



Gospel Choir Performs

Fall Concert held for Gospel Choir. **PAGE 6**

The Tom-Tom

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EC Transfer Students Prove Successful at University Level

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

The success of East Central Community College students is evident in recent reports from Mississippi's Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL), which revealed that transfer students from the College achieved the highest cumulative grade point average of all community college transfers in the state with a 3.18 average at the state's eight public, four-year institutions.

The average for all 15 community colleges combined was a 3.08 GPA, which again showed that community college transfer students performed academically as well or better in university courses than students who began their education at the senior institutions.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart was elated at the news that East Central students were the top performers in the state!

"This data, compiled and reported by IHL, confirms that faculty and staff at East Central Community College are committed to student success and to preparing transfer students well for the academic challenges of a university. Based on the performance of our students, no one does that better than the faculty and staff at East Central Community College," Dr. Stewart said.

East Central Community College offers the first two years of a four-year degree for more than 201 areas of concentration in academic studies. These academic courses are guaranteed to transfer thanks to an Articulation Agreement between Mississippi's community colleges and the State's public colleges and universities.

The College also offers two-year terminal degrees in healthcare, career and technical fields of study.

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

ECCC Plans Black History Month Program

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College will hold its annual Black History Month Program Wednesday, Feb. 27, 2013.

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

The Rev. Marcus Mann will serve as guest speaker.

ECCC's Gospel Choir will provide special music. Mrs. Brenda K. Johnson serves as gospel choir sponsor.

For more information, contact Kathy Sanders at ECCC, 601-635-6215 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 215. Her e-mail address is ksanders@eccc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC's HEADWAE Honorees: Selected as East Central Community College's HEADWAE (Higher Education Appreciation Day: Working Toward Academic Excellence) Student and Instructor of the Year, respectively, are sophomore Andrew Hanna (left) of Union and biology instructor Kim Hardy of Philadelphia. They will represent the two-year institution at the annual program scheduled Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2013, in Jackson. HEADWAE was established by the Mississippi Legislature to recognize the academically talented students and faculty members from each of the 36 public and private member institutions of the Mississippi Association of Colleges.

Hanna, Hardy Selected EC HEADWAE Honorees

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Sophomore Andrew Hanna of Union and biology instructor Kim Hardy of Philadelphia were recently selected to represent East Central Community College in Decatur at the 2012-13 Higher Education Appreciation Day: Working Toward Academic Excellence program scheduled Tuesday, Feb. 26 in Jackson.

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

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

A luncheon is scheduled at the Jackson Marriott Hotel in downtown Jackson, during which each student and faculty honoree is

See HEADWAE, PAGE 3

EC Recognized for Growth, Academic Success

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College is considered one of the fastest growing community colleges in the nation, according to the Nov. 26, 2012, issue of Community College Week!

East Central is ranked sixth among community colleges with enrollments from 2,500 to 4,999, as stated in the report, which listed the top 50 community colleges in each enrollment category.

The College earned the recognition due to a 14 percent enrollment increase from 2010 (2,675) to 2011 (3,049).

"We want East Central Community College to be recognized nationally as a premier community college and locally as the preferred gateway to higher education and training for residents of east central Mis-

issippi, due to our focus on students and their success and our commitment to communities and their development," said ECCC President Dr. Billy W. Stewart.

Dr. Stewart also noted the College's academic success as indicated by the most recent report from Mississippi's Institutions of Higher



DR. STEWART

Learning (IHL). The report stated EC students who transferred to the state's public four-year institutions achieved the highest grade point average (3.18) compared to transfer students from the state's other two-year colleges.

"Excellence is what we are all about at East Central Community College," said Dr. Stewart. "We have an outstanding faculty and staff who are committed to the success of our students and helping them achieve their educational goals. We invite students of all ages to join the East Central family as we continue to strive for excellence in all we do."

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



JESSICA BARNETT/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

On January 18, 2013, East Central Community College was covered in white snow flakes. Classes were delayed until 9:30 a.m. and during their time out of class some students enjoyed playing in the snow or sleeping in a few extra hours while roadways became clear for traveling. For more scenes of Snow Day, See Page 18.

Warriors Celebrate Snow Day

BY CONOR BELL
Staff Writer

Snow! This simple word follows the clichéd expression, "one man's trash is another man's treasure." For citizens who inhabit states with a much cooler climate, the word can be defined as work, danger or annoyance. On the contrary, though, Mississippi sees one of nation's most aggravating precipitants as a winter carnival.

The previous statement truly explains what it was like at East Central on Thursday, January 18. Students awoke to a chilly breeze and a whitened earth. The accumulation of snow had turned the EC world upside down. It was unexpected earlier in the week with rain on Monday and

Tuesday, but a glimmer of snow started to form in the clouds on Wednesday. Of course, the glimmer turned into reality; the weather had changed instantly from cold and gray to colder and white.

With the lack of color in Decatur, and an e-mail of concernment, classes were delayed until 9:30 a.m. Some students took this opportunity to gain some sleep, but for others, the Mississippi-



CONOR BELL
Staff Writer

pi weather infrequently produces snow. Thus, these students took their opportunity to build snowmen, snow angels and other snow creatures. Scattered "us versus them" snowball fights took place across the campus, and icy footprints lined sidewalks. It was most definitely a carnival, and it was a true celebration of this icy precipitant's seldom fall. Matthew Evans, an engineering major from Forest, commented on this carnival, "I think it was another way God shows His beauty. I loved it. I also liked missing my 8 o'clock class. That's always a good thing." Other students did not have to express any words. The cheerful smiles on their faces were enough to answer their thoughts about the snow.

See SNOW, PAGE 3

Karcher Named EC Head Football Coach

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

A former NFL quarterback with 22 years coaching experience is the new head football coach at East Central Community College.

Ken Karcher takes over East Central's football program succeeding Brian Anderson who led the Warriors the past four years.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart introduced Coach Karcher during a press conference held Friday,

Jan. 25, 2013, in Thrash Auditorium, located in Newton Hall.

Dr. Stewart said Coach Karcher is a "perfect fit" for EC.

"We were very fortunate to have several outstanding applicants for this position, and we are pleased that Coach Karcher will be joining the EC family," said Dr. Stewart. "The search committee was very impressed with his playing and coaching experiences, football knowledge, recruiting ability

and most of all, his character. As we checked references for Coach Karcher, several things came up over and over again: he is a Christian, a man of deep faith, a family man with great integrity and high character who is also very genuine as well as a consummate professional and classy individual. You will not find someone who cares more about his players. He is also a very knowledgeable

See KARCHER, PAGE 3



KARCHER

Page Two

FEATURE TEACHER

Smyth Shares Thoughts on Government, Life Experiences

BY WILL STOKES
Staff Writer

Liscelle Smyth is an English Composition and Social Sciences adjunct instructor at ECCC.

Where are you from?

I was born in Camden, New Jersey and grew up in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania until I was 8 years-old. Then, my family and I moved to Los Angeles, California which is where I lived for 24 years.

What do you teach or what have you taught?

I presently teach American National Government at ECCC. In prior semesters at ECCC, I have also taught English composition and intermediate English. Prior to being at ECCC, I also taught middle and high school English/Language Arts at public schools in both Mississippi and California. I taught middle and high school gifted studies and fifth and sixth grade social studies with the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians.

What is your educational background?

I received my bachelor's degree in English with a minor in Education from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). I received a master's degree in public policy administration from California State University, Long Beach. I received a second master's degree in community college teaching from Mississippi State University.

What inspired for you to be a teacher?

I was lucky to have great teacher mentors/role models throughout my educational experience who only seemed to get better as I got to high school. I was able to secure a full academic scholarship to an elite all-girls Catholic boarding school that really worked hard to prepare me for college life.

I've always been an extroverted and driven person who is obsessed with problem solving, persuasive writing, rhetoric and debate. Teaching seemed to be a natural segue for me.

How is California different from Mississippi?

When I first moved to Mississippi from California, I definitely experienced "culture shock." The most immediate shock for me was the limitation of my modern conveniences. For example, in L.A., I went from having a strip mall and a Starbucks on every street corner to having to drive down long rural four-lane highways to access many of these conveniences I came so accustomed to. Probably the most difficult adjustment for me moving from large and urban Los Angeles to small and rural Louisville would have to be my loss of anonymity. Los Angeles is so densely populated that you meet someone new every day. In rural Mississippi, everyone is more closely familiar with their community and its members and families. I learned I had to make a conscious effort to censor myself from time to time (although many of my attempts at self censorship often fail miserably). I guess you can't "teach an old dog new tricks" so I always preface my introduction to students with a sincere apology for most of the words that come out of my mouth.

What brought you to Mississippi?

My husband, Leslie, is from Louisville. I met him when he was working in southern California. I had never met a "southern gentleman" before so it was really refreshing and different for me. I was attracted to his genuine nature. I also fell in love with his charming southern accent.

Why do you love government so much?

I have always been a big believer that government can do good things for its citizens. Before I was a teacher, I worked in administration for a California municipality. I have seen first-hand public sector

successes and witnessed great policy in action. In working for the public sector, you learn how to ethically budget tax dollars toward giving back to your local community. I never personally experienced the government corruption the media often portrays.

This doesn't mean that I don't think government corruption doesn't exist because that would be naïve and myopic notion. Nevertheless, I do believe with ethical leadership, government at all levels can have

a direct and daily impact on all of its citizens.

What is the most rewarding part of teaching government?

I love when my students feel passionately about an issue and can effectively persuade citizens of a community and/or elected officials to take action. The only writing we do in my class is "real-world" writing and problem solving. I am not the audience for my students' writing. Actual public officials and local citizens are the audi-

ence. Students in my class are prepared to submit their business letters to newspapers and/or elected officials. This "real world" audience shift allows student writers to write more passionately, more logically, and more persuasively. What results from this "real world" audience is often a published piece of writing that the writer will always have and is a result of their passion and intense civic engagement.



Liscelle Smyth smiles holding her degree from University of California, Los Angeles. Smyth said since she moved to the South, she has learned to adjust to the cultural and political differences.

WILL STOKES/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

T H E U N I V E R S I T Y O F M I S S I S S I P P I

COMMUNITY
COLLEGE
SCHOLARSHIP
DAY



SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2013

- Scholarship interviews
- Campus tours
- Scholarship and Financial Aid sessions
- Campus involvement sessions
- Meet faculty, staff and students

Scholarship interviews offered for the following scholarships:

- **Lyceum Scholar Awards** valued at full tuition for two years
- **Community College Leadership Scholarships** valued at \$1,500 per year for two years
- **Luckyday University Scholarships** valued at up to \$4,600 per year for two years

The program is open to any student transferring to The University of Mississippi with an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher on 48 or more transferable community college hours. All students must have applied for admission prior to registering for the program. Scholarships are valid on the campuses at Oxford, Tupelo, Southaven as well as the Booneville and Grenada centers.

Registration is available at www.olemiss.edu/admissions.

For more information, please contact Regional Admissions Counselors, Jason McCormick at jason@olemiss.edu or Tyler Biggs at tyler@olemiss.edu.



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EC Students Selected for Who's Who



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Students Selected for Who's Who: These students at East Central Community College were recently named to Who's Who Among Students in American Community/Junior Colleges for 2012-13. Students were nominated by faculty and staff and are chosen based on academic achievement and involvement in extracurricular clubs and organizations. Pictured are (first row, from left) Kenneth Massey, Decatur; Sam Irby, Morton; Amanda Barnett, Union; Dakota Morris, Edinburg; Zack Killion, Crestwood, Ky.; Taylor Potter, Benton; Jared Canoy, Woolmarket; Jon' Marie Baucum, Decatur; McGee Ledbetter, Columbus; Andrew Hanna, Union; Kelsey Tadlock and Andrea McSwain, both of Decatur; and Breonka Simpson, Meridian; (second row, from left) Johnny Beamon, New Hope; Bryor Shorter, Florence; Jacob King, Sebastopol; Sandy Alexander, Duffee; Dylan Peden, Philadelphia; Timmie Wiggins, Little Rock; Ivory Weldon, Pulaski; Mary Sanders, Vidalia, La.; l'Oshore May, Carthage; Meghan Johnson, Goodhope; Emily Marler, Morton; Shelby Parkman, Homewood; Adreanna Gammage, Bay Springs; Sarah Orr, Noxapater; Denese Seales, Philadelphia; Wanda Harrison, Walnut Grove; Lauren Daniels, Philadelphia; Aristotle Love, Newton; and Tanner Fortenberry, Union; (third row, from left) Erin Thornton, Decatur; Haley Covert, Collinsville; Daniel Chim, Forest; Jordon Clearman and Dakota Vowell, both of Philadelphia; Savannah Vance, Natchez; LaJoya Griffin and Ally Loper, both of Philadelphia; Holli Nutt, Morton; Brittany Smith, Decatur; Kimberly Leflore, Carthage; Javossiya Walker, Netwon; and Tiana Grover and Ed Boudreaux, both of Decatur; (fourth row, from left) Zak Thrasher, Columbus; Courtney Mackey, Meridian; Melissa Manues, Hickory; Fernando Gonzalez, Guaynabo, Puerto Rico; Jeremy Denson, Walnut Grove; Christopher Mays, Louisville; Stephen Mayo, Carthage; Daniel Watkins, Springdale, Ark.; Blake Rose, Hickory; Lee McDill, Newton; Jeremy Carson, Calvin Smith and Cindy Burnside, all of Decatur; Cory Goodin and Nathan Stone, both of Louisville; and Claire Griffin, Decatur; (fifth row, from left) Candace Marchant, Carthage; Ashley Barnett and Tori McInnis, both of Union; Kelsie Mann, Decatur; Leighanne Wright, Little Rock; Tenna Patterson, Lexington, Ala.; Hillary Kitchens, Edinburg; Shelby Johnston, Lena; Jessica Barnett, Forest; Erin Wooten, Carthage; Beth Mayes, Jacksonville, Ala.; Hannah Farmer, Decatur; and Crystal Roland, Philadelphia; and (back row, from left) Kalik May, Tuscaloosa, Ala.; Blake Dubuisson, Long Beach; Terrance Steele, Philadelphia; Darin Hillman, Sebastopol; William Meruvia and Blake Gordon, both of Philadelphia; Julien Gillis, Hickory; Brandon Davis, Chunky; Johnny Kight, Louisville; Blake Cochran, Hickory; Lucas Calvert and Ryan Shotts, both of Louisville; Rubert Alcantara, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic; Kyle Henson, Starkville; Caleb McKee and Ethan Pendergrass, both of Philadelphia; and Jeffrey Hemphill, Louisville.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

More than 120 East Central Community College students were recently named to Who's Who Among Students in American Community/Junior Colleges for 2012-13. Students were nominated by faculty and staff and are chosen based on academic achievement and involvement in extracurricular clubs and organizations. They include: Adreanna Gammage, Bay Springs; Taylor Potter, Benton; Kendall Taylor, Brooksville; l'Oshore May, Kimberly Leflore, Stephen Mayo, Candace Marchant, Erin Wooten, Lindsey Adams, Richard Ainsworth, Cain Prestage and Channs Thaggard, all of Carthage; Brandon Davis, Chunky; Jessie Armstrong, Haley Covert and Hannah Cade, all of Collinsville; Zak Thrasher and McGee Ledbetter, both of Columbus; Kenneth Massey, Jon' Marie Baucum, Kelsey Tadlock, Andrea McSwain, Erin Thornton, Brittany Smith, Tiana Grover, Ed Boudreaux, Jeremy Carson, Calvin Smith, Cindy Burnside, Claire Griffin, Kelsie Mann, Hannah Farmer, Nikki Cumberland, Alexandra Jones and Alexander Lee, all of Decatur; Sandy Alexander, Duffee; Dakota Morris, Hillary Kitchens, Edinburg; Madeline Potter and Ruby Potter, both of Flora; Ryne Riebock and Bryor Shorter, both of Florence;

Daniel Chim, Jessica Barnett, Megan Everett and Rosalia Hernandez-Chim, all of Forest; Meghan Johnson, Goodhope; Melissa Manues, Blake Rose, Julien Gillis and Blake Cochran, all of Hickory; Shelby Parkman, Homewood; Tiffany Watkins, Lawrence; Shelby Johnston, Amanda Lott and Lacie Sessums, all of Lena; Timmie Wiggins, Leighanne Wright, Tyler Alexander and Olivia Harrison, all of Little Rock; Blake Dubuisson, Long Beach; Christopher Mays, Cory Goodin, Nathan Stone, Johnny Kight, Lucas Calvert, Ryan Shotts, Jeffrey Hemphill and Tiandra Parker, all of Louisville; Breonka Simpson and Courtney Mackey, both of Meridian; Sam Irby, Emily Marler and Holli Nutt, all of Morton; Savannah Vance, Natchez; Johnny Beamon, New Hope; Aristotle Love, Javossiya Walker, Lee McDill, Emily Lucy, Karri Miller and Addreonna Seger, all of Newton; Sarah Orr, Noxapater; Dylan Peden, Denese Seales, Lauren Daniels, Allison Perry, Jordon Clearman, Dakota Vowell, LaJoya Griffin, Ally Loper, Crystal Roland, Terrance Steele, William Meruvia, Blake Gordon, Caleb McKee, Ethan Pendergrass, Dylan Sparnecht, Chesney Spence, Savannah Stuart-Dahl and Alexandra Weir, all of Philadelphia;

Ivory Weldon, Pulaski; Jacob King, Darin Hillman and Tyler Gilmore, all of Sebastopol; Kyle Henson, Starkville; Amanda Barnett, Andrew Hanna, Tanner Fortenberry, Ashley Barnett, Tori McInnis, Marlee Massey and Nikki Slade, all of Union; Wanda Harrison, Jeremy Denson, Walnut Grove; Jared Canoy, Woolmarket; Beth Mayes, Jacksonville, Ala.; Tenna Patterson, Lexington, Ala.; Kalik May, Tuscaloosa, Ala.; Daniel Watkins, Springdale, Ark.; Zack Killion, Crestwood, Ky.; Mary Sanders, Vidalia, La.; Rubert Alcantara, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic; and Fernando Gonzalez, Guaynabo, Puerto Rico.

SNOW

From Page 1

As flurries continued to fall, hope for a “snowed-in” day loomed in students and staff members. The message of delayed classes sustained. So, disappointed students gathered their books and carefully walked to class trying not to slide on the slippery sidewalks. As the day continued, the cool air warmed and the sun appeared from its hiding place behind the gray clouds. Green grass broke through the whitened earth, and the carnival was over. Life at East Central was back to normal.

KARCHER

From Page 1

football coach. I will tell you that I judge a coach by the simple fact would I want my child to play for him or her. Well, after several, lengthy discussions with Ken, I can honestly say that I would want my two sons to play for a man like Ken Karcher.”

Dr. Stewart said Coach Karcher, who addressed team members earlier in the day, officially begins his new duties Monday, Jan. 28.

Karcher, who most recently served as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at Eastern Michigan University, said he looks forward to the challenge of developing a winning program at East Central.

He also stressed the importance of having players who have pride in being a Warrior.

“What I’m looking for are guys who want to be a part of something bigger than themselves. I think when you find people like that, they are able to work and build towards a vision and a mission that both Dr. Stewart and I have...The first thing I want to help them recognize is where their value is. I think if a person has an understanding of their own value and worth it’s easier to come to work each day and to do the things you’re asked to do. I want them to have pride in being a Warrior. That could be as simple as walking on campus, seeing a piece of pa-

per on the ground and putting it in the trash. Because this is your home and if we can create pride within the program then we have a chance. No guarantees, but a chance.”

Having coached on both the high school and senior college level, Karcher said he looks forward to joining the community college ranks.

“It’s going to be an interesting environment for me. I have not worked at this level before, but I have done a lot of research and I have recruited this level. Number one, you are still coaching football and obviously you have young men who are hoping to maybe move on and further their career at a four-year institution and they may have dreams even beyond that. But what’s unique about community college is the other 45 or 50 young men who don’t continue to play football. You have a chance to mold and help them earn a four-year degree and change their lives. Ultimately, a football coach, really any type of athletic coach, is in the life-changing business. That’s what coaching is: changing lives.”

Karcher, 49, served the past four seasons at Eastern Michigan, a member of the Mid-American Conference.

He is also a former head coach at Liberty University, where he succeeded EC alumnus Sam Rutigliano.

Karcher began his coaching career in 1991 at North Texas State University, where he coached quarterbacks and wide



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Karcher Named ECCC Head Football Coach: Ken Karcher (left) was introduced as East Central Community College’s new head football coach by ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart during a Press Conference held Jan. 25, 2013. Karcher, a former NFL quarterback and longtime collegiate coach, becomes the 21st coach to lead East Central’s football program. Coach Karcher previously served as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at Eastern Michigan University.

receivers.

He was hired the following season by head Coach Galen Hall as passing game coordinator and quarterbacks coach for the Orlando Thunder of the World League of American Football.

After the World League was suspended, Karcher returned to the collegiate ranks as an

sive coordinator and quarterbacks coach. He held that position for the next three years, until Majors’ resignation at the end of the 1996 season.

In 1997, Karcher rejoined Galen Hall in the revamped World League, this time as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach of the Rhein Fire, based in Dusseldorf, Germany.

He helped lead the Fire to their first winning season in the team’s three-year history. Rhein finished in first place with a 7-3 record but lost to the Barcelona Dragons in World Bowl IV. Under Karcher’s tutelage, quarterback T.J. Rubley earned All-World League honors and was named the league’s most valuable offensive player.

Karcher’s offense led the league in rushing yards (1555) and ranked second in total offense (3253). The offensive line set a league record by holding opponents to only one sack the entire regular season.

Karcher was chosen the sixth head football coach at Liberty University on February 18, 2000.

He served six seasons at Liberty, compiling an overall 21-46 record and 6-8 mark in conference play, including two straight second-place finishes.

Karcher continued his career in 2006 as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at Fellowship Christian High School in Roswell, Ga., where he led the Paladians to their first-ever winning season and a deep run in the Georgia state playoffs.

He also served as the school’s athletic director and taught a ninth-grade Bible class at Fellowship Bible Church.

In 2008, Karcher was named quarterbacks coach at the University of Toledo. He helped lead the Rockets in an upset win over the Michigan Wolverines, although the squad finished 3-8.

Karcher was hired in January 2009 by head coach Ron English as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at Eastern Michigan University and remained with the program until December 2012.

A native of Pittsburgh, Pa., Karcher was a highly recruited quarterback at Shaler Area High School where he was selected a Parade All-American in 1980. He continued his athletic career at the University of Notre Dame where he was a backup to Blair Kiel. After two years he transferred to Tulane University, where he completed his collegiate playing career.

He later continued his career in the National Football League as a member of the Denver Broncos and played as a replacement player when other NFL players were on strike. The Broncos retained him for the rest of the year, and Karcher was a back-up for John Elway when the team played in Super Bowl XXII in 1988.

Karcher is married to the former Pauline Termini and they have four children, daughters Kelly and Katie, and sons Austin and Clay.

HEADWAE

From Page 1

recognized in front of their guests, institution leaders, corporate sponsors and legislators.

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

Hanna, a President’s List Scholar who holds a perfect 4.0 grade point average, plans to major in chemistry.

He has received several honors at EC, including the Frank Edwin and Nena Holt Leatherwood Biology Award, Frank M. Cross Chemistry Award and Secondary Education Award.

He also holds various positions of leadership in several campus organizations.

He serves as vice president for leadership of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, and is co-president of the Baptist Student Union and Warrior Corps. In addition, he serves as secretary of the President’s Council.

He is also a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and served as vice president his freshman year. He also holds membership in the Environmental Club.

Hanna’s involvement in campus activities also includes participation in athletics. He is a two-year member of the Warrior tennis team and was on the men’s basketball squad his freshman season.

He is a 2011 honor graduate of Newton County Academy, where he was valedictorian and chosen for the Hall of Fame. He was also selected STAR Student and was named to the WTOK-TV All Scholastic Sports Team. Other honors include selection as a Scholar Athlete and Citizenship Award recipient, in addition to numerous subject awards.

Hanna also held positions of leadership in several clubs and organizations and received numerous awards in basketball and tennis.

He is a longtime member of Boy Scouts of America Troop 29 of the Choctaw Area Council in Union and received the rank of Eagle Scout in

2007.

In addition, he is a member of Clarke-Venable Baptist Church in Decatur and serves as a Sunday school teacher.

Hanna is also involved in mission work and went to Thailand in the summer of 2012 as a part of a team supporting missionaries in Southeast Asia. He plans to return to the same area this summer and assist a missionary doctor in his clinics and teach English speaking classes.

He was one of 48 students selected from across the nation to attend the FBI National Academy Youth Leadership Program in 2008 at Quantico, VA. He was chosen president of the 11th Session of the FBINA Youth Leadership Program.

Hanna also participated in the Hugh O’Brien Youth Leadership (HOBY) program in 2009.

His parents are Rusty and Lanette Hanna of Union.

Hardy joined the EC faculty in the fall of 2005 after previously serving as an interim instructor and adjunct faculty member. She is also a former

biology and human anatomy instructor at Philadelphia High School and previously served as a science instructor at Mississippi State University and Kosciusko Middle School.

Hardy has received several other teaching honors while at EC, including her selection as Lamplighter instructor in 2010, an annual program that recognizes the state’s outstanding community and junior college faculty members. She was also named to Who’s Who Among Community College Instructors.

In addition to her teaching duties, Hardy serves as sponsor of the Sigma Sigma Mu Tau Medical Club.

She received several teaching honors prior to joining the EC faculty. She was the 1993 recipient of the Herbert M. Handley Outstanding Teacher Award presented by the Mississippi Science Teachers’ Association. She also received the 1992 Science and Mathematics Teacher Award from the Mississippi State University Chapter of Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society.

A 1974 graduate of Neshoba Central

High School, Hardy received an associate’s degree in dental hygiene from Meridian Community College in 1979, where she was graduated with highest honors and was chosen for Who’s Who Among Students in American Community Colleges.

She continued her education at Mississippi State University in Starkville, where she received bachelor and master’s degrees in biology in 1990 and 1991, respectively.

Hardy is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Biology Education from the University of Southern Mississippi.

Her professional affiliations include membership in the Mississippi Science Teachers’ Association.

She is married to Bobby Hardy and they reside in Philadelphia. She has a daughter, Mrs. Tommy Wayne (Leigh) McDaniel; two step-daughters, Mrs. Grant (Carmen) Ford and Deanna Hardy; and four grandchildren, Mason Payne, Brian, Pasiley Grace, and Hooper McDaniel.

Hardy’s parents are Glois and Doris Daniels of Philadelphia.

Warrior Viewpoints

FROM THE EDITOR Choosing the Next Steps in Life

Hi Warriors!
Welcome back to the Spring Semester! I hope that everything is going wonderfully for everyone so far! One of the most important issues facing us all as college students this time of the year is choosing our next steps. It is crucial to establish a plan for these upcoming months.

Most students here will be transferring to a university and this can be a very unsettling time for students making the transition. There are, after all, tons of things to consider before making this change in our lives. First, make sure that everything is done well in advance of deadline. This will ensure many things, but above all it will ensure that you're not stressed out when you should be relaxing and preparing for your first big day at a new school. Getting in applications for admission and housing to your choice of school and apartment early ensures that you won't have to stress about these arrangements later or miss out on the opportunity altogether.

Secondly, after all of the housing and university applications are in then comes time to apply for scholarships, schedule your new classes and find a job. These are also all very important steps to take during the change in your lives.

Thirdly, and most important of all, make sure to take time out for yourself to just relax and prepare mentally for the challenges ahead.

For those of you going into the workforce, it is important to keep your resume updated and current. This is one of the most crucial steps in obtaining a job. An employer might not give you a second look if your resume looks unprofessional. Make sure to also keep your appearance up with the requirements of the job you're going after. Casual dress may work for some jobs, but not all. Don't interview in something you wouldn't wear to work on a daily basis.

A reminder as well for people going straight into the workforce; make sure that you take time out to relax. Spend time with your family and maybe take a vacation. This will help you to be more prepared and will reflect outwardly when you hit the streets hard and heavy looking for job opportunities. Rest, as long as you keep your drive and ambition, is still a very important part of being successful.

Good luck everyone!



ADDREONNA SEGER
Editor

OTHER VIEWS

Do You Remember?

How well do you remember what happened on December 14? Probably not much. To us it's just a date. How about if I told you that is the day the Sandy Hook massacre happened? Oh! Right! It's amazing how we just forget something in just a short amount of time. I realize it didn't happen close to home. Or did it? It happened in America, that's our home right? We should remember everything that happens at home. I will not lie, I didn't remember the date, and it's not seared into my mind, as it is in millions of north-easterners. I came to realize, if it doesn't directly affect us, we don't really care to remember...naturally we don't say that, but it's true. So my fellow Americans, do you think we should keep such horrendous incidents on our minds or should we allow them to slip into the pages of history? I know the media has pounded the story into the ground, and some of us are tired of watching it on the news. It's still a fresh wound to many.

I pray for the children and their families. In any situation, let's be sensitive to each other's feelings. As the late and great Dr. Martin Luther King once said: "The first question which the priest and the Levite asked was: 'If I stop to help this man, what will happen to me?' But ... the Good Samaritan reversed the question: 'If I do not stop to help this man, what will happen to him?'"



WILL STOKES
Staff Writer

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Accreditation
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BY CLAIRE GRIFFIN
Cartoonist

WORDS OF A WARRIOR

BY WILL STOKES

What Do You Want for Valentine's Day?

Stephanie Harrison
Decatur • Early Childhood Education



"For Valentine's Day, I want to be wined and dined."



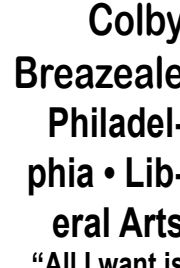
Marlee Massey
Philadelphia • Liberal Arts

"All I want for Valentine's Day is to beat MERIDIAN."



Chris Lyons
Philadelphia • HVAC Major

"I want dinner and a movie with my girlfriend for Valentine's Day."



Colby Breazeale
Philadelphia • Liberal Arts

"All I want is for someone to call my Valentine. #forever-alone"

A Better ECCC

Whether I am just walking around campus or going to class, it never fails that I will be bombarded by a cloud of cigarette smoke. As a nonsmoker, having to breathe it in is an involuntary punishment to me and to my health.

Here is a list of cons about second hand smoke proven by the American Cancer Society:

First off, there is no safe level of exposure to second hand smoke. Any exposure is harmful. Second hand smoke causes lung cancer in people who have never smoked. Even brief exposure can damage cells in ways that set the cancer process in motion. Second hand smoke immediately affects the heart, blood vessels, and blood circulation in a harmful way. Over time it can cause heart disease, strokes and heart attacks. Exposure to second hand smoke while pregnant increases the chance that a woman will have a spontaneous abortion, stillborn birth, low birth-weight baby, and other pregnancy and delivery problems. There are an estimated 46,000 deaths from heart disease in people who are current non-smokers, and about 3,400 lung cancer deaths in non-smoking adults.

I want to make it clear that I am not blaming those who smoke. I know you have rights as well as I do. That is why I love this country so much! I just think the school should have stricter laws on smoking zones because they are not enforced. I know some smokers may not like not being able to smoke wherever they choose, but can we not compromise?

I also think the school should make sure that the smoking areas are well known to everyone. Maybe they could put it on the EC online map to show the designated areas.

Finally, if anyone smoking is caught doing so in a non-designated smoking area they should be fined. I say this because if someone can get fined for standing in the grass of the other sex's dorm or for crossing at a non-crosswalk then it is only fair for them to be fined for smoking in the wrong areas. I am not saying that my ideas are the answer, but something needs to be done.

—Jessica Barnett
Staff Writer



JESSICA BARNETT
Staff Writer

Dr. Stewart Reflects On First Six Months

What are your thoughts now that you have completed 6 months as President of ECCC?

My first six months as president of East Central Community College (ECCC) have been full of wonderful professional and personal experiences. I have told many people it has been both a difficult transition and an enjoyable transition all at the same time. However, after six months, I am more convinced than ever that my service at East Central is God's plan for my life and the life of my family. I am blessed to serve ECCC as president and I learn every day that I have so much more to learn. I have also learned to pray each day for wisdom as I carry out my duties and responsibilities.

What do you feel you have accomplished early on and what are your priorities for the second semester?

During the spring 2013 semester, I look forward to the completion of our strategic planning process and the adoption of 2020 Vision for ECCC. That is my number one priority for the spring.

What is your favorite "midnight" or "bedtime" snack?

My favorite midnight or bedtime snack is cereal, usually Captain Crunch or Sugar Crisp.

What are your hobbies? What do you like to do on the rare occasions that you have free time?

My hobbies at this point in my life are my children's activities. I have found that our four children have activities every night of the week and most weekends and I really enjoy watching them participate in them. I am very proud to be their dad. If not attending their activities, I enjoy playing golf (which I have not done one time since July 1) and collecting sports memorabilia.

What progress has Operation Upgrade made?

Phase One of Operation Upgrade is currently being implemented. The Career-Tech Annex, Child Care, and Vickers Fine Arts Buildings have been wired for both power and network connectivity. A few weeks ago, the Technology Department began installing the computer equipment in the Career-Tech Annex with plans to install in Child Care and Vickers Fine Arts very soon. The Maintenance Department will begin installing power in Newton Hall classrooms soon and finish that installation during Spring Break. Once computer equipment is installed in Newton Hall, Phase One will be complete. Phase Two will begin soon after and will be completed by the Fall of 2013. I am very excited about the potential of our \$250,000 investment in technology in our classrooms.

Thus far, what have been your biggest challenges here as President of East Central?

My biggest challenge to date has been wisdom related to weather and the decision to delay or cancel classes.

When will we get better dorms?

I believe that dormitory renovations and upgrades will be a component of the college's 2020 Vision as I have heard many comments regarding the need to improve our residence halls.

FROM DR. LEE'S DESK

Prepare by Studying for Spring Break, Graduation

Spring Break (March 11-15) will be here before you know it! Make sure you are attending every class and studying hard, and you should succeed. The rest of the spring semester will fly by! Take advantage of all the various events and activities, but keep your grades and class attendance as top priorities.

Graduation should be your ultimate goal at ECCC. So persist and earn that diploma! You need it in today's world. Transferability is seamless, and the cost is so much more at four-year institutions so take all the courses you can here at ECCC.

If you have questions please come by Student Services and see an Academic Counselor. We are open 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Friday. If you need an additional class or two check out the second intensive term eight-week classes that begin in March.

Advance Registration begins on April 5 for summer courses and fall 2013 courses. Make sure you pay your debt to the business office and register the first day to get the classes you want! They will fill up quickly!

Many events are scheduled, but I do want to highlight Senior Days and Spring Spree.

Senior Days are on March 27 and 28 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Please help welcome our high school senior guests and participate as much as possible.

A great tradition at ECCC is the annual Spring Spree competition near the end of the semester (April 22-25). See Mrs. Marcie Pinson (mpinson@eccc.edu/635-6213) and Dean James Miller (jmillier@eccc.edu/635-6267) for more information. Start getting your teams together!

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

Sincerely,
Randall E. Lee
Vice President for Student Services

The EC Way



By Billy W. Stewart, Ph.D.

Reminder: Wear IDs at All Time!

College 101

Valentine’s Day Gift Ideas: Going Above and Beyond for Your Special One

When shopping for a special Valentine this year, think about what he or she would like the most. Consider the person’s personality and make sure you know exactly what they’d like. Dinners are nice, flowers are pretty, chocolates are yummy... but none of these things scream “I’m actually into you.” They’re cheap, cheesy, and un-thoughtful. When picking a Valentine’s gift for a sweetheart, take into consideration what it is he or she enjoys.

When buying your significant other a gift, do not, I repeat, do not buy him or her a teddy bear. By now, he or she is a grown up, not a child. Consider purchasing him or her tickets to a concert, sporting event, or a movie he or she has wanted to see.

Don’t have a lot of money? Splurge on making him or her something unique. Perhaps cook a dinner for two complete with all his or her favorite foods and follow it up with a favorite sweet treat and movies or video games that he or she enjoys. That’s right; I’m suggesting that you play video games with your significant other, even if you think their games are the

most boring thing in the world.

You could also make a number of other things, including but not limited to CDs and DVDs. Show your valentine your unique personality and show him or her that you’ve been paying attention to all the things he or she is interested in. One of the biggest “no-no’s” in gift buying is if you’re dating a girl and you buy her chocolates and flowers. You will also win the award for most boring Valentine’s gift since 1902.

Your girl spends all year making you happy and trying to be the best girlfriend she can. If you can’t be more original than flowers and chocolate, then let me tell you how. Think about her as a person. Does she have



ADDREONNA SEGER
Editor

a new “favorite” in her life? Has she been experimenting with a new look? Fulfill all her wishes by getting her a cute new accessory or some type of little knick knack that she would absolutely adore. If plausible, take her somewhere nice, a very special place for the two of you.

The gifts that have the most thought are the best gifts that you could give your significant other. No matter who you are, if you’re in a relationship on Valentine’s Day, it’s important to remember that your partner has specific tastes. Pay attention to those at this time of the year.

There are tons of possibilities. New books, new perfume or cologne, tickets to their favorite events, a romantic dinner for two, a nice vacation to a new place for a day or two, a sweet love note, or even some cute art project would be the perfect gift idea.

Above all else when all else fails, Do-It-Yourself projects will never be uncool or unpopular.

—Addreonna Seger
Editor

STRIKE-A-POSE



POWELL

NATHAN POWELL
Freshman • Enterprise Mechanical Engineering
Why did you choose to attend East Central? I chose EC because it was far enough to get away, but it was still close to home. I also liked that it was a small school.

What is your favorite thing about East Central? I like how all of the teachers get to know you, and you get to meet new people.

What is your favorite meal in the cafeteria or grille? Breakfast at the cafeteria is my favorite meal.

Who is your favorite faculty member at East Central? Why? Dr. Phillip Crenshaw is my favorite because there is never a dull moment in his class.

What is the worst thing about college life? The worst part is not eating Mama’s cooking every night.

What would you like to see happen at East Central this year? I would like to see the boys’ dorms upgraded.

What is your most embarrassing moment at East Central? On my first day here, I went to the wrong class and didn’t realize it until the teacher finished calling role.

Are you a part of any extracurricular activities? Which ones? I am the president of Students Against Destructive Decisions and Warrior Corps.

How are you celebrating Valentine’s Day? Well, since



MAY

it falls on a Thursday, I will try to find a pretty girl that can do my calculus homework.

What are your plans after East Central? I plan to go to Mississippi State University and get my degree in mechanical engineering and hopefully work with a car company.

—Emily Marler
Staff Writer

I'OSHORE MAY
SOPHOMORE • CARTHAGE • OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Why did you choose to attend East Central? I wanted to find a passion by taking courses that interest me and explore all the options available within EC’s environment. East Central’s motto, “With You in Mind,” made me believe that EC would make it easier to find the right career path and find fulfillment.

What is your favorite thing about East Central? My favorite thing about East Central is doing things with excellence and class.

What is your favorite meal in the cafeteria or grille? My favorite meal in the cafeteria is breakfast for dinner.

Who is your favorite faculty member at East Central? Why? Mrs. Sharon LeJune is my favorite faculty member because of the passion she shows her students. She will go the extra mile to help anyone if she can.

Do you have any words of wisdom for the freshmen on campus? You get out of college

what you put into it. College allows you the opportunity to get off the beaten path and head out on the road less traveled. As you challenge those boundaries you learn more about yourself. Remember God loves you and will never leave you.

What is the worst thing about college life? The worst parts of college life are leaving home, growing up, and becoming an adult.

What would you like to see happen this year at East Central? I would like to see the parking lots expanded.

What is your most embarrassing moment at EC? My most embarrassing moment was wheeling my wheelchair across campus and black tape unrolling in the wind while going down the hill between Newton and Marby Cafeteria.

What are your plans after East Central? My plans are to attend Hinds Community College and prepare for the occupational therapy program at Alabama State University.



EMILY MARLER
Staff Writer

THEATER TAKE

Zero Dark Thirty Dubbed Top Film, Braveheart, Les Miserables Hold Similarities



ZERO DARK THIRTY

The film was directed by Kathryn Bigelow, who is today of the most controversial directors . The film has been hotly contested for its portrayal of torture. The film has drawn criticism from President Barack Obama to Arizona Sen. John McCain. Even after the critically acclaimed release, the film managed to garner five nominations at the Academy Awards at the 85th Academy Awards including Best Picture, Best Actress (Jessica Chastain) and Best Original Screenplay. Zero Dark Thirty also earned four Golden Globe Award nominations including Best Picture – Drama, Best Director and Best Actress – Drama for Chastain, which she won.



WILL STOKES
Staff Writer

This was one of the BEST movies I have seen all year. Jessica Chastain portrayed the main character in the film, Maya. Maya was your typical, icy, vague C.I.A analyst, often portrayed in movies. However, she played it very well. The movie follows the events and efforts put forth into tracking down and elimination Usama Bin Laden. I will not lie; the movie does have some pretty horrific scenes. It just goes to show that our country is not seeking revenge, but is seeking justice for the thousands killed on 9/11. We all know how the movie ends, but I am not going to give away any of the juicy details of the movie. Trust me, you will love it.

—Will Stokes
Staff Writer

LES MISERABLES

I have not been to the movies at all because there is nothing really worth seeing right now. The only movie I have seen in theaters is “Les Miserables,” and I thought it was good. However, the three hours of nonstop singing was a little much. But I do give props to the storyline and the cast minus Russell Crowe’s singing. That was just wrong.

But later, I got to thinking about how similar it is to another movie, “Braveheart.” It was a 1995 box office hit that not only starred Mel Gibson but was also directed by him.

They were both similar because of the storylines. The people were being oppressed by evil rulers, and so they all came together and fought back! Of

course there is so much more to this movie because like “Les Miserables” it too is three hours long. They are both filled with action, romance, drama and some humor.



JESSICA BARNETT
Staff Writer

How-ever, as you can see I am partial to “Braveheart,” and I absolutely love that movie! Seeing the people stand up for themselves and for the love of their country is an awe-inspiring thing. Our country is becoming quite spineless, and movies like these should open up our eyes. The famous line, “You have come to fight as free men, and free men you are. What will you do with that freedom? Will you fight? Aye, fight and you may die, run and you’ll live. At least a while. And dying in your beds many years from now, would you be willing to trade all the days from this day to that for one chance, just one chance to come back here and tell our enemies that they may take our lives, but they’ll never take our FREEDOM!”

In conclusion, it’s inspirational. Go see it!

—Jessica Barnett
Staff Writer

STOP BEFORE you DROP

...that Class

- Be aware of Refund dates. If you drop a class, you will still have to pay for it!
- Dropping a class may affect your financial aid status for Pell grants and student loans now and in future semesters. Ask a Financial Aid Office employee to be sure!
- Dropping a class may affect scholarships, VA benefits, and other aid programs. Be aware that in most cases you will lose money, and you may lose the entire scholarship or benefits. Ask the VA representative in the Admissions Office how dropping a class will affect your VA funds. Ask someone in the Financial Aid Office to be sure how dropping classes will affect you and your scholarships or other aid programs!
- Dropping to less than full-time status (12+ hours) may adversely affect automobile or medical insurance coverage.
- Have you talked to your instructor about dropping the class? Ask your instructor for advice!
- Is the class a prerequisite for another class you need? Will dropping this class delay graduation or transfer plans? Ask your advisor to be sure!
- Are you working too many hours? If so, is there another solution? More work hours often leads to lower grades.
- If after careful consideration you decide to drop a course, please complete the appropriate paperwork.

Clublicity



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Gospel Choir Presents Concert: The East Central Community College Gospel Choir is shown prior to the group’s annual concert held November 28, 2012 in the Ovid S. Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium. Members and their respective hometowns include (front row, from left) Vandaju Talley of Philadelphia, treasurer and section leader; Camera Hopkins of Louisville, Jermaine Russell and Denzell Clemons, both of Philadelphia; Jeremiah Chapman of Newton, Shavonda Stingley of Forest, Aries Agee of Morton, section leader; Andrea McSwain of Decatur, president and section leader; Tiara Stewart of Philadelphia, and Brenda K. Johnson, director; (second row, from left) Keith Phillips of Carthage, student director; Sabrina Shelwood of Collins, Toneshia Ruffin of Decatur, Ben Brooks of Meridian, Terrance Dentry, Jr. of Columbus, Charles Taylor of Neshoba, Lashundra Rush of Philadelphia, Keyndra Jones and Beunca Patrick, both of Forest; and Raenica Bryant of Meridian, secretary; (third row, from left) Sharde Mays of Morton, Brittany Clark of Carthage, Avery Ward of Morton, Thomas Robertson of Forest, Terrance Walker of Newton, assistant student director; Shakerra McGilberry of Laurel, Cahnesiya Donald of Forest, Diamond Wesley of Chicago, Evone McDonald of Montrose, and Brittany Foster of Ludlow, section leader.



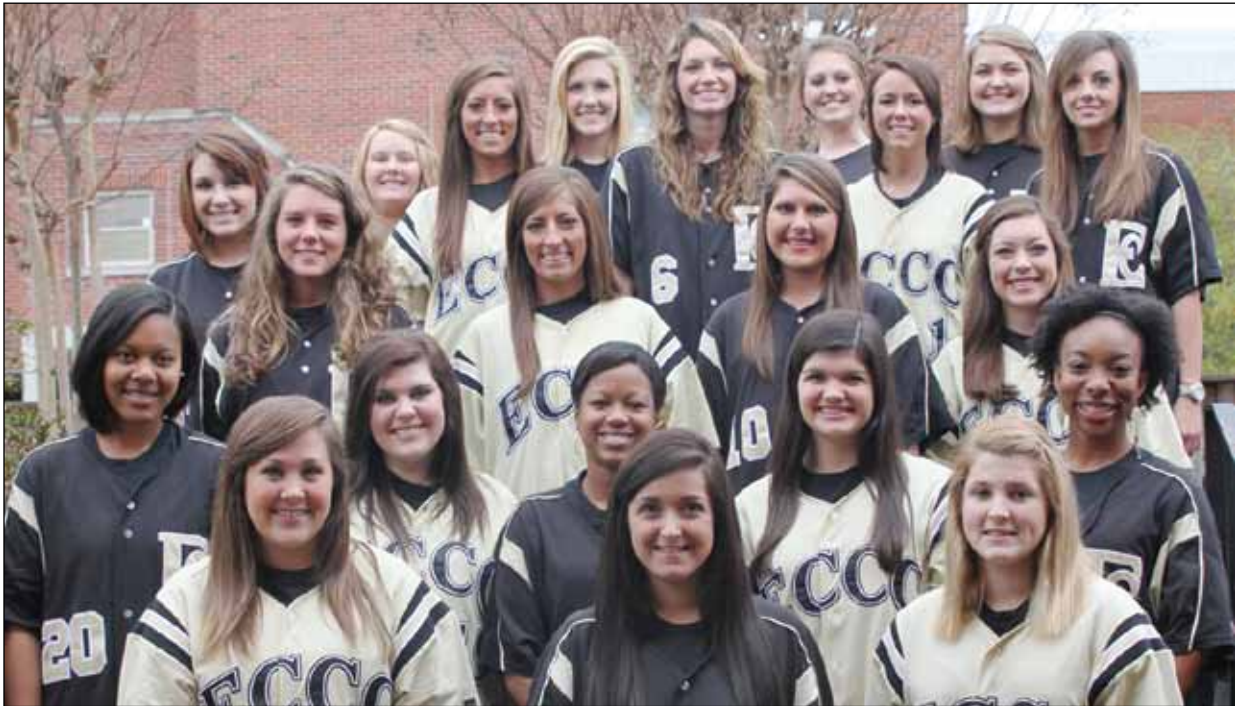
SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Concert Choir Presents Fall Program: The East Central Community College Concert Choir is shown prior to the group’s annual fall concert held December 4, at Clarke-Venable Baptist Church. Members and their respective hometowns include accompanist Natalie Emmons (seated at piano), Lake; (first row, from left) Sandy Alexander, Duffee; MaryAnna Jefcoat, Brandon; Abigail Buitrago, Morton; Kimberly Rigby, Forest; Shawn Windham, Lena; Jesse Vaughn, Decatur; Turner Stevens, Madden; Colton Hurst, Hickory; Jessica Barnett, Forest; Jayohnnie Slaughter, Union; Kaitlin Beard, Decatur; Robin Coker, Newton; and director Vicki Blaylock of Newton; (second row, from left) Georgia Doner, Collinsville; Courtney Mackey, Meridian; Mallory Wilkerson, Union; Heather Bradley, Philadelphia; Mark Ellis, Hickory; Jacob King, Sebastopol; Rob Parker, Puckett; Chandler Smith, Philadelphia; Keith Phillips, Carthage; Terrance Walker, Newton; Lashundra Rush, Philadelphia; and Rachel Boulton, Hero; (third row, from left) Samantha Hill, Louisville; Brittany Bobo, Union; Gloiana Latham, Morton; Caitlyn Sant, Beulah Hubbard; Jon’ Marie Baucum, Decatur; Ryan Godwin and Timothy Laird, both of Newton; Matt Graham, Meridian; Clint Walker, Newton; Leslie Young, Philadelphia; Tiffany Dorman, Union; Kasey Logan, Lake; and Kara Miller and Andrewa McSwain, both of Decatur; (fourth row, from left) Jessica Stinson, Morton; Savannah Vance, Natchez; Ashley Bozeman, Union; Stephanie Spence and Joseph Aulds, both of Decatur; Corey Jackson, Nanih Waiya; Johnny Kight, Louisville; Jessie Armstrong, Collinsville; Sarah LaBue, Conehatta; Claire Griffin, Decatur; Hannah Kersgaard, Sebastopol; and Adriana Alderson, Union; and (back row, from left) Macy Etta Seale, Philadelphia; Taylor Gressett, Chunky; Alex Weir, Philadelphia; Emily Jacome-Cluff, Hickory; Sam Lovorn, Philadelphia; Jeremy Carson, Decatur; Nathan Williams, Union; Bo Foster, Hickory; Hunter, Brooks, Puckett; Justin McNeal, Morton; Jose Pereira, Morton; Melissa Manues, Hickory; Danielle Shelley, Sebastopol; Jade Castillo, Morton; and Tiffany Benson, Philadelphia.



WAYNE EASON/SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Students Donate to Toys for Tots: Several boxes of toys and other gifts were recently collected by East Central Community College staff members and students for the annual Toys for Tots campaign sponsored by the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. The project was coordinated by the Career-Technical Division and led by SkillsUSA. Shown with the more than 500 items to be distributed to needy children are LCPL Kenneth M. Sturgis (left) and HM1 Jose C. Hernandez (right), both from the Armed Forces Reserve Center in Jackson, and EC sophomore Chanss Thaggard of Madden, SkillsUSA president.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Diamond Darlings: Diamond Darlings for 2012-13 have been announced at East Central Community College. The Diamond Darlings is an organization for female students that gives support to the Diamond Warrior baseball program. Members include: (front row, from left) Samantha Hill of Louisville, Jon Marie Baucum of Decatur, and Shelby Johnston of Lena (second row, from left) Jayohnnie Slaughter of Union, Kaitlin Dean of Decatur, and Hillary Williams, Hannah Jones and Shamiski Collier, all of Philadelphia; (third row, from left) Shelby Davis of Waterford, Lindsey Ezelle of Decatur, Taylor Gressett of Chunky, and Tori Atkinson of Philadelphia (fourth row, from left) Robin Coker of Newton, Lauren Ezelle of Decatur, Emily Marler of Morton, Ally Loper of Philadelphia and Meghan Johnson of Lena; and (fifth row, from left) Leighanne Wright of Newton, Sandy Alexander of Little Rock, Courtney Mackey of Meridian and Emily Jacome-Cluff of Hickory.

Faculty Corner

EXTRAORDINARY STAFF

McAdory Leaves East Central to Enjoy Retirement

BY CANDICE STEWART
Staff Writer

One familiar face will be leaving East Central at the end of January for her Retirement. Mae McAdory, who is 75 years old, has been the dorm mom for Jackson Hall for 10 years now.



CANDICE STEWART
Staff Writer

When asked, “What made you decide you wanted to be a dorm mother?” McAdory replied by said, “God sent me here. I didn’t decide to come here, he did. That’s why I’m here.”

McAdory said she plans to enjoy her retirement by traveling with church buses and said, “Wherever the buses go, I want to be on it.” She also said she wants to spend more time with her dear friend who has Alzheimer’s.

Some of McAdory’s favorite hobbies include watching television, reading, and doing yard work.



CANDICE STEWART/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Pictured above is one of Mae McAdory’s most prized possession, her plant. McAdory has grown this plant for years in her apartment in Jackson Hall at East Central Community College. She said she nurtured her plant, just as she did her dorm residents. McAdory kept the plant in the EC family, passing the plant down to Jackson Hall janitorial staff member Eva Hickmon when McAdory retired in January.

McAdory said some of the greatest memories she had while being a part EC included spending quality time talking to the students about the bible and whatever else they wanted to talk to me about.

“She also said after six weeks of staying at the dorm, it became my “home”. It is very hard

for me to leave too because it has been the best time of my life.” When asked, “Is there anything you would like to tell the girls of Jackson Hall as you prepare for your retirement” she replied by saying, “Just be the best you can be and get the best education you can get because it is a God’s gift.”



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Celebrating her retirement with a reception hosted by East Central Community College, Mae McAdory (center) accepts gifts and cards of appreciation from Dean of Student James Miller (left) and Vice President of Student Services Dr. Randall Lee. McAdory served as Jackson Hall Dorm Supervisor for 10 years.

McAdory is leaving part of her legacy behind by passing down her beloved Golden Pothos Vine plant down to Eva Hickman. The plant is about

nine years old and just about every time someone went into her room; it was the first thing they saw. She prided herself in caring for the plant like she did

her dorm residents. McAdory will be missed but East Cenral wishes her the best as she enjoys her retirement.

EXTRAORDINARY FACULTY

Shackelford Shares Insight of Educational World

BY ADDREONNA SEGER
Editor

Carol Shackelford, an educator for many years is a devoted teacher with years of experience in her field. A graduate of East Central Community College, Shackelford went on to Mississippi State University to obtain her Bachelors, Masters and Specialist degrees.



ADDREONNA SEGER
Editor

Shackelford is in a long-standing relationship with her work and it shows through her teaching philosophy. As chair of the English Department at East Central Community College, Shackelford shares her best experiences with a kind word saying “I like to know my students skills, interests, strengths and weaknesses.” She said she works hard to obtain every student’s skill set and analyze what the best approach will be with each individual.

Some of her students had great things to say about her. Some of them, current students are still enjoying the ability to have her class. Others that have previously been taught by her lament on fond memories of her class and her lectures.

Conor Bell, freshman music education major said: “Mrs. Shackelford is the type of teacher who you can tell cares about and loves her job. This can really be seen in her lectures and class discussions. She really cares about each individual student. She goes above and beyond and it’s extremely refreshing.”

Madeline Potter, sophomore psychology major says: “Mrs. Shackelford has been my most impactful teacher here at EC. She really loves what she teaches and wants her students to come to a greater understanding and appreciation (of the material) themselves. She strives to better her students through her course work and I think she does.”

Of course, a lot of things have



SHACKELFORD

changed since Shackelford started teaching. The technology, for instance has advanced immensely.

“Technology has made students more active, not passive and has allowed classrooms to become student centered,” she said. It isn’t, however, only the technology that’s changed. “... Regardless of the statistical (demerators and learning styles of students) one constant remains: to have success, an institution has to have a strong curriculum and dynamic instructors,” Shackelford remarks with pride of East Central’s Communications division. “This department is one of the only ones that teach literally every student who attends East Central.”

In the time when she is not busy teaching, Shackelford enjoys reading. She looks to reading as an escape when waiting for a delayed Doctor’s appointment or cancelled flight. She claims that reading a book while doing any of these less than favorable tasks keeps her from “melting down.” Some of her

favorite authors are William Faulkner and David Baldacci.

Shackelford is also interested in traveling. She laments over this fact stating that “although the United States is fascinating ... Europe mesmerizes me.” After years of study and teaching ideas and concepts she finally got to go all around the United Kingdom, including Wales, England, Scotland, and Ireland. She divulges into her exploits and travels by saying that it made “British Literature [live] for me ... I saw the landmarks; I spent pounds instead of dollars; I ate strange food; and, I rode the Tube (the Subway). It’s a different world.” A different world indeed, one previously unexplored.


She recalls with a passion for her time spent overseas. “I became lost in all the wonderful history [of these places].” She has also traveled Italy, Switzerland, France, and Spain.

Her most fond memories are of her parents, who, back in her days of youth, she thought would live forever.

She said: “Now that I just have the memories, I do not allow myself to feel guilty about

something I should have said or done.” She is the essence of Carpe Diem, which is refresh-

ing for her students because it means they never have to worry about class becoming stagnant.



