



Spring Spree 2015

Scenes from Spring Spree 2015, **PAGE 14**

The Tom-Tom

A Student Publication of East Central Community College

Volume 66, Number 5

April 2015



6 p.m. ~ May 8, 2015 ~ Neshoba County Coliseum

ECCC Announces 2015 Hall of Fame

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Recipients of Hall of Fame and other honors were recognized during the annual Awards Day program held April 30, 2015, 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 2015 include: Zachary Allen of Louisville, Lauren Cantey of Collinsville, Leah Ferguson and Allison Johnson, both of Philadelphia, Warner Parkes of Nanih Waiya and Caleb Stallings of Enterprise.

ZACHARY ALLEN

A 2013 graduate of Winston Academy, Zachary Allen of Louisville is involved in various clubs and activities at East Central Community College, many of which he serves in a leadership role.

The sophomore biochemistry major is a member of the Student Body Association, Warrior Corps, Phi Beta Lambda, Sigma Sigma Mu Tau, As-

tronomy Club, Baptist Student Union and Students Against Destructive Decisions. He serves as president of the college's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges; President's Council; and of the sophomore class. In addition he represents the college as president of the Mississippi/Louisiana Region of Phi Theta Kappa.

At ECCC, Allen received the Jack B. Mayo Phi Theta Kappa Award and was chosen to *Who's Who Among American Community & Junior College Students*. He was awarded the Presidential, Yates, ACT, Mississippi Land Bank and Dizzy Dean Baseball scholarships.

He is the son of Todd and Janet Allen.

Those nominating Allen described him as an excellent student, saying, "He strives to do his best at everything he does. He always goes out of his way to help and does more than asked."

Another nominator said, "Zachary is involved with East Central. Not many colleges have students who are passionate about their school and other students. He speaks to everyone and always has a smile on his face."

LAUREN CANTEY

A 2013 honor graduate of West Lauderdale High School, Lauren Cantey is a sophomore at East Central Community College, where she has maintained a stellar grade point average.

The Collinsville native's career goal is to attend medical school and work in pediatric emergency medicine.

Cantey was selected to represent East Central Community College at the 2014-15 Higher Education Appreciation Day: Working for Academic Excellence program. A President's List scholar, she is a member of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, in which she serves as vice president for leadership. In addition, she is a member of Warrior Corps, a select student group that assists in recruiting and serves as hosts for special events on campus. She was selected to *Who's Who Among American Community & Junior College Students* and was a recipient of the Harvey Wheeler Pre-Med, J.C. White Memorial and ACT scholarships.

Cantey is the daughter of Michael Cantey and Dr. Sherri Cantey.

Those nominating Cantey described her as an "enthusiastic" member of the student body, saying, "She was selected as one of the vice presidents of Phi Theta Kappa and has performed admirably."

In addition to her campus involvement, her nominators noted her academic achievements and ambitions.

One nominator said, "As a pre-med major, she has taken some of the most demanding courses available, stayed

See AWARDS, Page 2



ALLEN



CANTEY



FERGUSON



JOHNSON



PARKES



STALLINGS



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Shown cutting the ribbon to officially open East Central Community College's new Disc Golf Course during ceremonies April 20 are (from left) Workforce Education instructors Chris Ryals and Luke Howell, ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart, Student Body Association President Leah Ferguson, Director of Housing and Student Activities Kristi Smith, and Vice President for Student Services Dr. Randall Lee.

EC Officially Opens New Disc Golf Course

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College officially opened a new Disc Golf Course during a ribbon-cutting ceremony held April 20.

The challenging nine-hole course, which wraps around the college lake, is open to the public.

ECCC Workforce Education instructors

Luke Howell and Chris Ryals, who designed the course, concluded the ceremony by providing information and a demonstration on how to play the game.

Members of the Student Body Association first approached College President Dr. Billy Stewart with the idea for the new recreation venue, which he says is another step towards meeting the goals of the college's **2020 Vision**.

"We feel providing this venue will assist us in our efforts to facilitate student success by expanding opportunities for participation in student activities and other programs that promote campus involvement and personal development," Stewart said.

For more information, contact Student Services at 601-636-6205 or email rlee@eccc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors No. 2 Doubles Team of Mackie Smith (left) of Newton County High School and Hannah Peoples (right) of Leake Academy won the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges state and National Junior College Athletic Association Region 23 tournament titles April 18 in Tupelo. Dianne O'Neill serves as adjunct tennis coach.

EC Doubles Team Captures State/Region Tennis Titles

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors No. 2 Doubles Team of Hannah Peoples and Mackie Smith captured the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges state and National Junior College Athletic Association Region 23 tournament titles April 18 in Tupelo.

Peoples of Leake Academy and Smith of Newton County High School won four straight matches over the three-day competition played at Rob Leake Park in Tupelo to win the titles.

The tandem of Peoples and Smith defeated Allie Dear and Caroleah Brister of Copiah-Lincoln Community College 3-6, 6-0, 6-3 in the opening round; No. 1-seeded Ivy Robbins and Anna Claire Griffin of Itawamba Community College 6-4, 4-6, 10-7 in the quarterfinals; Brittany Weathersby and Kelly Carlson of Hinds Community College 6-1, 6-4 in the semifinals; and No. 2-seeded Alden Hartley and Jennifer Smith of Meridian Community College 6-3, 6-2 in the finals.

"Hannah and Mackie dominated the finals match with crushing overheads, aggressive net play, and great court coverage," said Dianne O'Neill, East Central's adjunct tennis coach. "The team played to a largely ECCC cheering crowd which gave them a lot of momentum."

"The combination of Hannah's athleticism and speed coupled with Mackie's quick hands and steady groundstrokes made for an unbeatable team this week."

O'Neill said that it's unusual to have a player such as Peoples, who is both competitive and well liked by her opponents. "Hannah is soft-spoken and the most gracious player always, win or lose," O'Neill said. "She is the team captain and a great role model."

Smith had knee surgery during her senior year in high school last spring and missed most of the pre-season at ECCC. "Mackie fought hard for her position on the team," commented O'Neill. "EC's loss is that she is graduating early and won't get to play her second year for the Lady Warriors."

"East Central had a great year of tennis, an outstanding tournament, and winning a championship was the pinnacle," added O'Neill, who is retiring after the spring season.

The East Central Warriors and Lady Warriors both finished sixth overall in the team competitions.

ECCC Campus Leaders: Pictured are the 2015-16 student government officers at East Central Community College. Students and their respective hometowns include (from left) Student Body Association (SBA) President Kaylee Yates of Decatur, SBA Vice President Skylar Davidson of Morton, SBA Treasurer Shelly Dowell of Lena and SBA Secretary Keri Ann Mayfield of Union. Director of Housing/Student Activities Kristi Smith serves as sponsor.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



AWARDS

From Page 1

active and engaged on campus, and achieved a 3.950 grade point average.”

Another nominator said, “The young lady has big dreams and high goals. One day we will read in our alumni magazine about ‘how Dr. Lauren Cantey, MD’ got her start at East Central Community College.”

LEAH FERGUSON

Leah Ferguson, a sophomore education major from Philadelphia, is a 2013 graduate of Neshoba Central High School. The Dean’s List scholar holds leadership positions and is involved in numerous campus activities at East Central Community College.

At ECCC, she serves as president of the student body, co-president of the Baptist Student Union, secretary of Phi Beta Lambda and vice president of the Student Education Association, her sophomore year. Her freshman year, she served as vice president for Phi Beta Lambda and freshman class president. In addition, Ferguson is a member of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa international honor society, Baptist Student Union council and Praise Band leader, EC ENCORE, President’s Council, Concert Choir and Students Against Destructive Decisions. She serves on East Central’s Recruitment and Retention and Student Activities committees.

Ferguson has won multiple state honors with PBL including 14th in the nation in Small Business Management Plan and selection for *Who’s Who* in PBL at national conference. She was the recipient of the Presidential, Leon Eubanks Kaljyc-Peers, Robert J. Moody, Jr. Special Education, Future Business Leaders of America and ACT scholarships. In addition, Ferguson was selected to *Who’s Who Among American Community & Junior College Students*.

She is the daughter of Jerry and Christy Ferguson. Ferguson’s nominators described her as a “top-notch” student. “She is involved in many leadership activities and does an exceptional job with them all. She goes over and beyond her duties and always has a positive attitude about anything asked of her.”

Another nominator said, “She is the epitome of an East Central student and does everything Excellent with Class. She is a well-rounded student who does everything with a smile. She is that quintessential student who so represents the ‘ideal’ ECCC student.”

ALLISON JOHNSON

Allison Johnson, a sophomore education major from

Philadelphia, is a 2013 graduate of Neshoba Central High School. The President’s List scholar has held leadership positions and is involved in numerous campus activities. She serves as president of the Student Education Association, opinions editor of *The Tom-Tom* newspaper staff, and was treasurer for Phi Beta Lambda her freshman year. She is a member of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, where she serves as reporter. In addition, she is a member of the *Wo-He-Lo* yearbook staff, ECCC Environmental Club, Warrior Corps, President’s Council and the Baptist Student Union.

Johnson received multiple honors and scholarships based on her ACT score and grade point average. She received the Ben Meyers Memorial, Presidential and ACT scholarships. In addition, Johnson was selected for *Who’s Who Among American Community & Junior College Students* and won a first place award in the 2015 Mississippi Press Association’s Better Newspapers Contest-Student Division for Best General Interest Column.

Johnson is the daughter of Hillary Ann Hancock and Jeremiah Johnson.

Her nominators described her as an “all-around exceptional student.”

“She excels at everything she participates in and she is an effective leader. She has high moral character and is very involved in the college. She is the model student in all aspects and represents the college well,” said one nominator.

Another nominator said, “She works hard to be a good role model for other students at East Central, and to add to the outstanding reputation of the college. Allison exemplifies the qualities of a well-rounded, successful student, and displays an admirable amount of morality.”

WARNER PARKES

A 2013 graduate of Nanih Waiya Attendance Center, Warner Parkes is an active part of East Central Community College’s student body, participating in various campus organizations and clubs as well as being a member of two of ECCC’s athletic teams.

He served as president of Warrior Corps for 2014-15 and of the Student Education Association his freshman year. Parkes was elected treasurer of the Student Body Association, freshman class favorite and was a homecoming court escort. He is a member of Students Against Destructive Decisions, Phi Theta Kappa international honor society and President’s Council. Parkes is an active participant in intramural sports, serving as a referee for flag football in 2013-14. In addition, he is a member

of the Warrior Cheerleader Squad and serves as basketball statistician and student assistant for the Warrior basketball teams.

A President’s List scholar, Parkes was selected Mr. ECCC by his peers and was chosen as a member of *Who’s Who Among American Community & Junior College Students*.

Parkes was awarded the Presidential, ACT and Mississippi Association of Supervisors scholarships.

A sophomore optometry major, Parkes is the son of Tammy and Luke Parkes.

Those nominating Parkes said he “epitomized involvement ever since stepping foot on campus.”

“His leadership in Warrior Corps and SBA has been instrumental in helping ECCC accomplish one of its most successful student activities years ever.”

He was described by nominators as “dependable,” noting that his participation is “a given” in all campus activities, and one said Parkes seems to have “done it all.”

Multiple nominators described him as an “exceptional” student ambassador for the college. “Warner is and always will be a great ambassador for the college and truly loves ECCC.”

CALEB STALLINGS

Caleb Stallings, a sophomore pre-med major from Enterprise, is a 2013 graduate of Enterprise High School. The President and Dean’s list scholar has held several leadership positions and is involved in numerous campus activities at East Central Community College.

At East Central, he serves as president of Students Against Destructive Decisions and the Residence Council. He is a dormitory Bible study leader and is a member of the Baptist Student Union’s Leaders Council. In addition, Stallings is a member of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, Baptist Student Union, President’s Council, Sigma Sigma Mu Tau, *Wo-He-Lo* yearbook staff, Phi Beta Lambda and President’s Council.

Stallings was awarded the Mathematics Award his freshman year and was selected to *Who’s Who Among American Community & Junior College Students* his sophomore year.

He is the son of Cindy Stallings and the late Walter Stallings. Stallings’ nominators described him as a “great representation” of a well-rounded student.

“Every time I see him on campus he has a smile on his face and is so encouraging.”

Another nominator said, “Caleb is a very active student on EC’s campus, participating in several student organiza-

tions. As an instructor it is exciting to see young Christian students excel spiritually and academically. Caleb is never lost for words, always has a smile, and always is willing to learn.”

In addition, Stallings was credited for his boisterous personality.

“Caleb is a very outgoing and kind person. He never meets a stranger and loves to participate in all EC has to offer.”

ADDITIONAL HONORS

Additional honors presented during Awards Day include the following:

Career award recipients include Kendrell Peden of Philadelphia, Residential Carpentry Award; Kelsey McDonald of Conehatta, Cosmetology Award; Sean Tyler McElfish of Union, Welding & Cutting “Taylor Cup;” and Tyler Faulkner of Carthage, “Career Student of the Year.”

Technical awards were presented to Christopher Warren of Philadelphia, Collision Repair Technology Award; Stephen Armstrong of Decatur, Automotive Technology Award; Leah Vincent of Decatur and Tania Marie Rhodes of Conehatta, co-recipients, Early Childhood Education Technology Award; William Milner of Lena, Electrical Technology Award; Asif Zaffar of Philadelphia and Chad Simoneau of Louin, co-recipients, Heating and Air Conditioning Technology Awards; Sarah Tatum of Union, Culinary Arts Technology Award; Joseph McBeth of Carthage, Hotel and Restaurant Management Technology Award; James Travassos of Lawrence, Manufacturing and Machining Technology Award; Mark Hale of Little Rock, Network Support Technology Award; and Timothy Laird of Newton, “Technical Student of the Year.”

Recipients of healthcare education awards include Hayden Stokes of Louisville, Associate Degree Nursing Outstanding Achievement Award; Lauren Whitehead of Louisville, Practical Nursing Award; and Michael Reynolds of Philadelphia, Paramedic Technology

Award.

Those receiving special awards were Eli Parker of Little Rock, Citizenship Award; Kristen Gordy of Forest, Ann Burkes Phi Theta Kappa Scholarship; Zachary Allen of Louisville, Dr. Margaret Mosal for Leadership Scholarship; Jeremy Hudson of DeKalb, Alford J. Deaton Physics Award; Zach Peden of Philadelphia, Richard Fisher Organic Chemistry Award; Noah Corcoran of Louisville and Matt Griffin of Union, co-recipients, East Central Environmental Club Award; Quinton Campbell of Wilmer, Ala., Anthony Coleman Men’s Basketball Award; Jerry Byrd of Biloxi and Tessia Keith of Corinth, co-recipients, Roy Pete Award for Soccer; Kara Yates of Morton, ECCC Concert Choir Award; Anna Girling of Carthage, EC Encore Award; Keona Foster and Contessa Peoples, both of Philadelphia, co-recipients, ECCC Gospel Choir Award; Megan Parrish of Pascagoula, S. Lebrun Hutchinson Engineering Scholarship; John Bruce Hedrick of Newton, Freshman Mathematics Award; John Davis of Carthage, Sophomore Mathematics Award; Allison Johnson of Philadelphia, Secondary Education Award; Keri Ann Mayfield of Union, Myrtle R. Hutchison Elementary Education Award; Virginia Easley of Philadelphia, Mississippi Business Educators Association Award and Phi Beta Lambda Hall of Fame; Austin Jordan of Conehatta and Leah Ferguson of Philadelphia, both recipients of Phi Beta Lambda Hall of Fame; Madison Barnett of Noxapater, *The Tom-Tom* Award; and Bristol Buffington of Starkville, ECCC Players Award.

Alumni Memorial Awards were presented to Hanna Williams of Conehatta, Billy Wane Baucum Secondary Education Award; Charles Thorne of Decatur, W.A. Coursey, Jr. Engineering Award; Delton Harrison of Little Rock, Danny Ray Killens Engineering Award; John Thames of Decatur, Ruth Carr-Vincent Academic Award for Excellence in Non-Traditional

Education; Christy Bryan of Philadelphia, Opal McMullan Dickerson Elementary Education Scholarship; Rachel Laird of Meridian, Alatha Chaney English Award; Tiffany Watkins of Lawrence, Sara Carr Deaton Business Technology Award; Stephen Stewart of Decatur, Sue Yarbrough Fulgham Speech Award; Anna Katherine Nowell of Philadelphia, Arno Vincent Award for Academic Excellence in Athletics; Jeremiah Chapman of Newton, William S. Giffin Men’s Intramural Award; Jaleshia Jones of Waynesboro, Earline Wood Memorial Award for Women’s Basketball; Julian Fuentes of Newton, Homer F. Hunter Athletic Managers Award; LaMarcus Franks of State Line, Andrew F. Webb Football Award; Ramone Tate of Bay St. Louis, Howard Sessums Men’s Basketball Award; Allison Johnson of Philadelphia, Jack B. Mayo Phi Theta Kappa Award; and Zach Allen of Louisville, Dr. Edwin Miller Medical Services Award.

