE 3



Triplett Crowned ECCC Homecoming Queen: Sophomore Nikki Triplett (second from left) of Forest was crowned Homecoming Queen at East Central Community College in Decatur during ceremonies held Saturday, October 11, at Bailey Stadium. Triplett received her crown from College President Dr. Billy W. Stewart (left) during hallway of the Warriors' 14-7 victory over Jones County Junior College. Serving as Miss Triplett's escort was Bryce Power (third from left) of Forest. At right is 2013 queen Kaylin Hopkins of Louisville who presented the new queen with a bouquet of roses.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Homecoming Honorees: Receiving special recognition during East Central Community College's 2014 Homecoming celebration held Saturday, October 11, were (from left) Dr. Michael Waldrop (Class of 1965) of Clinton, Alumnus of the Year, Cheryl Comans (Class of 1981) of Cleveland, Alumna of the Year, and Athletic Hall of Fame inductees Troy Henderson (Class of 1954) of Raymond and Richard Fulmer (Class of 1959) of Deatsville, Ala. Award presentations were made during the annual Alumni Luncheon held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Hosts District Choral Festival: The East Central Community College choral music department hosted its annual District High School Choir Festival Thursday, October 23 on the Decatur campus. Dr. Gary Packwood (right), Director of Choral Activities at Mississippi State University, served as clinician for the 352 students from Newton County, Neshoba Central, Scott Central and Philadelphia high schools who attended. Special exhibition performances were presented by the ECCC Concert Choir and the Ac'cents show choir. The day concluded with a mass choir performance by all festival participants. For more information contact Vicki Blaylock, ECCC vocal/choral music instructor/Fine Arts Department Chair, at 601-635-6225. The e-mail address is vblaylock@eccc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Davis Attends ECCC Homecoming: Allen Davis of Decatur, a member of the Class of 2004, was among alumni attending reunion activities during East Central Community College's 2014 Homecoming celebration held Saturday, October 11.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Daycare Center Visits Pumpkin Patch: Children attending the East Central Community College Daycare Center, students enrolled in the Early Childhood Education Program, daycare center staff and parents recently visited Lazy Acres Pumpkin Patch in Chunky. The children learned about farm animals as well as the development of pumpkins. They enjoyed a hayride through the pumpkin patch, picking pumpkins, petting the farm animals and a pig race.



ECCC Homecoming Court: Members of the 2014 Homecoming Court at East Central Community College included (front row, from left) sophomore maids Cara Beth Jackson of Nanih Waiya, Anna Katherine Nowell of Philadelphia and Mallory Turner of Collinsville; maid of honor MaChasity Leflore of Carthage; queen Nikki Triplett of Forest; and freshman maids Skylar Davidson of Morton, Courtney Hamilton of Philadelphia, Kaley Bufkin of Decatur and Sydney Keith of Philadelphia; and (back row, from left) escorts Clay Jackson of Nanih Waiya, Zach Butler of Philadelphia, Reagan Warren of Decatur, Javon Yarbrough of Louisville, Bryce Power of Forest, Miles Johnson of Louisville, Caleb Brown of Philadelphia, Peyton Cain of Decatur and Wes Brown of Carthage. The queen and her court were presented Saturday, October 11, during halftime of the ECCC vs. Jones County Junior College football game.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Hosts Leadership Neshoba Students: Above are participants in a Leadership Neshoba Retreat held recently at East Central Community College in Decatur. The daylong event included introductions of ECCC student leaders and campus tours followed by a leadership seminar led by college administrators, faculty and staff. In addition, former faculty members Ovid Vickers and Alice Pouncey provided information on public speaking and manners and etiquette, respectively. The special campus visitors concluded their retreat by having dinner with ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart and other members of the Executive Council, who include vice presidents Dr. Teresa Houston (instruction), Dr. Randall Lee (student services), Mickey Vance (business operations), David Case (institutional effectiveness and research) and Bubby Johnston (public information). Students and their respective high schools include (from row, from left) Chelsea Ferris and Avery Fisher, both of Philadelphia; Caiti Smith, Neshoba Central; Hannah Kuntz, Leake Academy; Nicole Ferguson and Amelia Henson, both of Neshoba Central; and Breanna Isaac, Choc-taw Central; (second row, from left) Miriam Seale, Neshoba Central; Emily Duncan, Tyler Greer and Paul Prince, all of Philadelphia; Ansley Vaughn, Leake Academy; Hannah Reitcheck and Brittany Watkins, both of Neshoba Central; and Chaney Hartley, Philadelphia; and (back row, from left) co-sponsor Michael Reed, Neshoba County extension agent; Denver Haggard, Neshoba Central; Alandria Moore and Cooper Smith, both of Philadelphia; Mason Duran, Neshoba Central; Trey Hunt, Philadelphia; Grant Garrison, Joseph Blount and Brittany Russell, all of Neshoba Central; and co-sponsor Tim Moore, Neshoba County Chamber/Main Street director.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



ECCC Success Center Offers Free Help to Students

BY CLARISSA SMITH
Staff Writer

According to Mary Boulton, the director at East Central Community College's Success Center, "The success center is working well, but we encourage more students to come."

The Success Center at ECCC is an academic support service for students. Through center programs, students can increase their academic self-awareness and develop the most current learning and study strategies necessary for success in the college environment.

The purpose of the Success Center is to provide academic success skills, tutorial and computer assisted instructions for students who need assistance with academic studies.

Towards this goal, students receive assistance in achieving their academic goals through academic-support program offerings, student-centered tutoring, online tutoring, computer-assisted instructions, and access to the computer lab.

Michael Whitlock, a student worker at the success center said, "The success center has a 100 percent success rate from what I've seen. When students come in for help, they always leave understanding what they did not understand before."

Although the Center is successful,



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

English instructor Pam Fowler assists students in the East Central Community College Success Center.

Whitlock said there is more work that can be done.

"The only problem is not enough students take advantage of this opportunity," he said. "Students just don't seem to realize that most of the time spending only 15 minutes at the Success Center with one of the teachers could help them to dramatically improve their understanding and their grades."

Boulton and Whitlock both agree that the Success Center is worth students' time and highly encourage more students to come.

AWARD

From Page 1

of Commerce, Jaycees and Exchange Club.

An active member of Clarke-Venable Baptist Church, he has taught Sunday school for more than 50 years.

TRIBUTE

From Page 1

"Since the beginning of this country, men and women have answered the call to defend this great nation. Our freedom has never been free. We enjoy the freedom that we have today because of those who wear the uniform. It is the soldier who takes up arms, leaving families behind, homes behind, jobs behind, in order to defend our people, our way of life, our freedom itself from an enemy who wants to destroy us take our liberty away.

"Some would ask 'Why.' Why expose yourself to danger, the weather, harsh living conditions, the threat of violence, the absence of loved ones. They do it for you, they do it for me. They do it for their community and their country. They even do it for those who don't appreciate their service. They even do it for the ungrateful media and politicians. They do it because they are Americans, great Americans who love their country and God. The soldier is the embodiment of what makes this country great and beacon of light in an otherwise dark world. The American soldier can destroy the enemy with one hand while comforting and protecting a small child with the other hand.

"But this is no surprise. The soldier is the product of communities and parents that taught them the values of life, having God-given character, love for freedom, and what is right. Soldiers are that fabric and steel that holds this great nation together.

"To me, there is no greater privilege that to wear the uniform of an American soldier. That uniform that you are wearing or have worn in the past is a symbol of freedom and hope around the world. The uniform of the American soldier is admired by the weak and oppressed, but feared by those who plan evil and suffering around the world.

"American soldiers have always faced a cruel enemy dating all the way back to the American Revolution. But we have never faltered or failed because we had leaders and commanders and chiefs who had backbone, a plan, and a mission. That mission has always been to enter any battle and win and not be a police force. Our veterans knew their leaders had their backs, and given a mission and equipment, the American soldier has always prevailed. That's the way we are trained.

"We now face a cold and cruel enemy who seems to not fear us anymore. But it's not the sol-

diary that has faltered or failed. They stand ready and eager to get the job done and will send this ISIS group packing to the sand dunes and utter destruction, if allowed to do so. That is what we do. That is what we have done in the past, and that is what we can do.

"We, as Americans, owe the veteran much more than we realize. All the freedom and luxury we enjoy today are credited to the veteran who sits among us or lives next door. You may not know the veteran because most keep the horror of battle inside.

"You can't tell a veteran just by looking. "But understand this: It is the soldier, not the reporter, who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier, not the poet, who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier, not the campus organizer, who has given us the freedom to demonstrate.

"It is the soldier, who salutes the flag, who serves beneath the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, who allows the protester to burn the flag. "Are you aware that in World War II alone, there were 418,500 American casualties and 139,709 either captured or missing in action? "When our soldiers stormed the beaches of Normandy on June 6, 1944, that approximately 90 percent of the first wave was killed? But wave after wave continued stumbling over fallen comrades until the beachhead was taken and secured.

"That's the bravery of the American soldier, then and now, from WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan. "We must not ever forget the price paid. They must not be forgotten. "As veterans, we are reminded of the famous words of General Douglas MacArthur: 'Duty; Honor; Country.' These words are what it is all about to the veteran and the soldier.

"Once again, thanks to our veterans for the freedom we enjoy today." Brigadier General Pierce concluded his presentation by distributing thank-you notes to veterans written by second-grade students at Newton County Elementary School. The program concluded with ECCC students and staff providing a standing ovation for the military veterans as they exited through Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

For more information on the annual Military Appreciation Breakfast, contact Dr. Randall E. Lee, Vice President for Student Services, at 606-635-6375 or e-mail rlee@ecc.edu.

Tutoring Hours

Accounting
Monday • 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Anatomy & Physiology
Wednesday • 10 - 11 a.m.

Art
Monday • 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Biology
Monday • 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.;
10 - 11 a.m. & 1 - 2 p.m.

Business
Monday • 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Chemistry
Tuesday • 10 - 11 a.m.

Computer Science
Tuesday • 2 - 3 p.m.
Thursday • 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Economics
Monday • 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

English
Monday • 1 - 2 p.m. & 4:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday • 8 - 9 a.m.;
11 a.m. - 12 p.m. & 3 - 4 p.m.
Wednesday • 9 - 10 a.m. & 5 - 8 p.m.
Thursday • 8 - 9 a.m. & 1 - 2 p.m.

Health
Friday • 8 - 9 a.m.

History
Monday • 1-2 p.m.
Wednesday • 2-3 p.m.

Mathematics
Monday • 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.;
3 - 4 p.m. & 5 - 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday • 2 - 3 p.m. & 5 - 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday • 1 - 2 p.m. & 5 - 8 p.m.
Thursday • 5 - 8 p.m.
Friday • 1 - 2 p.m.

Microbiology
Wednesday • 10 - 11 a.m.

Music
Monday • 1 - 2 p.m.
Tuesday • 8 - 9 a.m.
Wednesday 10 - 11 a.m.
Thursday • 8 - 9 a.m.
Friday • 8 - 9 a.m.

Nutrition
Monday • 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

Physics
Tuesday • 1-2 p.m.

Psychology
Wednesday • 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Speech
Tuesday • 8-9 p.m.
1 - 2 p.m.

Sociology
Wednesday • 3-4 p.m.

Warrior Pathway to Success
Tuesday • 2 - 3 p.m.

Online Posts Have Real Consequences.

What a fatty.

She is so ugly!

He is a jerk.

POSTING ONLINE MESSAGES TO CAUSE ANY PERSON INJURY IS A CRIME WHICH CAN GET YOU A FELONY CONVICTION AND FIVE YEARS IN PRISON.

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Warrior Viewpoints

FROM THE EDITOR

Ebola or No-Bola

It seems impossible to avoid reading about the recent epidemic of Ebola-stricken Americans in the United States. The reactions have ranged from “eh, the CDC can handle it” to “How stupid is this? What if they start an epidemic here?” or “Is this just a government fib?” Most people know very little about Ebola aside from the fact that it comes from Africa, it kills many people, and there is no cure. All of these things are true, and a large part of the reason why every outbreak of Ebola is of extreme interest to the CDC and other organizations.

What are the odds of Ebola becoming a “country eating” disease?

Even if several people from that quarantined room managed to somehow contract and spread Ebola into the civilian world, the odds of Ebola suddenly rising up and smiting the nation is low. In its natural state, Ebola is easily quarantined and dealt with in a highly industrialized society like we have and only becomes a threat when a lack of knowledge is combined with poor hygienic practices and a lack of hospital care to ensure that infected people are properly isolated and cared for in life and in death. Although I would certainly keep an eye on any reports of a leak, (particularly if you live close to Atlanta where the infected patients are being treated), this is not likely to be the start of a country-destroying epidemic.

So please for all health nuts and jokesters, it is extremely unlikely that you will catch Ebola!



MADISON BARNETT
Editor

—Madison Barnett
Editor

OTHER VIEWS

A Day in the Life of a Student

Each and every college student struggles with some type of “stress” whether it is an overload of homework, extra-curricular activities, meetings or anything in conflict with school. Students get so caught up in the “stress” that they tend to lose all focus on what is really important!

The best way to deal with stress is take a deep breath and relax because everything will be OK! Do not give up on what really matters because in the long run, it is all worth it! Trust me, if you are not living a hard, hectic life then something is terribly wrong, we are nowhere near perfect.

Don't beg and plead for a teacher to curve your grade or maybe bump you up higher because more than likely they will have no sympathy for you and possibly offend you in some way! The best thing for you to do is calmly ask the teacher for better ways to study, extra credit, tutoring or if you could see what your mistake was and correct it next time.

In this generation, students tend to give up so easily on the simplest things! Something has to change quickly or else this generation will fail horribly.

There is a saying “when life gives you lemons, make lemonade!” Never give up on anything because you never know how it will eventually turn out! Always keep your head up and keep an extremely positive focus, you will succeed well!

—Madison Barnett
Editor



BY MACKEN'Z SMITH, CARTOONIST

WORDS OF A WARRIOR

BY BROOKE SMITH

Do you Fear Ebola at EC?

JUSTICE STEELE
Pre-Vet
Sophomore
“No, because I feel like there are no cases in Mississippi or anywhere near Decatur so why be scared.”



AUSTIN SNOW
Math
Freshman
“No, because it has not reached Mississippi and I believe the government will contain it before it spreads any further.”