I’m a transfer student from a small town and community college. I searched for a place **where I would be an individual and not just a number.** After touring Carey for the first time, I realized Carey was a **quality school** with all I wanted: **small size, great academic programs, and many activities to keep me engaged.**

Anna Pickett
2011 community college graduate

- **Caring, Christian environment**
- **Student/faculty ratio of 13:1**
- **24 undergraduate majors, 28 minors**
- **Generous scholarships in areas of academics, athletics, church-related vocations, and missionary dependent**
- **57 extracurricular activities**
- **... and so much more!**

www.wmcarey.edu

ECCC Announces Fall Semester Honor Roll

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Students named to the 2012 fall semester honor roll, which includes those selected to the President's List, Dean's List and Honorable Mention List, have been announced at East Central Community College, according to David Case, Dean of Admissions, Records and Research.

PRESIDENT'S LIST

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

AMADORA: Silvia Cristina Viana Carvalho;
BAY SPRINGS: Trina Rena House;

BRANDON: Mary Anna Jefecoat;

CARTHAGE: James Matthew Beckham, Conor Neal Bell, Kristen Alise Chipley, Errol Kendward John, Kimberly L. Leflore, Kamaran Annette Malone, Daniel Preston Massey, Justin Corey McCaughn, Allyssa Bailey Shelton, Matthew Aaron Tucker and George Caleb Woods;

CHUNKY: Erica Leann Griffin;

CONEHATTA: Tracie May Harris and Jeffery Kyle Havard;
CRESTWOOD, KY: Zachary Patrick Killion;

DECATUR: Joseph Keith Aulds, Jon Marie Baucum, Edward J. Boudreaux, Hannah Ruby Farmer, Melissa Claire Griffin, Robert Adam Hebert, Jacob Matthew Loper, Avery Kashif Morgan, Angela M. Reeves, Christopher T. Smith, Kathrin Amanda Smith, Savannah Marie Smith, Stephanie Nicole Spence and Jordan Miles Walker;

EL DORADO, AR: James Sawyer Williams;

FLORA: Madeline Jean Potter and Ruby Olivia Potter;

FLOWOOD: Daniel Jackson Myrick;

FOREST: Adriana Esguerra, Megan Olivia Everett, Jessica Annette King, Shaki Shalone McLaurin and Jason Hunter Stroud;

HICKORY: Haley Marie Chapman, Blake Austin Cochran, Melissa Joanne Manues and Aaron Blake Rose;

LAKE: Gary Dewayne Cooksey, Tiffany C. Gardner, Lashonda Raquel Johnston, Shelby Lea Parkman, Meagan Nicole Reid and Leslie N. Tucker;

LAUDERDALE: Amanda Lynn Breland;

LENA: Haley Eliza Johnson, Meghan Alaina Johnson, Shelby Lynne Johnston, Amanda Diane Lott and Dustin Cody Watkins;

LITTLE ROCK: Ashton Idell Graham, Jessica L. Harrison, Jacob Scott Oliver and Tracy Rachelle White;

LOUISVILLE: Dianne Ball, Laken Nicole Fulcher, Sidney Louise Hendrix, Kaylin Nicole Hopkins, Lindsey Dee McCool, Kelsey Dawn Nowell, Ryan Mathis Shotts and LaToya Antoinette Steele;

MACON: Altovise Denzel McNeese;

MERIDIAN: Tanzanekia Adams, Steven Maxwell Harmon and Demondrae Ralpheal Stribling;

MORTON: Melissa K. Bailey, Anna Elizabeth Boyd and Emily Elizabeth Marler;

NEWTON: Trevor Wayne Ayllon, Kelsey Lea Bounds, Seth Madison Cash, Christiana Renee Dawn Collins, Rayanne K. Craven, Leah Alison Humphreys, Rachristopher L. Jones, Timothy Alan Laird, Kacey Shane Smiley, Brandon Stephen St. Clair and Megan Paige Wall;

NORTHPORT, AL: Kalik LaJarious May;

NOXAPATER: Rebecca Caroline Barrier, Brandon Andrew Coleman and Alanna Brooke Massey;

PELAHATCHIE: Clinton Wade Baker, Aaron Bradley Cooper and Justin Van Laster;

PHILADELPHIA: Mary Margaret Bailey, Gregory Denzel Clemons, Cosper David Collins, Lauren Lana Daniels, Adrienne Nicole Edwards, Dagan Carol Elliott, Joshua Keith Gaines, Blake Ryan Gordon, Lajoya Keana Griffin, Hannah Catherine Jones, Colt Colby Killen, Caleb Parnell McKee, Zachary Craig Peden, Donald Ethan Pendergrass, Allison Leigh Perry, Tamie Jill Powe, Bobbi Jo Schwebel, Chandler James Smith, Hailey Lauren Smith, Savannah

Echele Stuart-Dahl, Alexandra Therrell Weir, Bradley Marshal Winstead and Ronald Keith York;

PRESTON: Kelsie Sherlene Boykin;

PULASKI: Joseph Tell Matuszewski;

TAYLORSVILLE: Mason Taylor Woodrow;

UNION: Casey Jane Cherry, Tiffany Grace Dorman, Nathan R. Griffin, Erin Elizabeth Hall, Andrew Talbert Hanna, Victoria Shawn Holsen, Dana Loraine McKee, Summer M. Richardson and Patricia Anderon Thweatt; and

WALNUT GROVE: Wanda Diana Harrison and Amber Lyn Pierce.

DEAN'S LIST

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

ACKERMAN: Ashley P. Channell;

AUBURN, ME: Rachel Dawn Field;

BRANDON: Danette Alea Harris, Chelsey Elizabeth Smith and Taylor Michelle Stubbs;

CARTHAGE: Richard Alan Ainsworth, Justin Henry Caldwell, Anna Claire Crawford, Ashley Nicole Fedrick, Kati Ann Gill, Kenzey Raquel Kahn, Hanna Danielle Kemp, Kimberly Ann Kendrick, Ioshore Quisha May, Joseph Blake McBeth, Joshua Taylor Peoples, Jamie Lynn Pope, Benjamin Cain Prestage, Brandon Michael Sellers, Aaron Davidson Shepard, Matthew Jerome Sullivan and Penny Caldwell Thaggard;

CHUNKY: Taylor Nicole Gressett, Heather Michelle Johnson and Terri Lynn Johnson;

COLDWATER: Jamie Collie Mathis;

COLLINSVILLE: Jessie Ray Armstrong, Hannah Nicole Cade and Haley A. Covert;

COLUMBUS: Zachary Robert Thrasher;

CONEHATTA: Katie Denise Bradley, Jacob Alan King, Ashley Anne Kirkpatrick, Leandrea Shanell Morris and Christy Ann Williams;

DECATUR: Matthew David Brown, Cindy Kay Burnside, Joshua Caleb Forret, James Ottis Gentry, Michaela Dawn Gross, Tiana Lynn Grover, Latishia Lenette Johnson, Shanna Marie Kirkland, Guy Durand Loper, Joseph Tyler Pigg, Caitlyn Michelle Sant, Adam Tyler Savell, Brittany Jaleesa Smith, Adrienne Kelsey Tadlock, Russell Carl Thompson, William Claude Thompson, Jesse Browning Vaughn and Miriam Padoran Williams;

DEKALB: Sydney Elaine Dawkins and Jarvis Jafar Cole;

FOREST: Tony Ladell Alford, Eliud Alvarez, Jessica Kay Barnett, Jessica Rolanda Brown, Lavell Brown, Lorraina Marcila Burkes, Daniel Hernandez Chim, Emilee Anna Cox, Kelsey Beth Cox, Shawn Matthew Evans, Lucretia Tatum Gaddis, Zachary Gardner, Sharley Renea Hardin, Luis Felipe Hernandez, Rosalia Hernandez-Chim, Brittany N. Hutchinson, Angela Loretta Irby, Todd O'Neal Johnson, Otarius De'Otis Lloyd, Maria Isabel Martinez, Samantha Kaye McDaniel, Demetrice Lashae Moore, Shelby McMillan Patterson, Brady Franklin Power, Kimberly Rae Rigby, Laquita Nicole Rogers, Justin Wayne Rushing, Peggy Sims and Aimee Adrienne Stiles;

GREENSBORO, NC: Zach Walker McGarr;

GUAYNABO, PUERTO RICO: Fernando Gonzalez;

HARPERVILLE: Shaticeka Latice Kincaid;

HICKORY: James Halfred Ethridge, Samantha Nicole Gunn, Emily Christine Jacome-Cluff, Felica Danielle Robinson and Bryant Madison Williams;

INDIANAPOLIS, IN: JaJuan Robert Keyes;

JACKSON: Stephanie Lynnette Kittell;

JACKSONVILLE, AL: Elisabeth Ann Mayes;

LAKE: Jessie Robert Barrett, Casey Shea Bryant, Allison Paige Colbert, Clarence Edward Creel, Marquel C. Evans, Spear Gilmer, Pheanice Hamm-Brown, Devyn Ely Harrison, Emmarald Moneish Kiera Jones, Brianna Lyndsay Parkman and Andrea Christian Taffinger;

LAWRENCE: Yasmin Antionette Nicks, Nathaniel

Adam Richardson and Tiffany Nicole Watkins;

LENA: Katlyn Nicole Busby, Katie Nicole Spears and Denise Patricia Townsend;

LITTLE ROCK: Sandra Elizabeth Alexander, Candis Nicole Edmons, Samantha Jewel Ellingburg and Summer M. Jenkins;

LONG BEACH: Blake Edward Dubuisson;

LOUIN: Emily Claire Gully and Lynsey Paige Johnson;

LOUISVILLE: Charles Rashadd Ball, Jamal Rafeal Bates, Kenisha Onique Carter, Chiquita Shantai Chambers, Kayla Nicole Covington, Rebecca Gwendolyn Estes, Hayden Elizabeth Fryery, Channing Matthew Harris, Alexis Nan Hartness, Corey Glenn Jackson, Teylor Elizabeth Martinez, Christopher M. Mays, Felicia Ann Mays, Nakia Jena Miller, Hailey Jewell Myers, Cody Lamar Parkes, Morgan Kate Parkes, Abbie Troy Smith and Hayden Caroline Stokes;

MADDEN: Hannah Jean Smith and Anthony Chanss Thaggard;

MCKINNEY, TX: James Edward Driskell;

MENDENHALL: Alana Joy Turner;

MERIDIAN: Sabrena Andrews, Lindsey Marie Beard, Manesha D. Brown, Jacobe Dante Burrage, Kennedy Danielle Castleberry, Bailey Amber Laird, Melisa Cyntria Malone, Tangi Latrice Martin, Helen Claire Milling, Gregory Scott Mitchell, Matthew Alexander Morris, Nathan Lee Powell, Matthew Lowrance Taylor and Keitha Lekela Wallace;

MORTON: Kara B. Johnson, Hannah Lea McCurdy, Holli Virginia Nutt, Justin Devon Runnels and Betty J. Tucker;

NEWTON: Judson Gary Bounds, Deeanna Marie Carlson, Mikayla H. Carson, Jennifer Janette Collins, Ryan Daniel Godwin, Sara Delaney Kilgore, Morgan Elizabeth Luke, Karri Elizabeth Maran Miller, Cassidy Maree Tasker, Robin Michelle Towerner, Christopher Austin Tramill, Javossiya Lequeka Walker, Chris Lee Wansley, Sophia Deloris Wheaton and Jessica Leighanne Wright;

NOXAPATER: Barbara Jean Hodges, Mitzi Carol Kirk, Sarah Jean Orr and Haley Elizabeth Vowell;

PHILADELPHIA: Brittany Kay Bozeman, Corey Ray Burton, Miranda Michelle Clark, Lillion Carol Fulton, Vashika Makeba Goss, DeShayna Lynette Hickman, Donna Leann Hickman, Sharon Eileen Hobby, Dwight Jenkins, Allie Carol Killens, Charles Cory Kilpatrick, Leigh Allyson Loper, Samuel Hays Lovorn, Eden Nicole McGee, Carrie Lynn McLemore, William Lundy Meruvia, Elizabeth Charlene Prewitt, Latisha S. Pugh, James Demond Savage, Karla Denese Seales, Terrance Adolphus Steele, Elauran Adrianna Vowell, Keenen Brice Wahwasuck and Debria DeAnn Watson;

PRESTON: Martin Mourice Johnson;

SEBASTOPOL: Aderian Kendal Partain;

SOSO: Dalton Seth McDonald;

SPRINGDALE, AR: Daniel Lane Watkins;

UNION: Shawn Michael Anderson, Robert Eugene Baker, Hannah Faye Berryhill, Ashley Renee Bozeman, Emma Catherine Burton, Ashley N. Doolittle, Brandon Christopher Downing, Jamie L. Elliot, Reneisha Lashae Evans, Tanner Jacob Fortenberry, Glenda Karen Gardner, Tyler Jennings Gilmore, Madison Brooke Herrington, Anna Cameron Himebrook, Tyler Reed Kilpatrick, Meghan L. McPherson, Jackie Le'Ann Moore, Ashlyn Leigh Pullin, Chelsea Grace Rigdon, Jayohnnie Leigh Slaughter, Tiffany Nichole Smith, Hayley Brooke Stephens, Lucas Murphy Viverette, Jacob Robert Wiggs, Mallory Peyton Williams and Nathan Dale Williams;

WALNUT GROVE: Kelli F. Alford, Krystan Leah Bolton, Cynthia Denise Carter, Jeremy Scott Denson, Sandra Diane Diehl, Amber C. Jones, Candace Mae Marchant, Kristen Renee Smith and William Turner Stevens; and

WEST BLOCTON, AL: Jacob Glen Bush.

HONORABLE MENTION

The following students were named to the Honorable Mention List and earned a 3.0 or above grade point average:

BAILEY: Sharonnie Rolanda Barney and Tarra Elise Gibson;
BAY SRINGS: Amber LeAnn McDonald;

BENTON: Devin Che' White;

BENTONIA: Taylor Leighton Potter;

BILOXI: Shakerra Monay McGilberry and Lekerra Quanay McGilberry;

BRANDON: George Conor Bond, Amber Nichole McBroom, James Robert Parker, Jessica Rena Quinn and Russell Lee Smith;

BROOKSVILLE: Margaret Kendall Taylor;

CANTON: Jonathan Daryl Brown and Nathaniel Brantley Dickens;

CARTHAGE: Lindsey Renee Adams, Erica Lauren Blanton, Latoria Charlette Boler, Wendy McCracken Burns, Alan Chickaway, William Hank Coleman, Jimmi Callie Craig, Bobbie Nicole Evans, Andrea Nicole Ezelle, Vanessa Chantal Frazier, Joseph Earl Freeny, Hunter Blake Grundy, Christopher Scott Hamilton, Darren Michael Hardage, James Cory Harkins, Keeonia Anthonique Henry, David C. Hinkle, Cody Thomas Jenkins, Kaitlyn Alyse Johnston, Alisha Denise Jones, Victoria Annette Kelly, Shanyqua L.F. Lewis, Jarvis T. Mann, Stephen Hunter Mayo, Emalea Renea Moore, Jennifer Lynn Moore, Lorrie Kate Moore, Estefania Elizabeth Olmedo, Amber Leigh Rhodes, Miranda Leigh Sanders, Cassie Nicole Sessums, Austin Lee Shepard, Jon Derek Smith, Joyce Leanne White, Kendall Wade Wilcher, Nicholas Davaun Willis, Gary Lamar Winstead, Billy Joe Wishork and Mitchell Jay Wooten;

CHOCTAW: Kristi Renae Bell, Ashley Dale Billie, Richard Farve, Gerren Anthony Isaac, Ella Ga'ne Sam and Eli Isadore Tubby;

CHUNKY: Jordan Eduardo Alonso, Jake Alexander Cain, Brandon Lee Davis and Denise Marcel Glover;

COLUMBUS: John McGee Ledbetter and Park Coleman Stevens;

CONEHATTA: Rodgrick L. Anderson, Jessica Michelle Coleman, Darin Ryan Hillman, Lequita Ann King, Salvadore Paul Labue, Sarah Antoinette Labue, Darrin Edwin Rolison, Tasha Diane Sam, Kelsi Renee Shelley, Latisha Lynette Shoemake, Shawn Anthony Smith and Adrian Nicole Tucker;

DALEVILLE: Marshall W. Cole and Michael Herman Watts;

DECATUR: Aaron Alexander Brown, Erika Carlene Buckley, Jeremy Alexander Carson, Rhonda Jean Cooksey, Jacob R. Dean, Brittany Leeann Edwards, Kimberly Eloise Eshee, Chelsey Lynne Ezell, Lindsey Sue Ezelle, Katy Marie Ezelle, Xzavier U. Franklin, Julian Domingo Fuentes, Jamere Danzil Knox, Alana Nicole Kron, Jordyn Lea Paige Landry, Eden Leigh Lockett, Marje Shadae Moment, Erin Stephens Platt, Allison Page Rawson, Carrie Elizabeth Rushing, Kalena Yolanda Smith, Heather Leigh Sprague, William Walker Stokes, Madison Noel Stringer, Samantha Mechelle Thompson, Katie Elizabeth Vance, Willie Lavell Windham and Zachary Lee Yates;

DEKALB: Bonnie Ann Hedgepeth, Jeremy J. Hudson and Mallory Suzanne Newell;

ENTERPRISE: Morgan Nicole Porter;

FAIRHOPE, AL: Charles Michael Domino;

FLORENCE: Drew Ashton Norman and Bryor-Codie Windham Shorter;

FOREST: Christopher Dwane Allen, Crystal Denise Anderson, Shyanna Kordae Bell, Ruby Doris Bolden, Brandi Joyce Bounds, Kristy Roshelia Bounds, Ornisha Mozell Brown, Chelsea Cleanise Campbell, Betty Jean Cox, Lee Anna Crimm, Erica Hailey Ervin, Andrew Michael Evans, Christy M'Lee Gibbs, Lydia Catherine Henderson, Tanihhija Hughes, Kerry Keith Ingle, Carolyn Marie Keeton, Ian Chandler Lanthrip, Ryan Dion McClendon, Syneisha Eulorian McCurdy, Edna Ruth McDonald, Erik Daniel Moya, Larreessa Debrele Pace, Mae

Doris Patrick, Danielle Brooke Pettigrew, Dustin Cane Phillips, Thomas Zane Phipps, Brittany Santana Pinter, Matthew Scott Risher, Luis Felipe Rosas, Kirstie G. Shaw, Eryn Payton Smith, Connor Maxwell Steptoe, Taneisha Phonik White and Ernest Clayton Williamson;

FOSTERS, AL: Cedric LePaul Kirkman;

GULPORT: Destiney Denice Tomasich;

HAMILTON: Coluante V. McMillian;

HARPERVILLE: Marticeka Chatice Kincaid;

HATTIESBURG: Channing Gerard Darty;

HEIDELBERG: Suzanne Willis Nickey;

HICKORY: Shelby Nicole Bishop, Obrian Santell Broach, Chayvontae Symone Chapman, Demetra Denese Dawkins, Tadarin Deshun Foster, Julien Laurent Gillis, Alexandria Marie Hollingsworth, Aaron Olen Lawson and Alexandria Renee Meador;

JACKSON: Jakaris Lee Coleman, Tiffany Linese Floyd, Tinecia Alicia Shack and Roscoe Denzel Spires;

LAKE: Karley Joanna Allen, Jacob Clark Emmons, Jacob Sawyer Gibbs, Rienzi Desean Gray, Corey Dalton Kelly, Kasey Morgan Logan, Cody Jewett Mitchell, Debra Michele Parker and Mark Anthony Shoemaker;

LAUDERDALE: Cassie Leigh Haygood;

LAUREL: Cory Nathaniel Kitchens and Brady Wilson McBride;

LAWRENCE: Colton Garrett Ballard, Dominique Lashad Butler and Darius Devon Walker;

LENA: Archie Jean Johnson, William Leo Milner, Lacie Nicole Sessums and Elizabeth Brooke Wilson;

LITTLE ROCK: William George Alexander, William Audie Cress, Tiffany Ann Vrbicky, Timmie Talbert Wiggins and Amber N. Yeager;

LOUIN: Jalisa M. Wheaton, Helen Grace Wilson and Miracle Lagrace Wilson;

LOUISVILLE: Justin Keith Bates, David Karl Boydstan, Lucas Cade Calvert, Katrina Combest, Ophelia Delois Doss, Kaitlyn Dachele Edwards, Brittany Lashae Foster, Kuriakis Miguel Glass, Cory Jamison Goodin, Meagan Lynn Graham, Conashya Delashya Headd, Samantha Elaine Hill, Kristy Leevel Holmes, Amanda Mae Howard, Elizabeth Dawn Hurt, Tom C. Jackson, Kayla Caitlin Jenkins, Angela Arnetta Jenkins-Coburn, John Wesley Kight, Jamey Lea Kinard, Brittany Claire Lucas, John Loyd Mask, Leslie Anne McGahey, Lauren Marie McGahey, Marcus Crandale Metts, Sebrenea Gwena Miller, Tydon Deon Miller, Jacqueline M. Moore, Tiandra Vickers Parker, Brody O'Neal Richardson, Megan Nicole Robinson, Justice M. Steele, Michael Aaron Stokes, Ciera Chantal Tanner, Jacob Bruce Thompson, Kelsey Jewell White, David Patrick Wylie, Tyria Nicole Foster and Jeffrey Warren Hemphill;

MABEN: James Tyson Hendrix;

MADISON: John Morgan Berry and John Carl Bruening;

MCCOOL: Kelvin Lavorn Ball, Kierra Lanay Griffin, Quinn'Toya Wykeisha Miller, Samantha Nicole Morgan and Sheneka Berry Spivey;

MEADVILLE: Terry Blake Wilkinson;

MENDENHALL: Hunter Stevens Brooks;

MERIDIAN: Dustin Slater Lott, Nikki Dawn Ward, Ben Edward Brooks, Birdia R. Butchee, Crystal Louise Carter, Irvin Chamberlain, Ray Bennett Chapman, Wesley Abram Clark, Jabrandon Lewis Cole, Whitney Lee Crawford, Vashonda Latrice Davis, Brandi Dearman, Machelie Evans, Darnecia Q. Franklin, Jonathan Matthew Graham, Thomas Hunter Graham, Laporshé Teneae Griggs, Robert Leland Jackson, Amanda Jenkins, Bailey Gray McElroy, Malauri Shay Robinson, Alesha Gail Stennis, Patricia Thomas and Nichole Mercedes Wray;

MORTON: Makenzie Layne Adcoc, Alicia Brook Boykin, Jeffery Woodard Boykin, Aaron Dustin Dipuma, Chauncy Lee Griffin, Kelsey Elizabeth Hall, Samuel David Irby, Percy T. Lewis, Allyson Courtnie Nichols, Justin Ray Nutt, Christin Renee

Polk, Zabulius Markey Reese, Leah Alexis Rigney, Meghan Schmidt, Jessica Nicole Stinson, Alice Jewel Towner and Pepper Lee Weed-Cooper;

NATCHEZ: Savannah Lynn Vance;

NEWTON: Jose Juan Allende, Lucas Daniel Aycox, Miranda Nicole Bender, Bobby Curry Billups, Vivian A. Braxton, Sidney Jamez Broach, Dama J. Cates-Kilgore, Robin Renee Coker, Lisa Maria Collins, Lillian Ann Curry, Will Landon Gibson, Pamela ReGina Glenn, Dakota Lynne Griffin, Jackie M. Humphreys, Maree Antronette Kidd, Aream M. Leverette, Devin Noel Little, Aristotle Sanchez Love, Zachery Eli Mason, Marquita McLaurin, Eunice Raynita McLaurin, Robert Maurice Payne, Alma Olivia Pickens, Amanda Kaye Pientowski, Magen Pearl Pierce, Kadeshia Dominique Pugh, Wesley Devon Robinson, Charles Lance Roebuck, Ashley Elizabeth Roebuck, Monica Lynn Russell, Danielle Nicole Shelley, Jasmaine Gentia Skinner, Jamey Stuart Tune, Robert Clint Walker, Kiyanna Monique White and Deborah Jones Williams;

NORTHPORT, AL: TeJimion Mareco Leatherwood;

NOXAPATER: Taylor Lindsey Deese, Mary A. Haynes, Barbara Lynn Hudson, Zachery Seth Kemp, Haley Lane Pierce, Crystal Dawn Roland, Taylor Jessica Smith, Daniel Allen Thomas and Krystle Dawn Weems;

PASCAGOULA: Ronnie Andrew Tisdale;

PEARL: Summer Leighann Hallman;

PELAHATCHIE: Matthew Travis Pennypacker;

PHILADELPHIA: Virginia Easley, Kayla Michelle Alexander, Amanda Chaise Barrett, Michael Ryan Bell, Harrison Andrew Ben, Katelyn Emalee Bennett, Michael Keith Billie, Jessie Joanna Boatner, Jerrie Denise Boatright, Antajh Boggan, Heather Necole Bradley, Kendall Scott Brown, Tylan Chanteona Buckley, Chiquita Shenell Calloway, Melissa C. Charlie, Nicholas Elijah Chunn, Jordan Elizabeth Clearman, Elizabeth Coburn, Shamiski Zamorian Collier, Deana W. Cumberland, Jonee Brantley Cumberland, Taylor Ray Dickerson, Tammie Terell Easley O'Neal; Shan Carol Ely, Kayla Suzanne Estes, Christopher Chase Fairchild, Raymond William Farlow, Wanda Jeanette Ferris, Summar Dawn Fortenberry, Dylan Leigh Goines, Kenneth Georgio Grace, Douglas Mandrell Greer, Kenneth Lane Herrin, Joseph Alan Holdiness, Sharon Lynn Houston, Felecia Jacnell Howell, Shanna Elaine Isaac, Heaven Nehaya Jaafar, Erica L. Jenkins, Whitney Michelle Jenkins, Jared Jaye Jim, Anthen Johnson, Lacey Jo Johnson, Jessica Nicole Johnson, Cory Neal King, Christopher Alvin Langley, Ashley Ann Lawrence, Ashley Nashay Lovern, Marlee Shayne Massey, Brandon Matthew McCarty, Rodney Iydell McClendon, Jessica Rakesha McDonald, Karleigh Brianna Moss, Jeremy Clifton Nowell, Julie Ann Osborne, Lanna Elizabeth Parker, Dylan Scott Peden, Darius Marshay Peeples, Barbara Morris Pickens, Candice Lynn Poncho-Mingo, Tanner Thomas Rhodes, Jermaine Alexander Russell, Jessica May Skinner, Dylan Burt Sparnecht, Brianna Gayle Spears, Micah Clay Stewart, Nathan Tanner Stone, Carly Jan Thomas, Dustin Wayne Tubby, Katherine Lynn Upchurch, Dakota Michelle Vowell, Meagan Brittany Warren, Jonathan Robert Warren, Whitney Leree Wesley, Elaine Juliann White, Hillary Chantia Williams, Phillip M. Williamson, Brittany Leigh Winstead, Leslie Pauline Young and Amber Rose Hill;

PRESTON: Steven Brian Fuller, Shandreka Varsha Hunt and Joshua Lee Richardson;

PULASKI: Myrna Susan Parkman, Kelsi Diane Walters and Ivory Summer Weldon;

RALEIGH: Dedidra Lajune Miller;

RAYMOND: Marquata Ramona Brown;

RIDGELAND: Monica Mechelle Johnson;

ROSE HILL: Paula Suzanne Bounds, Candace Irene Bradley



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
ECCC Practical Nursing Program Graduates: These East Central Community College students hope to soon begin their careers in the health-related field having recently completed the College's Practical Nursing Program. They received special recognition for completing the 12-month program during the annual pinning ceremony held December 10, 2012. From left are Kristy Bounds of Forest, a product of Scott Central High School; Emily Hansford, a graduate of Union High School; and Chiquita Calloway of Philadelphia, a product of Noxapater High School. Hansford also provided the commencement address and was recognized as Dual Enrollment Student of the Year. Bounds and Calloway also participated in the ceremony by providing the invocation and benediction, respectively. Denita Thomas serves as dean of healthcare education. Practical Nursing faculty members include Theresa Cole, Violet Lambert, Alicia Lundstrom, Melanie Pinter, Vickie Thorne and Christy Wilson.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
Barrier Selected ECCC's Top Surgical Technology Student: Rebecca Barrier (center) of Noxapater was recognized as East Central Community College's "Surgical Technology Student of the Year" at the program's annual pinning ceremony held Dec. 13, 2012, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. Barrier received the honor "for her positive attitude and excellence in the classroom and clinical settings." The presentation was made by LeAnn Shirley (left), program director/instructor and Kristie Pilgrim, instructor. Barrier was among the 14 graduates who completed the program.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
Tillman Wins Culinary Arts Raffle: East Central Community College's Culinary Arts Technology program recently held a raffle for a donated painting with the \$350 raised designated to help fund construction of a "teaching garden." Addie Tillman (right) of Newton was the raffle winner and is shown with Culinary Arts Technology student Sophia Wheaton, also of Newton. "The culinary department would like to thank everyone who participated in the raffle and helped support fundraising efforts for our teaching garden," said instructor Barry Karrh. "Make sure to keep your eyes and ears open for future fundraisers and activities which stimulate both your imagination and your palate."



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
Walker Registers for Spring Classes: Scott Walker (left) of Philadelphia is shown registering for spring classes at East Central Community College during Orientation activities held Friday, January 4. A nontraditional student, Walker is a 2006 graduate of Philadelphia High School and is enrolling in classes in the Computer Network Support Technology Program. He is shown receiving assistance with his class schedule from instructor Kelly Cluff.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
Receive First Chair Honors During ECCC Band Clinic: These local musicians received first chair, first band honors during the 35th annual East Central Community College Invitational Band Clinic held January 25-26. The two-day clinic is the largest band clinic in the College's history with more than 250 musicians participating. The clinic is comprised of first, second and third bands: gold, black and white bands, respectively, which include the top musicians from the ECCC's five-county district. The clinic concluded with a concert in Huff Auditorium. Students receiving first chair, first band honors and their respective schools include (front row, from left) Cameron Higgason (contrabass clarinet), Philadelphia; Tehearia Campbell (bass clarinet), Morton; Annalea Clarke (percussion), Newton County; Ava Cumberland (flute), Neshoba Central; Cayla Carraway (alto saxophone), Union; and Katlyn Patrick (mallets), Forest; and (back row, from left) Kayla Sudduth (euphonium), Morton; Graham Murphree (tenor saxophone), Newton County; Evan Derrick (trombone), Morton; Dylan Brister (baritone saxophone), Neshoba Central; Dustin Jackson (horn), Louisville; Daniela Vargas (trumpet), Morton; and Kymberly Croft (clarinet) and Charlie Gaddis (tuba), both of Newton County. Clinicians for the event included Dr. Mohamad Schuman, the associate director of bands at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg; Jason Harrell, director of bands at Pearl Junior High in Pearl, and a graduate of Scott Central High School; and DeMario Jefferson, assistant director of bands at Starkville High School in Starkville. Hunter Corhern serves as ECCC Director of Bands. Ed Girling serves as assistant director of ECCC bands.

HONORS

From Page 8

and Jerry Michael Lewis;
SARAH: Kelsey Nicole Mayo;
SACIER: Donnie Fitzgerald Farmer;
SEBASTOPOL: Brittany Nicole Savell;
SHUQUALAK: Barbara Dianne Primas;
STARKVILLE: Bonita Quinn Jordan;
TAYLORSVILLE: Conner Daniel West;
TOOMSUBA: Sederrius Jamere Brewster;
TUPELO: Clinton Palmer McGraw;
UNION: Samantha Michelle Abel; Adriana Brooke Alderson, Ashley Briana Barnett, Joshua Lamar Bradley, Brittany Kayla Bryan, Coni Anla-Sha Bryant, Elizabeth Renee Burnett, Kayla Brooke Burton, John Caleb Crenshaw, Justin Paul Fender, Jonathan Hunter Fortenberry, Levi Augustus French, Emily Michelle Hansford, David R. Hardy, Jasmine Knisha Hunter, Susan Denice Jackson, Brittany Danielle Mallory, Victoria Elizabeth Malone, Jamie Lee Mayfield, Megan E. Montgomery, Jonathan Adam Moore, Mary Elizabeth Price, Ashleigh Nicole Savage, Richard M. Sistrunk, Nikki Lynn Slade, Yancey Leigh Tillman, Carley Elise Townsend, Melissa J. Warren, Kathryn Joann Williamson and Kristien Hope Winstead;
VIDALIA, LA: Mary Elizabeth Sanders;
WALNUT GROVE: Felicia Nicole Clark, Ashland Brooke Ellington, Derron A. Gates, Yasmin Ti'Anna Gill, Jackie Ann Hogue, Mary Kathryn Loper, Sabrina Janae Posey, Emily Frances Price, Dana Marie Spivey, Megan Elizabeth Thaggard, Erin Leigh Thornton and Cassandra Gail Willis;
WATERFORD: Shelby Nicole Davis; and
WEIR: Damone M. Baldridge and Kyle Wade Henson.

NOTICE!

Safety Memo: Natural Gas Safety

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

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

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

Damage Prevention

Although safe, tested, and regulated, the system's most common hazard is from 3rd party damage from excavation. Before any excavations are done, contact Dig Safety - Mississippi One-Call System, Inc. 1800-227-6477 or 811 and call East Central Community College at 601-635-6266. Always call before you dig. It's as easy as dialing 8.1.1., and it's the law!

Detecting A Natural Gas Leak

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

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

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

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

Natural Gas Safety Tips:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Houser’s New Album Tells Us ‘How Country Feels’

BY CHRIS ALLEN BAKER
SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

In 2005, several thousand screams could be heard when Trace Adkins took the stage in Meridian as one of country music’s leading stars, one of whose top hits came from the heart and mind of Scott County’s own Randy Houser.

Now, eight years later, Houser has evolved from writing songs like “Honky Tonk Badonkadonk” for other artists and has become a name in his own right in Country Music circles, earning multiple nominations for ACM and CMA Awards, a #2 single in the form of “Boots On,” and songwriting credits for major names such as Adkins, Justin Moore and Chris Young.

Last week, Houser released his newest album, “How Country Feels” whose title track is swiftly making its way up the Country Billboard chart. It is also his first album under the Stony Creek label.

Positive vibes with his new

recording l a b e l r i p p l e t h r o u g h “ H o w C o u n t r y F e e l s , ” t h e s p a r k l i n g f i r s t s i n g l e w h i c h e c u t w i t h p r o d u c e r D e r e k G e o r g e , a f e l l o w M i s s i s s i p p i a n w h o H o u s e r h a d w a n t e d t o w o r k w i t h f o r a d e c a d e .

“It was the obvious choice for a lead-off,” Houser says of “How Country Feels.” “It caught my ear the first time I heard it—like, ‘I wanna hear that again.’”

Other new tracks echo the single’s sunny self-assurance, including “We’re Just Growing Younger” and “Along for the Ride,” which Houser co-wrote with Zac Brown. “We were playing a festival and I just had this song rolling around in



HOUSER

my head,” Houser remembers of the latter. “I stayed up till about 5 in the morning but then got stuck. So I called up Zac and we went on his bus and knocked it out of the park.”

There is contemplation, too: “Like a Cowboy” is about “me coming home for a few days, then having to leave again,” Houser says, while “Route 3 Box 250D” provides an intimate snapshot of the singer’s upbringing. “That one’s kind of hard to listen to,” he admits. “It hits almost too close to home.”

As for the album’s sound, Houser says it’s shaping up as his most expansive outing yet, with more bells and whistles than he’s used in the past; it also showcases the remarkable voice that led Vince Gill to call Houser “one of the best in the new crop of country singer-songwriters” and pal Jamey Johnson to say, “I watched a blind man jump to his feet and drop his crutches the first time he heard Randy Houser sing.”

Still, the heart of the album—of Houser’s entire outlook right

now—remains the story of a man who’s moved through darkness into light. “I feel like I’ve reached such a special moment,” he says.

Houser grew up in Scott County where he attended Lake High School until 1994. He later attended East Central Community College before entering the music business with a band called Ten Pound Biscuit.

Houser eventually made his way to Nashville to write songs for a publishing company which marketed his work to artists, but eventually evolved to his own headline career.

With hits like “Anything Goes” and “Boots On” among others, Houser has appeared on Good Morning America, The Late Show with David Letterman among TV invitations.

He has also enjoyed personal success through his marriage to Jessa Lee Yantz last year and the birth of their son, West Yantz Houser.

“I don’t know how it happened, but everything in my life has

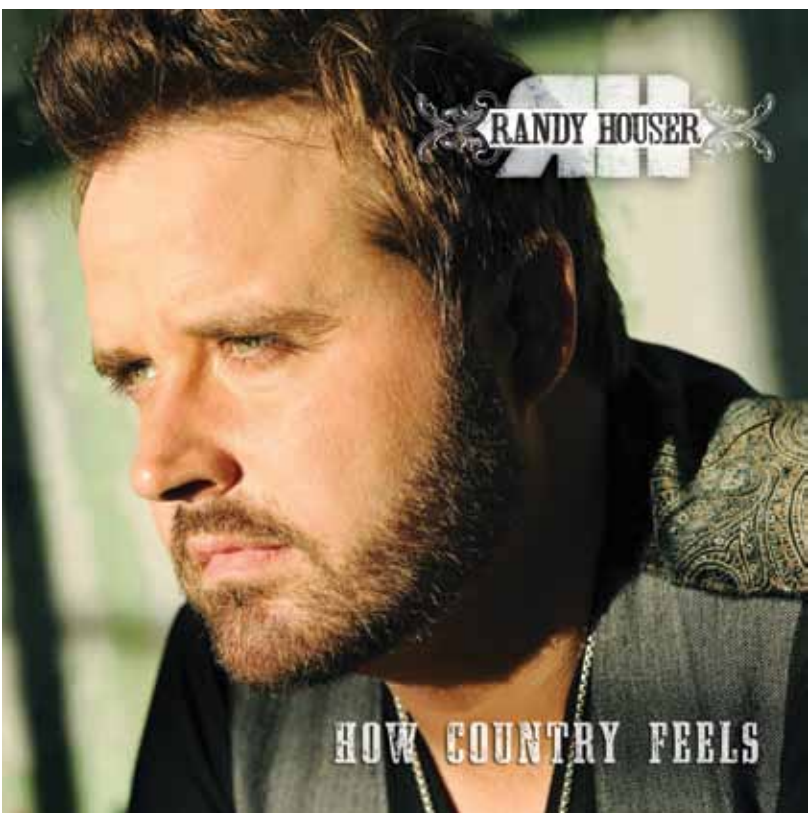


PHOTO COURTESY OF STONEY CREEK RECORDS

started lining up,” Houser said. right in the past.”
“I must have done somebody

Culinary Arts Students Create Art from Taste to Sight

BY CONOR BELL
Staff Writer

People around the world enjoy the delectable treat known as chocolate. This treat follows an edible purpose, but it also serves another purpose.

Chocolate pampers itself as a visual art in the culinary world. East Central’s culinary arts students have been learning how to turn this rich, brown confectionery into an artistic portrayal of two Native Americans.

The students, with the guidance of culinary arts instructor Chef Barry Karrh, began the project with a twenty-six pound block of modeling chocolate. From the 26 pound block, students crafted two Native Americans, a horse and a few accent pieces. Karrh said that this project was used as a teaching tool for sculpting with different edible



CONOR BELL
Staff Writer

medias. The temperature of the chocolate is to allow students to be able to do further work with fondant, hard chocolate, etc.

Twenty-six pounds of chocolate sounds very appetizing, but astonishingly, it would not be because the chocolate contains zero sweetening agents. When Karrh was questioned about the taste of the chocolate, he said that it tastes like the wax lips candies that students used to eat when they were a child.

Chef Karrh designed the visual piece. He said the piece contains a theme of education and follows Choctaw myth of Grandmother Spider. According to the myth, Grandmother Spider gave the Choctaw tribe the trade of basket weaving for the purpose of gathering water hence the basket in the piece. The older Native American man is the teacher while the younger Native American boy is the student signifying the passing down of this trade from generation to generation.

The chocolate masterpiece was recently on display at the ABE/GED graduation and will be melted down for the culinary students’ final exam of making their own chocolate sculpture without the assistance of Chef Karrh.



CONOR BELL/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Perfecting the skill of chocolate carving are ECCC Culinary Arts students Milleney Ferraras, Callie Wray, Sophia Wheaton and Nan Harness. The students began the carving with a 26-pound block of chocolate.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC All-State Band Members: The above members of the Wall O’ Sound Band at East Central Community College were recently selected for the Mississippi Junior/Community College Band Association All-Collegiate Band. Participants will attend the University of Southern Mississippi Band Clinic held February 7-9 in Hattiesburg. Pictured are (front row, from left) Jessie Armstrong and Hannah Cade, both of West Lauderdale; Samantha Farley of Neshoba Central and Matt Graham of Lake; and (back row from left) Zach Peden and Leslie Young, both of Neshoba Central; and Sarah LaBue (alternate) and Hannah Berryhill (alternate), both of Newton County.

‘Never Give Up; Keep Pushing’- Urges ECCC GED Graduate

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Ashly Thompson of Forest and Johnathon Scott of Carthage were among recipients of high school equivalency diplomas presented at the semi-annual GED Graduation held Jan. 24, 2013, at East Central Community College.

Both were also among featured speakers and related their personal testimonials at the special ceremony, which also included remarks from Mississippi Lt. Gov. Tate Reeves who congratulated graduates and encouraged them to continue their education.

Thompson, 23, lost her home to Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and was living in a tent at a resort area as she began her senior year at D’Iberville High School.

She passed first semester but was unable to complete the second term and dropped out of school.

For several years she attempted to pass the GED Test but was unsuccessful.

She later moved to the Scott County area, and with her finance’s assistance and encouragement, she enrolled in GED classes offered at the Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center.

“Mrs. (Teresa) Lovett and Mrs. (Elizabeth) Nutt helped me refresh my skills,” said Thompson, “and it wasn’t long until I was prepared to take my test....which I passed the first time I took it!”

Thompson said she is “most appreciative” of the support from family and instructors.

“The support from my finance, his mom and my instructors helped me turn my life around,” she said. “I now know the future is bright for my son and me.”

Thompson is currently enrolled in evening and on-line classes offered by ECCC.

Scott, 19, began his education



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Ashly Thompson (left) of Forest and Johnathon Scott of Carthage provided inspirational messages at the semi-annual GED Graduation held Jan. 24, 2013, at East Central Community College. They were among the 33 area residents to receive high school equivalency diplomas from ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

at French Camp Academy in Choctaw County. He struggled to succeed in math and failed the fourth grade.

“My mother always told me that she wasn’t good in math either, but that I needed to keep on trying,” Scott said.

He later attended Weir High School and eventually went to Chamberlain-Hunt Academy in Port Gibson, where he finished the eleventh grade.

“Although I finished the eleventh grade, I realized that not only did I not like math but math did not like me, either!”

He left Chamberlain-Hunt and spent the summer months living in Louisville with Garry and Ramona Hughes who earlier became his family’s “sponsor” at French Camp.

While residing in Louisville, Scott enrolled in GED classes taught by instructors Daphne Donald and Kay Ward. “They pushed me and I pushed myself,” said Scott. “I passed all the GED sections except one – math, which I finally passed on my third attempt! I had finally completed my GED!”

As he struggled to pass the math section of the GED Test,

Scott said he kept remembering what his mom told him before she died on Easter Sunday 2012, “Never give up – keep pushing!”

Scott encouraged others who are thinking about giving up on their dreams of a better life through education to do the same....“Never give up!”

Scott plans to continue his education and become a computer programmer.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart awarded diplomas to the 34 graduates.

Other program participants include ECCC Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake, Vice President for Instruction Dr. Teresa Houston, music instructor Len Bobo and Adult Basic Education/GED instructor Bryan Burt.

East Central offers free ABE/GED-Preparation classes throughout the five-county district.

For more information, contact Ryan Clarke, program director, 601-635-6387 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 387. His e-mail address is rclarke@eccc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Culinary Students Participate in Legislative Luncheon: Culinary arts technology students representing East Central Community College provided dessert items for the MACJC Legislative Appreciation Luncheon held Jan. 22, 2013, in the fellowship hall of Galloway United Methodist Church in Jackson. From left are Callie Wray of Meridian, Sheneka Spivey of McCool, Sophia Wheaton of Newton and instructor Barry Karrh, who are shown with lemonade tarts and chocolate silk tarts prepared for the special occasion. All food items were prepared by students representing the state’s community colleges. Students also provided entertainment for the state’s leaders and lawmakers.

EXTRAORDINARY STUDENT

Windham Selected for Drum Corps International

BY MAGEN PIERCE
Staff Writer

East Central Community College sophomore Shawn Windham of Morton was recently chosen to participate in the Spirit of Atlanta Drum and Bugle Corps, a member of Drum Corps International (DCI). Windham, who serves as a color guard captain for the ECCC Wall O' Sound Band, will be



MAGEN PIERCE
Staff Writer

marching with the corps this summer. DCI hosts marching events throughout the United States, including performances in Ocean Springs and Hattiesburg on July 23 and 24, respectively. The season concludes with a grand finale competition in August. The title of the 2013 Spirit of Atlanta show is "Speakeasy."

Windham first became interested in Drum Corps as a student at Morton High School.

"Our high school (band) director showed us Drum Corps videos," he said. "Music has always been a big part of my life. I started playing saxophone in the eleventh grade. Guys couldn't be a part of the guard in high school, but I tried out here and made it.

When asked about what made him want to try out for the Spirit of Atlanta he said, "I used to watch them perform in Hattiesburg, and I like the



WINDHAM

idea of taking on another challenge." Not only did Windham say he liked the challenge he was also able to face it fearlessly. He revealed this when he

was asked if he was nervous when he tried out, and he replied, "No, I was excited."

It was apparent when Windham began to tell me how many different routines he had to do at tryouts that he was ecstatic about doing every routine. He said there were a flag, rifle, and dance routine.

"I plan to audition for color guard at USM (University of Southern Mississippi) in March. I will probably be a culinary major at USM, but I hope to also be a guard instructor some day."

He will begin training camp in April, start full rehearsals Memorial Day Weekend and begin touring in June.

"We will have the two Mississippi shows in July and after touring completes in August, I will only have a few days before fall semester starts at USM," Windham added.

In order to travel with the group, Windham will have to raise his own funds. Those interested in making donations may send them to Shawn Windham, ECCC Band Department, P.O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327.

According to the Corps Web site, Spirit of Atlanta Drum & Bugle Corps, founded in 1976, is a nonprofit youth performing arts education organization based in Atlanta, GA. The corps comprises 150 brass, percussion, and color guard members, ages 15 to 22, who perform an 11-minute show that integrates artistic and athletic skill in an entertaining display of outdoor pageantry. Members are selected by audition based on their musical ability, movement skills, and attitude.

Additional staff reports contributed to this article.

EC 'Senior Days' Scheduled March 27-28

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College will host its annual "Senior Days" for area high school seniors on March 27 and 28.

Activities begin with registration in Huff Auditorium at 9 a.m. and end with a complimentary lunch at noon. All campus clubs and organizations will have information booths set up in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building and advisors from academic, career, technical and healthcare programs will be available.

In addition, students will be entertained by the ECCC Players, Collegians rock-n-roll band, Percussion Ensemble, Centralettes danceline, ECCC Cheerleaders and the Ac'cents show choir.

"We look forward to visiting with our district seniors and providing information on why they should make East Central their college choice," said Dr. Randall Lee, vice president for student services.

Schools scheduled to attend on Wednesday, March 27 include Forest, Grace Christian, Lake, Leake Academy, Leake Central, Louisville, Nanih Waiya, Newton County, Noxapater, Sebastopol and Union.

Those scheduled to attend on Thursday, March 28 are seniors from Carthage, Neshoba Central, Newton, Winston Academy, Christian, Choctaw Central, County Academy, Leake County, Morton, Philadelphia, Scott Central and

For more information, contact the Office of Student Services at 601-635-6205, or toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The e-mail address is rlee@eccc.edu.

ECCC Wall O' Sound
SPRING 2013 CONCERTS AND AUDITION DATES

Thursday, March	Concert Band – 7-8 pm	Huff Auditorium
Tuesday, March 26	Jazz Band – 7-8 pm	Huff Auditorium
Thursday, April 4	Centralette Clinic – 5-7 pm	South Campus Gym
Tuesday, April 16	Drum Major Tryouts – 1-5 pm	Band Hall
Thursday, April 18	Drum Line/Auxiliary Percussion Tryouts - 1-5 pm, Band Hall, Night O' Percussion – 7-8:30 pm	Huff Auditorium
Thursday, April 25	Centralette Tryouts – 3-5 pm	South Campus Gym
Monday, April 29	Concert Band – 3:30-5 pm	Pavilion by Walking Track
Tuesday, April 30	Color Guard Clinic – 1-4:30 pm Color Guard Auditions – 6-8 pm	South Campus Gym

For more information, contact Hunter Corhern or Ed Girling!
hcorhern@eccc.edu egirling@eccc.edu

MSVCC INTENSIVE TERM II											
CUT 2223 271	Menu Planning & Facilities Design	3/11/2013	5/6/2013								
ENG 0123 201	Intermediate English	3/4/2013	5/3/2013	1:00 PM	1:58 PM	M	T	W	R	F	
ENG 1113 201	English Composition I	3/4/2013	5/3/2013	8:00 AM	9:15 AM	M	T	W	R		
ENG 1113 202	English Composition I	3/4/2013	5/3/2013	1:00 PM	1:58 PM	M	T	W	R	F	
ENG 1123 235	English Composition II	3/4/2013	5/3/2013	4:00 PM	6:40 PM		T		R		
ENG 1123 245	English Composition II	3/4/2013	5/3/2013	7:00 PM	10:00 PM		T		R		
ENG 1123 257	English Composition II	3/4/2013	5/3/2013	6:00 PM	9:00 PM		T		R		
ENG 1123 261	English Composition II	3/4/2013	5/3/2013	6:00 PM	9:00 PM		T		R		
ENG 1123 271	English Composition II	3/12/2013	5/6/2013								
EPY 2533 271	Human Growth And Development	3/12/2013	5/6/2013								
HPR 1213 272	Personal And Community Health	3/12/2013	5/6/2013								
LLS 1423 273	College Study Skills	3/12/2013	5/6/2013								
MAT 1233 201	Intermediate Algebra	3/4/2013	5/3/2013	8:00 AM	8:58 AM	M	T	W	R	F	
MAT 1313 273	College Algebra	3/11/2013	5/6/2013								
MAT 1313 276	College Algebra	3/12/2013	5/6/2013								
MAT 1323 272	Trigonometry	3/11/2013	5/6/2013								
MAT 1623 201	Calculus II	3/4/2013	5/3/2013	11:00 AM	11:50AM	M		W		F	
MAT 1623 201	Calculus II	3/4/2013	5/3/2013	11:30 AM	12:45 PM		T		R		
MUS 1113 274	Music Appreciation	3/12/2013	5/6/2013								
PHI 1133 276	New Testament Survey	3/11/2013	5/6/2013								
REA 0113 201	Beginning Reading	3/4/2013	5/3/2013	9:00 AM	9:58 AM	M	T	W	R	F	
SOC 2113 273	Introduction To Sociology	3/12/2013	5/6/2013								
SUT 1216 201	Prin. Of Surgical Techniques	3/4/2013	5/3/2013	9:00 AM	2:00 PM		T		R	F	
SUT 1413 201	Surgical Microbiology	3/4/2013	5/3/2013	9:00 AM	2:00 PM	M		W		F	

Registration you must have completed the following by March 8 or March 4 for those courses that start on March 4): Apply online: www.eccc.edu - click on Spring 2013 Application for Admission; Have all OFFICIAL college and high school transcripts or GED documentation sent to the ECCC Admissions office – P.O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327; and, Provide documentation of your ACT or COMPASS score to the Admissions office.

WARRIOR
BASEBALL

2013 Diamond Warrior Schedule

Feb. 9	Southwest TN	Home	2 p.m.	Feb. 26	Pensacola FL	Away	2 p.m.	March 20	Southwest	Home	3 p.m.	April 13	Southwest	Away	2 p.m.
Feb. 12	Alabama Southern	Home	12 noon	March 2	East MS	Away	1 p.m.	March 23	Itawamba	Away	2 p.m.	April 17	Itawamba	Home	3 p.m.
Feb. 12	Northwest	Home	6 p.m.	March 6	Meridian	Home	4 p.m.	March 26	Co-Lin	Away	3 p.m.	April 20	Co-Lin	Home	2 p.m.
Feb. 15-17	RUSH Invitational	Home	TBA	March 9	Ellsworth IO	Away	1 p.m.	March 29	MS Gulf Coast	Home	3 p.m.	April 23	MS Gulf Coast	Away	3 p.m.
Feb. 20	Shelton State	Home	3 p.m.	March 9	Northeast	Away	4 p.m.	April 3	Hinds	Away	3 p.m.	April 27	Hinds	Home	2 p.m.
Feb. 23	Lawson State	Home	12 noon	March 12	Pearl River	Home	3 p.m.	April 6	Pearl River	Away	1 p.m.				
Feb. 23	Kaskaskia IL	Home	6 p.m.	March 16	Jones	Away	3 p.m.	April 9	Jones	Home	3 p.m.				

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E

Warrior Athletics

ECCC Baseball Season Begins with First Pitch Dinner

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College's baseball program officially ushered in the new season with the annual First Pitch Dinner held Saturday, Feb. 2, 2013, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

Andy Phillips, an assistant baseball coach at the University of Alabama, served as guest speaker.

"Coach Phillips is an exceptional person who also experienced success as a collegiate and professional baseball player, and now as a coach," said ECCC head baseball coach Neal Holliman. "We look forward to hearing about his experiences as well as his guidance and motivation on what it takes to be a successful baseball player."

Phillips is a former baseball standout for the Crimson Tide and followed that success with a five-year stint in Major League Baseball.

He is in his third year as hitting and infield coach for Alabama head coach Mitch Gaspard.



PHILLIPS

"We are very fortunate to have Andy on our staff," said Coach Gaspard. "He was a phenomenal player here, and I couldn't be happier with his decision to return to Alabama. Andy is the most well rounded person I have ever coached, and been around."

A four-year letter winner (1996-99) and first-team All-American for Alabama (1999), Phillips played for the New York Yankees (2004-07), New York Mets (2008) and Cincinnati Reds (2008) during his Major League Baseball career.

In his four seasons at Alabama, Phillips posted a career .356 batting average with 61 home runs, 224 RBIs and 322 hits.

He ended his career as the all-time leader in home runs, RBIs and hits, and currently holds the school record in home runs, hits and total bases (590).

In the history of the Alabama baseball program, Philips is one of three players with 50 home runs and 200 RBIs, and one of four players with 300 hits.

The Crimson Tide advanced to the NCAA Tournament all four years of Phillips' career, including three College World Series appearances. He is one of two players to make three CWS appearances. As a freshman in 1996, Phillips was part of a 50-19 squad that captured

the Southeastern Conference regular season and tournament titles and advanced to the College World Series.

Phillips was a seventh-round draft pick by the New York Yankees in 1999. He made his Major League debut on Sept. 14, 2004, and in his first at-bat, he belted a home run over the Green Monster in Fenway Park on the first pitch from Terry Adams.

He is one of seven players (EC alumnus Marcus Thames of Louisville is also included in the prestigious group) to homer in his first at-bat as a Yankee and became the 21st player in MLB history to hit a home run on the first pitch of his career.

Phillips is a native of Tuscaloosa but later moved to Demopolis, where he played baseball for the Demopolis Academy Generals. He was a 41st-round selection out of high school by the Milwaukee Brewers as a shortstop in 1995 but instead joined the Crimson Tide baseball program.

He and his wife, Bethany, have a daughter, Isaiah.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Andy Phillips, an assistant baseball coach at the University of Alabama, who served as the guest speaker at the First Pitch Dinner for the Diamond Warriors on Feb. 2, speaks to the Warriors and their supporters.

Lady Warriors Find Three-Game Winning Streak

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Jaianah Matthew pumped in 17 points to lead East Central Community College's Lady Warriors to a 68-51 thumping of Hinds Community College February 7 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

With the win, EC improves to 7-12 overall but more importantly evened its record to 4-4 in the MACJC South Division. The Lady Warriors have now reeled off three consecutive division victories under first-year head coach Crandal Porter.

Matthew, a 5-8 sophomore guard from Arkansas High School in Texarkana, Ark., also pulled down four rebounds and was credited with four assists.

Also scoring in double figures were Xzandra Dowd and Jakela Johnson. Dowd, a 5-8 sophomore guard from Neville (La.) High School, tallied 12 points with seven rebounds and two assists. Johnson, a 6-1 sophomore forward from West Jones, had 11 points. She was also credited with seven rebounds.

Other scorers were Niya Hughes of Forest, nine; Reneisha Evans of Newton County, six; Nakia Miller of Louisville, five; Ellen Black of Scott Central, four; Taylor Brister of Lawrence County, three; and Tyler Hearn of West Jones, one.

Hinds was led by Shelley Griffith's 15 points.

EC held a 40-24 advantage at halftime.

In the men's contest, EC was outscored by an 84-77 margin.

Bobby Wrench tallied 19 points to lead the Warriors, who dropped to 1-18 overall and 1-7 in division play under seventh-year head coach Maurice Bowie. Wrench is a 6-5 sophomore guard from Columbus.