Faculty memorial awards were presented to Ben Pace of Philadelphia, Aaron R. Davis Memorial Scholarship; Pashien Simone Kelly-Johnson of Gulfport, Frank Edwin & Nena Holt Leatherwood Biology Science Award; Sam Mitchell of Decatur, Dr. Shelby L. Harris Memorial Scholarship; Bryan Burton of Louisville, J. Wallace Bedwell Business Award; Brooke Payne of Union, Frank M. Cross Freshman Chemistry Award; Devin Skinner of Philadelphia, J. Andy Miller Freshman Engineering Award; Timothy Laird of Newton, O.L. Newell Drafting Award; Tracy Gray of Lake, Charles E. Pennington Business Technology Award; Tallie Johnston of Lake, Robert G. Fick Memorial Scholarship; Emily Cook of Carthage, Ruth Hull Memorial *Wo-He-Lo* Award; Chance Whitten of Batesville and Will Myers of Philadelphia, co-recipients, Jamie Clark Memorial Baseball Award; Kaylee Yates of Decatur, Leon Eubanks Kaljyc-Peers Leadership Award; and Louise Berryhill of Union, L.B. Simmons History Award.

Apply Now



PROMISES MADE. PROMISES KEPT.

In your search for the right place to continue your education, it’s important to know who you can count on.

At MSU-Meridian, we take our promises to you very seriously. That’s why we guarantee dedicated and inspiring faculty, a high return on your investment and a degree from one of the nation’s leading universities that prepares you for today’s competitive job market.

Promises made. Promises kept. And we promise there’s more to come.

MISSISSIPPI STATE
UNIVERSITY™

MERIDIAN

meridian.msstate.edu

2020 Vision
CAFE' 

OPEN DAILY!
7:30 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.



The Tom-Tom Staff Receives Top Awards at State Competition

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College's student newspaper, *The Tom-Tom*, received 11 awards, including second place in General Excellence, the top award granted for student newspapers, in the 2015 Mississippi Press Association's Better Newspaper Contest Student Division for Community Colleges.

The awards were presented at the annual O.C. McDavid Journalism Conference held March 26, 2015, at the Mississippi Craft Center in Ridgeland.

The Tom-Tom received a total of three first place, four second place, and four third place awards in the annual competition.

In the Better Newspaper

Competition, members of *The Tom-Tom* staff earned the following awards:

First place in General Interest Column for Allison Johnson, a sophomore from Philadelphia and *The Tom-Tom* opinions editor.

First place in Cartoon for Claire Griffin, a May 2014 graduate from Decatur.

First place in Website for *The Tom-Tom* staff.

Second place in General Excellence for *The Tom-Tom* staff.

Second place in General Interest Column for Madison Herrington, a sophomore from Union.

Second place in Design for Hannah May, a freshman from Little Rock and design editor.

Second place in Front Page for *The Tom-Tom* staff.

Third place in General News

Story for Madison Barnett, a sophomore from Noxapater and editor.

Third place in Editorials for Barnett.

Third place in Single Advertisement for *The Tom-Tom* staff.

Third place in Miscellaneous Advertisement for The Tom-Tom staff.

The Tom-Tom is a student-led newspaper representative of the student body of East Central Community College. The staff is led by Madison Barnett of Noxapater, editor; Allison Johnson of Philadelphia, opinions editor; Hannah May of Little Rock, design editor; and Macken'z Smith of Philadelphia, cartoonist. ECCC Publications Coordinator Gennie Taylor of Forest serves as adviser.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Members of the East Central Community College award-winning *The Tom-Tom* staff display some of the awards they received at the O.C. McDavid Journalism Conference held March 26 at the Mississippi Craft Center in Ridgeland. Shown are (front row, from left) Madison Barnett of Noxapater, editor; and Hannah May of Little Rock, design editor; and (back row, from left) Wil Johnson of Morton; Allison Johnson, opinions editor, and Macken'z Smith, cartoonist, both of Philadelphia; and ECCC Publications Coordinator Gennie Taylor of Forest.

ECCC's Softball Team Ranked 11th Nationally; Golf, Women's Tennis Ranked Regionally

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

The East Central Community College Lady Warrior softball team has moved up to No. 11 in the nation in the most recent National Junior College Athletic Association Marucci Division II Softball Poll.

The Lady Warriors, coached by Kristin Chaney, moved up from No. 13 last week. East Central is 32-8 overall and 20-6 in the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges South Division.

East Central's women's tennis team also received recognition last week, with a No. 8 ranking in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association's Junior/Community Colleges Women's Region III Rankings. Shannon St. Claire, a product of Newton

County High School and East Central's No. 1 Singles player, was ranked No. 6 in the ITA's Region III individual player rankings.

The Lady Warrior netters, under the direction of adjunct tennis coach Dianne O'Neill, finished sixth in the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges state and NJCAA Region 23 tournaments held April 16-18 in Tupelo.

The East Central men's golf team is ranked No. 21 nationally among NJCAA Division II schools in the most recent Golfstat Relative Rankings compiled by golfstat.com. The Warriors, coached by Chris Clark, finished in fifth place in the MACJC State Championship April 18-19.

ECCC to form new vocal ensemble 'Voce'

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College will introduce a new vocal ensemble for the 2015-16 academic year, announced Vicki Blaylock, Fine Arts Division chair and music instructor.

"Our new ensemble will be called Voce, which is the Italian word for voice, and that is what this new group will be all about," Blaylock said. "This a cappella group will be a more inclusive group and will perform selections which could range from madrigals to songs similar to the popular group Pentatonix."

Voce will take the place of the Ac'cents show choir, which is being retired at the end of the spring 2015 term.

"The show choir tended to limit our se-

lection of students who could participate. Many great singers did not get involved with Ac'cents because of the dance requirement. With the elimination of dance, we hope more students will audition," Blaylock said.

Blaylock said she hoped that this new endeavor would also provide opportunities for students beyond the community college level.

She added, "A cappella groups are the new trend across the country and students will be able to leave East Central and audition at the university level where show choirs were usually not an option at the four-year level."

Retiring the show choir was bittersweet for Blaylock who said there was much thought and deliberation put into the

decision.

"As director of the Ac'cents, I have had the opportunity to work with some talented students over the years. These students gave 100 percent to the group and the college. I am saddened to retire the show choir, but I also look forward to a new challenge and to offer more students an opportunity to grow musically by being a part of Voce.

"The implementation of this new group has started a wonderful 'buzz' among our students. They are so excited about this new opportunity and we can't wait to watch them learn and grow musically."

For more information, contact Blaylock at 601-635-6225 or email vblaylock@eccc.edu.

ECCC Graduation

Friday, May 8 • 6 p.m.

Neshoba County Coliseum • Philadelphia



CAREY

The path to your future.



Warrior Viewpoints

FROM THE EDITOR

Dear East Central

My mind cannot fathom the fact that this year is quickly coming to an end. It seems like just yesterday I was preparing for that fearful first day of college, only to realize that the fear would eventually turn into joy. Now for any first-year college student, whether it be starting at a university level or community college, there is always that one student who is extremely ready to meet new people and prepared, but then there are the ones like me, nervous, fearful and shy. In a short and sweet version, I am the kid who literally begins worrying about school before there is even anything to worry about!

Everyone in high school always talked about how EC was just the 'thirteenth grade' and how there was never anything 'FUN' in Decatur.... Well obviously those people did not meet the people I met or got involved in the things I got involved in. Unfortunately those people have ventured to other schools and are experiencing the stereotype that he or she used to describe EC. As for me, I absolutely love East Central and am extremely glad that I took the path towards the right way. Honestly, EC isn't just another community college, it is home! There have never been more influential people in my life, and I am sure I speak for others, like the faculty and students I have met here! Decatur may just be some small town but it sure does hold some BIG hearts. Besides the boring school work and many meetings, I have enjoyed the time here by making new friendships and becoming a part of many clubs. There has never been a dull moment since I began my freshman year!

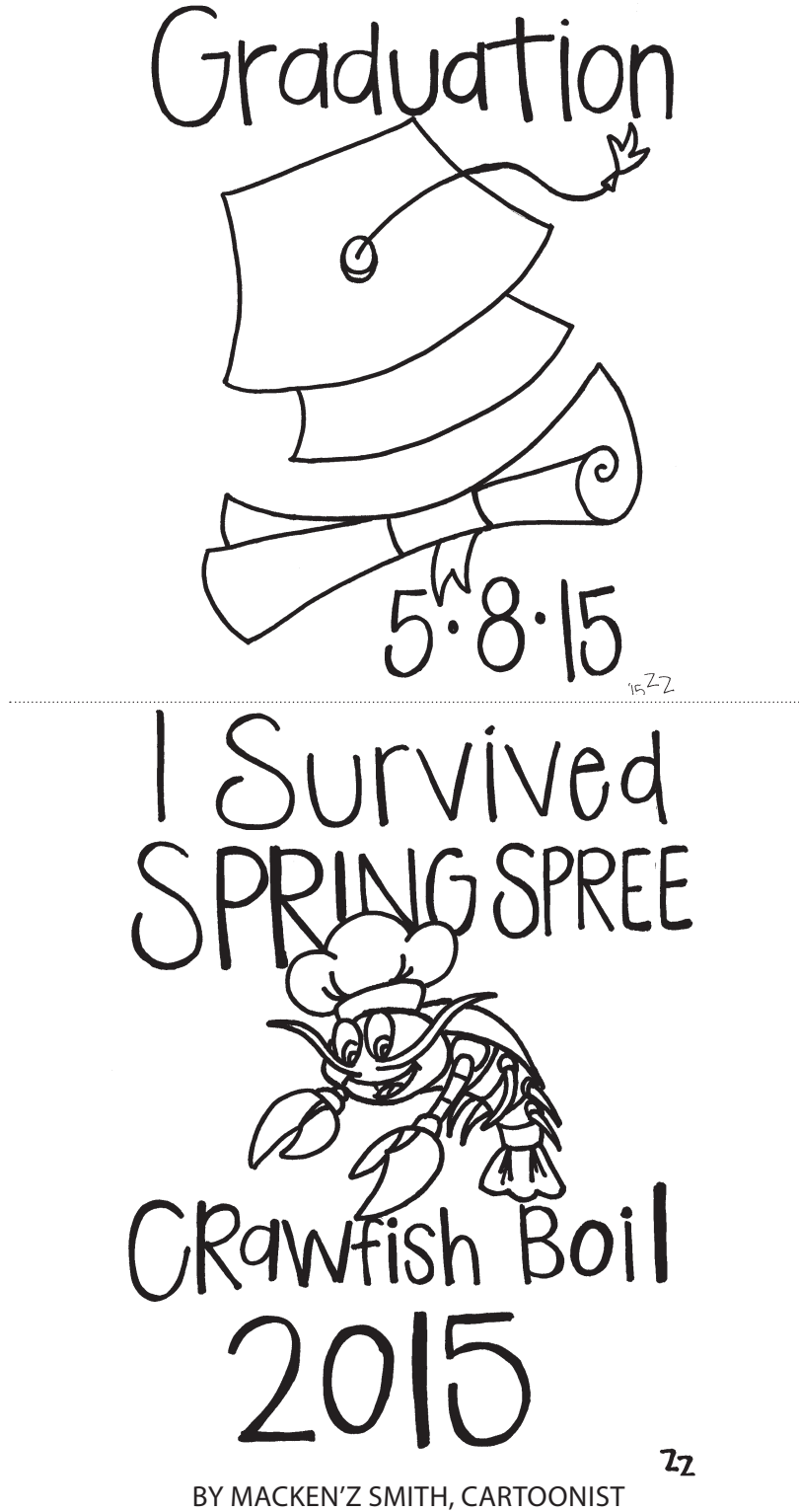
College isn't just about class, papers, tests and studying, although those things are important, college is about taking a leap of faith into experiencing new things, people and making more memories that will forever last in your mind. I have enjoyed my time here and will remember the family members I have gained while attending East Central. Also, I will always show Excellence with Class wherever my future endeavors take me! Whether I become a famous doctor or some small town nurse, EC will forever be the reason I chose to better my life!

Thank you EC for influencing my life and my future!

—Madison Barnett
Editor



MADISON BARNETT
Editor



BY MACKEN'Z SMITH, CARTOONIST

OTHER VIEWS

Enjoy Time While at EC

I would like to start by saying that I have thoroughly enjoyed every minute of my time at East Central Community College. I have made new friends as well as reconnected with old friends. I have learned more than I thought possible in two years. I have been involved in many organizations that have heightened my positive experiences at EC.

If I could give any of my underclassmen any advice it would be to enjoy your time at EC by getting involved in as many activities as you can handle, but know what your limitations are and do not overload yourself.

Also I would advise you to take advantage of the low student to teacher ratio, and ask for help if you need it. Keep your priorities in order, and always remember that while you are supposed to have fun and be involved your primary purpose should be to learn all that you can while you can. Do not procrastinate! Develop good study habits because you will need them. Learn to manage time and be punctual. I also recommend that you don't worry about things. Worrying is like sitting in a rocking chair. You rock back and forth all day long but you never accomplish anything. I know firsthand that being involved and maintaining a good grade point average can be difficult, but if you do the things I have suggested you can do it, and you can cut your stress level in half by learning to be a good steward of time. Also remember to stay honest, be true to yourself, and be as kind as you possibly can. I would like to leave you all with two Bible verses that I have found to be important reminders during my time at EC.

"Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." (1 Corinthians 10:31)

"Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." -Hebrews 13:5

—Allison Johnson
Opinions Editor



ALLISON JOHNSON
Opinions Editor

OTHER VIEWS

A Final Goodbye to ECCC

East Central has been some of the best times for me. I've met many new people and had many experiences to last me a lifetime. I knew coming into college it was going to be different, but I never knew how far it would exceed my expectations. Before coming here, I had a few kind sophomores to share their tips with me so I'm going to do the same with you! First off, always try to talk to find a friend in every class you take. Sit by someone you don't know and meet a new one if you have too. You're going to need them. Secondly, never sign up for eight o'clock classes unless absolutely necessary. That is way too early to wake up and it usually drags on more than the other times. Then, never ever procrastinate. I am singing to the choir because I've done this WAY too many times, but for your own sake, don't do it! Next, always pile up on snacks. You never know when you might need them for one of those all nighters that we've each experienced. Lastly, have fun and never stop.

These are some of the best times of your life that you will look back on and miss. Live it up! Have the time of your life because you only have once to do it so do it right!



KIMBERLY HARRISON
Features Editor

—Kimberly Harrison
Features Editor

Godspeed to the Class of 2015

As we come to the end of another academic year at East Central Community College, I want to tell each of you how blessed I am to be president of this wonderful college. One only need to read this issue of *The Tom-Tom* to see the impact that each of you has had on where East Central is today, and the foundation you are laying for where we know we will be in the future.

I am humbled by the accomplishments you have achieved, and I am excited about the progress our College has made this past year as we continue our efforts to be recognized as one of the finest community colleges in the nation.

Just in this issue of *The Tom-Tom* alone, you will read about our six most-deserving Hall of Fame students for this year, the new Disc Golf Course dedicated April 20, our state and Region 23 tennis doubles champions, the nation's No. 11 ranked softball team, our First Team All-Mississippi Community College Academic Team honoree, the 16 ECCC students from the third largest Phi Beta Lambda chapter in the nation who all were recognized at the state conference recently, the 12 students who won Skills-USA awards at the state level, the best student newspaper staff in the state, and our new Voce a cappella music ensemble that will provide more opportunities for our students to perform both at East Central and at the four-year university level, just to mention a few.

I also am proud of the progress we have made as a college this year in fulfillment of our *2020 Vision* strategic plan adopted in 2013. This ambitious plan guides every decision we make as a college as we focus on the institutional commitments of Student Success, Teaching and Learning, Community Partnerships, Resource Planning and Development, and Communication.