JEREMY HUDSON
Pre-Med
Sophomore
“I am not afraid of Ebola because of the information my class has learned through Microbiology. Mrs. Davis taught us it can only be spread through body fluids of a person showing symptoms. Thus, it cannot go very far very fast. So Ebola doesn't worry me and should not worry no one else on campus.”



ANNA CLAIRE WEBB
Nursing
Freshman
“Yes, this is an actual scary thought simply because even though it's not on campus who says it can't come. People in Texas and New York probably didn't think they would get it but they did.”



OTHER VIEWS

Full-time Status Hours Change Could Overload Some Students

I want to be completely honest about this. I think it can be seen as a good thing to make students full-time at 15 hours, but adding that extra three hours to the already overly-stressed life of most college students is challenging.

I'll use myself as an example: I'm a member of Ac'cents, the Wall O' Sound Band, Encore, the East Central Concert Choir, The Tom-Tom and the Wo-He-Lo. I'm currently taking 20 hours because most of the scholarships I receive and activities I'm in require at least one credit hour, and some even require extra time outside of my schedule. Excluding Band, Choir and Ac'cents, I'm at 17 hours, and I added an extra academic course to my schedule so that I would be able to drop a course if it became absolutely necessary.

While there are negative aspects to this change, there are also some positive aspects to consider. Fifteen hours will require the students to challenge themselves and to accept more responsibility. Once students graduate/transfer from East Central, most of them go off to a university, a technical school, or another community college. The 15-hour minimum change will help prepare students for whatever comes after East Central. Although it seems unfair or overly difficult, this change is for the best, and it will probably help us in the long run.



DEEJAY ROLISON
Staff Writer

—DeeJay Rolison
Staff Writer

Excitement on EC Campus

My family and I will soon celebrate our third Christmas in Decatur. My, how time flies when you are having fun! I so enjoy serving as president of East Central Community College (ECCC). It remains the greatest privilege of my 21 years of service in education in the state of Mississippi. It is indeed a privilege to work with faculty, staff, and students committed to the EC Way – Excellence with Class!

We just completed our C4 activities on campus. I hope that all of our students will follow through with their commitment to complete their associates degree before leaving ECCC. We continue making preparations for renovations to Newsome Hall and Todd Hall this summer. We are diligently working with the state of Mississippi and the firm of Eley, Guild, Hardy Architects to make these renovations a reality this summer. Speaking of upcoming changes, we will be making several additions to our campus during Christmas break and throughout the Spring semester that may be of interest to our students. We will be replacing student desks in all Newton Hall classrooms. We will be installing a new Frisbee golf course near the walking track in the near future. We are also building a new welcome sign on Highway 15 at the entrance to Warrior Drive. It will be in the shape of our current sign at the front of campus which also serves as the basis for our college logo. These are just a few of the many plans we have for East Central in the near future as we strive to fulfill 2020 Vision.

While I am excited about the things that are happening on campus that we can see, I am even more excited about the things that are happening on campus that we cannot see. I am aware of several lives that have been changed eternally this semester on our campus. The Holy Spirit is moving among our student body and for that I am so grateful. Jesus Christ radically changed my life as a college freshman so when I hear of college students being transformed by the power of Christ, it excites me. Our church just showed the movie “God's Not Dead” and I can attest to the fact that He is very active on the campus of East Central Community College!!

I want to wish all of our students and employees a Merry Christmas! I also want to encourage you to not miss the true meaning of the holiday this year. John 1:14 states: “The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us.” That is the true meaning of Christmas—Christ has come!

—Billy W. Stewart
ECCC President

OTHER VIEWS

Dorm Life has Advantages

Living in the dorms on the East Central Community College campus has its advantages. Take for instance Welcome Back Week. During this week students partake in fun events and dances. Some of these last late at night and for students who live on campus it's very convenient not to have to make a long drive home.

Living in the dorm gives you freedoms that we as college students have been excited for since we graduated high school. Students who live on campus really get to experience college life. Whether it's staying up late with your friends to binge watch on Netflix, just playing video games or studying, having the luxury of living where you go to school is worth the price of living expenses.

If there was to be any disadvantage of dorm life it would have to be the evil fire alarms that have no regard for our sleeping habits. Just like any other school there are rules and regulations that have to be followed but none of which are overbearing. As long you follow these rules its smooth sailing.

—Dominick Fields
Staff Writer

MEET THE STAFF

Intro to DeeJay Rolison!

My name is DeeJay Rolison and I'm a sophomore from Conehatta.

I plan to attend the University of Southern Mississippi to pursue a bachelor's degree in journalism and photography.

I have a love for music and performance, so I'm involved in a variety of extra-curriculars, including Ac'cents, Band, Encore, etc.

Frozen is my favorite movie, Britney Spears is my favorite entertainer, Harry Potter is my favorite series of books and Glee is my favorite television series.

I enjoy making new friends and I consider myself a very social person! Please don't be afraid to interact with me, I'm sure we will get along just fine. Let's hope for a fantastic year at EC!

—DeeJay Rolison
Staff Writer

The Tom-Tom is a student publication of East Central Community College in Decatur, Miss. It is published by the Office of Public Information. For more information, contact the staff at P.O. Box 129, Decatur, MS, 39327 or by phone at 601-635-2111, ext. 364, or toll free at 1-877-462-3222.

Accreditation
East Central Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools 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.

Notice of Non-Discrimination
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 non-discrimination 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.

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

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If you would like to submit a letter to the editor, question for Dr. Stewart or a guest column, please e-mail them to gtaylor@eccc.edu or bring them to the lower level of Huff Auditorium Rm. 43.

College 101

THEATER TAKE

Best of Me, Left Behind Follow Books Plot

THE BEST OF ME

INDUCES WATER WORKS

The movie *The Best of Me*, based on the Nicholas Sparks novel, was recently released. This movie was given a 10 percent rating by Rotten Tomato critics.

I am a major Nicholas Sparks fan. I have seen all the movies based on his books. Therefore, I may be a little biased, but I loved this movie. It is definitely an emotional roller coaster. The movie's storyline follows a man and woman who were high school sweet hearts. They reunite due to the death of a mutual loved one. The plot in the book is very complex, and I do not think that it was expressed with enough detail in certain areas.

However, the scenery from the book was beautifully displayed in the scenes of the movie.

With all bias aside I can say that it is not the best of the movies based on Nicholas Spark's books, but if you are a lady looking for a melancholy romance then this is the movie you want to see! I do not wish to spoil the ending of the



ALLISON JOHNSON
Opinions Editor

movie but I will say that you should bring the whole box of tissues and wear waterproof mascara because it definitely induces the waterworks.

—Allison Johnson
Opinions Editor

LEFT BEHIND LEAVES DESIRE FOR MORE

The movie *Left Behind* featuring Nicholas Cage was recently released. The movie is based upon a series of novels written by Tim LaHaye and Jerry B. Jenkins. This movie received a 2 percent rating by Rotten Tomato critics. I do not feel that the movie deserved a rating as low as this even though it did not meet my expectations. I read the novel series and I

absolutely loved them.

While the movie did not really stray far from the plot of the book, I was still not that impressed. As far as entertainment and action purposes the movie was actually a bit of a letdown for me. It was very drawn out and a bit boring. The plot of the book is action packed and it reflects one well known Christian view of what is called the rapture. The idea is that every person who is saved up until a certain point in time will be raptured out all at once leaving everything and everyone behind. This is what happened in the movie, but some of the scenes just weren't as impressive as I imagined them to be and it was not as much of a cliff hanger as the book was. Most of the movie was spent fol-

lowing a central character's dilemma. This man was piloting a plane. He was not raptured but his co-pilot as well as other passengers were raptured off of Earth.

If you are a person who has not read the books you probably would have been confused because the plot was not conveyed early enough or well enough. I will not spoil the ending of the movie for anyone. I will just say that if you looking for an action packed thriller then I would not recommend this movie. However, if you are wanting to watch a scintillating and thought provoking movie, then I would absolutely recommend *Left Behind*.

—Allison Johnson
Opinions Editor

FROM THE SHELF

Hungry Hungry Mockingjay Part I: Best Hunger Game Yet

Funny story with this movie. See, I'm a book fan myself, and to me *Mockingjay Part I*. I thought maybe it would satisfy my weekly need to see a movie and leave me with a mediocre taste in my mouth. I was so wrong. This is the best *Hunger Games* movie so far. It starts out kind of slow with showing Katniss in District 13. She isn't very happy with the rebel government not saving Peeta, and she she's mentally having a hard time. Jennifer Lawrence is the only person alive capable of pulling off such

issues without over doing it, and once again her acting as Katniss is flawless. This movie strays away from the arenas full of children killing one another and goes into a civil war within Panem. It is the Districts versus the Capital.



AAREN AVERA
Staff Writer

Throughout the movie, we follow Katniss as she performs duties as the face of the rebellion. She is the *Mockingjay*. In the same way that Katniss is used as the face of the rebellion, Peeta is used as the Capital's face. And my oh my what a face that is. Poor Josh Hutcherson ends up looking like an AIDS patient due to all the makeup used to make Peeta's torture known. Both sides make propaganda films to send messages to the people of Panem. While this sounds like a boring political based film in comparison to the exciting murder friendly predecessors, I urge you all to see it anyway.

Ignore those thoughts. It is politically based, but there is still plenty of action. Bombing, gun fire, regular fire. There is bone chilling scenes of Panem citizens fighting back in their respective ways. Some lines used in the film made me feel fired up and ready to tell the Capital to shove it. I wanted to be a part of the fight. So I suppose the lesson learned here is...don't judge a movie by its book? Unless you loved the last book. Then judge it. Hard. Love it. This movie is great. My only big complaint, and what is taking off some points for the final score, is the ending. I don't believe in spoilers, so I'll put it like

this. Remember *Catching Fire*'s amazing cliffhanger ending? How we all, even book readers, wanted to see exactly what was next right then and there and we almost started a revolt until we got the new material? I was expecting that. Because, you know, they split this movie into two parts. But alas, the ending we are left with merely makes you wonder how things happen next. Not quite what happens next. To finish off this review I ask "are you, are you, coming to the tree?" 8.75/10

—Aaren Avera
Staff Writer

Tips for Apartment Dwellers on Surviving the Winter Season

One of the biggest mistakes first-time apartment dwellers make usually occurs during the winter season, and this mistake will cost them hundreds of dollars if not avoided. The mistake is allowing their pipes to bust. During extremely cold weather, water pipes can freeze causing them to bust, and the repairs are costly and time consuming. Here are a few tips for prevention: During cold nights, let all of the faucets in your apartment trickle a tiny bit of hot water through the night. This will keep your pipes warm, and prevent freezing.

If you're leaving your apartment for the holidays, leave your heating system on, and try to have a friend or family member that you trust occasionally check on your apartment. If pipes can be visibly seen from outside of your apartment, such as a water hose faucet, wrap these exterior pipes with towels on very cold nights. Another issue that many apartment dwellers face during the winter is bugs. During the winter bugs or other nasty little critters will come into their homes seeking a break from the cold or food.

An apartment dweller could use toxic spray to rid them or other not so delightful tricks, but there is a healthier and easier way of curing a bug problem. Live with a cat. I myself am an apartment dweller, and I originally had a hard time dealing with spiders, mice, and other bugs. After having a cat for only a few days, the results were better than any other solution I had tried. Cats are also low maintenance and good companionship. Fellow Apartment Dweller, —Clarissa Smith
Staff Writer

GAMERS' GATHERING

Destiny Is Definitely a Game of Unimaginable Potential

Destiny, a next generation first person shooter, is a game of unimaginable potential. Bungie, the creators of the *Halo* series for Microsoft, first hinted at *Destiny* in *Halo 3: ODST* with a sign that read "Destiny Awaits." They've spent years working on *Destiny*, and the results are wonderful. Starting out, you customize and create your character. There are three choices that you choose from. Picking the class, the first choice that you make, can be a very difficult decision as you have to pick between three very different classes that all possess different strengths and abilities. Race, being second, is a choice between Human, Exo, a species of humanoid machines, and Awoken, mysterious ethereal aliens. Finally, you get to choose how your character looks. Thus the game begins and the journey to become legend. The environments of the multiple worlds that you travel to are amazingly detailed. The game really shows what the next generation of consoles can do. However, this fast paced open world shooter, has a few drawbacks. The story line, while enter-

taining, is extremely vague and the character development is shallow. Although you do create the character, there is a sense detachment due to the story. Hopefully, Bungie will create more downloadable content that progresses the story and the character development. There is always room for improvement and Bungie, knowing this, is releasing weekly updates to fix bugs and problems with the game. Regardless to the drawbacks, I personally enjoy the game as a whole. I am looking forward to however Bungie decides to expand the game and the franchise.