Also scoring in double figures were Aquill Baynard, 16; and Chris Rhoney and Walter Evans, 15 each. Baynard, a 6-8 sophomore forward from Elisk High School in Houston, Texas, also grabbed seven rebounds and had one assist. Rhoney, a 6-1, freshman guard from West Lauderdale, grabbed four rebounds and had three assists. Evans, a 6-3 freshman forward from Hattiesburg, led in rebounds with nine and had one assist.

Other point makers wer Randy Collier of South Leake, six; Jamere Eichelberger of Louisville, four; and Tedjimini Leatherwood of Northridge (Ala.) High School, two.

Dominique Brown led Hinds with 24 points.

EC trailed 38-34 at the break.

LADY WARRIORS DEFEAT

PEARL RIVER; WARRIORS FALL

Matthew poured in 16 points and Dowd and Brister contributed 15 points each in leading the ECCC women's basketball team to a 71-66 victory over division opponent Pearl River Community College February 4 on the Poplarville campus.

Matthew had two treys and four assists in helping lead EC to a second-straight division win.

Dowd led in rebounds with 13 and was also credited with four assists and two steals.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Mickens Drives to Goal: East Central Community College freshman Tyneisha Mickens (4) drives past East Mississippi's Wilma Davis (10) to score two of her 10 points in helping lead the Lady Warriors to a 49-41 victory over their longtime rival. Mickens is a 5-9 guard and product of Noxubee County High School.

Brister had three treys, seven assists and three steals.

Other point makers were Evans, five; Mickens, three; and Hughes, two.

Kalisha Washington pumped in 27 points to lead the Lady Wildcats who dropped to 5-10 and 3-5.

EC held a 33-22 advantage at halftime.

The Warriors were not as fortunate and fell 75-58.

Wrench tallied 24 points to lead East Central.

Also scorers were Baynard, 11; Collier, eight; Rhoney, seven; and Evans and Leatherwood, four each.

Xavian Rimmer poured in 19 points to lead the Wildcats who improved to 16-2 and 7-1.

EC trailed 29-21 at the break.

LADY WARRIORS BEAT JONES;

WARRIORS FALL

Dowd poured in 33 points and led the Lady Warriors to a 77-67 win over Jones County Junior College January 28 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

Dowd also pulled down a team high 10 rebounds.

Also scoring for EC were Matthew,

18; Johnson, 12; Mickens, five; Miller and Brister, four each; and Ellen Black of Scott Central, one.

Caitlyn Spane poured in 19 points to lead the Lady Bobcats who dropped to 8-6 and 3-3.

EC held a 31-30 advantage at halftime.

In the men's game, the Warriors were outscored 90-71.

Wrench led EC with 16 points.

Other point makers were Rhoney, 15; Baynard, nine; Walter Evans of Hattiesburg and Tyler Anderson of Carver Military Academy in Chicago, seven each; Leatherwood and Eichelberger, six each; and Ghafton Owens of Harrison Central, two.

Jones was led by Donta Pittman's 13 points.

The Warriors trailed 50-46 at the break.

ECCC BASKETBALL SQUADS DROP DECISIONS AT HINDS

MACJC South Division competition resumed on a disappointing note for East Central Community College's basketball squads who were swept at Hinds Community College January 14 in games played on the Utica campus.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Baynard Lays in Tough Shot: East Central Community College's Aquill Baynard (23) shows his determination in scoring a basket despite pressure from East Mississippi Community College defenders. Baynard is a 6-8 sophomore forward and product of Elisk High School in Houston, Texas. The longtime rival Lions held on to claim the non-division matchup by an 82-72 margin.

The Lady Warriors were outscored by a 71-61 margin and the Warriors were edged 81-75.

Dowd and Matthew poured in 21 and 17 points, respectively, to lead the EC women.

LaPorshia Mitchell tallied 15 points to lead the Lady Bulldogs who improved to 2-10.

Hinds led 38-27 at halftime. Baynard pumped in 22 points.

Other top scorers were Wrench, 12; and Leatherwood, 10.

Dominique Brown poured in 19 points to lead the Bulldogs.

EC trailed 37-35 at the break.

ECCC BASKETBALL SQUADS FALL AT EMCC

ECCC's Lady Warriors were unable to maintain their halftime advantage and the Warriors are still looking for their first season win as the 2012-13 schedule resumed January 8 at rival East Mississippi Community College in Scooba.

EC's women led 36-27 at the break but the Lady Lions rallied for a 67-60

decision in the non-division matchup.

Johnson poured in 18 points to lead the Lady Warriors and also led in rebounds with seven.

Also scoring were Dowd, 12; Brister, nine; Mickens, seven; Hughes and Evans, five each; and Miller and Matthew, two each.

Nockeye Qualls tallied 14 points to lead the EMCC women, who improved to 2-9 and avenged an earlier 49-41 loss to the Lady Warriors.

In the men's contest, EC trailed throughout the non-division battle and fell 91-75.

Rhoney pumped in 23 points to lead the Warriors. Other point makers were Eichelberger and Baynard, 12 each; Leatherwood, eight; Evans and Wrench, six each; and Anderson and Jakaris Coleman of Forest Hill, four each. Baynard led in rebounds with eight.

Mack Foster scored 19 points to lead the Lions. EC fell 82-72 in early season action.

The Lions led 53-30 at the break.

Warrior Athletics

EC Presents Honors to Football, Soccer Players

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Members of East Central Community College's football and soccer teams received special recognition at the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet held December 5, 2012, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

Athletic Director Chris Harris provided remarks and recognized coaches and players for their hard work and dedication throughout the year.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart also paid tribute to coaches and players and presented academic award recipients in each sport.

In women's soccer, award winners and respective high schools include Kelsey Tadlock of Newton County, Academic Award (3.936 GPA), Team Co-Captain Award; Golden Boot Award (12 goals, two assists, 26 points; finished seventh in scoring in MACJC North Division, 15th in Region 23/MACJC); and All-Region 23 (only repeat player out of 11 selected to team); Paige Gower of Clarkdale, Defense Award and honorable mention MACJC All-State; Kennedy Castleberry of Clarkdale, Hustle Award; Al-

ana Turner of Florence, Team Most Valuable Player, Team Co-Captain Award and MACJC All-State; and Erin Thornton of Newton County, Warrior Award and honorable mention MACJC All-State.

Sophomore players were also recognized and presented letters. Honorees included Kelsey Tadlock, Lynea Moreland and Erin Thornton, all of Newton County; Haley Covert, West Lauderdale; and Rachel Field, Oxford Hills Christian Academy, Auburn, Maine.

The Lady Soccer Warriors finished 3-14 overall and 2-6 in the MACJC North Division.

Award-winners in men's soccer and their respective high schools include Zack Killion of South Oldham High School, Crestwood, KY, Academic Award (3.608 GPA); McGee Ledbetter of Heritage Academy in Columbus, Golden Boot Award (14 goals, one assist, 29 points; top scorer in MACJC North Division and MACJC); Team Co-Captain Award, All-Region 23 (top scorer) and Region 23 Player of the Year; Jesse Vaughn of Newton County, Defense Award and MACJC All-State; Taylor Potter of Ben-

tonia, MS School for Math and Science, Hustle Award and MACJC All-State; Jared Canoy of Biloxi, West Harrison, Team Most Valuable Player. Team Co-Captain Award and MACJC All-State; Russ Thompson of Newton County, MACJC All-State; Drew Norman of Florence, and Will Thompson and Jordan Walker, both of Newton County, honorable mention MACJC All-State; and Bryor Shorter of Florence, Warrior Award.

Sophomore players were also recognized and presented letters. Honorees included Bryor Shorter, Rhyne Riebock, Drew Norman and Deshawn Kitchens, all of Florence; Tyravian Miller, Moss Point; McGee Ledbetter, Heritage Academy, Columbus; Jose Aju, Eupora; Ronnie Tisdale, Pascagoula; Zack Killion, South Oldham, Crestwood, KY; Clay Aikens, McLaurin; Jacob Norman, Gulfport; and Jared Canoy, West Harrison.

The Soccer Warriors completed the program's best season by capturing a share of the MACJC North Division title with a 5-2-1 mark and earning a first-ever berth in the state playoffs en

route to a 10-5-3 mark.

Soccer coach Kenneth Thompson presented awards.

Football players who received awards included offensive lineman Dustin Tubby of Neshoba Central, Captain's Award, MACJC All-Star and honorable mention MACJC All-State; quarterback/receiver Brock Hall of Paul W. Bryant in Tuscaloosa, honorable mention MACJC All-State; defensive back Ben Brooks of North-east Lauderdale, Captain's Award and honorable mention MACJC All-State; quarterback Zack Thrasher of New Hope in Columbus, Academic Award (3.67 GPA); wide receiver Freeman Gray of Tunica Academy, honorable mention MACJC All-State; defensive back Desmond Brown of Cherokee County, Ala., honorable mention MACJC All-State; defensive back Steffon Fuller of Kemper County, first team MACJC All-State; defensive back/return specialist Ricky Hunt of North Panola, MACJC All-State; offensive lineman Shaquille Patrick of Scott Central, MACJC All-Star and second team MACJC All-State; linebacker Cory Houck of Union County,



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
ECCC Holds Fall Sports Awards Banquet: Chris Harris, East Central Community College athletic director, addresses a large crowd in attendance for the Fall Sports Awards Banquet held December 5, 2012, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Numerous honors were presented to football and soccer players at the annual program.

Fla., second team MACJC All-State; offensive lineman Bart Whigham of Northview, Ala., second team MACJC All-State; defensive lineman Martaze Jackson of Demopolis, second team MACJC All-State; and defensive back Za Reese of Mor-

Massey Named EC Women's Soccer Coach

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

After leading Florence High School soccer teams to three consecutive state titles during a highly successful eight-year tenure as head coach, Gray Massey hopes to continue his success on the college level.

Massey was recently selected women's soccer coach at East Central Community College. He officially begins his new duties in June 2013.

Massey, 35, succeeds Kenneth Thompson who has led the Lady Warrior program since its inception in 2005. Thompson continues to serve as men's soccer coach.

The new Lady Warrior Soccer head mentor said coaching soccer on the college level has been a goal since he was a teenager. He brings more than just a successful high school career to his new position.

"I bring energy, excitement and a passion for the game that will translate to our players," said Massey. "I am looking forward to the challenge as I also keep pushing myself to get better as a coach. I'm looking forward to the upcoming season and recruiting quality student-athletes who are willing to do what is necessary for East

Central to have a successful program."

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart said Massey is a welcomed addition to the College's coaching staff.

"Gray Massey is an outstanding coach with a proven track record of commitment to both the academic achievement and athletic development of student-athletes under his leadership," said Dr. Stewart. "As a successful coach of championship programs at Florence High School, he knows what it takes to build and maintain a successful soccer program. The search committee and I are confident he is the right person to elevate women's soccer at East Central to new heights. We have no doubt that Coach Massey will build our women's soccer program the 'EC Way – Excellence with Class' as that embodies Gray as both a person and a coach. We welcome Gray and his family to the East Central family. We are excited that he will be leading the women's soccer program at East Central Community College."

Massey led the Lady Eagles soccer team to two straight state championships, the most recent coming Saturday, Feb. 2, with a 2-0 victory over West Lauderdale for the MH-



MASSEY
SAA Class 4A title. The 2012-13 Lady Eagles finished 16-5-3. Massey also coached the boys' soccer team to the 2011 state championship. He is recognized as only the second high school soccer coach to lead both girls' and

boys' teams to state soccer titles.

Massey's coaching success has not gone unnoticed, as evident by his numerous accolades.

Honors received as boys' coach include NFHS Mississippi Coach of the Year in 2012, 2012 All-Star Coach, 2011 Mississippi Association of Coaches Boys' Soccer Coach of the Year and District Coach of the Year (2006-12).

In addition to the state title in 2011, his Florence Eagles won South State championships in 2007, 2008 and 2011 and captured district titles from 2006-11. The Soccer Eagles were South State finalists in 2006 and 2010 and North State finalists in 2013.

As girls' soccer coach, Massey received District Coach of the Year honors in 2007, 2008, 2010, 2011 and 2012. In addition to the two state titles, the Lady Eagles won District titles from 2007-2011 and finished South State finalist in 2007.

Massey was also selected 2012 Teacher of the Year at Florence High School, where he teaches U.S. History, Introduction to World Geography and Mississippi Studies.

Massey's resume includes serving as coach for the Jackson Futbol Club and Aggieldand Soccer Club Teams. He

has also worked as a goal keeper coach at Texas A&M Women's Soccer Camp summer camps in College Station.

Massey, a Brandon native, is a former standout soccer player at Northwest Rankin High School. He received a soccer scholarship to Hinds Community College where the goalkeeper was an All-Region 23 selection in 1996. He continued his success at Mississippi College in Clinton, where in 1998 he was named second team All-Eastern Division in the American Southwest Conference.

He received a bachelor's degree in sociology at Mississippi College in May 2001. He expects to complete a master's degree in coaching education at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio, in August 2013.

He holds National Goalkeeper and National Youth licenses from the United States Soccer Federation. He also holds Advanced National and National Goalkeeper diplomas from the National Soccer Coaches' Association of America. In addition, he holds a National "B" Coaching License with the United States Soccer Federation.

He and his wife, Lauren, have two children, Reid, four; and Ryleigh, two.

ECCC Golfers Place Fourth in Coast Tourney

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College's golf team finished fourth in MACJC Event #1 held Feb. 3-4 at Diamondhead Country Club in Bay St. Louis.

The Warrior linksters posted rounds of 319 and 328 for a 647 total in the 36-hole competition, won by tournament host MS Gulf Coast Community College. The Bulldog squad carded a 621 total after rounds of 316 and 305.

Sophomore Lee McDill of Newton led EC with a pair of 77's for a 154 total. The Newton County High School product finished tied for fifth and qualified for the All-Tournament Team.

Other team members and their respective scores include Sawyer Williams of Parkers

Chapel High School in Eldorado, Ark., 161 (85-76); Taylor York of Choctaw Central, 168 (80-88); Aaron Tucker of Leake Central, 178 (91-87); Shelby Patterson of Forest, 180 (77-103); and Evan Dowell of Carthage, 182 (92-90).

Chris Clark serves as Warrior golf coach.

Other teams participating and their respective scores include Copiah-Lincoln, 624 (314-310); East MS, 635 (314-310); Northwest MS, 655 (338-317); Itawamba, 673 (343-330); Jones County, 691 (345-346); Northeast MS, 696 (348-348); Hinds, 719 (360-359); and Holmes, 737 (372-365).

The second MACJC event of 2013 is scheduled March 2-3 at the Eagle Ridge Golf Course in Raymond and hosted by Hinds Community College.



Shatter the Silence

SUICIDE

The Secret You Shouldn't Keep

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-Katrina Related Youth Suicide Prevention Grants. The views and opinions contained in the 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.

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Reminder: Wear IDs at All Time!

Warrior Athletics



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Diamond Warriors: Ready for season action are the above members of the 2013 East Central Community College baseball team. Diamond Warriors and their respective high schools include (first row, from left) middle infielder Deion Ulmer (16), South Jones; outfielder/left-handed pitcher Jake Bush (32), Brookwood, Ala.; second baseman/outfielder Zach May (38), Newton County; second baseman/outfielder/catcher Kyle Henson (8), Starkville Academy; right-handed pitcher/third baseman Jordan Mixon (11), East Webster; right-handed pitcher Mitchell Wooten (19), Edinburg; third baseman/first baseman Rubert Alcantara (25), Saint George, Dominican Republic; left-handed pitcher/first baseman Caleb McKee (15) and right-handed pitcher Robert Greer (26), both of Neshoba Central; middle infielder John Bruening (3), Ridgeland; and outfielder/first baseman Xzavier Franklin (5), Newton County; (second row, from left) head coach Neal Holliman; student assistant Slater Lott and left-handed pitcher Hunter Graham (21), both of Clarkdale; infielder/outfielder Maxwell Harmon (10), Enterprise; right-handed pitcher Mason Woodrow (9), Taylorsville; right-handed pitcher Fernando Gonzalez (14), Colegio San Ignacio, Guaynabo, Puerto Rico; right-handed pitcher Blake Dubuisson (30), Long Beach; left-handed pitcher Cory Kitchens (34), Heidelberg Academy; right-handed pitcher Nate Dickens (13), Canton Academy; first baseman/outfielder John Morgan Berry (27), Madison Central; first baseman Caleb Woods (22), Leake Central; and assistant coaches Justin Brewer and Jack Edmonson; and (third row, from left) outfielder Cojuante McMillian (39), Hamilton; infielder/outfielder Kalik May (2), Tuscaloosa County; right-handed pitcher Severino Signa (18), Deer Creek; shortstop Tim Anderson (7), Hillcrest (Ala.); outfielder/catcher Chase Domino (6), Fairhope (Ala.); right-handed pitcher Ty Hendrix (20), East Webster; left-handed pitcher Brady McBride (23), Northeast Jones; right-handed pitcher Conner West (36), Taylorsville; right-handed pitcher Channing Darty (33), Hattiesburg; outfielder Terrance Steele (1), Neshoba Central; first baseman/third baseman/outfielder Ryan Shotts (12); and right-handed pitcher Hunter Swart (37), Nanih Waiya.

Diamond Warriors Strive for Success in 2013

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

As is the case each year, East Central Community College head baseball coach Neal Holliman expects his Diamond Warriors to “maximize their potential” as individuals and as a team during the 2013 campaign.

His approach to each season has obviously been successful for the seventh-year head coach, who sports a 168-138 record, which includes a state championship his first year at the helm. The 2012 squad qualified for post-season play and finished with a 25-23 mark.

Although he stopped short of predicting another championship season, Holliman said he is pleased with the talent and attitude of the 2013 version of Diamond Warrior baseball.

“I have consistently been impressed with the type of people and talent we have on this year’s squad,” said Holliman. “We have a lot of positive attributes....and we anticipate another quality season.”

Holliman said his team’s athleticism and depth are among the top “attributes.”

“As with any team, there is room for improvement in many areas, but our depth should be an asset for us as the season unfolds,” Holliman said. “Our athleticism is a positive as well as our depth on the mound. We have shown the ability to consistently play defense, but there are several areas to improve upon in order to achieve our maximum potential.”

Along with the annual theme

(and goal) of “Maximizing Our Potential,” Holliman said the team motto of “Everything Counts” also represents the type team he puts on the field each season.

“The team motto encompasses our whole program in the fact that we desire an athlete who is serious about his character, academics and enhancing his athletic ability,” said Holliman.

Each year’s squad also “adopts” an annual slogan submitted and voted on by the players. Holliman said this year’s winning entry is “If You Want Something You’ve Never Had; You Have To Do Something You’ve Never Done,” from sophomore catcher/infielder/outfielder Kyle Henson of Starkville Academy.

If the fall campaign is an indicator for success, this year’s Diamond Warriors may be poised to reach levels previously not attained....and challenged by Henson’s theme.

“Overall, the fall was productive,” said Holliman. “Success makes you hungry for more....or either you become complacent....obviously we hope our guys are hungry for more....and will become the best they can be this season.”

Expected to lead EC to another successful season are numerous returnees.

At the top of the list is shortstop Tim Anderson, a product of Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa. Anderson was named All-Region 23 and MACJC All-State in 2012 and was also chosen the Diamond Warriors’ most valuable player. He re-

ceived the same honor following competition last summer in the Kansas Jayhawk League, which also rated him as a top major league baseball prospect. He earlier signed a national letter of intent with the University of Alabama-Birmingham.

Fernando Gonzalez is a right-handed hurler from Puerto Rico, who is described by Holliman as one of the leaders on the pitching staff. “Fernando has continually gotten stronger and has improved his off-speed pitches as well as his velocity,” Holliman said.

Xavier Franklin is outfielder and product of Newton County High School, who received most valuable player honors following participation in the Cotton State Wooden Bat League. “Xavier has the ability to play right or left field and provide some ‘pop’ in the middle of the lineup,” said Holliman.

Kalik May is an infielder/outfielder who hails from Tuscaloosa County High School. Holliman said May is “very athletic and versatile as a defender” and is also a switch-hitter “with good strength and speed which allows us great



HOLLIMAN

opportunities throughout the line-up.”

Kyle Henson of Starkville Academy plays multiple positions and is a left-handed hitter who is described by Holliman as “another athletic player with tremendous opportunity to be an impact player.”

Rubert Alcantara plays first and third base and is a Dominican Republic native. “Rubert continues to improve as a player....we expect him to hit in the middle of the line-up and provide stability.”

Sevy Signa is a right-handed pitcher from Deer Creek High School. “Sevy has tremendous upside on the mound and continues to grow into his ability,” said Holliman. Signa plans to continue his career at the University of West Alabama.

Jordan Mixon is a catcher/third baseman/right-handed pitcher from East Webster High School. “Jordan is very versatile and a hard competitor who has the ability to help us in many ways,” said Holliman.

Other returnees include right-handed pitchers Robert Greer of Neshoba Central, Blake Dubuisson of Long Beach, Mitchell Wooten of Ed-

inburg and left-handed hurlers Caleb McKee of Neshoba Central and Brady McBride of Northeast Lauderdale.

“All five will be looked upon to provide quality innings,” said Holliman. “Dubuisson has become very consistent, and we are excited to have Wooten and McKee return from injuries and missing the 2012 season.”

Holliman said McBride is a “very valuable transfer who adds depth and pitchability from the left side.” He noted Greer is recovering from an injury and “is progressing well.”

He also mentioned outfielders Ryan Shotts of Louisville and Terrance Steele of Neshoba Central.

“Terrance continues as one of the best base stealers in the conference and Ryan is finally healthy after missing 40-plus games in 2012 and has the ability as a runner and strength with the bat,” Holliman said.

The Diamond Warrior head mentor said the freshmen players are a “very solid group.”

“Maxwell Harmon in an infielder/outfielder from Enterprise who continues to improve and be consistent....he is also a very good defender who is developing as a hitter. Mason Woodrow, Conner West (both of Taylorsville) and Ty Hendrix (of East Webster) are just some of the right-handed pitchers who will be quality assets for us on the mound. John Morgan Berry (of Madison Central) is another quality addition as a first baseman/left fielder and has the ability to hit in the middle of the line-up. He is also a quality defender.”

Holliman also had praise for outfielder/catcher Chase Domino of Fairhope, Ala., whom he described as an “athletic and versatile” player who provides much-needed power in the middle line-up.

Holliman added he could list “positive attributes” about each player....“and that is why we feel depth is a quality of this year’s team.”

As he prepares for the season to get under way, Holliman said fans can expect another competitive brand of community college baseball.

“Not only do I think we have another tough schedule for the upcoming 2013 season, but we feel this will be as well-coached opponents as we have ever played,” he stated. “Our league continues to grow and there are a lot of quality coaches and teams that are working extremely hard, so the differences between each team come down to crucial moments in each game.”

Returning as Holliman’s assistant coaches are Justin Brewer and Jack Edmonson.

Slater Lott of Clarkdale serves as a student assistant. Managers are Corey Jackson and Jeremy Card, both of Nanih Waiya, and Ian Creeman of Enterprise.

Colton Hurst of Newton County is the public address announcer for home games.

For more information on the ECCC Baseball program, contact Coach Neal Holliman, 601-635-6374 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 374. His e-mail address is nholliman@eccc.edu.

Come Out & Support the Warriors!

Warrior Athletics



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Fast-Pitch Softball Team: Preparing for another successful season are the above members of the 2013 East Central Community College fast-pitch softball team. Lady Diamond Warriors and their respective high schools include (first row, from left) pitcher Mary Sanders (2), Adams County Christian School; infielder/pitcher Amber McBroom (3), Brandon; outfielder Casey Cherry (5), Union; infielders LaJoya Griffin (6) of Philadelphia, Kaylin Hopkins (7) of Louisville and Dakota Vowell (10) of Neshoba Central; outfielder Kristen Chipley (11), Leake Academy; utility player Laken Fulcher (13), Nanih Waiya; and outfielder Marlee Massey (15), Neshoba Central; (second row, from left) infielder Lindsey Beard (17), Clarkdale; outfielder Morgan Porter (19) and infielder Malauri Robinson (21), both of Enterprise; pitcher Tenna Patterson (22), Lexington (Ala.); infielders Ty Buckley (23) of Neshoba Central and Hayley Stephens (24) of Union; and outfielder AJ Peeler (27), Neshoba Central; and (third row, from left) Courtney Nunn, assistant coach; managers Sam Evans of Union and Jordan Clearman, Katherine Upchurch and Eden McGee, all of Neshoba Central; and Kristin Chaney, head coach.

Chaney Ready to Lead EC Softball Program

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

After serving four years as an assistant for a championship program and following a playing career as an NJCAA All-American, Kristin Chaney is well-prepared to serve as head coach of East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team.

The Little Rock native said she has wanted a career in athletics since she was a young athlete, and being a head coach is a "dream come true."

"I am excited about being the head coach here at East Central," Chaney said. "It has always been a goal of mine to become a head coach and the challenge is now here.

"Athletics is something that has always been part of my life since I was born; whether I was at the ball field watching my brothers or playing myself. I guess it was in my blood; my dad was a coach and now both my brothers are coaches. I just love sports and watching sports."

Chaney said the best part about being head coach "is being able to lead a great group of young ladies that have worked hard day in and day out."

Chaney takes over a program led since 2003 by Scott Hill who amassed an overall 308-123-1 record. Hill and Chaney took the program to new heights by capturing a first-ever Region 23 Tournament title in 2010 followed by a first MACJC State Championship in 2011.

She was also part of a winning program as a player, as she helped lead the 2004 and 2005 Lady Warrior softball squads to MACJC Central Division titles en route to overall records of 26-14 and 34-5, respectively. She also garnered NJCAA All-American, All-Region 23, and MACJC All-State and All-Division honors in the process.

Despite the success she achieved as a player and coach, Chaney does not feel any ad-

ed pressure to succeed as head coach.

"Yes, the pressure is there to succeed and win championships, but it is not because I won as a player and assistant coach," Chaney remarked. "The pressure is there because that is what I put on myself. I want to be the best in everything that I do. The championships that I have won in the past as a player and assistant coach are special in their own way, but to win one as a head coach would be really special for me and for the group of young ladies that worked hard to earn that championship."

Although she stopped short of predicting a championship for the 2013 Lady Warriors, Chaney said she is "excited" about this year's squad, especially following a successful fall campaign.

"We went 5-0 in the fall but most importantly I saw us get better from game one to game five," said Chaney. "We started practice one working on fundamentals and I feel like when week six practice was over, we were not taking baby steps anymore...we were doing what we needed to do and getting our best reps in. Fall was a good evaluation helping me know who needs to be put in certain situations and the adjustments that we need to make during the game. Fall competition was not only for the team but it was for me also being a first-year head coach, as I got to learn some game management that I will use in the spring."

"This team has worked hard day in and day out," she said. "They have bought in to my philosophy and what I expect every day. I have told them we might not have the most talented team but nobody will out work us, and ultimately our hard work will catch up with the other team's talent. We have a lot of depth that we have not had in past years and the players know that the starting roles are wide open and that they have to

bring their best every day to get that starting role or keep that starting role."

Their work ethic and attitude is what Chaney likes best about her first group of Lady Warriors.

"I am most impressed with how hard this team works and the unselfishness of each player," she said. "This team is a very close-knit group that is like a band of sisters working day in and day out to accomplish one goal, and that is to win a championship."

She said her team's major strengths include depth - as previously mentioned- and speed.

"You can't coach speed and I think we have a lot of overall speed that we will be able to do a lot of things with. Our speed is not only going to help us offensively but defensively as well. We are making plays defensively that we would not be able to do without speed and instincts."

And what type team can fans expect this season?

"Our fans should expect a team that is scrappy and plays hard game in and game out," she said. "We will be very aggressive and take chances, but at the same time play the game the way it should be played. We will use 'small ball' when needed and use our speed to make things happen."

Sophomore team members and their respective high schools include pitchers Mary Sanders of Adams Christian Academy and Tenna Patterson of Lexington (Ala.); infielders LaJoya Griffin of Philadelphia and Dakota Vowell of Neshoba Central; and outfielders Marlee Massey and AJ Peeler, both of Neshoba Central

Freshmen players and their respective high schools include infielder/pitcher Amber McBroom, Brandon; infielders Kaylin Hopkins of Louisville, Lindsey Beard of Clarkdale, Malauri Robinson of Enterprise, Ty Buckley of Neshoba Central



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Softball Coaches: Beginning their first year leading East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball program are assistant Courtney Nunn (left) and head coach Kristin Chaney.

and Hayley Stevens of Union; utility player Laken Fulcher of Nanih Waiya; and outfielders Casey Cherry of Union, Kristen Chipley of Leake Academy and Morgan Porter of Enterprise.

Student assistants include Jordan Clearman, Eden McGee and Katherine Upchurch, all of Neshoba Central, and Sam Evans of Union.

Serving her first year as assistant coach is Courtney Nunn, a former standout pitcher at East Mississippi Community College in Scooba and Mississippi College.

Nunn's responsibilities include working with pitchers and outfielders. She will also call pitches during the game and make in-game adjustments when needed.

Chaney said Nunn's experience and knowledge is a big asset to the Lady Warrior program.

"Coach Nunn's pitching knowledge has helped me tremendously," Chaney said. "When I was hired, I wanted to find someone to take over pitching and run with it. I feel like she has done a good job of communicating with these young ladies and helping them understand me and what it takes to get to the next level. I am pleased to have her and know she will do a great job and preparing our pitchers for opening day and throughout the season."

Chaney said she is also appreciative of the various improvements made to the soft-

ball complex.

"I am pleased with facility improvements; however, I feel like we have a lot more that we need to do for recruiting, especially since the state has opened up. But I love our field and its location...and we plan to do more improvements when possible. We have done some fundraising this year and plan to keep doing them to help us with our various projects, which includes a dressing room for our young ladies."

For more information on ECCC's fast-pitch softball program, contact Coach Kristin Chaney, 601-635-6301 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 301. Her e-mail address is kchaney@eccc.edu.

Warrior Athletics



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Warrior Soccer Award Winners: Above are recipients of men's soccer team awards presented at the annual Fall Sports Banquet held December 5 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Award winners and their respective high schools include (seated from left) Zack Killion of South Oldham HS in Crestwood, Kentucky, Academic Award; McGee Ledbetter of Heritage Academy in Columbus, All-Region 23, Team Co-Captain and Golden Boot awards; Jesse Vaughn of Newton County, Defense Award; Taylor Potter of Benton, Mississippi School for Math and Science, MACJC All-State and Hustle Award; and Jared Canoy of West Harrison, MACJC All-State, Team Most Valuable Player and Team Co-Captain awards; (standing from left) Russ Thompson of Newton County, MACJC All-State; Drew Norman of Florence and Will Thompson and Jordan Walker, both of Newton County, honorable mention MACJC All-State; and Bryor Shorter of Florence, Warrior Award. The 2012 squad completed the program's best season by winning a share of the MACJC North Division title with a 5-2-1 record and earning a first-ever berth in the state playoffs en route to a 10-5-3 mark. ECCC President Dr. Billy W. Stewart and soccer coach Kenneth Thompson presented awards.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Soccer Warrior Letter-Winners: Letters were presented to the above sophomore members of the 2012 East Central Community College men's soccer team at the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet held December 5 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Award recipients and their respective high schools include (seated from left) Bryor Shorter, Florence; McGee Ledbetter, Heritage Academy, Columbus; Jose Aju, Eupora; Ronnie Tisdale, Pascagoula; Zack Killion, South Oldham, Crestwood, Kentucky; and (standing from left) Ryne Riebeck, Florence; Clay Aikens, McLaurin; Drew Norman, Florence; and Jared Canoy, West Harrison, Gulfport. Not pictured are letter-winners Tyravian Miller, Moss Point; DeShawn Kitchens, Florence; and Jacob Norman, Gulfport. Coach Kenneth Thompson presented letters. The 2012 squad completed the program's best season by winning a share of the MACJC North Division title with a 5-2-1 record and earning a first-ever berth in the state playoffs en route to a 10-5-3 mark.



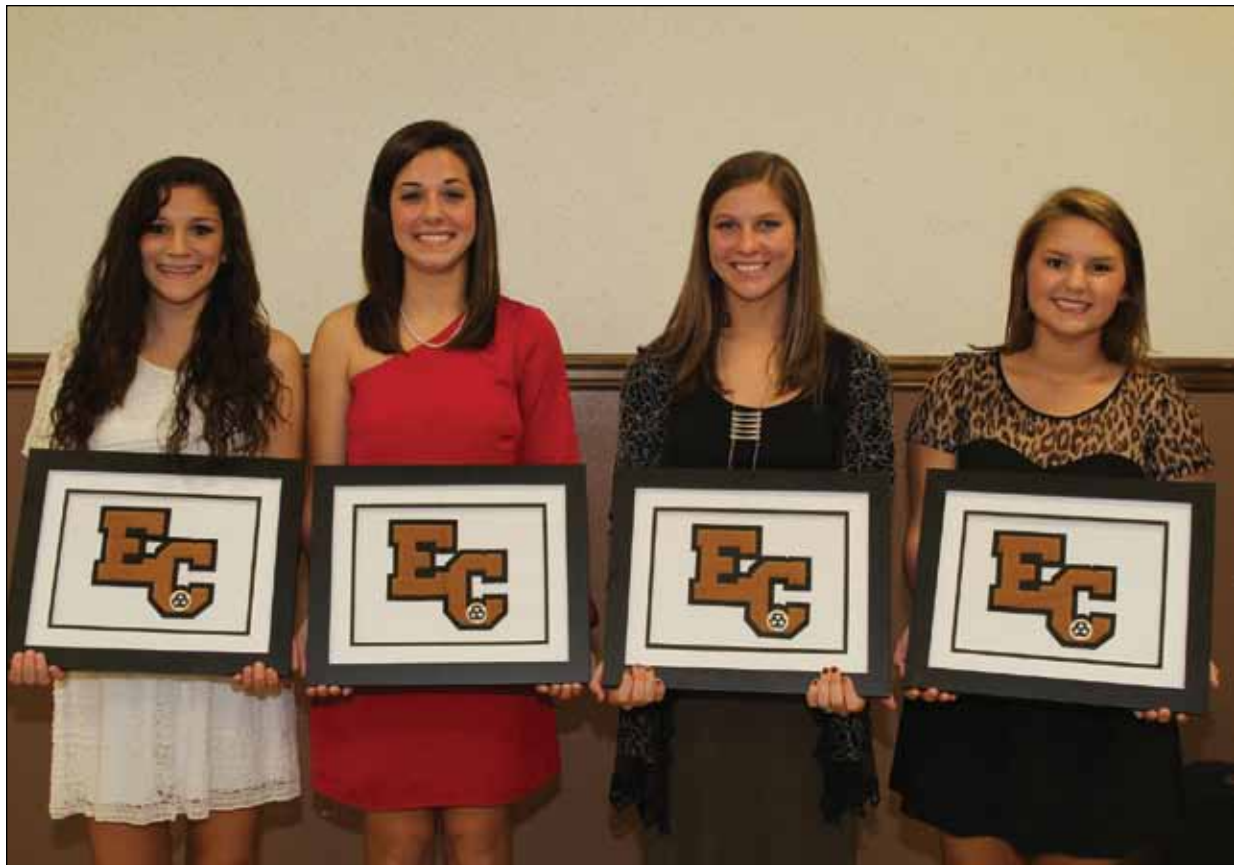
SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Soccer Warriors Display Championship Banner: Members of the East Central Community College men's soccer team display a championship banner presented during halftime activities of the Lady Warrior basketball game with East Mississippi Community College December 6, 2012, in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. The banner will soon hang with the numerous other championship banners displayed in Brackeen-Wood. ECCC President Dr. Billy W. Stewart (also shown in photo) made the presentation in recognition of the squad's historic season. The Soccer Warriors captured a share of the MACJC North Division with a 5-2-1 record and earned a first-ever berth in the state playoffs en route to an overall 10-5-3 mark. Kenneth Thompson serves as head coach.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Lady Soccer Award Winners: These members of the 2012 East Central Community College women's soccer team received honors at the annual Fall Sports Banquet held December 5 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Award winners and their respective high schools include (from left) Kelsey Tadlock of Newton County, All-Region 23, Team Co-Captain, Academic and Golden Boot awards; Paige Gower of Clarkdale, honorable mention MACJC All-State and Defense Award; Kennedy Castleberry of Clarkdale, Hustle Award; Alana Turner of Florence, MACJC All-State and Team Most Valuable Player and Team Co-Captain awards; and Erin Thornton of Newton County, honorable mention MACJC All-State and Warrior Award. ECCC President Dr. Billy W. Stewart and soccer coach Kenneth Thompson presented awards.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

These sophomore members of the 2012 East Central Community College women's soccer team are shown displaying letters received at the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet held December 5 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Recipients of the special recognition and their respective high schools include (from left) Lynea Moreland, Erin Thornton and Kelsey Tadlock, all of Newton County; and Haley Covert, West Lauderdale. Not pictured is Rachel Field, Oxford Hills Christian Academy, Auburn, Maine. Coach Kenneth Thompson presented letters.



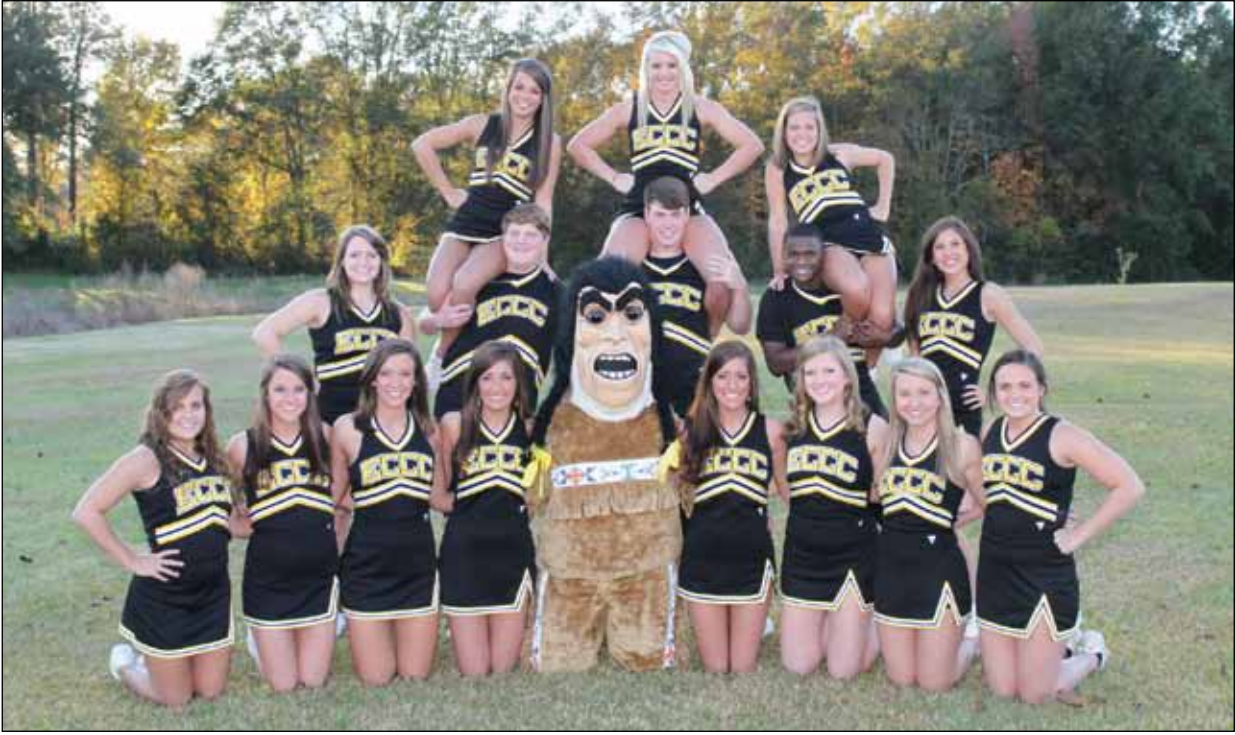
SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Football Players Honored: Numerous members of the 2012 East Central Community College football team received honors at the annual Fall Sports Banquet held Dec. 5, 2012, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Award winners and their respective high schools include (seated from left) offensive lineman Dustin Tubby of Neshoba Central, Captain's Award, MACJC All-Star and honorable mention MACJC All-State; quarterback/wide receiver Brock Hall of Paul W. Bryant HS in Tuscaloosa, honorable mention MACJC All-State; defensive back Ben Brooks of Northeast Lauderdale in Meridian, Captain's Award, honorable mention MACJC All-State; running back Keshun Shipp of Olive Branch, Captain's Award, honorable mention MACJC All-State; defensive lineman Calvin Smith of Newton County, Captain's Award, honorable mention MACJC All-State; and quarterback Zak Thrasher of New Hope in Columbus, Academic Award; and (standing from left) wide receiver Freeman Gray of Tunica Academy and defensive back Desmond Brown of Cherokee County, Ala., both honorable mention MACJC All-State; defensive back Steffon Fuller of Kemper County, first team MACJC All-State; defensive back/return specialist Ricky Hunt of North Panola, MACJC All-Star and second team MACJC All-State; offensive lineman Shaquille Patrick of Scott Central, MACJC All-Star and second team MACJC All-State; and linebacker Cory Houck, Union County, Fla., second team, MACJC All-State. Not pictured are offensive lineman Bart Whigham of Northview, Ala., second team MACJC All-State; defensive lineman Martaze Jackson of Demopolis, second team MACJC All-State; and defensive back Za Reese of Morton, MACJC All-Star. ECCC President Dr. Billy W. Stewart and assistant football coaches Kyle Watson and Blake Frazier presented awards.

Warrior Athletics



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
Addy Honored for Service to ECCC Athletics: Bobby Addy of Decatur was honored for his longtime service to East Central Community College's Athletic Program during a ceremony held during halftime activities of the Lady Warrior basketball game with Pearl River Community College December 3, 2012, in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. Addy was specifically recognized in the areas of concessions and fundraising in support of the College's athletic teams during remarks by EC Athletic Director Chris Harris. A former Decatur mayor, Addy is joined by his wife, Pat Addy and other family members as well as numerous EC student-athletes and coaches as he is presented a plaque of appreciation and several gifts from ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
Warrior Cheerleaders 2012-13: East Central Community College Warrior Cheerleaders for 2012-13 are (front row, from left) Jordyn Landry and Madison Stringer, both of Decatur; Payton Smith of Forest, Lindsey Ezelle of Decatur, Rachel Boulton of Hickory, mascot; Lauren Ezelle of Decatur, Hanna Kemp of Carthage, Mary Margaret Bailey of Philadelphia, and Alex Hollingsworth of Hickory; (second row, from left) Madison Herrington of Union, Maxey Parker of Noxapater, Darrin Hillman of Sebastopol, David Williams of Decatur and Hannah Smith of Carthage; and (top row, from left) Lindsey McCool of Louisville, Laken Fulcher of Nanih Waiya, and Heather Johnson of Chunky. Warrior Cheerleaders are coached by Pam McKnight of Forest.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
ECCC Baseball Team Signees: New members of the East Central Community College baseball team for 2013-14 are shown signing national letters of intent during a special ceremony held Jan. 15. Signees and their respective high schools include (seated from left) left-handed pitcher Zach Mowdy, Union; left-handed pitcher Nick Wilson, Terry; right-handed pitcher/infielder Ryan Ward and outfielder/right-handed pitcher Kyle McCullouch, both of Madison-Ridgeland Academy; middle infielder Hunter Thrower, Southeast Lauderdale; right-handed pitcher Colby Eaves, Nanih Waiya; first baseman/outfielder Chance Whitten, South Panola; right-handed pitcher Blake Pugh, Wayne Academy; infielder Dylan Little, Mary G. Montgomery HS, Semmes, AL; middle infielder/outfielder Reagan Warren, Newton County; and outfielder/left-handed pitcher Will Myers, Leake Academy. Standing from left are ECCC baseball coaches Justin Brewer, Neal Holliman (head) and Jack Edmonson. Regarding the signees, Coach Holliman said, "This is a tremendous start on our signing class for 2013. We are very excited about these young men as additions to our baseball program and as well their ability to succeed in the classroom. The total package is very important to us at East Central and our past has shown success in both areas as we have been ranked nationally both athletically and academically. These additions are a tribute to the hard work of our assistant coaches."



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
ECCC Softball Team Signees: Several area high school softball stand-outs signed national letters of intent with East Central Community College during a special ceremony held Jan. 16, 2013. Joining the Lady Diamond Warriors in 2013-14 are (seated from left) second baseman Anna Katherine Nowell of Leake Academy; utility player Mallory Turner of West Lauderdale; short stop Hannah Peoples of Leake Academy and short stop Ananezia Triplett of Forest. Standing from left are ECCC fast-pitch softball coaches Courtney Nunn (left) and Kristin Chaney (head coach).

Lady Warrior

SOFTBALL

2013 Lady Warrior Schedule

Feb. 5	Baton Rouge	Home	3 p.m.	Feb.28	Baton Rouge	Away	3 p.m.	March 26	Jones	Away	4 p.m.	April 20	Southwest	Away	1 p.m.
Feb. 8-9	LB Wallace Tourn.	TBA	TBA	March 4	Holmes	Home	3 p.m.	March 29	East MS	Home	3 p.m.	April 23	Jones	Home	3 p.m.
Feb. 14	Meridian	Away	1 p.m.	March 9	Co-Lin	Away	1 p.m.	April 3	Pearl River	Home	3 p.m.	April 27	Pearl River	Away	12 noon
Feb. 19	Marion Military	Away	1 p.m.	March 13	Hinds	Home	3 p.m.	April 6	Co-Lin	Home	1 p.m.				
Feb. 22-23	Northeast Tourn.	TBA	TBA	March 16	MS Gulf Coast	Away	12 noon	April 9	Hinds	Away	2 p.m.				
Feb. 26	Marion Military	Home	1 p.m.	March 23	Southwest	Home	1 p.m.	April 13	MS Gulf Coast	Home	1 p.m.				

East Central Community College

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E

Warrior Scene

EC Snow Day Scenes





The Tom-Tom

A Student Publication of East Central Community College
Volume 64, Number 6 April 2013



Awards Day

May 2

Hanna, Griffin Named to All-Mississippi Academic Team

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College sophomores Andrew Hanna of Union and Claire Griffin of Decatur were recently named on the 2013 All-Mississippi Academic Team and were recognized with other award-winners during special events held March 26, 2013 in Jackson.

The outstanding students were recognized at the State Capitol by the Mississippi Legislature and during a luncheon held at the Jackson Convention Complex on March 26, 2013. State Senator Terry C. Burton of Newton served as master of ceremonies.

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

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



HANNA

Hanna, a President's List Scholar with a perfect 4.0 grade point average, plans to major in chemistry.

He was recently selected ECCC's HEAD-WAE Student of the Year and was honored with other students and college instructors at the



GRIFFIN

See TEAMS, PAGE 8



BARFOOT

Car Accident Claims Life of EC's Barfoot

BY MADISON HERRINGTON
Staff Writer

An early morning automobile accident claimed the life of East Central Community College Healthcare Data Technology student Kimberly Michelle Barfoot on March 3, 2013.

The words of an unknown author describe how classmates of Barfoot feel about her loss, said classmate Toya Steele before reciting the following poem. "I will see you again. The sun shall rise, and sure to set. Her time has come, have no regret. Her life she lived, we all know. A better place, she has to go. Rejoice today for she will see us, once again."

Barfoot, 36, was born in Tifton, Ga., but she made her home in Union early in life. She was attending ECCC where she was an active member of Phi Beta Lambda (PBL). Barfoot enjoyed hunting, fishing, mud-riding and playing on the computer. Her favorite pastime was spending time with family and friends. She was a member of Victory Fellowship Church.

All of her classmates recalled Barfoot's kind personality.

Steele said, "Kimberly was such a sweetheart!"

Another ECCC classmate Flossie Hayes said, "Kimberly was a passionate and respectable person in her life."

Her teachers also spoke highly of Barfoot's character. ECCC Business Office Technology Teacher Christy Ferguson described Barfoot as a dedicated student who was willing to assist with any

See BARFOOT, PAGE 3



MADISON HERRINGTON
Staff Writer



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Presents Spring Musical: Above is a scene from the East Central Community College Players' spring musical presentation of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat scheduled April 10-13, 2013, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. Evening presentations will be held at 7 p.m. April 12-13 (Friday-Saturday). Cast members and their respective hometowns include Lizabeth Benton, Preston; Holli Nutt, Morton; Clint Walker (narrator), Newton; Sam Lovorn, Savannah Stuart-Dahl, Will Stokes, Charles Taylor and Chandler Smith, all of Philadelphia; Ian Lanthrip and Danielle Shelley, both of Sebastopol; Matt Graham, Meridian; Delaney Kilgore, Colton Hurst and Tadarian "Bo" Foster, all of Hickory; Chelsey Smith, Brandon; Claire Griffin (narrator) and Andrea McSwain, both of Decatur; Sharley Hardin, Forest; and Sara LaBue (narrator), Conehatta; Aaliyah Cook and Connor Bell, both of Carthage; and Bristol Buffington, El Paso, Texas, Tara Gibson and Georgia Doner, both of Bailey; and Rob Parker and Hunter Brooks, both of Puckett. Tickets are \$10 for the evening performances. To reserve tickets, please call the College Switchboard, 601-635-6215 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 215. See Page 10 for more details.

Spring Spree set for April 22-25

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Teams are being made, volleyball is being practiced, and students' mouths are beginning to water thinking about the crawfish boil. That's right; it is almost time for SPRING SPREE!!

Ask a sophomore that participated last year; this is an event you do NOT want to miss, and as if Spring Spree couldn't get any better we have even added more events to the week. It is easy to say that Spring Spree 2013 may be the best week of the entire year.

Spring Spree will take place April 22-25. The week will start out with the volleyball tournament at 2:30 p.m. Monday behind Todd Hall, followed by EC's Got Talent at 6 p.m. in Vickers' Fine Arts Auditorium. Sign up today for the talent show in the Housing Office. All students are welcome to participate. The deadline to enter the show is Friday, April 19.

On Tuesday the volleyball tournament will continue at 2:30 p.m. followed by the popular crawfish boil at 5 p.m. at the Pavilion.

The volleyball championship will be held at 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday followed by the campus-wide scavenger hunt at 3:30 p.m. Later that evening, a Rave will be held beginning at 9 p.m.

Last, but definitely not least, are the Spring Spree games on the football field at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday. Make sure to sign up for a team today.



See SPREE, PAGE 3

The Tom-Tom Staff Receives Awards

FROM STAFF REPORTS

East Central Community College's student newspaper, *The Tom-Tom*, was among the top student newspapers in the state recognized during the 2013 O.C. McDavid Journalism Conference held March 28, 2013 at the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame in Jackson.

East Central students earned 18 awards in the Mississippi Press Association's Better Newspaper Contest in the Community and Junior College Division, including second place in the general excellence award, the top award granted for student newspapers in the community college division for the state.

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

A first place finish for May 2012 graduate Rachel Ramirez of Forest, Best General Interest Column, and third place award, Best Sports Feature;

A first place award for Eliud "Lulu" Alvarez of Forest, Best Sports Photo;

Sophomore Jessica Barnett of Forest was recognized with a second place award for Spot or Investigative Package;

A second place award for Sophomore Claire Griffin of Decatur, Best Cartoon;

Freshman Madison Herrington of Union was recognized with a second place award for Best Sports Feature;

A second place award for sophomore and



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Award-Winning Newspaper Staff: Members of East Central Community College's newspaper staff display various awards presented at the O.C. McDavid Journalism Conference held March 28, 2013 at the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame in Jackson. Pictured are Candice Stewart and Design Editor Holli Nutt, both of Morton; Editor Addreonna Seger of Newton, Jessica Barnett and Adviser Gennie Phillips, both of Forest.

The Tom-Tom editor Addreonna Seger of Newton, General Interest Column, and third place award, Best Editorial;

Freshman Will Stokes of Philadelphia was recognized with a third place award for General Interest Column;

A third place award for freshman Candice Stewart of Morton, Best Feature Photograph;

May 2012 graduate Ashley Moore of Carthage was recognized with two third place awards for Best General News Story and

Best Feature Story;

An honorable mention award for May 2012 graduate Meghan McIntosh of Carthage, Best Feature Photograph.

Claire Tadlock of Decatur received an honorable mention award for Best Feature Photograph; and

The Tom-Tom staff also received two additional second place honors for Best Design and Best Front Page and a third place honor for Best Miscellaneous

See AWARDS, PAGE 3

Page Two

STRIKE A POSE



MEGHAN JOHNSON
SOPHOMORE • PRE-MEDICINE • LEAKE ACADEMY

Why did you choose to attend East Central? Although there were many different factors that influenced my decision to attend East Central, the things that attracted me to EC the most were the welcoming faculty and students. I also liked the close to home location.

What is your favorite thing about East Central? My favorite thing about EC is the small student- teacher ratio which allows teachers to give one-on-one attention.

What is your favorite meal in the cafeteria or grille? My favorite meal in the cafeteria is Fried Chicken Thursday.

Who is your favorite faculty member at East Central, why? I cannot choose just one teacher because I have two. Mrs. Peggy Clayton and Mr. Billy Miles have been such positive role models and mentors throughout my two years at EC.

What has been your most embarrassing moment at East Central? My most embarrassing moment was digging through the trash can outside of my apartment to find my keys.

Are you a part of any extracurricular activities? Which ones? Yes, I am a member of Warrior Corps, Phi Theta Kappa, Diamond Darlings, and Sigma Sigma Mu Tau.

What is the worst thing about college life? The worst thing about college life is having a major that requires 8 a.m. classes.

What are your best memories at East Central this year? My best memories are having girls' Bible study in our apartment.

What would you like to see happen at East Central this year? I would like to see up-to-date technology in every classroom.

What are your plans after East Central? I plan to transfer to Mississippi College, after graduation from EC, to obtain a Bachelor's degree in Biology then apply to medical school at University of Mississippi Medical Center.



MARTIN JOHNSON
FRESHMAN • LIBERAL ARTS • NANIH WAIYA

Why did you choose to attend East Central? I decided to play football in a great, friendly, home-like atmosphere.

What is your favorite thing about East Central? My favorite thing about East Central is the friendly atmosphere.

What has been your most embarrassing moment at East Central? I try to avoid embarrassing moments; so luckily, I haven't had any yet.

What is your favorite meal in the cafeteria or grille? Fried chicken Thursday is my favorite meal.

Who is your favorite faculty member at East Central? Why? Chris Davis is my favorite faculty member. He is a great teacher. He is easy to get along with, and he grabs your attention in class for the whole period.

Are you a part of any extracurricular activities? Which ones? Yes, I am a part of Phi Theta Kappa, Wo-He-Lo yearbook staff, and the Warrior Football team.

What is the worst part of college life? The worst part is having to do things on your own and be responsible.

What would you like to see done at East Central this year? I would like to see better food in the cafeteria.

What are your best memories at EC this year? My best memory is scoring the winning touchdown during the Homecoming game against Hinds, and my induction into Phi Theta Kappa.

What are your plans after East Central? I plan to attend a university and play football, while earning my doctorate degree.

EC Collegians to Present Spring Concert April 29

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

The campus of East Central Community College will once again be rocking to the sounds of the Collegians who will present their spring concert at 8 p.m. Monday, April 29, 2013, in Huff Auditorium.

Selections include hits by Maroon 5, Carrie Underwood, Adele, Motley Crue and many more top artists.

Members of the Collegians include technicians Michael Buntyn of Newton, Corey Burton and Austin Savell, both of Philadelphia, Sarah LaBue of Conehatta, Ryan McClendon of Forest, Gareth Driskill of Collinsville and Jamey Tune of Newton; vocalists Ryan Godwin

of Newton and Joshua Forest, Tyler Pigg and Jeremy Carson, all of Decatur; Collegians Director Thomas W. Carson of Decatur; vocalists Kara Miller and Claire Griffin, both of Decatur, Macy Seale of Philadelphia, Taylor Gressett of Chunky and Krissy Winstead of Union; wind and rhythm section member Chandler Smith (keyboard) of Philadelphia; Matt Graham (trumpet), Meridian; Melissa Manues (trumpet), Hickory; Zachary Peden (saxophone), Philadelphia; Jessie Armstrong (trombone), Collinsville; Joey Holdiness (lead guitar), Chase Fairchild (bass guitar), Chris Lyons (drum set), all of Philadelphia; and Jacob King (auxiliary percussion), Newton.

EC Choir to Present Concert April 23

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

The East Central Community College Concert Choir will present its annual spring campus concert at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 23, 2013 in the Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium. Admission is free and the public is invited to attend.

Musical selections include "Lamentations of Jeremiah" by

Stroope," "Jesus Paid It All" by Kingsmore, "Ride on King Jesus" by Gibbs, "Lux Aeterna" by Porter and "Ave Maria" by Busto.

Vicki Blaylock serves as director and Natalie Emmons is the accompanist.