All of the initiatives we have accomplished since we began fall term classes last August are too numerous to mention here, but I would like to highlight just a few achievements as we reflect on 2014-15 at East Central. On May 12, we will officially dedicate the paving, sidewalk and lighting improvements made to our campus, thanks to grant funding provided through the Mississippi Department of Transportation. This summer, we will renovate male dormitories on campus, and plans are being made now to begin construction on a new women's dormitory soon. We held our first Winter Wonderland in December that brought our communities and the College together, kicked off the inaugural Cultural Arts Series, renovated Cross Hall, installed the new synthetic turf football field, and implemented the 10-point grading system and new graduation requirements. We also have several communications initiatives under way, including the development of a new website, because we have a special story to tell here at East Central and we need to make sure it is told with Excellence and Class in our district and beyond.

Let me close by wishing Godspeed to our Class of 2015, who will graduate May 8 in the Neshoba County Coliseum.

"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." (1 Peter 4:10 NIV)

Wherever your journey takes you next, I am confident that your time at East Central has better prepared you to achieve all of your life goals. God has given each of you a unique talent. Use that gift to make a difference in the lives of others, and in doing so make our world a better place for those who follow.

Graduates, I hope you will remember East Central and continue to support your college in any way that you can. Come back to Homecoming in October or Spring Alumni Day next April. Play in our golf tournament this summer. Join the Alumni Association and volunteer your time and talents to its activities. Tell your friends about the impact ECCC has made on your life. And let us know about your accomplishments each step along your journey.

To those returning to East Central this summer and fall, our prayer is that you have a restful and rewarding time away from campus and safely return to us soon.

It's a great time to be an East Central Warrior, and I cannot wait to see what great things await our college next year.

—Billy W. Stewart
ECCC President

The EC Way



By Billy W. Stewart, Ph.D.

FROM DR. LEE'S DESK

Set Graduation as Top Goal

My how time has flown! We have reached the end of the academic year! Many of you have worked hard for two years or more and are getting ready for that memorable walk on Friday, May 8, at 6 p.m. in the Neshoba County Coliseum. Congratulations! We have certainly enjoyed the Class of 2015 as you have accomplished great things.

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

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

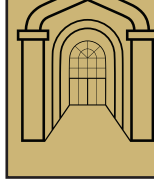
Freshmen —Advance Registration for the fall semester continues. Classes are already filling up for next August so REGISTER NOW before you leave for the summer. If you are undecided about returning I would go ahead and register now because classes will fill up, and the withdrawal fee is only \$40 if you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

If you have any questions or concerns please let me know. You can reach me at 601-635-6375 or e-mail rlee@eccc.edu.

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



DR. LEE



EAST CENTRAL
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

If you would like to submit a letter to the editor, a question for Dr. Billy Stewart or a guest column, please e-mail them to gtaylor@eccc.edu

or bring them to the lower level of Huff Auditorium Room 43.

College 101

THEATER TAKE

Staffers Give Thoughts On Blockbusters

THE AMERICAN SNIPER IS MENTALLY AND EMOTIONALLY PROVOKING

The movie The American Sniper is a fantastic and humbling movie that is based on a true story.

The main character, Chris Kyle, started his adult life participating in rodeos and being a cowboy. One day his younger brother and he were watching the news, and information about terrorists attacks on America was airing. Chris decided that day to go sign up to be a Navy SEAL.

After becoming a SEAL he trained to be a sniper, and ended up being the best and deadliest sniper in American history with 160 kills recognized, while him and his navy brethren knew the number to be almost double that.

Chris Kyle the man, not the character, served four tours in Iraq and earned two Silver Stars and five Bronze Stars with Valor. Both the man and the character were nicknamed “The Legend” by those who knew him and “al-Shaitan” (the devil) by his enemies.

The film is very provoking both emotionally and mentally. I would give this movie a 10 out of 10 rating. Although due to the brutal realism of the film, some scenes contain violence



ALLISON JOHNSON
Opinions Editor

and language that may not be appropriate for younger children.

—Allison Johnson
Opinions Editor

THE LONGEST RIDE EXPLORES ENDURING LOVE

The Longest Ride is a wonderful cinematic production that is based upon the best-selling novel written by Nicholas Sparks.

It contains two intertwining love stories. One is based in modern day America. The other is told through the eyes of an elderly widower and is based in America prior to and during WWII. The plot spans two generations and explores the trials and rewards of an enduring love. The two stories converge in an unexpected way and leaves the audience feeling satisfied.

The story that is based in modern day America involves two young adults who meet accidentally at a rodeo. The young man, Luke, is a professional bull rider. The young woman, Sophia, is a college sorority girl. Sophia attends one of Luke’s rodeos and watches him ride bulls and they have an instant connection. The widower’s name is Ira, and he joins the story when Luke and Sophia save him from his burning car after he runs it off of a bridge.

I will not divulge any further details in order to keep the story line as surprising and juicy as possible. The film does contain some semi-tragic occurrences, but in comparison to other cinematic productions that are based on Nicholas Sparks’ novels it is very happy and not so sad.

On a scale of one to 10, I rate this film an 8 out of 10. I would definitely

recommend this film for anyone who is looking for a “chick flick” with a little twist. Critics have rated this movie 4.3 out of 10.

—Allison Johnson
Opinions Editor

DEAR JOHN MOVIE NOT AS GOOD AS THE BOOK

Dear John is a movie based on the book by Nicholas Sparks. The movie follows the love letters of an Army Ranger, John Tyree and University of North Carolina student, Savannah Curtis. They meet when Savannah is on spring break and John is on leave from Germany. They fall in love with the little time they have together and they plan to get married after John gets out the Army in a year. Then, 9/11 happens and messes up John’s plans on getting out of the Army. The movie is okay, but the book is better. In the movie they met on spring break, but in the book they met during the summer. They spent a month together.

I recommend the book and the movie to anyone. Movies bring the characters to life from the book. Movies and books are both good entertainment for people.

—Wil Johnson
Staff Writer



WIL JOHNSON
Staff Writer

HUNGRY HUNGRY MOCKINGJAY PART I:

Funny story with this movie. See, I’m a book fan myself, and to me Mockingjay was the duller book. I honestly was not expecting much out of 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’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.

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.



AAREN AVERA
Staff Writer

Poor Josh Hutcherson ends up looking like a someone who is deathly sick due to all the makeup used to make Peeta’s torture known. (That contouring though. Good job, makeup team.) 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 and regular fire.

There are 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

FROM THE SHELF

The Best of Me: a True Love Story

The Best of Me is a book by Nicholas Sparks. It is based on the love of two former high school sweethearts Dawson Cole and Amanda Collier. This book is one of the best I have read by Nicholas Sparks. It shows that even if two people are driven apart, true love can still overcome an obstacle. If somebody ever asked me about a book they should read, I would suggest this book to them. It will show people to never give up on true love.

Guys may think reading his books are only for girls. They would be wrong because a lot of his books are based off the guy’s point of view. It helps men understand women better. The old saying “never judge a book by its cover” is true here. Nicholas Sparks is one of the best writers there is for our generation. People should really take a chance and try something new.

—Wil Johnson
Staff Writer

ON THE TUBE

TV Shows Offer Fun, Cheap Entertainment

One doesn’t always have to go to the box office to watch the newest movie released to be entertained. In today’s time, entertainment is literally just a touch of the button away, whether it be with one’s remote control or with the a computer or smart device. Reruns of TV shows are now available for one’s enjoyment. Here’s a look at some of my favorite shows.

SMALLVILLE

Smallville is a show that aired from 2001-2011. It shows how Superman became himself. They have a unique cast: Tom Welling played Clark Kent/ Superman, John Schneider played Jonathan Kent, Annette O’Toole played Martha Kent, and Erica Durance played Lois Lane. They show us a lot of other people who influenced his life. It is a great show.

I did not watch Smallville when it aired. I just started watching it during Christmas break. I am big fan of Superman, since a young kid. Superman is a great role model for kids and adults. If you want a good super hero show to watch I recommend Smallville.

NCIS

NCIS is a show that is about solving naval crimes. This show aired beginning in 2003 and is still airing new episodes. The team is led Leroy Gibbs played by Mark Harmon. His team is Tony DiNozzo, Timothy McGee, and Eleanor Bishop. NCIS is a great show.

I enjoy this show a lot because it is a show about solving military crimes. I started watching this show with my dad, and it became a family thing to watch it when it airs. If you like action shows or movies then you will like this show. I recommend this show to anyone.

—Wil Johnson
Staff Writer

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 College 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.

EAST CENTRAL

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

EC offers array of class options for summer 2015

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College is offering several summer class offerings, including a three-week intersession term, June and July day and evening terms, online courses and courses at its off-campus locations in the five-county district it serves.

The three-week intersession term officially begins the summer class schedule offered by ECCC. The special three-week intersession term begins May 11 and ends May 28, 2015.

Course offerings include General Biology I and Lab, Human Anatomy and Physiology I and Lab, Microbiology and Lab, Intermediate English, English Composition I, English Composition II, Intermediate Algebra, College Algebra, Public Speaking I, Theater Appreciation and Child Health and Safety.

JUNE TERM

The first four-week summer term begins June 1, 2015, and concludes June 29, 2015, on the Decatur campus. Classes are held Monday through Thursday.

Course offerings include General Biology I and Lab, General Biology II and Lab, Nutrition, Human Anatomy and Physiology I and Lab, Human Anatomy and Physiology

II and Lab, General Chemistry I and Lab, English Composition I, English Composition II, American (U.S.) History I, American History II, Intermediate Algebra, College Algebra, Spanish I, Spanish II, Music Appreciation, Public Speaking I, Theater Appreciation, Administration of Preschool Programs, Residential/Light Commercial Wiring, Switching Circuits for Residential, Commercial and Industrial Application, College Study Skills, General Psychology, Introduction to Sociology and Social Problems.

JUNE TERM EVENING CLASSES

The June Term summer evening class schedule on the Decatur campus begins June 1, 2015, and ends June 29, 2015.

June Term evening course offerings include English Composition I, Western Civilization I, Intermediate Algebra, Old Testament Survey, General Psychology and Social Problems.

JULY TERM

The second four-week summer term begins July 1, 2015, and ends July 29, 2015, on the Decatur campus.

Course offerings include General Biology II and Lab, Human Anatomy and Physiology II and Lab, General Chemistry II and Lab, Methods

and Materials, Commercial and Industrial Wiring, Motor Control Systems, Intermediate English, English Composition I, English Composition II, American (U.S.) History I, American History II, Intermediate Algebra, College Algebra, American National Government, General Psychology, Introduction to Sociology and Marriage and Family.

JULY TERM EVENING CLASSES

The July Term summer evening class schedule on the Decatur campus begins July 1, 2015, and ends July 29, 2015.

July Term evening course offerings include English Composition II, American (U.S.) History I, College Algebra, General Psychology and Social Problems.

ONLINE COURSES

East Central Community College also offers numerous summer online courses. Classes begin June 1 and end July 24, 2015.

Course offerings include Principles of Accounting, General Biology I and Lab, General Biology II and Lab, Nutrition, Human Anatomy and Physiology I and Lab, Human Anatomy and Physiology II and Lab, Microbiology and Lab, Keyboarding, Document Formatting and Production, Applied Business Mathemat-

ics, Business Accounting, Medical Office Terminology I, Medical Office Terminology II, Mechanics of Communication, Introduction to Business, Business Statistics, The Legal Environment of Business, Computer Concepts, Computer Applications I, Guiding Social and Emotional Behavior, Student Teaching II, Principles of Macroeconomics, Child Psychology, Adolescent Psychology, Human Growth and Development, English Composition I, English Composition II, Creative Writing I, American Literature I, American Literature II, British Literature I, World Literature I, World Literature II, World Geography, Personal and Community Health, Introduction to Health Physical Education and Recreation, First Aid and CPR, Recreational Leadership, Prevention and Care of Athletic Injuries, Western Civilization I, Western Civilization II, American (U.S.) History I, American History II, Career Exploration, College Study Skills, Intermediate Algebra, College Algebra, Trigonometry, Statistics, Spanish I, Spanish II, Music Appreciation, Old Testament Survey, New Testament Survey, Jesus and The Gospels, Introduction to Philosophy I, American National Government, General Psychology, Introduction to

Sociology, Social Problems, Marriage and Family, Cultural Anthropology, Public Speaking I and Theater Appreciation.

SUMMER CLASSES OFFERED AT DISTRICT LOCATIONS

East Central Community College also offers evening classes at various locations in the five-county district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties.

FOREST

The course offering at the Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center includes Programmable Logic Controllers. Class begins July 1 and ends July 29, 2015.

CARTHAGE JUNE TERM

June Term course offerings at the Leake County Career-Technical Center in Carthage include English Composition I and College Algebra. The June Term classes begin June 1 and end June 29, 2015.

JULY TERM

July Term course offerings at the Leake County Career-Technical Center in Carthage include English Composition II. The July Term class begins July 1 and ends July 29, 2015.

PHILADELPHIA JUNE TERM

June Term course offerings at the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center include Human Growth and Development, English Composition I, Intermediate Algebra and General Psychology. June Term classes begin June 1 and end June 29, 2015.

JULY TERM

July Term course offering at the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center include English Composition II. The July Term class begins July 1 and ends July 29, 2015.

LOUISVILLE JUNE TERM

June Term course offerings at the Winston-Louisville Career-Technical Complex include College Algebra. The June Term class begins June 1 and ends June 29, 2015.

JULY TERM

July Term course offerings at the Winston-Louisville Career-Technical Complex include Intermediate Algebra. The July Term class begins July 1 and ends July 29, 2015.

A complete list of summer classes with course codes is also available on the college website, www.eccc.edu. For more information, contact Student Services, 601-635-6205.

EC Students Selected for Percussive Arts Society All-Star Ensemble

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College students Caleb Franklin of Morton and Anna Girling of Carthage were recently selected to participate in the Mississippi Percussive Arts Society All-Star Ensemble, announced Ed Girling, assistant director of bands and percussion instructor.

The All-Star Ensemble, composed of the top high school, community college, and university percussion students from the state of Mississippi,

performed a concert April 11 at the Percussive Arts Society's "Day of Percussion" at Hinds Community College in Raymond.

"This was a tremendous honor for both of these students to interact with other fine percussion students and professors," Girling said. "They received instruction from guest artists and performed a variety of new music."

"Their selection is no surprise as both students earned first-chair positions in the Mississippi Junior and Com-

munity College Band Association's Inter-Collegiate Band back in January," said Hunter Corhern, ECCC director of bands. "Franklin, a freshman music industries major, earned first chair percussion, while Girling, a sophomore music education major, earned first chair mallets. This is especially a great honor for Mr. Girling, as Anna is his daughter."

The Mississippi Percussive Arts Society is dedicated to percussion education in Mississippi and hosts the "Day of Percussion" each spring. The

event features the All-Star Ensemble as well as a percussion ensemble from the high school, community college, and university level.

Last year, the ECCC Percussion Ensemble was featured as the community college performing group. The guest artists for this year included Christopher Deane, associate professor of percussion at the University of North Texas in Denton; and Troy Breaux, the direction of percussion studies at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.



Girling, Hodge Present Sophomore Recital: East Central Community College music majors Anna Girling (left) of Carthage and Jonathan Hodge of Lake presented their sophomore recitals April 22, in the Vickers Fine Arts Building Auditorium. Girling is double-majoring in piano and percussion and Hodge is a vocal music major.



Attend ECCC Business, Education and Healthcare Expo: Representatives from The Service Company in Meridian, General Manager Steve Dennis (left), HVAC Service Manager Scotty Lucas (second from left) and Business Development Manager Clint Waddell (right), were among more than 50 vendors who participated in the annual East Central Community College Business, Education and Healthcare Expo held recently in Brackeen-Wood Gymnasium. They are shown speaking with ECCC students Matthew Bishop (third from left) of Edinburg and Chris Lyons (fourth from left) of Philadelphia. Approximately 165 people attended the Expo.



Copeland, Triplett Attend ECCC Expo: East Central Community College students Lauren Copeland (center) of Sebastopol and Tammie Triplett (right) of Louisville are shown talking with Jessica Sharp, recruiter for the University of Southern Mississippi, during ECCC's Business, Education and Healthcare Expo held recently in Brackeen-Wood Gymnasium. Approximately 165 people attended the Expo and more than 50 vendors participated in the annual event.