—Jacob McNeil
Staff Writer

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1994 Lady Warriors Recognized at ECCC Homecoming: Members of the 1994 East Central Community College Lady Warrior basketball team were recognized during the 2014 Homecoming festivities held Saturday, October 11. Joining then head coach Sammy Pace (seated, third from left) were team members (front row, from left) Genia Griffin Jackson of Morton, Evelyn Nelson Dupree of Brandon, and Rena Reed Pierre of Springfield, LA; and (standing, from left) Nikki Ross of Philadelphia, Jamala Odom Black of Forest and Carla Leflore Lewis of Brandon. The 1994 Lady Warriors captured the NJCAA Consolation Bracket Championship, the Region 23 Championship and finished ranked 7th in the nation.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



Celebrate Golden Anniversary! Members of the East Central Community College Class of 1964 observed their 50th class reunion during the 2014 Homecoming festivities held Saturday, October 11 on the Decatur campus. Class members in attendance and their respective hometowns included (front row, from left) Voncile O. Smith, Terry; Jerald Everett and John Boutwell, both of Clinton; Beth Everett Clarke, Hoover, AL; Carol Turner Parten, Brandon; and Larry Tanner, Crane Hill, AL; (second row, from left) Linda Comans Shaw, Mobile, AL; Kay Fulton Lucas, Newton; Harold Aycock, Greenfield, CA; Benny Buckley, Philadelphia; Roger Hines, Kennesaw, GA; and Dee Nicholson Payne, Florence; and (back row, from left) Bill Lea, Madison; Henry Wilson, Enterprise; Bill Freeman, Newton; Paul Powers, Kosciusko; and Otis Farmer, Atlanta, GA. Honorees received Golden Anniversary diplomas from college President Dr. Billy W. Stewart during a special ceremony held in Brackeen-Wood Gymnasium.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



Class of 1994 Honored: Members of the East Central Community College Class of 1994 were among special groups recognized during the college's 2014 Homecoming festivities held Saturday, October 11 on the Decatur campus. Class members in attendance and their respective hometowns included (from left) Michelle Perkins Rushing, Walnut Grove; Evelyn Nelson Dupree, Brandon; Rena Reed Pierre, Springfield, LA; Carla Leflore Lewis, Brandon; and Jamala Odom Black, Forest.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



Classes of 1949 Holds ECCC Reunion: Members of the East Central Community College Class of 1949 were among special groups honored during the 2014 Homecoming festivities held Saturday, October 11 on the Decatur campus. Class members in attendance and their respective hometowns included (seated, from left) Wyatt Tullos, Clinton; and Jesse Harris, Suwanee, GA; and (standing, from left) Jamie Harrell, Rayville, LA; Sara Cagle Crawford, Marion, AZ; Dr. Beverly Ricks, Monroe, LA; James Breland, Cleveland; and John Blount, Decatur.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



Classes of 1957, 1958 and 1959 Hold Annual Reunion: Members of the East Central Community College Classes of 1957, 1958 and 1959 were among special groups honored during the 2014 Homecoming festivities held Saturday, October 11 on the Decatur campus. Class members in attendance and their respective hometowns included (front row, from left) Wilmer James, Brandon; Carol Vickers and Jeanette Thrash, both of Decatur; Lois Cooper, Madison; and Dr. Beverly O. Martin, Roanoke, VA; and (back row, from left) Mack Shelton, Pearl; Jimmie Rea, Flora; and Nancy Haggard, Clinton.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



Class of 1954 Honored: Members of the East Central Community College Class of 1954 were among special groups recognized during the college's 2014 Homecoming festivities held Saturday, October 11 on the Decatur campus. Class members in attendance and their respective hometowns included (front row, from left) Madeline McKay Strahan of Meridian and Carl Mack Sullivan of Raleigh.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Where can an Ole Miss degree take you? Across the globe.

HALEY, a former transfer student from Mississippi, is majoring in Mechanical Engineering. Last summer, Haley traveled to Togo, Africa with the group Engineers Without Borders after becoming involved during her first year on campus.

“Ole Miss provides so many unique opportunities for involvement. My experience abroad changed my entire perspective.”

—Haley, Mechanical Engineer



#OleMissMatters



Connect with your Transfer Admissions Counselor on Instagram!

OleMissJasonM
OleMissLaura
OleMissTyler



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SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Board of Trustees: Serving as members of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees for the 2014-2015 college term are (first row, from left) Dr. Danny Lanier, Little Rock; Van Lucas, Newton; Jerry Smith (vice chairman), Philadelphia; Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth (chairman), Lake; Patrick Posey, Leake County Supt. of Education; William Kitchings, Carthage; and Annie Stowers, Forest; (second row, from left) Edsel Cliburn, Union; Prentice Copeland, Philadelphia; Randal Livingston, Louisville; Alan Rhea, Carthage; Rebecca Farris, Morton; Patsy Clark, Louisville; W.B. Jones, Walnut Grove; and Beverly Hart, Union; and (back row, from left) Ken McMullan, Louisville Supt. of Education; Ricky Goldman, Philadelphia; Pat Cleveland, Decatur; David Byars, Philadelphia; Rodney Bounds, Newton; Royce Shaw (secretary), Forest; Jerry Nance, Louisville and Leo Parker, Noxapater. Not pictured are Dr. Kimsey Cooper and Janie Wilbanks, both of Carthage; Tommy Dearing, Neshoba County Supt. of Education, J.O. Amis, Newton County Supt. of Education; Vernon Crotwell, Morton; and Delane Hudson, Louisville.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Supports Breast Cancer Awareness: Numerous East Central Community College students, administrators, faculty and staff members show their support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month by wearing "pink" for "Think Pink Day" Thursday, October 16. Pictured are (first row, from left) instructor Christy Ferguson, Alisha Dunn of Philadelphia, Tiffany Watkins of Lawrence, Victoria Burt of Louisville, Leah Ferguson of Philadelphia, Angela Anderson of Decatur, Toretha Norman of Newton and staff members Shelia Stamper and Laura Thorne; and (second row, from left) staff members Sherrell Brown and Gina Mowdy, Roshumbria Nash of Carthage, Chireatha Drummond and Kimberly Watkins, both of Philadelphia; staff member Gennie Taylor, Tarra Hudson of Philadelphia, Kirstin Eversoll of Union and Layne Leopard of Philadelphia; and (back row, from left) instructors Christy Wilson, Marcia Russell and Valerie Nicholson, Kenshelsa Boyd of Carthage, Shanetria Ickom of Lake, Caleb Brown of Philadelphia, administrator Bubby Johnston, Virginia Easley of Philadelphia, Tracy Gray of Lake and CrisAnn Bryan of Philadelphia. "Think Pink Day" was sponsored by the College's Phi Beta Lambda chapter.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Moreau Donates Grand Piano to ECCC: Hank Moreau of Decatur recently donated a six-foot Young Chang Grand Piano to East Central Community College. Moreau donated the piano in memory of his wife, Sara Ruth (McGee) Moreau. Mr. and Mrs. Moreau were both members of the ECCC Class of 1959. The piano will be housed in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. Pictured are (seated) ECCC Fine Arts Division Chair/Music Instructor Vicki Blaylock and (standing, from left) ECCC Executive Director for Foundation and Alumni Relations Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth and Hank Moreau.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Learning About ECCC Business Technology: These male students receive hands-on training while learning about East Central Community College's business technology program during the annual Non-Traditional Conference for Male Students held recently. Seated from left are Alex Gardea, Leake County Career-Technical Center; Leon Giles, Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center; and Yoan Gonzalez, Forest/Scott County Career-Technical Center, who are shown receiving assistance from (standing from left) business technology student Kelsey Sikes of Carthage, instructor Christy Ferguson of Philadelphia and student Virginia Easley of Philadelphia. The annual conference is sponsored by the ECCC Career-Technical Division. The theme of this year's conference was "Stampeding to Success."



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Learning How to 'Fold' Properly! How to properly fold dinner napkins and other information related to fine dining were among items presented by hotel and restaurant management technology program representatives at the annual Non-Traditional Conference for Male Students held recently. Students participating in the "napkin folding" include (right from left) Wes Spears and Micah Williams, both of Newton County High School; Desmond Stewart, Leake County Career-Technical Center; and Preston Breazeale, Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center. Also pictured are (from left) hotel and restaurant management technology students Ashley Hill of Noxapater, and Alecia Breedlove and Delana Comans, both of Philadelphia.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Warrior Darryl Rogers Performs at ECCC's Military Event: Darryl Rogers is shown performing "The Star Spangled Banner" during the annual Military Appreciation Breakfast held Nov. 12, 2014, at East Central Community College. Rogers, a member of the Warrior football team from Laurel, provided an inspiring a cappella rendition of the national anthem, which he also performed at ECCC's homecoming football game with Jones County earlier this year. Also shown are ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart, program participant; and Wesly Boykin of Boy Scout Troop 46, who along with fellow troop member John Michael Everett presented colors. Brigadier General (Ret.) and ECCC alumnus Billy Pierce of Decatur was guest speaker for the special event, held in the Molly McGee Gold Room of Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Participates in Childhood Education Activity at ECCC Event: Tanner Brown (third from left) of Newton County High School participates in an activity used as part of the Early Childhood Education curriculum at East Central Community College. The information table was one of many available to area high school students who attended the annual Non-Traditional Conference for Male Students held recently on the Decatur campus. Also shown are (from left) instructor Sheri Anders, EC student Arieel Carter of Forest, Brown and fellow high school students Mario Cano and Jared Graham.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Provides Info on ECCC Computer Networking Program: Thomas Fortenberry (left), computer networking support technology instructor at East Central Community College, provides information about the program to high school career-technical students during the Non-Traditional Conference for Male Students held recently. Pictured third from left are Brian Davis of the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center, and Alex Gardea, Leake County Career-Technical Center. At right is ECCC computer networking technology student Dalton Sellers of Philadelphia, who is shown helping to install an RJ-45 connector.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Labue Performs Taps at ECCC Event Honoring Veterans: Nina Labue shown performing "Taps" during the annual Military Appreciation Breakfast held Nov. 12, 2014, at East Central Community College. Labue, of Conehatta, is a member of the Wall O' Sound Marching Band and a product of Newton County High School. Also shown is John Michael Everett of Boy Scout Troop 46, who along with fellow troop member Wesly Boykin presented colors.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Receive 'Cosmetology' Info at ECCC Conference: Learning about hair-styling and other information related to a career as a hair stylist are the above area high school career-technical students who attended the annual Non-Traditional Conference for Male Students held recently at East Central Community College in Decatur. Shown receiving hair-styling tips are (from left) Trevor Blalock and Jacquez Hardy, both of Newton Career Center; and Cameron Case, Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center. Cosmetology instructor Carla Jacome-Cluff and cosmetology students Kelsey Boswell of Philadelphia and Cassie Phillips of Bay Springs demonstrate the proper hair-styling techniques to the special campus visitors.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Talking About Culinary Arts at ECCC: Barrh Karrh (third from left), culinary arts technology instructor at East Central Community College, provides information about the program to area high school career-technical students at the annual Non-Traditional Conference for Male Students held recently on the Decatur campus. Culinary arts student Faith Sims of Rose Hill provided assistance during Karrh's presentation. From left are Alex Gardea, Leake County Career-Technical Center; and Justice Battle, Zachari Johnson and Clay Pugh, all of Forest/Scott County Career-Technical Center.

Clublicity

Phi Theta Kappa Begins College Project

By ALLISON JOHNSON
OPINIONS EDITOR

This year, East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa's (PTK) College Project is titled "Read Across Mississippi". The members are going around to school's located in East Central Community College's (ECCC) five district area and reading to the kindergarten classes of some of these local schools.



ALLISON JOHNSON
Opinions Editor

The organization decided to make this its college project for many reasons. Of course, the main reason was to help improve literacy and to inspire a love of reading, knowledge and education in children even as early as kindergarten. The Chapter also felt that the decision to enact "Read Across Mississippi" was aligned with Gov. Phil Bryant's recent legislation titled "Education Works". The part of "Education Works" that is Gov. Phil Bryant's "Third Grade Gate" is intended to improve literacy rates by ending the promotion of a child past third grade if he or she can't read on their grade level. The Chapter feels that literacy is vital to a child's success in school as well as their ultimate success in graduation and becoming productive members of society. As a chapter, PTK's Theta Xi decided that the literacy rate was something of vast importance that the chapter could and would devote their time to improving. Literacy is one of the keys to success and the chapter finds the lack of it to be as-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

East Central Community College Phi Theta Kappa members and ECCC students take part in "Read Across Mississippi." Pictured are Dr. Amanda Walton, PTK sponsor; Amber Williams, vice president of scholarship; Jenny Grove, vice president of service; Bridgette McFarland, chapter webmaster; Jenna Wright, PTK sponsor; and Edward Jones, Skills USA member; and back row, from left, Zach Allen, president; and Hannah Mitchell, secretary/treasurer.

tonishing. "We hope that our project will make a difference in these children's lives, and that they will see that learning to read is important because we have made it a priority to come and read to them."

President of East Central Community College Dr. Billy Stewart said, "Included within the Institutional Commitment of Community Partnerships in East Central's strategic plan, 2020 Vision, is an action plan that states the college will increase its presence in local elementary, middle, and high schools. Participation in activities related to 'Read Across Mississippi' by the Theta Xi chapter of Phi Theta Kappa helps our college achieve that

action plan. But even more than that, this college project allows our students an opportunity to engage elementary-aged students in the important skill of reading and to heighten awareness and support of literacy. Research indicates that reading is essential to develop critical thinking skills and to be successful in other subjects such as math and science. In addition, most research reports that children who are reading on grade level by the third grade have a better chance of graduating high school and becoming contributing members of society. By taking time to read in local elementary schools throughout our district, PTK members are making



SUBMITTED PHOTO

East Central Community College student Edward Jones reads to students at Lake Elementary School. He took part in the ECCC's Phi Theta Kappa's project in conjunction with "Read Across Mississippi."

a difference in the lives of children, and they're learning the importance of service to others, not self. Those lessons will go with them the rest of their lives."

Sophomore Jenny Grove, Vice President of Service of Phi Theta Kappa, said, "This project is great not only because it gets students on EC's campus involved in these kid's lives, but it also teaches these children that reading is great and it can be fun to learn new things. This project gives these children a chance to learn the importance of reading. I think this project can potentially change the future of public schools in our area for the better."

Sophomore PTK member Taylor Townsend agreed and said, "Reading is such a special project. When I learned how to read, I completely fell in love with every aspect from imagery to symbolism to diction. For children, I know that it's hard to stay still long enough and pay attention to the book and reader. When I went and read at Neshoba Central though, almost every child

was attentive and almost mesmerized. Something that seems so silly to us may seem like the whole world to them. They were ecstatic that college students were reading to them, and they were willing to participate in return. I think that it's amazing to stop and think about what we the age split between adulthood and childhood- can do just by visiting a class and reading. This project is wonderful! The children enlightened me. All they want is for someone to pay attention and spend a little time with them, and probably one of the best ways to do that is what we're doing; giving them access to knowledge, imagination, participation, and ultimately love. Love and passion have to be the core of community service. In this project, I find that both are evident, and I'm very excited to continue."