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

Reminder: Wear IDs at All Time!



IN CONCERT

Monday, April 29 • Huff Auditorium • 8 p.m.

Featuring Music by: Maroon 5, Carrie Underwood, Adele, Mötley Crue and many more!

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BARFOOT
From Page 1

PBL projects the club undertook.
“She would always have a big smile no matter what the situation would be,” Ferguson said.
Another one of Barfoot’s teachers, Judy Hurtt, also spoke of Barfoot’s devotion as a student.
“Kimberly, a healthcare data technology major, was a devoted student and PBL member while attending EC. Her smile always brightened my classroom. Kimberly, you were such an inspiration to other classmates. You are gone but

not forgotten.”
Visitation for Barfoot was held on March 5, 2013 from 5 until 9 p.m. at John E. Stephens Chapel Funeral Services. The funeral was held at 10 a.m. on March 6, 2013 at John E. Stephens Chapel with interment at Victory Fellowship Cemetery.
Barfoot was preceded in death by her father Horace Kilpatrick. She is survived by her mother, Deborah Shaw of Union; daughter, Courtney Barfoot of Union; son, Trinton Barfoot Traywick of Union; sister Amanda Freeman; and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

SPREE
From Page 1

To participate in the games students must get together a team that consists of six females plus one female alternate and six males +plus one male alternate. Teams must also have a faculty or staff member to be a sponsor, and

he or she must be present on Thursday at the games. All team members must purchase a Spring Spree t-shirt to participate. T-shirts or tanks can be purchased in the Housing Office or any SBA member to purchase one. Forms for Spring Spree teams can be found in the housing office and are due before 3 p.m. on Friday, April 19.

AWARDS
From Page 1

Advertisement.
The Tom-Tom is a student-led newspaper representative

of the student body of East Central Community College. The staff is led by Seger, editor; and Holli Nutt of Morton, design editor. ECCC Publications Coordinator Gennie Phillips of Forest serves as adviser.

EC Players

present

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

April 10 • 9 a.m. Matinee • \$5
April 11–13 • 7 p.m. • \$10
Vickers Fine Arts Center
For more information call 601–635–6215
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MISSISSIPPI STATE
UNIVERSITY
MERIDIAN

The Riley Next Step Scholarship is being offered for the 2013 Fall Semester. Admission to the university and an online résumé are required for scholarship consideration. Visit www.meridian.msstate.edu, click Apply Now.

Students with a competitive GPA who have completed at least 48 transferable hours are encouraged to apply for this scholarship.

Become a **Riley Scholar** at MSU-Meridian and receive full tuition! Call 601.484.0134 for details.

The Riley Next Step Scholarship
Apply Now for Fall 2013!
Priority Date: June 1.

Warrior Viewpoints

FROM THE EDITOR Take Part in Campus Activities

Hi Warriors! With Spring Break behind us, we only have a very short amount of time left before school is over, once again. Now is the worst time for backing out. Keep pushing and keep giving 120 percent!

This time of the year is also very busy. We'll be having Spring Spree, Awards Day, Graduation... And that's just to mention a few of the numerous things that will be happening around campus in the upcoming months! It is a lot to think about and certainly a lot to do. Maintain your calm and go with the flow—but don't get lazy!

But, just because you don't already have enough stuff to do/worry about—this might, *The Tom-Tom* is hosting a contest, much like the ones that coffee news (such cute little papers) runs in all of their editions. Hey, good artists borrow, great ones steal.

Anyway, the contest will include 20 tiny hidden tom-toms (drums) throughout this and the next editions! There will be a \$25 prize each time to the first person who can spot all 20 tom-toms and report back to Ms. Gennie Phillips and student publications—located in the lower section of Huff Auditorium. This contest is open to faculty, staff, students—everyone!

We're hopeful it will get more people involved with student publications and will bring some people back to reading rather than the more convenient (and honestly lazy) forms of news media—if only the promise of monetary gain. Good luck to everyone! And remember—always read the fine print! (That is not a clue.)



ADDREONNA SEGER
Editor

FROM DR. LEE'S DESK Stay on Track for Graduation

It is hard to believe that we are approaching the end of the academic year! Many of you who have worked hard for two years will soon make that memorable walk on May 11, 2013, at ECCC's graduation. Congratulations!

Graduation should be your ultimate goal at ECCC. So persist and earn that diploma! You need it in today's world. Graduates, you may have changed your major so research to see if there are other courses you can stay at EC and take.

Transferability is seamless and the tuition cost is approximately one-third the tuition of public four-year institutions. If you have questions about this please come by Student Services and see an Academic Counselor. We are open 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Friday.

Freshmen—Advance Registration begins on April 5. REGISTER THE FIRST DAY! You will want to register to get the classes you need to graduate.

The rest of the spring semester will fly by! Take advantage of all the various events and activities, but keep your grades and class attendance as top priorities.

So many events are scheduled, but I do want to highlight Spring Spree: April 22 – 25.

Spring Spree is a jam-packed, end-of-year week of activities, so get your teams together to compete and have fun!

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



DR. LEE

With You in Mind,
Randall E. Lee

Vice President for Student Services



BY CLAIRE GRIFFIN
Cartoonist

WORDS OF A WARRIOR

BY WILL STOKES

Do You Think There Should Be More or Less Gun Regulations?

Josh Taylor
Peoples Carthage
Sophomore • Liberal Arts



"I think gun regulations should pretty much stay where they are now. We have very high regulations on drugs, but drug addicts are rampant. For example, Chicago has tight gun regulations, but they still have one of the highest homicide rates in the country."



Haley Chaney Newton
Freshman • Secondary Education

Social Studies

"I believe that we do not need more gun regulations. However, I do believe there should be a background check to stop the gun show loophole."



Matt Morris Newton • Liberal Arts
"It's not the question of if you want to own a gun. It's the

question, does the government have the right take away your rights?"

Tarra Hudson
Philadelphia
Freshman • Pharmacy



"I am for more gun regulations. I believe gun violence could be nipped; it all starts at mental health. People who are attempting to legally earn a permit to carry should have to forgo some type of mental evaluation."

OTHER VIEWS

The Dirty Word... Gun Control

I am aware I am more "right leaning" in my flavor of government and politics. So when it comes to guns and gun control you will basically find me perched on the fence post. I follow the belief that guns should be regulated more than they are now.

Nowadays, Gun Show Loopholes allow Mr. and Mrs. Convicted Felon to just waltz straight into a gun show and purchase whatever they want and desire. You do not even have to be a convicted felon to take advantage of the gun show loophole, I am sure some beer drinking, shot gun carrying, lunatic has realized he could purchase an ENTIRE collection of illegal assault weapons if he felt like it! I do not personally own a firearm; however I do agree with the Second Amendment of the Constitution, "A well-regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed." What most Americans...and way too many southerners...are neglecting to comprehend is we already have a well-regulated militia, it's called the Mississippi National Guard. Now, I am not trying to be rude or step on toes, but we have got to get it together, the government is NOT coming to get your guns. I am a southerner, but why do we over react to such things? Seriously, the Constitution is an amazing piece of work. It is not divine right! So if you are a convicted felon or if you know someone who is perhaps mentally unstable, speak up, that's your divine right, you can speak for someone who cannot properly speak for themselves.

Now every hare-brain in the land is concerned they won't be able to (illegally) purchase the 50 caliber rifle they have always wanted, so gun show business is BOOMING. Who said the economy was bad?

And of course, Gov. Phil Bryant spoke out right before President Obama announced his 23 executive actions focused on areas such as background checks, law enforcement prioritization, gun violence research and mental health care. The governor sent a letter to Miss House Speaker Philip Gunn (R) stating "I am asking that you immediately pass legislation that would make any unconstitutional order by the President illegal to enforce in Mississippi by state or local law enforcement," Bryant Said. I am not a fan of President Obama, nonetheless I respect him as President, but are the above stated actions sounding unconstitutional to you? I believe the Governor and everyone else, who did not vote for President Obama, should have faith in the President. Furthermore, I do respect the Governor on his decision, even though I do not totally agree with it, he spoke for the people of Mississippi and that is what they wanted.

—Will Stokes,
Staff Writer



WILL STOKES
Staff Writer

ECCC Enhances Campus, Logos

Can you tell our students more about what you plan to do with the dorms and what changes will be made in regards to the dorms?

During my first nine months as President and throughout the process of gathering meaningful and significant input for the development of 2020 Vision, I have spoken and listened to many of our students. I have continually heard from those who live in an on-campus residence halls a desire that our dormitories be upgraded/renovated. I will look forward to working with the leadership of our Student Housing office to determine the extent of these needed upgrades/renovations. I will also be working with our State Legislators, State Agencies, Board of Trustees, the ECCC Business Office, and other entities to identify potential funds to address these needs. I look forward to accomplishing the upgrades/renovations as soon as funding is available. In the meantime, if students have suggestions for residence hall renovations, I will ask them to e-mail those suggestions to me and I will be sure that they are considered as we move forward.

Can you tell the students of East Central more about the new developments with the school's logo?

Currently, our College uses a number of variations of colors and logos for general college use as well as in the area of athletics. Colors and logos are an important component of "branding" for any organization or institution. Therefore, I thought it very important that we adopt consistent black and gold colors as well as one logo that represents East Central Community College as an institution, a new College seal, and one logo that represents our "Warrior" athletic teams. I want all of these graphics to capture our rich tradition as well as our bright future. A Graphics Standards Committee, made up of faculty, staff, and students, was created and provided significant input and ideas for the development of the College logo and new College seal as well as our Athletics "Warrior" Logo. After gathering this information, the College engaged the services of Communication Arts Company in Jackson, Mississippi, and Beam Team Design in Houston, Texas, and we continue to work with them to finalize these items. As a matter of fact, we have involved the entire college community in voting for the new Athletics Logo. We presented a new College logo and seal, as well as a new Athletics Logo, to our Board of Trustees at their April 2013 meeting for adoption. Once these have been officially adopted, we will create a Graphics Standards Manual that will explain the appropriate use(s) of these logos and seal.

What are you looking forward to most during Spring Spree week?

I am most looking forward to spending time with our students, especially our sophomores. They have built upon the tradition of excellence established before them and I just want their last few months at East Central to be filled with special memories. As this will be my first spring at East Central, I also look forward to learning all about the activities and events of Spring Spree.

Can you tell us more about the 2020 Vision plan and its progress thus far?

Using the input of faculty, staff, students, and community members from throughout our five-county service area, we have clarified our vision and mission statements, established core values, and clearly defined the Institutional Commitments that will be the main focus of our future efforts to enrich and transform lives through quality educational programs and services offered the EC Way—Excellence with Class. We are finalizing the goals and objectives for each Institutional Commitment using the feedback and input received thus far. It is our plan to present 2020 Vision to our Board of Trustees for approval at the May or June Board meeting. Then, it will become the roadmap for the future of our institution.

As a former student, can you tell us some things about "making the grade" as it pertains to study habits and persistence in college? What was your "study plan"?

I was very blessed to have great teachers throughout my educational career who prepared me well for the rigors of college. I learned very early that "making the grade" in college involved, first and foremost, self-discipline. I didn't have my parents around to make me study; therefore, I had to make a choice to prioritize studying. I found there was (and still is) a direct correlation between the time I spent studying and my performance on a test. My study plan usually involved rewriting notes from class and from the textbook. I found that when I rewrote notes, I could visualize those notes while taking the test so I just wrote on the test what I read in my mind. That also provided me with an active way to study in lieu of simply reading. Finally, I also discovered that there was enough time in the day to accomplish a number of things, including studying and having fun, if I just prioritized my time and "kept the main thing, the main thing."

How did you de-stress around exam time as a student?

I usually spent time at the IHOP or Waffle House in Hattiesburg with friends to take a break from studying during exam time. I found that eating and breaks helped me relax and refocus and being around good friends made me laugh. Food and laughter always took the stress level down for me.

The EC Way



By Billy W. Stewart, Ph.D.

Reminder: Wear IDs at All Time!

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

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

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

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

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

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College 101

Stress is an Obstacle for Students

BY JESSICA BARNETT
Staff Writer

As the spring semester is coming to an end, students' stress levels have surely increased. Everyone is starting to get spring fever, and the calendar is becoming full with all sorts of activities. Despite all of this, the need to maintain your grade or to get it to where you want it to be is also a major concern. Trying to juggle everything and trying to do it well can lead to a lot of stress on the body.



JESSICA BARNETT
Staff Writer

According to Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) there are a few things that college students should do to help prevent or subside their stress levels. Some of those suggestions are to fight fatigue and sleep deprivation, to maintain a balanced diet, to exercise, and to have healthy relationships. ☺

Insufficient sleep can be associated with a number of chronic diseases and conditions, such as diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, obesity and depression. Students who are working or studying long hours may experience episodes of sleep deprivation. This can cause daytime sleepiness, sluggishness and difficulty concentrating

or making decisions. There are several suggestions to help avoid sleep deprivation such as having a good sleeping environment, sticking to a sleep schedule and avoiding an all-nighter to study.

Having a balanced diet can help benefit you and your body in so many ways. Eating healthy foods such as fruits and vegetables can give you a good natural source of energy, and they are the best eat-on-the-go foods for you. Be sure to eat regular healthy meals to help maintain your energy level. Having energy is a necessity to do all that you have to do.

Make sure to be active for at least two-and-a-half hours a week. Regular physical activity helps improve your overall health and fitness and reduces your risk for many chronic diseases. Find something you enjoy, such as jogging or running, dancing or playing sports. Just going outside for a walk and getting some fresh air can help when you are stressed.

Having healthy relationships increase your self-esteem, improve mental and emotional health and help you have a fuller life. Feeling scared, humiliated, pressured or controlled are all signs of an unhealthy relationship. Instead, you should feel loved, respected and free to be yourself. Friends are an important source of support and advice. They play a powerful role in shaping attitudes, beliefs and behaviors.

Personally, I know that it can be tough to do all of these, but once you start a routine and get yourself organized it isn't that hard. I promise that you will see a difference!

Is America Still the Greatest Country?

BY WILL STOKES
Staff Writer

A friend showed me this great clip from an HBO series called "The Newsroom" and obviously you cannot watch it in the paper, so I am going to share the script and my opinion with you. And also, this is NOT the exact word-for-word script, I am only paraphrasing the interesting pieces.

"Can you say why America is the greatest country in the world?"

It's NOT the greatest country in the world, Professor. That's my answer

Fine. Sharon, the National Education Association (NEA) is a loser. Yeah, it accounts for a penny out of our paycheck, but he gets to hit you with it anytime he wants. It doesn't cost money. It costs votes. It costs airtime. And column inches. You know why people don't like liberals? Because they lose. If liberals are so [explicit] smart then how come they lose so [explicit] always?

And with a straight face, you're gonna sit there and tell students that America is so star-spangled awesome that we're the only ones in the world who have freedom? Canada has freedom. Japan has freedom. The U.K. France. Italy. Germany. Spain. Australia. BELGIUM has freedom. (laughs) 207 sovereign states in the world, like, a hundred and 180 have freedom.

And you, sorority girl, (he was referring to the girl who asked the panel the question) just in case you accidentally wander into a voting booth one

day, there's some things you should know. One of them is there's absolutely no evidence to support the statement that we're the greatest country in the world. We're seventh in literacy. 27th in math, 22nd in science, 49th in life expectancy, 178th in infant mortality, third in median household income, forth in labor force and number four in exports. We lead the world in only three categories: Number of incarcerated citizens per capita, number of adults who believe angels are real, and defense spending, where we spend more than the next 26 countries combined, 25 of whom are allies. Now none of this is the fault of a 26 year old college student, but you nonetheless are without a doubt a member of the worst, period, generation, period, ever, period. So when you ask what makes us the greatest country in the world, I dunno what the [explicit] you're talkin' about. Yosemite

Sure used to be. We stood up for what was right. We fought for moral reasons. We passed laws, struck down laws, for moral reasons. We waged wars on poverty, not poor people. We sacrificed. We



WILL STOKES
Staff Writer

cared about our neighbors. We put our money where our mouths were. And we never beat our chest. We built great big things, made ungodly technological advances, explored the universe, cured diseases, and we cultivated the world's greatest artists and the world's greatest economy. We reached for the stars. Acted like men. We aspired to intelligence. We didn't belittle and it didn't make us feel inferior. We didn't identify ourselves by who we voted for in the last election, and we didn't, oh, we didn't scare so easy. Ha. We were able to be all these things and do all these things because we were informed. By great men. Men who were revered. First step in solving any problem is recognizing there is one. America is not the greatest country in the world anymore. Enough?

Now, I'm sure your jaws are on the floor and your eyes are very opened. Now that you have read that, how do you think we could make the United States of America great again?

Are you one of those people who wake up in the morning and think "what can I do for my country today" or are you one of those who, instead, wake up thinking "what can my country do for me today"?

I firmly believe we are a complacent generation. We would much rather have someone fix the problem for us, than do it ourselves. So readers, are you out there? Do you believe that we are no longer the greatest country anymore or do you have a valid argument? I would love to hear it. Please share your thoughts via email: gphillips@eccc.edu.



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EXTRAORDINARY STUDENT

Milner: Soldier, Student, Inspiration

BY ADDREONNA SEGER
Editor

William Milner, a sophomore engineer major at East Central Community College, is just a regular student . . . or so most might think. However, delving deeper into who he is it becomes evident he is so much more. Milner is a soldier and a veteran with two tours of duty under his belt. For most, the idea of war is not a famous or favorable topic, but Milner seems to put his pride in country and patriotism above any fear that might be associated with being a soldier. He joined the Army, following in the line of succession after his parents, of



ADDREONNA SEGER
Editor

which his mother and father were both in the Air Force. This wasn't the only thing that motivated Milner, however. "I joined because I always wanted to do something for this country and protect the defenseless . . . after 9/11. . . I wanted more than anything to show my patriotism . . ." said Milner of his Military history. He started out, like anyone else in the military with his basic training (BT) in Ft. Jackson, South Carolina where he also had his advanced individual training (AIT). After six months, he was sent to his first duty station in Germany to a unit Called 66th Transport Company. Later, they were re-designated to the 66th Gun Truck Company and sent to Iraq for his first 14th month tour in 2006. The purpose of his first tour was to supply protection and gun support to logistic patrols. Basically, this means that they provided protection so bases could get supplies they needed. Upon his return to America, he was sent to Fort Bliss located in El Paso, Texas. Here he was put into HHC BDE 1st Brigade 1st armored division. His role changed from being a

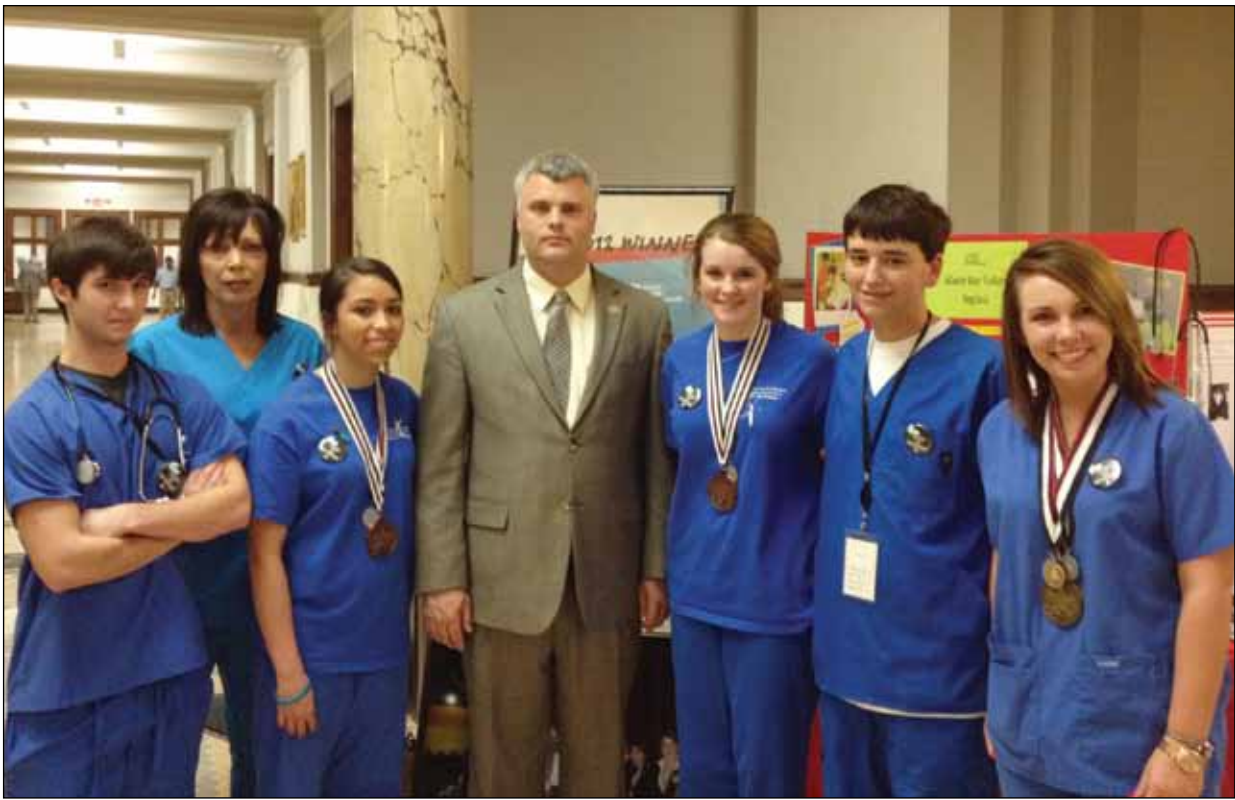


MILNER

mechanic to working for the Brigade Colonel on his personal security detail. They deployed again in 2009. After returning he continued on security detail for the Colonel and Sargeant Major until the end of his service. Was Milner upset or sad about being gone for such long periods of time? Not hardly. However, he has been reported

saying, "The deployments were hard but over time [I] got used to it. It is hard being cut off from the world where you aren't able to see your friends or family or go do what you want when you want." Milner was afforded time off but said "it was a luxury that we seldom got and enjoyed." So what kept this soldier content and what kept him pushing forward? Milner explained "you have a bond with the people you work with. We were a family. They were my brothers and always had my back—I could count on them . . . [also] my family back home kept me motivated, the thought of coming home was key in making it through all the rough times." When asked about the war on terrorism, Milner's response was strictly professional, devoid of politics and scandal. He replied, "I think the war on terrorism is good in the aspect that shows we won't back down when we are threatened. . . we are a great nation full of pride and men and women that are willing to put their lives on the line to protect the freedom we have today. [I] am forever grateful to them."

However, Milner is still just a regular guy as well. At East Central, he is involved in the Wall-O-Sound Marching Band and plays the trumpet. He is also involved with the Astronomy Club and a member of Alpha Alpha Epsilon Engineering Club. In his spare time he likes to relax and spend time with his family and friends. He likes spending time shooting his guns or his bow. He divulges that one of his favorite books was "The Choice" by Nicholas Sparks to which he defends "Yeah, a chick novel, I know--but it's very descriptive and amazing." Much like any other young man he also enjoys video games and time out with friends either bowling or "just generally having a good time and surrounding myself with great friends." After he completes his coursework here at East Central, he is considering finishing out his degree at Mississippi State University to pursue a degree in Chemical or Electrical Engineering or going back into the Army full time as an active duty soldier.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Health Science Students Meet with Rep. Evans: These students from area career-technical centers had the opportunity to meet with District 43 Representative Michael T. Evans of Preston during Career-Technical Education Day at the Mississippi State Capitol. The students are members of Health Occupation Students of America and were invited to the event after receiving awards during the HOSA National Leadership Conference held recently in Orlando, Florida. Pictured are (from left) Daniel Powell, Martha Stokes (Instructor) and Alisha Sifuentes, all of the Philadelphia-Neshoba County Career-Technical Center; Rep. Evans, Kodi Wright and Chance Lovern of Philadelphia-Neshoba County Career-Technical Center; and Hayden Stokes, former Winston/Louisville Career-Technical Center student and current ECCC freshman.



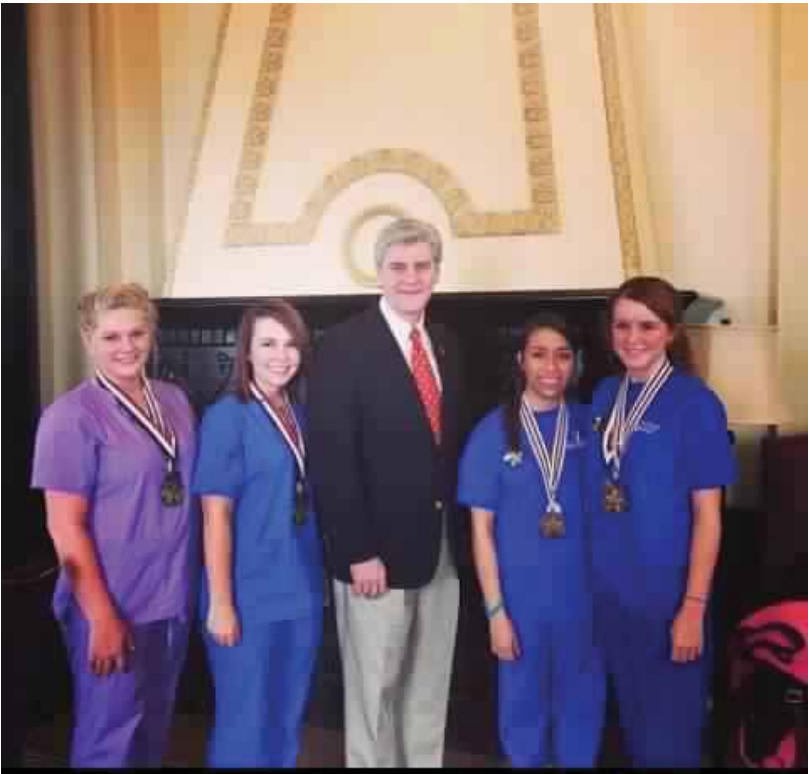
SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Mann Addresses ECCC Black History Month Crowd: The Rev. Marcus Mann is shown during his remarks at East Central Community College's annual Black History Month Program held Feb. 27, 2013, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. Mann, an ECCC alumnus and former basketball standout, acknowledged the many accomplishments of African-Americans and noted "there is more to our history than being a slave." He especially urged the young people in attendance to "have pride" in themselves and to "always strive to be the best." He also told those in attendance "to be thankful for what you have....life could be worse." Mann, a product of South Leake High School, is an honor graduate of ECCC and member of the Hall of Fame. He was also inducted into the College's Athletic Hall of Fame. Mann also excelled in academics and basketball at Mississippi Valley State University, where he was graduated magna cum laude. He was drafted by the Golden State Warriors of the National Basketball Association but soon left the NBA for the ministry. Mann is pastor of Sylvarena Baptist Church in Brandon and serves as chaplain for Tyson Foods, Inc., in Forest. He is married to the former Veleka Slocum and they have a daughter, Genesis A' Miyah Mann.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Receive GED Diplomas at ECCC: These recipients of high school equivalency diplomas received special recognition at the semi-annual GED Graduation ceremony held Jan. 24, 2013, at East Central Community College. Ready to begin their new life journeys are (seated from left) Katelyn Maree Woodard, Louisville; Austin Jay Rowell, Lake; Lajordan Tra Coleman, Louisville; Hannah Grace Robinson, Newton; Deanna M. Webb, Carthage; Yolanda Renee Ruffin, Lena; Alicia Oliver and Odalys Portell, both of Philadelphia; Michael D. Smith, Hickory; and Samantha Bennett Thompson, Conehatta; (second row, from left) Morris W. Willis, Philadelphia; Benjamin Ferguson, Union; Candi Watkins and Chelsie Watkins, both of Louisville; Destiny Lasha Threet, Philadelphia; Ashley Nicole Thomas, Lena; Perry Randall Logan, Paulding; Melinda Sistrunk, Pulaski; Kerry Ingle, Forest; Samantha M. Able, Union; Terrie Lynn Aycox, Decatur; and Erica Denise Spivey, Forest; and (back row, from left) Zack Holmes, Union; Ashly Thompson, Forest; Ree Kinslow, Carthage; Da'Marcus M. Lofton, Forest; Johnathon S. Scott, Carthage; Daniel Dywayne Fincher, Union; Clarence L. Crimm, Forest; Corey Ray Sistrunk, Pulaski; Gillis Ray Duett, Decatur; Catina McFee, Union; and Skylor Matthews Hines, Union. Scott and Thompson also provided testimonials. Lt. Gov. Tate Reeves served as guest speaker. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart awarded diplomas to the 33 graduates. Other program participants included Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake, Vice President for Instruction Dr. Teresa Houston, music instructor Len Bobo and ABE/GED instructor Bryan Burt. ECCC offers free ABE/GED-Preparation classes throughout the College's five-county district. For more information on ECCC's Adult Basic Education/GED Program, contact Ryan Clarke, program director, 601-635-6387 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 387. His e-mail address is rclarke@eccc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

HOSA National Winners Meet Governor Bryant: Students from two area career-technical centers are shown with Gov. Phil Bryant (center) during Career and Technical Education Day, which was held Friday, February 8, 2013, at the Mississippi State Capitol in Jackson. The students are members of Health Occupation Students of America and were invited to meet the Governor after receiving awards during the HOSA National Leadership Conference held recently in Orlando, Florida. Pictured are (from left) Lesli Pickett and Hayden Stokes, both of the Winston/Louisville Career-Technical Center, first place, Community Awareness/MPSIII; Gov. Bryant; and Alisha Sifuentes and Kodi Wright, both of the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center, third place, Health Education-Teen Pregnancy. The PNCCTC is a division of East Central Community College.

Reminder: Wear IDs at All Time!

Faculty Corner

Graham Retires from EC in May

BY CONOR BELL
Staff Writer

Psychology instructor Martha Graham will retire at the end of the 2013 spring semester.

The long-time educator began her career at East Central in 1951 as a student and later, in 1967 as a teacher. Graham taught until 1985 and after taking a 13 year break from the classroom, Graham returned in 1998. She expressed much enjoyment in teaching at East Central.

She said she cannot separate one special moment. "It was great to see my sons graduate, and this year I will watch a great-granddaughter graduate," Graham mentioned.

When asked about the changes she

has seen during the years, she basically said, "If you have a few pages to spare, I could fill them with the changes I have seen." She went on to say that changes in architecture are expected, but the biggest change has been in the rules.

"When I came as student, no student had a car on campus. In fact, if for some reason a student had to



CONOR BELL
Staff Writer

bring a car the keys were turned into the President's office until time to go home. Girls had to be in the dorm by 5:00 each evening to get ready for supper. There was only one date night a week, and since you could not get in a car, the places were very limited."

A couple of her former students commented about Graham. Clint Walker, a freshmen vocal music education major, said, "I really enjoyed her class. Her wealth of knowledge is simply amazing. She is a great teacher who truly cares about each one of her students and their success."

Anna Crawford, a freshmen liberal arts major, said, "Mrs. Graham is a precious lady. She is very sweet and can be hilarious with her stories."

Graham said when she retires she

will do needlework, read, work on her landscaping, play with her great-grandchildren and organize her house.

She gave a few words of advice for present and future students saying, "Enjoy your time here. You have opportunities to learn what you need to advance to the next step in your life. Don't let it slide by. Turn your phone off for a day or two and look around you."

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mrs. Graham you are a teacher that will truly be missed. From the administration, faculty, staff, and students, we want to say thank you for your dedication and service at East Central Community College.



GRAHAM



McAdory Honored on Retirement: Mae McAdory (center) of Louisville recently retired following 10 years as Jackson Hall dormitory supervisor at East Central Community College. She is shown during her retirement reception receiving cards and gifts from ECCC Dean of Students James Miller (left) and Dr. Randall Lee, Vice President for Student Services.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
ECCC Retiree Townsend Honored: C.W. Townsend (left) received special recognition on his recent retirement from East Central Community College. Townsend, who resides in the Decatur area, served in the Custodian Department since 2009. He and Physical Plant Director Artie Foreman are shown displaying a cake prepared in the retiree's honor and served during a reception held at the F. Clinton Russell Maintenance Complex.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
ECCC President 'Fires' First Pitch: East Central Community College President Dr. Billy Stewart throws the ceremonial first pitch to begin the 2013 season Feb. 11 at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex. The Diamond Warriors responded with a doubleheader sweep over the visitors from Southwest (TN) Community College by scores of 3-0 and 8-3. Shown receiving Dr. Stewart's "strike" is freshman catcher Chase Domino (6), a product of Fairhope (Ala.) High School.

NOTICE!

Safety Memo: Natural Gas Safety

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

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

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

Damage Prevention

Although safe, tested, and regulated, the system's most common hazard is from 3rd party damage from excavation. Before any excavations are done, contact Dig Safety - Mississippi One-Call System, Inc. 1800-227-6477 or 811 and call East Central Community College at 601-635-6266. Always call before you dig. It's as easy as dialing 8..1..1, and it's the law!

Detecting A Natural Gas Leak

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

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

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

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

Natural Gas Safety Tips:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Cross Hall to Undergo Major Upgrades

BY ADDREONNA SEGER
Editor

Students at East Central Community College have expressed concern regarding the rubble of what used to be Cross Hall. The most common question is ‘What is happening to the building’. There are some assumptions that it is being torn down and will never be used again, while other people can only speculate what will be done.

The building built and virtually untouched by construction since the early 1960s needed a little bit more attention.

Vice President for Business Operations Mickey Vance said, “A decision was made to upgrade the building to



ADDREONNA SEGER
Editor

enhance instruction and make the building more energy efficient.”

The biggest concern being students and then keeping in mind that a “green” college is a smart idea. Curt Skipper Science Department Chair agrees saying: “... The new addition will be a much more efficient space for the college as it will be sealed much better and insulated better than we could have done with the existing portion of the building.”

The renovation will add such updates as state-of-the-art heating and cooling, which is much more efficient than the current system in place in Cross Hall. In addition all of the lights will be high-efficiency LED lights which consume a considerably smaller margin of energy. It will include six classroom/lecture rooms and the chemistry lab will remain. The new lecture rooms will have two new tiered auditorium style rooms with the other two being flat classrooms. There will also be technology put into the new classrooms.

“The layout of the existing/old building worked great for labs, but was not very conducive for reno-

vating its lecture rooms, which after the addition of Davis Hall, is what we needed,” Skipper added. “The new classrooms will also give a more collegiate look and feel.”

Essentially, what the construction brings to the students is a new classroom for science instruction and Chemistry labs, he said. Each class can accommodate up to 100 students.

There will be an addition as well as a re-construction that occurs. In fact, Vance stated two new classrooms will be added onto the South side, increasing the building’s size to 9,537 square feet.

“The contracted construction should take 365 days and will cost \$2,921,000,” said Vance.

Skipper adds that the renovations will be paid for “from bond money that was left from the Davis Hall project.”

However, some days could bring unfavorable weather, resulting in a delay of progress. He concludes by saying: “The renovation will be a great addition to our campus. It will be a very attractive building that will serve our students for many years to come.”



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Renovations continue to Cross Hall, which is receiving a \$2.9 million upgrade set to include state-of-the-art heating and cooling, six classrooms, two new auditorium-style rooms and a technology upgrade. The facelift will increase the Hall’s size to 9,537 square feet.

TEAMS

From Page 1

State Capitol in February 2013.

The annual HEADWAE (Higher Education Appreciation Day: Working Toward Academic Excellence) was established by the Mississippi Legislature to honor the academically talented students and faculty members from each of the 36 public and private member institutions of the Mississippi Association of Colleges.

Hanna has received numerous other honors at EC, including the Frank Edwin and Nena Holt Leatherwood Biology Award, Frank M. Cross Chemistry Award and Secondary Education Award. He was also named to Who’s Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges.

He also holds various positions of leadership in several campus organizations.

He serves as vice president for leadership of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, and is co-president of the Baptist Student Union and Warrior Corps. In addition, he serves as secretary of the President’s Council.

He is also a member of the Fellowship of Christian Ath-

letes and served as vice president his freshman year. He also holds membership in the Environmental Club.

Hanna’s involvement in campus activities also includes participation in athletics. He is a two-year member of the Warrior tennis team and was on the men’s basketball squad his freshman season.

He is a 2011 honor graduate of Newton County Academy, where he was valedictorian and chosen for the Hall of Fame. He was also selected STAR Student and was named to the WTKO-TV All Scholastic Sports Team.

Other honors include selection as a Scholar Athlete and Citizenship Award recipient, in addition to numerous subject awards.

Hanna also held positions of leadership in several clubs and organizations and received numerous awards in basketball and tennis.

He is a longtime member of Boy Scouts of America Troop 29 of the Choctaw Area Council in Union and received the rank of Eagle Scout in 2007.

In addition, he is a member of Clarke-Venable Baptist Church in Decatur and serves as a Sunday school teacher.

Hanna is also involved in mission work and went to Thailand in the summer of 2012 as a part

of a team supporting missionaries in Southeast Asia. He plans to return to the same area this summer and assist a missionary doctor in his clinics and teach English speaking classes.

He was one of 48 students selected from across the nation to attend the FBI National Academy Youth Leadership Program in 2008 at Quantico, VA. He was chosen president of the 11th Session of the FBINA Youth Leadership Program.

Hanna also participated in the Hugh O’Brien Youth Leadership (HOBY) program in 2009.

His parents are Rusty and Lannette Hanna of Union.

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

A President’s List scholar, Griffin will graduate from ECCC in May 2013. She plans to return to ECCC in the fall and concentrate her studies in the music area.

She has also received numerous honors while at EC.

She currently serves as president of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges.

Griffin also serves as sophomore class president and has served two years as co-president of the Warrior Corps, a select group of students who assist in

recruiting and provide assistance for various College events and activities. In addition, she has served the past two years as assistant editor of The Wo-He-Lo yearbook staff.

She is also a member of the Ac’cents Show Choir, Concert Choir, Collegians, Diamond Darlings, Environmental Club, Art Club, Baptist Student Union, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and President’s Council and is an award-winning cartoonist on The Tom-Tom campus newspaper staff. She received second-place honors for her cartoons in the Mississippi Press Association’s Better Newspaper Contest in the Community and Junior College Division for two consecutive years.

She was recently selected to Who’s Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges.

Griffin is a member of committees, including the Recruiting/Retention Task Force and Graphics Design Committee,

She is a recipient of numerous scholarships, including ACT, Progressive Club, Rotary Club, Ann Burkes Phi Theta Kappa, MTAG, Military VA, The Tom-Tom, Ac’cents, Concert Choir and Collegians awards.

In addition, Griffin is involved with youth ministry work as an intern and teaches Sunday school classes at Clarke-Venable Baptist Church.

She is a 2011 honor graduate of Newton County High School, where she received several honors and was involved in numerous activities.

She served as Beta Club president and was a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Future Business Leaders of America, Shine Club, Vivace’ show choir and yearbook staff.

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

Mississippi Community College Board.

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

Twenty students named to the national All-USA Academic Team will be featured in the April 23 issue of USA Today and each student will receive a \$2,500 scholarship.

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

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



Find the Tom-Toms!

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EC Holds Honor Society Induction Ceremony

SPECIAL TO THE TOM TOM

More than 135 students were inducted into East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, during the annual spring semester ceremony held Feb. 28, 2013, in Huff Auditorium.

Ovid Vickers, retired ECCC faculty instructor, was the keynote speaker. Also participating on the program were College President Dr. Billy Stewart, Vice President for Instruction Dr. Teresa Houston, Theta Xi Executive Board member Emily Marler and Chapter Advisors Curt Skipper and Amanda Walton.

Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than 2,000,000 members and 1,200 chapters located in 50 United States, U.S. territories, Canada and Germany.

Inductees and their respective hometowns include the following:

BRANDON: Danette Alele Harris, Mary Anna Jechoat and Amber Nichole McBroom;

CARTHAGE: Conor Neal Bell, Kristen Alise Chipley, Hanna Danielle Kemp, Kamaran Annette Malone, Ioshore Quisha May, Jennifer Lynn Moore, Alyssa Bailey Shelton, Aaron Davidson Shepard, Matthew Aaron Tucker, Kendall Wade Wilcher and George Caleb Woods;

CHUNKY: Taylor Nicole Gressett and Heather Michelle Johnson;

CRESTWOOD, KY: Zachary Patrick Killian;

DEKALB: Sydney Elaine Dawkins;

DECATUR: Jacob Matthew Loper, Joseph Keith Aulds, Jon Marie Baucum, Nikki Lynn



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
Smiley Inducted Into ECCC Honor Society: Kacey Smiley of Newton, pictured above, was among more than 135 students inducted into East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, during the annual spring semester ceremony held Feb. 28, 2013, in Huff Auditorium.

Cumberland, Savannah Marie Glover, Joseph Tyler Pigg, Caitlyn Michelle Sant, Stephanie Nicole Spence, Jesse Browning Vaughn and Jordan Miles Walker;

EL DORADO, AR: James Sawyer Williams;

ENTERPRISE: Samantha Nicole Gunn;

FLOWOOD: Daniel Jackson Myrick;

FOREST: Eliud Alvarez, Jessica Rolanda Brown, Emilee Anna Cox, Kelsey Beth Cox, Shawn Matthew Evans, Zachary Gardner, Maria Isabel Martinez, Brady Franklin Power and Kimberly Rae Rigby;

HICKORY: Haley Marie Chapman, Alexandria Marie Hollingworth, Emily Christine Jacome-Cluff, Alexandria Renee Meador, Felicia Danielle Robinson and Bryant Madison Williams;

JACKSON: Stephanie Lynnette Kittell;

LAKE: Jessie Robert Barrett and Brianna Lyndsay Parkman;

LAUDERDALE: Amanda Lynn Breland;

LAWRENCE: Nathaniel Adam Richardson;

LENA: Amanda Diane Lott, Katie Nicole Spears and Elizabeth Brooke Wilson;

LITTLE ROCK: Samantha Jewel Ellingburg, Jacob Scott Oliver and Tracy Rachelle White;

LONG BEACH: Blake Edward Dubuisson;

LOUIN: Emily Claire Gully and Jamie Brian Smith;

LOUISVILLE: Hayden Elizabeth Fryery, Laken Nicole Fulcher, Alexis Nan Hartness, Sidney Luoise Hendrix, Kaylin Nicole Hopkins, Teylor Elizabeth Martinez, Lindsey Dee McCool, Nakia Jena Miller, Hailey Jewell Myers, Morgan Kate Parkes, Abbie Troy Smith and Hayden Caroline Stokes;

MADDEN: Hannah Jean



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
Paige Wall of Newton was among more than 135 students inducted into East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, during the annual spring semester ceremony held Feb. 28, 2013, in Huff Auditorium. Ovid Vickers, retired ECCC faculty instructor, was the keynote speaker. Curt Skipper and Amanda Walton serve as chapter advisors. Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than 2,000,000 members and 1,200 chapters located in 50 United States, U.S. territories, Canada and Germany.

Smith;

MENDENHALL: Alana Joy Turner;

MERIDIAN: Lindsey Marie Beard, Jacobe' Dante Burrage, Kennedy Danielle Castleberry, Steven Maxwell Harmon, Bailey Amber Laird, Helen Claire Milling, Gregory Scott Mitchell, Matthew Alexander Morris, Nathan Lee Powell and Demon-drae Ralphael Stribling;

MORTON: Melissa K. Bailey, Claude Epting, Kara B. Johnson and Hannah Lea McCurdy;

NEWTON: Trevor Wayne Ayllon, Mikayla H. Carson, Christiana Renee Dawn Collins, Colt Makai Collins, Rayanne K. Craven, Ryan Daniel Godwin, Sara Delaney Kilgore, Timothy Alan Laird, Morgan Elizabeth

Luke, Kimberly Michelle Moore, Amanda Kaye Pientowski, Kacey Shane Smiley, Brandon Stephen St. Clair, Cassidy Maree Tasker and Megan Paige Wall;

NOXAPATER: Alanna Brooke Massey;

PELAHATCHIE: Aaron Bradley Cooper;

PHILADELPHIA: Miranda Michelle Clark, Greggry Denzel Clemons, Joshua Keith Gaines, DeShayna Lynette Hickman, Hannah Catherine Jones, Colt Colby Killen, Allie Carol Killens, Samuel Hays Lovorn, Zachary Craig Peden and Keenen Brice Wahwasuck;

PRESTON: Martin Mourice Johnson;

PULASKI: Joseph Tell Matuszewski;

SEBASTOPOL: Aderian Kendal Partain;

UNION: Emma Catherine Burton, Casey Jane Cherry, Erika Jordan Clark, Tiffany Grace Dorman, Glenda Karen Gardner, Nathan R. Griffin, Madison Brooke Herrington, Victoria Shawn Holsen, Tyler Reed Kilpatrick, Meghan L. McPherson, Ashlyn Leigh Pullin, Chelsea Grace Rigdon, Jayohnnie Leigh Slaughter, Hayley Brooke Stephens, Lucas Murphy Viverette, Nathan Dale Williams and Kathryn Joann Williamson;

WALNUT GROVE: Amber Lyn Pierce and Kristen Renee Smith; and

WEST BLOCTON, AL: Jacob Glen Bush.

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SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
ECCC Spring Musical Cast: Above are cast members for the East Central Community College Players' spring musical presentation of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat scheduled April 10-13, 2013, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. A matinee performance began at 9 a.m. April 10 and evening presentations will be held at 7 p.m. April 11-13 (Thursday-Saturday). Cast members and their respective hometowns are (first row, from left) Lizabeth Benton, Preston; Holli Nutt, Morton; Clint Walker (narrator), Newton; Sam Lovorn and Chandler Smith, both of Philadelphia; Ian Lanthrip, Sebastopol; and Charles Taylor, Philadelphia; (second row, from left) Matt Graham, Meridian; Delaney Kilgore, Hickory; Chelsey Smith, Brandon; Savannah Stuart-Dahl, Philadelphia; Claire Griffin (narrator), Decatur; Sharley Hardin, Forest; and Sara LaBue (narrator), Conehatta; (third row, from left) Danielle Shelley, Sebastopol; Drew Thames and Will Stokes, both of Philadelphia; Tadarian "Bo" Foster, Hickory; Aaliyah Cook, Carthage; Andrea McSwain, Decatur; and Bristol Buffington, El Paso, Texas; and (fourth row, from left) Colton Hurst, Hickory; Tara Gibson, and Georgia Doner, both of Bailey; Rob Parker and Hunter Brooks, both of Puckett; and Conor Bell, Carthage. Tickets are \$5 for the matinee and \$10 for the evening performances. To reserve tickets, please call the College Switchboard, 601-635-6215 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 215.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
ECCC Musical Orchestra: Serving as orchestra members for the East Central Community College Players' production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat are staff members (from left) Natalie Emmons, piano; Ed Girling, percussion; and Ryan Clarke, bass guitar. The spring musical will be presented at 7 p.m. Friday through Saturday, April 11-13, 2013, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center auditorium.



"JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT" CAST

EC Players Present 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat'

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

The Biblical saga of Joseph and his coat of many colors is the storyline for the 2013 spring musical scheduled April 10-13, 2013, at East Central Community College.

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, which features lyrics by Tim Rice and music by Andrew Lloyd Webber, will be presented by the ECCC Players in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. A matinee performance is set for 9 a.m. Wednesday, April 10. Evening performances begin at 7 p.m. April 11-13 (Thursday – Saturday).

The cast includes approximately 30 EC students and members of the Hickory Baptist Church Children's Choir.

The musical depicts the story of Joseph – his father's (Jacob) favorite son – who is blessed with prophetic dreams. When he is sold into slavery by his jealous brothers and taken into Egypt, Joseph endures a series of adventures in which his spirit and humanity are continually challenged. Set to an engaging abundance of musical styles, this Old Testament tale emerges as both timely and timeless.

Cast members, their hometowns and respective roles in the production include Sam Lovorn (as Joseph), Savannah Stuart-Dahl (Mrs. Potiphar), Charles Taylor (Levi), Drew Thames (Naphtali), Will Stokes (Zebulon) and Chandler Smith (Simeon), all of Philadelphia; Hunter Brooks (Jacob) and Rob Parker (Ruben), both of Puckett; Conor Bell (Potiphar) and Aaliyah Cook (Wife), both of Carthage; Colton Hurst (Pharaoh), Tadarian "Bo" Foster (Judah) and Delaney Kilgore (Gad), all of Hickory; Andrea McSwain (wife), Decatur; Georgia Doner (Butler) and Tarra Gibson (Wife), both of Bailey; Chelsey Smith (Baker), Brandon; Matt Graham (Asher), Meridian; Ian Lanthrip (Benjamin), Sebastopol; Sharley Hardin (Wife), Forest; Lizabeth Benton (Wife), Preston; Holli Nutt (Wife), Morton; and Bristol Buffington (Wife), El Paso, Texas.

Narrators are Claire Griffin of Decatur, Sara LaBue of Conehatta and Clint Walker of Newton.

Tickets are \$5 for the matinee performance and \$10 for the evening presentations.

To reserve tickets, call the College Switchboard, 601-635-6215 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 215.

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SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC President's Council: The above students currently serve as members of the President's Council at East Central Community College. The President's Council is made up of leaders of all campus clubs and organizations and was established to provide better communications between the student groups and the President's office. Members and their respective organizations include (front row, from left) Shelby Parkman of Raleigh, ECCC Players; Holli Nutt of Morton, Astronomy Club; Andrew Hanna (secretary) of Union, Baptist Student Union and Warrior Corps; Dr. Randall Lee, Vice President for Student Services; Dr. Billy Stewart, President; Kelsey Bounds (president) of Newton, Sigma Sigma Mu Tau; Zachary Killion (vice president) of Crestwood, KY, Alpha Alpha Epsilon; and Adrienne Edwards of Philadelphia, EC Surgical Technology Student Association; (second row, from left) Chance Thaggard of Madden, SkillsUSA; Kendall Taylor of Macon, Centralettes; Haleigh Graham of Sebastopol, EC Business Club; Jon' Marie Baucum of Decatur, Diamond Darlings; Sam Irby of Morton, Newman Club; Dakota Morris of Edinburg, EC Environmental Club; Claire Griffin of Decatur, Warrior Corps and Sophomore Class; Robin Coker of Newton, Concert Choir; Andrea McSwain of Decatur, Gospel Choir; Erin Wooten of Carthage, *Wo-He-Lo*; Norma-Chae' Denson of Philadelphia, Student Education Association; Axie Jones of Decatur, Association of Student Nurses at EC; and Magen Pierce of Newton, Art Club; and (third row, from left) Darin Hillman, Cheerleaders, and Jacob King, Wall O' Sound Band, both of Sebastopol; Summer Fortenberry of Philadelphia, Practical Nursing Organization; Tanner Fortenberry of Union, Phi Beta Lambda; Lucas Calvert of Louisville, Residence Hall Council; Zak Thrasher of Columbus, Fellowship of Christian Athletes; Cole Ballard of Decatur, Freshman Class; Addreonna Seger of Newton, *The Tom-Tom*; Jessica Barnett, *Wo-He-Lo*, and Payton Smith, Cheerleaders, both of Forest; Christon Flores, Native American Association, and Alex Weir, Ac'cents, both of Philadelphia; and Jeremy Carson of Decatur, Student Body Association.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC's State SkillsUSA Contest Winners: These East Central Community College career-technical students received various honors at the State SkillsUSA Competition held recently in Jackson. Award winners include (front row, from left) Alan Chickaway of Conehatta, third place, Culinary Arts; Milenny Ferraras of Dalton, Ga., second, Food and Beverage Service; Leslie Tucker of Lake, second place, Cosmetology; Sam Gunn of Hickory, third place, Job Skills Demonstration A; and Brittany Smith of Decatur, first place, Promotional Bulletin Board; and (back row, from left) Cory King of Philadelphia, third place, Welding; Wesley Clark of Meridian, first place, Collision Repair; Sarah Orr of Noxapater, first place, Promotional Bulletin Board; Ivory Weldon of Pulaski, third place, Architectural Drafting; and Wanda Harrison of Walnut Grove, first place, Promotional Bulletin Board. First-place winners qualify for the National SkillsUSA Contest scheduled June 23-29, 2013, in Kansas City, Missouri.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

EC Sophomore Centralettes Honored: These members of the East Central Community College Centralettes – the dance line for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band - were recognized during "Sophomore Appreciation Night" held Feb. 18 during the final home basketball games of the 2012-13 season. From left are Hannah Farmer of Newton County High School, Kendall Taylor of Central Academy in Macon and Lauren Daniels of Neshoba Central, who are shown with Ada Hillman, daughter of retiring Centralette coordinator Nichol Hillman who made the presentation in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. Hillman was also recognized by the Centralettes for her seven years of service.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Phi Beta Lambda State Winners: East Central Community College's Theta Chi chapter of Phi Beta Lambda received top honors during the annual state conference held recently in Natchez. Theta Chi was recognized as the third largest chapter in attendance, and was named one of only two Gold Seal chapters in the state. Individual honors were presented to (front row, left to right) Timmie Wiggins of Little Rock, first place in small business management plan, third place in financial analysis and decision making and selected for Who's Who in PBL; Jessie Boatner of Philadelphia, first place in free enterprise project; Chelsea Gilmer of Philadelphia, first place in free enterprise project, third place in business presentation and selected for Who's Who in PBL; Yashica Ickmon of Lake, third place in business presentation and selected Mississippi's PBL vice president; Latoya Steele of Louisville, second place in sales presentation and fourth place in accounting analysis and decision making; and Cindy Burnside of Decatur, first place in local chapter annual business report and third place in business presentation; and (back row, left to right) Tanner Fortenberry of Union, first place in small business management plan and selected for Who's Who in PBL; Haleigh Graham of Sebastopol, first place in integrated marketing campaign and second place in accounting principles; Denzel Clemons of Philadelphia, first place in small business management plan and third place in statistical analysis; Ashleigh Savage of Union, first place in free enterprise project and first place in integrated marketing campaign; Krissy Winstead of Union, first place in impromptu speaking and third place in marketing analysis and decision making; and Josh Bradley of Union, third place in networking concepts and fourth place in networking design. Not pictured are Tori McInnis of Union, second place in management analysis and decision making, third place in economic analysis and decision making and selected for Who's Who in PBL; and Gerren Issac of Philadelphia, fourth place in networking concepts and fourth place in networking design. First and second place winners advance to national competition scheduled in June in Anaheim, Calif.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

EC Nursing Group Donates to ALS Society: Ashley Barnett (left) of Union, president of East Central Community College's ASNEC (Associate Degree Nursing) chapter, presents a \$670 check to Brandi Laird Nickles, Assistive Technology Professional and Care Services Director for the ALS Association (Louisiana/Mississippi Chapter) in Jackson, during a recent ceremony held in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. The EC nursing group collected the amount through various fundraising projects following a presentation made earlier in the school year by EC alumna and Morton resident Nickles on behalf of the charitable organization. ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis), also referred to as "Lou Gehrig's Disease," affects nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord.

NBC Nightly News Features EC Alum Randy Houser, Musicians On Call ‘Making A Difference’

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Top country music artists **Darius Rucker** and **Randy Houser** have both started the new year off with successful music releases, but they are also being recognized for their volunteer work with **Musicians On Call (MOC)**, a non-profit organization that brings live and recorded music to the bedsides of patients in healthcare facilities.

NBC's **Lester Holt** recently traveled to Nashville to join Rucker and Houser as they performed and visited with patients at Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt through the MOC Nashville branch. The visit, recently highlighted in *Country Weekly* magazine, made the focus of the "Making a Difference" segment of *NBC Nightly News* on Feb. 16 plus a "Web Extra" on the *Nightly News* tab of [NBCNews.com](http://www.NBCNews.com) featuring an extended interview

with Rucker.

The two artists shared with Holt their experiences over the years performing for patients in healthcare facilities and the influence it has on them personally to witness the visible affect music has on these patients. Weighing in on the advantages of having Musicians On Call in their hospital was Dr. Elisabeth M. Dykens, Professor of Psychology and Human Development and Director of the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center for Research on Human Development, who can personally attest to the patient benefits achieved through music.

"Everyone could see the impact of music on the patients, their families and hospital staff when Darius Rucker and Randy Houser entered the hospital rooms to play a song just for them," shares Musicians On Call Executive Director, Dr. Leslie Faerstein. "Musicians On Call goes to the bedsides of patients 41 times a week in six

cities and delivers the healing power of music to those who need it most."

Houser, who recently earned his first No. 1 and RIAA Gold-certified single with "How Country Feels," is busy touring in support of his brand new album, **How Country Feels**, released Jan. 22, 2013 on Stoney Creek Records. *Associated Press* heralded, *How Country Feels* is "stuffed with country soul-inflected mid-tempo arrangements that highlight Houser's rich voice," and *The Washington Post* proclaims, "Houser's back with *How Country Feels*, a buoyant, hook-filled outing that seems to have the Mississippi native angling for Nashville's softer, feel-good center." Selling out shows nationwide, more information can be found online by visiting www.RandyHouser.com.