Mississippi Department of Public Safety donates police vests to ECCC: Jim Armstrong (second from right), director of governmental affairs for the Mississippi Department of Public Safety, and State Rep. Randy Rushing of Decatur (second from left) present bullet-proof vests to the East Central Community College Campus Police Department. The Mississippi Department of Public Safety recently donated 15 bullet-proof vests to ECCC Campus Police, thanks in part to the efforts of Rushing, who represents Mississippi's District 78 of Neshoba, Newton, and Scott counties. Shown receiving the vests for ECCC are, from left, Dr. Randall Lee, vice president for student services; Cornelius Parks, campus police officer; John Harris, campus police chief; and James Miller, dean of students. Armstrong said that it was Rushing's assistance in helping the Mississippi Highway Patrol in his district obtain new vests that allowed the Department of Public Safety to provide the used vests to ECCC. Armstrong hopes to provide used in-car cameras to the college in the future.



Taylor Group Participates in ECCC Expo: Tracey Verry (left), human resources representative for The Taylor Group, Inc., of Louisville, talks with East Central Community College students (from left) Dylan Spears of Philadelphia and J.T. Miles of Forest during the college's Business, Education and Healthcare Expo held recently in Brackeen-Wood Gymnasium. Approximately 165 people attended the Expo and more than 50 vendors participated in the annual event.

EXTRAORDINARY STUDENT

Davidson Shares Love of Mission Trips

BY KIMBERLY HARRISON
Features Editor

Skylar Davidson was chosen as this edition of *The Tom-Tom's* extraordinary student. Davidson made a big impact on the lives of others by going on mission trips. Davidson said her love for mission trips is strong. She started going on them her freshman year of high school attending both Beautiful Feet in Texas and Feeding the Homeless in Jackson with her church, All Seasons Worship Center in Forest. She then went to Nicaragua her sophomore year with her high school, East Rankin Academy, and said she fell in love with it. Davidson said the best part of going on the mission trips is the kids. She said she loves to have a special bond with them. Davidson said, while being in Ni-



KIMBERLY HARRISON
Features Editor

caragua, the mission group plays with the children, gives out food to the needy, gives out toys and ministers in both churches and schools. Davidson said she's learned to "never take things for granted," during her most recent mission trip. She describes these children she encountered during the trip as grateful and happy for whatever they get, even if it is just a piece of candy. She said it made her realize what she has in life and appreciate all she has. Davidson said the difficult part of the trips is that they can be dangerous. Small roads and fast cars do not make for very good outcomes, she said. The biggest difference Davidson said from Texas to Nicaragua is the children's attitudes. The children from Nicaragua are so much more grateful and happy for anything you can do for



DAVIDSON



them, whereas Texas does not need it as much, Davidson said. She said she feels that God definitely works through these ministries. Davidson said she has seen people healed in a way that could only be God...the blind people can see and the deaf people can hear. Davidson said during her last trip to Nicaragua she was actually featured on the news. Davidson said group involvement is a huge impact of the mission trips. She



said the group definitely grows close to each other like a family. When asked whether she'd go back she said, "Most definitely! I would love to make this a regular thing. One day I'd even love to take my family. "If God calls me to do it, I'd love to do nursing in Nicaragua." Davidson said the trips are definitely learning experiences. However, she said, "I cannot wait for the next one." Davidson is a freshman pre-nursing major from Morton. She plans to

attend the University of Mississippi Medical Center nursing school after getting her associate from East Central. She's the daughter of Joel and April Davidson. She describes her family as a "medical family" with her mother being a flight nurse and her father being the fire chief for the city of Morton. At ECCC, Davidson is involved in Student Body Association, Warrior Corps, Students Against Destructive Decisions and Diamond Darlings.

EC Students Named to All-Mississippi Academic Team

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College sophomores Kristen Gordy of Forest and Zachary Allen of Louisville were recently named to the 2015 All-Mississippi Community College Academic Team. They were honored along with other outstanding community and junior college students from across the state during an event in Jackson. Activities began with a meet and greet with state legislators, followed by a press conference on the south capitol steps, a tour of the state capitol, and an awards luncheon at the Jackson Convention Complex. Mississippi Gov. Phil Bryant was the keynote speaker at the awards luncheon. State Sen. Terry Burton of Newton served as master of ceremonies.

The All-Mississippi Community College Academic Team recognizes scholarly achievements and leadership accomplishments of students enrolled in the state's two-year colleges. Gordy, a liberal arts major, was one of 15 students named to the First Team. She received a \$1,000 scholarship and was featured in *The Clarion-Ledger* (Jackson) newspaper. Gordy is a Dean's List and President's List scholar at East Central. She serves as vice president of fellowship for the college's Phi Theta Kappa chapter, the international honor society for community college students; and is a member of Warrior Corps student recruiting group, SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) and Encore, East Central's musical theatre organization. She also was selected for "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities

and Colleges." A graduate of East Rankin Academy, she is the daughter of Wayne and Rachel Gordy of Forest. Allen, a biochemistry major, was one of 42 students named to the Second Team. At ECCC, he serves as president of Phi Theta Kappa and of the Mississippi/Louisiana Region of Phi Theta Kappa. He also is president of the President's Council and of the sophomore class. He is a member of the Student Body Association, Warrior Corps, Phi Beta Lambda, Sigma Sigma Mu Tau, Astronomy Club, Baptist Student Union and SADD. He was chosen to "Who's Who Among Community & Junior College Students." A graduate of Winston Academy, he is the son of Todd and Janet Allen of Louisville. Both Gordy and Allen received

medallions, certificates, and printed resolutions from the Mississippi Senate and House of Representatives. 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 with additional support from the American Association of Community Colleges and Phi Theta Kappa. Mississippi ranks sixth in the nation for students named to the All-USA Community College Academic Team.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College students Zachary Allen (left) of Louisville and Kristen Gordy of Forest were recently honored as members of the 2015 All-Mississippi Community College Academic Team during ceremonies in Jackson.

Nearly 50 percent of our students are transfers, so we understand where you're coming from and where you want to go.

Southern Miss is the next step in your journey.

View majors and degree plans:
www.usm.edu/undergraduate

Apply for admission:
www.usm.edu/admissions



Clublicity

ECCC Students Win Top State SkillsUSA Honors

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College workforce education students received various honors at the Mississippi SkillsUSA Competition held in Jackson in March.

First place award-winners and their respective areas of competition include Jay Riser of Forest, cabinetmaking; Blake Faulkner of Carthage, carpentry; William Milner of Lena, electrical construction wiring; Chad Simoneau of Louin, plumbing; and Asif Zaffar of Philadelphia, sheet metal. As first-place winners they will represent Mississippi at the National SkillsUSA Competition scheduled June 22-27, 2015, in Louisville, Ky.

Matthew Bishop of Carthage won a second place award in heating, ventilation and air conditioning.

Third place award-winners and their respective areas of competition include Stephen Armstrong, diesel technology and Jason Forrest, technical drafting, both of Decatur; Justin Winstead of Union, motorcycle service technology; Wally Triplett of Nanih Waiya, industrial motor control; Jennings Davis of Louisville, CNC milling; Austin Mize of Newton, commercial baking; and Enoc Reynoso of Carthage, food and beverage service.

For more information, contact Wayne Eason, director of workforce education at ECCC in Decatur, 601-635-6211 or e-mail weason@eccc.edu.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

ECCC students presented State PBL awards: These Phi Beta Lambda members at East Central Community College received various honors at the State PBL Leadership Conference held recently at the Mississippi University for Women. Award-winners and their respective areas of competition include (seated from left) Mark Hale of Little Rock, first place in Cyber Security, third place in Network Design and Who's Who; Virginia Easley of Philadelphia, first place in Integrated Marketing Campaign and Local Chapter Annual Business Report, Who's Who and Outgoing Mississippi PBL State Secretary; Austin Jordan of Conehatta, Who's Who; Leah Ferguson of Philadelphia, first place in Local Chapter Annual Business Report and Small Business Management Plan and Who's Who; and Bryan Burton of Louisville, first place in Small Business Management Plan, fourth place in Personal Finance and Rufus T. Jones Scholarship recipient; (second row, from left) Caleb Brown of Philadelphia, second place in Social Media Campaign and elected Mississippi PBL State President; Austin Savell of Philadelphia, third place in Information Management and Network Design; Zachary Allen of Louisville, first place in Community Service; Ben Pace of Philadelphia, first place in Integrated Marketing Campaign and third place in Organizational Behavior and Leadership; Kimberly Watkins of Philadelphia, first place in Small Business Management Plan and third place in Entrepreneurship Concepts; Michael Elizondo of Morton, third place in Network Design and fourth place in Networking Concepts; and Katie Hillman of Philadelphia, second place in Social Media Campaign and third place in Business Communication; and (third row, from left) CrisAnn Bryan of Philadelphia, second place in Social Media Campaign; Alisha Dunn of Decatur, second place in Desktop Publishing and third place in Sales Presentation; Layne Lepard of Philadelphia, first place in Integrated Marketing Campaign; and Madelon Taylor of Louisville, first place in Community Service. ECCC's PBL Chapter placed first in fundraising for the March of Dimes and was one of only two chapters in the state recognized as Gold Seal Chapters. The group was also named a Foundation Member and the largest chapter in the state. Students placing first and second in presentation events and students placing first, second or third in written events have an opportunity to attend the PBL National Conference in Chicago this June. ECCC workforce education faculty members who serve as advisers include Judy Hurtt, Christy Ferguson, Thomas Fortenberry and Laura Sullivan.

East Central Centralettes Chosen for 2015-16

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Members of the East Central Community College Centralettes, the dance line for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band, were recently chosen following auditions.

Those selected and their respective hometowns include: Taylor Alexander, Joelle Hill, Paige Johnson and Ashley Young, all of Louisville; Makenzie Byrd and Taylor Fulkerson, both of Conehatta; Kaley Bufkin, Abby Reeves, Sylvia Thames and Kaylee Yates, all of Decatur; Lauren Cassel, Union; Hailey Clark and Madison Hannis, both of Carthage; Emily Dykeman and Brianna Easterling, both of Forest; Kaitlyn Evans, Morton; Taylor Phillips and Chandler Posey, both of Philadelphia; and Anna Claire Webb, Noxapater. Melonie Washington of Philadelphia serves as coordinator of the Centralettes.



ECCC Concert Choir Holds Concert: The East Central Community College Concert Choir presented its annual spring concert April 27 in Huff Auditorium. Vicki Blaylock served as director and Natalie Emmons served as accompanist. Some of the selections included "Daemon Irrept Callidus" by Orban; "Great is Thy Faithfulness," arranged by ECCC alumnus and adjunct faculty member Justin Sharp; "Luminescence" by Ramsey; and "Amazing Grace," arranged by McCutchen. For more information contact Blaylock at 601-635-6225 or email vblaylock@eccc.edu.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



ECCC Ac'cents Performed April 30: Members of the East Central Community College show choir, The Ac'cents, presented their spring campus concert April 30 in Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium. This year's music included "Takin' It to the Streets" by the Doobie Brothers, "Lips are Moving" by Meghan Trainor, "Just Give Me a Reason" by Pink and Nate Ruess, "When I Was Your Man" by Bruno Mars and "Rhythm Nation" by Janet Jackson. 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. For more information contact director Vicki Blaylock at 601-635-6225 or email vblaylock@eccc.edu.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Faculty Corner

EC Retirees Look Forward to New Adventures

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

The book of Ecclesiastes states, "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven." For three East Central Community College employees now is the time for new journeys.

Mathematics instructor Robin Fulton and computer science instructor Deborah Gordon, both of Louisville, will retire at the completion of the spring term and Workforce Development Coordinator Joe Barrett of Decatur will retire at the end of June. All three are looking forward to new adventures.

Fulton has been employed at the college since 2009 and has taught courses in Calculus I, II, III and IV; Differential Equations and College Algebra. She has completed 28 years in education.

She has received various honors during her career, including STAR

Teacher and HEADWAE Instructor of the Year.

Her retirement plans include returning to work with her father, Bobby Moody, on the farm that has been in her family for six generations.

"My grandparents grew up on adjoining farms that I will inherit one day," Fulton said. "It's a pretty awesome and challenging responsibility."

In addition, Fulton hopes to spend more time with her family, which



FULTON

includes her husband, Buddy; a son, Blake and his wife, Libby, and their son, Jude; and a daughter, Anna, and her husband, Cody.

Gordon began her tenure at the college in 2004 and has taught Computer Concepts, Computer Applications and Visual Basic classes.

She plans to move back to her home state of Alabama and said visiting all 50 states is at the top of her 'bucket list.'



GORDON

"I still have 20 to go, including Hawaii and Alaska, so completing this list will keep me busy planning for years!" Gordon said.

Family is also an important part of Gordon's retirement plans. She has a daughter, Heather Shockley, of Denver, Colo., and a son, Jordan Hammons, of Dallas, Texas.

Barrett joined the East Central staff in 2005 and has worked with business and industries throughout



BARRETT

the college district to help provide skilled training for the area's workforce.

He, too, plans to return to the family farm during retirement.

"I plan to return to where my life began, the family farm. I plan to work on the farm and grow produce. I have done a small produce business the past few years that has grown, so I'm going to expand that some and enjoy working on the farm," Barrett said.

Barrett also plans to spend time traveling with his wife, Glenda. The Barretts also have two children: a son, Kyle, and his wife, Sarah; and a daughter, Lauren and her finance, Britt Bennett.

Retirees will be formally honored during the college's End-of-the-Year Administration, Faculty and Staff Association Banquet scheduled Friday, May 8, 2015.

Washington to Direct ECCC Centralettes

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Melanie Washington of Philadelphia was recently selected coordinator for the East Central Community College Centralettes, the dance line for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band, announced Vicki Blaylock, Fine Arts Division chair for the college.

"We are excited to have Melanie Washington as our Centralette's coordinator at East Central," Blaylock said. "Melanie not only was a Centralette herself but brings new and exciting ideas to our dance team."

Washington serves as special education



WASHINGTON

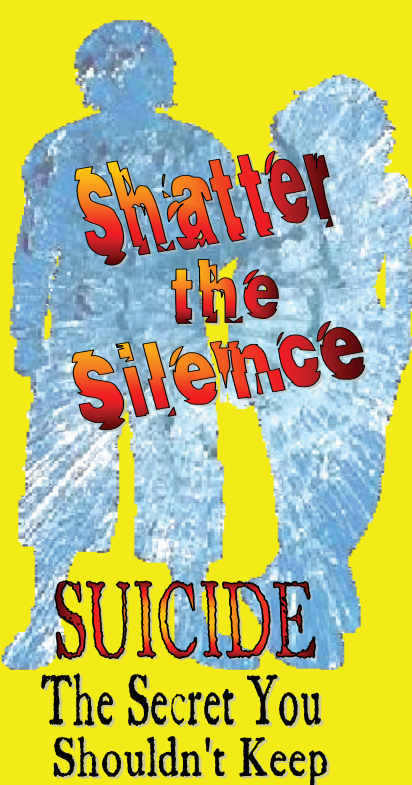
teacher and is the former cheer coach at Neshoba Central High School (NCHS) in Philadelphia.

She is also a former Centralette, receiving her Associate of Arts degree from ECCC in 2002. She was named ECCC's Homecoming Queen in 2001. Washington earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in interdisciplinary studies from Mississippi State University in 2006.

She was named National Federation of High Schools Spirit Coach of the Year for Mississippi in 2014. Washington's NCHS cheer squads earned the Mississippi High School Activities Association varsity small division state cheer championship in 2010, 2011, 2013 and 2014. She received the award of excellence from the Neshoba County School District in 2013 and 2014.

Washington is married to Mangold Washington III and they have two daughters, Marlee, 8, and Isley, 2. She is the daughter of Houston and Martha Moore of Philadelphia.

Washington is a member of Mount Ary Church in Philadelphia.




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.

Funding for this project was made available through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Hurricane-Safely Related Youth Suicide Prevention Grants. The views and opinions contained in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of SAMHSA or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and should not be construed as such.


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



THE UNIVERSITY of
MISSISSIPPI
transfer.olemiss.edu



@OleMissRebels
@UM_Admissions
@TransferOleMiss

Warrior Athletics

Lady Warriors Sweep Fourth Straight Series, Clinch Home Field Playoff Series

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors notched several milestones as they swept a softball doubleheader from the Pearl River Community College Lady Wildcats April 21 on Sophomore Day in Decatur.

With the 7-3 and 9-0 wins, East Central won its seventh and eighth straight games and swept its fourth straight doubleheader against Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges opponents. The No. 11 ranked Lady Warriors are now 36-8 overall and 22-6 in the MACJC South Division.