If anyone would like to participate in this project, contact Dr. Amanda Walton at awalton@eccc.edu or see her in her office in room 318 in Tucker.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Collegians Present Fall Concert: East Central Community College's rock-n-roll band, "The Collegians," presented its annual fall campus concert November 17 in Vickers Auditorium. The popular group performed hits by Paramore, Carrie Underwood, Sam Hunt, Fall Out Boy, John Legend and many more. In addition, there will be a special performance by a "Mystery Band." There is no charge for admission and the public is invited to attend. Pictured are (kneeling, from left) technician Acea Ange of Meridian, vocalists Garrett McDill of Conehatta, Ryan Godwin of Newton and Nick Stewart of Philadelphia; and technicians Justin Moore of Kosciusko and Michael Buntyn of Newton; (second row, from left) technicians Patrick Embrey of Hickory, Hannah Mitchell of Meridian, and Jeremy Collins of Forest; auxiliary percussionist Matt Mason of Union, vocalists Tallie Johnston of Lake, Cara Jackson of Louisville and Anna Wells of Noxapater; keyboardist Anna Girling of Carthage, director/guitarist Chas Evans and technicians Ben Avera of Hickory and Ryan McClendon of Forest; and (top row, from left) trombonist Evan Derrick of Morton, saxophonist Zach Peden of Philadelphia, drummer Chris Kelley of Newton, trumpeter Nina LaBue of Conehatta, guitarist Stephen Stewart of Decatur, trumpeter Daniela Vargas of Morton, bass guitarist Houston Martin of Union and technician Ryan Packer of Decatur.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Ac'cents Present Fall Concert: Members of the East Central Community College show choir, The Ac'cents, presented their fall campus concert November 20, in Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium. This year's music included hits by Lady Gaga, Imagine Dragons, Justin Timberlake, Magic, One Republic and Rhianna. Performers and their respective hometowns include (front row, from left) Haleigh West, Decatur; Dee Jay Rolison, Conehatta; Kirk Griffin, Decatur; and Makenzie Rowzee, Newton; (second row, from left) Ben Pace, Philadelphia; Tallie Johnston, Lake; and Eli Parker, Duffy; and (back row, from left) Kaishanna Young, Philadelphia, Ryan Godwin, Newton; Kelli Boulton, Hickory; Zach Peden, Philadelphia; and Cara Jackson, Nanih Waiya. The Ac'cents perform throughout the ECCC district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties, as well as various community events and campus concerts.

ECCC Diamond Darlings: Members of the Diamond Darlings at East Central Community College in Decatur and their respective hometowns include (front row, from left) Nat Reed, Nanih Waiya; Fallon Beckham, Philadelphia; Dakota Hollingsworth, Lake; Katy Ezelle, Decatur; Jennifer Argueta, Forest; and Madison Barnett and Haley Pierce, both of Noxapater; (second row, from left) Sydney Rogers, Nanih Waiya; Bree Burnley, Kosciusko; McKenzie Rogers, Nanih Waiya; Nohemi Velez, Philadelphia; Addie Ambrosier, Magee; Sarah Hall, Philadelphia; Alana Kron, Decatur; and Kimberly Harrison, Forest; and (back row, from left) Ashley Young, Louisville; Lauren Cassel, Union; Kaitlyn Blue and Kaitlin Sellers, both of Ellisville; Kaley Pennington, Pelahatchie; Katherine Fortenberry, Raleigh; and Haleigh Moore and Sequence Spears, both of Philadelphia. Diamond Darlings provide assistance for the Warrior baseball team. Assistant baseball coach Austin Golden serves as sponsor.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



Clublicity



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Presidents' Council: The above students currently serve as members of the President's Council at East Central Community College. The President's Council is comprised of leaders of all campus clubs and organizations and was established to provide better communications between student groups and the President's office. Members and their respective organizations include (seated, from left) Leah Ferguson of Philadelphia, Student Body Association; Jenna Lovorn of Louisville, Astronomy Club; Dr. Randall E. Lee, Vice President for Student Services; Katy Ezell (vice president) of Decatur, Diamond Darlings; Zach Allen (president) of Louisville, Phi Theta Kappa and Sophomore Class; DeeJay Rolison (secretary) of Conehatta, Encore; Dr. Billy W. Stewart, President; Kara Yates of Morton, ECCC Concert Choir; and Emily Cook of Philadelphia, Centralettes and Wo-He-Lo; (second row, from left) Bristol Buffington of Starkville, EC Art Club and EC Players; Mak Rowzee of Hickory, Cheerleading Squad; Virginia Easley of Philadelphia, Phi Beta Lambda; Warner Parkes of Louisville, Warrior Corps; Haley Pierce of Noxapater, Warrior Corps; Madison Barnett of Noxapater, The Tom-Tom; Trent Haden of Sumrall, EC Business Club; Colton Horne of Noxapater, Alpha Alpha Epsilon; Jamie Mathis of Meridian, ASNEC (Association of Student Nurses at EC); Katie Sanford of Decatur, Wall O' Sound Band; Emily Shoemake of Conehatta, Native American Club; Lydia Wolfe of Decatur, Practical Nursing Association; Kierra Griffin of McCool, EC Surgical Technology Student Association; Kaley Bufkin of Decatur, Student Body Association; and Kodi Wright of Collinsville, Sigma Sigma Mu Tau; and (back row, from left) Tallie Johnston of Lake, Ac'cents; Houston Martin of Union, Collegians; Joshua Parker of Foxworth, Baptist Student Union; Caleb Stallings of Vossburg, Students Against Destructive Decisions and Resident Assistants; Duston Call of Union, Newman Club; Noah Corcoran of Louisville, Environmental Club; Colby Amis of Decatur, Association of Student Nurses at EC; William Milner of Lena, SkillsUSA; Sarah Freeman of Decatur, Wesley Foundation; Keona Foster of Philadelphia, Gospel Choir; Christopher Brown of Forest, Bon Appetit; and Allison Johnston of Philadelphia, Student Education Association. Dr. Stewart and Dr. Lee serve as sponsors of the President's Council.



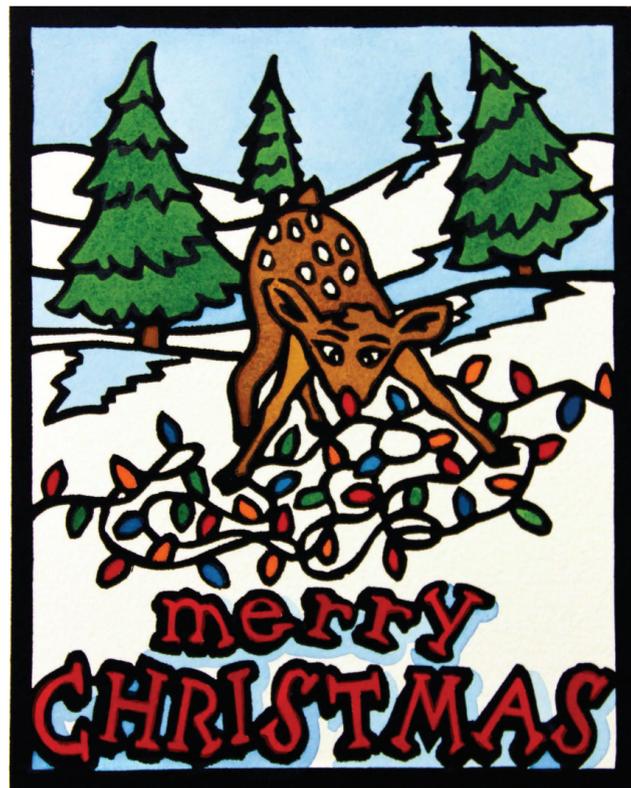
SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Choir Holds Fall Campus Concert: The East Central Community College Concert Choir presented its annual fall campus concert on December 2, at Clarke-Venable Baptist Church. Vicki Blaylock serves as director and Natalie Emmons serves as accompanist. Some of the selections included "I Wonder as I Wander," "How Great Our Joy," "Let There Be Light," "Away in a Manger," "Masters in this Hall," "Still, Still, Still," "The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy," and "The Twelve Days After Christmas." Choir members and their respective hometowns include (front row, from left) Radiance Wright and Haleigh West, both of Hickory; Bridgett McFarland, Philadelphia; Anna Wells, Noxapater; Kaylee Yates, Decatur; Kara Smith, Bay Springs; Jenny Grove, Forest; Makenzie Rowzee, Newton; Rebecca Faron, Flowood; Grayson Harrell, Morton; Tallie Johnston, Lake; Ashley Bozeman, Union; Randi Kelly, Philadelphia; Andrea McSwain, Decatur; Leah Ferguson, Philadelphia; Rachel Laird, Meridian; and Lacey Harrison, Little Rock; (second row, from left) Paige Brown, Philadelphia; Brittany Foster, Morton; Sequence Spears, Philadelphia; Anna Webb, Noxapater; Sarah Wysocki, Carthage; Lindsey Hedge, Forest; Courtney Williams, Hickory; Madelon Taylor, Louisville; Cara Jackson, Louisville; Sarah Hall, Philadelphia; Danielle Gregory, Little Rock; Anna Girling, Carthage; Hannah Mitchell, Conehatta; Anna Lea Clarke and Katy Ezelle, both of Decatur; Katherine Jacome-Cluff, Hickory; Rebecca Tero and Chelsey Taylor, both of Decatur; Zach Peden, Philadelphia; Caleb Vaughn, Decatur; Charles Taylor, Philadelphia; and (third row, from left) Julian Fuentes, Decatur; Jay Rolison, Conehatta; Greyson Dye, Carthage; Daniel McMahan, Little Rock; Taylor Lott, Forest; Adam Porter, Decatur; Eli Parker, Duffee; Gordon Alonso, Chunky; Brad Taylor, Stratton; Ian Lanthrip, Forest; Kaishanna Young and Ben Pace, both of Philadelphia; Katie Fortenberry, Raleigh; Ryan Godwin, Newton; Hannah Robinson, Union; Ephraim Ringo, Forest; Timothy Laird, Newton; Elias Jimmie, Choctaw; and Ryan Mott and Tyler Spence, both of Decatur; and (back row, from left) Bailey Robinson, Lake; Kelli Bolton and Mackenzie Gannon, both of Decatur; Anthony Emmons, Lake; Dominick Fields, Forest; Stephen Stewart and Alana Kron, both of Decatur; Cameron Higgason, Philadelphia; Darryl Rogers, Laurel; Hannah Mitchell, Meridian; Hannah Brown and David Wilson, both of Decatur; Garrett McDill, Sebastopol; Louise Berryhill, Decatur; Ethan Dunavant, Newton; Kara Yates, Morton; Jonathan Hodge, Lake; Karla Higginbotham, Nanih Waiya; Troy Gregory, Decatur; and Kalin Gentry, Philadelphia. Not pictured are Kirk Griffin and Courtney Tillman, both of Decatur. For more information contact Blaylock at 601-635-6225 or email vblaylock@eccc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Cast of 'The Laurel and Hardy Murder Mystery' at ECCC: Cast members for the East Central Community College Players' production of "The Laurel and Hardy Murder Mystery" by Barry Stoltze included (front row, from left) Alana Knowles, Decatur; and Greyson Dye, Carthage; (middle row, from left) Madelon Taylor, Louisville; Enoc Reynoso, Carthage; Sara Wysocki, Walnut Grove; and Jessie Jones, Pelahatchie; and (back row, from left) Keyanna Luckett, Carthage; Jeremy Hudson, Kemper; Bristol Buffington, El Paso, Texas; Mary Levin, Louisville; Wil Johnson, Morton; and John Thames, Magee. Not pictured is Keanu Hoye of Carthage. The dinner theatre presentation was held Nov. 13-15 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. English instructor Stacey Pollock served as director.



ECCC Art Club Sells Christmas Prints: East Central Community College's Student Art Club once again offered Christmas prints for sale as a fundraising project. Prints are original, hand-colored, limited edition linocuts designed by art student Abbey Rigdon of Little Rock. Proceeds supported the College's art association and benefit Stop SMA, a local charity dedicated to ending Spinal Muscular Atrophy. Each print is signed, numbered, matted, shrink-wrapped and ready to fit in a standard 10" x 12" frame. "The prints make great Christmas gifts and have become a Christmas tradition," said art instructor Christopher Brady. Prints were \$15 each. For more information, contact Chris Brady, 601-635-6229 or e-mail cbrady@eccc.edu.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

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SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Announces College Ambassadors: Above are members of the 2014-15 East Central Community College Warrior Corps, a select group of students who assist in recruiting and serve as hosts for special events. Members and their respective hometowns include (first row, from left) Emily Shoemake of Conehatta, Kimberly Harrison of Forest, Grayson Harrell of Morton, Hannah May of Little Rock, Nat Reed of Nanih Waiya, Anna Claire Webb of Noxapater, Kaylee Yates of Decatur, Jade Smith of Louisville, Keri Ann Mayfield of Union, Layne Leopard of Philadelphia, Jenny Grove of Forest, Bridgette McFarland of Philadelphia, Brittany Rawson of Forest, and Megan Robinson of Nanih Waiya; (second row, from left) Haley Pierce of Noxapater (Co-President), Jordan Alonso of Chunky, Morgan Orr of Louisville, Emily Cook of Carthage, Sydney Keith of Philadelphia, Madelon Taylor of Louisville, Amy Hall of Nanih Waiya, Madison Barnett of Noxapater, Lindsay Hedge of Forest, Kimberly Talbert of Philadelphia, Samantha Morgan of Louisville, Cara Jackson of Nanih Waiya, Savannah Alawine of Philadelphia, Kaitlyn Smith and Madison Pettigrew, both of Forest; Lalah McMullen of Decatur, and Jenna Lovorn of Louisville; (third row, from left) Daniel Giles of Union, Mackenzie Gannon of Decatur, Mikayla May of Chunky, Kaitlyn Blue of Ellisville, Allison Johnson of Philadelphia, Kristen Gordy of Forest, Kaley Bufkin of Decatur, Shelly Dowell of Lena, Warner Parkes of Nanih Waiya (President), Lauren Cantey of Collinsville, Karla Higginbotham, Logan Gregory and Leslie Estes, all of Nanih Waiya; Hannah Mitchell of Meridian, and Joelle Hill and Madelyn Peterson, both of Louisville; and (top row, from left) Alana Kron of Decatur, Skylar Davidson of Morton, Chase McNair of Philadelphia, Keifer Wolfe and Anthony Emmons, both of Lake; Bryan Burton and Zach Allen, both of Louisville; Devin Skinner and Ryan Gardner, both of Philadelphia; Brady McElhenney of Union, Channing Parkes of Nanih Waiya, Ben Pace of Philadelphia, Kardarius McClendon of Lake, Carson Vanderporten of Philadelphia, Brody Richardson of Louisville, Jessica Moffett of Meridian, and Macken'z Smith of Philadelphia. Student Services staff members Lanette Hanna and Romonica Evans serve as sponsors.

EC Adds 44 Warrior Corps Members

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Forty-four students were recently selected for membership in the East Central Community College Warrior Corps, a select group chosen to represent the College with recruiting endeavors and special events.