Rucker is gearing up for the summer release of his upcoming album, *True Believers*, featuring his latest critically-

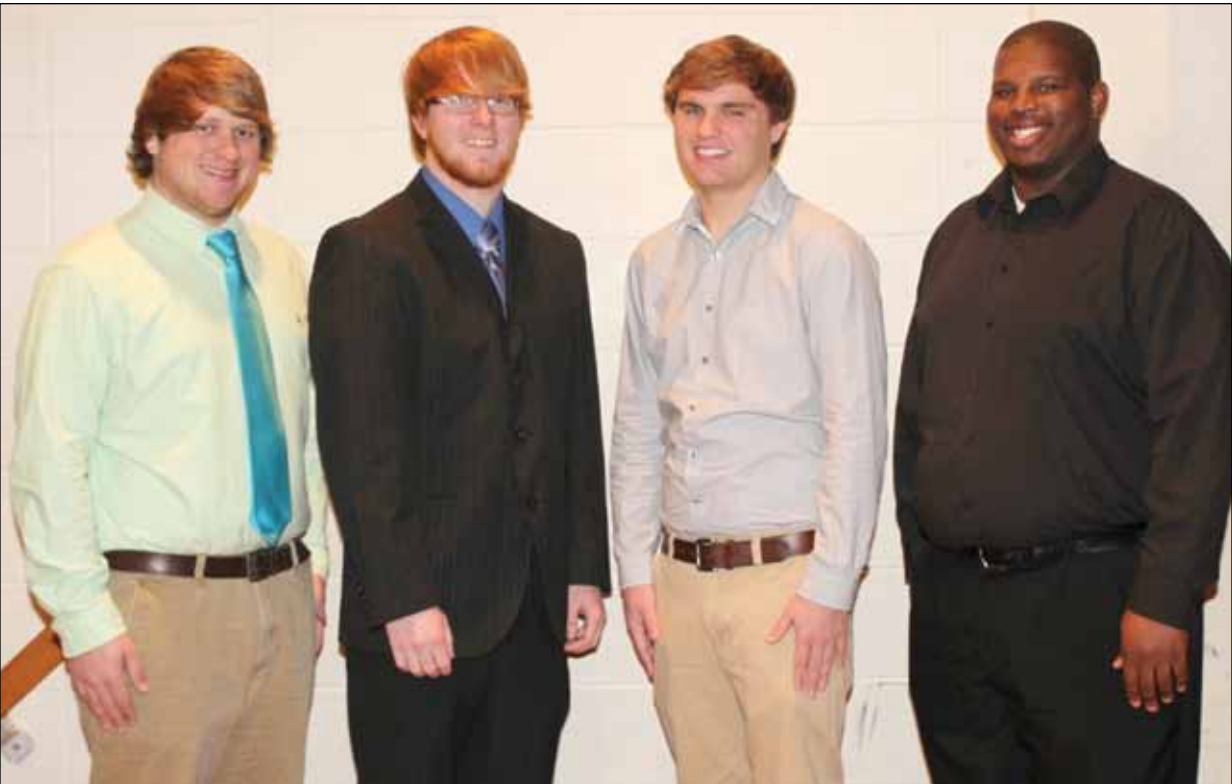
acclaimed single, "**Wagon Wheel**." *Entertainment Weekly* calls the song "a rich, twangy romper with a decidedly sunny vibe," while *USA Today* praises "Wagon Wheel" as a "sure-fire hit." "Wagon Wheel" follows his previously chart-topping hits "Don't Think I Don't Think About It," "It Won't Be Like This For Long," "Alright," "This," and "Come Back Song." For more information on Rucker, please visit www.DariusRucker.com.

ABOUT MUSICIANS ON CALL (MOC)

Musicians On Call (MOC) was founded in 1999 with the mission of bringing live and recorded music to the bedsides of patients in healthcare facilities. To date, its volunteers have played for more than 350,000 people nationwide. Musicians On Call continues its mission through room-to-room hospital performances by both local musicians and national celebrities as well as the CD



HOUSER
Pharmacy Program. For more musiciansoncall.org information, please visit www.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
East Central Community College music majors Jeremy Carson of Decatur, Rob Parker of Puckett, Jessie Armstrong of Collinsville and Tadarin Foster of Hickory presented their sophomore recitals Wednesday, April 17, 2013, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium.

EC Students Present Sophomore Recitals

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College music majors Jeremy Carson of Decatur, Tadarin Foster of Hickory, Rob Parker of Puckett and Jessie Armstrong of Collinsville recently held sophomore recitals on Wednesday, April 17, 2013, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium.

Vocal music majors Carson and Foster are graduates of Newton County High School and have been awarded scholarships to continue their education at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Carson's vocal presentation will include "Die Erlkonig" by

Schubert, "Si mes vers avaient des ailes" by Hahn and "Che fiero costume" by Legrenzi.

Foster will sing "Crucifixus from Messa Di Gloria" by Puccini, "The Vagabond from Songs of Travel" by Vaughn Williams and "Le Charme" by Chausson.

Parker graduated from Puckett High School. He is also a vocal music major and plans to continue his education at Mississippi College. His selections include "Lydia" by Faure, "The King of Love My Sheperd Is" by Gounod and "Questa o quella" by Rigoletto.

Armstrong is a graduate of West Lauderdale High School and has been

awarded an instrumental scholarship to continue his education at the University of Southern Mississippi. He will be performing "Piece Symphonique" by Guilmant, "Gabriel's Oboe" by Morricone and "The Yellow Rose of Texas Variation" by Buckley.

Carson, Foster and Parker are students of Vicki Blaylock, ECCC Fine Arts Division Chair and vocal music instructor. Armstrong is the student of Hunter Corhern, ECCC Director of Bands/instrumental music instructor.

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

EC Yearbooks Available for Viewing on Web site

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Yearbooks produced at East Central Community College can now be viewed through the College Web site.

"We are pleased to announce that East Central has recently digitalized and made available a collection of yearbooks from 1937 to 2012," said Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations.

Dr. Hollingsworth said the project was made possible through the LYRASIS Digitization Collaborative – a Sloan Foundation grant-subsidized program that has made digitalization easy and affordable for libraries and cultural institutions across the country.

"Through the Collaborative's partnership with the Internet Archive, all items were scanned from cover-to-cover and in full color," she explained. "Viewers can choose from a variety of formats for paging through a yearbook by choosing the 'read online' option, downloading the PDF, or searching the full text version."

To view the collection, visit <http://archive.org/details/eastcentralcommunitycollege> or visit the East Central Community College Library link at <http://www.eccc.edu/library.html> then click on the *Wo-He-Lo* Digital Archive link.

For more information, contact Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth at ECCC, 601-635-6327 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 327. Her e-mail address is sholling@eccc.edu



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
HEADWAE: Andrew Hanna and Kim Hardy recently represented East Central Community College as the HEADWAE (Higher Education Appreciation Day: Working Toward Academic Excellence) Student and Instructor of the Year, respectively. Sophomore Hanna of Union and biology instructor Hardy of Philadelphia represented the two-year institution at the annual program held Feb. 26, 2013, in Jackson. HEADWAE was established by the Mississippi Legislature to recognize the academically talented students and faculty members from each of the 36 public and private member institutions of the Mississippi Association of Colleges. Pictured are Dr. Billy W. Stewart, president; Andrew Hanna; Lt. Gov. Tate Reeves; and Kim Hardy.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
Scott County Officials Visit ECCC: Scott County officials were luncheon guests at the March 19, 2013, meeting of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees. The special campus visitors are shown with Board members from Scott County following the meal. Seated are (from left) Johnny Harrell, District Four Supervisor; Joe Rigby, Circuit Clerk; Lee Anne Livingston Palmer, Chancery Clerk; Kim Ervin, Comptroller; Myra Murrell-Davis, Tax Assessor/Collector; and Board of Trustees member Vernon Crotwell of Morton. Standing from left are Bruce McMillan, District Five Supervisor; Board of Trustees members Annie Stowers and Royce Shaw (secretary), both of Forest, Board Chairman Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake and Rebecca Farris of Morton; Steven Crotwell, District Three Supervisor; and Jackie L. Bradford, District One Supervisor. Dr. Hollingsworth and ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart expressed appreciation to the Scott County officials for their support of the College.

Reminder: Wear IDs

at All Time!



Bounds, Thames Win ECCC Pageant: Kelsey Bounds (center) of Newton and Drew Thames (left) of Philadelphia were chosen Most Beautiful and Most Handsome, respectively, at East Central Community College during the annual Beauty Pageant held February 19. At right is 2012 Most Beautiful Raychal Reed of Louisville who crowned the winner.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
ECCC Beauties, Beaus: These East Central Community College students were selected beauties and beaus during the annual Beauty Pageant held February 19. Winners and their respective high schools are (from left) Cole Ballard and Taylor Gressett, both of Newton County; William Meruvia, Neshoba Central; Emily Gully, Sylva Bay Academy; Drew Thames (Most Handsome), Neshoba Central; Kelsey Bounds (Most Beautiful) and Madison Stringer, both of Newton County; Zachary Killion, South Oldham, Crestwood, KY; Emily Marler, Morton; and Sam Lovorn, Neshoba Central.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
ECCC Top 10 Beauties: These ladies were selected for the Top 10 during the annual Beauty Pageant held Tuesday, February 19, at East Central Community College. Pictured are (from left) Kamanan Malone, Leake Academy; Taylor Gressett and Alex Hollingsworth, both of Newton County; Emily Gully, Sylva Bay Academy; Erin Thornton, Kelsey Bounds, Jayohnnie Slaughter and Madison Stringer, all of Newton County; Kaitlyn Busby, East Rankin Academy; and Emily Marler, Morton.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
ECCC First Year Experience Class Celebrates Midterm: Students at East Central Community College enrolled in the College's First Year Experience course celebrated midterms with a cake and ice cream party. Pictured enjoying the festivities are students Brandon Clark (left) of Louisville and Sherry Wooten (right) of Decatur.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
Allende Receives ECCC Scholarship: Jose Allende (left) of Newton recently earned a nontraditional student scholarship at East Central Community College. Allende, a 34-year-old married student, received the award from Dr. Randall E. Lee (right), Vice President for Student Services. Nontraditional student scholarships are available to Mississippi residents 23 years of age or older who enroll full-time at ECCC and meet scholarship requirements. For more information, contact Student Services, 601-635-6205 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 205. The e-mail address is relee@eccc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
ECCC Chooses Class Favorites: The favorites for freshman and sophomore classes of 2012-13 have been announced for East Central Community College, following a recent student body election. Those elected and their respective high schools, include: (front row, from left) Allie Killens, Saltillo; Payton Smith, Scott Central; Lindsey McCool and Jayden Fryery, both of Winston Academy; Taylor Gressett and Hannah Farmer, both of Newton County; Tiana Grover, Newton County Academy; and Haley Covert, West Lauderdale; (back row, from left) Zach May and Chandler Smith, Newton County; Andrew Hanna, Newton County Academy; Cole Ballard, Newton County; Lucas Viverette, Union; Tyler Warnat, New Hope; Layton Holcomb, Oak Grove; and Tyler Pigg, Newton County.

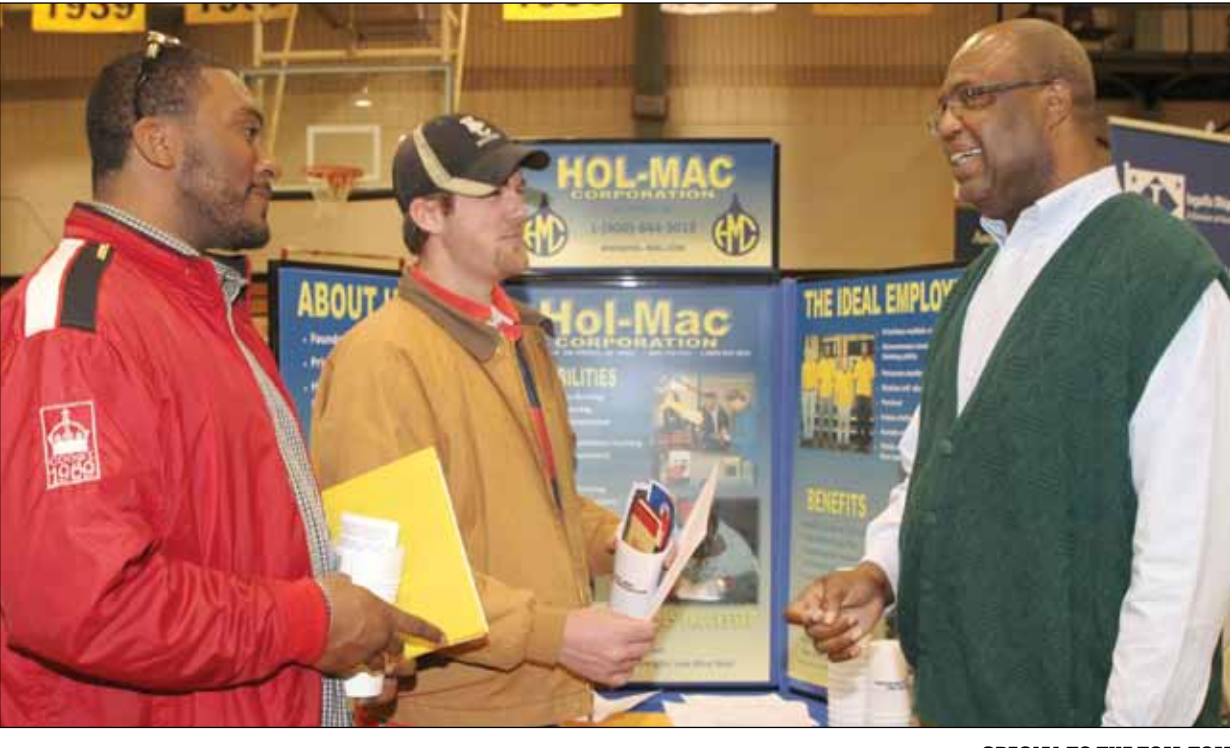


Participate in Community College 'Capitol Day': East Central Community College officials and students were among participants at the annual "Capitol Day" held Feb. 28, 2013, at the State Legislature in Jackson and hosted by the Mississippi Faculty Association for Community and Junior Colleges. The event is held to encourage lawmakers to continue their financial support of the state's two-year colleges. Pictured are (front, from left) ECCC students Will Stokes of Philadelphia, Lucas Calvert of Louisville, Erin Thornton of Walnut Grove, Charlotte Carver of Louisville and Pheanice Hamm-Brown of Lake, and (back row, from left) State Representatives Tom Miles of Forest and Randy Rushing of Decatur; State Senator Terry C. Burton of Newton; State Representative Michael Evans of Preston; and ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart. Senator Burton was among featured speakers at a news conference held at the State Capitol and reiterated his support for two-year colleges. "It's important for us to know as legislators that the best value in education in Mississippi, and I believe in the world, is the Mississippi community and junior college system. Our continued economic success demands that we provide for you the best funding source that we can from the state. It doesn't go unnoticed – the accountability, the efficiency and the numbers of people you serve with those funds," Senator Burton said. "We're going to do the very best that we can in funding you."

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
Salter Attends ECCC Expo: Issac Salter (left) of Millbrook , Ala., talks with Ronnie Brooks, Assistant Director of Recruitment for Alcorn State University during the East Central Community College Business, Education and Healthcare Expo held in Brackeen-Wood Gymnasium. Salter is a student in the ECCC Carpentry and Cabinetmaking program. Approximately 260 people attended the Expo and more than 50 vendors participated in the annual event.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
Pruitt, Alexander Attend ECCC Expo: Lance Pruitt (left) of Newton and Tyler Alexander (center) of Little Rock are shown talking with Greg Walker, Employee Development Coordinator for Hol-Mac Corporation, during the East Central Community College Business, Education and Healthcare Expo held recently in Brackeen-Wood Gymnasium. Pruitt and Alexander are students in the Precision Machining Technology Program at ECCC. Approximately 260 people attended the Expo and more than 50 vendors participated in the annual event.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
Rush Health Systems Participates in ECCC Expo: Rush Health Systems Allied Health Recruiter Annie Ortlepp (right), RN, CCM, CWCP, talks with East Central Community College nursing student C.J. Hathorn of Bassfield during the College's Business, Education and Healthcare Expo held recently in Brackeen-Wood Gymnasium. Approximately 260 people attended the Expo and more than 50 vendors participated in the annual event.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
Harrison, Thompson Participate in ECCC Expo: Ricky Harrison (left), owner of Harrison Surveying & Mapping LLC, talks with East Central Community College Drafting and Design Technology student Jake Thompson of Louisville during the College's Business, Education and Healthcare Expo held recently in Brackeen-Wood Gymnasium. Approximately 260 people attended the Expo and more than 50 vendors participated in the annual event.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
MUW Participates in ECCC Expo: Monica Drummond (center) of Newton and Lakaisha Coleman (right) of Meridian are shown visiting with Megan Thomas, Admissions Counselor at Mississippi University for Women, during the East Central Community College Business, Education and Healthcare Expo held recently in Brackeen-Wood Gymnasium. Approximately 260 people attended the Expo and more than 50 vendors participated in the annual event.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
Attends ECCC Nontraditional Conference for Male Students: Ty Carter (left) of Louisville receives assistance from East Central Community College Business Technology student Yashica Ickom of Lake during the College's annual Nontraditional Conference for Male Students. During the day's activities, male students participate in hands-on activities and tour programs that typically enroll female students. Additional programs featured included computer technology, cosmetology, culinary arts, early childhood education, nursing, surgical technology and hotel/restaurant management. A Nontraditional Conference for Female students is also held each year. For more information, contact Career-Technical Counselor Amanda Walton at 601-635-6214. The e-mail address is awalton@eccc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
Participate in ECCC Nontraditional Conference for Male Students: Brandon Rodriguez (left) and Darwin Ruiz (right), both of Forest, participate in a Culinary Arts relay event during East Central Community College's annual Nontraditional Conference for Male Students. Also pictured is Culinary Arts instructor Chef Barry Karrh.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
Attend ECCC Nontraditional Conference for Male Students: Daniel McMahan (right) of Newton County High School is shown experimenting with Surgical Technology robotic equipment during East Central Community College's annual Nontraditional Conference for Male Students.

Warrior Athletics

ECCC Softball Squad Takes Twin Bill from Co-Lin

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team earned a pair of division contests by sweeping a doubleheader from Copiah-Lincoln Community College April 6.

The Lady Diamond Warriors posted a 4-2 victory in the opener and held for a 2-1 decision in the second contest to improve to 23-9 overall and 7-5 in the MACJC South Division. Co-Lin dropped to 19-13-1 and 4-10.

Dekota Vowell led the offense in the opener, as the Neshoba Central High School product slapped a single in the fourth inning and doubled in the sixth.

Morgan Porter of Enterprise was the top run producer with a two-run triple.

Other hitters were LaJoya Griffin of Philadelphia and Lindsey Beard of Clarkdale, single and RBI each; Marlee Massey of Neshoba Central, triple; Amber McBroom of Brandon, double; and A.J. Peeler and Ty Buckley, both of Neshoba Central, singles each.

Runs were scored by Kaylin Hopkins (2) of Louisville, McBroom and Massey.

Tenna Patterson went the distance in recording the victory. Patterson allowed one earned run on four hits through seven innings. She also fanned five batters and walked one. Patterson is a product of Lexington (Ala.) High School.

In the second contest, Buckley's two-run homer in the sixth inning provided EC with the winning margin.

Other hitters were Massey, double; and Peeler, McBroom, Porter and Beard, singles each. Beard also scored.

Starter Mary Sanders hurled a scoreless 5 1/3 innings and allowed just four hits before being relieved by Patterson, who allowed one earned run on two hits. She also fanned a batter.

ECCC/SOUTHWEST SPLIT

SOFTBALL TWIN BILL

After claiming a 5-1 victory in the opener, ECCC's fast-pitch softball team was unable to complete the doubleheader sweep and fell 2-1 in the second contest with Southwest Mississippi Community College March 23.

Buckley and Griffin had two hits and an RBI each to lead the EC offense in the first game. Buckley belted a double and single and Griffin slapped two singles.

Other hitters were Porter and Massey, doubles each; and McBroom, Peeler and Vowell, singles each. Peeler and Porter each knocked in a run.

Runs were scored by Griffin, Peeler, Porter, Massey and Hopkins.

Patterson went the distance in recording the win. Patterson allowed one earned run on four hits through seven innings. She also fanned three batters and walked three.

EC's offense was stymied in the second contest, as only two hits were registered – a double by Peeler and a single by Beard. Beard also scored the lone run.

Sanders took the loss and allowed two earned runs on four hits through 4 2/3 innings. She also fanned a batter and walked three.

Patterson hurled the final 2 1/3 innings and allowed one hit.

ECCC SOFTBALL SQUAD FALLS TWICE TO JONES COUNTY

EC's fast-pitch softball squad dropped a twin bill to Jones County Junior College March 26 on the Ellisville campus.

The Lady Diamond Warriors fell 7-4 in the opener and were blanked 8-0 in the nightcap of the key MACJC South Division matchup.

Following the setbacks, EC dropped to 20-8 overall and 4-4 in league play under first-year head coach Kristin Chaney and assistant Courtney Nunn.

McBroom belted a two-run homer and Hayley Stephens contributed a two-run double to lead EC's offense in the opener.

Stephens is a product of Union High School.

Other hitters were Peeler and Porter, singles each.

McBroom and Peeler each scored two runs.

Starter Patterson went three innings and allowed six earned runs on eight hits.

Sanders hurled three innings in relief and allowed one earned run on four hits.

In the second contest, EC managed just one hit – a double by Porter.

Starter Patterson went five innings and allowed two earned runs on eight hits. She fanned a batter and walked two.

Sanders went 2/3 inning and allowed two hits.

ECCC SOFTBALL SQUAD CRUSHES MCC IN TWIN BILL

ECCC's fast-pitch softball squad posted easy victories over Meridian Community College in a non-division doubleheader Wednesday, March 20, 2013.

Peeler led EC's offense in the first matchup belted a home run, triple and two singles and collected four RBIs.

Also having productive outings at the plate were Griffin, triple, single and two RBIs; Lindsey Beard of Clarkdale, double, single and RBI; and Vowell, two singles.

Porter contributed a two-run triple, Stephens and Kristen Chipley of Leake Academy each had a single and RBI; and Buckley was credited with a single.

Runs were scored by Peeler (2), Griffin (2), Chipley (2), Hopkins (2), Buckley, Porter and Beard.

Patterson was the winning pitcher in the five-inning matchup. Patterson allowed two earned runs on six hits. She also fanned three batters and walked one.

In the second game, EC jumped out to 12-0 lead after three innings and coasted to victory.

Stephens led the offense with two doubles and two RBIs.

Other hitters were Peeler and Hopkins, two singles each; Beard, double and two RBIs; McBroom, double and RBI; Chipley, single and RBI; and Buckley, Vowell, Porter and Casey Cherry of Union, singles each. Malauri Robinson of Enterprise was credited with a RBI.

Runs were scored by Griffin (2), Peeler (2), Buckley (2), Porter (2), McBroom, Stephens, Beard, Chipley and Hopkins.

Sanders picked up the win in the six-inning contest. Sanders allowed five earned runs on six hits. She also fanned three batters and walked two.

EC SOFTBALL SWEEPS TO BEGIN DIVISION ACTION

MACJC South Division competition began on a positive note for EC's fast-pitch softball squad, which registered doubleheader sweeps of home standing Copiah-Lincoln Community College on March 9 and visiting Hinds Community College on March 13.

However, the four-game win streak was snapped thanks to a doubleheader setback to Mississippi Gulf Coast in games played March 16 on the Perkinson campus.

In the matchups with Co-Lin, EC registered a 7-4 victory in the opener followed by a 6-4 decision.

Peeler was the offensive leader in the first contest belted three singles and collected four RBIs.

McBroom contributed a double and a single and also knocked in a run. Buckley had two singles.

Other hitters were Stephens, double and two RBIs; and Griffin and Porter, singles each.

Runs were scored by Griffin (2), Buckley (2), McBroom (2) and Porter.

Patterson got the win, allowing four earned runs on 10 hits. She also fanned three batters and walked one.

In the second contest- which featured five lead changes – EC took the advantage for good in the sixth inning on an RBI single by Porter, scoring Massey.

Massey led the offense with two doubles and a single. She was also the top run producer with three RBIs.

Stephens and Peeler also had productive outings with two hits each. Stephens belted a triple and a single and was credited with an RBI. Peeler had two singles.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Sanders Hurls EC to Victory: Mary Sanders (2) picked up the win in the second game of East Central Community College's doubleheader sweep of Meridian Community College March 20, 2013. Sanders, a sophomore from Vidalia, La., allowed five earned runs on six hits in the 13-5 victory. The Adams County Christian Academy product also fanned three batters and walked two. EC cruised 11-2 in the opener.

Other hitters were Griffin and Porter, single and RBI each; and Buckley, Vowell and Chipley, singles each.

Runs were scored by Vowell (2), Peeler, Chipley, Massey and Hopkins.

Patterson got the win in relief. She pitched 2 2/3 scoreless innings and allowed two hits. She also fanned two batters.

Starter Sanders went 4 1/3 innings, allowing four earned runs on six hits. She fanned two batters.

The Lady Diamond Warriors cruised past Hinds by scores of 7-1 and 11-3.

In the opener, EC scored all seven runs in the second inning and was led by Chipley and McBroom, who each belted two-run doubles.

Other hitters were Stephens, double and RBI; Porter, single and RBI; and Griffin, Vowell and Lindsey Beard of Clarkdale, singles each.

Runs were scored by Griffin, Porter, Peeler, Beard, Vowell, Chipley and Laken Fulcher of Nanih Waiya.

Patterson was the winning hurler, allowing one earned run on five hits in the seven-inning contest. She also fanned three batters and walked one.

EC collected 17 hits in the second contest and put the contest away early by scoring eight runs in the first three innings.

Griffin belted three singles and collected two RBIs, and Massey had two singles with three RBIs to lead the offense.

Other hitters were Porter and Chipley, each with a double, single and two RBIs; Vowell, two singles and RBI; Peeler and Stephens, two singles each; and Buckley and McBroom, doubles each.

Sanders picked up the win, allowing three earned runs on eight hits in the five-inning contest.

Against Gulf Coast, EC fell 3-1 in the opener and 8-0 in the second contest.

Griffin doubled and singled, and scored the lone run to lead EC in the first matchup.

Buckley contributed a triple and Vowell doubled.

Patterson took the loss. She allowed one earned run on four hits through six innings of work. She fanned three batters and walked three.

In the second game, EC managed just three hits – a double and single by Vowell and a single by Griffin.

Sanders took the loss, allowing four earned runs on nine hits. She also fanned a batter.

ECCC SOFTBALL SQUAD HAMMERS MS DELTA

Winning ways continue for EC's fast-pitch softball squad, which recorded a doubleheader sweep of Mississippi Delta Community College March 7 on the Morehead campus.

Buckley tripled and knocked in a run and McBroom collected a two-run single in leading the EC offense in the opener.

Other hitters were Massey, double; Griffin and Chipley, single and RBI each; and Porter and Peeler and Vowell, singles each.

Runs were scored by Porter (2), Griffin, Buckley, Chipley and Hopkins.

Patterson picked up the win and allowed three earned runs

on four hits in the seven-hitting battle. She also fanned seven batters and walked one.

In the second contest, EC bats came alive with 24 hits in the five-inning matchup.

Numerous Lady Warriors recorded multiple hits, including Vowell, four singles and RBI; Porter, two triples, a single and four RBIs; Buckley, triple, double, single and two RBIs; McBroom, two doubles, single and two RBIs; Chipley, two doubles and four RBIs; Peeler, three singles; Stephens, two singles and two RBIs; Massey, two singles; Hopkins, single and RBI; and Fulcher, single.

Runs were scored by McBroom (4), Vowell (3), Griffin, Porter, Buckley, Hopkins, Chipley and Massey, two each; Peeler, Fulcher and Casey Cherry of Union. Griffin was also credited with an RBI.

Sanders was the winning hurler, allowing two earned runs on two hits in the five-inning contest. She also fanned four batters and walked one.

EC Lady Diamond Warriors Rally to Sweep Holmes

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team recorded a pair of victories over Holmes Community College March 5 in non-division contests held.

The Lady Diamond Warriors rallied from a 6-0 deficit to claim an 8-7 decision in the opener and held on for an 8-4 victory in the second contest to complete the sweep.

Peeler tripled and singled and collected two RBIs in helping lead EC to the comeback victory in the first contest.

Other hitters were TyBuckley, double, single and two RBIs; Griffin, two singles and two RBIs; Porter, two singles and RBI; Hayley Stephens, two singles; Vowell, single and RBI; and Chipley, single.

Scoring runs in addition to Peeler were McBroom (2); Griffin, Porter, Vowell and Chipley.

Sanders was the winning pitcher, allowing five earned runs on 11 hits in the eight-inning battle. She also fanned seven batters and walked three.

In the second contest, EC again found itself with an early deficit as the Lady Bulldogs jumped out to a 4-0 lead in the top of the first inning.

However, the Lady Diamond Warriors rallied for two runs in the bottom of the frame, one in the fourth, three in the fifth and two in the sixth in posting the victory.

Griffin sparked the offense with a triple and single. She also knocked in a run and scored twice.

Other hitters included McBroom, double, single and RBI; Peeler and Massey, triple and RBI each; and Buckley, Stephens and Vowell, singles each. Vowell also recorded an RBI.

Also scoring runs were McBroom (2), Porter, Buckley, Massey and Cherry.

McBroom allowed no earned runs on six hits in picking up the win. She fanned four batters and walked one in the seven-inning matchup.

ECCC Softball Squad Sweeps Baton Rouge

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball squad improved to 10-4 overall following a doubleheader sweep of

Baton Rouge Community College Feb. 28 on the Baton Rouge (La.) campus.

The Lady Diamond Warriors held on for a 4-3 decision in the opener and cruised 10-1 in the nightcap.

Vowell belted a double and single and scored a run to lead EC's offense in the first contest.

Stephens was the top run producer with a two-run single.

Other hitters were Porter, Buckley and McBroom, singles each. Each also scored a run.

Patterson picked up the win, allowing three earned runs on five hits in the seven-inning matchup. She also fanned six batters and walked one.

In the second contest, Peeler led the offense with a grand slam home run, two doubles and six RBIs.

Other sluggers were Chipley, two doubles and RBI; Stephens, double, single and RBI; Porter, McBroom, Buckley and Vowell, two singles each; and Griffin and Cherry, singles each.

Runs were scored by McBroom (3), Buckley (2), Griffin, Porter, Stephens and Cherry.

Sanders was the winning pitcher in the five-inning contest, which was called due to the eight-run rule. Sanders allowed one run on six hits. She also fanned a batter and walked one.

EC SOFTBALL POSTS SECOND SWEEP OF BATON ROUGE

ECCC's fast-pitch softball squad improved to 10-4 overall following a second doubleheader sweep of Baton Rouge Community College Feb. 28 on the Baton Rouge (La.) campus.

The Lady Diamond Warriors held on for a 4-3 decision in the opener and cruised 10-1 in the nightcap.

Vowell belted a double and single and scored a run to lead EC's offense in the first contest.

Stephens was the top run producer with a two-run single.

Other hitters were Porter, Buckley and McBroom, singles each. Each also scored a run.

Patterson picked up the win, allowing three earned runs on five hits in the seven-inning matchup. She also fanned six batters and walked one.

In the second contest, Peeler led the offense with a grand slam home run, two doubles and six RBIs.

Other sluggers were Chipley, two doubles and RBI; Stephens, double, single and RBI; Porter, McBroom, Buckley and Vowell, two singles each; and Griffin and Cherry, singles each.

Runs were scored by McBroom (3), Buckley (2), Griffin, Porter, Stephens and Cherry.

Sanders was the winning pitcher in the five-inning contest, which was called due to the eight-run rule. Sanders allowed one run on six hits. She also fanned a batter and walked one.

LADY WARRIORS POST SECOND SWEEP OF MMI

EC's fast-pitch softball team recorded a second-straight double-header sweep of Marion Military Institute cruising 12-2 in the opener and 6-3 in the second contest.

EC, now 8-4 overall, scored 11 runs in the first three innings of the opener, which was called due to the eight-run rule.

The Lady Diamond Warrior offense was highlighted in the first game by McBroom's three-run homer and a two-run triple by Griffin. McBroom and Griffin completed the opener with three RBIs each.

Buckley also had a productive outing at the plate by belting a triple and a double. She also scored twice.

Other sluggers were Peeler and Stephens, two singles each; and Hopkins, Chipley, Cherry and Robinson and Porter, singles each.

Peeler, Stephens, Cherry, Porter and Lindsey Beard of Clarkdale were credited with an RBI each.

Patterson picked up the win, allowing three hits and no earned runs. She fanned seven batters and walked two.

In the second contest, EC snapped a 2-2 tie by scoring two runs in the fifth inning and adding a pair of runs in the sixth for a 6-3 victory.

McBroom led the offense with

two singles and two RBIs.

Other hitters were Chipley, two singles; Porter, double and two RBIs; Buckley, double and RBI; and Peeler, single and RBI.

Patterson picked up the win in relief. She allowed one earned run on two hits and walked three batters during her three innings on the mound. Starter Sanders allowed two earned runs on three hits through four innings. She fanned two batters and walked a pair.

The Lady Diamond Warriors posted earlier victories (9-4, 10-2) over Marion Military following a Feb. 26 doubleheader on the Marion, Ala., campus.

EC SOFTBALL SQUAD SWEEPS MARION MILITARY

ECCC's fast-pitch softball team improved to 6-4 on the young season following a doubleheader sweep of Marion Military Institute Feb. 20 in Marion, Ala.

McBroom knocked in the go-ahead run in the sixth inning and the Lady Diamond Warriors held on for a 9-4 win in the opener. EC jumped out to an early 3-0 lead and cruised 10-2 in the second contest, which was called after five innings due to the eight-run rule.

McBroom belted a double and two singles with two RBIs and was one of several players with multiple hits.

Also having productive outings at the plate were Porter, four singles and one RBI; Stephens, double, two singles and three RBIs; Beard, two singles and one RBI; Griffin and Cherry, two singles each; Buckley, single and RBI; and Peeler, single.

Runs were scored by Griffin (2), Porter (2), Buckley, Beard and Vowell.

Patterson went the distance on the mound to record the victory. She allowed four earned runs on seven hits and fanned four batters. She also walked six batters.

In the nightcap, Buckley blasted two doubles and Peeler and Porter each had a double and single to lead the offense. Peeler led in RBIs with three and Buckley knocked in two runs. Porter was also credited with an RBI.

Other hitters were McBroom, double and two RBIs; Beard, double and RBI; Stephens, double; Vowell, single and RBI; and Griffin and Massey of Neshoba Central, singles each.

Runs were scored by Griffin (3), Porter (2), Buckley (2), McBroom, Massey and Vowell.

Mary Sanders got the win, allowing just one earned run on six hits. She fanned two batters and walked four.

EC SOFTBALL SQUAD SWEEPS MCC

Led by a strong pitching performance in both contests and a productive offense in the nightcap, EC's fast-pitch softball team recorded a pair of victories over rival Meridian Community College on the MCC campus.

Patterson shut down the MCC offense in a 2-0 win in the opener, and fellow sophomore hurler Smith allowed just two runs and EC bats came alive for a 14-2 thumping in the second contest.

Patterson fanned eight batters and walked two in the seven-inning battle.

EC got all the runs it needed in the fourth inning, on an RBI double from freshman Porter. Porter also singled to lead the offense.

Other hitters were Griffin, double; and Beard, and Buckley and Vowell, singles each.

In the second contest, EC tallied eight runs in the first three innings and coasted to the easy win.

A two-run homer by Broom helped fuel the offensive attack.

Also having productive outings at the plate were Vowell, triple, single and three RBIs; Peeler, double, single and RBI; Buckley, two singles; Massey, double and two RBIs; and Griffin and Hopkins, singles each. Beard was credited with two RBIs and Chipley also knocked in a run.

Sanders allowed four hits and fanned two to win the matchup, which was called after five innings.

Warrior Athletics

Diamond Warriors Remain Tied for Division Lead

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Chase Domino's three-run homer in the fourth inning followed by a solo shot from Tim Anderson in the first inning helped provide East Central Community College's baseball team with a 6-2 victory in the opener with division rival Jones County Junior College Tuesday, April at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex.

However, it was the Bobcat bats that came alive in the nightcap as the visitors from Ellisville cruised 21-3 to split the doubleheader.

Both squads continue to share the MACJC South Division lead along with Pearl River Community College, as all three teams are 11-5 in league play as of Wednesday, April 10.

Domino, who also singled, is a product of Fairhope (Ala.) High School. Anderson is a former standout at Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa.

Other EC hitters in the first contest were Newton County High School product Xavier Franklin of Decatur, triple and RBI; John Morgan Berry of Madison Central, double and RBI; and Ryan Shotts of Louisville, Maxwell Harmon of Enterprise and Terrance Steele of Neshoba Central, singles each.

Starter Caleb McKee picked up the win, as the southpaw from Neshoba Central hurled a scoreless five innings and fanned four batters while walking one.

Right-hander Blake Dubuison was credited with the save. He pitched two scoreless innings and struck out four batters. Dubuison is a product of Long Beach High School.

Conner West made a brief appearance on the mound and allowed two earned runs on two hits. West is a product of Taylorsville High School.

In the second contest, Jones County jumped out to an early 6-0 lead and coasted to victory.

EC managed just five hits – a two-run double by Harmon and singles from Anderson, Domino, Franklin and John Bruening of Ridgeland. Steele scored EC's other run.

Starter Severino Signa took the loss. The right-hander went 1 1/3 innings and allowed three earned runs on one hit. He fanned a batter and walked one. Signa hails from Deer Creek High School.

EC used six pitchers in the five-inning contest.

The Diamond Warriors continue division play by traveling to Southwest Mississippi Community College Saturday, April 13. Doubleheader action begins at 2 p.m. on the Summit campus.

EC takes a break from league competition with a trip to Itawamba Community College Wednesday, April 17. The twin bill gets under way at 3 p.m. on the Fulton campus.

East Central Community College's baseball program is led by head coach Neal Holliman and assistants Justin Brewer and Jack Edmonson.

ECCC SWEEPS HINDS IN KEY MACJC SOUTH CONTEST

Anderson had another banner day at the plate in helping lead ECCC's baseball squad to a doubleheader sweep of Hinds Community College in a key MACJC South Division matchup April 2 on the Raymond campus.

Anderson belted a double and two singles, collected two RBIs and scored twice in a 7-4 victory in the opener, and followed that performance with a solo home run and single during an 8-4 win in the nightcap.

With the sweep, the Diamond Warriors improved to 9-3 in league play. EC is 17-14 overall. Hinds fell to 11-19 and 2-10.

Also having productive outings at the plate in the opener were Shotts, double and single; Dominican Republic native Rubert Alcantara, two singles and RBI; Harmon, two singles and RBI; Kalik May of Tuscaloosa County, triple and three RBIs; and Domino and Franklin, singles each.

Shotts and Alcantara also scored twice and Franklin added a run.

McKee was the winning pitcher, as the southpaw allowed two earned runs on eight hits through 6 2/3 innings. He also fanned five batters and walked four.

Right-hander Deion Ulmer was credited with the save by hurling a scoreless one-third inning. Ulmer is a product of Laurel High School.

In the nightcap, the score was tied 4-4 after seven innings but the Diamond Warriors scored four runs in the top of the eighth and held on for the victory.

In addition to Anderson, other EC sluggers were Berry, two singles and RBI; Ulmer, single and two RBIs; Shotts, Kalik May and Franklin, singles each; and Harmon, RBI.

Also scoring runs were Franklin (2), Shotts, Harmon, Steele, Zach May of Newton County and Kyle Henson of Starkville Academy.

Signa went 6 2/3 innings and allowed three earned runs on eight hits. He also fanned seven batters.

Right-hander Jordan Mixon of Maben hurled 1 1/3 scoreless innings in relief and allowed one hit. He also fanned a batter and walked one. Mixon is a product of East Webster High School.

ANDERSON'S THREE-RUN TRIPLE LIFTS EC OVER MGCCC

Anderson's walk-off three-run triple provided ECCC with a stunning 5-3 victory over Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in the nightcap of their division battle played Friday, March 29 at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex.

The Diamond Warriors, who fell 8-3 in the opener, are currently second in the MACJC South Division at 7-3. Jones County leads the division at 9-3. Gulf Coast is fifth at 4-6.

Anderson singled in the first inning prior to his ninth-inning heroics.

Other hitters were Alcantara, two singles and RBI; and Henson and Jake Bush of Brookwood (Ala.) High School, singles each.

Right-hander Fernando Gonzalez was the winning pitcher. Gonzalez allowed one earned run on six hits through eight innings. He also fanned seven batters and walked three. Gonzalez is a Puerto Rico native.

Signa hurled the final inning and allowed one earned run on two hits. He also walked a batter.

In the first contest, Alcantara led the offense with a solo home run.

Other hitters were Shotts, RBI double; and Anderson, Domino and Franklin, singles each.

Dubuison took the loss, allowing four earned runs on seven hits through 2 2/3 innings. He also fanned a batter and walked one.

DIAMOND WARRIORS SWEEP COPIAH-LINCOLN

Anderson and Domino combined for seven hits and five RBIs in leading ECCC to a 15-0 blowout of Copiah-Lincoln Community College in the first of two wins over the home standing Wolves March 26 on the Wesson campus.

The Diamond Warriors held on for a 5-2 decision in the nightcap to improve to 14-3 overall and more importantly 6-2 in the MACJC South Division.

Anderson belted a triple, double and two singles to complete a perfect 4-for-4 performance at the plate. He was also credited with two RBIs and scored three runs.

Domino had two doubles and a single and knocked in three runs. He also scored twice.

Other hitters were Alcantara, double, single and two RBIs; and Harmon, single and three RBIs; Shotts and Steele, single and RBI each; and Franklin, single.

Also scoring runs were Shotts (2), Alcantara (2), May (2), Franklin, Steele, Ulmer and Bush.

Signa went the distance in the five-inning contest to record the victory. Signa allowed four hits, fanned four batters and walked two.

In the second contest, Domino tripled and singled and knocked in a run to lead the offense.

Also with multiple hits were Alcantara, Franklin, Ulmer and Berry, two singles each. Anderson and Harmon contributed a single each.

Alcantara, Berry, Ulmer and Shotts were credited with an RBI each.

Runs were scored by Anderson, Alcantara, Franklin, Berry and Steele.

McKee went the distance in the seven-inning battle to earn the win. McKee allowed two earned runs on four hits. The Neshoba Central product fanned five batters and walked two.

WARRIORS/ITAWAMBA SPLIT TWIN BILL

ECCC's baseball team split decisions with Itawamba Community College in a non-division doubleheader played March 24, 2013, at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex.

The Diamond Warriors held on for an 8-7 victory in the opener and fell 11-6 in the nightcap.

Shotts and Franklin led EC's offense in the opener. Shotts belted a triple and collected two RBIs. Franklin contributed a double and also knocked in two runs.

Other hitters were Steele, double; and Kalik May, Anderson of Hillcrest (Ala.), Domino, Harmon and Berry, singles each. May was also credited with an RBI.

Runs were scored by Shotts (2), May (2), Anderson, Alcantara, Harmon and Steele.

Dubuison picked up the win in relief. The right-hander allowed one earned run on four hits through 2 2/3 innings. He also walked a batter.

In the second contest, Anderson led the offense with a double and single.

Other hitters were Domino and Henson, doubles each; and Franklin, Harmon and Mixon, singles each.

Runs were scored by Anderson (2), Franklin (2), Harmon and Steele.

Starter Mitchell Wooten took the loss, allowing eight earned runs on six hits through 4 2/3 innings. The right-hander also fanned two batters and walked four.

DIAMOND WARRIORS SWEEP SOUTHWEST

ECCC's baseball squad took sole possession of second place in the MACJC South Division following a doubleheader sweep of Southwest Mississippi Community College March 20, 2013, at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex.

The Diamond Warriors won the opener by a 7-2 margin and cruised 9-2 in the nightcap to improve to 4-2 in league play while the Bears dropped to 0-4. Jones County leads the division at 5-1.

EC managed just three hits in the first contest but took advantage of scoring opportunities.

Alcantara led the offense with a two-run double in the first inning.

Steele contributed a single and RBI, and May had a single. Domino and Franklin were each credited with an RBI.

Runs were scored by Anderson (3), Bush, Franklin, May and Ulmer.

Starter McKee was the winning pitcher. The southpaw allowed five hits and no earned runs through five innings. He also fanned 10 batters and walked four.

In the second contest, Harmon was the top run producer, as he belted two singles and collected three RBIs.

Domino led hitters with three singles and an RBI.

Also having productive outings at the plate were Franklin and Alcantara, two doubles and RBI each; and Shotts, May, Anderson, Ulmer and Berry, singles each.

Runs were scored by Franklin (3), Alcantara (2), Shotts, Domino, Harmon and Steele.

Gonzalez picked up the win in relief. Gonzalez hurled four scoreless innings and allowed just one hit. He also fanned seven batters and walked two.

DIAMOND WARRIORS SPLIT DIVISION DOUBLEHEADERS

ECCC's baseball squad began MACJC South Division competition by splitting doubleheaders with visiting Pearl River Community College on March 12 and home standing Jones County Junior College on March 16.

The Diamond Warriors fell 10-0 in the opener with Pearl River but rallied for a 10-1 decision in the nightcap.

EC managed just one hit in the first contest – a single by Domino.

Southpaw McKee took the loss allowed five earned runs on six hits through four innings. He also fanned six batters and walked four.

Right-hander Mixon hurled the final two innings and allowed two earned runs on three hits. He also fanned two batters.

In the second contest, EC's offense came alive with six runs in the first three innings and cruised to the easy victory.

A two-run single by Domino and a three-run homer by May during first-inning action helped set the tone for the scoring onslaught.

Domino and Shotts had three hits each to lead EC sluggers.

Domino collected three singles and two RBIs while Shotts belted two doubles and a single and was also credited with two RBIs.

Other hitters were Anderson and Harmon, double and single each; Franklin, double; Bush, RBI double; and Steele and Ulmer, singles each.

Runs were scored by Shotts (2), Anderson (2), Harmon (2), Bush, Domino, Steele and May.

Dubuison picked up the win, allowing one earned run on seven hits in the seven-inning contest. He also fanned four batters and walked one.

In the first game with Jones County, EC was edged 3-2 but responded with a 9-0 shutout to earn a split.

Alcantara led EC's offense with a double and single. He also scored two runs.

Domino also contributed a double and knocked in a run.

Other hitters were May, Anderson, Mixon and Steele, singles each.

Signa took the loss, allowing two earned runs on five hits. He also fanned three batters and walked two.

EC's offense got untracked in the nightcap as seven runs crossed the plate in the first three innings.

Anderson led Diamond Warrior sluggers with three singles and two RBIs.

Domino and Franklin contributed two singles each. Domino also knocked in a run.

Other hitters were Shotts, double; Alcantara, single and two RBIs; May and Ulmer, singles each.

Bush was credited with two RBIs.

Runs were scored by Anderson (2), Franklin (2), Shotts, Kalik May, Harmon, Steele and May.

Gonzalez picked up the win. The native allowed just one hit during five innings of work. He fanned a batter and walked one.

Wooten hurled two scoreless innings to earn the save.

Prior to beginning league action, the Diamond Warriors were blanked 10-0 by Northeast Mississippi Community College March 9 on the Booneville campus.

EC managed two hits – a double by Domino and a single by May.

Starter Mason Woodrow took the loss. The right-hander allowed three earned runs on five hits through three innings. He also fanned two batters. Woodrow is a product of Taylorsville High School.

DIAMOND WARRIORS SWEEP MCC ON SPECIAL DAY

A special day became even more so for the ECCC baseball program, as a dedication ceremony for the new covered grandstand was followed by a doubleheader sweep of Meridian Community College March 7, 2013, at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex.

Providing a cover for the grandstand was a longtime dream of the late Jamie Clark, who led the Diamond Warrior program from 1988 to 2001, when he lost his battle with cancer.

The covering, estimated to cost \$30,000, was provided through private contributions and various fundraising efforts led by current head coach and former Clark assistant Neal Holliman and staff members.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart and Athletic Director Chris Harris participated in the dedication ceremony flanked by Coach Holliman, his staff and team members.

The Diamond Warriors capped the day's activities by claiming a pair of 7-6 decisions of the rival Eagles to improve to 7-8 on the season.

Meridian took an early 1-0 advantage in the opener, which featured seven lead changes.

The Diamond Warriors took the lead for good in the seventh inning on Shotts' RBI single scoring May.

Shotts also singled earlier in the nine-inning contest.

Caleb Woods of Leake Central also belted two singles for EC and was credited with an RBI.

Other hitters were Anderson, May, Domino, Mixon, Henson, McKee, singles each. May was also credited with two RBIs. Others knockings in runs were Alcantara, Woods and McKee.

Runs were also scored by Ulmer (2), Anderson, Alcantara, Mixon, and Henson.

Gonzalez recorded the win and allowed two earned runs on five hits through 5 1/3 innings. The right-hander fanned five batters and walked one.

Wooten got the save. Wooten hurled the final three innings and allowed one earned run on three hits. He struck out three batters.

In the nightcap, Shotts' walk-off single in the bottom of the seventh provided EC the winning margin.

Shotts also belted a double and was credited with three RBIs.

Other hitters were Anderson, two triples; Alcantara, double, single and RBI; May and Domino, double and RBI each; and Franklin and Woods, singles each. Harmon was also credited with an RBI.

Runs were scored by Domino (2), Anderson, May, Franklin, Woods and May.

McKee picked up the win. McKee allowed two earned runs on six hits through 5 2/3 innings. He also fanned six batters and walked three.

Wooten got the save, allowing one earned run on no hits. He also walked a batter.

DIAMOND WARRIORS SWEPT BY EMCC

ECCC's baseball team fell victim to a ninth inning walk-off grand-slam by East Mississippi's Nick Brooks in the opener and the Diamond Warriors were blanked 6-0 in the nightcap in doubleheader action held March 1 on the Scooba campus.

EC, which fell to 5-8 overall following the setbacks, was led in the first contest by Franklin who homered in the fourth inning and singled in the sixth. Franklin was credited with two RBIs.

Other hitters were Shotts, three singles and RBI; Anderson, double, single and RBI; Woods, two singles and RBI; May, two singles; and Domino and McKee, single and RBI each.

Runs were scored by Shotts (2), Anderson (2), Franklin, Woods, Steele and May.

Gonzalez took the loss in relief, allowing four earned runs on four hits in the final 1 1/3

innings. He fanned two batters and walked two.

In the second contest, the Diamond Warriors managed just one hit – a single by Anderson.

Dubuison was the losing pitcher, as the right-hander allowed six earned runs or six hits through 3 1/3 innings. He also fanned a batter and walked two.

DIAMOND WARRIORS DROP TWIN BILL AT PENSACOLA

A trip to Pensacola, Fla., did not work out as planned for ECCC's baseball team, which dropped a pair of contests to the home standing Pirates Feb 27.

The Diamond Warriors fell 5-4 in the opener and 6-5 in the nightcap.

May slapped an RBI double and Ulmer belted two singles and knocked in a run to the lead the EC offense in the first match-up.

Other hitters were Franklin Woods, Domino, Shotts and May, singles each. Shotts was also credited with an RBI.

Runs were scored by Alcantara; Steele and Harmon.

Gonzalez took the loss in relief and allowed three earned runs on four hits through 1 1/3 innings. He also fanned three batters and walked two.

McKee went six innings and allowed one earned run on five hits. He fanned seven batters and walked one.

In the nightcap, Anderson was the top EC slugger with four singles. He also scored a pair of runs.

Ulmer and Shotts contributed a double each and Alcantara singled. Ulmer also scored twice. McKee was credited with two RBIs and Henson scored a run.

Starter Wooten took the loss allowing five earned runs on three hits through three innings. He also fanned a batter and walked four.

DIAMOND WARRIORS SWEEP LAWSON STATE

After trailing 4-0 in the first inning, ECCC's Diamond Warriors rallied for four runs in the third and added three runs in the fifth and eighth innings en route to an 11-6 victory in the first game with Lawson State (Ala.) Community College Feb 24 at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex.

EC completed the sweep with a 4-2 decision in the nightcap to improve to 5-4 on the young season.

Steele homered and May and Ulmer contributed three hits each to lead EC's offense in the opener.

Steele's solo shot came in the three-run eighth inning.

May tripled in the fifth inning and belted singles in the third and sixth innings to complete a perfect day at the plate. He also scored two runs.

Ulmer slapped three singles and was credited with two RBIs. He also scored twice.

Other hitters included Domino, two singles and one RBI; Alcantara, triple and three RBIs; Anderson, double and RBI; and May, Franklin, Berry, Harmon and Henson, singles each.

Signa recorded the win for EC, allowing six earned runs on nine hits through six innings. He fanned six batters and walked two.

In the second contest, EC grabbed the lead in the third inning after Alcantara's RBI double scored Anderson, who had a perfect day at the plate with a triple in the third inning and singles in the first and fifth frames. Anderson was also credited with an RBI and scored a run.

Alcantara added a single to his totals for the day and finished with two RBIs.

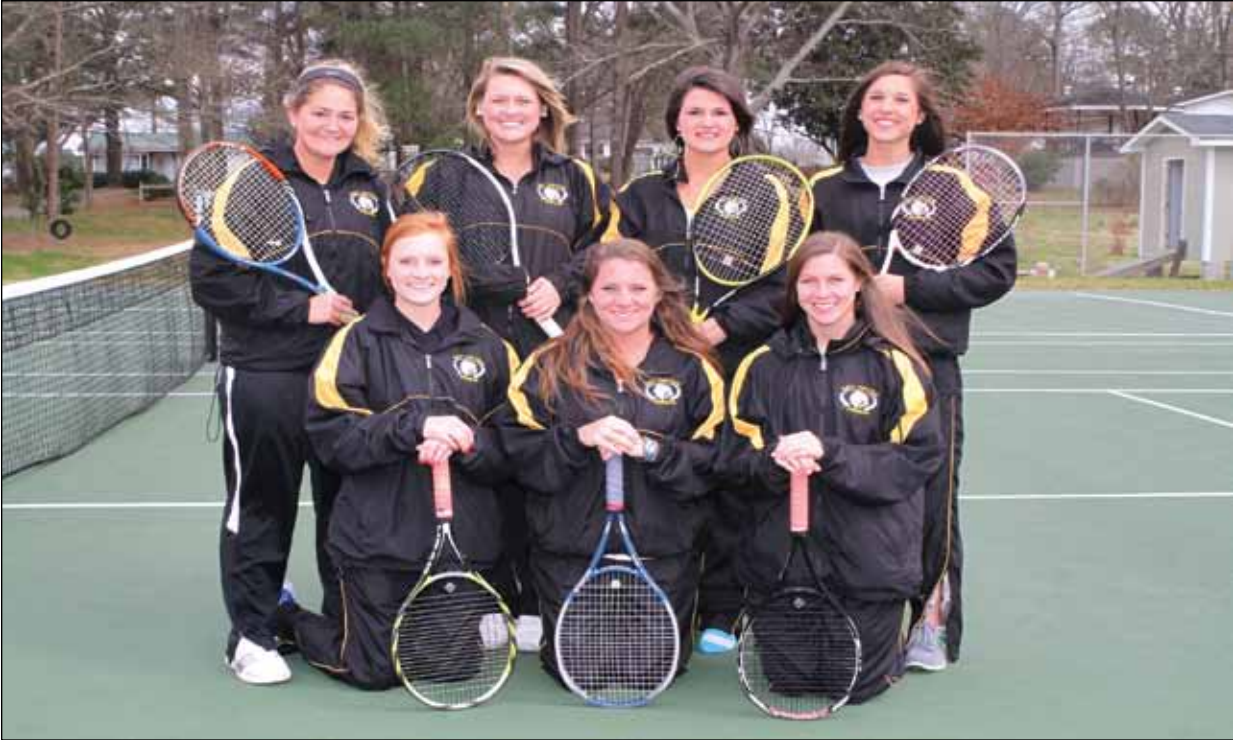
Other hitters were Bush, two singles; and Shotts and Henson, singles each. Bush also scored two runs.

Dubuison picked up the win for EC allowed two earned runs on six hits through 5 2/3 innings. He fanned three batters and walked one. Right-hander Gonzalez hurled the final 1 1/3 innings to earn the save. Gonzalez fanned two batters and allowed no hits or runs.

Warrior Athletics



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
ECCC Men's Tennis Team: Members of the 2013 East Central Community College men's tennis team and their respective high schools include (kneeling from left) Hunter Mayo, Leake Academy; and Chris Mays, Louisville; and (standing from left) Brandon St. Clair and Blake Cochran, both of Newton County; Josh Peoples, Leake Academy; and Andrew Hanna, Newton County Academy. Not pictured is Neshoba Central product Lucas Calvert of Louisville. Dianne O'Neill serves as head coach.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
ECCC Women's Tennis Team: Members of the 2013 East Central Community College women's tennis team and their respective high schools include (kneeling from left) Haley Chapman, Newton County; Nan Hartness, Winston Academy; and Kelsey Tadlock, Newton County; and (standing from left) Alana Turner, Florence; Hayden Fryery, Winston Academy; and Amber Pierce and Hannah Smith, both of Leake Academy. Dianne O'Neill serves as head coach.