East Central also clinched second place in the South Division and the chance to host a best two-out-of-three MACJC First-Round Playoff series in Decatur Friday and Saturday, April 24-25, against an opponent to be decided after all MACJC teams finish conference play this week. The teams will play a single game April 24 and two games, if necessary, on April 25. The winner advances to the MACJC State Tournament May 1-3 at a site to be determined.

With the win in game two, third-year Head Coach Kristin Chaney picked up her 100th career victory at East Central, against only 41 losses. East Central pitching was dominant in the two wins over Pearl River, with 18 total strike outs on the afternoon. Freshman pitcher Lacey Hill of Kilbourne (La.) High School went the distance on the mound in game one, giving up three runs on four hits and striking out nine Lady Wildcats in seven innings. Freshman Chloe Thaggard of Leake Academy struck out nine Pearl River batters in only five innings in game two while throwing a two-hit shutout.

East Central jumped out to an early 2-0 lead in the bottom of the first inning of game one on a sacrifice fly by Andi Hannaford of Magnolia Heights Academy in Senatobia and a steal of home by Maegen Ellis of Oak Hill Academy in West Point. Kat-Hill Duke of Neshoba Central High School hit a solo homer to left field in the third, and doubled home another Lady Warrior run in the fifth. She also stole home in the fifth. Mahalia Gibson of Oak Grove High School hit a solo home run to left field in the sixth. In addition to Duke's two hits, Mallory Turner of West Lauderdale High School was 2-3 and Caitlyn Aldous of Petal High School was 3-4 for East Central.

The Lady Warriors exploded for seven runs in the bottom of the first inning in game two to take command early. Gibson's second home run of the day, this time a three-run shot, provided the spark. Anna Katherine Nowell of Leake Academy added a two-run double and Ellis an RBI single in the first inning. Gibson doubled in another run in the third to finish 2-4 on the day. Karoline Holsonback, a product of South Lamar High School in Kennedy, Ala., was 2-3 at the plate in game two, including a double.

LADY WARRIORS SWEEP HINDS TO RUN WIN STREAK TO SIX

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors produced 16 runs on 24 hits to sweep the Hinds Community College Lady Eagles by identical 8-0 scores in softball doubleheader action on the Decatur campus April 15.

With the wins, East Central extended its winning streak to six games. The Lady Warriors are now 34-8 overall and 20-6 in the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges South Division.

The Lady Warriors also had strong pitching to back up the offensive output, giving up only six hits in the two shutout victories.

In game one, East Central scored three runs in the fourth, and two in both the fifth and sixth innings. The Lady Warriors pounded out 13 hits off Hinds pitchers. Andi Hannaford of Magnolia Heights Academy in Senatobia led the team with three hits, including a two-run double. Mahalia Gibson of Oak Grove High School, Katlyn Duke of Neshoba Central High School, Karoline Holsonback of South Lamar High School (Kennedy, Ala.), and Maegen Ellis of Oak Hill Academy in West Point all had two hits in the opener. Mallory Turner of

West Lauderdale High School had a two-run double.

Freshman pitcher Lacey Hill of Kilbourne (La.) High School picked up the win in game one, giving up three hits and striking out two in six innings.

East Central scored three runs in the bottom of the first and added five more in the fifth for the 8-0 game two victory. Two-run doubles by Duke and Anna Katherine Nowell of Leake Academy and an RBI single by Ellis accounted for the scoring in the fifth inning. Ellis hit a two-run home run over the center field fence in the first inning for the Lady Warriors. It was the fourth home run in the past six games for the most recent MACJC Player of the Week. In addition to Ellis, Caitlyn Aldous of Petal High School and Hannaford had two hits in the win.

Freshman Chloe Thaggard of Leake Academy got the win in game two, giving up just three hits and striking out seven Lady Eagles in the five-inning contest.

LADY WARRIORS GET SECOND STRAIGHT DOUBLEHEADER SWEEP ON THE ROAD

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors pounded out 23 hits and scored 18 runs in in a doubleheader sweep of the Copiah-Lincoln Community College Lady Wolves, 11-3 and 7-3, in Wesson April 11.

The Lady Warriors are now 32-8 overall and 18-6 in Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges league play, good for sole possession of second place in the South Division.

In game one, East Central scored two runs in the top of the first, five in the third and three more in the fourth to jump out to a 10-0 lead. Maegen Ellis of Oak Hill Academy in West Point, clubbed two home runs, including a solo shot in the first inning and a two-run blast in the fourth. Ellis, Caitlyn Aldous of Petal High School and Andi Hannaford of Magnolia Heights Academy in Senatobia combined for 10 hits and five RBIs. Ellis was 4-4 with three RBIs, Aldous was 4-4 with an RBI, and Hannaford was 2-2 with an RBI. Anna Katherine Nowell of Leake Academy doubled in two runs, and Katlyn Duke of Neshoba Central High School doubled and had three RBIs.

Lacey Hill of Kilbourne (La.) High School recorded the win for East Central, allowing three runs over six innings. She struck out three, walked two and gave up five hits.

The Lady Warriors scored in every inning but the first and sixth to grind out the game two win. Aldous was 3-4 at the plate with a double and two singles. She had one RBI and also scored three runs. Duke, Nowell, and Summer Lavender of Canton Academy added RBIs in the nightcap.

Chloe Thaggard of Leake Academy picked up the win in game two, allowing three runs on six hits over seven innings.

LADY WARRIORS SWEEP DOUBLE-HEADER AT SOUTHWEST

Strong pitching performances by freshmen Lacey Hill and Chloe Thaggard fueled East Central Community College's doubleheader sweep of Southwest Mississippi Community College in Summit April 8.

The 6-0 and 7-1 wins propelled the Lady Warriors into second place in the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges South Division standings.

The Lady Warriors are now 30-8 overall and 16-6 in South Division play.

Hill, a product of Kilbourne (La.) High School, pitched a complete game shutout in game one, giving up four hits and striking out seven Lady Bears. Earlier in the week, Hill was named MACJC Pitcher of the Week for March 30-April 5.

The Lady Warriors scored three runs in the top of the sixth to break open a close game in the opener. Caitlyn Aldous of Petal High School had a two-run double in the sixth. Maegen Ellis of Oak Hill Academy in West Point, drove in two runs with a home run in the top of the fourth inning. Mallory Turner of West Lauderdale High School had an RBI single in the

seventh. Andi Hannaford of Magnolia Heights Academy in Senatobia added two hits for East Central.

Thaggard, a product of Leake Academy, went the distance in the circle in game two, giving up just two hits and no earned runs while striking out four.

East Central used three-run fifth and seventh innings en route to the 7-1 win. Anna Katherine Nowell of Leake Academy hit a two-run home run in the seventh inning, her first of the season. She also singled in the game. Turner was 2-3 at the plate in game two, with a single and a double, and Ellis was 2-3 with two singles. Katlyn Duke of Neshoba Central High School added two singles in four trips to the plate and an RBI.

LADY WARRIORS SPLIT SOFTBALL DOUBLEHEADER WITH MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST

Powered by Katlyn Duke's grand slam and Mahalia Gibson's two home runs, the East Central Community College Lady Warriors took game one of a softball doubleheader, 9-1, over the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Lady Bulldogs April 1.

Mississippi Gulf Coast won game two, 5-3.

With the doubleheader split, the Lady Warriors are now 28-8 overall and 14-5 in South Division league play.

Gibson of Oak Grove High School went 3-3 at the plate in game one, adding a double to her two round-trippers. She had two RBIs for the game and scored three of her team's nine runs. Duke of Neshoba Central High School accounted for four RBIs with her grand slam. Mallory Turner of West Lauderdale High School and Caitlyn Aldous of Petal High School also drove in runs for the Lady Warriors.

Lacey Hill of Kilbourne (La.) High School was solid in the circle for East Central, picking up the win. She surrendered just three hits and one earned run in six innings of work, while striking out five Lady Bulldog batters.

In game two, MS Gulf Coast plated four runs in the top of the sixth inning to grab the lead and the 5-3 victory over East Central. The Lady Warriors pulled out to a 3-1 lead with single runs in the bottom of the first, fourth, and fifth innings, but could not hold on.

Chloe Thaggard of Leake Academy took the loss in the circle for East Central, giving up five runs on six hits and five walks. She struck out eight. The Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges Softball Pitcher of the Week lost for just the third time this season against 15 wins.

Duke homered for East Central in game two, and Aldous went 2-3 with a double, single, and one RBI. Gibson and Karoline Holsonback of South Lamar High School in Kennedy, Ala., also had singles.

LADY WARRIORS TAKE SOFTBALL DOUBLEHEADER FROM MERIDIAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors swept a softball doubleheader from the Meridian Community College Lady Eagles March 30 in Meridian to improve their record to 29-7 overall and 15-5 in South Division league play.

The Lady Warriors did not allow a run in the two-game series, winning game one, 9-0, and game two, 6-0.

ECCC scored seven runs in the first three innings to put the opener away early. Lacey Hill of Kilbourne (La.) High School picked up the win for the Lady Warriors. She allowed only two hits and struck out four in four and two thirds innings of work.

Summer Lavendar of Canton Academy led the Lady Warriors offensively with four RBIs on a triple and home run. She scored three runs. Mallory Turner of West Lauderdale High School had a double and two RBIs, Caitlyn Aldous of Petal High School and Karoline Holsonback of South Lamar High School (Kennedy, Ala.) added singles. Anna Katherine Nowell of Leake Academy scored three runs for the Lady Warriors. Maegen Ellis of Oak Hill Academy in West Point added an RBI on a fielder's choice.

In game two, Chloe Thaggard of



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central's Sophomore Lady Diamond Warriors Recognized: Sophomore members of the No. 11 ranked East Central Community College softball team were recognized April 21 on Sophomore Appreciation Day following the home finale, a doubleheader sweep of Pearl River Community College. Coaches and sophomore players and their respective hometowns and high schools are (from left to right) Assistant Coach Courtney Nunn of Decatur; Anna Katherine Nowell of Philadelphia and Leake Academy; Karoline Holsonback of Kennedy, Ala., and South Lamar High School; former Lady Warrior player and current manager Skyler Simmons of Madison, Ala., and Bob Jones High School; Christen Benson of Brookhaven and Brookhaven High School; Mallory Turner of Collinsville and West Lauderdale High School; and Head Coach Kristin Chaney of Little Rock. The players were joined on the field by family members and friends for the special ceremony.

Leake Academy went the distance in the circle for the win. She gave up five hits and struck out four while shutting out the Lady Eagles.

Ellis homered in the first inning to get the Lady Warriors started offensively, and finished with two hits and two RBIs. ECCC tallied 11 hits in the win, including three singles and an RBI from Nowell, three singles from Mahalia Gibson of Oak Grove High School, and singles from Holsonback, Lavendar, and Christen Benson of Brookhaven High School.

ECCC SOFTBALL SPLITS DOUBLEHEADER WITH JCJC

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors won game two, 4-1, on March 27 to split a softball doubleheader with the No. 1 ranked Jones County Junior College Lady Bobcats on the Decatur campus. Jones County took game one, 4-0.

After the split, ECCC stood 27-7 overall and 13-5 in South Division league play.

Jones County took game one despite a strong pitching effort by Lacey Hill of the Lady Warriors. Hill, a product of Kilbourne (La.) High School, allowed only two earned runs on three hits, while striking out five in seven innings of work.

The Lady Warriors could only muster three hits in the loss, including singles from Caitlyn Aldous of Petal High School, Christen Benson of Brookhaven High School, and Maegen Ellis of Oak Hill Academy in West Point.

In game two, Mahalia Gibson of Oak Grove High School went 3-3 at the plate, including two singles, a double, and an RBI to pace the Lady Warriors' attack. Chole Thaggard of Leake Academy picked up the win in the circle, pitching all seven innings and giving up six hits and striking out seven Lady Bobcat batters.

Ellis also had three hits for ECCC, including a double and two singles. Andi Hannaford of Magnolia Heights Academy in Senatobia added a single and an RBI and Mallory Turner of West Lauderdale High School had a single.

LADY WARRIORS SWEEP PRCC

The East Central Community College softball team swept Pearl River Community College during a doubleheader held March 25 in Poplarville to improve to 24-6 overall and 10-4 in division play.

In game one, Mallory Lee of Quitman walked to score Christen Benson of Brookhaven in the eighth inning to give East Central a 1-0 victory over the host Lady Wildcats.

Lacey Hill of Kilbourne (La.) High School went the distance on the mound, allowing no runs on one hit through eight innings. She struck out nine batters and walked two.

Hitters for ECCC were Mallory Turner of West Lauderdale, two singles; Andi Hannaford of Magnolia

Heights School in Senatobia, Caitlyn Aldous of Petal and Karoline Holsonback of South Lamar High School in Kennedy, Ala., each with a single.

Chloe Thaggard of Leake Academy pitched a shutout in game two to help the Warriors claim an 8-0 victory.

Thaggard allowed no runs on two hits in six innings. She fanned nine and walked one.

Aldous had a triple and single to lead the EC offense. She also tallied three RBIs and scored a run.

Additional hitters were Holsonback, two doubles; Hannaford, two singles; and Katlyn Duke of Neshoba Central and Benson, each with a single.

In addition to Aldous, runs were scored by Maegen Ellis of Oak Hill Academy in West Point (2), Turner, Gibson, Lee, Duke and Benson.

ECCC SOFTBALL SPLITS WITH HINDS

East Central's softball team split decisions with Hinds Community College March 21 in Raymond. After falling 4-1 in the opener, the Lady Warriors claimed a 15-1 win in the nightcap to improve their record to 22-6 overall and 8-4 in division play.

In game one, Maegen Ellis of West Point hit a home run in the third inning to put the Lady Warriors on top 1-0. However, it was not enough as Hinds scored twice in the fourth and sixth innings for the win.

Additional hitters for ECCC were Summer Lavender of Canton Academy, two singles; Mahalia Gibson of Oak Grove and Christen Benson of Brookhaven, each with a double; and Katlyn Duke of Neshoba Central and Karoline Holsonback of South Lamar High School in Kennedy, Ala., each with a single.

Lacey Hill, a product of Kilbourne (La.) High School, took the loss for East Central. She allowed four earned runs on six hits in six innings. She fanned five batters and walked one.

In the nightcap, Duke racked up four RBIs on three hits for East Central, including a home run in the fifth inning and two singles.

Additional hitters included Ellis, home run and double; Turner and Gibson, each with two singles; Aldous and Benson, each with a double; and Lavender and Andi Hannaford of Magnolia Heights School in Senatobia, singles each.

In addition to Duke, RBIs were tallied by Ellis (3), Benson (2), Turner, Gibson, Aldous, Lavender and Mallory Lee of Quitman.

Runs were scored by Duke (3), Aldous (2), Gibson (2), Ellis (2), Turner (2), Holsonback, Benson and Lavender.

Chloe Thaggard picked up the win for the Lady Warriors. She allowed one earned run on six hits in seven innings of work. She fanned four batters and walked four. Thaggard is a product of Leake Academy.

Reminder: Wear IDs at All Times!

Warrior Athletics

Lady Warriors Sweep Fourth Straight Series, Clinch Home Field Playoff Series

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors notched several milestones as they swept a softball doubleheader from the Pearl River Community College Lady Wildcats April 21 on Sophomore Day in Decatur.

With the 7-3 and 9-0 wins, East Central won its seventh and eighth straight games and swept its fourth straight doubleheader against Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges opponents. The No. 11 ranked Lady Warriors are now 36-8 overall and 22-6 in the MACJC South Division.

East Central also clinched second place in the South Division and the chance to host a best two-out-of-three MACJC First-Round Playoff series in Decatur Friday and Saturday, April 24-25, against an opponent to be decided after all MACJC teams finish conference play this week. The teams will play a single game April 24 and two games, if necessary, on April 25. The winner advances to the MACJC State Tournament May 1-3 at a site to be determined.

With the win in game two, third-year Head Coach Kristin Chaney picked up her 100th career victory at East Central, against only 41 losses. East Central pitching was dominant in the two wins over Pearl River, with 18 total strike outs on the afternoon. Freshman pitcher Lacey Hill of Kilbourne (La.) High School went the distance on the mound in game one, giving up three runs on four hits and striking out nine Lady Wildcats in seven innings. Freshman Chloe Thaggard of Leake Academy struck out nine Pearl River batters in only five innings in game two while throwing a two-hit shutout.