Joining the prestigious organization are Hannah May of Little Rock, Kaylee Yates, Lalah McMullen and Kaley Bufkin, all of Decatur; Tyler Sistrunk, Keri Ann Mayfield and Brady McElhenney, all

of Union; Emily Shoemake of Conehatta; Ashley Gressett, Mikayla May and Jordan Alonso, all of Chunky; Lindsay Hedge, Madison Pettigrew, Brittney Rawson and Kaitlyn Smith, all of Forest; Skylar Davidson of Morton; Anthony Emmons of Lake; Shelly Dowell of Lena; Sydney Keith, Layne Leopard, Allison Johnson, Macken'z Smith, Carson Vanderporten, Ryan Gardner, Ben Pace, Shaneisha Willis, Devin Skinner and Chase McNair, all of Philadelphia; Jade

Smith, Samantha Morgan, Madelon Taylor, Joelle Hill and Morgan Orr, all of Louisville; Amy Hall, Megan Robinson, Karla Higginbotham, Logan Gregory, Leslie Estes and Channing Parkes, all of Nanih Waiya; Madison Barnett and Anna Claire Webb, both of Noxapater; Chelsea Wright of Yazoo City; and Kaitlyn Blue of Ellisville.

EC Student Services staff members Lanette Hanna and Romonica Evans serve as sponsors.



Neshoba County Warrior Corps Members: These East Central Community College students from Neshoba County are among new members of the Warrior Corps. Pictured are (first row, from left) Layne Leopard, Allison Johnson, Macken'z Smith and Carson Vanderporten, all of Philadelphia; and (back row, from left) Ryan Gardner, Ben Pace, Devin Skinner and Chase McNair, all of Philadelphia.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Leake County Warrior Corps Members: These East Central Community College students from Leake County are among new members of the Warrior Corps. Pictured are Brittney Rawson of Forest, Shelly Dowell of Lena, and Sydney Keith of Philadelphia.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Newton County Warrior Corps Members: These East Central Community College students from Newton County are among new members of the Warrior Corps. Pictured are (first row, from left) Hannah May of Little Rock, Kaylee Yates of Decatur, Keri Ann Mayfield of Union and Emily Shoemake of Conehatta; and (back row, from left) Lalah McMullen and Kaley Bufkin, both of Decatur; Mikayla May of Chunky, Brady McElhenney of Union and Jordan Alonso of Chunky.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Blue Chosen as ECCC Warrior Corps Member: Kaitlyn Blue of Ellisville was selected as a member Warrior Corps at the East Central Community College.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Scott County Warrior Corps Members: These East Central Community College students from Scott County are among new members of the Warrior Corps. Pictured are (first row, from left) Lindsay Hedge and Kaitlyn Smith, both of Forest; and (back row, from left) Skylar Davidson of Morton, Anthony Emmons of Lake and Madison Pettigrew of Forest.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Winston County Warrior Corps Members: These East Central Community College students from Winston County are among new members of the Warrior Corps. Pictured are (first row, from left) Jade Smith, Samantha Morgan and Morgan Orr, all of Louisville; and Amy Hall of Nanih Waiya; (second row, from left) Madison Barnett and Anna Claire Webb, both of Noxapater; Madelon Taylor of Louisville and Megan Robinson of Nanih Waiya; and (back row, from left) Karla Higginbotham, Leslie Estes, and Channing Parkes, all of Nanih Waiya; Joelle Hill of Louisville and Logan Gregory of Nanih Waiya.

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Bon Appetit Wins Homecoming Sign Competition: The Bon Appetit - Culinary Arts Club took top honors and the \$125 cash prize during East Central Community College's annual homecoming sign competition with the above entry. Other award winners included Phi Beta Lambda, second, \$100; Sigma Sigma Mu Tau, third, \$75; and Warrior Corps, fourth, \$50. Winners are scored on overall appearance, creativity, originality and school spirit.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



ECCC Sigma Sigma Mu Tau Raises Funds for Breast Cancer Research: Members of East Central Community College's Sigma Sigma Mu Tau healthcare organization raised \$250 to be donated to the Susan G. Komen Foundation for breast cancer research. The organization sold ribbons in honor or memory of loved ones fighting breast cancer for their Pink Ribbon tree. Pictured with the Pink Ribbon tree are fundraising chairmen Jeremy Hudson of DeKalb and Kaci Ewing of Louisville.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



Risley Encourages ECCC Student to 'Commit to Complete': Dr. Rod Risley, Executive Director of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of the two-year college, is shown speaking to East Central Community College students during "C4 Week" (Community College Completion Corps), which emphasizes student success and the importance of completing one's college degree. Risley encouraged students to make a commitment to complete their education and presented statistics on employment and earnings for those who finish compared to those who drop out of school. He said, "You will never have an opportunity like you do right now. Once you make your commitment to complete your degree, seek out an advisor, an instructor, a coach...and tell them you've made your commitment and you need their help." In addition to Risley's presentation, activities for the week included a College Fair, an emphasis on early advisement and registration, and the promotion of "College Fish," a website sponsored by Phi Theta Kappa which can match students with more than 2,000 senior colleges according to their interests and needs. The week's events were sponsored by ECCC's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa. For more information contact PTK adviser Amanda Walton at 601-635-6214 or email awalton@ecc.edu.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

think twice before you

Tweet

inappropriately

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Natural gas is a nontoxic, colorless, and odorless fuel that is lighter than air. This lighter-than-air quality is an important safety factor. If a leak occurs, natural gas will mix readily with air and rise into the atmosphere. As a safety measure the natural gas that is piped to your home or business has a harmless odor similar to rotten eggs so that you can easily detect even the smallest amount of gas that might escape.

From design and construction to operations and maintenance, natural gas utilities like ours set high standards to keep natural gas pipelines incident-free.

Damage Prevention

Although safe, tested, and regulated, the system's most common hazard is from 3rd party damage from excavation. Before any excavations are done, contact Dig Safety - Mississippi One-Call System, Inc. 1800-227-6477 or 811 and call East Central Community College at 601-635-6266. Always call before you dig. It's as easy as dialing 8.1.1, and it's the law!

Detecting A Natural Gas Leak

Natural gas is one of the safest, most reliable, and environmentally friendly fuels in use today, but leaks can occur. There are three key ways to recognize a natural gas leak.

- ~ Look. Blowing dirt, bubbling creeks or ponds, dry spots in moist areas or dead plants surrounded by green, live plants also may indicate a natural gas leak.
- ~ Listen. An unusual hissing sound near gas lines or appliances may indicate a natural gas leak.
- ~ Smell. In its raw state, natural gas is colorless and odorless. Natural gas utility companies add a substance called mercaptan to create the familiar, rotten-egg-like odor usually associated with natural gas. You should take action even if you detect only a faint odor of natural gas in the air.

Natural Gas Safety Tips:

Here are some key words to help you remember what to do if a natural gas leak is suspected:

- ~ Leave. Leave the area immediately. Do not try to find or stop the leak.
- ~ Don't Touch. Do not smoke, use a cell phone, flashlight, turn on or off any lights or appliances or operate any kind of vehicle or equipment that could create a spark.
- ~ Dial. Immediately notify us. If a leak is suspected call the following number 601-635-6266 or 601-917-6119.

Remember - Never try to find the leak yourself!!!

To Report a Gas Leak call East Central Community College at 601-635-6266 or 601-917-6119 or Campus Police at 601-527-8939.

For additional information, contact East Central Community College 601-635-6266 or 601-635-6298.

Faculty Corner

Johnston Retires After 28 Years at EC

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

What are your thoughts as you near retirement?

My initial reaction is, Wow...where did the time go?! It seems like yesterday when I began employment at EC....although it was actually 28 years ago, in January 1987. My thoughts are mostly about how fortunate and thankful I am to have had such a rewarding career. I was "basically" unemployed when then president Dr. Eddie M. Smith called to inform me that the Board of Trustees had approved his recommendation to employ me as Director of Public Information. I also remember thinking how proud my parents (the late Erle and Fay Johnston) were that I had finally found gainful employment!

What are your retirement plans?

After celebrating Christmas and my 62nd birthday on New Year's Eve, I plan to make my first-ever trip to Disney World in Orlando. I will "attempt" this venture with my sister, Carol, and her husband, Bob Lindley, and their "crew," which includes three sons, three daughters-in-law and six grandchildren. I am really looking forward to helping spoil my great nieces and great nephew! I also plan to visit my other sister, Lynn Catalina, and her husband, Ben, in San Antonio and meet my most recent great nephew, Braden, son of Jamie (their daughter) and Chris Williams. After that, I plan to basically "chill" and concentrate on my health. I was diagnosed with prostate cancer earlier this year but thanks to good Lord above, my medical "team" and the thoughts and prayers of many family members and friends, I was declared cancer free on August 5, 2014! I need to continue getting in better shape....physically and mentally....as well as spiritually!

Why did you decide to pursue this career?

Actually, I heard about this position from a friend, Jamie Graham, who was then manager of the Scott County Employment Office in Forest. After she contacted me, I came to campus and met with Dr. Smith. I completed and submitted all the required paper work, etc., and was interviewed later for the position. At the time I was unemployed and willing to work just about anywhere! Thank goodness Jamie remembered that I had asked her several months earlier to let me know if a job became available for my background (weekly newspaper) and education (business degree).

List previous employment, titles, etc.

Prior to joining the EC staff, I spent most of my employment years working at our family-owned newspaper, The Scott County Times. I began as an associate editor to my father for three years, then served the following five years as editor. I was briefly employed at WQST-FM/WMAG-AM in Forest by my good friend Bill Wilbourne. I helped gather the news and "tried" to read the news on the WMAG-AM early morning show with Bob Burton. I was really never "comfortable" working in radio, having spent so much of my life

around the newspaper business. I knew it was time to move on to another career when I got tickled reading the news about a man whose last name was "Goober" was charged with a crime. I'm a big Andy Griffith fan and when I got to the part of the news story where "Goober said he denied the allegations," I stopped after "Goober said" and laughed so hard I fell on the floor and could not stop laughing. Bob also got tickled and laughed the entire time he tried to give the weather report....which no one could have understood anyhow! I remember that Matt Alford - probably the only listener that morning - called the station to find out why we got so tickled! It was a morning I will never forget! I also worked briefly in the insurance area, sold Herbalife diet products and operated my own photo processing lab in Forest. Neither was successful....but I did process some crazy-looking photos!

What are some of your career highlights? (Good things that have happened, special events that you have been part of or that have influenced you, favorite students, funny stories?)

A major highlight for me was when East Central Community College was featured on ABC's Good Morning America program during my first years of employment. At that time, colleges and schools were featured daily during the broadcast. I met with our good friends at WTOK-TV to see what needed to be done for EC to be featured one morning. A film crew from WTOK-TV came to campus one day and set up to film from the second floor of Newton Hall. About 100 faculty and students gathered below as our spokesperson - Kristi Patrick of Carthage - said "Good Morning America from East Central Community College in Decatur, MS!" The film clip was sent to ABC and they showed it soon after the filming. That's the first and only time I can recall EC being featured during a national television program.

I also enjoyed accompanying staff and students on several out-of-state trips. I had a great time traveling with the late great Tom Carson and his Collegians as they performed at two different venues at the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta. Nashville recording artist Randy (he went by Shawn then) Houser was a member of the very talented group. We left the park soon after a bomb exploded. Since we had no radios (cell phones were not invented then!) on the bus, we had no knowledge of the bombing until we arrived in Decatur the following morning. Many



JOHNSTON

anxious parents were no doubt relieved to see us return to campus.

Another fun trip was when I "helped" then academic counselor Dr. Gregg Jefcoat take the Warrior Corps on a snow skiing trip to Boone, North Carolina, during the Christmas holidays in the late 1980s. Snow season had not arrived so artificial snow covered the skiing areas. Dr. Jefcoat was a great organizer and had everything planned by the minute. He was also very "frugal," so instead of staying an extra night, we headed home about 10 p.m. after eating a big meal at a Japanese Restaurant in Boone. Dr. Jefcoat also drove the minibus in which we were traveling and did fine until we reached Tennessee, when I had to take the wheel because he was tired and sleepy. I really had a difficult time of staying alert while driving but knew I had to concentrate big time because I was responsible for the lives of about 20 college students and Dr. Jefcoat. But thank goodness Heather Waits of Union noticed I was struggling to stay awake and came to my rescue. She told jokes, funny stories and made sure I stayed alert. Dr. Jefcoat took over a few hours later and brought us safely home to Decatur, at precisely 8:07 a.m., as he had planned!

We also had a great time when the Warrior football team played in the Golden Isles Bowl Classic in Brunswick, GA, in 1996. We were thoroughly entertained and served delicious meals by the tournament hosts. And to make the trip even better, the Warriors defeated Middle Georgia College 7-6 and finished 10-1 under then head coach Tenny Coats. EC was ranked fifth in the final NJCAA poll.

I must admit to having a lot of "favorite" students....especially during my first few years at EC when I was still "thirty something" and was closer in age to the students, like a big brother. Two of my first work-study students were Denisa Breland of Newton and Emily Jenkins of Shubuta, who also became wonderful friends. I also had a lot of fun attending and taking photos at the talent shows, dances and other special events on campus.

Tell me about some of the special people who have influenced your life and career.

My parents (Erle and Fay Johnston) were no doubt the biggest influences in my life. My father's work ethic was unbelievable. How he managed to run a small weekly newspaper while also being involved in local and state government, politics, community service along with being a wonderful husband to my mom and the best father to me and my two

sisters is simply amazing. He was the best public relations person I have ever known. He loved publicizing all the great people and events in Forest and Scott County and Mississippi. He also authored three books and was working on a fourth when he died during heart surgery, two weeks prior to his 78th birthday. He told me he always had to have a "project" to keep him going. Although he "retired" following a four-year term as Mayor of Forest, he never quit working, except to go fishing or play a little golf. My father was a self-made man and only had a high school education. He was a natural writer and an excellent speaker. He loved his family and treasured his friends. My mom was one of the most caring and thoughtful persons I have known. She had a deep concern for everyone, even people she did not know. I will never forget how sad she was when a local teenager (Shondra May) was brutally murdered. She was really saddened by her tragic death, even though she had never met the young girl. Mom loved people, loved her family, loved music and loved having fun! So, I guess you can say I inherited some their characteristics and talents, but not nearly enough...but I'm still a work in progress, even as I near age 62!

What has kept you motivated all these years?

That's easy.....a paycheck! But I also enjoy what I do. I love publicizing all the great happenings at EC, and I especially enjoy publicizing our students and their accomplishments, awards, honors, etc. Of course without the support of our media, no one would know about the many successes at EC. So, I want to say a big "thank-you" to all our local newspapers, radio and TV stations for helping us spread the word about EC!