EC Netters Split Decisions with Holmes

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College's tennis team split decision with Holmes Community College matches held April 8.

The Lady Warriors were victorious by a 9-0 margin with most of the wins resulting from forfeits. The Warriors were edged 5-4.

In women's competition, Newton County High School products Kelsey Tadlock and Haley Chapman combined talents to defeat Haley Harrison and Akia Cabella 8-0 in the only doubles match played. Alana Turner of Florence and Amber Pierce of Leake Academy, and Nan Hartness and Hayden Fryery, both of Winston Academy, won their matches via forfeit. In the only singles matches played, Tadlock defeated Harrison 6-3, 7-6 (7-2) and Chapman beat Cabella 6-1, 6-0. Turner, Pierce, Hartness and Fryery won their scheduled matchups via forfeit.

Andrew Hanna of Newton County Academy teamed with doubles partner Hunter Mayo of Leake Academy to defeat Rami Jamileh and Connor Wilson of Holmes 9-8 (7-5). EC was clipped in the other doubles matchups, as Blake Cochran of Newton County and Chris Mays of Louisville fell 8-2 to Darryl Hale, Jr. and Will Godfrey, and Brandon St. Clair of Newton County and Josh Peoples of Leake Academy were defeated 8-4 by Grey Tedford and Mitchell Parman.

In men's singles, Hanna defeated Jamileh, 6-4, 7-6 (7-3); St. Clair beat Godfrey, 6-3, 6-1; and Mayo clipped Parman, 6-3, 6-3. In other results, Cochran fell to Hale, 6-1, 6-0; Mays fell to Wilson, 6-3, 4-6, 10-8; and Peoples lost to Tedford, 6-4, 6-0.

Dianne O'Neill serves as ECCC tennis coach.

EC TENNIS SQUADS DEFEAT NORTHEAST; FALL TO ITAWAMBA

ECCC's tennis squads recorded victories over Northeast Mississippi Community College in matches held April 1, 2013, on the Booneville campus.

The Lady Warriors held on for a 5-4 decision and the Warriors cruised 7-2.

Results from women's competition are as follows:

Doubles – Tadlock and Chapman defeated Maegan Trexler and Nikki Baird of Northeast (9-7); Turner of Florence and Pierce defeated Valerie Mitchell and Emily Wiltshire of Northeast (8-2); and Hartness and Smith fell to Allison Wiltshire and Elizabeth Mitchell of Northeast (8-4).

Singles – Chapman defeated Allison Wiltshire (7-5, 6-3); Turner defeated

Elizabeth Mitchell (6-2, 6-3); Pierce defeated Valerie Mitchell (6-1, 6-2); Tadlock fell to Trexler (6-2, 6-2); Hartness fell to Baird, 3-6, 6-4 (10-5); and Smith fell to Emily Wiltshire (6-2, 6-2).

Results from men's competition are as follows:

Doubles – Cochran and Mays defeated Matt Lorick and Andre Ferrell of Northeast (9-7); St. Clair and Peoples defeated Anderson Mills and Drew Gann of Northeast (8-5); and Hanna and Mayo fell to Wesley Brandon and Hunter Seeley of Northeast (8-6).

Singles – Hanna defeated Ferrell (6-2, 6-2); St. Clair defeated Brandon (6-4, 6-2); Mays defeated Seeley (6-2, 6-4); Mayo defeated Mills (6-0, 6-1); Peoples defeated Gann (5-7, 6-3, 10-3); and Cochran fell to Lorick, 6-2, 7-6 (15-13).

The Lady Warriors and Warriors dropped decisions to Itawamba Community College in matches held April 2 on the Fulton campus.

In women's doubles, Tadlock/Chapman fell to Amy Evans and Catherine Downing (8-3); Turner/Pierce fell to Anna-Blair Hunt and Theresa Jackson (8-0); and Hartness/Smith fell to Frankie Turner and Amber Frederick (8-1).

In women's singles, Tadlock fell to Evans (6-0, 6-0); Chapman fell to Downing (6-2, 6-0); Turner fell to Hunt, 6-7, 6-0 (10-7); Pierce fell to Jackson (7-5, 6-4); Hartness fell to Turner (6-3, 6-0); and Smith fell to Frederick (6-2, 6-0).

In men's doubles, Cochran/Mays fell to Lucas Souza and Matt Peugh (8-1); Hanna/Mayo fell to James Jackson and Ambrose Wilson (8-2); and St. Clair/Peoples fell to Caleb Ballard and Jamison Alred (8-0).

In men's singles, Cochran fell to Souza (6-0, 6-0); Hanna fell to Jackson (6-2, 6-1); St. Clair fell to Wilson, 6-1, 7-6 (7-5); Mays fell to Peugh (6-3, 6-1); Mayo fell to Ballard, 6-4, 7-6 (7-5); and Peoples fell to Jordan Trice (6-4, 6-4).

ECCC TENNIS SQUADS FALL TO HINDS

ECCC's tennis squads dropped decisions to Hinds Community College in matches held March 21.

The Lady Warriors were clipped 6-4 and the Warriors fell by a 5-4 margin.

Results from women's competition are as follows:

Doubles – EC's Tadlock and Chapman fell to Maria Castril and Latoya Whitley (8-3), and EC's Turner and Pierce fell to Annissa Johnson and Octavia Pendleton (8-4). EC's Hartness and Fryery won their match by default.

Singles – Turner defeated Johnson (6-4); Fryery beat Nowell (6-3, 6-0)

and Hartness won her match by default. Tadlock fell to Castrill (6-4, 6-2), Chapman fell to Whitley (6-4, 6-3) and Pierce fell to Pendelton (4-6, 6-1, 10-1).

Results from men's competition are as follows:

Doubles – EC was defeated in all three matches, as Cochran and Mays fell to Yevheniy Horbik and Max Gunbin (8-0), Hanna and Mayo fell to Devonte Thomas and Esmond Fountain (8-6), and St. Clair and Peoples fell to Stuart English and Gary Blissard (8-4).

Singles – St. Clair defeated Thomas (2-6, 6-1, 10-3), Mays defeated Fountain, 7-6 (7-0), 6-2), Mayo defeated Chris Harper 7-6 (7-4), 6-3; Cochran fell to Gunbin 6-0, 6-3; Hanna fell to Horbik, 6-3, 7-6 (11-9); and Peoples fell to English 6-7 (7-1), 6-1.

ECCC TENNIS SQUADS FALL TO ITAWAMBA

ECCC's tennis squads were defeated by Itawamba Community College during matches held March 19, 2013, at Gaddis Park in Forest.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors each lost by 9-0 decision.

Results from women's competition are as follows:

Singles –Tadlock fell to Amy Evans (6-0,6-0), Chapman fell to Catherine Downing (6-3, 6-3), Turner fell to Anna-Blair Hunt (6-4, 6-2), Amber Pierce of Leake Academy fell to Bianca Stephens (6-0, 6-0), Hartness fell to Theresa Jackson (6-2, 6-1) and Hannah Smith of Leake Academy fell to Amber Frederick (6-3, 6-1).

Doubles – Tadlock and Chapman fell to Evans/Downing (8-0), Turner and Pierce fell to Hunt/Jackson (8-1) and Hartness and Fryery fell to Stephens/ Turner (8-5).

Results from men's competition are as follows:

Singles –Cochran fell to Lucas Souza (6-1, 6-1), Hanna fell to James Jackson (6-1, 6-1), St. Clair fell to Ambrose Wilson (6-0, 6-2), Mays fell to Matt Peugh (6-3, 6-4), Mayo fell to Caleb Ballard 6-0, 6-0) and Peoples fell to Jordan Trice (6-0, 6-0.)

Doubles – Cochran and Mays fell to Souza/Peugh (8-0), Hanna and Mayo fell to Jackson/Wilson (8-0) and St. Clair and Peoples fell to Ballard/ Jamison Alred (8-5).

ECCC TENNIS TEAMS POST VICTORIES

ECCC's tennis teams recorded their first victories of the 2013 campaign following home matches with Northeast Mississippi Community College March 1 and Copiah-Lincoln Community College on February 28.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors easily cruised past Northeast and the Warriors won their battle with the Co-Lin men.

Results from the Northeast victories are as follows:

WOMEN

Doubles –Tadlock and Chapman defeated Madison Rust/Maegan Texler, 8-4; Turner and Pierce defeated Allison Wiltshire/Nikki Baird, 8-6; and Hartness and Fryery defeated Wiltshire/Valerie Mitchell, 8-4.

Singles – Tadlock defeated Rust, 7-6 (9-7), 6-1; Chapman defeated Trexler, 6-3, 6-4; Turner defeated Wiltshire, 6-2, 6-2; Pierce defeated Elizabeth Mitchell, 6-1, 6-1; and Hartness defeated V. Mitchell, 6-1, 6-0. Fryery fell to Baird, 6-2, 6-1.

MEN

Doubles – Cochran and Mays defeated Bren Ransom/Matt Lorick, 1-2 retired; and Hanna and Mayo defeated Micah Page/Wesley Brandon, 8-6. Peoples and St. Clair fell to Andrew Ferrell/Hunter Seeley, 8-5.

Singles – Cochran defeated Ransom, 8-0 (default); Hanna defeated Page, 8-0 (default); St. Clair defeated Lorick, 6-0, 6-2; and Mayo defeated Brandon, 6-3, 6-2. Mays fell to Ferrell, 6-1, 6-3 and Peoples fell to Seeley, 6-2, 6-1.

Results from the split with Co-Lin are as follows:

WOMEN

Doubles – Turner/Pierce defeated Carly Smith and Courtney Watts, 9-7. Tadlock/Chapman fell to Abby Morris and Haley Wicker, 8-2; and Hartness/Fryery fell to Erika Dear and Savannah Brister, 8-4.

Singles – Tadlock fell to Melody Smith, 6-0, 6-4; Chapman fell to Morris, 6-1, 6-3; Turner fell to Wicker, 7-6(7-4), 6-4; Pierce fell to Watts, 6-0, 6-0; Hartness fell to Madison Rials, 3-6, 6-2, 10-7; and Fryery fell to Meredith Allen, 6-4, 6-3.

MEN

Doubles – Cochran/Mays defeated Corbin May and Emilio Cuilcilo, 8-4. Hanna and Mayo fell to Brance Crane and Josh Smith, 9-8(7-5) and St. Claire and Peoples fell to Gibson Britt and A. Oberschmidt, 8-2.

Singles – Cochran defeated Smith, 6-1, 6-0; Hanna defeated Oberschmidt, 6-0, 6-3; St. Clair defeated Troy Allred, 6-1, 6-2; and Mays defeated Crane, 6-4, 6-7(1-7), 10-7. Mayo fell to Britt, 6-4, 7-5; and Peoples fell to Sawyer Hudson, 7-5, 6-4.

EC TENNIS SQUADS FALL AT JONES COUNTY

ECCC's tennis teams traveled to Jones County Junior College for matches held Feb. 20, 2013, on the El-

lsville campus.

In women' action, results were as follows:

Doubles – EC's Tadlock and Chapman fell to Alicia Domoney and Stephanie Smith (8-2), EC's Turner and Pierce fell to Brenda Hegwood and Elizabeth Wright (9-70 and EC's Hartness and Fryery fell to Madison Walker and Carly Stuart (8-5).

Singles – Tadlock fell to Domoney (6-1, 6-4), Chapman fell to Smith (6-2, 6-1), Turner fell to Hegwood (6-1, 6-2), Pierce fell to Aja White (6-1, 6-2), Hartness fell to Brooke Martin (6-0, 6-0) and Fryery fell to Madison Walker (6-1, 6-1).

Results of men's competition are as follows:

Doubles – EC's Cochran and Mays fell to Josh Lomas and Tanner Chamblee (9-7), EC's Hanna Academy and Mayo fell to Ryan Young and Harrison Thomas (8-4) and EC's St. Clair and Peoples fell to Caleb Byrd and Jonathan Jones (8-0).

Singles – Hanna defeated Chamblee (6-0, 5-7, 11-9), St. Clair defeated Young (6-4, 6-1) Mayo defeated Luke Holston (6-2, 6-3), Cochran fell to Lomas (6-2, 6-3), Mays fell to Byrd (6-7, 7-9, 6-3, 10-1) and Peoples fell to Daniel Sullivan (1-6, 6-4, 10-6).

EC NETTERS FALL TO HINDS

East Central Community College's tennis teams dropped decisions to Hinds Community College in matches played Feb. 19 on the Raymond campus.

In women's competition, results were as follows:

Doubles – EC's Tadlock and Turner fell to Maria Castrillo and Latoya Whitley (9-7); EC's Chapman and Pierce fell to Annissa Johnson and Octavia Pendleton (8-4); and Hartness and Fryery won their match via forfeit.

Singles – Tadlock fell to Castrillo (6-0, 6-1); Chapman fell to Whitley (6-1, 6-3), Turner fell to Johnson (4-6, 6-1, 13-11), Pierce defeated Ashley Nowell (6-4, 6-0) and Fryery won her match via forfeit.

In men's competition, results were as follows:

Doubles – EC's Cochran and Hanna fell to Yevheniy Horbik and Max Gunbin (8-1), EC's Peoples and Mays fell to Devonte Thomas and Esmond Fountain (8-1) and EC's St. Clair and Mayo defeated Chris Harper and Stuart English (8-6)

Singles – Cochran fell to Horbik (6-1, 6-0), Hanna fell to Gunbin (6-0, 6-0), St. Claire defeated Thomas (4-6, 6-1, 10-8), May fell to Harper 6-7 (5-7), 7-6 (7-5), 10-7 and Peoples fell to English (6-0, 6-3).

EC Soccer Program Announces Fundraising Project

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College's soccer program has announced fundraising efforts to upgrade fencing around the soccer pitch.

"We are going to replace the original fencing around the pitch with new vinyl-coated fencing and brick columns," said men's soccer Kenneth Thompson. "This will greatly enhance the look of our stadium and allow us to have a consistent look with our athletic fields on campus."

Thompson said each brick column will include a plaque with information as requested by the purchaser.

Thompson said the fundraising project

is offered to former players as well as all alumni and friends of the College.

"We want all Warrior supporters involved in this project," said Thompson.

Cost for each column and plaque is \$300, said Thompson, who estimates 66 columns will be need to surround the field.

"Former players are welcome to split the costs," said Thompson. "Columns can be purchased in honor of someone as well."

For more information, contact Coach Kenneth Thompson, 601-635-6370 (office) or 601-698-3271 (cell). His e-mail address is kthompson@eccc.edu.



Joyner Joins ECCC Soccer Squad: Former West Lauderdale High School soccer stand-out Erick Joyner (seated center) is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue her career at ECCC. Joyner, a forward/goal keeper, received most valuable player and defensive player of the year honors as a member of the Lady Knight squad and is a five-time All-District selection. The new Lady Soccer Warrior is shown with (seated from left) her parents, Terri and Herbert Joyner of Meridian, and (standing from left) ECCC soccer coaches Kenneth Thompson (men) and Gray Massey (women) during a recent signing ceremony held in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Warrior Athletics

EC Golfers Place Fifth in EMCC Tourney

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College's golf team finished fifth in MACJC Event # 5 held April 7-8 at the Mississippi State University Golf Course and hosted by East Mississippi Community College in Scooba.

The Warrior linksters carded a two-day total 614 (306-308) in the 36-hole contest, won by MS Gulf Coast Community College with a score of 584 (288-296). Copiah-Lincoln was runner-up at 593 (297-296). East MS (300-302) and Northwest MS (299-303) tied at 602, followed by ECCC; Hinds, 634 (318-316); Jones County, 635 (328-307); Northeast MS, 653 (334-319); Holmes, 654 (327-327); and Itawamba, 683 (347-336).

Sawyer Williams led EC with rounds of 73 and 77 for a 150 total. Williams is a product of Parkers Chapel High School in Eldorado, Ark.

Tied at 152 were Taylor York (77-75) of Choctaw Central and Newton County High School product Lee McDill (75-77). Aaron Tucker of Leake Central posted a 153 (75-78) followed by Shelby Patterson of Forest, 160 (81-79); and Evan Dowell of Carthage, 171 (86-85).

Chris Clark serves as Warrior golf coach.

Next up is the MACJC State Championship scheduled April 14-15 at Dixie Golf Club in Laurel. Jones County Junior College is designated as tournament host.

ECCC GOLFERS PARTICIPATE IN NORTHWEST EVENT

ECCC's golf team finished seventh in MACJC Event #4 held March 25-26, 2013, at Wedgewood Golfers Club in Olive Branch and North Creek Golf Club in Southaven.

Tournament host Northwest Mississippi Community College and Copiah-Lincoln Community College shared top honors in the 36-hole competition by carding a 627 total.

Northwest posted rounds of 319 and 308, and Co-Lin carded scores of 309 and 318.

Mississippi Gulf Coast shot 640

(331-309), followed by Jones County, 647 (334-313), East MS, 649 (336-313); Hinds, 679 (346-333); ECCC, 684 (352-332); Itawamba, 698 (356-342); and Northeast MS, 712 (363-349).

McDill led EC with rounds of 84 and 77 for a 161 total.

Other team members and their respective scores include Williams, 173 (89-84); Patterson, 175 (91-84); Dowell, 180 (88-92); and Tucker, 183 (96-87).

ECCC GOLFERS FINISH FIFTH IN CO-LIN TOURNEY

ECCC's golf team placed fifth in MACJC Event #3 held March 17-18, 2013, on the Wolf Hollow course at Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson.

The Warrior linksters carded a 621 (308-313) in the 36-hole competition, won by Northwest MS Community College with a 592 (298-294) total. Host Co-Lin finished second at 593 (303-290), followed by MS Gulf Coast, 611 (317-294); East MS, 619 (309-310); ECCC; Itawamba, 632 (316-316); Northeast MS, 643 (328-315); Jones County, 648 (327-321); Hinds, 656 (333-323); and Holmes, 658 (336-322).

Taylor York and Williams each carded a 155 total to lead EC. York had rounds of 81 and 74 while Williams posted scores of 77 and 78. York is a product of Choctaw Central High School.

Teammates McDill finished at 157 (77-80) followed by Patterson, 158 (77-81); Tucker, also at 158 (77-81); and Dowell, 176 (87-89).

EC GOLF TEAM PLACES THIRD IN HINDS EVENT

Williams fired rounds of 79 and 74 for a nine-over par 153 during less-than-ideal weather conditions Saturday and Sunday to help lead ECCC's golf team to a third-place finish in the MACJC Event #2 hosted by Hinds Community College and held at the Eagle Ridge Golf Club in Raymond.

The Warrior linksters carded a 635 (314-321) in the 36-hole event, held during unusually cold temperatures and won by Mississippi Gulf Coast



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Golf Team: Members of the 2013 East Central Community College golf team and their respective high schools include (from left) Taylor York, Choctaw Central; Evan Dowell, Carthage; Shelby Patterson, Forest; Lee McDill, Newton County; Aaron Tucker, Leake Central; and Sawyer Williams, Parkers Chapel, Eldorado, Ark. Also pictured is Coach Chris Clark.

Community College's 625 (321-304) total. Copiah-Lincoln finished second at 630 (313-317). East Mississippi placed fourth at 637 (320-317), followed by Northwest Mississippi, 651 (326-325); Jones County, 655 (326-329); Hinds, 661 (332-329); Northeast Mississippi, 673 (332-341); Holmes, 692 (352-339); and Itawamba, 694 (344-350).

Williams, who tied for third-place honors, also qualified for the All-Tournament Team.

Other EC team members and their respective high schools include York, 155 (73-82); McDill, 162 (79-83); Tucker, 163 (80-83); Patterson, 165 (83-82); and Dowell, 181 (86-95).



EC'S MCDILL NAMED ALL-TOURNEY

East Central Community College golf team member Lee McDill of Newton was named to the MACJC Event # 1 All-Tournament Golf Team following competition held Feb. 3-4 at Diamond-head Country Club in Bay St. Louis. McDill tied for fifth-place after posting a pair of 77's for a 154 total in the 36-hole event. The Newton County High School product helped lead the Warriors to a fourth-place finish in the 36-hole event, won by host Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Brock Named Warrior Defensive Coordinator

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

A longtime football coach whose resume includes several championships takes over as defensive coordinator at East Central Community College.

Scott Brock, who has 25 years coaching experience on the high school, community college and university levels, was recently named to the post by new Warrior head football coach Ken Karcher.

Brock, who began his new duties on March 1, 2013, not only brings a wealth of experience and success to the coaching staff; he will also serve as a mentor to Warrior student-athletes, according to Coach Karcher.

"Coach Brock will bring an expertise to our program on the

defensive side of the ball that will help East Central be successful," said Coach Karcher. "More importantly, he will play a major role in impacting the lives of our student athletes. I am confident that East Central Community College will be a better place because of Scott Brock and his family."

Brock began his career as a student assistant defensive coach at the University of Tennessee from 1985-86. He also had coaching stints at the University of Memphis (1986-88), Carson-Newman College, located in Jefferson City, Tenn. (1988-90); Charlotte (N.C.) Barons of the Minor Football League, 1990; Brentwood (Tenn.) High School, (1993-95); Barrien County High School in Nashville, Ga., (1995-96); Centennial High School in Frank-



BROCK

lin, Tenn. (1996-98), Middle Georgia College in Cochran, GA (1998-2001), Appalachian State University in Boone, N.C. (2001-03), Charlton County High School in Folkston, Ga. (2003-08); and Hilliard Middle

Senior High in Hilliard, Fla., where he served since 2008 as director of athletics, head track coach, defensive coordinator and special team's coordinator.

Brock helped lead several teams to championships during his career.

He served as secondary coach and later receivers and tight ends coach when Carson-Newman College won consecutive NAIA National Championships (1988-89). He was special team's coordinator during the Charlotte Barons championship season (1990) in the Minor League Football System. Brock served as defensive coordinator and special team's coordinator when Charlton County (Ga.) High School captured its first State AA Championship in 2004. While at Charlton County High School, Brock also served

as head track coach and led the squad to back-to-back AA State Championships in 2005 and 2006.

In addition, while serving as assistant head coach and defensive coordinator at Middle Georgia College, Brock's defense set the NJCAA record for total team defense and rushing defense in 1998. The rushing defense record still stands today.

While at Charlton County High School, Brock also served as head track coach and led the squad to AA State Championships in 2005 and 2006.

Brock said he considers former University of Alabama defensive coordinator Ken Donahue as his "coaching mentor." Donahue served 21 years as an assistant to the late Paul W. "Bear" Bryant.

A native of Englewood, Tenn., Brock received a bachelor's degree in Communications from the University of Tennessee in 1985 and earned a master's degree in Education/Athletic Administration and Coaching from the University of Memphis in 1987.

In addition to his coaching duties, Brock will serve as academic coordinator, teach physical education courses and be involved in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Honors include his selection to Who's Who Among America's Teachers and the National Honor Roll's Outstanding American Teachers.

Brock and his wife, Daniele, have a daughter, Makaeya, a ninth-grader; and a son, Brooks, a seventh-grader.

EC Begins Search for New Men's Basketball Coach

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

The search is under way for a new men's head basketball coach at East Central Community College.

Maurice Bowie, who has led the Warrior basketball program since the 2006-07 season, submitted his resignation today (March 19) at the March meeting of the College's Board of Trustees.

In a letter addressed to ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart and Athletic Director Chris Harris, Bowie stated, "While I have been very satisfied at East Central, unfortunately I have to move on to advance my career. I have enjoyed working with you and appreciate the opportunity I have been given here."

Dr. Stewart expressed appreciation to Coach Bowie for his efforts in leading the Warrior basketball program.

"We want to thank Coach Bowie for his service to East Central Community College," said Dr. Stewart. "We wish all



BOWIE

the best to him and his family as he pursues new opportunities and challenges."

Dr. Stewart added, "I am confident that East Central will be successful in attracting a quality coach to lead our men's basketball program."

Bowie's teams compiled an overall 49-116 record during his

seven-year tenure.

His best season came in 2010-11 when EC qualified for post-season play after finishing fourth in the MACJC South Division with a 7-5 record.

The Warriors advanced to the MACJC State Tournament and Region 23 Tournament en route to a 13-12 record that year.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Bowie served four years as an assistant basketball coach at Itawamba Community College in Fulton. He is also a former graduate assistant and physical education instructor at Alcorn State University in Lorman.

A Ludlow native, Bowie is a former basketball standout at ECCC, earning All-Region 23, first team MACJC All-State and All-Star honors during the 1996-97 season.

Applications for the position will be received through April 12, 2013.

For more information, contact Athletic Director Chris Harris, 601-635-6401 or 601-616-1088. His e-mail address is charris@eccc.edu.

EC's Anderson Receives Player of the Week Honors

SPECIAL TO THE TOM TOM

East Central Community College sophomore shortstop Tim Anderson received MACJC Player of the Week recognition for his performance in matchups with Copiah-Lincoln Community College March 26 and MS Gulf Coast Community College on March 29.

During his 15 trips to the plate in the two doubleheaders, Anderson posted a .533 average, which included two triples, two doubles and five RBIs. He also scored six runs and was also credited with four stolen bases.

Anderson's two-run triple in

the bottom of the ninth provided EC with a 5-3 victory in the nightcap of the MACJC South Division doubleheader held at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex in Decatur.

Anderson is a product of Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

He received All-Region 23 and MACJC All-State honors following his freshman campaign.

Anderson has signed a national letter of intent to continue his career at the University of Alabama-Birmingham.

The Diamond Warriors are led by head coach Neal Holliman and assistants Justin Brewer and Jack Edmonson.



ANDERSON

ECCC to Hold Cheerleader Tryouts

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College will hold tryouts for the 2013-14 Cheerleading Squad at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 4, 2013 in the South Campus Gymnasium.

There is a non-refundable \$30 fee for all par-

ticipants. Optional open clinics will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. April 10, April 24 and May 1. Tryout routines will be taught on the morning of May 4.

Those selected for the squad receive full-tuition scholarships.

For more information, contact ECCC Cheer sponsor Pam McKnight at 601-507-9790.

Warrior Athletics



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
ECCC Diamond Warriors Honored: These East Central Community College baseball players received special recognition at the 2013 First Pitch Dinner held Feb. 2 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. From left are second baseman/outfielder Zach May, a product of Newton County High School, Warrior Challenge winner; shortstop Tim Anderson, a product of Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa, who was selected All-Region 23 and MACJC All-State following the 2012 campaign; second baseman/outfielder/catcher Kyle Henson of Starkville Academy, winner of annual team slogan contest (“If You Want Something You’ve Never Had, You Have To Do Something You’ve Never Done”); and right-handed pitcher Robert Greer of Neshoba Central, Home Run Derby winner. Also pictured is Diamond Warrior head coach Neal Holliman who presented awards.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
EC First Pitch Dinner Features Alabama Coach: University of Alabama assistant baseball coach Andy Phillips (second from left) was the featured speaker at the annual First Pitch Dinner held Feb. 9, 2013, at East Central Community College. Phillips, a first team All-American for the Crimson Tide and former Major League player, stressed the importance of “team work...and that everyone matters” during his remarks before a packed Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Phillips, who is in his third year as hitting and infield coach, also related how his faith and support from fellow Major League players helped him through challenging times during his career. He also encouraged EC baseball players “to be the best they can be and to strive to make improvements every day through hard work and commitment.” Coach Phillips was introduced by ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart (left). Also pictured are Diamond Warrior head coach Neal Holliman (third from left), who also provided remarks and made special presentations, and athletic director Chris Harris, who served as master of ceremonies.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
ECCC Lady Warrior, Warrior All-Stars: ABOVE: Representing East Central Community College in the 2013 MACJC Women’s All-Star Basketball Game were South Division members (second from left) guard Jaianah Matthew (31), a product of Arkansas High School in Texarkana, Ark.; forward Jakela Johnson (50) of West Jones High School in Laurel; and guard Xzandra Dowd (34), a product of Neville High School in Monroe, La. Matthew scored five points, Johnson chipped in four and Dowd contributed seven points in the annual contest held March 28 at ECCC’s Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. The North All-Stars rallied for a 60-47 victory. Also pictured are Lady Warrior coaches Kotreece Bender (assistant) and Crandal Porter (head). BELOW: Aquill Baynard (50) represented East Central Community College in the 2013 MACJC Men’s All-Star Basketball Game held March 28 at ECCC’s Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. Baynard, a 6-8 forward, scored 11 points in helping lead the South All-Stars to 106-101 victory over the North squad. Baynard is a product of Elsie High School in Houston, Texas. Also pictured (from left) are ECCC coaches Darius “Scooter” Walker (assistant) and Maurice Bowie (head).



Diamond Warrior Anderson Among Top Prospects

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College baseball standout Tim Anderson is included in the list of top 20 prospects in NJCAA competition, according to February/March issue of Baseball America.

Anderson, a 6-1 sophomore shortstop, began the 2013 campaign by belting three home runs, two triples, a double and a single in helping lead the Diamond Warriors to a doubleheader sweep (3-0, 8-3) of Southwest (TN) Community College on Feb. 9. He currently (as of Feb. 25, 2013) leads the nation in home runs (five) and is third in batting average (.639). He has also belted three triples and five doubles and is credited with 12 RBIs. Anderson is also rated the top JUCO shortstop.

“Tim continues to develop and grown as a person and is a tremendous asset to our program and our college,” said Diamond Warrior head coach Neal Holliman.

Anderson received All-Region 23 and MACJC All-State honors following the 2012 campaign.

He is a former standout at Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa.



ANDERSON



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
ECCC Dedicates Baseball Grandstand Covering in Coach’s Memory: A covering for the baseball grandstand was recently completed at East Central Community College’s Clark/Gay Baseball Complex and a ceremony commemorating completion of the much-needed project was held Wednesday, March 6, 2013. The stadium improvement was dedicated in memory of Jamie Clark, who led the Diamond Warrior program from 1988 to 2001. Clark was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor prior to the 2001 season and lost his courageous battle to cancer at age 49 on July 18, 2001. The baseball stadium was named in his honor later that year and his jersey #41 was retired. It was the longtime dream of Coach Clark to provide a cover for the grandstand and his dream became reality thanks to current head coach and former Clark assistant Neal Holliman who along with his staff raised the approximately \$30,000 needed to complete the project through various fundraising activities along with private donations. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart is shown speaking during the special ceremony and expressed appreciation for the public’s support of the Diamond Warrior program. Athletic Director Chris Harris also spoke and provided information on Coach Clark’s successful career, which included the program’s first state championship in 1998. He compiled an overall 365-302-1 record and received MACJC Baseball Coach of the Year honors in recognition of the state championship season. Coach Clark was posthumously inducted into the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame in 2008. The ceremony was followed by the Diamond Warriors’ doubleheader sweep of rival Meridian Community College. EC won both games by 7-6 margins.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
EC Sophomore Lady Warriors, Warriors Honored: Members of the 2012-13 East Central Community College women’s and men’s basketball teams were honored during “Sophomore Appreciation Night” held Feb. 18 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. ABOVE: Lady Warrior honorees and their respective high schools include (from left) Jakela Johnson (34), West Jones; Ellen Black (5), Scott Central; Reneisha Evans (30), Newton County; Jaianah Matthew (25), Arkansas High School, Texarkana, Ark.; Xzandra Dowd (24), Neville High School, Monroe, La., and team managers Pasha Williams of Scott Central and Blake Gordon of Philadelphia, who are shown with family members during the special ceremony held between games of the home finale with Southwest Mississippi Community College. The Lady Warriors are led by first-year head coach Crandal Porter and assistant Kotreece Bender. BELOW: Warrior honorees and their respective high schools include (from left) Randy Collier, South Leake; Aquill Baynard, Elsie HS, Houston, Tex; Tejaminon Leatherwood, Northridge (Ala.); Hakeem Wesley, Newton County; and Bobby Wrench of Columbus, who are shown with family members during the special ceremony held between games of the home finale with Southwest Mississippi Community College. The Warriors are led by seventh-year head coach Maurice Bowie and assistant Devarus “Scooter” Walker.



Warrior Scene

Scenes from PTK's Womanless Beauty Pageant

PHOTOS BY CONOR BELL/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER





The Tom-Tom

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Volume 64, Number 7

May 2013



SUMMER
ORIENTATION
DATES:

June 1
June 21
July 12
August 9

ECCC Announces 2013 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 May 2, 2013, 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 2013 include Hannah Farmer and Claire Griffin, both of Decatur; LaJoya Griffin of Philadelphia, Andrew Hanna of Union, Emily Marler of Morton and Cain Prestage of Carthage.

HANNAH FARMER

Farmer is a 2011 graduate of Newton County High School and is the daughter of Jim and Denise Farmer of Decatur.

A President's List scholar and business major, she serves as vice president of the Student Body Association and captain of the Centralettes, the dance line of the Wall O' Sound Marching Band. She also served as vice president of her freshman class.

She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa,

Warrior Corps, Sigma Sigma Mu Tau, Astronomy Club and Diamond Darlings.

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

Farmer received numerous scholarships at ECCC including Valedictorian, ACT,

Centralettes, Jack & Mary Jo White Scholarship and the Classes of 1956, 1957, & 1958 Scholarship.

One of those nominating Farmer wrote, "Hannah exemplifies the best in our student body population here at East Central Community College. Her list of achievements, awards, activities, scholarships, service and her record of academic achievement are impressive evidence of this. From the point of view of an instructor she was great to work with, exhibited a strong career-oriented desire for success, and was always near the top of the class in academic performance. Hannah is a great student and certainly worthy of this honor."

CLAIRE GRIFFIN

Griffin is a 2011 graduate of Newton County High School and is the daughter of Charlotte Griffin of Decatur and Scott Griffin of Seattle, WA.

A President's List scholar and liberal arts major, she serves as president of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa,

the international honor society for two-year colleges, and the sophomore class, and is co-president of Warrior Corps.

She serves as assistant editor for the *Wo-He-Lo* yearbook and cartoonist for *The Tom-Tom* newspaper, where she has won consecutive second place state awards for her cartoons.

Griffin is also a member of the Ac'cents Show Choir, Concert Choir, Collegians rock and roll band, Diamond Darlings, Art Club, EC Players, Baptist Student Union, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and President's Council. She was a member of the Centralettes Dance team for the Wall O' Sound Marching band her freshman year.

In addition, Griffin was selected to serve on the College's Retention Task Force and Graphic Design committees.

She was selected to the Phi Theta Kappa All Mississippi Academic Second Team and to Who's Who Among Students in American Community and Junior Colleges.

Griffin received numerous scholarships at ECCC including Ann Burkes Phi Theta Kappa, *The Tom-Tom*, Ac'cents, Concert Choir, Collegians and ACT.

Those nominating Griffin wrote, "Claire is truly a candidate for the Hall of Fame. She is a very creative, talented artist and musician in addition to being an intelligent student. She is a

See AWARDS, Page 8



HANNAH FARMER



CLAIRE GRIFFIN



LAJOYA GRIFFIN



ANDREW HANNA



EMILY MARLER



CAIN PRESTAGE



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Spring Spree 2013

Students and faculty participated in Spring Spree 2013 festivities held the week of April 22 on the ECCC campus. The week included a volleyball tournament, talent show, scavenger hunt, rave, crawfish boil, and the finale, Spring Spree Games. For more scenes from Spring Spree 2013, see Page 16.

ECCC Graduation Scheduled May 11 at Neshoba Coliseum

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

More than 416 graduates are scheduled to receive diplomas Saturday, May 11, 2013, when East Central Community College holds its 84th Commencement beginning at 11 a.m. in the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia.

Included in the total are those who completed degree requirements following the 2012 summer and fall terms, according to Dr. Teresa Houston, Vice President for Instruction.

Those participating in the program include graduating sophomores Cain Prestage of Carthage, who will give the invocation; Andrew Hanna of Union, commencement speaker; and Claire Griffin of Decatur, benediction. Griffin, Sandy Alexander of Little Rock, Robin Coker of Newton and Alex Weir of Philadelphia will present the musical selection "When You Believe."

Dr. Houston will present candidates for graduation and College President Dr. Billy W.

Stewart will award degrees and certificates to the following:

CANDIDATES FOR MAY GRADUATION

JACKSONVILLE, AL: Elisabeth A. Mayes;
NORTHPORT, AL: Kalik L. May;

TUSCALOOSA, AL: Timothy Anderson;

SANTO DOMINGO, DR: Robert Johan Alcantara;

BOYNTON BEACH, FL: Franck J. Alexandre;

VIDALIA, LA: Mary Elizabeth Sanders;

BAY SPRINGS: Heather Leann Downs, Adreana Gam-

mage and Joneshia Nicole McGill;

BRANDON: Summer Vaughan Hallman and Jessica

Rena Quinn;

BROOKSVILLE: Margaret Kendall Taylor;

CARTHAGE: Elizabeth Burnside, Deborah Ann Coleman, Dexter Trace Coleman, William Hank Coleman, Bobbie Nicole Evans, Joseph E. Freeny,

See GRADS, Page 3

EC Hosts Student Art Exhibit

BY ADDREONNA SEGER
Staff Writer

For years, people have gone to fancy art galleries to see the newest art, what's in and what's not and also—for the love of art. With the rise of computer technology and convenience over substance, it's highly surprising to see that anyone still wants to make art at all.

However, as Christopher Brady, art instructor at East Central Community College would say "There will always be a demand for art." This must be true because the art students at East Central are flourishing rapidly. The student art exhibition, on display in the lobby of the Ovid Vickers Fine Arts building until Friday, May 3, 2013, is a



ADDREONNA SEGER
Editor

way for the art students attending East Central to show off their collective talents.

Whether this is 3D art, painting, sculpture, charcoal or pastel drawings or ink prints, the exhibition is a way for these students to get the recognition that they deserve. It is also, according to Brady, a way for students considering an art major to get a better idea of whether or not they want to pursue an artistic degree further.

There are two art exhibitions held at ECCC each year, one for the fall semester and one in the spring, but the spring art exhibition is typically the stronger of the two and "this particular spring, the overall quality is the strongest we've had in five years that I've been teaching" said Brady. Brady attributes this to the fact that the students have had so much more time to figure out their own style and their own way of doing things. The foundation, however, was very important because all of Brady's students excelled at relatively the same pace, including the students who hadn't previously had any art instruction whatsoever.

See EXHIBIT, Page 2



ADDREONNA SEGER/EDITOR

East Central Community College students view the Student Art Exhibit displayed in the lobby of Vickers Auditorium. The exhibit will be displayed through Friday. It includes various styles of art created by students enrolled in Chris Brady's Art I and Art II classes.

Page Two

STRIKE A POSE



TARRA GIBSON
SOPHOMORE • ELEMENTARY EDUCATION • WEST LAUDERDALE

Why did you decide to attend East Central Community College? *My only other option was Meridian Community College, I would have been with the same people I'd gone to school with for years. ECCC was my chance to meet new people.*

What is your favorite thing about East Central? *My favorite thing is all of the friendly people. I've met loads of new friends that I hope to keep for a long time.*

Who is your favorite faculty member at EC? Why? *I don't have one in particular. I love all of the teachers in the fine arts department! But I enjoy many of my other teachers as well.*

What is your favorite meal in the cafeteria/grill? *I'd have to say the pizza sticks.*

What is your most embarrassing moment at EC? *First semester of freshman year Hannah Cade, Jessie Armstrong and I were headed to Mrs. Pam Fowler's Comp. I class in Newton Hall. The class was on the second floor. We got to the last few steps and I tripped going up the stairs! I was new and hadn't met quite so many people yet, everyone saw and laughed! I scraped my knee pretty good, but it was still a pretty funny experience.*

Are you involved in any extracurricular activities? Which ones? *I'm a band manager, which means I take pictures and record shows and performances for the band. I'm also on the Baptist Student Union Council, which is loads of fun!*

What has been your best memory at East Central this year? *My best memory probably was my surprise birthday party that my friends threw for me at the BSU when we got back from spring break.*

What are your plans for the summer? *My main concern for this summer is to get a job!!*

What is the worst part of college life? *The worst part definitely is the curfew!! I love the freedom of campus life, having a curfew causes problems every now and then.*

What are your plans after East Central? *I plan to attend Mississippi State University Meridian.*

CHARLES B. TAYLOR
FRESHMAN • HOSPITALITY & RESTAURANT
NESHOBA CENTRAL

Why did you decide to attend East Central Community College? *I decided to attend ECCC because it is close to home and most of my friends were going to EC.*

What is your favorite thing about EC? *My favorite thing about East Central is that it is small enough that you know a lot of people but still get to meet new ones.*

Who is your favorite faculty member? Why? *My favorite faculty member is Mrs. Vicki Blaylock because she is hilarious to have as a teacher. You really feel like she cares about her students and will do whatever she can for them.*

What is your favorite meal in the cafeteria or grill? *My favorite meal in the cafeteria is breakfast for supper.*

What has been your most embarrassing moment at East Central? *My most embarrassing moment is when I got in trouble by Mr. Corhern for not marching correctly during practice one day.*

Are you involved in extracurricular activities? Which ones? *I am an active member of the Baptist Student Union every Monday. I am also in choir and band.*

What has been your best memory at East Central this year? *My best memory from EC so far has been all the fun times I had hanging out after school with my close friends.*

What are your plans for this summer? *My plans for the summer are to work at Goody's in Philadelphia and hang out with my best friends Georgia, Sam, and Ian.*

What is the worst part of college life? *The worst part of college life is eight o'clock classes and tuna pasta casserole.*

What are your plans after EC? *My plans after EC are to attend University of Southern Mississippi and hopefully get my masters in hospitality and restaurant. I also want to do cosmetology at some point.*

—Emily Marler,
Staff Writer

EXHIBIT

From Page 1

The art exhibition also allows creativity to flourish more readily because it allows the students to put their work out there and seek areas of positivity and accept some criticisms about their work as well.

“[The exhibition] is a part of the necessary process in becoming an artist. You cannot create in a vacuum,” said Brady when asked about why art exhibitions are important. “You have to put your work out there to be critiqued. It helps you grow,” Brady added.

It also helps with the devel-



opment of “thick-skin,” according to exhibitors. Alexander Pope said something similar when he said “trust not yourself, but your defects to know, make use of every friend and every foe.”

Pope was referring to shady critics but this rule also applies to the principle of art exhibitions because as Brady has said, it allows the artist to move for-



ward. Any artist who doesn't share their work and subsequently never expands on their own knowledge and personal style can never know their defects because sometimes, artists can't see their own mistakes. Furthermore, it's almost more common to not be able to see their successes.

In fact, Tarra Gibson, a sophomore elementary education major agrees by saying: “I critique myself pretty hard, so I feel better when people look at [my art] and tell me it is good.”

Magen Pierce again echoes the “love of critique” saying, “[critiques] make me want to put out work that I will want to be viewed by the public. It has helped me to be able to be proud of myself because I know that I will be able to create art that won't just be on the walls of my room.”

Want to further your education but still have time for a summer vacation?



Enjoy two-week, five-week, and 10-week classes at William Carey University!

The two-week May term begins May 20 with five-week and 10-week classes beginning June 3. Here are just a few of the classes offered in the May term:

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Contact the Office of Admissions today for more information or to register!

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Three-Week Session Begins EC Summer Term

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

A three-week intercession term officially begins the 2013 summer class schedule offered at East Central Community College.

The special three-week session begins the week of Monday, May 13 and ends Thursday, May 30.

Course offerings include General Biology I and Lab, General Biology II and Lab, Human Anatomy and Physiology I and Lab, Human Anatomy and Physiology II and Lab, Microbiology and Lab, Computerized Accounting, Computer Concepts, English Composition I, English Composition II, Personal and Community Health, American History II, Intermediate Algebra, College Algebra, American National Government and Public Speaking I.

EVENING CLASS SCHEDULE
(Decatur Campus)

Evening classes offered on the Decatur campus begins the week of Tuesday, May 28 and end Monday, July 29.

Course offerings include Principles of Accounting I, Principles of Macroeconomics, Principles of Microeconomics, Human Growth and Development, Electrical Power, English Composition I, English Composition II, American History I, Intermediate Algebra, College Algebra, General Psychology and Public Speaking I.

FIRST FOUR-WEEK SUMMER TERM

The first four-week summer term begins the week of Monday, June 3 and concludes Wednesday, June 26. 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, Branch Circuit and Service Entrance Calculation, Blueprints and Estimating, English Composition I, American History I, American History II, Intermediate Algebra, College Algebra, Spanish I, Spanish II, Music Appreciation, American National Government and Public Speaking I.

SECOND FOUR-WEEK SUMMER TERM

The second four-week summer term begins the week of Tuesday, July 2 and ends Wednesday, July 24.

Course offerings include General Biology I and Lab, General Biology II and Lab,

Keyboarding, Computer Concepts, Commercial and Industrial Wiring, Motor Control Systems, Beginning English, Intermediate English, English Composition I, English Composition II, Baseball Theory, American History I, American History II, Intermediate Algebra, College Algebra, Music Appreciation and Introduction to Sociology.

ONLINE COURSES

East Central Community College also offers numerous online courses.

Classes begin Monday, June 3 and end Friday, July 26.

A complete list of courses is available on the College Web site, www.eccc.edu.

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

Course offerings at the Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center include English Composition I and English Composition II.

Classes begins the week of Monday, June 3 and end Monday, July 29.

CARTHAGE

Course offerings at the Leake County Career-Technical Center in Carthage include English Composition I, English Composition II and College Algebra.

Classes begins the week of Tuesday, May 28 and end Monday, July 29.

PHILADELPHIA

Course offerings at the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center

include Computer Applications I, English Composition I, English Composition II, American History I, American History II, Intermediate Algebra and College Algebra.

Classes begins the week of Tuesday, May 28 and end Monday, July 29.

LOUISVILLE

Course offerings at the Winston-Louisville Career-Technical Complex include Human Growth and Development, English Composition I, Personal and Community Health, Intermediate Algebra, College Algebra, American National Government and Public Speaking I.

Classes begins the week of Monday, June 3 and end Monday, July 29.

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

EC Culinary Arts Program Hosts BBQ Cookoff

BY CONOR BELL
Staff Writer

On April 24, the Culinary Arts program at East Central Community College held a BBQ Cookoff between two teams of seven students each, Fire and Fab 7.

The team Fire's menu included Memphis-style BBQ chicken wings, smoky four-cheese macaroni, Texas caviar, creamy coleslaw, roll, a homemade BBQ sauce and a brownie with raspberries.

One of the biggest points of the meal was the smoky four-cheese macaroni. I am odd because I do not like macaroni and cheese, but the smoky four-cheese macaroni was cheesy, creamy, and overall, just flavorful. Instantly, I turned into a macaroni fan. It amazed me just how much I turned into a macaroni and cheese fan in one bite. Overall, Fire



CONOR BELL
Staff Writer

presented a delicious and well-executed meal.

Team Fab 7 presented Texas-style ribs, creamy tomato and cucumber salad, potato salad, garlic and bacon green beans, garlic toast, a homemade BBQ sauce and a cinnamon bun with pecans and vanilla ice cream. The best part of the meal was the dessert. The texture of the dessert was great. The pecans contrasted the soft cinnamon bun, and the ice cream added a level of creaminess to the dessert. Fab 7 did an outstanding job making a Texas-style BBQ meal.

A couple of other judges commented on both teams meals.

Billy Miles, physics instructor, commented on the cook-off said, "The BBQ cook-off was really great. The two groups were apparently pretty evenly matched as both meals were thoughtfully prepared and delicious. I also really like what Chef Karrh and his students have done with their facility. It looks like a great place to learn. I wish they had a cook-off every week"

Glenda Smith, a postal worker at the Decatur post office and former home economics teacher, said she was very impressed with the food and service. She said that the cook-off "exceeded her expectations." She suggested, "Mississippi State has Edam Cheese.



CONOR BELL/STAFF WRITER/PHOTOGRAPHER

BBQ Cookoff: East Central Community College Culinary Arts Program presented a BBQ Cookoff on April 24. The students where divided into two teams, Fire and Fab 7, consisting of seven students each and wrote menus and prepared a BBQ meal for the competition. ECCC faculty, staff and other Decatur area residents judged the competition sampling each team's presentation. Team Fab 7 claimed the grand prize scoring the highest in the competition.

Decatur needs to be known for the Fab 7 on Fire restaurant. At least, they need to start a catering service."

Both teams should be proud of their performance in the cook-off. The food and service was beyond exceptional, but only one winner could be announced. Fab 7 took home the first place bragging rights.

GRADS
From Page 1

Kati Ann Gill, Christopher Scott Hamilton, Mickey Renee Harris, Alanna Day Johnson, Victoria Kelly, Kimberly L. Leflore, Patricia Ann Machart, Jessica Leigh Mangina, Jeremy D. Marble, l'Oshore Qui'Sha May, Hunter Mayo, Keith M. Phillips, Jamie Lynn Pope, Benjamin C. Prestage, Ariel Linnea Tolleson, Jenna Marie Tolleson, Amanda Wilkerson, Brandi Williams, Nicholas Davaun Willis, Erin Denise Wooten and Mitchell Jay Wooten;

CHOCTAW: Jaric Lamar Anderson, Ashley Dale Billie, Gerren Anthony Isaac and Eli Isadore Tubby;

CHUNKY: Brandon Lee Davis;

COLLINSVILLE: Brandy Nicole Talbert;

COLUMBUS: Johnny B. Beamon, Jr. and Mary L. Taylor;

CONEHATTA: Alan Chickaway, Jr., Jessica Coleman, Darin Hillman, Courtney Johnson, Lequita A. King, LeAndrea S. Morris, Kimberly Renae Round and Merida Lynn Stephens;

DECATUR: Donald Vernon Babson, Jon'Marie Baucum, Shellandra Rachel Bogan, Cindy Boone Burnside, Jeremy Alexander Carson, Kimberly E. Eshee, Robert Kelly Espey III, Hannah Ruby Farmer, Xzavier Franklin, Joseph M. Freeman, Tyler Graham, Melissa Claire Griffin, Tiana Lynn Grover, James Stewart Henry, Alexander J. Lee, Keena J. Louis, Kenneth L. Massey, Avery K. Morgan, Grand Jerrell Oats, Brittany J. Smith, Kathrin Smith, Heather Sprague, Adrienne Tadlock and Miriam P. Williams;

FLORA: Madeline Jean Potter and Ruby Olivia Potter;

FLOWOOD: Sylinda D. Scott;

FOREST: Jessica Kay Barnett, Shyanna Bell, Brandie J. Bounds, Lorraina Marcila

Burkes, Greg Burks, Tiffany La'Shae Burks, Kayla Everett, Megan Olivia Everett, Jamiah Nicole Gallaspy-Hughes, Flossie Shantea Hayes, Daniel Hernandez, Jessica King, Tara D. Martin, Maria Isabel Martinez del angel, Syneisha Eulorian McCurdy, Shaki Shalone McLaurin, Shelby McMillan Patterson, Thomas Zane Phipps, Catrinda Nicole Ryans, Kelsey Danielle Stewart, Aimee Adrienne Stiles and Dominique D. Strong;

HEIDELBERG: Suzanne W. Nickey;

HICKORY: Benjamin D. Av-era, Obrian S. Broach, Blake Austin Cochran, Julien Laurent Gillis and Aaron Blake Rose;

HOUSTON: Jose Roberto Aju Tzunun;

JACKSON: W. Mae Aldridge-Lane and Jessica Danyale Brister;

KOSCIUSKO: Sade Rogers;

LAKE: Karley Mitchell Allen, Casey Shea Bryant, Clarence E. Creel, Tiffany Chif'von Gardner, Jacob Gibbs, Pheanice Hamm-Brown, Azizi J. Hunt, Yashica T. Ickom, Shelby L. Parkman and Meagan N. Reid;

LAWRENCE: Dominique L. Butler, Jelisa D. Hillie, Arlene Evans McClendon, Nathaniel Adam Richardson and Tiffany Nicole Watkins;

LENA: Darritha Johnson, Haley Eliza Johnson, Meghan Johnson, Shelby Lynne Johnston, Amanda D. Lott and Denise Townsend;

LITTLE ROCK: Sandra E. Alexander, Tyler Alexander, William A. Cress, Kristen Linnea Hawks, Travis Roebuck and Timmie Wiggins;

LOUIN: Antwain Boykin and Katie Danielle Gardner;

LOUISVILLE: Kendrick D. Ball, Jamal Rafeal Bates, Lucas Calvert, Katrina Comb-est, Stanley Paul Foster, Jr., Cory Goodin, Jeffrey Warren Hemphill, Amanda M. Howard, Barbara Walker Hunt, Leah Harper Johnson, John Loyd Mask, Christopher Mays, Dalaphine Lachelle Mays, Donnell N. McDowell, Tiandra Vickers Parker, Ryan Mathis Shotts,

LaToya A. Steele, Brandon A. Triplett, Kyjhana Triplett and Kelsey Jewell White;

MABEN: Jordan Mixon;

MACON: Altovise D. McNeese;

MADDEN: Anthony Chanss Thaggard;

MCCOOL: Kelvin Ball McCool;

MERIDIAN: Sabrena Andrews, Raenica S. Bryant, Tan-zanekia Cager, Amelia V. Hudson, Courtney Danielle Mackey, Mychal H. Neal, Thomas Elliot Owen, Demondrae Ralphael Stribling, Perry Winford and Nichole Mercedes Wray;

MORTON: Alicia Brook Boykin, Jeff Boykin, Kierra Shontanice Ealy, Samuel David Irby, Erika Michael Jolly, Emily Elizabeth Marler, Holli Virginia Nutt, Justin Ray Nutt, Leah Alexis Rigney, Justin Runnels and Robert L. Taylor Jr.;

NATCHEZ: Savannah Vance;

NEWTON: Athea Nichelle' Bender, Miranda N. Bender, Judson Gary Bounds, Sidney J. Broach, Robin R. Coker, Jeremy Andrew Gambrell, Ellen Joann Gibbs, Nikisha R. Gibson, Oliver J. Hillie, Jr., Areaun Marie Marquette Leverette, Kimberly Rayshale Lindsey, Aristotle S. Love, Eunice Raynita McLaurin, Marquita McLaurin, Julie Kathryn Myers, Lance Lorenzo Pruitt, Courtney Nicole Pugh, Lacrystal April Rhynes, Shaquanda Aviance Robinson, Monica Lynn Russell, Adreonna M. Seger, Javossiya L. Walker and Qyalyn Watts;

NOXAPATER: Mary A. Haynes, Barbara Jean Hodges, Sarah Jean Orr and Daniel Allen Thomas;

PELAHATCHIE: Clinton W. Baker;

PHILADELPHIA: Sarah Jessica Beauchamp, Christina Burt, Nicholas Elijah Chunn, Shamiski Z. Collier, Jennifer A. Collins, Jonee Cumberland, Lauren Lana Daniels, Shana Chaney Ely, Raymond W. Farlow, Jr., Robert Flake, Chelsea Rae Gilmer, Blake Gordon, Kayla Alexandria Greer, Robert Lenzy Creer III, LaJoy

Keana Griffin, Kenneth Her-rin, Seth Irons, Shanna Elaine Isaac, Lola Mae Jackson, Caleb Jay, Whitney Michelle Jenkins, Cory N. King, Christopher Langley, Ashley Nashay Lov-ern, Jessica R. McDonald, Eden Nicole McGee, Caleb McKee, Carrie McLemore, William Lundy Meruvia, Bronzon Ordu-no, Dylan Scott Peden, Ethan Pendergrass, Allison Leigh Perry, Lashundra A. Rush, James Demond Savage, Jr., Bobbi Schwebel, Karla Denese Seales, Dylan Burt Sparnecht, Terrance Steele, Nathan Stone, Savannah E'chele Stuart-Dahl, Dakota M. Vowell, Gary Wal-ton, Debria DeAnn Watson, Al-exandra Therrell Weir, Jeremy Dewayne Woods, Andrea M. Yeager and Kimberly M. Lawrence;

PRESTON: Kelsie Sherlene Boykin, Steffon Fuller and Steven Fuller;

PULASKI: Myrna Parkman and Ivory Summer Weldon;

QUITMAN: Elizabeth Marie Satcher;

RALEIGH: Matthew Dalton McCallum;

RAYMOND: Marquata Ramona Brown;

SHUBUTA: Darrell R. Horne;

STONEVILLE: Severino Signa;

TAYLORSVILLE: Sheena Renee Barnes;

TUPELO: Lionel Demond Land;

UNION: Diane Rea Andrews, Robert Baker, Ashley Briana Barnett, James Milton Barnett, Darlene Beckham, Jesse Scott Belk, Brittany Bobo, Ashley Teshai Campbell, Jamie Lee Elliott, Reneisha Evans, Tan-ner J. Fortenberry, Amanda June Freeman, Tyler Jennings Gilmore, Jessica Haleigh Graham, Andrew T. Hanna, Anna Cameron Himebrook, Tyler Reed Kilpatrick, Dana Loraine McKee, Misty Poole McLaurin, Ashleigh Savage and Jill Warren;

WALNUT GROVE: Ashton L. Adcock, Cynthia Denise Carter, Jeremy Denson, Wanda Diana Harrison, Thomasina Lindsey, Mary Kathryn Loper, Dana M.