East Central jumped out to an early 2-0 lead in the bottom of the first inning of game one on a sacrifice fly by Andi Hannaford of Magnolia Heights Academy in Senatobia and a steal of home by Maegen Ellis of Oak Hill Academy in West Point. Kat-Hill Duke of Neshoba Central High School hit a solo homer to left field in the third, and doubled home another Lady Warrior run in the fifth. She also stole home in the fifth. Mahalia Gibson of Oak Grove High School hit a solo home run to left field in the sixth. In addition to Duke's two hits, Mallory Turner of West Lauderdale High School was 2-3 and Caitlyn Aldous of Petal High School was 3-4 for East Central.

The Lady Warriors exploded for seven runs in the bottom of the first inning in game two to take command early. Gibson's second home run of the day, this time a three-run shot, provided the spark. Anna Katherine Nowell of Leake Academy added a two-run double and Ellis an RBI single in the first inning. Gibson doubled in another run in the third to finish 2-4 on the day. Karoline Holsonback, a product of South Lamar High School in Kennedy, Ala., was 2-3 at the plate in game two, including a double.

LADY WARRIORS SWEEP HINDS TO RUN WIN STREAK TO SIX

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors produced 16 runs on 24 hits to sweep the Hinds Community College Lady Eagles by identical 8-0 scores in softball doubleheader action on the Decatur campus April 15.

With the wins, East Central extended its winning streak to six games. The Lady Warriors are now 34-8 overall and 20-6 in the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges South Division.

The Lady Warriors also had strong pitching to back up the offensive output, giving up only six hits in the two shutout victories.

In game one, East Central scored three runs in the fourth, and two in both the fifth and sixth innings. The Lady Warriors pounded out 13 hits off Hinds pitchers. Andi Hannaford of Magnolia Heights Academy in Senatobia led the team with three hits, including a two-run double. Mahalia Gibson of Oak Grove High School, Katlyn Duke of Neshoba Central High School, Karoline Holsonback of South Lamar High School (Kennedy, Ala.), and Maegen Ellis of Oak Hill Academy in West Point all had two hits in the opener. Mallory Turner of

West Lauderdale High School had a two-run double.

Freshman pitcher Lacey Hill of Kilbourne (La.) High School picked up the win in game one, giving up three hits and striking out two in six innings.

East Central scored three runs in the bottom of the first and added five more in the fifth for the 8-0 game two victory. Two-run doubles by Duke and Anna Katherine Nowell of Leake Academy and an RBI single by Ellis accounted for the scoring in the fifth inning. Ellis hit a two-run home run over the center field fence in the first inning for the Lady Warriors. It was the fourth home run in the past six games for the most recent MACJC Player of the Week. In addition to Ellis, Caitlyn Aldous of Petal High School and Hannaford had two hits in the win.

Freshman Chloe Thaggard of Leake Academy got the win in game two, giving up just three hits and striking out seven Lady Eagles in the five-inning contest.

LADY WARRIORS GET SECOND STRAIGHT DOUBLEHEADER SWEEP ON THE ROAD

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors pounded out 23 hits and scored 18 runs in in a doubleheader sweep of the Copiah-Lincoln Community College Lady Wolves, 11-3 and 7-3, in Wesson April 11.

The Lady Warriors are now 32-8 overall and 18-6 in Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges league play, good for sole possession of second place in the South Division.

In game one, East Central scored two runs in the top of the first, five in the third and three more in the fourth to jump out to a 10-0 lead. Maegen Ellis of Oak Hill Academy in West Point, clubbed two home runs, including a solo shot in the first inning and a two-run blast in the fourth. Ellis, Caitlyn Aldous of Petal High School and Andi Hannaford of Magnolia Heights Academy in Senatobia combined for 10 hits and five RBIs. Ellis was 4-4 with three RBIs, Aldous was 4-4 with an RBI, and Hannaford was 2-2 with an RBI. Anna Katherine Nowell of Leake Academy doubled in two runs, and Katlyn Duke of Neshoba Central High School doubled and had three RBIs.

Lacey Hill of Kilbourne (La.) High School recorded the win for East Central, allowing three runs over six innings. She struck out three, walked two and gave up five hits.

The Lady Warriors scored in every inning but the first and sixth to grind out the game two win. Aldous was 3-4 at the plate with a double and two singles. She had one RBI and also scored three runs. Duke, Nowell, and Summer Lavender of Canton Academy added RBIs in the nightcap.

Chloe Thaggard of Leake Academy picked up the win in game two, allowing three runs on six hits over seven innings.

LADY WARRIORS SWEEP DOUBLE-HEADER AT SOUTHWEST

Strong pitching performances by freshmen Lacey Hill and Chloe Thaggard fueled East Central Community College's doubleheader sweep of Southwest Mississippi Community College in Summit April 8.

The 6-0 and 7-1 wins propelled the Lady Warriors into second place in the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges South Division standings.

The Lady Warriors are now 30-8 overall and 16-6 in South Division play.

Hill, a product of Kilbourne (La.) High School, pitched a complete game shutout in game one, giving up four hits and striking out seven Lady Bears. Earlier in the week, Hill was named MACJC Pitcher of the Week for March 30-April 5.

The Lady Warriors scored three runs in the top of the sixth to break open a close game in the opener. Caitlyn Aldous of Petal High School had a two-run double in the sixth. Maegen Ellis of Oak Hill Academy in West Point, drove in two runs with a home run in the top of the fourth inning. Mallory Turner of West Lauderdale High School had an RBI single in the

seventh. Andi Hannaford of Magnolia Heights Academy in Senatobia added two hits for East Central.

Thaggard, a product of Leake Academy, went the distance in the circle in game two, giving up just two hits and no earned runs while striking out four.

East Central used three-run fifth and seventh innings en route to the 7-1 win. Anna Katherine Nowell of Leake Academy hit a two-run home run in the seventh inning, her first of the season. She also singled in the game. Turner was 2-3 at the plate in game two, with a single and a double, and Ellis was 2-3 with two singles. Katlyn Duke of Neshoba Central High School added two singles in four trips to the plate and an RBI.

LADY WARRIORS SPLIT SOFTBALL DOUBLEHEADER WITH MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST

Powered by Katlyn Duke's grand slam and Mahalia Gibson's two home runs, the East Central Community College Lady Warriors took game one of a softball doubleheader, 9-1, over the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Lady Bulldogs April 1.

Mississippi Gulf Coast won game two, 5-3.

With the doubleheader split, the Lady Warriors are now 28-8 overall and 14-5 in South Division league play.

Gibson of Oak Grove High School went 3-3 at the plate in game one, adding a double to her two round-trippers. She had two RBIs for the game and scored three of her team's nine runs. Duke of Neshoba Central High School accounted for four RBIs with her grand slam. Mallory Turner of West Lauderdale High School and Caitlyn Aldous of Petal High School also drove in runs for the Lady Warriors.

Lacey Hill of Kilbourne (La.) High School was solid in the circle for East Central, picking up the win. She surrendered just three hits and one earned run in six innings of work, while striking out five Lady Bulldog batters.

In game two, MS Gulf Coast plated four runs in the top of the sixth inning to grab the lead and the 5-3 victory over East Central. The Lady Warriors pulled out to a 3-1 lead with single runs in the bottom of the first, fourth, and fifth innings, but could not hold on.

Chloe Thaggard of Leake Academy took the loss in the circle for East Central, giving up five runs on six hits and five walks. She struck out eight. The Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges Softball Pitcher of the Week lost for just the third time this season against 15 wins.

Duke homered for East Central in game two, and Aldous went 2-3 with a double, single, and one RBI. Gibson and Karoline Holsonback of South Lamar High School in Kennedy, Ala., also had singles.

LADY WARRIORS TAKE SOFTBALL DOUBLEHEADER FROM MERIDIAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors swept a softball doubleheader from the Meridian Community College Lady Eagles March 30 in Meridian to improve their record to 29-7 overall and 15-5 in South Division league play.

The Lady Warriors did not allow a run in the two-game series, winning game one, 9-0, and game two, 6-0.

ECCC scored seven runs in the first three innings to put the opener away early. Lacey Hill of Kilbourne (La.) High School picked up the win for the Lady Warriors. She allowed only two hits and struck out four in four and two thirds innings of work.

Summer Lavendar of Canton Academy led the Lady Warriors offensively with four RBIs on a triple and home run. She scored three runs. Mallory Turner of West Lauderdale High School had a double and two RBIs, Caitlyn Aldous of Petal High School and Karoline Holsonback of South Lamar High School (Kennedy, Ala.) added singles. Anna Katherine Nowell of Leake Academy scored three runs for the Lady Warriors. Maegen Ellis of Oak Hill Academy in West Point added an RBI on a fielder's choice.

In game two, Chloe Thaggard of



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central's Sophomore Lady Diamond Warriors Recognized: Sophomore members of the No. 11 ranked East Central Community College softball team were recognized April 21 on Sophomore Appreciation Day following the home finale, a doubleheader sweep of Pearl River Community College. Coaches and sophomore players and their respective hometowns and high schools are (from left to right) Assistant Coach Courtney Nunn of Decatur; Anna Katherine Nowell of Philadelphia and Leake Academy; Karoline Holsonback of Kennedy, Ala., and South Lamar High School; former Lady Warrior player and current manager Skyler Simmons of Madison, Ala., and Bob Jones High School; Christen Benson of Brookhaven and Brookhaven High School; Mallory Turner of Collinsville and West Lauderdale High School; and Head Coach Kristin Chaney of Little Rock. The players were joined on the field by family members and friends for the special ceremony.

Leake Academy went the distance in the circle for the win. She gave up five hits and struck out four while shutting out the Lady Eagles.

Ellis homered in the first inning to get the Lady Warriors started offensively, and finished with two hits and two RBIs. ECCC tallied 11 hits in the win, including three singles and an RBI from Nowell, three singles from Mahalia Gibson of Oak Grove High School, and singles from Holsonback, Lavendar, and Christen Benson of Brookhaven High School.

ECCC SOFTBALL SPLITS DOUBLEHEADER WITH JCJC

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors won game two, 4-1, on March 27 to split a softball doubleheader with the No. 1 ranked Jones County Junior College Lady Bobcats on the Decatur campus. Jones County took game one, 4-0.

After the split, ECCC stood 27-7 overall and 13-5 in South Division league play.

Jones County took game one despite a strong pitching effort by Lacey Hill of the Lady Warriors. Hill, a product of Kilbourne (La.) High School, allowed only two earned runs on three hits, while striking out five in seven innings of work.

The Lady Warriors could only muster three hits in the loss, including singles from Caitlyn Aldous of Petal High School, Christen Benson of Brookhaven High School, and Maegen Ellis of Oak Hill Academy in West Point.

In game two, Mahalia Gibson of Oak Grove High School went 3-3 at the plate, including two singles, a double, and an RBI to pace the Lady Warriors' attack. Chole Thaggard of Leake Academy picked up the win in the circle, pitching all seven innings and giving up six hits and striking out seven Lady Bobcat batters.

Ellis also had three hits for ECCC, including a double and two singles. Andi Hannaford of Magnolia Heights Academy in Senatobia added a single and an RBI and Mallory Turner of West Lauderdale High School had a single.

LADY WARRIORS SWEEP PRCC

The East Central Community College softball team swept Pearl River Community College during a doubleheader held March 25 in Poplarville to improve to 24-6 overall and 10-4 in division play.

In game one, Mallory Lee of Quitman walked to score Christen Benson of Brookhaven in the eighth inning to give East Central a 1-0 victory over the host Lady Wildcats.

Lacey Hill of Kilbourne (La.) High School went the distance on the mound, allowing no runs on one hit through eight innings. She struck out nine batters and walked two.

Hitters for ECCC were Mallory Turner of West Lauderdale, two singles; Andi Hannaford of Magnolia

Heights School in Senatobia, Caitlyn Aldous of Petal and Karoline Holsonback of South Lamar High School in Kennedy, Ala., each with a single.

Chloe Thaggard of Leake Academy pitched a shutout in game two to help the Warriors claim an 8-0 victory.

Thaggard allowed no runs on two hits in six innings. She fanned nine and walked one.

Aldous had a triple and single to lead the EC offense. She also tallied three RBIs and scored a run.

Additional hitters were Holsonback, two doubles; Hannaford, two singles; and Katlyn Duke of Neshoba Central and Benson, each with a single.

In addition to Aldous, runs were scored by Maegen Ellis of Oak Hill Academy in West Point (2), Turner, Gibson, Lee, Duke and Benson.

ECCC SOFTBALL SPLITS WITH HINDS

East Central's softball team split decisions with Hinds Community College March 21 in Raymond. After falling 4-1 in the opener, the Lady Warriors claimed a 15-1 win in the nightcap to improve their record to 22-6 overall and 8-4 in division play.

In game one, Maegen Ellis of West Point hit a home run in the third inning to put the Lady Warriors on top 1-0. However, it was not enough as Hinds scored twice in the fourth and sixth innings for the win.

Additional hitters for ECCC were Summer Lavender of Canton Academy, two singles; Mahalia Gibson of Oak Grove and Christen Benson of Brookhaven, each with a double; and Katlyn Duke of Neshoba Central and Karoline Holsonback of South Lamar High School in Kennedy, Ala., each with a single.

Lacey Hill, a product of Kilbourne (La.) High School, took the loss for East Central. She allowed four earned runs on six hits in six innings. She fanned five batters and walked one.

In the nightcap, Duke racked up four RBIs on three hits for East Central, including a home run in the fifth inning and two singles.

Additional hitters included Ellis, home run and double; Turner and Gibson, each with two singles; Aldous and Benson, each with a double; and Lavender and Andi Hannaford of Magnolia Heights School in Senatobia, singles each.

In addition to Duke, RBIs were tallied by Ellis (3), Benson (2), Turner, Gibson, Aldous, Lavender and Mallory Lee of Quitman.

Runs were scored by Duke (3), Aldous (2), Gibson (2), Ellis (2), Turner (2), Holsonback, Benson and Lavender.

Chloe Thaggard picked up the win for the Lady Warriors. She allowed one earned run on six hits in seven innings of work. She fanned four batters and walked four. Thaggard is a product of Leake Academy.

Reminder: Wear IDs at All Times!

Warrior Athletics

EXTRAORDINARY COACH

Brock Featured in American Football Monthly

BY KIMBERLY HARRISON
Features Editor

Coach Scott Brock, defensive coordinator of East Central Community College, was recently chosen for a clinic article in *American Football Monthly*. This article depicted what Coach Brock felt was both important for his defensive team on the field as well as their own personal lives. When asked how he felt when he was chosen for the article Brock said, "Being asked to do the article was an honor, a privilege and truly a sign from God." That very season Brock's defense was ranked 60th out of 65 teams from NJCAA in scoring defense. They had given up 40.7 points per game and he described it as "The worst defense I've ever coordinated." This was described by him as a "spiritual warfare in his life." He was debating on leaving the stability



KIMBERLY HARRISON
Features Editor

of Mississippi but whenever he got this email he said he knew then that it was an affirmation from above that this was where he was meant to be. The article tells of what Brock feels like makes a defensive foundation. He describes what truly makes a defensive foundation is God, support of family, integrity, discipline and education. His emphasis on God was the most important in Brock's opinion. This unfortunately was not able to be printed because of the society of today. Brock describes the players' relationship with God as his number one priority because "whenever players and coaches put things in front of him, things can go very wrong." Brock said the making of this foundation can be called Organized Chaos. He wants his players to understand who they are both on the field and off. When asked what he feels like the most important part of coaching is he stated, "Whenever players know that you love and care for them as a player, they will play hard for you." He said that as the defensive coordinator he wants his defense to be ranked best statistically at any level in college. This will hopefully allow them to sign a scholarship at the next level.

Brock said he feels as if it is vital to have his players pursue their education and receive their bachelor's degrees. Brock said, "A degree will last them a lifetime while football is only a short time." When asked what Brock brings to our defense at East Central, he said he has helped our team improve to 20th in the nation in scoring defense. He states that the goal is still set to become first in the nation and they will continue to press towards this as a team. As for the future of East Central's defense, Brock said, "Both Coach (Charles) Jones and Coach (Mickey) Mays have done an amazing job coaching their positions. Like any program, you are as good as your players. We have some upcoming sophomores who have taken ownership in what we are trying to build defensively at EC. They take great pride in competing at practice which transfers to competing in the best junior college league in the nation. Some call it the SEC of JUCOs." Brock said he loves being around his players who take pride in naming the defense the "Dark Side." As they continue to grow up individually as players and as a competitive unit, the future will be exciting to watch,



KIMBERLY HARRISON/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
East Central Community College Defensive Coordinator Scott Brock is shown with a framed copy of an article published in *American Football Monthly* about his defensive coaching style.