What have you enjoyed the most about being in the field of public relations, especially education?

I have really enjoyed meeting and working with my colleagues at the state's other community and junior colleges. We all get along well with each other and are willing to help each with

special projects, etc. I also enjoy working "behind the scenes" on special promotions at ECCC, such as selecting students to appear in our TV and radio commercials. They have all been great ambassadors and representatives of the College. I especially enjoy highlighting our musically talented students in our annual "Merry Christmas" and spring semester registration commercials. This year's commercials are two of the best ever produced....and will be remembered by all who see them!

What honors have you received?

I have been fortunate to receive various awards through the years as a member of CPRAM (College Public Relations Association of Mississippi). It is very rewarding to be recognized for one's work. But no doubt the highest honor for me was serving this past year as CPRAM President. When I was first elected, I remember commenting what a great honor it is to lead such a prestigious organization, which is comprised of public relations personnel at the state's universities, four-year colleges, community and junior colleges. I further commented that if I were a lot younger, serving as CPRAM President would look very impressive on my resume'. But now that I'm nearing retiring and age 62, the honor will read nicely in my obituary! I have also been fortunate to receive various "Who's Who" in whatever, honors. But I honestly don't take such recognition too seriously, due to fact I was once notified that I was selected to "Who's Who of Women Educators in America!" I started to purchase the book just to see my name listed with all those women!

What civic, professional and religious organizations are you involved in?

I am a longtime member of Forest Presbyterian Church, Forest Country Club, Mississippi State University Alumni Association, ECCC Warrior Club, ECCC Administration, Faculty and Staff Association and CPRAM, as stated earlier. I will probably get more involved in Forest and Scott County activities when I get tired of watching Andy Griffith reruns on TV!

I am married to the former Janet Harris of Quitman, Janet is employed with Mississippi Department of Health. She plans to join me in retirement in a couple of years. We have no children, although we considered "Sigmund" (miniature schnauzer) our son until he entered "Doggie Heaven" a few years ago!

What additional comments would you like to make?

As stated earlier, I feel very blessed and thankful to have had such a wonderful and rewarding career at East Central Community College. I have worked with some very special people over the past 28 years....including my talented and dedicated staff - Karen Robertson, Maria McLeod and Gennie Taylor. It was also an honor to work with three outstanding presidents, Dr. Smith, Dr. Phil Sutphin, and current president, Dr. Billy Stewart. I will always have fond memories of my time at ECCC.

Brackeen Plans to Enjoy Grandchildren During Retirement

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Wanda Brackeen said working on her "bucket list" and, more importantly, spending time with her grandchildren top the list of her plans when she retires as cosmetology instructor at East Central Community College in December.

"On one hand I am so excited to have time extra time to spend with my family and have a little leisure time. I have always been a workaholic," Brackeen said. "On the other hand, I am going to miss being a part of ECCC. I will miss the people I work with and most of all I am going to miss my amazing students. There is never a boring day in Cosmetology!"

Being a teacher was never in her plans, but many good things in life happen by chance. That was the case for Brackeen.

"I wanted to go get in a degree in Social Work, but I like to have my own money so I needed a way to work part time and go to school," she said. "So I decided that I would first get my cosmetology license, work in my own shop part-time and

go to school and work on my degree.

"But I fell in love with cosmetology and I had a great admiration for my cosmetology teacher, so I decided that was the field for me. I got to do all the things I like and get paid for it: style hair, boss, talk and help others!"

Brackeen began working in her own salon in 1977 and continues to work there after her school day ends.

She has taught at East Central since 1998. She is also a former instructor at Final Touch in Meridian and Hatfield's in Laurel.

Brackeen said she wishes she had kept a journal of stories about her students. There have been many during what she describes as "an amazing 17 years." But there was one that she said changed her entire perspective on teaching.

"This particular instance involved one of the most difficult students that I had in the entire time I have taught at ECCC. It's when I realized that I was not just preparing students to go out into the working world, but I realized that some of

them had never had much guidance in the ways that most of us take for granted.

"After a very difficult day with her, I finally lost all patience and I told her 'If you had been my child, you would know that type of behavior is not acceptable!' She looked at me and said, 'Mrs. Brackeen, if you had been my mother, I could have been somebody.'"

Although there have been some trying days as the one mentioned above, she still admits it's the students she has enjoyed the most.

"I am going to miss them so much. Every class is different and each one of them special. I have made lifetime friends with some of my students and I have probably learned much more from them than they have from me," she said.

Brackeen was selected Career-Technical Instructor of the Year in 2004, but she said the honor she is most pleased with is the success of her students.

"Up until three years ago, during our summer conference the Mississippi State Board of Cosmetology gave recognition certificates to the



BRACKEEN

schools with the highest State Board Exam grades," Brackeen said. "ECCC always scored in the top three in our category, which is based on number of students tested, and most of the time East Central was

number one."

Brackeen has three children: a son, Bill Brackeen; and daughters Lisa (Jon) Pace and Leslie (Jason) Eason; and 12 grandchildren: Emily, Olivia, Claudia and Sarah Grace

Brackeen; Alex, Anna, Abby, Aubrey and Adison Hollingsworth; and Cole, Logan and Gunnar Eason.

She is a member of Sand Springs Baptist Church, where she also teaches Sunday School.

Faculty Corner

McNair to Retire Following Fall Semester

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

After three decades in the classroom, East Central Community College mathematics instructor Vikki McNair plans to put away her grade book and spend at least a few months relaxing.

She said plans for a retirement trip are also in the works, although she doesn't yet know where. In the meantime, she said she will "slow down and take life easy for a few months."

McNair also owns Cheer, Etc. in Philadelphia, a gymnastics and cheer gym.

"We have been in business for about 15 years, but I actually just built a new facility. I will concentrate most of my energy there," she said.

As with most retirees, giving up her work is bittersweet.

"I am extremely excited, but a little apprehensive," McNair said. "I love my job and I work with the best people."

McNair, who has spent the past eight and a half years at ECCC, previously

taught math and computer classes for 22 years at Neshoba Central High School. She said her own love of learning is why she became a teacher.

"I personally enjoy learning something new every day. I think that is the only way we grow as a person. I also wanted to be on the same schedule as my children," McNair said.

Courses she has taught include Intermediate Algebra, College Algebra and Math for Teachers.

She said the best part of her career has been the difference she has made



MCNAIR

in the lives of her students. "The highlight of my career is know-

ing that I've influenced someone to be successful in life," she said. "I've had students who are now teachers who approach me and thank me for my role in their life. That's why I teach."

She acknowledged that it's difficult when trying to reach students who aren't tuned in to what she is saying; but said that's part of the challenge and what makes it worthwhile when you do reach them.

"This generation is our future," she added, "and we are responsible for preparing them. I

welcome that."

McNair credits her mother, (Peggy Jenkins), and grandmother, (Lottie McNair), with having the most influence on her life.

"They taught me to be a strong, independent woman and that the sky was the limit if you worked hard to achieve your goals," she said.

She said her first principal, Jimmy Hardy, taught her the importance of details.

"He would say 'cross your t's and dot your I's and everything will be covered.' In other words, make sure the small details are covered and there won't be any big issues to deal with. I am so appreciative for all those lessons," McNair said.

McNair is also thankful for the support of her family, which includes her husband of 28 years, Barry, and two sons, Austin and Chase. Austin, an East Central graduate, is the head softball coach and athletic director at Philadelphia High School. Chase is a member of the ECCC soccer team and will graduate in December.

EXTRAORDINARY STAFF

Walton Completes Doctorate Degree from MSU

BY KIMBERLY HARRISON
Features Editor

East Central Community College's Workforce Education Counselor Amanda Walton of Lake was chosen as this edition's extraordinary teacher. Walton has recently earned her Doctorate from Mississippi State University in Community College Leadership.

When asked what made her decide to further her education, she replied, "I've always wanted a doctorate, and I always knew it would be in teaching.

It has been a dream of mine and with the encouragement of some of my coworkers, friends, and family, I



KIMBERLY HARRISON
Features Editor

achieved it."

Walton graduated from Lake High School. She earned her associate's degree from East Central Community College. Walton furthered her education and received her bachelor, masters and doctorate at Mississippi State University.

She teaches Human Growth at EC online and a GED course in Forest.

Something that sets Walton apart from other teachers is her compassionate attitude. Walton said she strives to help every student and always has



WALTON

her office open to them. She said she wants to help students succeed even more and allow them to know they can do what they set their minds to. Walton goes on to say it's always a celebration whenever her students succeed. She enjoys having a special bond with her students.

In addition to teaching, Walton also serves as a Phi Theta Kappa advisor for the East Central chapter. She said she loves her duties of being an advisor and thoroughly enjoys seeing her students in PTK grow. PTK is EC's interna-

tional honor society that participates in various community service programs.

When asked what Walton thinks helps students succeed she replied, "education and salvation." Walton said she feels she should be an example of this and always wants to impart this into students.

In Walton's spare time, she enjoys spending time with her daughter, Maddie, and watching NASCAR. When asked what motivates her the most, she replied, "my mom and daughter."



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Staff Members Honored for Assisting Soldiers: Command Sergeant Major John A. Thomas (center) recently visited the East Central Community College campus to present Command Sergeant Major Awards to Dr. Teresa Houston (left), vice president for instruction; and Deanna Rush, director of admissions and records. The ECCC staff members were recognized for their work in partnering with the 298th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion of the Mississippi Army National Guard to enroll students in courses and begin their advancement toward an associate's degree. Also receiving an award but not pictured is Krista LeBrun, dean of eLearning. "East Central Community College is proud to offer classes to these soldiers," said the award recipients.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Lamplighters: These East Central Community College faculty members were recently selected to attend the annual Lamplighters Conference, which honors outstanding community and junior college instructors throughout the state. Lamplighters and their respective teaching areas include (from left) Natalie Emmons, music keyboard; Kristie Pilgrim, surgical technology; and Sherri Cliburn, special populations reading. This year's conference was hosted by Coahoma Community College in Clarksdale.

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Warrior Athletics

ECCC Squads Defeat Coahoma

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

DECATUR—Winning ways continue for East Central Community College's basketball squads following victories over Coahoma Community College teams Monday night in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

The Lady Warriors set the tone for the night as they hammered the Lady Tigers 107-72 to remain unbeaten in five starts under third-year head coach Crandal Porter.

For the Warriors, victory was more of a challenge but the talent-laden squad held on for a 78-74 decision to improve to 3-2 under second-year head mentor Robert Thompson. (The Warriors are also 5-0 on "paper" but had to forfeit the first two victories due to an ineligible player.)

Samantha Duncan was the top scorer for the Lady Warriors, as the freshman guard from Oak Grove tallied 17 points.

Also scoring in double figures were Jalesia Jones of Wayne County, 13; Shakerya Morrison, a product of East Wake High School in Wendell, N.C., 12; and Tynika Bender of Newton, 10.

Other scorers during the onslaught included Breashza Ragsdale of Morton, nine; Breona Foster of Neshoba Central, eight; Richenda Crutcher of H.W. Byers, seven; Kalybriah Haskin, a product of Olympian High School in Chula Vista, CA., Jelisa Pearson of Quitman and Tashi-ana Thompson of Miller Grove High School in Lithonia, GA, six each; Johnta' Hughes of Hattiesburg and Alexia McDonald of Petal, four each; and Courtney Harper of Laurel, three.

Gabrielle Gilbert poured in 19 points to lead the Lady Tigers, who fell to 2-4.

EC held a 57-33 advantage at halftime.

In the men's game, a pair of free throws by freshman guard Prince McDaniel of Pascagoula with 13.9 seconds left followed by Demarkus Jones' free throw with 6.3 seconds remaining helped seal the non-conference victory for the Warriors. Jones is a sophomore guard from Terry.

McDaniel and freshman guard Ravion Henry of Leake Central scored 15 points each to lead the Warrior offense.

Other point makers were Ramone Tate of St. Stanislaus and Isaiah Traylor of Tupelo, nine each; Monte Bowie of Morton and Randy Phillips of Jackson Lanier, seven each; Derrick Dandridge of White Station HS in Memphis and Quinton Campbell, a product of Mary G. Montgomery HS in Mobile, six each; and Kristian Clark of St. Martin and Roshad Collier of Brandon, two each.

Cameron Monix and Leterrance Henderson each tallied 21 points to lead the Tigers, who fell to 1-5.

EC led 35-27 at halftime.

EC BASKETBALL SQUADS COLLECT VICTORIES AT MS DELTA

MOORHEAD—Prince McDaniel's three-point shot in the final moments of overtime provided the East Central Community College men's basketball team with a thrilling 80-77 victory over Mississippi Delta Community College Nov. 15.

McDaniel, a 6-6 freshman guard from Pascagoula, pumped in 18 points to lead the Warriors, who improved to 2-2 following the non-division matchup under second-year head coach Robert Thompson.

Also scoring in double figures were Quinton Campbell, 15; Isaiah Traylor, 14; and Derrick Dandridge, 10.

Campbell is a 6-7 sophomore forward and product of Mary G. Montgomery High School in Mobile. Traylor is a 6-4 freshman guard from Tupelo; and Dandridge is a 6-6 freshman forward and product of White Station High School in Memphis. Campbell led in rebounds with 12.

Other scorers were Kristian Clark of St. Martin and Ravion Henry of Leake Central, seven each; Ramone Tate of St. Stanislaus, five; Monte Bowie of Morton, three; and Randy Phillips of Jackson Lanier, one.

Tyron McNeese tallied 21 points to lead the Trojans, who fell to 3-2.

EC held a 38-30 advantage at the break.

In women's action, the Lady Warriors remain perfect on the young season after defeating the Trojan women by a 96-75 margin.

Tashi-ana Thompson was the top scorer for East Central, as the sopho-

more guard from Miller Grove High School in Lithonia, GA, poured in 28 points for the squad's fourth victory under third-year head coach Crandal Porter.

Also scoring in double figures were Shakerya Morrison, a product of East Wake High School in Wendell, N.C., 16; Tynika Bender of Newton, 15; and Jalesia Jones of Wayne County and Samantha Duncan of Oak Grove, 12 each.

Other point makers were Breona Foster of Neshoba Central, five; Richenda Crutcher of H.W. Byers, three; Kalybriah Haskin, a product of Olympian High School in Chula Vista, CA, and Breashza Ragsdale of Morton, two each; and Alexia McDonald of Petal, one.