Mann, Candace M. Marchant, Ashley M. Stephens and Erin Thornton;

WEIR: Damone Marsa Bal-dridge, Valarie Lacheryl Cole-man and Kyle Wade Henson;

GREENSBORO, NC: Zach McGarr; and

GUAYNABO, PR: Fernando Gonzalez.

AUGUST 2012 GRADUATES

CARTHAGE: Amanda Kelleher, Kristin Nicholson Moore, and Morgan Elizabeth Coleman;

CHUNKY: Tamila G. Godwin;

CONEHATTA: Deaundrea Johnson;

DAYTON, OHIO: Elizabeth JaMonica Orton;

FOREST: Chavon Shaunte Denham, Georgiana Shawnta Robinson and Leslie Ann Foreman;

HICKORY: Joseph P. Lawson;

LAKE: Allison Taylor McDaniel, Devyn Kendra Hughes, India Gilbert and Sannitara McChelle Carr;

LAWRENCE: Lynford Seibel;

LENA: Brennan Jordan Graves;

LOUISVILLE: Jeresia Nicole Coleman, Joshua C. Hunt and Patience D. Haynes;

MERIDIAN: Demetrius De-wayne Clay, Gee Gee Hollie Grace and Michelle Leigh Call;

MORTON: Kimberly Traxler;

NEWTON: Anneye Davidson, Hailey Dunavant, Seth Ther-rien and Shonda Johnson;

NOXAPATER: Stephanie Swindle;

PHILADELPHIA: Lindsay Dawn Renfrow, Sara B. Schwebel, Suzy J. Lane and Travis Willis;

PRESTON: Lara N. Elliott;

STARKVILLE: Kimberley Ann Brooks and Terrell A. Hendrix; and

WALNUT GROVE: Tammy Johnson.

DECEMBER 2012 GRADUATES

ACKERMAN: Ashley P. Channell;

CARTHAGE: Donna Rachelle Gheen and Teri Anderson;

CHUNKY: Jake Alexander

Cain and Terri Lynn Johnson;

COLUMBUS: Zachary R. Thrasher;

CONEHATTA: Demetra Gail Stephens, Jenisa Denay Tubby and Kelsi Renee Shelley;

DECATUR: Erika Buckley and Tamika R. Anderson;

FOREST: Ashley Nicole Lyle, Edna McDonald, Kristy Bounds, Lavell Brown Jr., Omi-sha Mozell Brown, Pasha Mahalia Williams and Ruby Robin-son Bolden;

HUNTSVILLE, AL: Angela L. Walker;

JACKSON: Tiffany L. Floyd and Tinicia Shack;

LAKE: Corey Dalton Kelly, Debrachia Marquise Kennedy and Meagan Reid;

LAUDERDALE: James Tyler Moore;

LENA: Haley Eliza Johnson;

LITTLE ROCK: Emily M. Hansford and Jessica Lynne Harrison;

LOUIN: Alexandra Lee Hall-Stringer;

LOUISVILLE: Betty Paty, Channing Matthew Harris, Cody Lamar Parkes, Helen Annisa Avant, Jacqueline M. Moore, Leola Clark, Ophelia D. Doss, Rebekah Crocker and Tom C. Jackson;

MERIDIAN: Amanda Jen-kins, LaPorsche Griggs and Shaconda Ratcliff;

MORTON: Avery Ward;

NOXAPATER: Krystle Weems, Rebecca Caroline Bar-rier and Stacy Carter;

PHILADELPHIA: Adrienne Nicole Edwards, Brandi Ni-cole Farve, Brittany Bozeman, Charles Cory Kilpatrick, Chiq-uita S. Calloway, Deborah Faye Henry, Dustin Tubby, Eliza-beth C. Prewitt, Kenneth Grace and Madison Nicholson;

PRESTON: Joshua Richard-son;

QUITMAN: Miranda Lynn Davidson;

STARKVILLE: Alice Faye Hampton;

UNION: Brittany Mallory, Erin Hall, Jasmin K'nisha Hunter and Shanita S. Jackson; and

WALNUT GROVE: Kelli Frances Alford.

Warrior Viewpoints

FROM THE EDITOR

Strive for Greatness in All You Do

Hi Warriors!
It is certainly always difficult saying “good-bye,” isn’t it? This is one of the most bittersweet moments of my young life—and I’m sure many more will rear their heads as I grow older. Today is the day that I must say fare-well to East Central and my responsibilities as Editor of *The Tom-Tom*. I’m so proud to have had such great influences thrust upon me during my time here as a student. I will dearly miss some things—like the amazing teachers I’ve had the privilege to learn from. You guys have honestly made a huge impact in my life and I will be forever grateful to you. Also, I will miss the great friends and the great times that go along with having their company. Of course, I can’t forget to mention the lemon cake that the cafeteria serves... (You guys are going to need to give me that recipe before I graduate.)



ADDREONNA SEGER
Editor

For the class of graduating sophomores, WE.DID.IT! Now it’s time to keep pushing. This degree only means we’re one step closer to where we want to be. If you’re going into the workforce, push to be the best employee you can be. Strive for greatness, not “sameness.” Anyone can work just going through the motions, it takes dedication and initiative to be the best, and being the best will set you apart every time. For those of you continuing your education, keep working hard. Think about your dreams, set realistic goals and go into your work with ferocity and great focus. The more you organize and prepare, the better off you’ll be. Take a class you don’t need every semester—it’s like a present from you, to you, every semester!

For those of you continuing your education here at East Central, don’t think this is 13th grade; it’s not. It’s college. Be mature and take it seriously. What you do here will follow you for the rest of your life. Your grades will follow you to university and if you play around and think it’s a joke and that it doesn’t matter, don’t be surprised if a university doesn’t accept you. Work hard and it will pay off. Hard work is always a pre-cursor to “the good life.”

I wish everyone the best of luck in their future endeavors. May you get everything in life you hope for and may you always pay it forward as well. There are always people less fortunate. Count your blessings because some people have absolutely nothing to count on at all.

In the words of Goethe, “Whatever you can do, or dream you can do, begin it. Boldness has genius, power, and magic in it. Begin it now.” And then keep going.

—Addreonna Seger, Editor

OTHER VIEWS

Get Involved at ECCC

As my last year at ECCC comes to an end, I reflect on all that has happened. I didn’t realize so much has happened in these two short years, but it has and that is because I got involved. I can’t express how important it is to get involved!

Sure, school is about getting an education and good grades, but when you get involved, you can meet some great people, have some incredible opportunities and know what is going on around campus.

I know that it can get a little tough at times when you have these commitments and responsibilities, but you can take it as character building because it truly is! Among other things it will teach you how to organize and prioritize.

Yes, the grades are important especially for when you transfer to a university, but years down the road, I know I am going to remember these memories that have been made and these people that I have been so fortunate to meet.

So, find what interests you because there is something on campus for you and get involved!

—Jessica Barnett, Staff Writer



JESSICA BARNETT
Staff Writer



BY CLAIRE GRIFFIN
Cartoonist

WORDS OF A WARRIOR

BY WILL STOKES

If You Could Fix or Change Anything in the World, What Would It Be?

Gregg Mitchell Newton
Freshman • Business



“If I could change anything in the World, I would to see peace in the Middle East.”



Darin Hillman
Sebastopol Sophomore • Liberal Arts

“I would like for there to be less poverty in the world. “



Tanya Burnside
Philadelphia Freshman • Liberal Arts

“That’s a tough question, but I guess I would like for there to be more World Peace.”



Teylor Martinez
Louisville Freshman • Biochemistry

“I would like to fix world hunger.”

OTHER VIEWS

Here Now, Gone in a Second

All on the news, whether televised or the Internet, we see pictures of the horrific accidents that have happened in Boston with the Boston Marathon explosion or West, Texas with the fertilizer plant explosion. In the past, we have seen footage from the John F. Kennedy assassination and 9/11. These tragedies have impacted each person in America because in each of these horrific events, our fellow Americans have perished.

With these catastrophic events in our mind, let’s look or think about one of these events an hour, 30 minutes or even 15 minutes before they even occurred. People are living their day-to-day lives, enjoying themselves at an annual event or parade or working at the same place that they have known for a substantial period of time. They did not realize they would never return home to their families or that their daily lives would be changed forever. They did not realize the life that they knew would turned a complete 360.

Too often, we think about the aftermath of one of these events, and do not ever think about them. We never forget these events, but we do not ponder on them for too long. We do not realize we could be caught in a catastrophe like the Boston Marathon explosion or 9/11, but in our own state, we have seen monumental disasters. Sixty-eight miles from Decatur, 16-year old Luke Woodham killed two students at Pearl High School in 1997. In 2011, an EF5 tornado killed 23 people in Smithville. In 2005, Hurricane Katrina wiped out the Mississippi Gulf Coast killing nearly 240 people and leaving 67 people missing.

The victims of these disasters woke up thinking their life would not end that day. Sadly, their lives ceased. We are not exempt from these catastrophes. We may be living in the now, and die a tragic death in the next second.

The thought of the day for everyday should be: am I ready for death’s hand to lead me to the other side? Do I know where I will be going when I die? Jesus died on Calvary’s cross, and rose from the dead three days later so death would not be intimidating. In the book of 2 Corinthians, the Scripture says to be out of the body is to be present with the Lord. Jesus is the only way that that statement is possible. Now, for the question of the day for everyday: do you know Him?

—Conor Bell, Staff Writer



CONOR BELL
Staff Writer

FROM DR. LEE’S DESK

Graduation is Upon Us

It is hard to believe that we are approaching the end of the academic year! Many of you who have worked hard for two years will soon make that memorable walk on May 11, 2013, at ECCC’s graduation. Congratulations!

Graduation should be your ultimate goal at EC. So persist and earn that diploma! You need it in today’s world. Graduates, you may have changed your major so research to see if there are other courses you can stay at EC and take. Transferability is seamless and the tuition cost is approximately one-third the tuition of public four-year institutions. If you have questions about this please come by Student Services and see an Academic Counselor. We are open 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Friday.

Freshmen –Advance Registration begins on April 5. REGISTER THE FIRST DAY! You will want to register to get the classes you need to graduate.

The rest of the spring semester will fly by! Take advantage of all the various events and activities, but keep your grades and class attendance as top priorities.

If you have any questions or concerns please let me know. You can reach me at 635-6375 or e-mail rlee@eccc.edu. The student services’ offices are located in the Eddie M. Smith Student Union, second floor.



DR. LEE

With You in Mind,
Randall E. Lee, Vice President for Student Services

OTHER VIEWS

Tragedy Strikes at Home

On Monday, April 15 what seemed to be just another great race, the Boston Marathon, in Boston, turned into a complete tragedy. Two explosions simultaneously tore through the finish line just as the racers were approaching and the spectators were watching. At least three were killed and at least 180 were injured.

It was immediately speculated that it was a deliberate act of terrorism and was confirmed so when the two suspects were captured. The two suspects were brothers, Dzhokhar and Tamerlan Tsarnaev. Tamerlan was killed in a shootout with the police, and when Dzhokhar was taken he was in serious but stable condition.

Many were asking why would this happen, but sadly it is simple. There are people, in fact countries who hate this country. This was such a sad time, but people expressing their love and best wishes on sorts of social media as soon as this terroristic act happened. #PrayForBoston was the hash tag that overtook Twitter. And then as soon as the suspects were captured people and organizations all around started to come help and support all those affected.

This is one of the reasons why I love America. People will come together and will do what they can. Notice how people want to call on God and pray when there is a tragedy. Nothing stops them not even a law that is taking that very right away from the students at schools. I just wanted to make that point.

Two days later, another tragedy struck the U.S. A fertilizer plant from West, Texas exploded and killed 14 and injured 200. This explosion was so massive that it literally wiped away half a community.

The explosion occurred around 8 p.m. and could be heard from a town nearly 45 miles away. This was an accident but nonetheless a tragedy.

In one week our country endured so much, but we were all there to lift those who have fallen. America is strong and will overcome! God bless America!

—Jessica Barnett, Staff Writer

OTHER VIEWS

Stepping out of the Shadows

Whenver I graduated High School there was an immense weight lifted off me, I was free...until freshman year of college. When I was a sophomore, junior, and senior in high school I knew from the beginning that being involved will make my resume look fantastic. I was not that involved with school activities, not because I couldn’t, but because I knew I could do more. I was involved in everything from political campaigns to United Blood Services internships. Now when I reflect back on everything I was involved in, I do not regret it, I just wish I would have done even more.

Whenever the fall semester started I wasn’t involved with anything and I loved it! It had been so long since I had literally nothing to do. I grew into it and I learned to love having nothing to do. However, I soon began to realize doing nothing was doing nothing for my resume. I went to *The Tom-Tom* meeting to recruit new students. I went to see what it was all about, not really to become a writer for the paper. When I got there I did the wrong thing and the thing that I always do...I began talking about American Government and politics, my most favorite things to discuss. Well after I removed my foot from the back of my throat, I agreed to write a political piece. And here I am now.

But guess what? I love it. I love my friends on the yearbook and newspaper staff, I am so grateful that I decided to get with the program and do something. Writing for *The Tom-Tom* has not only graced my resume, but it has brought several people into my life that I might have possibly gone on without knowing. I have learned to write in ways that I never knew I could, I want to be editor and I have won a respectable place in the Mississippi Press Association Better Student Newspaper Competition.

Not only have I gotten involved by writing and interviewing for *The Tom-Tom*, but I have recently performed in a play. *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat* was not only a spectacular hit, but was also amazing fun for the performers. I wasn’t too happy about being “drafted” into some musical, but I learned to love it and I am glad I did.

So, Warriors, lets step back and think...What can I do to become more involved with my college?

— Will Stokes, Staff Writer



WILL STOKES
Staff Writer

The Tom-Tom is a student publication of East Central Community College in Decatur, Miss. It is published by the Office of Public Information. For more information, contact the staff at P.O. Box 129, Decatur, MS, 39327 or by phone at 601-635-2111, ext. 364, or toll free at 1-877-462-3222. Accreditation East Central Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award the Associate Degree. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of East Central Community College. Notice of Non-Discrimination East Central Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or qualified disability in its educational programs and activities, employment practices, or admissions processes. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies of East Central Community College: Inquiries regarding compliance with Title VI, ADEA, and Title IX is coordinated by Dr. Teresa Houston, Vice President for Instruction, Walter Arno Vincent Administration Building, Room 171, Post Office Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, Phone: 601-635-6202, Fax: 601-635-4011, thouston@eccc.edu. Inquiries regarding compliance with Section 504 and ADA is coordinated by Dr. Randall Lee, Vice President of Student Services, Eddie M. Smith Student Union, Room 201, Post Office Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, Phone: 601-635-6375, Fax: 601-635-3247, rlee@eccc.edu.

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Will Stokes

Warrior Viewpoints

OTHER VIEWS

CISPA Forces Americans to Bid Farewell to Privacy Rights

If you’ve ever heard from anyone much wiser than yourself: “Do not post inappropriate, identifying or personal information on the Internet,” now would be the time to start taking that message to heart. With the rise of the new Cyber Intelligence and Protection Act, nothing is out of reach of corporations or government eyes. Basically, the legislation starts off saying that it will protect us against cyber-attacks from other countries who could potentially want to harm Americans via the Internet. This means that not only are the corporations looking out for hackers, so are the Government.

Well, that sounds lovely. However, if you look more closely, you find liability clauses that would allow for the Government and private corporations to spy on you for no reason at all. This is certainly not limited to: seeing personal credit card information, social security numbers, personal messages between two people on any social networking site, etc. This bill aims to boost cyber-security, which is all well and fine, but it does so by obliterating legal barriers that would normally prevent private companies from sharing people’s sensitive information.

Not only does it violate the privacy of Americans, it violates the privacy of anyone who uses an internet service from anywhere in the world. Using google.ca? Yes, the American government will be spying on you. How about google.co.uk? Yes, our government can see that too. So, as if the violation of American rights weren’t enough, we’d like to extend that courtesy to other countries as well.

Most of all, it’s hypocritical that the same companies, companies like Google, Facebook, At&t, Verizon, The Warner Company, and many others are supporting this bill with the current privacy policies that they have. In fact, pork barrel spending would suggest that of the billions of dollars that have been spent, most of it is going back to the lobbyist supporters. It’s like saying “here’s our promise that your information is safe with us and we will not share it with anyone—unless we get paid to.” It’s a slap in the face to every American and should certainly be so to every other country in the world on America’s radar.



ADDREONNA SEGER
Editor

—Addreonna Seger,
Editor

OTHER VIEWS

A different political view point... from a different political view

Mrs. Liscelle Smythe is currently an adjunct instructor of English Composition and Social Sciences. Her family currently resides in Louisville. Mrs. Smythe gracefully shared some of her views with *The Tom-Tom*. She has been a resident of several parts of this country, including: New Jersey and California. It’s nice to hear a different view of another state’s political values.

I find that California and Mississippi’s political scene are quite different from each other. When I went to the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) in the early 1990s, it was a radical, sometimes violent, and somewhat militant socio-political time during the university’s history. During this time, Los Angeles was dealing with the riots that resulted from the Rodney King beatings and the O.J. Simpson trial. During this same time, the UCLA campus was a “hot bed” of protest at the administration’s attempt to eradicate affirmative action. The racially and ethnically diverse population of UCLA exercised their civil disobedience by picketing, staging sit-ins, having rallies and hosting hunger strikes to demonstrate the displeasure by the students of color to the school administration’s intent to do away with affirmative action programs. As an English tutor for the affirmative action program in college, I was located right in the middle of all of the excitement. I compare my undergraduate college experience to the civil rights era of the 1960s. My college experiences will forever shape the both the liberal/radical person I am today.

“I prefer California’s political scene. In my own personal experience, I’ve found that Californians, in general, are quite active politically in comparison to other states. Many Californians are quite adept at the petition process and, even if they don’t circulate the petition themselves, most registered voters in California have signed at least one petition in their lifetime.

“I try to encourage my students to not be so politically apathetic. I encourage them that if they don’t like a law or policy, they have the power to change it. I use my example of using the Mississippi’s petition process to locally change the wet/dry status of Winston County’s liquor sales and possession laws from “damp” to “wet” as a way to make change on a local level. Basically, if you want political change, work within the parameters of the laws in place and it can be done.

I have found Mississippians are less knowledgeable about direct democracy when it comes to knowing how to change public policy. Additionally, many Mississippians whom I have contact with seem to be apathetic when it comes to electing new elected officials to public office.

“It took me a while to figure out there is little difference between a Mississippi “blue dog” Democrat and a mainstream Republican in most states. I sometimes miss the political diversity of California and I sometimes wish Mississippi could strive to become a little more politically purple instead of being so politically crimson red. I find that diversity of political opinion just makes politics more interesting and more inclusive of all its citizens.”

—Liscelle Smythe,
Adjunct Instructor

If you would like to submit a letter to the editor, question for Dr. Stewart or a guest column, please e-mail them to tomtomwarriorpride@gmail.com or bring them to the lower level of Huff Auditorium Rm. 43.



BY CLAIRE GRIFFIN

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS & IDEAS!

If you would like to submit a letter to the editor, question for Dr. Stewart, cartoon idea or a guest column, please e-mail them to tomtomwarriorpride@gmail.com

The Tom-Tom is the voice of the Warriors!



CLAIRE GRIFFIN
Cartoonist

OTHER VIEWS

The Most Under-Appreciated Aspect of Today’s Society

Being under-appreciated is never fun. We all have done things that were great, but no one really has cared or noticed what we did. In today’s Mississippi, America and world, this seems to be the case for the fine arts.

Too often, society places the arts on the bottom of educational priorities. For some students, music and art were taught in elementary school, and in junior high and high school, if some students have the interest, a band, choir or art program comes into play to advance the individual student’s interest. But for others, the lack of school funds or the lack of a solid instructor cause fine arts programs in schools to cease. Band and choir programs are torn down each year in the state. Theatre and visual art programs never take root in most schools. When these scenarios happen, students are forced to either go to school and play sports or just simply go to school. The option for the arts never becomes an option.

Society tends to forget how much the arts supplement the mind. The brain does an intense workout when a student busies themselves with an art project. Creativity, problem-solving, focus and dedication are just a few of the many skills that the arts teach students. Students lose these skills when the arts are taken out of their schools.

The exemption of the arts from schools could pose as a major problem for our world in the future. We will lose touch of who Beethoven is and his contribution to society. We will lose touch of who Shakespeare is and his contribution to society. We will lose touch of who Picasso is and his contribution to society. In this madness, though, we will lose who we are as a society. A defining factor in a culture is its arts. The art of writing, music, visual art, theatre, and dance have all help distinguish the American culture from the British culture and from the French culture and so on. We will not have any great artists if we continue to let schools close our fine arts programs. We will become shallow and lose a sense of who we are. We must keep our fine arts programs strong or we will lose ourselves in a vast, deserted land where we have nothing to read, listen or see.

—Conor Bell,
Staff Writer



CONOR BELL
Staff Writer

OTHER VIEWS

Baroness Margaret Thatcher 1925-2013

As students, we typically have no idea who runs what country or who does what, besides President Obama. Being a Political Science major I enjoy learning about American and British relations. Well I’m quite sure not many of us have any idea who Margaret Thatcher is, am I right? Anyway, she was basically the political “soul mate” of Ronald Reagan in the 1980’s. It’s with a sad heart I write this.....

Former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, a towering figure in postwar British and world politics and the only woman to become British prime minister, has died at the age of 87. She suffered a stroke Monday.

She died at the Ritz Hotel in London. Lady Thatcher’s funeral will be at St. Paul’s Cathedral, with full military honors, followed by a private cremation. Thatcher served from 1975 to 1990 as leader of the Conservative Party. She was called the “Iron Lady” for her personal and political toughness.

Let us not struggle to get past the cliché of “The Iron Lady,” because sometimes clichés bring us right to the core virtues of a public figure. And Margaret Thatcher was every bit the solid, stalwart, unwavering person that the world knew well and will miss deeply now she is gone.

Thatcher’s steely reputation as Britain’s first and only female prime minister, serving for more than 11 years from 1979 to 1990, was based on a succession of showdowns with labor unions, with the terrorists of the Irish Republican Army, with the Argentines in the Falklands War, and with many in the leadership of her own Conservative Party. She was also a devoted friend and counselor to President Ronald Reagan in his confrontations with the Soviets’ “Evil Empire.” (As recently as a year ago her face would brighten at mention of Reagan’s name.) Thatcher had no problem with what she saw as moral absolutes.

Margaret Thatcher once said, “If you want something said, ask a man. If you want something done, ask a woman.” While the former British prime minister was, indeed, a woman of action, she will be remembered both for the extraordinary things she did as well as the poignant things she said.

In honor of the trailblazing politician’s life, we take a look back at some of her most memorable quotes:

“No woman, in my time, will be prime minister or foreign secretary—not the top jobs,” Thatcher said in 1969. “Anyway, I wouldn’t want to be prime minister. You have to give yourself 100 percent to the job.”

Ten years after writing off any desire—let alone the possibility—to lead the country she loved, Thatcher was elected prime minister. That same year she said, “Any woman who understands the problems of running a home will be nearer to understanding the problems of running a country.”

On her election in 1979, Thatcher declared: “Where there is discord, may we bring harmony. Where there is error, may we bring truth. Where there is doubt, may we bring faith. And where there is despair, may we bring hope.”

Thatcher’s election may have inspired flowery aspirations for the future of Britain, but at her core she was all business. Many of her most notable quotes illustrate the brash and fierce attitude that earned her the nickname the “Iron Lady.”

At the Conservative Party’s annual conference in October 1980, Thatcher stood up to critics of her economic policies. “To those waiting with bated breath for that favorite media catchphrase, the U-turn, I have only one thing to say. You turn if you want to,” she said. “The lady’s not for turning.”

“Nobody would remember the Good Samaritan if he only had good intentions. He had money as well,” Thatcher said during a 1980 television interview in London. The prime minister was promoting the benefits of an unequal society.

She was not afraid to make her authority known, saying once, “I don’t mind how much my ministers talk, as long as they do what I say.”

Well maybe she should have been more concerned with what her ministers were saying, her time in office ultimately ended when her cabinet refused to back her for reelection in 1990. Of this dissension, she said: “It was treachery with a smile on its face. Perhaps that was the worst thing of all.”

Eleven years after becoming Britain’s first female prime minister, Thatcher gave in to pressure from her colleagues to step down. At her final cabinet meeting in November of 1990, Thatcher observed, “It’s a funny old world.” She left 10 Downing Street in tears.

— Will Stokes,
Staff Writer



THATCHER



WILL STOKES
Staff Writer

We Want Your News!

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

Reminder: Wear IDs at All Times!

Clublicity



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Collegians to Present Spring Concert: The campus of East Central Community College in Decatur will once again be rocking to the sounds of the Collegians who will present their spring concert at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 4, 2013, in Huff Auditorium. Selections include hits by Maroon 5, Carrie Underwood, Adele, Motley Crue and many more top artists. Members of the Collegians include (front row, from left) technicians Michael Buntyn of Newton, Corey Burton and Austin Savell, both of Philadelphia, Sarah LaBue of Conehatta, Ryan McClendon of Forest, Gareth Driskill of Collinsville and Jamey Tune of Newton; (second row, from left) vocalists Ryan Godwin of Newton and Joshua Forest, Tyler Pigg and Jeremy Carson, all of Decatur; Collegians Director Thomas W. Carson of Decatur; vocalists Kara Miller and Claire Griffin, both of Decatur, Macy Seale of Philadelphia, Taylor Gressett of Chunky and Krissy Winstead of Union; wind and rhythm section member Chandler Smith (keyboard) of Philadelphia; and (back row, from left) Matt Graham (trumpet), Meridian; Melissa Manues (trumpet), Hickory; Zachary Peden (saxophone), Philadelphia; Jessie Armstrong (trombone), Collinsville; Joey Holdiness (lead guitar), Chase Fairchild (bass guitar), Chris Lyons (drum set), all of Philadelphia; and Jacob King (auxiliary percussion), Newton. The concert was previously scheduled for April 29.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Practical Nursing Students Attend State Convention: These practical nursing students at East Central Community College attended the Mississippi LPN Association's Annual Convention and Educational Conference held April 10-12, 2013, in Biloxi. Kneeling from left are Betty Tucker, Morton; Kimberly Kendrick, Carthage; Brianna Spears and Lacey Johnson, both of Philadelphia; and Jackie Hogue, Walnut Grove; (second row, from left) Paula Bounds, Rose Hill; Sharonnie Barney, Bailey; Brit-tany Pinter, Forest; Allyson Nichols, Morton; Summer Fortenberry, Philadelphia; Latoria Boler, Carthage; and Shandreka Hunt, Preston; and (third row, from left) Amber Rhodes, Carthage; Susan Jackson, Union; Callie Craig, Carthage; Conashay Headd, Louisville; Michele Parker, Lake; and Kenisha Carter, Louisville. Not pictured is Brooklyn Boyette of Noxapater.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Phi Beta Lambda State Winners: East Central Community College's Theta Chi chapter of Phi Beta Lambda received top honors during the annual state conference held recently in Natchez. Theta Chi was recognized as the third largest chapter in attendance, and was named one of only two Gold Seal chapters in the state. Individual honors were presented to (front row, left to right) Timmie Wiggins of Little Rock, first place in small business management plan, third place in financial analysis and decision making and selected for Who's Who in PBL; Jessie Boatner of Philadelphia, first place in free enterprise project; Chelsea Gilmer of Philadelphia, first place in free enterprise project, third place in business presentation and selected for Who's Who in PBL; Yashica Ickmon of Lake, third place in business presentation and selected Mississippi's PBL vice president; Latoya Steele of Louisville, second place in sales presentation and fourth place in accounting analysis and decision making; and Cindy Burnside of Decatur, first place in local chapter annual business report and third place in business presentation; and (back row, left to right) Tanner Fortenberry of Union, first place in small business management plan and selected for Who's Who in PBL; Haleigh Graham of Sebastopol, first place in integrated marketing campaign and second place in accounting principles; Denzel Clemons of Philadelphia, first place in small business management plan and third place in statistical analysis; Ashleigh Savage of Union, first place in free enterprise project and first place in integrated marketing campaign; Krissy Winstead of Union, first place in impromptu speaking and third place in marketing analysis and decision making; and Josh Bradley of Union, third place in networking concepts and fourth place in networking design. Not pictured are Tori McInnis of Union, second place in management analysis and decision making, third place in economic analysis and decision making and selected for Who's Who in PBL; and Gerren Issac of Philadelphia, fourth place in networking concepts and fourth place in networking design. First and second place winners advance to national competition scheduled in June in Anaheim, Calif.

2013-14 East Central Centralettes Announced

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Members of the 2013-14 East Central Community College Centralettes, the danceline for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band, were selected following tryouts held April 25, announced Hunter Corhern, ECCC Director of Bands. Members and their respective high schools include Grayson Harrell, East Rankin Academy; Emilee Cox, Kelsey Cox and Davita Ragsdale, all of Forest; Kasey Logan, Lake; Emily Cook, Leake Central; Joni Hickman, Louisville; Kara Beth Johnson, Morton; Kayla Covington, Cara Jackson, Jordan Lovorn and Jessica Moffett, all of Nanih Waiya; Hillary Williams, Neshoba Central; Kelli Boulton, Mackenzie Gannon, Taylor Gressett, Hannah Mitchell, Caitlyn Sant and Jayohnnie Slaughter, all of Newton County; Emily Gully, Sylva-Bay Academy; and Emma Burton, Union. Tina Sanders serves as coordinator/choreographer.

STOP BEFORE you DROP ...that Class

- Be aware of Refund dates. If you drop a class, you will still have to pay for it!
- Dropping a class may affect your financial aid status for Pell grants and student loans now and in future semesters. Ask a Financial Aid Office employee to be sure!
- Dropping a class may affect scholarships, VA benefits, and other aid programs. Be aware that in most cases you will lose money, and you may lose the entire scholarship or benefits. Ask the VA representative in the Admissions Office how dropping a class will affect your VA funds. Ask someone in the Financial Aid Office to be sure how dropping classes will affect you and your scholarships or other aid programs!
- Dropping to less than full-time status (12 hours) may adversely affect automobile or medical insurance coverage.
- Have you talked to your instructor about dropping the class? Ask your instructor for advice! Hang in there if you can!
- Is the class a prerequisite for another class you need? Will dropping this class delay graduation or transfer plans? Ask your advisor to be sure!
- Are you working too many hours? If so, is there another solution? More work hours often leads to lower grades.
- If after careful consideration you decide to drop a course, please complete the appropriate paperwork.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Ac'cents Show Choir to Present Concert May 2: Members of the East Central Community College show choir, The Ac'cents, will present their fall campus concert at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 2, in Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium on the Decatur campus. There is no charge for admission and the public is invited to attend. This year's music includes "Some Nights" by f.u.n., "Boogie Shoes" by KC and the Sunshine Band, "God Gave Me You" made popular by Blake Shelton, "Ain't No Mountain High Enough" by Diana Ross and Lady Gaga's "Edge of Glory." Performers and their respective hometowns include (from left) Chandler Smith, Philadelphia; Krissy Winstead, Union; Tyler Gilmore, Sebastopol; Jayohannie Slaughter, Union; Sam Lovorn, Philadelphia; Claire Griffin and Jeremy Carson, both of Decatur; Taylor Gressett, Chunky; Turner Stevens, Carthage; Kara Miller, Decatur; Ryan Godwin, Newton; and Alex Weir, Philadelphia. Not pictured are sound technicians Jacob King of Sebastopol and Matthew Graham of Lake. The Ac'cents perform throughout the ECCC district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties, at various community evens and concerts. For more information contact director Vicki Blaylock at 601-635-6225 or e-mail vblaylock@eccc.edu.

Peavy Named Dorm Supervisor at EC

BY JESSICA BARNETT
Staff Writer

Tywana Jones Peavy of Carthage was recently named dorm supervisor for Jackson Hall at East Central Community College.

Peavy began her new duties on February 1, 2013. She was previously employed with the Leake County School District, she served in various positions including para-professional librarian and tutor.

She is a 1989 Carthage High School graduate and received her associate's degree from East Central in 2010. She was an honor graduate and was inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of the two-year college.

She is married to Darrell Peavy of Carthage, and they have one daughter, La'Tia.

When asked what the favorite part about her new job was, she said, "The thing I love most about being dorm supervisor is that each day brings new and interesting experiences. With nearly 100 young ladies living under one roof there is never a dull moment."

As a dorm mom, the changes that Peavy said which could be improved for the overall student life were re-modeling and renovations. She said Jackson Hall was one of the first building constructed at ECCC, and



JESSICA BARNETT
Staff Writer



JESSICA BARNETT/STAFF WRITER/PHOTOGRAPHER

Peavy enjoys spending time with residents: Tywana Peavy (far right) enjoys playing card games with the dorm residents of Jackson Hall during their afternoon following class. Peavy was named Dorm Supervisor on February 1.

she believes it would greatly improve the residents' dorm life and ultimately influence their overall student life if some improvements were made.

The most rewarding and fun time of the job for Peavy is experienced when she is watching movies or playing card games, like Phase 10, with the residents. She enjoys spending time with the residents and getting to know each and every one of them.

The most surprising thing Peavy has experienced since she's been here occurred when she arrived and her apartment was not ready for her to move into. Peavy said, "I had to live in a dorm room for two weeks and experience the community showers and

bathrooms as the residents do."

The transition to dorm supervisor was pretty smooth Peavy said because she got a crash course in December and January of 2011 when she filled in for Ms. Mae McAdory, while she was ill, before her retirement. She has five years' experience in the public school setting working with middle school students which has also prepared her for this job, she said. Her greatest experience comes from being a mother to her own beautiful daughter, an ECCC alumnus and former Jackson Hall resident, she added. Peavy said she has always been available to her for any life experience, from great achievements to huge disappointments. Her



PEAVY

intent is to be just as available to her dorm residents.

Peavy said, "I believe that God has not only blessed me with this position

and the residents, but He has also equipped me with the necessary tools to successfully and effectively execute my duties in this capacity."

AWARDS From Page 1

leader by the example that she sets for others and the way that she lives her life. Claire's contributions and commitments to the college through the club/organizations of which she is involved sets her apart from other students. Claire definitely represents the college well both on and off the campus."

LAJOYA GRIFFIN

LaJoya Griffin is a 2011 graduate of Philadelphia High School and the daughter of Ken and Juliet Griffin of Philadelphia.

A President's List scholar and liberal arts major, Griffin serves as team captain of the Lady Warrior softball team and treasurer of Fellowship of Christian Athletes. She is also a member of Phi Theta Kappa, Warrior Corps, Sigma Sigma Mu Tau, Phi Beta Lambda, Wo-He-Lo staff and Student Athletic Advisory Committee. She is also a member of the Neshoba Youth Coalition.

In addition, she was named to Who's Who Among Students in American Community and Junior Colleges and was selected Miss ECCC and Maid of Honor at the 2012 ECCC Homecoming.

She was named Lady Warrior Softball's Best Base Runner for 2011-12 and represented ECCC during Legislative Day at the State Capitol.

Griffin received numerous scholarships at ECCC including the Jacob Stovall Scholarship, Lady Warrior Softball and ACT.

Those nominating Griffin wrote, "LaJoya is a dedicated student-athlete who exemplifies the true meaning of being a Warrior. She puts time in on the field but also participates in the other activities around the college. LaJoya's personality and charisma are very contagious with her teammates and also with the student body of ECCC. I feel like LaJoya has presented herself well and will continue to represent herself in a way that will make the ECCC family very proud."

ANDREW HANNA

Hanna is a 2011 graduate of Newton County Academy and is the son of Rusty and Lanette Hanna of Union.

A President's List Scholar and chemistry major, Hanna was selected to the Phi Theta Kappa All Mississippi Academic First Team, was named 2012 HEADWAE (Higher Education Appreciation Day: Working Toward Academic Excellence program) Student.

In addition, he was awarded the Frank Edwin and Nena Holt Leatherwood Biology Award, Frank M. Cross Chemistry Award and Secondary Education Award.

Hanna serves as vice president for leadership of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa and is co-president of the Baptist Student Union and Warrior Corps. In addition, he serves as secretary of the President's Council and is a Men's Bible Study leader for the BSU.

He is also a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and served as vice president his freshman year. He is a member of the Environmental Club, participated on the Warrior basketball team his freshman year and has been a two-year member on the Warrior tennis team.

Those nominating Hanna wrote, "Andrew strives for excellence not only in the classroom, but also on the athletic field and in all areas of his life. His motivation to succeed is not to receive an honor or an award, but because he believes that one should always put forth the best effort possible. Andrew is a model student who loves learning, people and most of all Jesus! Andrew truly meets the qualifications to be named to EC's Hall of Fame by the high standards he sets for himself and the manner in which he represents the college on and off campus."

EMILY MARLER

Marler is a 2011 graduate of Morton High School and the daughter of Robert and Kathy Marler of Morton.

A President's List scholar and education major, she serves as

an officer of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa and secretary of the Astronomy club. She is also a member of the Baptist Student Union, Diamond Darlings, Environmental Club, Warrior Corps, Student Education Association and the *Wo-He-Lo* yearbook and *The Tom-Tom* newspaper staffs.

Marler was selected to Who's Who Among Students in American Community and Junior Colleges and was chosen a Beauty in the College's 2012-13 Beauty and Beau Pageant.

She received numerous scholarships at ECCC including the ACT, Achievement Recognition, Presidential and Robert Moody, Jr.

Those nominating her wrote, "Emily Marler is one of our best. She is active in an impressive number of campus activities and organizations and still makes the President's List. She serves in leadership positions in more than one campus organization. She is committed to helping others as is shown by her serving as a youth intern in her church and by going on a mission trip to Kenya last summer and by participating in Warrior Corps, as a Diamond Darling and in Phi Theta Kappa service activities. She is well liked by her peers and our instructors and staff here at ECCC. She is a very nice Christian young woman. She was selected Miss Morton in 2012 and was Miss Morton High School and Homecoming Queen during her year as a high school senior."

CAIN PRESTAGE

Prestage is 2011 graduate of Leake Academy and the son of DeWayne and Beverly Prestage of Carthage.

A President's List scholar and pre-med major, he serves as an officer of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa and vice president of the Environmental Club. He is also a member of Sigma Sigma Mu Tau.

Prestage was selected for the Order of the Golden Key, awarded to each chapter of Phi Theta Kappa for an outstanding officer who has "tirelessly worked for the betterment of

the chapter/college."

He was also selected to Who's Who Among Students in American Community and Junior Colleges and received numerous scholarships at ECCC including the Harvey Wheeler Pharmacy, Mosal Leadership for Phi Theta Kappa, Presidential and ACT.

Those nominating him wrote, "Cain is an extremely motivated, highly intelligent young man who exhibits a very strong work ethic and the highest moral character. He has extremely strong leadership skills and works diligently in every club in which he is involved. He possesses a quiet dignity and has such a pleasant personality that it is a joy to work with Cain. He is definitely a "worker." He is constantly busy and readily volunteers, helping in any way possible. I feel that Cain is extremely deserving of the Hall of Fame award."

Additional honors presented during Awards Day include the following:

Career award recipients include Claude Epting of Morton and Demondrae Stribling of Meridian, co-recipients of residential carpentry; Dagan Elliot of Philadelphia and Jessy Harrison of Little Rock, co-recipients of cosmetology award; Corey King of Philadelphia and Justin Nutt of Morton, co-recipients welding and cutting "Taylor Cup;" and Justin Nutt of Morton, "Career Student of the Year."

Technical awards were presented to Wesley Clark of Meridian, collision repair technology; Adam Richardson of Lawrence, automotive technology; Sarah Orr of Noxapater, early childhood education; Amanda Lott of Lena, computer technology; Seth Irons of Philadelphia, electrical technology; Rob Baker of Union, heating & air conditioning technology; Pheanice Hamm-Brown of Lake, culinary arts; Sabrena Andrews of Meridian, hotel and restaurant management technology; Lance Pruitt of Newton, manufacturing and machining technology; Gerren Isaac of Philadelphia, network support technology; and Ivory Weldon of Pulaski, "Technical Student

of the Year."

Recipients of healthcare education awards included Leah Johnson of Louisville, Associate Degree Nursing Outstanding Achievement; Betty Tucker of Morton, practical nursing; Lisa Maria Collins, paramedic technology; and Ashley Barnett, recipient of the Mississippi Nurses Foundation Scholarship.

Those receiving special awards were Judson Bounds of Newton, citizenship; Bryant Williams of Hickory, Ann Burkes Phi Theta Kappa, Claire Griffin of Decatur, PTK Presidential Gavel; Aquill Baynard of Houston, Texas, Anthony Coleman Men's Basketball; Holli Nutt, ECCC Astronomy Club; Tadarin Foster of Hickory, ECCC Concert Choir; Dakota Morris of Carthage, East Central Environmental Club; Keith Phillips of Carthage and Andrea McSwain of Decatur, co-recipients of ECCC Gospel Choir; Claire Griffin of Decatur, ECCC Players; Andrew Hanna of Union, Richard Fisher Organic Chemistry; Matthew Evans of Forest, S. Lebrun Hutchison; Kalik May of Northport, AL, freshman mathematics; Ethan Pendergrass of Philadelphia, sophomore mathematics; Latoya Steele of Meridian, Chelsea Gilmer of Philadelphia and Ashleigh Savage of Union, co-recipients of Mississippi Business Education Association awards; Nathan Powell of Meridian, Dr. Margaret Mosal Award for Leadership; Tiffany Dorman of Union, Myrtle R. Hutchison Elementary Education and Alyne Simmons Recruitment Grant; McGee Ledbetter of Columbus and Erin Thornton of Walnut Grove, Roy Pete Awards for Soccer; Morgan Parkes of Louisville, secondary education; Adreonna Seger of Newton, *The Tom-Tom*; and Rayanne Craven of Newton, Lucille Wood Scholarship.

Alumni Memorial Awards were presented to Andrew Hanna of Union, Arno Vincent Award for Academic Excellence in Athletics and Billy Wayne Baucum Secondary Education; Emily Lucy of Newton, Ruth Carr-Vincent Award for Academic Excellence in Nontra-

ditional Education; Hillary Williams of Philadelphia, Opal McMullan Dickerson Elementary Education; Adreonna Seger of Newton, Alatha Chaney English; Judson Bounds of Newton, W. A. Coursey, Jr., Engineering; Zachary Killion of Crestwood, KY, Danny Ray Killens Engineering; Jessie Boatner of Philadelphia, Sara Carr Deaton Business Technology; Andrew Hanna, Sue Yarbrough Fulgham Speech; Jessie Barrett of Lake, Jack B. Mayo Phi Theta Kappa; Darius Beavers of Stringer, William S. Giffin Men's Intramural; Eden McGee of Philadelphia, Homer F. Hunter Award for Athletic Managers; Paul Kirkman of Ralph, AL, Andrew F. Webb Football; T.J. Leatherwood, Howard Sessums Men's Basketball; Renisha Evans of Union, Earline Wood Women's Basketball; and Trevor Ayllon of Newton, Dr. Edwin Miller Medical Services Award.

Faculty Memorial Awards were presented to Hannah McCurdy of Morton, Aaron R. Davis Memorial; Meghan Johnson of Lena, Frank Edwin and Nena Holt Leatherwood award; Terrence Steele and Caleb McKee, both of Philadelphia, Jamie Clark Memorial Award for Baseball; Caleb McKee, J. Wallace Bedwell Business; Felica Robinson of Hickory, Frank M. Cross Freshman Chemistry; Chandler Smith of Philadelphia, Robert G. Fick Memorial; Jacob Oliver of Little Rock, Shelby L. Harris Memorial; Jessica Barnett of Forest and Erin Wooten of Carthage, co-recipients of the Ruth Hull *Wo-He-Lo* award; Joseph Aulds of Decatur, J. Andy Miller Freshman Engineering; Ivory Weldon of Pulaski, O.L. Newell Drafting; Cindy Burnside of Decatur, Charles E. Pennington Business Technology; Allie Killens, Leon Eubanks KALJYC-Peers; Kacey Smiley and Tracie Buckley, both of Newton, co-recipients of the L.B. Simmons History award; Felica Robinson of Hickory, General William Patrick Wilson General Academic scholarship; and Aderian Partain of Union, Thomas W. Thrash Memorial.

Reminder: Wear IDs at All Times!

Faculty Corner

Clayton Retiring After 29-Year Career In Education

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

A 29-year career in education will come to a close for East Central Community College chemistry instructor Peggy Clayton when she retires following the 2013 spring term.

“It is hard to believe how many years have passed since I began teaching. Time does fly when you are having fun!” she said.

When asked of her retirement plans, Clayton said, “I plan to garden with my husband, spend time with family, read and maybe remember how to sew, and relax without a stack of papers on the table waiting to be graded!”

At East Central, Clayton teaches general chemistry, organic chemistry and the labs that go along with those courses.

Prior to her position at the College, Clayton served 20 years on the high school level where she taught chemistry, advanced placement chemistry and physics. She also served eight years as an adjunct instructor at Meridian Community College.

Clayton said a long-time love for science and a husband who worked in education made the decision to teach an easy one.

“Since I was in high school, I have always enjoyed science and was constantly explaining what I knew to some other stu-

dent,” Clayton said. “Years later, when I married my husband (Tom Clayton), who was then a teacher, teaching seemed the natural thing to do. I added the education courses to my chemistry degree and began to teach chemistry and physical science in high school.”

She said the highlights of her career have always been the successes of her students.

“There were those who found success in something as simple as learning to draw a graph or getting up in class to tell about their experiment. I’ve also had contest winners, science fair participants and scholarship winners. Many were at the top of their classes, some near the bottom, but all came somewhat closer to that knowledge of how the natural world works because of the experiences we shared in science classes,” Clayton said.

She added, “Some of my former students are now doctors, engineers, pharmacists, nurses, veterinarians and science teachers. Of course, they make me proud. But I would like to think that wherever their paths have taken them, all of my students took with them the idea that I cared about them and wanted to share knowledge with them.”

Family has been the greatest support system in her career, including her parents and husband.

“When I chose chemistry as



CLAYTON

a career, it was still not a common choice for a woman. My parents, Phil and Clarice Davis, never suggested that the field was inappropriate for a girl and they encouraged me, though it did worry my dad that I never took typing. I still regret that I did not!

“My husband, who is a retired teacher and administrator, taught me how to love kids by being firm with them and that asking more of them is the best way to encourage them. He also made me realize that asking more of your students requires that you work hard alongside them.”

Clayton said the thing she has loved most about the field of education is the combina-

tion of a subject she enjoys and people she loves, including her co-workers.

“When I came to EC, Ron Davis (former ECCC Science Division Chair who died of cancer in 2006) was a wonderful encourager and mentor. He provided guidance and suggestions, but always made me feel that he was confident in my abilities. He was already ill that year I came to EC, though he seldom let it slow him down. I wish I could have worked for him in happier years.

“The faculty members in the science division are special friends and have been like family to me. I will miss the daily contact with them most of all. Shortly after I was hired Dr. Sparkman (Lavinia, former ECCC Vice President for Instruction) asked Mrs. Davis (Patti, ECCC science instructor), ‘Well, how is Mrs. Clayton getting settled in?’ Patti replied, ‘It’s like she has always been here.’ It was a wonderful compliment, and exactly how I feel about EC and especially the science department. My husband refers to them as my cohorts, misspelling it as ‘cohearts.’ Come to think of it, I don’t think it is misspelled at all.”

Clayton has been named to the MEC STAR Teacher Hall of Fame, awarded to those who have been named STAR Teacher for 10 years. She was also named Outstanding Teacher for the Mississippi Association



of Physics Teachers and Mississippi American Chemical Society Outstanding Teacher. At East Central, she was named an ECCC Lamplighter in 2007, which honors outstanding community and junior college instructors, and was selected HEADWAE (Higher Education Appreciation Day: Working Toward Academic Excellence) Instructor of the Year in 2008.

Clayton and her husband, Tom, have been married for almost 39 years and are members of Highland Baptist Church, where they both serve as Sunday school teachers. They have three grown and married sons: Sean (Erica), Jason (Danielle) and Adam (Brenda); and six

grandchildren: Kaitlyn, Nolan, Madelyn, Liam, Averie and Logan.

“Tom is my best friend and the person I most want to spend time with. We have three grown sons, now married to the daughters God did not grant us until our sons went and found them. They have blessed us with six beautiful grandchildren, who remind us daily how old we have gotten to be. It is like the saying, though: ‘If I had known grandchildren were this much fun, I’d have had them first!’”

She will be honored with other retirees at the end-of-the-year faculty luncheon scheduled May 9.

Miles Announces Retirement as EC Physics Instructor

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Following a 10-year career as a science instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur and 35 total years in education, William Miles (Billy) has announced his retirement at the conclusion of the 2013 spring semester.

“I have mixed feelings about retirement,” he said. “I love to work and it’s great to work at East Central Community College. The staff, faculty and administration form a relatively small group. Almost everyone knows everyone else, if not by name, at least by sight. It’s like a big extended family. Everyone is very professional and does their job well. It’s been a pleasure to work here and has been the highlight of my career.”

Miles began his career at Mendenhall High School in 1977, where he taught high school chemistry, physics and general science. He also had stints at Brandon Academy and West Point High School before spending 10 years as a biology, chemistry, advanced chemistry and physics instructor at Mor-

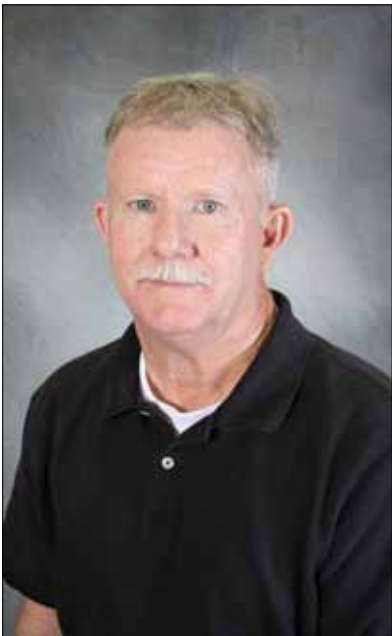
ton High School. His experience also includes two years teaching environmental chemistry online for American Military University.

He retired in 2007 after 20.5 years in the Mississippi National Guard.

At East Central, Miles teaches Physics and Physical Science and last summer taught a class in Astronomy. He also serves as sponsor for the East Central Community College Astronomy Club.

“I love science. NASA, space exploration, and the race to the Moon captured our imaginations when I was in elementary and junior high school. A lot of us grew up wanting to be astronauts, astronomers and engineers instead of firemen, soldiers and cowboys. This love of science is what led me to become a science teacher,” Miles said.

He said he has enjoyed teaching and helping students with research projects for science competitions as a Junior Academy of Science sponsor and helping with “Star Parties” for the East Central Astronomy Club.



MILES

He added, “The science lab is like a playground for me.”

Miles said he has enjoyed working with outstanding ECCC students and had much praise for them.

“Our area continues, year after year, to produce great students who will be successful, who can compete anywhere and

who will maintain and improve our country, our state and our community,” Miles said. “I do not like to hear anyone speak badly about our young people. Those who do so are simply mistaken.”

Miles said he has been influenced over the years by a host of great teachers, community and church leaders, friends, his parents, sisters, and others.

“My colleagues in the Science Department and in the Math and Computer Science Department have been especially important and have been good friends and a great help to me here at East Central. They’ve all served as good role models I’ve tried to emulate.”

Among honors he has received are the Mississippi Academy of Sciences Secondary Teaching Award (2001), Sigma XI Scientific Research Society Secondary Teaching Award (1996), Mississippi Economic Council STAR Teacher (1991, 1997), SCI-MAT Fellow, Council for Basic Education (1999), Howard Hughes Medical Institute Fellow (1995,1997), Morton Chamber of Commerce



Award for Excellence in Teaching (1997,1999) and ECCC Lamplighter (2006), which honors outstanding community and junior college faculty members.

After retirement, Miles said he plans to spend more time on family matters, complete some more coursework in physics and pursue other interests.

“Sailing is a passion. I’d like to become a better sailor and I

plan to spend a lot of time on the water,” he said.

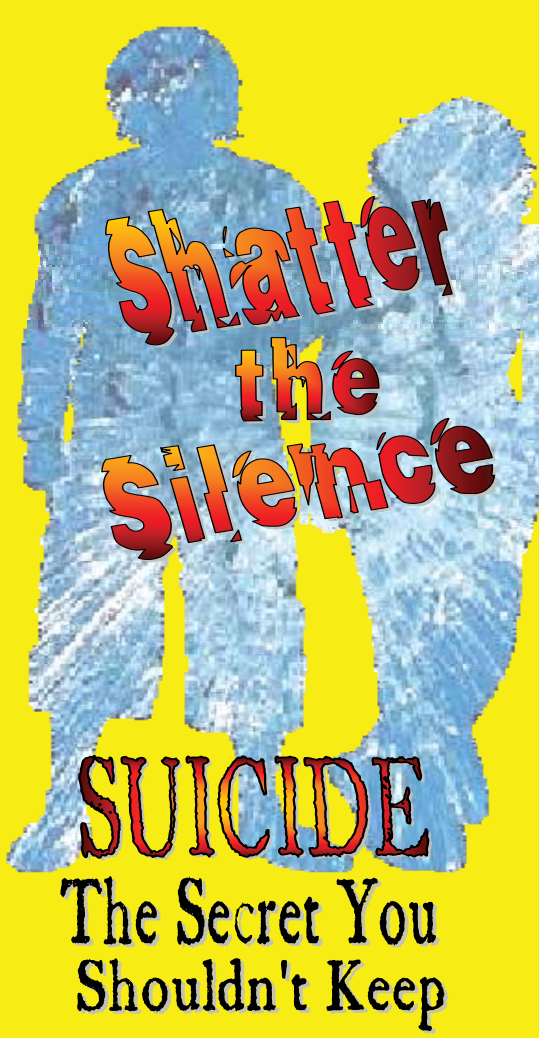
Miles resides near Morton and has two daughters, Katie Miles who also lives near Morton, and Diana Miles who is deceased.

He will be honored with other retirees at the end-of-the-year faculty luncheon scheduled May 9.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Sanders Recognized for ECCC Service: Kathy Sanders (left) of Lake was recognized for 10 years of service during East Central Community College’s Administrative Assistants Appreciation Luncheon held Wednesday, April 24, 2013. Sanders, who serves as administrative assistant to the College faculty, is shown receiving a certificate of appreciation from Dr. Teresa Houston, Vice President for Instruction. The annual event is held during Administrative Professionals Week and includes a luncheon with administrators and assistants in the McGee Gold Room of Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.



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Warrior Athletics

EC Athletes Raise Money for Make-A-Wish

BY EMILY MARLER
Staff Writer

The East Central Community College Athletic Department has joined efforts with the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Mississippi to help Eden Smith's wish come true! Eden is the daughter of ECCC English instructor Lynne Smith, and has recently completed treatments for Hodgkin's Lymphoma.

ECCC coaches and athletes are selling bracelets provided by the Make-A-Wish Foundation as a fundraiser and 100 percent of the profit goes directly towards Eden's wish, which is a trip for her and her family to Hawaii to "swim with the dolphins."

Lynne Smith said, "Eden's illness has been very traumatic for her and for us. We are overjoyed that she is now in remission and feeling well



EMILY MARLER
Staff Writer



EDEN SMITH

enough to take her trip from the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Her wish is to travel to Hawaii and swim with dolphins. The fact that ECCC Athletics wants to help her wish come true, truly warms my heart!"

The total cost of the trip, scheduled for June 30, 2013, is \$5000 and the Athletic Department hopes to raise the entire amount before that time. The bracelets are \$5 each and may be purchased from any ECCC athlete or coach.

For more information, contact ECCC Athletic Director Chris Harris at 601-635-6401. The e-mail address is charris@eccc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Representatives from the East Central Community College Athletic Department are shown with just a few of the bracelets they are selling to assist the Make-A-Wish Foundation in sending Eden Smith to Hawaii. Eden is the daughter of ECCC English instructor Lynne Smith and recently completed treatments for Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Bracelets are \$5 each and may be purchased from any ECCC athlete or coach. Pictured are (seated, from left) LaJoya Griffin (softball) of Philadelphia, Kaylin Hopkins (softball) of Louisville, Haley Covert (soccer) of West Lauderdale and Heather Johnson (cheerleading) of Newton County; (second row, from left) head softball coach Kristin Chaney, Blake Edmonson (football) of Brandon, Terrance Steele (baseball) of Neshoba Central, Severino Signa (baseball) of Deer Creek, Ryan Artman (soccer) of Grenada, and Niya Hughes (women's basketball) of Forest; and (back row, from left) baseball head coach Neal Holliman, women's basketball head coach Crandal Porter, Kyron Samuels (football) of Fairhope (Ala.), football head coach Ken Karcher and men's soccer head coach Kenneth Thompson. For more information, contact ECCC Athletic Director Chris Harris at 601-635-6242 or e-mail charris@eccc.edu.