EC's Chaney Notches 100th Career Victory

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Third-year East Central Community College Head Softball Coach Kristin Chaney notched her 100th career victory April 21 when her Lady Warriors shutout Pearl River Community College 9-0 in the second game of a double-header. Since taking over as East Central's coach in 2013, the Little Rock native and Newton County High School graduate's teams have compiled records of 31-17 in spring 2013, 33-16 in spring 2014, and are 36-8 in the spring 2015 campaign. The Lady Warriors are currently ranked No. 11 in the nation as they enter Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges post-season play April 24-25 against Northeast Mis-

issippi Community College in Decatur. Chaney is a 2005 honor graduate of East Central and an academic Hall of Fame selection. She is recognized as the college's only two-sport All-American (basketball/softball) and was selected a National Junior College Athletic Association Academic All-American. She finished second in the NJCAA Female Athlete of the Year competition. Prior to joining the ECCC staff as assistant softball coach in 2009, Chaney attended the University of Southern Mississippi, where she received master's and bachelor's degrees in sports administration in 2008 and 2007, respectively. She was also a standout member of the Lady Eagle basketball and softball teams.



East Central Community College Head Softball Coach Kristin Chaney (left) is honored by College President Dr. Billy Stewart for achieving her 100th career softball victory April 21.

ECCC's Joiner Finishes 2nd, Warriors 5th at State Championship

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College's Andrew Joiner fired a one-under par 143 to finish tied for second in the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges State Golf Championship held April 18-19 at Lion Hills in Columbus. Joiner, a product of Spanish Fort (Ala.) High School, shot rounds of 70 and 73. His performance during the state championship qualified him to compete in the National Junior College Athletic Association Region 23 Championship scheduled for April 26-27 at Laurel Country Club. It is hosted by Jones County Junior College. East Central golfer



JOINER

Zack Hammons of Raleigh High School also qualified for the Region 23 Championship based on his scoring average for the year. As a team, the Warriors finished in fifth place overall at the MACJC State Championship with a two-day total of

19-over par 595 (293, 302). The Warriors stood in third place after the first round on April 18. Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College was crowned MACJC State Champions after shooting a six-under par 570 as a team. Other East Central golfers participating in the state championship included Tristan Hernandez of Carthage and Leake Academy, 149 (74, 75); Hammons, 154 (79, 75); Karlton Ginn of Franklinton (La.) High School, 154 (75, 79); and Nathan Nance of Decatur and Newton County High School, 159 (74, 85). ECCC's golf team is coached by Chris Clark.

ECCC Tennis Finishes Season With State/Regional Titles

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors No. 2 Doubles Team of Hannah Peoples and Mackie Smith captured the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges state and National Junior College Athletic Association Region 23 tournament titles April 18 in Tupelo. Peoples of Leake Academy and Smith of Newton County High School won four straight matches over the three-day competition played at Rob Leake Park in Tupelo to win the titles. The tandem of Peoples and Smith defeated Allie Dear and Caroleah Bristor of Copiah-Lincoln Community College 6-3, 6-0, 6-3 in the opening round; No. 1-seeded Ivy Robbins and Anna Claire Griffin of Itawamba Community College 6-4, 4-6, 10-7 in the quarterfinals; Brittany Weathersby and Kelly Carlson of Hinds Community College 6-1, 6-4 in the semifinals; and No. 2-seeded Alden Hartley and Jennifer Smith of Meridian Community College 6-3, 6-2 in the finals. The East Central Warriors and Lady Warriors both finished sixth overall in the team competitions. Dianne O'Neill serves as adjunct tennis coach.

ECCC TENNIS TEAMS TOP HOLMES ON SOPHOMORE DAY

On an afternoon when East Central Community College's departing sophomore players were honored, both the Warriors and Lady Warriors defeated the Holmes Community College Bulldogs April 10

in Decatur. The Lady Warriors won 9-0 and the Warriors claimed a 6-3 victory over Holmes on the annual Sophomore Day at East Central. Results from the women's match are as follows: Singles – EC's Shannon St. Claire defeated Jennifer Rule, 6-0, 6-0; EC's Hannah Peoples defeated Allie Frudge, 6-1, 6-1; EC's Mackie Smith beat Anna Claire Shores, 6-3, 6-0; EC's Kaley Bufkin defeated Katherine Woods, 6-0, 6-0; EC's Brooke Payne defeated Lori Nesbitt, 6-0, 6-0; and EC's Kristine Jenkins defeated Laurie Alvis, 6-0, 6-0. Doubles – EC's St. Claire/Bufkin defeated Rule/Frudge, 8-3; EC's Peoples/Smith defeated Shores/Nesbitt, 8-0; and EC's Payne/Jenkins defeated Alvis/Sarah Walden, 8-0. Results from men's competition are as follows: Singles – EC's Juan Miranda lost to Owen Taylor, 6-3, 6-0; EC's Javon Yarbrough defeated Nick Robertson, 6-1, 6-1; EC's Cole Duty lost to Dylan Throgmorton 6-3, 4-6 (10-3); EC's Robert Strong beat Corey Warren, 6-4, 6-2; EC's Devin Skinner defeated Justin Sawyer, 6-2, 6-0; and EC's Alex Chapman defeated Sam Cain, 6-1, 6-2. Doubles – EC's Miranda/Strong lost to Taylor/Robertson, 8-5; EC's Yarbrough/Skinner defeated Throgmorton/Warren, 8-3; and EC's Duty/Chapman defeated Sawyer/Hunter Moore, 8-0.

EC TENNIS SWEEPS A PAIR OF MATCHES AT NORTHEAST

East Central Community

College's women's and men's tennis teams defeated the Northeast Mississippi Community College Tigers in matches played April 7 in Booneville. The Lady Warriors won 9-0 and the Warriors claimed an 8-1 victory. Results from the women's match are as follows: Singles – EC's Shannon St. Claire defeated Kerston Jumper, 6-1, 6-0; EC's Hannah Peoples defeated Beth Ann Frazier, 6-3, 6-2; EC's Mackie Smith beat Alma Manzano, 6-3, 6-1; EC's Kaley Bufkin defeated Erica Whitten, 6-1, 6-0; EC's Brooke Payne defeated Hannah Billingsley, 6-3, 6-3; and EC's Kristine Jenkins defeated Lindsey Clark, 7-5, 6-4. Doubles – EC's St. Claire/Bufkin defeated Jumper/Frazier, 8-3; EC's Peoples/Smith defeated Billingsley/Clark, 8-2; and EC's Payne/Jenkins defeated Whitten/Brittney Rencher, 8-2. Results from men's competition are as follows: Singles – EC's Juan Miranda defeated Noah Wright, 6-3, 4-6 (10-1); EC's Javon Yarbrough defeated Wesley Tye, 6-0, 6-0; EC's Cole Duty defeated Adam Holley 6-4, 6-4, EC's Robert Strong lost to Reid Price, 6-3, 3-6 (10-7); EC's Devin Skinner defeated Payton Pearce, 6-3, 6-1; and EC's Alex Chapman defeated Blake Bureess, 6-0, 6-1. Doubles – EC's Miranda/Strong defeated Tye/Wright, 8-5; EC's Yarbrough/Skinner defeated Holley/Price, 8-4; and EC's Duty/Chapman defeated Jesus Osorio/Pearce, 8-1.

ECCC TENNIS TEAMS SWEEP MATCHES FROM HINDS

East Central Community College's tennis squads defeated the Hinds Community College Eagles in matches played April 1 in Raymond. The Lady Warriors won 6-3 and the Warriors claimed a 9-0 victory. Results from the women's match are as follows: Singles – EC's Shannon St. Claire defeated Brittany Weathersby, 6-1, 6-1; EC's Hannah Peoples defeated Rachel Rhett 5-7, 6-2 (10-6); EC's Mackie Smith lost to Brittany DeCamp, 6-3, 6-2; EC's Kaley Bufkin lost to Kelly Carlson, 6-3, 6-0; EC's Brooke Payne defeated Haley Hicks, 6-1, 7-5; and EC's Kristine Jenkins defeated Aygul Brown, 4-6, 6-4 (10-7). Doubles – EC's St. Claire/Bufkin fell to DeCamp/Rhett, 9-8 (7-1); EC's Peoples/Smith defeated Weathersby/Carlson, 8-5; and EC's Payne/Jenkins defeated Hicks/Kaitlyn Adcox, 8-4. Results from men's competition are as follows: Singles – EC's Juan Miranda defeated Aaron Gray, 6-3, 6-4; EC's Javon Yarbrough defeated Austin Pevey, 6-3, 6-3; EC's Cole Duty defeated Robert Rhett, 6-1, 4-6 (10-8); EC's Robert Strong defeated Melvin McNair, 7-6 (9-7), 6-3; EC's Devin Skinner defeated Peter Bethea, 6-1, 6-0; and EC's Alex Chapman defeated Jesse Stevens, 1-6, 7-5 (10-8). Doubles – EC's Miranda/Strong defeated Gray/Pevey, 8-5; EC's Yarbrough/Skinner defeated Rhett/McNair, 9-8

(7-4); and EC's Duty/Chapman defeated Kyle Burton/Bethea, 9-8 (7-4).

EC TENNIS SQUADS DROP MATCHES TO MGCCC

The Lady Warriors fell 6-3 and the Warriors lost 7-2. Results from the women's match are as follows: Singles – EC's Shannon St. Claire defeated Chelsea Jarrell (7-6, 6-3); EC's Hannah Peoples defeated Madison Jarrell (6-4, 6-0); EC's Mackie Smith defeated Kaylan Cooper (6-4, 7-5); EC's Kaley Bufkin defeated Macey Magee (6-3, 5-7, 10-8); EC's Kristine Jenkins defeated Kendall McCoy (6-1, 6-0); and EC's Brooke Payne fell to Anna Rosenbaum (6-2, 6-1). Doubles – EC's St. Claire/Bufkin fell to Rose/Robinson (9-7); EC's Peoples/Smith lost to Wegner/Karah Younger (8-6); and EC's Payne/Jenkins lost to Johnson/Seals (8-3). Results from men's competition are as follows: Singles – EC's Juan Miranda defeated Matt Barlow (6-0, 6-1); EC's Javon Yarbrough fell to Brandon Lane (6-0, 6-0); EC's Cole Duty lost to Sam Blackburn (6-0, 6-2); EC's Robert Strong lost to Travous Wilson (6-3, 6-0); EC's Devin Skinner fell to Bobby Vo (6-3, 6-3); and EC's Alex Chapman lost to DeAngelo Vaxter (6-3, 6-1). Doubles – EC's Miranda/Strong lost to Lane/Blackburn (8-0); EC's Yarbrough/Skinner fell to Wilson/Brian Allen (8-4); and EC's Duty/Chapman defeated Vo/Chris Diep (8-6).

EC NETTERS DEFEAT NORTHWEST

East Central Community

College's tennis squads defeated Northwest Mississippi Community College in matches held March 24. The Lady Warriors won 8-1 and the ECCC men defeated Northwest 7-2. Results from women's competition are as follows: Singles – EC's Shannon St. Claire defeated Chelsea Jarrell (7-6, 6-3); EC's Hannah Peoples defeated Madison Jarrell (6-4, 6-0); EC's Mackie Smith defeated Kaylan Cooper (6-4, 7-5); EC's Kaley Bufkin defeated Macey Magee (6-3, 5-7, 10-8); EC's Kristine Jenkins defeated Kendall McCoy (6-1, 6-0); and EC's Brooke Payne fell to Anna Rosenbaum (6-2, 6-1). Doubles – EC's St. Claire/Bufkin defeated C. Jarrell/M. Jarrell (8-4); EC's Peoples/Smith defeated Rosenbaum/Magee (8-3); and EC's Payne/Jenkins defeated Cooper/Carpenter (8-4). Results from men's competition are as follows: Singles – EC's Javon Yarbrough defeated Christian Scott (6-2, 6-4); EC's Cole Duty defeated Thomas Hall (6-2, 6-0); EC's Robert Strong defeated Tyler Newman (6-4, 6-4); EC's Devin Skinner defeated Jon Morgan Bell (6-1, 7-5); EC's Alex Chapman defeated Noah Dunlap (6-2, 6-3); and EC's Juan Miranda fell to Joseph Shidler (6-4, 6-1). Doubles – EC's Yarbrough/Skinner defeated Hall/Newman (9-7); EC's Duty/Chapman defeated Bell/Dunlap (8-3); and EC's Miranda/Strong fell to Shidler/Scott (8-3).

Warrior Athletics

Diamond Warriors Sweep Southwest

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

The East Central Community College Diamond Warriors came back from a 5-0 deficit in game one and scored three runs in the top of the seventh in game two to earn two hard-fought victories and a double-header sweep over Southwest Mississippi Community College April 22 in Summit.

East Central won by scores of 9-5 and 6-5. The Warriors are now 24-14 overall and 17-9 in Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges league play.

East Central fell behind quickly in game one, trailing 5-0 after two innings. But a single run in the top of the third, three more in the fourth, and five in the sixth helped the Warriors fight back for the 9-5 victory.

East Central pounded out 16 hits in the opener, including doubles from six different hitters. Dylan Snypes of Wayne County High School and Dylan Little, a product of Mary G. Montgomery High School (Semmes, Ala.), were both 3-4 at the plate. Cody Daigle of Parkview Baptist High School (Addis, La.), Ben Cooley of South Jones High School, and Snypes all knocked in two runs each.

Joshua Carpenter of Winona High School got the win in relief, throwing three and a third innings of one-hit baseball.

The Warriors trailed 4-3 going into the top of the last inning in game two before scoring three runs and taking an eventual 6-5 win. Chance Whitten of South Panola High School hit a three-run home run in the top of the second to plate half of the Warriors' runs in game two. East Central added three more runs in the crucial top of the seventh on three singles and a double. Little and Michael Davis of Clinton High School each had two hits in the nightcap. Daigle had two more RBIs in game two.

Lane Fazende of Pearl River Central High School got the win in game two, pitching the final two innings in relief.

East Central totaled 27 hits in the two games.

EAST CENTRAL BASEBALL SWEEP AT HOME BY MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST

The East Central Community College Warriors dropped a doubleheader April 14 to the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Bulldogs by scores of 7-4 and 12-8.

With the losses, the Warriors fall to 21-13 overall and 14-8 in Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges league play.

East Central dropped game one 7-4 despite out-hitting Gulf Coast 10 to nine. The game was tied 2-2 going into the top of the fifth, when the Bulldogs took the lead for good, scoring two runs on two hits, two East Central errors, and a wild pitch.

Michael Davis of Clinton High School was 2-3 at the plate with two doubles and two runs scored to lead the Warriors offensively. Matt Mitchell of Lake High School also had two doubles in four trips to the plate. T.J. Lockett of Bibb County High School (Brent, Ala.) was 2-3 with an RBI, and Ben Cooley of South Jones High School tripled in a run in the contest.

Josh Carpenter of Winona High School was charged with the loss, working one and two thirds innings on the mound.

In game two, East Central jumped out to an early 3-0 lead in the first inning, but could not hold on in the 12-8 loss. The Warriors did manage 13 hits, including three from Reagan Warren of Newton County High School, who also had three RBIs, and three hits from Lockett. Davis, Cody Daigle of Parkview Baptist High School (Addis, La.), and Will Kennedy of Union High School each had two hits. Davis had a two-run triple in the bottom of the first inning.

Seven Warrior pitchers gave up 17 hits in the nightcap. Peyton Cain of Newton County High School was credited with the loss.

EC BASEBALL SWEEPS NORTHEAST ON SPRING ALUMNI DAY

The East Central Community College Warriors plated 11 runs in the first four innings on their way to a 13-3 game two victory and a double-header sweep of the Northeast Mississippi Community College Tigers on Spring Alumni Day April 11. The Warriors won the opener 7-2.

On the afternoon, East Central totaled 23 hits while improving to 21-11 overall and 14-6 in Mississippi Association of Community and Junior

Colleges league play. The Warriors are in third place in the 15-team league.

T.J. Lockett of Bibb County High School (Brent, Ala.) drove in three runs in game two with a double and a sacrifice fly. Michael Davis of Clinton High School was 3-4 at the plate with two RBIs and Matt Mitchell of Lake High School was 2-4 with two RBIs. Cody Daigle of Parkview Baptist High School (Addis, La.) was 2-2 and scored three runs. Chance Whitten of South Panola High School and Reagan Warren of Newton County High School each had RBI singles.