Aqueshia Kimble poured in 14 points to lead the Lady Trojans, who fell to 1-4.

The Lady Warriors led 49-42 at halftime.

EC squads host Coahoma Community College today (Monday, November 17). Game times are 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

Both teams met in the season opener Nov. 3 in Clarksdale. The Lady Warriors cruised 92-64 and the Warriors won by a 75-55 margin, but the victory was forfeited due to an ineligible player.

EC BASKETBALL SQUADS COLLECT VICTORIES AT MS DELTA

MOORHEAD—Prince McDaniel's three-point shot in the final moments of overtime provided the East Central Community College men's basketball team with a thrilling 80-77 victory over Mississippi Delta Community College Saturday, Nov. 15.

McDaniel, a 6-6 freshman guard from Pascagoula, pumped in 18 points to lead the Warriors, who improved to 2-2 following the non-division matchup under second-year head coach Robert Thompson.

Also scoring in double figures were Quinton Campbell, 15; Isaiah Traylor, 14; and Derrick Dandridge, 10.

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ECCC SQUADS SWEEP DELGADO



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Fans Celebrate Victories: An obviously excited group of East Central Community College basketball fans rushed to midcourt to celebrate the Warriors' 99-88 stunning victory over East Mississippi Community College Nov. 14. EC rallied from a 12-point deficit to claim the non-division matchup. The Lady Warriors set the tone for the night in Brackeen-Wood by easily disposing of the Lady Lions by an 89-61 margin.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Campbell Drains Jumper: Sophomore forward Quinton Campbell (22) scores two of his 13 points on this jump shot in helping lead East Central Community College's Warriors to a stunning 99-88 victory over rival East Mississippi Community College Thursday in Decatur. EC overcame a 51-39 halftime deficit to claim the victory. Campbell is a product of Mary G. Montgomery High School in Mobile, AL.

DECATUR—East Central Community College's basketball teams remain undefeated after registering victories over Delgado Community College Thursday night in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Building.

The Lady Warriors cruised 82-49 and the Warriors held on for 63-57 victory, as both teams are now 2-0 on the young season. Both Delgado squads are winless in four games.

Tynika Bender poured in 17 points to lead EC scorers. Bender is a sophomore point guard from Newton.

Also scoring in double figures were Tashi-ana Thompson, 16; and Kalybriah Haskin, 12. Thompson is a sophomore guard and product of Miller Grove High School in Lithonia, GA. Haskin is a freshman guard who hails from Olympian High School in Chula Vista, CA.

Other point makers were Samantha Duncan of Oak Grove, nine; Jalesia Jones of Wayne County, eight; Shakerya Morrison of East Wake HS (Wendell, N.C.), five; Richenda Washington of Raymond, four; Jelisa Pearson of Quitman, three; Richenda Crutcher of H.W. Byers, Johnta' Hughes of Hattiesburg and Alexia McDonald of Petal, two each; and Courtney Harper of Laurel and Breashza Ragsdale of Morton, one each.

The Lady Warriors led 45-23 at the break.

In the men's contest, freshman guard Prince McDaniel of Pascagoula was the top scorer with 17 points.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Bender Leads EC to Victory: Sophomore point guard Tynika Bender (20) drives to the basket and scores two of her 19 points in leading East Central Community College's Lady Warriors to a crushing 89-61 defeat of rival East Mississippi Community College Thursday night in Decatur. Bender, product of Newton High School, led EC with 19 points.

Also scoring in double figures was Quinton Campbell, who tallied 11 points. Campbell is sophomore forward from Mary G. Montgomery HS in Mobile.

Other point makers were Isaiah Traylor of Tupelo and Racine Talla of Oakdale Christian (Tuscaloosa), eight each; Monte Bowie of Morton and Randy Phillips of Lanier, five each; Ramone Tate of St. Stanislaus and Derrick Dandridge of White Station (Memphis), three each; Ravion Henry of Leake Central, two; and Kristin Clark of St. Martin, one.

The Warriors held a 29-24 advantage at the break.

ECCC BASKETBALL SQUADS SWEEP COAHOMA IN OPENER

CLARKSDALE—East Central Community College's basketball squads began season action on a positive note by posting easy victories over Coahoma Community College Nov. 3 in Clarksdale.

The Lady Warriors cruised 92-64 and the Warriors won handily by a 76-55 margin.

Tashi-ana Thompson led the EC women with 19 points in the non-division matchup. Thompson is a sophomore guard and product of Miller Grove High School in Lithonia, Ga.

Also scoring in double figures were Samantha Duncan of Oak Grove, 14; and Tynika Bender of Newton, 10.

Other point makers were Shakerya Morrison, a product of East Wake High

School in Wendell, N.C., eight; Rolanda Washington of Raymond, Johnta' Hughes of Hattiesburg, Alexia McDonald of Petal, Courtney Harper of Laurel and Breona Foster of Neshoba Central, six each; Breashza Ragsdale of Morton, five; and Kalybriah Haskin, a product of Olympian High School in Chula Vista, CA, and Jalesia Jones of Wayne County, three each. The 6-3 Harper led in rebounds with seven.

Erica Collins poured in 20 points to lead the Lady Tigers.

EC held a 46-29 advantage at halftime.

The Lady Warriors are led by third-year head coach Crandal Porter.

In the men's contest, Quinton Campbell was the top scorer with 20 points. Campbell is a sophomore forward and product of Mary G. Montgomery High School in Mobile.

Also scoring in double figures were Prince McDaniel of Pascagoula, 19; and Racine Talla of USC Upstate in Dakar, Senegal, 13.

Other point makers were Randy Phillips of Lanier, seven; Isaiah Traylor of Tupelo, five; Demond Morgan of Morton and Roshad Collier of Brandon, three each; Ramone Tate of St. Stanislaus and Monte Bowie of Morton, two each; and Demarkus Jones of Terry and Derrick Dandridge, a product of White Station High School in Memphis, one each. The 6-8 Talla led in rebounds with 10.

EC led 30-23 at the break.

Have a Safe & Happy Holiday!

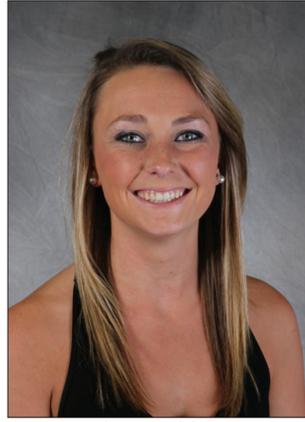
Warrior Athletics



WALKER



TURNER



CULBERSON

EC Women's Soccer Players Named MACJC All-State

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Three members of the East Central Community College women's soccer team were named to the MACJC All-State team following the squad's successful 2014 campaign.

Honorees include Ashlan Culberson, a sophomore forward from Brandon; Alana Walker, a freshman goalkeeper from Pascagoula; and Allie Turner, a

freshman midfielder from Horn Lake. Culberson was also selected on the MACJC All-Star North Division squad. "I am very pleased that we were able to place three players on the All-State Team," said second-year head coach Gray Massey. "These three ladies as well as the rest of the team have helped lay a foundation that is going to take this program to unprecedented success." The Lady Soccer Warriors

recently completed their most successful season since the program's inception in 2005. The talented squad posted a 12-3-2 overall mark during regular season action and qualified for post-season play by finishing second at 5-1-2 in the MACJC North Division. EC fell to Pearl River in the playoffs and finished 12-4-2.

EC Lady Soccer Warriors Complete Historic Season

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

The most successful women's soccer season in school history came to an end for the East Central Community College squad following a 4-0 loss to Pearl River Community College in playoff action held Tuesday, Oct. 28 at Bailey Stadium on Decatur campus.

The Lady Soccer Warriors qualified for the post-season after finishing second in the MACJC North Division with a 5-1-2 mark. Lady Wildcats were the third seed in the South at 6-3-1.

With the victory, Pearl River

advanced to the MACJC/Region 23 Tournament scheduled Nov. 1-2 at Jones County Junior College in Ellisville. The Lady Bobcats won the South Division with a 10-0-0 mark. Hinds (North # 1) and Northwest (North # 3) complete the field in the women's bracket.

EC, which posted a 12-4-2 overall record under head coach Gray Massey, recorded its best campaign since the program's inception in 2005.

"This year was a fantastic season for our program," said Massey. "I am very proud of what these girls were able to accomplish. However, the bar

has definitely been raised and we are already looking forward to having an even better season in 2015!"

The talented squad featured several players who finished among the scores in the league. Allie Turner recorded 12 goals and five assists for a total 29 points. Turner is a freshman midfielder from Horn Lake.

Ashlan Culberson registered nine goals, four assists and 22 points. Cumberland is a sophomore forward from Brandon.

Tamia Cavett posted six goals and 12 points. Cavett is a freshman forward from Murrah High School in Jackson.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Sophomore Warriors Recognized: These sophomores on the 2014 East Central Community College football team received special recognition prior to the season finale with Pearl River Community College Oct. 23 at Bailey Stadium. Completing their careers as Warriors are (kneeling from left) defensive back JaDerrick Farrow (3) of Bleckley County (Cochran, GA), quarterback Ethan Hamilton (8) of Noxapater, wide receiver Xavier Willis (9) of Newton County, running backs Marquis Hedge (21) of Forest Hill and Lamarus Franks (22) of Greene County, linebacker Grant Landrum (26) of Sumrall and defensive backs Raphael McClain (39) of Starkville and Kenadaira "Junior" Watts of Newton; and (standing from left) linebacker Thomas McCool (38) and Darrion Burnside (42), both of Neshoba Central; defensive lineman Tyler Pace (45) of Newton, long snapper Trent Haden (50) of Sumrall, offensive lineman Marcus Johnson (79) of New Hope, wide receiver Jimmy Cockrell (89) of Columbus, defensive linemen Kendrick Maxwell (90) of Houston and Darryl Rogers (91) of Laurel, and filmer Tyler Armistad of Caledonia. Ken Karcher serves as head coach.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Munn Captures Female Division in ECCC Homecoming Race: Krissi Munn (right) of Decatur was the top female finisher in the annual East Central Community College 5K Run held as part of homecoming activities October 11, 2014. Munn completed the 3.1-mile course with a time of 27:44. She is shown receiving congratulations from Scott Hill, race co-chairman.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Gaddis Wins ECCC Homecoming Race: Charlie Gaddis (right) took top honors in the annual East Central Community College 5K Run held as part of homecoming activities October 11, 2014. Gaddis, a member of the Newton County High School Cross Country Team, finished the 3.1-mile course with a time of 19:13. He is shown receiving congratulations from Scott Hill, race co-chairman.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Intramural Football Champions: L'ville captured the intramural football title at East Central Community College. Team members include (kneeling from left) Chris Hickman, Steven Hunt, Antonio Parrott, Channing Hughes, Roderick Roberts, TJ Hudson and Ty Hathorn; and (standing from left) Je-Marcus Woods, Lakendrick Vaughn, Tajh Ford, William Roberson, Drew Lee and Stefan Brown, all from Louisville.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Intramural Softball Champs: Super Smash Bros II captured top honors in the intramural softball competition held recently at East Central Community College. Team members include (kneeling from left) Tyler Cook, Gulfport; Landry Lofton, Pascagoula; Eliud Alvarez, Forest; Tim Nix, Biloxi; and Jackson Oliver, Clinton; and (standing from left) Alana Walker, Pascagoula; Christa Breazeale, Gulfport; Allie Turner, Horn Lake; Matt Sykes, Columbus; Jacob Johnson, Destrehan, LA; and Dalton Smith, Florence.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Intramural Football Runners-Up: The Tigers finished second in the intramural football championship at East Central Community College. Team members include (kneeling from left) Quan Caples, Decatur; Marcus Quince and Jeremiah Chapman, both of Newton; Shane Naquin, Richland; and Jovodaka Finley and Kadirious Buckley, both of Newton; and (standing from left) Demetrius Wash, Newton; Keivon Evans, Hickory; Brandon Davis, Decatur; Delorin Phillips, Hickory; and Donnell Caraway, Kirby Harris and Chris Caraway, all of Newton.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Intramural Softball Runners-Up: MGK placed second in the intramural softball competition held recently at East Central Community College. Team members include (kneeling from left) Keifer Wolfe and Matt Ferguson, both of Lake; Nic Callahan, Brandon; PT Anderson, Philadelphia; and Tanner Dalton, Louisville; and (standing from left) Hunter Luke, Nanih Waiya; Justin Barrett, Lake; Dylan Spears, Philadelphia; Hunter Aycock, Morton; Maggie Peebles, Philadelphia; and Madison Pettigrew, Forest.

Warrior Athletics

Four EC Football Players Receive MACJC All-Star Honors

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College was well represented in the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior College (MACJC) All-Star Football Classic as four Warriors were selected to participate in the 41st annual contest held December 4, 2014, at Northeast Mississippi Community College.

Kickoff is set for 1 p.m. at Tiger Stadium on the Booneville campus.

For the first time, the All-Star matchup was shown live at www.nemccvtv.com. Jeremy Kennedy, the "voice" of Northeast Tiger athletics, called all the action.

ECFC football standouts named to the South squads are running back Lamarus Franks of State Line, offensive lineman Marcus Johnson of Columbus, and defensive backs Raphael McClain of Starkville and JaDerrick Farrow of Cochran, Georgia.

Franks, a 5-7, 142-pound speedster from Greene County



FRANKS



FARROW



MCCLAIN



JOHNSON

High School, led EC in rushing with 923 yards on 190 carries, a 4.9-yard average. His longest run went for 51 yards. He also scored three touchdowns.

Johnson, a 6-1, 242-pound product of New Hope High School, is regarded as one of the top offensive linemen in the state.

McClain, a 5-10, 164-pound product of Starkville High School, registered 38 solo tackles and 12 assists. He was also

credited with two quarterback sacks and a pair of forced fumbles.

Farrow, a 5-11, 198-pound product of Bleckley County High School, had 39 solo stops and 10 assists. He was also credited with a fumble recovery.

Northeast has welcomed the MACJC's top pigskin stars for the past 28 years, dating back to the mid-1980s. The annual event marks the second consec-

utive season during that span in which the contest has been moved from its usual Saturday afternoon slot.

"We are extremely honored and proud to once again serve as host for this annual game," said Northeast athletic director David Robbins. "It is something that we look forward to because we feel it is a fantastic way to recognize a special group of student-athletes from all over the state."