Peyton Owen of Stone County High School recorded the win on the mound for Warriors.

East Central pitchers struck out 14 Tiger batters in the game one victory. Colby Eaves of Nanih Waiya High School got the win, tossing three innings of shutout ball and striking out four. He gave up one hit. Matt Mitchell of Lake High School struck out 10 in five innings of relief work.

Ben Cooley of South Jones High School belted a two-run home run in game one to pace the Warriors. Lockett and Lane Fazende of Pearl River Central High School both had RBI doubles in the contest. Dylan Snypes of Wayne County High School was 2-3 on the afternoon and Davis had an RBI on a sacrifice fly.

EAST CENTRAL BASEBALL EARNS DOUBLEHEADER SPLIT AT MERIDIAN

The East Central Community College Warriors fought back for a 5-0 win in game two to salvage a doubleheader split at Meridian Community College on April 8.

Meridian took the first game 8-3. The East Central Warriors are now 19-11 overall and 12-6 in Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges league play, good enough for fourth place in the 15-team league.

Meridian erupted for six runs in the bottom of the first inning and never trailed in game one. East Central's Cody Daigle of Parkview Baptist High School (Addis, La.) led the Warriors at the plate, going 4-4 with three singles and a double. T.J. Lockett of Bibb County High School (Brent, Ala.), Matt Mitchell of Lake High School, and Michael Davis of Clinton High School each had two hits for East Central.

Channing Wall of Louisville High School took the loss on the mound for East Central.

East Central plated four runs in the top of seventh inning to ensure the game two win and the split. Dylan Snypes of Wayne County High School drove in what would be the winning run with an RBI single in the sixth inning. Daigle, Lockett, Snypes, and Ben Cooley of South Jones High School all had RBIs in the four-run seventh. Lockett had three hits, and Davis, Snypes and

Dylan Little of Mary G. Montgomery High School (Semmes, Ala.) each had two hits in the win.

Will Myers of Leake Academy picked up the win, going six innings and giving up just one hit.

ECCC outhit Meridian 26 to 15 in the two games.

ECCC SPLITS BASEBALL DOUBLE-HEADER AT COPIAH-LINCOLN

The East Central Community College Warriors jumped out to a 5-0 lead in game two and hung on for a 5-4 win over the Copiah-Lincoln Community College Wolves to salvage a split in doubleheader action March 31 in Wesson.

Co-Lin won the first game over East Central 8-4.

Coach Neal Holliman's Warriors are now 17-9 overall and 10-4 in Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges league play.

Despite outhitting Co-Lin 9-6 in game one, ECCC wasn't able to muster enough runs in the 8-4 loss. T.J. Lockett of Bibb County High School in Brent, Ala., led the Warriors going 2-3 at the plate with an RBI and run scored. Cody Daigle of Parkview Baptist High School in Addis, La., had two hits in four trips to the plate, including a double. Ben Cooley of South Jones High School added a two-run homer in the top of the sixth for the Warriors.

Matt Mitchell of Lake High School took the loss on the mound, giving up five runs on two hits and six walks in two and one third innings of work.

East Central plated three runs in the second inning and added two in the fourth in the nightcap to jump out to a 5-0 lead over the Wolves and an eventual 5-4 victory.

Peyton Owen of Stone County High School picked up the start and the win, throwing four innings and giving up just one run on two hits.

Mitchell was 2-4 at the plate in game two with two RBIs. Dylan Snypes of Wayne County High School added two singles and an RBI, and Lane Fazende of Pearl River Central High School had a double and a single.

WARRIORS SWEEP DOUBLEHEADER OVER MISSISSIPPI DELTA

The East Central Community College Warriors pounded out 21 hits and 17 runs en route to a sweep of Mississippi Delta Community College in a baseball doubleheader March 28.

With the wins, the Warriors improved to 16-8 overall and 9-3 in Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges league play.

In a 6-2 game one win that saw five lead changes, East Central took the lead for good with a three-run seventh inning that featured RBI singles by Michael Davis of Clinton High School and Chance Whitten of South Panola High School. Dylan

Little of Mary G. Montgomery High School (Semmes, Ala.) led the Warriors offensively going 3-4 at the plate with two RBIs and a run scored. Cody Daigle of Parkview Baptist High School (Addis, La.) added a double and a single in four trips to the plate and an RBI for ECCC. Hunter Thrower of Southeast Lauderdale High School (2), Ben Cooley of South Jones High School, T.J. Lockett of Bibb County High School in Brent, Ala., Will Kennedy of Union High School, and Matt Mitchell of Lake High School all singled.

Channing Wall of Louisville High School got the win on the mound in relief, allowing one run on one hit in two and two thirds innings of work. He struck out five Mississippi Delta batters.

East Central dropped Mississippi Delta 11-4 in game two after exploding for seven runs in the third inning.

Josh Carpenter of Winona High School got the win for the Warriors, allowing no hits and no runs in his two innings on the mound.

At the plate, the Warriors were led by Whitten who was 2-3 with two RBIs. Little and Lane Fazende of Pearl River Central High School each added a double and an RBI. Cooley, Thrower, Mitchell and Dylan Snypes of Wayne County High School all had singles.

WARRIORS DROP DOUBLEHEADER TO HINDS

The East Central Community College Diamond Warriors fell 3-2 in 11 innings against No.1-ranked Hinds Community College March 25 in the first game of a doubleheader held at the Clark-Gay Baseball Complex. The Warriors lost game two 4-3.

After the visiting Eagles jumped out to an early 2-0 lead in game one, ECCC's Chance Whitten hit a solo home run in the bottom of the second inning and the Warriors scored again in the seventh to even the score. The Eagles scored the winning run in the top of the 11th off a solo homer by Marshall Boggs.

Whitten, a product South Panola High School, also had a double and an RBI to lead the Warrior offense.

Other hitters were Michael Davis of Clinton, two singles; Cody Daigle of Parkview Baptist High School in Addis, La., double; and Dylan Little of Mary G. Montgomery in Mobile, Ala., and T.J. Lockett of Bibb County High School in Brent, Ala., each with a single.

Scoring runs were Davis and Whitten.

Lane Fazende, a product of Pearl River Central High School, took the loss for East Central. He allowed one earned run on three hits in three innings. He struck out five batters.

In game two, the Warriors rallied for three runs in the bottom of the seventh but it was not enough as

they fell 4-3.

Davis had a single to give the Warriors their only hit in the game.

RBI's were credited to Matt Mitchell of Lake and Little.

Runs were scored by Whitten, Dylan Snypes of Wayne County High School and Todd Hughes of Clarkdale.

Will Myers of Leake Academy was the losing pitcher. He allowed two earned runs on six hits in four innings. He struck out five batters.

DIAMOND WARRIORS SWEEP HOLMES

The East Central Community College Diamond Warrior baseball team swept Holmes Community College in doubleheader action March 21 in Goodman to improve their record to 14-6 overall and 7-1 in league competition.

In game one, East Central jumped out to an early 2-0 lead in the top of the third and scored three more runs in the eighth to claim the victory over the host Bulldogs.

Cody Daigle went 4-5 at the plate, including three doubles, and had one RBI to lead Warrior offense. Daigle is a sophomore infielder and product of Parkview Baptist High School in Addis, La.

Other hitters were Dylan Snypes of Wayne County, triple and single; Jacob Huff of Brandon and Ben Cooley of South Jones, each with two singles; and Hunter Thrower of Southeast Lauderdale, Dylan Little of Mary G. Montgomery in Mobile, Ala., Kyle McCullough of Madison Ridgeland Academy and Michael Davis of Clinton, each with a single.

In addition to Daigle, RBIs were credited to Davis (2), Little and McCullough.

Scoring runs were Little (2), Thrower, Daigle and Snypes.

Colby Eaves, a right-handed pitcher from Nanih Waiya, got the win for East Central. He allowed two earned runs on three hits in 4 1/3 innings. He struck out four batters and walked three.

The Warriors rallied for a 4-2 win in the nightcap thanks to a two-run triple by Little in the seventh inning. He also tallied a single.

Daigle again had an outstanding offensive game hitting 3-4, including two home runs and a single.

Additional hitters were Matt Mitchell of Lake, double and single; and Thrower, Davis and Snypes, singles each.

RBIs were credited to Little (2) and Daigle (2).

Runs were scored by Daigle (2), Mitchell and Thrower.

Peyton Owen recorded the win for ECCC, allowing two earned runs on three hits in 3 1/3 innings of work. He struck out one batter and walked one. Owen is a product of Stone County High School.

Mark Your Calendar!

reConnect

H O M E C O M I N G 2 0 1 5

OCTOBER 17

Warrior Athletics



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Basketball Players Compete in All-Star Contests: Representing East Central Community College in the annual Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges All-Star Basketball Games April 10 were (second from left) Kristian Clark, a 6-5 guard from St. Martin High School in Ocean Springs; Ramone Tate, a 5-10 guard from St. Stanislaus High School in Bay St. Louis; Tynika Bender, a 5-4 point guard from Newton High School in Newton; Tashi-ana Thompson, a 5-8 guard from Miller Grove High School in Lithonia, Ga.; and Jaleshia Jones, a 5-8 guard/forward from Wayne County High School in Waynesboro. Clark and Tate both scored six points in helping the South men to a 123-117 win over the North. Thompson scored seven points, Jones six and Bender three to lead the South women to an 85-69 victory over the North squad. Shown with the East Central players are Robert Thompson (far left), ECCC head men's basketball coach, and Crandal Porter (far right), head women's basketball coach.

Hernandez Finishes Third at MACJC Event

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College freshman golfer Tristan Hernandez of Carthage fired a two over par 146 over 36 holes to finish tied for third place in the Northwest Mississippi Community College Invitational April 6-7 played at Wedgewood Golf Club in Olive Branch and Back Acres Country Club in Senatobia.

Hernandez, a product of Leake Academy, shot a score of 73 both days of the tournament to earn All-Tournament Team honors.

East Central finished seventh in the team competition, with a score of 628 (307, 321).

Golfers from Mississippi Gulf



HERNANDEZ

Coast Community College took top honors with rounds of 302 and 305 (607) to capture the fourth event in the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges season.

Other East Central golfers participating included Nathan Nance of Newton County, 158 (78, 80); Zack Hammons of Raleigh, 158 (76, 82); Karlton Ginn of Franklinton (La.) High School, 162 (82, 80); Blake Miller of Ocean Springs, 168 (82, 86); and Andrew Joiner of Spanish Fort (Ala.) High School, who shot an 80 on the first day and had to withdraw from day two competition due to an injury.

ECCC's golf team is coached by Chris Clark.

Hill Named MACJC Pitcher of the Week

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

For the second time this season, East Central Community College softball player Lacey Hill was the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges Pitcher of the Week.

For the week of March 30-April 5, Hill, a freshman pitcher from Kilbourne High School in Kilbourne, La., allowed only two hits and had four strikeouts in a 9-0 Lady

Warrior win over Meridian Community College on March 30. On April 1 against Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, she allowed just three hits, one earned run, and struck out six Lady Bulldogs in a 9-1 victory.

Hill previously earned the honor for the week of Feb. 16-22, when she also was named National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division II Pitcher of the Week.



HILL

Ellis Chosen MACJC Softball Player of the Week

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College freshman shortstop Maegen Ellis of West Point was named the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges Player of the Week in softball for the week of April 6-12.

A product of Oak Hill Academy, Ellis had a strong week at the plate for the Lady Warriors. She was 9 for 14 in

doubleheaders against Southwest Mississippi Community College and Copiah-Lincoln Community College.

On Wednesday, April 8, she was 3 for 6 with a home run, two RBIs, and three runs scored in 6-0 and 7-1 wins at Southwest. On Saturday, April 11, at Co-Lin, she was 6 for 8 with two home runs, four RBIs, and four runs scored in 11-3 and 7-3 victories.



ELLIS

East Central Announces 2015-16 Cheerleaders

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College recently announced members of the 2015-16 Cheerleading Squad following tryouts.

Cheerleaders and their respective high schools include sophomores Shelby Hemphill, Sydney Keith, Brittney Rawson, Taylor Nazary, Thomas

Nazary and Hunter Brown, all of Leake Academy; sophomore Ashton Killen and freshman Cole Hodgins, both of Neshoba Central; sophomore Adam Porter and freshman Codi Ballard, both of Newton County; sophomore Landin Hutchison and freshmen Aerial Green and Nathan Burns, all of Leake Central; freshmen Megan Miles and Joshua

Parkman, both of Lake, and sophomore Keri Ann Mayfield of Union.

Pauline Karcher serves as cheerleader sponsor.

For more information, contact Karcher by e-mail to pkarcher@eccc.edu or by calling the college's Athletic Department at 601-635-6310.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Sophomore Tennis Players Honored: These members of the East Central Community College tennis teams were honored during "Sophomore Appreciation Day," held prior to the group's final home match against Holmes Community College on April 9. The Warriors and Lady Warriors both claimed victories in the home finale. Pictured are (front row, from left) Leake Academy product Hannah Peoples, Newton County products Shannon St. Clair and Macken'z Smith; and Katlyn Patrick and Kristine Jenkins, both of Forest; and (back row, from left) Robert Strong of Forest, Javon Yarbrough of Louisville, and Morton products Juan Miranda and Tyler Patrick. Robert Thompson serves as head coach and Dianne O'Neill is adjunct coach.

Hammons Makes All-Tourney Team in Carey Classic

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College freshman golfer Zack Hammons of Raleigh High School was named to the All-Tournament Team following play in the Carey Collegiate Classic held March 16-17 at Canebrake Country Club in Hattiesburg. William Carey University served as host.

Hammons carded rounds of 74 and 77 for a 151 total and tied for fifth place overall.

University of Mobile took first place with a score of 584 (295, 289), followed by William Carey, 612 (308, 304); Loyola-

New Orleans, 621 (309, 312); East Central, 625 (307, 318); Bethel University-Tennessee, 638 (314, 324); and Blue Mountain College, 652 (328, 324).

Other EC golfers and their respective scores include Tristan Hernandez of Leake Academy, 157 (78, 79); Andrew Joiner of Spanish Fort (Ala.) High School, 159 (81, 78); Nathan Nance of Newton County, 160 (76, 84); Karlton Ginn of Franklinton (La.) High School, 168 (87, 81); Graham Winstead of Neshoba Central, 170 (79, 91); and Blake Miller of Ocean Springs, 178 (83, 95).



HAMMONS

Warrior Linksters Finish Sixth

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College's golf team finished sixth in its own invitational tournament held March 23-24 at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club in Choctaw.

Golfers from Meridian Community College took top honors in the 36-hole competition by firing rounds of 294 and 299 (593) to capture the third event in the MACJC season. Mississippi Gulf Coast fin-

ished second at 618 (314, 304) followed by Copiah-Lincoln 620 (313, 307), Northwest 624 (311, 313), Northeast 628 (314, 314), East Central 634 (324, 310), East Mississippi 636 (320, 316), Hinds 638 (324, 314), Itawamba 658 (329, 329) and Jones County 696 (348, 348).

Zack Hammons of Raleigh led EC by carding rounds of 75 and 78 for a 153 total, nine over par. Other scorers included Andrew Joiner of Spanish

Fort (Ala.) High School, 158 (81, 77); Blake Miller of Ocean Springs, 159 (81, 78); Nathan Nance of Newton County, 161 (83, 78); Karlton Ginn of Franklinton (La.) High School, 161 (81, 80); Tristan Hernandez of Leake Academy, 165 (85, 80); Graham Winstead of Neshoba Central, 171 (94, 77); and Wes Brown of Leake Academy, 178 (94, 84).

The Warrior linksters are coached by Chris Clark.

Thaggard Wins National Softball Honor

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College freshman softball pitcher Chloe Thaggard of Philadelphia was named the Division II National Pitcher of the Week by the National Junior College Athletic Association for the week of March 23-29.

The right-hander from Leake Academy also was the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges Softball Pitcher of the Week.

Thaggard was 2-0 during the period, including an 8-0 win over Pearl River Community College March 24 and a 4-1 victory over No. 1 ranked Jones County Junior College March 27.

Against Pearl River, she faced 23 batters and only allowed two hits and one walk while striking out nine. Against Jones County, Thaggard held the Lady Bobcats to just one unearned run on six hits, while striking out seven batters.



THAGGARD

Reminder: Wear IDs at All Times!

Warrior Scene

Scenes from Spring Spree 2015

FROM STAFF PHOTOS