Sophomores from each of the

MACJC's 14 football-playing institutions are eligible to participate in the yearly tradition. Thirty-three players comprise the North and South rosters with each college contributing at least three athletes.

The all-star coaches select the remainder of the roster, but no more than eight players from one school are allowed.

Both units are slated to report to Booneville at noon Tuesday, December 2. The gridiron standouts will have three prac-

tices before the contest – one session Tuesday and two workouts on Wednesday. The practice sessions allow coaches from across the state to visit one location and scout the best talent that each MACJC member has to offer.

Southwest Mississippi Community College's Tucker Peavey directed the South squad. Jeff Koonze of Holmes Community College led the North team. However, the remaining JUCO head football coaches served as their assistants for the first time on the rich history of the game.

The MACJC All-Star Football Classic serves as a springboard to the next level for many All-Stars since its inception. Numerous athletes from previous matchups have received scholarships at four-year colleges and universities in NCAA Divisions I and II, and the NAIA.

For more information, contact Blake Long, sports information director, Northeast Mississippi Community College, at 662-720-7448 or email bdlong@nemcc.edu.

ECFC Lady Warrior Inks Scholarship: East Central Community College basketball standout Shakerya Morrison (left) is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue her career at Florida A&M University in Tallahassee. Morrison, a 5-11 sophomore forward, has helped lead the EC women to a perfect 6-0 record under third-year head coach Crandal Porter (right). She is currently the top rebounder in Region 23 with 11 boards per game, which also places her 22nd in the nation. She scored a season high 27 points and grabbed nine rebounds in the Lady Warriors' 103-68 thumping of MS Delta Community College Nov. 20. Morrison transferred to EC from Cape Fear Community College in Wilmington, N.C. She is a product of East Wake High School in Wendell, N.C.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Cook Named to MACJC All-State Soccer Team

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Post-season honors continue for East Central Community College soccer standout Tyler Cook of Saucier.

Cook, a sophomore defender, was recently named to the MACJC All-State Team.

He scored the winning goal in

leading the MACJC North Division All-Stars to a 2-1 victory over the South squad on Nov. 17 in Ridgeland.

Cook is a product of Daphne (Ala.) High School.

The Warrior soccer program is led by longtime coach Kenneth Thompson.



COOK

Spring Class Orientation January 5



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Warrior Athletics



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

EC's Tyler Pace Smothers Jones County Bobcat: East Central Community College defensive lineman Tyler Pace (45) tackles Jones County Junior College's Justin Smith (30) for a loss during the Warriors' 14-7 homecoming victory Saturday at Bailey Stadium. Pace is a sophomore and product of Newton High School. Other Warriors shown are linebacker Eric McPherson (47) of Jim Hill and defensive lineman Dexter Charles (71), a product of Church Point (La.) High School, both freshmen.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Sloan's Interception Return for TD! East Central Community College defensive back Trey Sloan (1) is shown during his electrifying 100-yard interception return for a touchdown early in second quarter action of the Warriors' homecoming clash with Jones County Junior College Saturday afternoon in Decatur. The Warriors rallied for a stunning 14-7 upset of the nationally ranked Bobcats. Sloan is a freshman defensive back and product of Oak Grove High School. Other Warriors shown are defensive lineman Tyler Pace (45) of Newton and defensive back JaDerrick Farrow, a product of Bleckley County High School in Cochran, Ga.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Ento's TD Reception! East Central Community College wide receiver Kabion Ento (7) hauls in a 34-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Trey Willis during the Warriors' MACJC South Division battle at Southwest Mississippi Community College Saturday, October 18 on the Summit campus. EC led 14-10 at halftime but the Bears rallied for a 38-14 homecoming victory. Ento is a product of Dollarway High School in Pine Bluff, AR, and Willis hails from Forest Hill High School. Both are freshmen.

Warriors Finish Season 3-6; 1-5

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Turnovers and missed scoring opportunities were too much to overcome for the East Central Community College Warriors who fell 10-2 in the season finale with Pearl River Community College Thursday night at Bailey Stadium.

EC finished 3-6 overall and 1-5 in the MACJC South Division under second-year head coach Ken Karcher. The Wildcats went 5-4 and 3-6 under second-year head mentor William Jones.

The Warrior defense forced four turnovers during the low-scoring contest, but the offense was unable to take advantage of the opportunities, which included a fumble at the Wildcats' one-yard-line and two missed field goals.

"We have to take advantage when presented with opportunities," said Coach Karcher. "We missed a couple of field goals, and we turned the ball back over to them. You're not going to beat many teams doing that."

Karcher utilized both freshman quarterbacks for the division battle, as Trey Willis directed the offense in the first half and Andrew Dunn took over for the final two quarters. They combined for 57 yards passing on five-of-17 attempts and three interceptions.

Willis (5-5, 165) is a product of Forest Hill High School and Dunn (6-7, 230) hails from Pascagoula High School.

"We have young guys in multiple positions," said Karcher. "We have a freshman-laden team. We struggled all year at quarterback with turnovers. You can't do that, and we'll have to get that corrected in the final season. Each quarterback played a half, they are young guys who need to improve, and that's my job."

In addition to the four turnovers, EC's defense limited Pearl River to just 210 yards and recorded three quarterback sacks.

"Our defense did a very good job all year outside of one game (Cophiah-Lincoln)," Karcher said. "The defensive coaches (Scott Brock, Mickey Mays and Charles Jones) have done an outstanding job this year, and our defensive line play does not surprise me. (Defensive line coach) can coach, anywhere in the country, in my mind. I've worked with him before, and he's one of the best on the business."

EC's defense forced turnovers on two of the first three offensive plays by Pearl River, but could not muster any points. Aubrey Bourn's interception off a deflected pass from quarterback Kaylon Cooper gave EC possession on its 33, but the Warriors were forced to punt after earning one first down. Bourn is a freshman linebacker from Hattiesburg.

The Wildcats fumbled on their next possession, as defensive lineman Jadarius Caesar burst through the line and stripped

Cooper of the ball and made the recovery at the Pearl River eight-yard-line.

EC's offense was unable to cash in on the scoring opportunity, as Brennan O'Keefe was unsuccessful on his 25-yard field goal attempt. O'Keefe is a freshman and product of St. Martin High School.

Bourn gave EC another scoring opportunity following his second takeaway on the Wildcat 35-yard-line.

Willis led the Warrior offense on an impressive drive, which included a 57-yard pass completion to running back Marquis Hedge to the Wildcat 24-yard-line. Hedge, a sophomore from Forest Hill, followed with runs of four and six yards to the 14, and speedster Lamarus Franks toted the pigskin 14 yards to the one-yard-line. Willis tried to sneak over the goal line from the one, but he apparently fumbled before reaching pay dirt, according to officials. (Franks, a sophomore running back from Greene County High School, finished the night with 94 yards on 26 carries. He was 39 yards shy of reaching the 1,000-yard mark for the 2014 season.)

Pearl River took possession on the one, but three plays later EC was awarded a safety when a Wildcat lineman was penalized for holding in the end zone with 6:20 left before halftime.

EC's 2-0 advantage lasted only a few minutes, as the Wildcats capitalized on a Willis interception at the Warrior 27. Two plays later, sophomore running back Darrell Robison scored on a one-yard plunge with 1:49 remaining in the half. Freshman kicker Jovon Detto added the PAT. Robison is a Noxubee County product and Detto is from Pearl River Central.

After a scoreless third period, the Warriors missed another scoring opportunity early in the fourth stanza when O'Keefe's 39-yard field goal was unsuccessful. EC began the drive near midfield following a Pearl River turnover.

The game's final points came on Devon's 35-yard field goal with 4:27 remaining, and resulted from a Warrior turnover near midfield.

The season finale marked the final game for 16 Warrior sophomores.

"I just told them in the locker room, that I am very proud of those guys," Karcher said. "Those guys laid a foundation and a mentality that's going to carry this program to where it needs to go."

WARRIORS HOMECOMING VICTIM AT SOUTHWEST

Three late scores in the game's final six minutes broke open a close contest and provided Southwest Mississippi Community College with a 38-14 homecoming victory over East Central Community College Saturday, October 18 at John I. Hurst Stadium.

The Warriors were hoping to even their overall record 4-4 and have an opportunity for a winning campaign in the season

finale this week, but the host Bears had other ideas and rallied for the MACJC South Division victory.

East Central, which fell to 3-5 overall and 1-4 in league play, had taken a 14-10 lead into the dressing room at halftime.

After the Bears jumped out to 7-0 first quarter lead on Tyler-torn product Chris Jones' five-yard scamper to pay dirt followed by Reed James' PAT, the Warriors responded with quarterback Trey Willis completing a 34-yard TD strike to wide receiver Kabion Ento early in second-quarter action, capping a six-play, 83-yard drive. Brennan O'Keefe added the PAT.

Willis finished the night by completing 16 of 28 passes for 145 yards and the one TD pass. He is a product of Forest Hill High School. Ento led EC receivers with four grabs for 73 yards and the one score. He hails from Dollarway High School in Pine Bluff, AR. O'Keefe is a former standout at St. Martin High School in Ocean Springs. All three are freshmen.

Southwest regained the lead at 10-7 on James' 40-yard field goal with 9:11 left before halftime. James is a product of Germantown High School.

On the ensuing kickoff, the Warriors took over on their own 19 and quickly marched up field following Willis' 17-yard pass to tight end Devaughn Brown to the EC 36. Brown is a product of a Thibodaux (LA) High School.

However, the drive stalled on the EC 42 and the Warriors faced a four and four situation. Freshman Chandler Powell was set to punt, but instead the Forest High School product raced down the sideline on a 49-yard scamper to the Southwest nine yard line, successfully executing a fake punt as called by head coach Ken Karcher. Chandler had nine punts for a 36.7-yard average.

EC scored on the next play, as sophomore running back Lamarus Franks tallied on a nine-yard run with just over six minutes left before halftime. O'Keefe added the PAT.

Franks once again led Warrior rushers, as the 5-7, 142-pound speedster from Greene County High School finished with 169 yards on 36 carries, a 4.7-yard per carry average.

Southwest took the lead for good at 17-14 late in the third stanza on Ballard's 43-yard TD strike to Ladarius Slocum of Tylertown. James added the PAT.

The Warriors had a chance to tie the contest early in the final stanza but O'Keefe's 42-yard field goal attempt missed by inches.

Southwest (3-4, 2-3) put the game away in the game's final minutes, beginning with Ballard's 73-yard scamper to pay dirt with 6:12 left, followed by Ballard's 36-yard TD toss to wide receiver Kameron Williams of Bassfield with 3:07 left, and later defensive lineman Josh Samander's 39-yard fumble return with 2:48 remaining. Samander is from Jackson Prep. The Warrior defense was

led by defensive backs Austin Balthazor (Seminary) and Raphael McClain (Starkville), who each had seven tackles and two assists. Other top defenders were defensive back Jaylon Lofton (Forest), seven tackles and a quarterback sack; linebacker Aubrey Bourn (Hattiesburg), six solo stops and one assist; and defensive back JaDerrick Farrow (Bleckley County, GA), two tackles and one assist.

WARRIORS UPSET JCJC FOR HOMECOMING WIN

A 100-yard interception return by freshman defensive back Trey Sloan and a stellar defensive performance helped provide East Central Community College's Warriors with a stunning 14-7 homecoming victory over nationally ranked Jones County Junior College Saturday afternoon at Bailey Stadium. Sloan's electrifying touchdown jaunt tied the MACJC South Division battle at 7-7 early in the second quarter and the Warrior defense — bolstered by second-half quarterback sacks from defensive ends Tyler Pace and Jadarius Caesar, kept the No. 20 Bobcats off the scoreboard. Sloan is a product of Oak Grove High School. Pace hails from Newton High School and Caesar is a product of Paul W. Bryant High School in Tuscaloosa.

The winning margin came on sophomore speedster Lamarus Franks' 39-yard touchdown scamper early in the third period action. Franks, despite his 5-7, 142-pound frame, once again led EC rushers with 118 yards on 20 carries. Franks is a product of Greene County High School.

Freshman kicker Breenan O'Keefe added both PAT's. O'Keefe is a product of St. Martin High School.

For second year EC head football coach Ken Karcher, the win was especially sweet. Not only did his Warriors defeat a nationally ranked team in the Bobcats, the impressive victory also marked his first division win, as well as a second-straight homecoming victory. The Warriors defeated MS Delta on a late TD pass for the lone victory in 2013.

However, the 2014 homecoming win was not secured until Warrior defensive back Austin Balthazor intercepted Bobcat quarterback Steven Swindle in the end zone on a failed Hail Mary pass in the game's final seconds. Balthazor is a freshman from Seminary.

"I told the team that I'm excited about the continual growth they are showing as men," said Karcher in a post-game interview. "Our kids have shown a lot of character throughout the year, we've been close, and we finally got over the hump!"

He added, "Saturday was a great win for our program. We like the direction that we are headed, and the kids are extremely excited. I am very proud of our young men and their effort they gave today to beat a good Jones team."



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Ento Picks Up Yardage: East Central Community College wide receiver Kabion Ento (7) races past the Jones County Junior College defense following one of three receptions during the Warriors' stunning upset of nationally ranked Jones County Junior College Saturday afternoon at Bailey Stadium. Ento is a freshman wide receiver and product of Dollarway (Ark.) High School. Also shown is Warrior wide receiver Allen Falls (88) of North Forrest High School.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Franks Provides Winning Margin in EC Victory: Sophomore speedster Lamarus Franks (22) is shown during one of his many impressive runs while leading East Central Community College to a stunning 14-7 homecoming victory over nationally ranked Jones County Junior College Saturday afternoon at Bailey Stadium. Franks' 39-yard touchdown scamper early in the third stanza snapped a 7-7 tie and gave the Warriors' their winning margin over the No. 20 Bobcats. Franks, who continues to pile up yardage despite his 5-7, 142-pound frame, led EC rushers with 118 yards on 20 carries. He is a product of Greene County High School. Also shown is EC freshman quarterback Trey Willis (12), a product of Forest Hill High School.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Willis Makes Tough Catch! East Central Community College wide receiver Xavier Willis (9) maintains possession following this second-quarter reception despite receiving a hard lick from a Pearl River Community College defender during the Thursday night battle at Bailey Stadium. Willis, a sophomore, is a product of Newton County High School. The visiting Wildcats held on for a 10-2 MACJC South Division victory.

Warrior Scene ECCC Hosts Warrior Wonderland

PHOTOS BY DOMINICK FIELDS, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