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Warrior Athletics



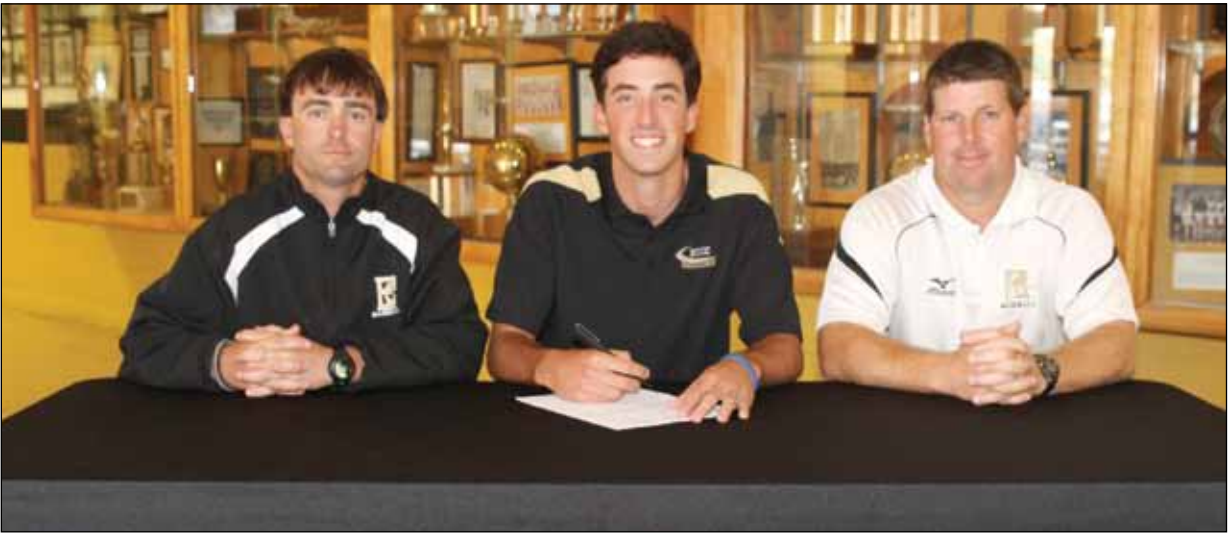
SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

EC Sophomore Diamond Warriors Honored: Sophomores on the 2013 East Central Community College baseball team received special recognition prior to the doubleheader sweep of Hinds Community College in the regular season finale held Friday, April 26 at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex. Each sophomore was introduced at home plate and joined by family members for the special presentation. Honorees were also presented a framed copy of several photos. Sophomores include (seated from left) Rubert Alcantara, Dominican Republic; Tim Anderson, Tuscaloosa, Ala.; Blake Dubuisson, Long Beach; Xavier Franklin, Decatur; Fernando Gonzalez, Guaynabo, Puerto Rico; Robert Greer, Philadelphia; Kyle Henson, Weir; Kalik May, Northport, Ala.; Brady McBride, Laurel; Caleb McKee, Philadelphia; Jordan Mixon, Maben; Ryan Shotts, Louisville; Severino Signa, Stoneville; Terrance Steele, Philadelphia; and Mitchell Wooten, Carthage. Standing next to the Alcantara is Levi Holliman, son of Diamond Warrior head coach Neal Holliman. The Diamond Warriors went 26-19 overall and finished second in the MACJC South Division with a 17-7 record. EC will serve as host for a best-of-three series with Mississippi Delta Community College (24-18, 14-10) scheduled May 3-4 at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex. Winners of the playoff series advance to the MACJC State Baseball Tournament set May 9-11.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

EC's Canoy Inks with MS College: Former East Central Community College soccer standout Jared Canoy (seated left) of Biloxi is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue his career in 2013-14 at Mississippi College in Clinton. He is pictured with War-rrior head coach Kenneth Thompson. Canoy, a keeper, is a two-time MACJC All-State selection and helped lead EC to share of the 2012 MACJC North Division title with a 5-2-1 record. The Soccer Warriors finished 10-6-3 overall. Canoy started 35 of 36 matches and posted six shutouts during his two-year career. He is a product of West Har-ison High School.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Diamond Warrior Gonzalez Continuing Career: Continuing his career on the university level is East Central Community College standout pitcher Fernando Gonzalez (center) who is shown signing a national letter of intent with the University of West Alabama in Livingston. The right-hander from Puerto Rico is 8-3 on the mound prior to post-season play and has two saves. He has posted a 3.88 earned run average. Gonzalez is with Diamond Warrior assistant Justin Brewer (left) and head coach Neal Holli-man.



Find the Tom-Toms!

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* The first person to complete the form correctly and return it to the Student Publications office in the lower level of Huff Auditorium and present his or her valid ECCC ID will claim a \$25 prize.

NOTICE!

Safety Memo: Natural Gas Safety

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

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

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

Damage Prevention

Although safe, tested, and regulated, the system's most common hazard is from 3rd party damage from excavation. Before any excavations are done, contact Dig Safety - Mississippi One-Call System, Inc. 1-800-227-6477 or 811 and call East Central Community College at 601-635-6266. Always call before you dig. It's as easy as dialing 8.1.1, and it's the law!

Detecting A Natural Gas Leak

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

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

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

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

Natural Gas Safety Tips:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Warrior Athletics

Diamond Warriors Sweep Hinds; Will Host Playoff Series

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College's baseball squad needed just one win over Hinds Community College Friday, April 26 to clinch second place in the MACJC South Division and qualify as a designated host for a best-of-three series to begin post-season play.

The Diamond Warriors took care of business early by holding on for a 9-7 win in the opener and continued their success in the nightcap with a 7-4 decision to complete a memorable Sophomore Recognition Day.

EC, which finished the regular season at 26-19 overall and 17-7 in league play, will host North No. 3 seed Mississippi Delta Community College in a best-of-three series scheduled Friday-Saturday, May 3-4, at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex. Game times are 4 p.m. Friday and 1 p.m. Saturday. A game three, if necessary, will be held later Saturday afternoon.

The Trojans, 24-18 overall and 14-10 in league play, are led by former Diamond Warrior assistant Michael Avalon.

The series champion advances to the MACJC State Baseball Tournament scheduled May 9-11. The highest South Division seed remaining following the best-of-three series will serve as tournament host.

In the opener with Hinds, Chase Domino's three-run double in the sixth inning provided EC with the winning margin. Domino is a product of Fairhope (Ala.) High School.

Tim Anderson, Maxwell Harmon and Ryan Shotts also had success at the plate. Anderson belted two doubles, drove in a run and scored; Harmon contributed two singles and scored twice; and Shotts slapped a two-run single and scored twice. Anderson hails from Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa; Harmon is a product of Enterprise High School; and Shotts is a former standout at Louisville High School.

Also scoring runs were Kalik May (2) of Tuscaloosa County, John Morgan Berry of Madison Central and Terrance Steele of Neshoba Central.

Starter Fernando Gonzalez picked up the win. The right-hander from Puerto Rico went 6 1/3 innings and allowed seven earned runs on seven hits. He fanned five batters and walked two.

Right-hander Jordan Mixon hurled 2/3 innings in relief and allowed one hit. Mixon is a product of East Webster High School.

In the second contest, Dominican Republic native Rubert Alcantara gave EC the lead for good at 4-3 with his RBI double in the sixth inning.

Anderson blasted a solo homer and Newton County High School product Xavier Franklin also produced a run with his

RBI double.

Other hitters were Domino, two singles; and Berry and Harmon, singles each.

In addition to Anderson, others scoring runs were Shotts, Kalik May, Alcantara, Franklin, Deion Ulmer of Laurel and Zach May of Newton County.

Right-hander Mitchell Wooten picked up the win in relief. Wooten hurled a scoreless 1 2/3 innings and fanned three batters. He also gave up two walks. Wooten is a product of Edinburg High School. Starter Blake Dubuisson went 3 1/3 innings and allowed two earned runs on six hits. He fanned five batters and walked one. Dubuisson is a product of Long Beach High School. Southpaw Brady McBride of Northeast Jones and right-hander Ty Hendrix of East Webster each hurled an inning in relief. McBride pitched a scoreless inning and fanned two batters. Hendrix allowed one run on one hit. He fanned a batter and walked one.

Hinds finished the season at 18-25 and 8-16.

Diamond Warriors/Gulf Coast Split Twin Bill

After holding on for a 5-2 decision in the opener, the playoff-bound East Central Community College baseball team was unable to complete a doubleheader sweep of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College and fell 1-0 in the nightcap of a key MACJC matchup held Tuesday, April 23 on the Perkinston campus.

The Diamond Warriors, 24-19 overall and 15-7 in league play, remain in second place in the South Division while Gulf Coast is fourth at 10-12 and 23-19 overall. Pearl River leads the division at 17-5 (34-10 overall) and Jones County is third at 15-9 (27-15) overall. The top four teams in the MACJC South and North divisions qualify for post-season play.

In the first contest with Gulf Coast, Newton County High School product Xavier Franklin led EC's offense with a three-run homer in the third inning. Chase Domino of Fairhope (Ala.) High School doubled and singled and knocked in a run, and Dominican Republic native Rubert Alcantara contributed an RBI single. Tim Anderson of Hillcrest (Ala.) High School and Kalik May of Tuscaloosa County had singles each.

Runs were scored by Kalik May, Anderson, Alcantara, Franklin and Zach May of Newton County.

Starter Caleb McKee picked up the win. The southpaw from Neshoba Central allowed two earned runs on five hits through 5 2/3 innings. He also fanned four batters and walked three. Right-hander Jordan Mixon was credited with the save. He hurled a scoreless inning and struck out one batter. Mixon is a product of East Webster High School.

EXTRAORDINARY ATHLETES

International Diamond Warriors Share Differences in Culture

BY EMILY MARLER
Staff Writer

The East Central Community College baseball team has two extraordinary players. These two athletes travel thousands of miles just to be a part



EMILY MARLER
Staff Writer

of the Warrior Nation. Fernando Gonzalez of Guaynabo, Puerto Rico and Rubert Alcantara of Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic have been members of the ECCC baseball team for two years.

The past two years have caused the players to make major adjustments in their lives, they said. The question is why did these two decide to attend East Central? Both players agreed the major factor was the opportunity to play

baseball.

Alcantara said, "He also felt East Central was a good place for him to grow as a person." When asked what was the biggest adjustment he had to make when he came to East Central Gonzalez said, "The biggest adjustment was not being around my family and friends every day."

Rubert Alcantara said he believes his biggest adjustment was understanding a new culture and learning a different language. So the question was raised what is the biggest difference between Decatur and their hometowns? Both guys agreed that their hometowns are much bigger and more active than Decatur. So exactly how far away is their hometown?

Alcantara said, "My home is 1,581 miles away. It takes about five hours to get there by airplane." Gonzalez said, "It is 1,722.90 miles to be exact." Obviously, it would be hard to go to school that far from home. When asked what the most difficult part of going to school so far away Gonzalez said, "It would be the fact that you can't fall back on them if I am going through a hard time. It is pretty tough to miss your siblings', par-



ALCANTARA

ents' and friends' birthdays and life achievements." Alcantara suggests that it is the different culture and new language. Obviously, it is expensive for these two players to go home; so



GONAZALEZ

how often do they see their families?

Alcantara said he only sees his family twice a year, and Gonzalez said he sees his family at Christmas and whenever they come to see a few of his



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Domino Congratulated Following Homer: Chase Domino (6) is greeted at home plate by his East Central Community College teammates following his three-run homer in the fourth inning that helped propel the Diamond Warriors to a 6-2 win over Jones County Junior College in the first of two matchups April 9. Domino is a product of Fairhope (Ala.) High School. EC dropped a 21-3 decision to the Bobcats in the nightcap.

In the nightcap, right-hander Severino Signa of Stoneville was superb on the mound but the EC offense was unable to produce runs in the 1-0 shutout.

Signa fanned four batters and allowed six hits in the six-inning battle. He is a product of Deer Creek High School.

Hitters for EC were Anderson, double and single; and Kalik May, Caleb Woods of Leake Central and Maxwell Harmon of Enterprise, singles each.

Gulf Coast's lone run came on a third-inning home run by Kyle Clement.

Diamond Warriors Sweep Co-Lin in Key Division Battle

ECCC's baseball squad posted a pair of victories over Copiah-Lincoln Community College in a key MACJC South Division matchup held Saturday, April 20 at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex.

The Diamond Warriors won the opener by a 6-1 margin and cruised 12-2 in the nightcap to improve to 23-18 overall and 14-6 in league play.

EC is second in league play behind Pearl River whose division mark stands at 15-5. The Wildcats are 32-10 overall. Jones County is third (15-7) followed by Gulf Coast (9-11), Hinds (6-14) and Co-Lin (5-17). The top four teams qualify for post-season competition, which gets under way May 3-4.

In the Diamond Warriors' first win over Co-Lin, Anderson belted a solo home run, John Morgan Berry and Ryan Shotts slapped RBI doubles each, and Terrance Steele doubled to lead the offense.

Berry, who hails from Madison Central High School, also

contributed a single. Shotts and Steele are products of Louisville and Neshoba Central high schools, respectively.

Also producing runs were Alcantara, Caleb Woods of Leake Central and Kalik May, each with an RBI single. Newton County High School product Xavier Franklin also singled.

Runs were scored by Berry (2), Shotts, Kalik May, Anderson, Steele, Zach May and Kyle Henson of Starkville Academy.

Starter Fernando Gonzalez picked up the win. The right-hander from Puerto Rico allowed one earned run on four hits through 5 1/3 innings. He also fanned five batters and walked three. Right-hander Deion Ulmer was credited with the save. He hurled 1 2/3 scoreless innings and fanned a batter. Ulmer is a product of Laurel High School.

In the five-inning second contest, Chase Domino of Fairhope (Ala.) High School was the top run producer with his three-run blast.

Several players recorded multiple hits, including Anderson, triple and single; and Kalik May and Shotts, two singles each. All three also knocked in a run each.

Other hitters were Alcantara, RBI double; and Franklin, Berry and McKee, singles each.

Runs were scored by Shotts (2), Kalik May (2), Anderson (2), Domino, Alcantara, Steele, Franklin, Ulmer and Zach May.

Starter Blake Dubuisson got the win, as the right-hander from Long Beach allowed two earned runs on three hits through four innings. He fanned a batter and walked two. Right-hander Ty Hendrix hurled the final inning in relief. He fanned

a batter and walked one. Hendrix is a product of East Webster High School.

ECCC, Itawamba Split Baseball Twin Bill

ECCC's Diamond Warriors took a break from MACJC South Division action by taking on Itawamba Community College April 17 on the Fulton campus.

Kalik May belted a home run to help lead EC to a 4-2 victory in the opener, but the host Indians rallied for a 6-2 decision in the nightcap.

In addition to May, who hails from Tuscaloosa County High School, other hitters were Berry, single and two RBIs; and Domino and Steele, singles each. Alcantara and Franklin were credited with an RBI each.

Runs were scored by Kalik May (2), Shotts and Zach May.

Starter McKee hurled six innings and allowed two earned runs on four hits. He also fanned three batters and walked four. Mixon pitched the final inning and allowed two hits.

In the second contest, Anderson belted triples in the fourth and six innings, and Franklin contributed a single. He and Franklin also scored.

Starter Severino Signa took the loss. The right-hander allowed six earned runs on seven hits through 1 1/3 innings. He also fanned two batters and walked one. Signa is a product of Deer Creek High School.

EC Diamond Warriors Split Twin Bill at Southwest

After dropping a 3-2 extra-inning decision in the opener, East Central Community College's baseball squad rallied for a 14-2 victory in the nightcap

of a doubleheader with division foe Southwest Mississippi Community College April 13 on the Summit campus.

EC, 20-17 overall and 12-6 in the MACJC South Division, rallied from a 2-0 deficit by scoring two runs in the seventh inning following an RBI single by Harmon and a sacrifice fly from Caleb Woods of Leake Central.

The score remained deadlocked at 2-2 until the host Bears scored the winning run on an EC error in the tenth inning.

Harmon, Anderson and Kalik May had two singles each to lead EC's offense in the opener. Domino contributed a single.

Signa took the loss in relief. Signa walked three batters and fanned one in two innings of work.

In the second contest, EC's bats came alive as the Diamond Warriors cruised to the easy victory.

Anderson's three-run homer in the first inning set the tone for the scoring onslaught. Anderson also doubled and slapped two singles for a perfect 4-for-4 outing at the plate. He finished with five RBIs and scored four runs.

Other sluggers were Franklin, two singles; Alcantara, double and four RBIs; Domino, double and two RBIs; and Shotts, Harmon and Ulmer, singles each.

Also scoring runs were Shotts (3), Zach May (2), Kalik May, Alcantara, Harmon, Ulmer and Steele.

Starter Gonzalez picked up the win. He allowed one earned run on one hit through three innings. He also fanned a batter and walked two.

games in the spring. Since Alcantara and Gonzalez spend a lot of time at EC, they shared with *The Tom-Tom* what is their favorite thing about EC.

Alcantara said, "My favorite thing about EC is all the people you meet in school. Everyone is willing to help you, especially my baseball teammates." Gonzalez also believes his favorite thing is the opportunity to spend time with his teammates and of course playing baseball.

What are these two planning on doing after East Central? Gonzalez claims, "I want to keep playing baseball until my abilities are not good enough and then probably go into coaching to stay around the game."

Alcantara states, "My plans after EC are to finish up my career and continue my baseball career. I hope to play professional baseball in the future."

Editor's Note: This is only a small glimpse into these two athletes' lives; the Warrior Nation appreciates your commitment to this school and the baseball team. Good luck with the rest of your season!

Warrior Athletics

EC/PRC Softball Squads Split Twin Bill; Prepare for State Tourney

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College's playoff-bound softball squad split a doubleheader with Pearl River Community College in the regular season finale held Saturday, April 27 on the Poplarville campus.

The Lady Diamond Warriors fell 6-1 in the opener but rallied for a 5-1 decision in the second contest to complete the regular season at 30-14 overall and 14-10 in the MACJC South Division. EC is led by first-year head coach Kristin Chaney and assistant Courtney Nunn. The Lady Wildcats, also play-off bound, are 24-20 and 13-11.

Next up for East Central is the MACJC State Softball Tournament, scheduled May 2-3 and hosted by South Division champion Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in Perkinston. EC, the South No. 3 seed, will battle North No. 2 seed East Mississippi Community College at 4 p.m. Thursday, May 2 in first-round action of the single elimination event. Semifinals are set for noon and 2 p.m. followed by the championship game at 5 p.m. Friday, May 3.

In the first game with Pearl River, Lindsey Beard of Clarkdale led the EC offense with an RBI single. Singles each were contributed by Ty Buckley, Dakota Vowell and Marlee Massey, all of Neshoba Central; Amber McBroom of Brandon; Kaylin Hopkins of Louisville; and Casey Cherry of Union. Haley Stephens scored EC's lone run.

Tenna Patterson took the loss, allowing two earned runs on seven hits through six innings. She fanned a batter and walked one. Patterson is a product of Lexington (Ala.) High School.

In the second game, EC's offense came alive with McBroom leading the attack with two singles and four RBIs.

Also having productive outings at the plate were LaJoya Griffin of Philadelphia and Buckley, double and single each; Vowell and Beard, two singles each; AJ Peeler of Neshoba Central, RBI double; and Massey and Morgan Porter of Enterprise, singles each.

Scoring runs were Griffin (3), Massey and Laken Fulcher of Nanih Waiya.

Mary Sanders picked up the win, allowing one earned run on four hits. She fanned three batters and walked two. Sanders is a product of Adams County Christian School in Natchez.

LADY WARRIORS SWEEP BY JCJC, HEAD TO STATE TOURNEY

The playoff-bound ECCC fast-pitch softball squad dropped its home finale with Jones County Junior College April 23.

EC fell 6-0 in the opener and 10-1 in the second contest.

Sophomores Sanders, Griffin, Vowell, Massey, Peeler, and Patterson were honored during pre-game activities.

East Central earlier clinched a spot in the MACJC State Softball Tournament scheduled May 2-4 and hosted by South Division winner Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in Perkinston.

In the first contest with Jones County, EC managed just one hit – a double by Griffin in the first inning.

Patterson took the loss on the mound, allowing six earned runs on 10 hits in the seven-inning battle. She also walked five batters.

In the second battle, Ty Buckley slapped two singles Griffin tripled and Kristen Chipley belted an RBI double to lead the EC offense. Buckley is a product of Neshoba Central High School and Chipley hails from Leake Academy.

Other hitters were Haley Stephens of Union and Vowell, singles each.

Morgan Porter of Enterprise scored EC's lone run.

Sanders took the loss on the mound, allowing nine earned runs on 13 hits through the five-inning matchup. She also walked three batters.

EC SOFTBALL SQUAD SPLITS DOUBLEHEADER WITH PRC

Two of the top softball squads in the MACJC South Division battled April 15 on the East Central Community College campus and the result was a victory for each team.

Pearl River Community College rallied for an 8-6 decision in the opener and EC's Lady Diamond Warriors took care of business in the second contest with a 5-0 shutout.

EC's record now stands at 27-11 overall and 11-7 in league play, while the Lady Wildcats are 21-15 and 10-8.

In the first contest, Amber McBroom of Brandon gave the Lady Warriors a 2-0 first-inning advantage following her two-run blast, but PRC took control in a six-run fourth inning highlighted by Kaci Lantrip's grand slam.

McBroom added a run-scoring



Sophomore Lady Diamond Warriors Recognized: These members of the East Central Community College Lady Diamond Warrior softball team were recognized during "Sophomore Appreciation Day," held prior to their home finale against Jones County Junior College on April 23. Pictured with family members are (from left) Katherine Upchurch, Eden McGee and A.J. Peeler, all of Neshoba Central; Tenna Patterson of Lexington (Ala.) High School, Marlee Massey and Dakota Vowell, both of Neshoba Central; LaJoya Griffin of Philadelphia and Mary Sanders of Vidalia, La. and a product of Adams County Christian School. ECCC fell 6-0 and 10-1 to the visiting Lady Bobcats. The Lady Warriors are led by head coach Kristin Chaney and assistant Courtney Nunn.

single in the fifth inning and finished with three RBIs.

Other hitters were Vowell, two singles and two RBIs; Lindsey Beard of Clarkdale, single and RBI; Buckley, two singles; and Griffin, A.J. Peeler of Neshoba Central and Stephens, singles each.

Runs were scored by Peeler (2), Griffin, Buckley, McBroom and Kaylin Hopkins of Louisville.

Tenna Patterson took the loss in the seven-inning contest. She allowed eight earned runs on 10 hits. She also fanned two batters and walked three. Patterson is a product of Lexington (Ala.) High School.

The second contest was all EC, as Morgan Porter led the offense with a triple, single and three RBIs and hurler Sanders kept the Lady Wildcats off the scoreboard in the seven-inning contest.

Porter, a product of Enterprise High School, also scored a run. Sanders allowed six hits and fanned a batter.

Other sluggers were Buckley, two singles; Stephens, single and RBI; and Peeler, McBroom and Massey, singles each. Beard was credited with an RBI.

Runs were scored by Peeler, Buckley, McBroom, Porter and Laken Fulcher of Nanih Waiya.

EC/GULF COAST SOFTBALL SQUADS SPLIT DECISIONS

East Central Community College's softball squad split decisions with division leader Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College April 13.

The Lady Diamond Warriors were outscored 10-2 in the opener but rallied for a 7-3 decision in the second contest.

EC's record now stands at 26-10 overall and 10-6 in league play. Gulf Coast is 26-7 and 15-3.

Buckley led East Central in the opener, as she drove in both runs with her two-run homer in the fifth inning.

Other hitters were Griffin, double and single; and Stephens and Beard, two singles each. Griffin also scored.

Sanders took the loss in relief. She allowed four earned runs on five hits through 2 1/3 innings. Starter Patterson went 2 1/3 innings and allowed six earned runs on six hits.

In the second contest, Buckley again led the offense with a three-run homer in the first inning. Chipley doubled, singled and knocked in a run, and Beard was credited with a two-run double.

Other hitters were Griffin and Morgan Porter of Enterprise, singles each.

prise, singles each.

Scoring runs in addition to Buckley were Griffin, Peeler, Stephens, Beard, Hopkins and Fulcher.

Patterson went the distance in picking up the win. She allowed two earned runs on five hits during the seven-inning battle. She also fanned two batters and walked two.

EC SOFTBALL SQUAD TAKES TWIN BILL FROM HINDS

After battling 11 innings for a 7-5 victory in the opener, East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team needed just five innings to dispose of Hinds Community College in the second contest, as the Lady Diamond Warriors rolled to a 12-2 decision in doubleheader action April 9 on the Raymond campus.

With the sweep, EC improved to 25-9 overall and 9-5 in the MACJC South Division under first-year head coach Kristin Chaney and assistant Courtney Nunn. The squad is currently third in the division standings behind Gulf Coast (14-2) and Jones County (10-4).

Buckley homered and Amber Broom of Brandon doubled, singled and knocked in a run to lead the EC offense in the opener.

Other hitters were Morgan Porter of Enterprise and Chipley, each with an RBI double; Vowell, RBI single; and Griffin and Stephens, singles each.

Runs were scored by Buckley (3), McBroom, Beard, Massey and Casey Cherry of Union.

Patterson went the distance to record the victory. She allowed two earned runs on six hits and fanned three batters. She also walked eight batters.

In the second contest, Hinds grabbed an early 2-0 lead but the Lady Diamond Warriors rallied for six runs in the third and coasted to the easy victory.

Buckley belted a three-run triple and McBroom slapped a double and two singles and collected three RBIs to lead the offense.

Also having productive outings at the plate were Griffin, triple, single and three RBIs; Peeler, two singles and three RBIs; Beard, double and single; Vowell, two singles; and Stephens, single.

Runs were scored by Beard (3), Peeler (2), Griffin (2), Hopkins (2), and Buckley, Massey and Fulcher.

Sanders went the distance to post the victory. She allowed two earned runs on five hits, fanned a batter and walked one.

EXTRAORDINARY COACH

Nunn Donates Hair to Locks of Love

BY JESSICA BARNETT
Staff Writer

Courtney Nunn recently joined East Central Community College this school year as the assistant softball coach and as the dorm supervisor of the Leake Apartments. Nunn, originally from Jonesboro, La., has adjusted very well into the EC family. She decided to come to EC because of its reputation for achievement as well as the opportunity to learn from an experienced coach. Nunn said that she felt like she had something to offer here.

One of the biggest adjustments for Nunn she said was actually having to be a "big kid." She said, "It was weird to be called "Coach Nunn. It took me a while to catch on that they were talking to me when they would say that!"

The one improvement that Nunn says needs attention for the students is more campus activities. Nunn said, "The students need way more campus activities than just the ones they have during the few weeks out of the year."



JESSICA BARNETT
Staff Writer

One of Nunn's memorable moments was when one of her softball players found a kitten on the side of the road and wanted her to keep it. Nunn couldn't tell her no, and so she kept it. She was told it was a girl so she went with it for a few weeks until Nunn's mother informed her that the kitten was a boy. Nunn said, "I couldn't call her princess anymore!"

Last month, Coach Nunn did something very selfless. She got 10 inches cut off of her hair to give to Locks of Love. Nunn said it was incredibly hard for her to cut it all off because she has always had long hair. It wasn't just for her that she kept it long, but also for her mother because she loved to see her long pony tail especially while she was pitching!

Nunn said, "I felt like it was time for me to make a change because I have a big girl job now. I wasn't expecting anything too drastic, but when I got there I told them I was considering donating. So they started measuring and showing me how long it would be and then one of the ladies said "just think about the little girl who would be getting a wig from your beautiful hair."

By that time, the tears started flowing and I couldn't deny that. So, I cut 10 inches and sent it off to Locks of Love. I am so happy and proud of myself for doing that! It has been one of the best decisions that I've ever made."



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Warrior Athletics

Pace Named to MS Community College Sports Hall of Fame

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Sammy Pace experienced a stellar coaching career at East Central Community College in Decatur, where he led the women's basketball program from 1985 to 2001, compiling an 279-157 overall mark and 14 winning seasons.

Highlights of his 16-year career include an NJCAA Consolation Bracket title, two Region 23 Tournament crowns and several MACJC South Division and South State Tournament championships.

In recognition of his success, Pace was recently selected by the ECCC Alumni Association Officers and Board of Directors for inclusion in the 2013 Mississippi Community College Sports Hall of Fame.

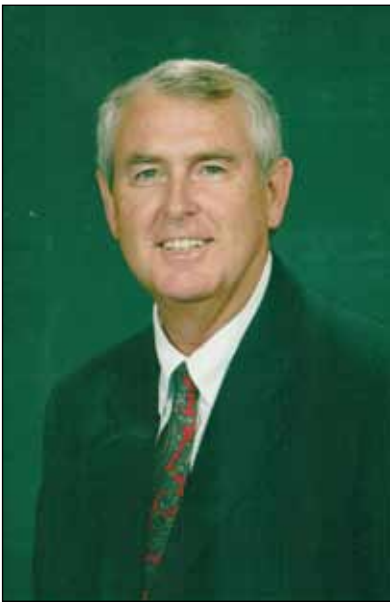
He was honored along with other outstanding community college coaches and athletes at the annual ceremony April 23 at the Muse Center located on the Rankin County campus of Hinds Community College. Activities began with registration at 6 p.m. followed by a dinner program at 6:30 p.m.

Pace's 1993-94 Lady Warriors captured his first regional championship and the same squad found success in the NJCAA National Women's Basketball Tournament by winning the Consolation Bracket. The talent-laden team finished 28-7 and was

ranked seventh in the final NJCAA poll. He completed his career at EC in 2000-01 with a second Region 23 title. The Lady Warriors advanced to the NJCAA Tournament "Sweet Sixteen" en route to a 22-7 mark.

In addition to the two Region 23 Tournament championships, Pace's squads claimed four runner-up finishes in the team's nine tournament appearances.

His Lady Warriors also captured three MACJC South Division titles (1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90) and two MACJC South State Tournament crowns (1994-95, 1995-1996).



PACE

Pace received several coaching honors throughout his career, including NJCAA Region 23 Women's Basketball Coach of the Year (1993-94), MACJC Women's Basketball Coach of the Year (1993-94) and NJCAA Women's Basketball Coach of the Year (2000-01).

He was inducted into the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame in 2001.

Pace was also a successful coach on the high school level and guided his Scott Central girls' basketball team to the 1979 state championship. He also coached teams at Hickory, Sebastopol and Sumrall, amassing an overall 134-47 record.

He is also a retired member of the Mississippi Army National Guard.

The Scott County native was a stand-out basketball player at Lake High School and continued his success on the hardwood at then East Central Junior College, where he received an associate's degree in 1969. He also holds a bachelor's degree in sociology and completed a master's degree in education administration and community college education, both from Mississippi State University.

He is married to the former Virginia Barrett of Forest. They have two grown children, Mrs. Lance (Amy) Pittman and Mrs. Shawn (Jennifer) Patridge, both of Moselle; and four grandchildren.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Pace Joins JUCO Sports Hall of Fame: Former East Central Community College women's basketball coach Sammy Pace (right) was inducted into the Mississippi Community College Sports Hall of Fame during the seventh annual ceremony held April 23, 2013, at the Muse Center on the Rankin County campus of Hinds Community College. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart is shown congratulating Coach Pace, who was among the 15 former community and junior college coaches and/or athletes selected for the prestigious honor.

EC Golfers Finish Third in Region 23 Tourney

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Sophomore Shelby Patterson of Forest posted rounds of 74 and 78 for a 152 total and led East Central Community College to a third-place finish in the NJCAA Region 23, Division II Championship held April 22-23 at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club in Choctaw.

Patterson was among five golfers who received All-Region 23 honors and qualified for the NJCAA Division II National Championship scheduled May 21-24 at the Goose Pond Colony Golf Club in Scottsboro, Ala.

The Warrior golf team carded a 634 (312-322) in the 36-hole competition, won by Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College's 615 (311-304) total. Copiah-Lincoln finished second at 631 (324-307); Northwest was fourth at 637 (329-308); and East Mississippi placed fifth at 639 (323-316).

Corbin May of Copiah-Lincoln Community College won medalist honors with a four-under par 140 (73-67) and joins Branning Dykes (149) of Jones County, Jake Pritchard (151) of Gulf Coast; Miles Respass (152) of East Mississippi and Patterson on the All-Region 23 Team and a berth in the national competition.

In addition to Patterson, other EC golfers and their respective scores include Newton County High School product Lee McDill, 155 (74-81);

Sawyer Williams of Parkers Chapel in Eldorado, Ark., 165 (83-82); Taylor York of Choctaw Central, 166 (85-81); and Aaron Tucker of Leake Central, 167 (81-86).

EC GOLFERS FINISH SIXTH IN STATE TOURNEY

East Central Community College's golf team finished sixth in the 2013 MACJC State Championship held April 14-15 at Dixie Golf Club in Laurel.

The Warrior linksters recorded rounds of 315 and 304 for a 619 total in the 36-hole competition, won by Copiah-Lincoln which posted a 588 (296-292).

East Mississippi finished second at 592 (294-298), followed by Northwest MS, 594 (299-295); MS Gulf Coast, 599 (298-301); Hinds, 616 (314-302); EC; host Jones County, 624 (315-309); Itawamba, 631 (315-316); Northeast MS, 635 (321-314); and Holmes, 655 (329-326).

Aaron Tucker led EC with rounds of 80 and 72 for a 152 total and finished tied for 14th. Tucker is a product of Leake Central High School.

Other Warrior scorers were Taylor York of Choctaw Central, 155 (81-74); Sawyer Williams of Parkers Chapel in Eldorado, Ark., 156 (76-80); Lee McDill of Newton County High School, 158 (79-79); and Shelby Patterson of Forest, 159 (80-79).



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

EC Golfer Patterson Makes All-Region, Qualifies for Nationals: East Central Community College golfer Shelby Patterson (left) of Forest received All-Region 23 honors and qualified for the NJCAA Division II National Championship following competition in the NJCAA Region 23, Division II Tournament held April 22-23 on the Azaleas course at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club in Choctaw. Patterson recorded rounds of 74 and 78 for a 152 total and finished tied for fourth in the individual competition. The Warrior golf team placed third with a 634 (312-322) total in the 36-hole contest, won by Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College's 615 (311-304). At right is Chris Clark, golf coach at East Central, which served as tournament host. The national tournament is scheduled May 21-24 at the Goose Pond Colony Golf Club in Scottsboro, Ala.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Former EC Soccer Standout Joins Belhaven Squad: After a stellar two-year career as a member of the East Central Community College men's soccer team, sophomore forward McGee Ledbetter of Columbus is taking his talents to 2012 NAIA National Champion Belhaven University Blazers in Jackson. Ledbetter is shown signing a letter of intent as his parents Darlene and John Ledbetter (standing) and Belhaven soccer coach Brian McMahon look on. Ledbetter capped off an outstanding career by being named Region 23 Player of the Year and was the Region 23 leading scorer with 14 goals and one assist for 29 points. During his freshman campaign, Ledbetter scored seven goals and had two assists. Ledbetter helped lead EC to a share of the MACJC North Division title. Kenneth Thompson serves as Warrior soccer coach. Ledbetter was also a standout at Heritage Academy in Columbus, where he earned MAIS All-Star honors following his senior season in 2011.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Miranda Inks ECCC Tennis Scholarship: Morton High School tennis standout Juan Miranda, Jr. (seated center) is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue his career in 2013-14 at East Central Community College. Pictured with the new Warrior are (seated) his parents, Juan Miranda, Sr. and Esther Miranda; and (standing from left) ECCC tennis coach Dianne O'Neill; Morton tennis coach Matt Wade; and ECCC tennis coach Kyle Watson.

Warrior Athletics

Warrior Football Signees Announced

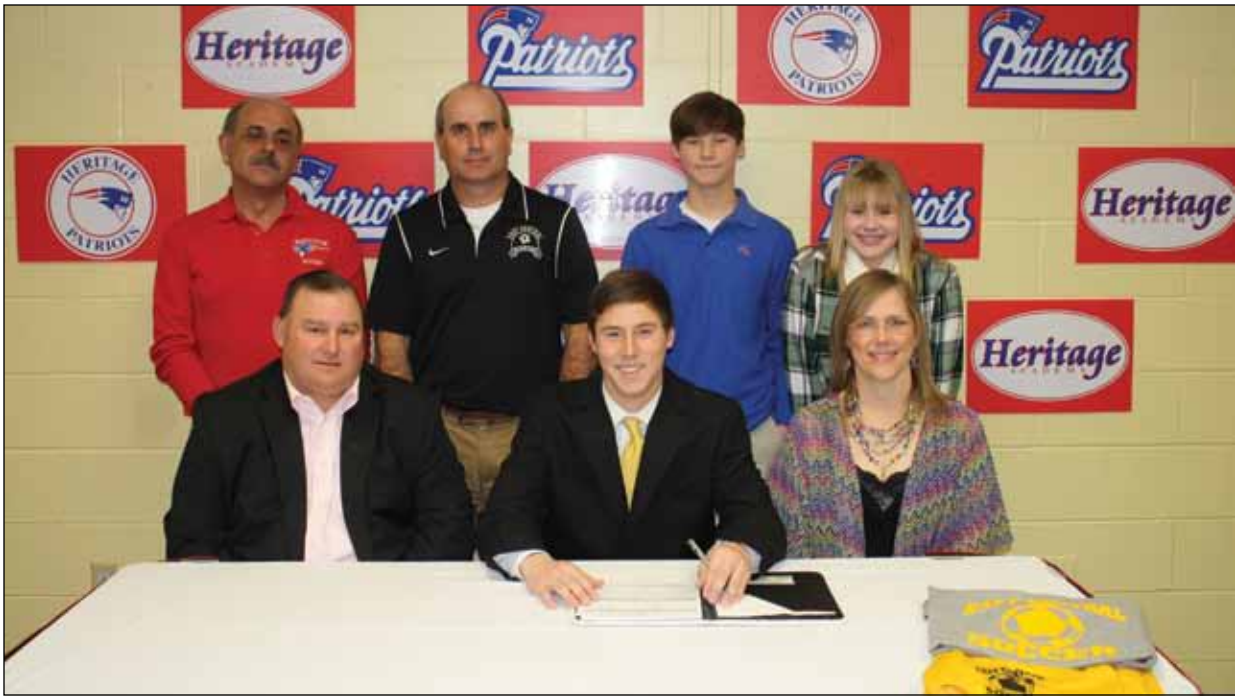
SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Recently named East Central Community College head football coach Ken Karcher recently announced signees for the 2013 campaign. Warrior team members and their respective high schools include the following:

- ▶ Andy Morris (OL, 6-2, 250), Amite School Center, Liberty;
- ▶ Virzil Tillman (RB, 6', 190), Josh Brown (DE, 6-1, 215), Daryl Rogers (DT, 6-1, 220) and Matthew Moore (TE, 6-2, 215), all of Laurel High School;
- ▶ Demetre McCleon (DL, 5-10, 250) and Brandon Davis (DL, 6-2, 225), both of Newton County High School;
- ▶ Chris Washington (WR,6-5, 205), Lake;
- ▶ John Parker (OL, 6-6, 300), Union;
- ▶ Anthony Triplett (CB, 5-9, 170), Philadelphia;
- ▶ Jimmie Saulsberry (WR,6-1, 180), Starkville;
- ▶ Edward Delee (OL, 6-5, 290), Centerville Academy, Clinton, La;
- ▶ Xavier Woodard (DL, 6', 335) and Isiah Williams (LB, 6-4, 215), both of Jim Hill;
- ▶ Sheppard Jones (DB, 6', 180), Lanier;
- ▶ Anthony McGee (DE, 6-2, 235) and Phakezian Walker (S,6-2, 190), both of Quitman;

- ▶ Brody Martin (OL,6-2, 230), Marshall Academy;
- ▶ Xavier Telford (DL, 6', 280), Northwest Rankin;
- ▶ Darrion Burnside (WR, 6-4, 190), K.D. Monroe (LB, 6-3, 225) and Thomas McCool (LB), all of Neshoba Central;
- ▶ Jimmy Cockrell (WR, 5-9, 165), Columbus;
- ▶ Quincy Cole (OL, 6-1, 260), Ackerman;
- ▶ Blake Gordon (S, 5-11, 190) and Ronald Dixon (TE, 6-1, 205), both of Northwest Rankin;
- ▶ Kentrell Mayfield (DE, 5-11, 250), Wayne County;
- ▶ Quanterris Newby (RB/LB, 5-10, 220), New Hope;
- ▶ Tyler Pace (TE, 6-2, 260), Newton;
- ▶ Branden Thomas (DE, 6-3, 275), Gulfport;
- ▶ Jeremy Pyles (DE, 6-5, 230), Oxford (Ala.) High School;
- ▶ Romario Cobb (DL, 6', 245) and Matthew Hicks (RB, 5-10, 205), both of Ocean Springs;
- ▶ Jacori Taylor (QB, 6-3, 225), Early County High School, Blakely, GA.;
- ▶ Andrey Collins (RB, 5-7, 165), Byhalia; and
- ▶ Desmond Grayson (WR, 6', 175), Meridian.

The Warriors begin the 2013 campaign by traveling to Itawamba Community College Thursday, August 29. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. on the Fulton campus.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
Sykes Receives ECCC Soccer Scholarship: Heritage Academy soccer standout Matt Sykes (seated center) is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue his career in 2013-14 at East Central Community College. Pictured with the new Warrior are (seated from left) his parents, Greg Sykes and Pam Sykes, and (standing from left) Heritage Academy soccer coach Joe Asadi, ECCC men's soccer coach Kenneth Thompson, and the signee's brother, Hunter Sykes, and sister, Sarah Katherine Sykes. Heritage Academy is located in Columbus.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
EC Announces Women's Basketball Signees: New members of the 2013-14 East Central Community College women's basketball team were recognized during a scholarship signing ceremony held Wednesday, April 10 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. Joining the Lady Warriors are Keoceania Yarborough, a 5-7 guard from Louisville High School; Andreka Harper, a 5-9 guard from Forest; Haley Watkins, a 5-7 guard from Scott Central; Shamiya Evans, a 5-9 guard from Lake; and Shaniqua Quinn, a 5-9 guard from Brandon. Also receiving scholarships but unable to attend the ceremony include Anna Katherine Nowell, a 5-7 point guard from Leake Academy, and Christen Benson, a 5-8 guard from Brookhaven. The Lady Warrior basketball program is led by head coach Crandal Porter and assistant coach Kotreece Bender.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
Southeast Lauderdale Soccer Standout Inks with ECCC: Southeast Lauderdale High School soccer standout Kennedy McReynolds (seated left) is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue her career in 2013-14 at East Central Community College. McReynolds, a midfielder, is a first-team All-District selection and also earned team most valuable and best offensive player awards. She has 13 years of soccer experience. The new Lady Warrior is shown with (seated at right) her father, Kevin McReynolds, and (standing from left) Kenneth Thompson, ECCC men's soccer coach; Miguel Mata, Southeast Lauderdale soccer assistant; Gray Massey, ECCC women's soccer coach; and Mike Thomas, Southeast Lauderdale head soccer coach.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
Smith Joins EC Soccer Squad: Florence High School soccer standout Dalton Smith (seated center) is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue his career in 2013-14 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Smith, a 5-11, 165-pound forward, led Florence in scoring this year with 11 goals and 12 assists and helped lead the Eagles to the North State Championship finals. Smith is also a long-time participant in the Florence Youth Soccer Organization. Pictured with the new Warrior are (seated) his parents, Donna Smith and Jim Smith; and (standing from left) former Florence soccer coach Gray Massey; ECCC men's soccer coach Kenneth Thompson; and Florence assistant soccer coach Josh Cavanaugh. Massey was recently selected ECCC women's soccer coach.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
Corinth Soccer Standouts Joins EC Squad: Corinth High School soccer standout Tesia Keith (seated right) recently signed a national letter of intent to continue her career in 2013-14 at East Central Community College. Keith, a 5-7 defender, received her team's most improved player award. She has 10 years of soccer experience. Pictured with the new Lady Warrior are (seated left) her mother, Edwina Taylor; and (standing from left) Kenneth Thompson, ECCC men's soccer coach; Gregg Parker, Corinth boys' soccer coach; Chris Coleman, Corinth High School Athletic Director; Trey Tomlinson, Corinth assistant girls' soccer coach; Cameron Glenn, Corinth girls' head soccer coach; and Gray Massey, ECCC women's soccer coach.

Reminder: Wear IDs at All Times!

Warrior Athletics

Warrior Tennis Players Participate in State Tourney

SPECIAL TO THE TOM TOM

Several East Central Community College tennis players participated in the MACJC State Tennis Tournament held April 18-20, 2013, at Rob Leake City Park in Tupelo and hosted by Itawamba Community College in Fulton.

WOMEN'S BRACKET

In first-round women's singles, Alana Turner of Florence blanked Haley Harrison of Holmes, 6-0, 6-0; and Nan Hartness of Winston Academy defeated Hanna Waldrip of Northwest, 6-2, 6-0. Kelsey Tadlock of Newton County High School fell to Brittany Buker of MS Gulf Coast (6-3, 7-5), Haley Chapman of Newton County High School fell to Kit Chowdhary of MS Gulf Coast (6-4, 6-4), Amber Pierce of Leake Academy fell to Aja White of Jones County (6-0, 6-3) and Hannah Smith of Leake Academy fell to Aliesla Barlow of MS Gulf Coast (6-1, 6-1).

In first-round women's doubles, Turner and Pierce defeated Elizabeth Mitchell and Allison Wiltsher of Northeast (6-2, 6-1), and Hartness and Smith clipped Haleigh Ash and Kasey Pulliam of Northwest (6-4, 6-0). Tadlock and Chapman fell to Buker and Chowdhary of Gulf Coast (5-7, 7-6 (7-4), 6-4).

Turner and Hartness advanced to the singles semifinals held Friday, April 19. Turner fell to Anna-Blair Hunt

of Itawamba (6-0, 6-0), and Hartness was defeated by Elizabeth Wright of Jones County (6-0, 6-1).

In the women's doubles semifinals, Turner and Pierce fell to Brenda Hegwood/Elizabeth Wright of Jones County (7-5, 6-5), and Hartness and Smith were defeated by Courtney Watts and Meredith Allen of Co-Lin (6-0, 6-0).

Host Itawamba won the championship with 33 points, followed by Jones County (26), Copiah-Lincoln (22), Gulf Coast (11), East Central (9), Hinds (2), Northwest (0) and Northeast (0).

MEN'S BRACKET

In first-round men's singles action on April 18, Brandon St. Clair of Newton County defeated Wesley Brandon of Northeast, 7-6 (7-3), 3-6, 6-3 for the Warriors' lone victory.

Blake Cochran of Newton County fell to Lucas Souza of Itawamba, 6-1, 6-1; Andrew Hanna of Newton County Academy was edged by Tanner Chamblee of Jones County, 6-3, 6-4; Chris Mays of Louisville fell to Matt Peugh of Itawamba, 6-0, 6-1; Hunter Mayo of Leake Academy fell to Mitchell Parkman of Holmes, 6-4, 2-6, 6-4; and Josh Peoples lost to Jordan Trice of Itawamba, 6-0, 6-1.

In first-round men's doubles competition, Cochran and Mays fell to Max Gunbin and Yevheniy Horbik of Hinds (6-1, 6-0); Hanna and Mayo fell to James Jackson and Ambrose Wilson

of Itawamba (6-3, 6-1); and St. Clair and Peoples fell to Caleb Ballard and Jamison Allred of Itawamba (6-0, 6-0).

St. Clair fell 6-3, 6-1 to Ambrose Wilson of Itawamba in the semi-finals held April 19.

Gulf Coast won the men's title with 32 points, followed by Itawamba (25), Hinds (14), Holmes (12), Jones (12), Co-Lin (9), East Central (2), Northeast (2) and Northwest (0).

EC TENNIS TEAMS SWEEP NORTHWEST IN SEASON FINALE

ECCC's tennis teams wrapped up season competition with victories over Northwest Mississippi Community College Monday, April 15.

The Warriors cruised 9-0 and the Lady Warriors posted a 6-3 victory.

In men's singles, Blake Cochran of Newton County High School defeated Chase Ferrell, 6-0, 6-0; Andrew Hanna of Newton County Academy beat Weldon Meng, 7-6 (7-5), 6-1; Brandon St. Clair blanked Seth Cook, 6-0, 6-0; Chris Mays of Louisville defeated Michael Moss, 6-1, 6-0; Hunter Mayo of Leake Academy blanked Miles Moore, 6-0, 6-0; and Josh Peoples of Leake Academy defeated Ike Dulin 6-0, 4-6 (10-2).

In men's doubles, Cochran and Mays beat Ferrell/Meng, 8-2; Hanna and Calvert defeated Cook/Moss, 8-2; and St. Clair and Peoples blanked Moore/Du-

lin, 8-0.

EC players posting wins in women's singles were Alana Turner of Florence, who defeated Adriana Ferretiz, 6-1, 6-0; Amber Pierce of Leake Academy, who beat Randi Robison, 6-1, 6-1; Nan Hartness of Winston Academy, who blanked Hannah Waldrip, 6-0, 6-0; and Hannah Smith of Leake Academy, who defeated Kathryn Hutto, 6-3, 7-6 (7-3). Kelsey Tadlock of Newton County fell 6-3, 6-1 to Ashley Roberson and Haley Chapman, also of Newton County, was defeated 7-5, 6-0 by Hannah Switzer.

In women's doubles, Turner and Pierce defeated Robison/Rachel Elkins, 8-1; and Hartness and Smith blanked Haleigh Ash/Kasey Pulliam, 8-0. Tadlock and Chapman were edged 8-6 by Sawyer Ewing/Switzer.

EC NETTERS FALL TO COPIAH-LINCOLN

ECCC's tennis squads dropped decisions to Copiah-Lincoln Community College April 12 on the Wesson campus.

The Warriors were edged 5-4 and the Lady Warriors were blanked 9-0.

Results from men's competition are as follows:

Singles – Blake Cochran (EC) of Newton County High School defeated Mark Ladd, 6-4, 6-0; Andrew Hanna (EC) of Newton County Academy defeated Josh Smith, 6-2, 6-1; Brandon St. Clair (EC) of Newton County

beat Troy Allred, 6-4, 6-3; Chris Mays (EC) of Louisville fell to Brance Crane, 6-2, 6-1; Hunter Mayo (EC) of Leake Academy fell to Gibson Britt, 6-0, 3-0 (retired) and Josh Peoples (EC) fell to Sawyer Hudson, 7-6 (7-3), 6-2.

Doubles – Cochran/Mays defeated Allred/Hudson, 8-6; Hanna/Mayo fell to Crane/Ladd, 8-3; and St. Clair/Peoples fell to Smith/Britt, 8-6.

Results from women's competition are as follows:

Singles – Kelsey Tadlock of Newton County fell to Melody Smith, 6-2, 6-4; Haley Chapman of Newton County fell to Abby Morris, 6-2,6-1; Alana Turner of Florence fell to Haley Wicker, 6-1, 6-3; Amber Pierce of Leake Academy fell to Courtney Watts, 6-2, 6-2; Nan Hartness of Winston Academy fell to Madison Rials, 6-2, 6-2; and Hannah Smith of Leake Academy fell to Meredith Allen, 6-3, 6-1.

Doubles – Tadlock/Chapman fell to Morris/Wicker, 8-0; Turner/Pierce fell to Smith/Rials, 8-4; and Hartness/Smith fell to Watts/Allen, 8-1.

EC TENNIS TEAMS FALL TO JONES COUNTY

ECCC's tennis squads dropped decisions to Jones County Junior College Tuesday, April 9.

The Warriors were edged 5-4 and the Lady Warriors were blanked 6-0.

In men's competition, results

were as follows:

Doubles – Newton County High School product Blake Cochran and Chris Mays of Louisville defeated Josh Lomas and Tanner Chamblee of Jones, 9-8 (10-8), and Andrew Hanna of Newton County Academy and Hunter Mayo of Leake Academy beat Ryan Young and Harrison Thomas of Jones, 8-4. Brandon St. Clair of Newton County and Josh Peoples of Leake Academy fell 8-6 to Bobcats Caleb Byrd and Jonathan Jones.

Singles – St. Clair defeated Young 6-2, 6-4; Mayo beat Luke Holston 7-5, 6-2; Cochran fell to Lomas, 6-3, 6-1; Hanna fell to Chamblee, 6-4, 6-4; Mays fell to Byrd, 6-0, 6-2; and Peoples fell to Daniel Sullivan, 6-2, 6-2.

In women's competition, results were as follows:

Doubles – Kelsey Tadlock and Haley Chapman, both of Newton County, lost to Alicia Domoney/Stephanie Smith, 8-1; Alana Turner of Florence and Amber Pierce of Leake Academy lost to Brenda Hegwood/Elizabeth Wright, 8-4; and Nan Hartness of Winston Academy and Hannah Smith of Leake Academy fell to Madison Walker/Carly Stuart, 8-4.

Singles – Tadlock fell to Domoney, 6-0, 6-1; Chapman fell to Smith, 6-1, 6-0; Turner fell to Hegwood, 6-2, 6-2; Pierce fell to Aja White, 6-0, 6-3; Hartness fell to Wright, 6-0, 6-1; and Smith fell to Brooke Martin, 6-0, 6-0.



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 Northwest Mississippi Community College on April 15. The Warriors and Lady Warriors both claimed victories in the home finale. Pictured are (from left) Newton County Academy product Andrew Hanna of Union, Kelsey Tadlock of Decatur and Blake Cochran of Hickory, both of Newton County High School; and Leake Academy products Josh Peoples and Hunter Mayo, both of Carthage. Not pictured are Chris Mays of Louisville and Neshoba Central graduate Lucas Calvert of Louisville. Dianne O’Neill serves as tennis coach.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Clinton Tennis Standout Joins EC Squad: Clinton High School tennis standout Hunter Tharp (seated center) is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue his career in 2013-14 at East Central Community College. The new Warrior is shown with (seated from left) his parents, Stephanie and Mike Jierski, and (standing from left) Clinton tennis coach David Duke and ECCC tennis coach Dianne O’Neill.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Ambrosier Signs with ECCC Soccer Team: Magee High School soccer standout Addie Ambrosier (seated center) is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue her career in 2013-14 at East Central Community College. Ambrosier, a defender, is a three-year recipient of most valuable and All-District honors. She also excels in academics and received a National Mathematics Award. Pictured with the new Lady Warrior are (seated from left) Nell Kennedy (grandmother) and Kim Ambrosier (mother); and (standing from left) Kenneth Thompson (ECCC men’s soccer coach), Stephen Ambrosier (signee’s brother), Mat Turner (Magee girls’ soccer coach and former ECCC soccer player), Gray Massey (new ECCC women’s soccer coach), David Godbey (signee’s brother) and Bo Huffman (Magee High School principal).



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Culberson Inks EC Soccer Scholarship: Brandon High School soccer standout Ashlan Culberson (seated center) is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue her career in 2013-14 at East Central Community College. Culberson, a forward, has 13 years of soccer experience and helped lead the Lady Bulldogs to the 2011-12 6-A State Championship. Pictured with the new Lady Warrior are (seated) her mother, Tammi Oster and stepfather, Crieg Oster; and (standing from left) ECCC men’s soccer coach Kenneth Thompson; Brandon soccer coaches Rebecca Hayman (assistant) and Celeste Bryant (head); and new ECCC women’s soccer coach Gray Massey.

Warrior Scene

Scenes from Spring Spree 2013





Hueys: Alumni of Year

Max and Carolyn Huey chosen alumni of the year. **PAGE 9**

The Tom-Tom

A Student Publication of East Central Community College

Volume 65, Number 1



Thames, Lucovich honored

Marcus Thames, Pete Lucovich named to Athletic Hall of Fame. **PAGE 18**

EC Homecoming Set for Oct. 12

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

A pep rally, fireworks display and Christian Band Concert are among activities scheduled during Homecoming Week at East Central Community College.

The free event begins at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 10 at Bailey Stadium and also includes performances by Wall O' Sound Marching Band, Centralettes dance line and Warrior Cheerleaders. In addition, members of the 2013 Homecoming Court will be introduced. The public is invited to attend the festivities.

A full day of activities is also scheduled Homecoming Day on Saturday, October 12, beginning with the Seventh Annual 5K Run/Walk and a new event – a Kid's One-Mile Fun Run – all starting at 7:30 a.m. at the North Campus Pavilion.

Cost to enter is \$20 per participant. ECCC faculty member Dr. Phillip Crenshaw serves as race

chairman. For registration information, contact Dr. Crenshaw, 601-635-6281 or e-mail pcrenshaw@eccc.edu.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. on the East Mall Patio near Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

Retired English instructor Ovid Vickers will be available during registration activities to sign copies of his recently-released book about the College: "The East Central I Knew: A History of East Central Community College." Cost of the book is \$26.70 (tax included). Net proceeds are designated for the ECCC Foundation.

Alumni may also want to visit the Memorabilia Room, which will be open from 9 to 11 a.m. and is located in Burton Library.

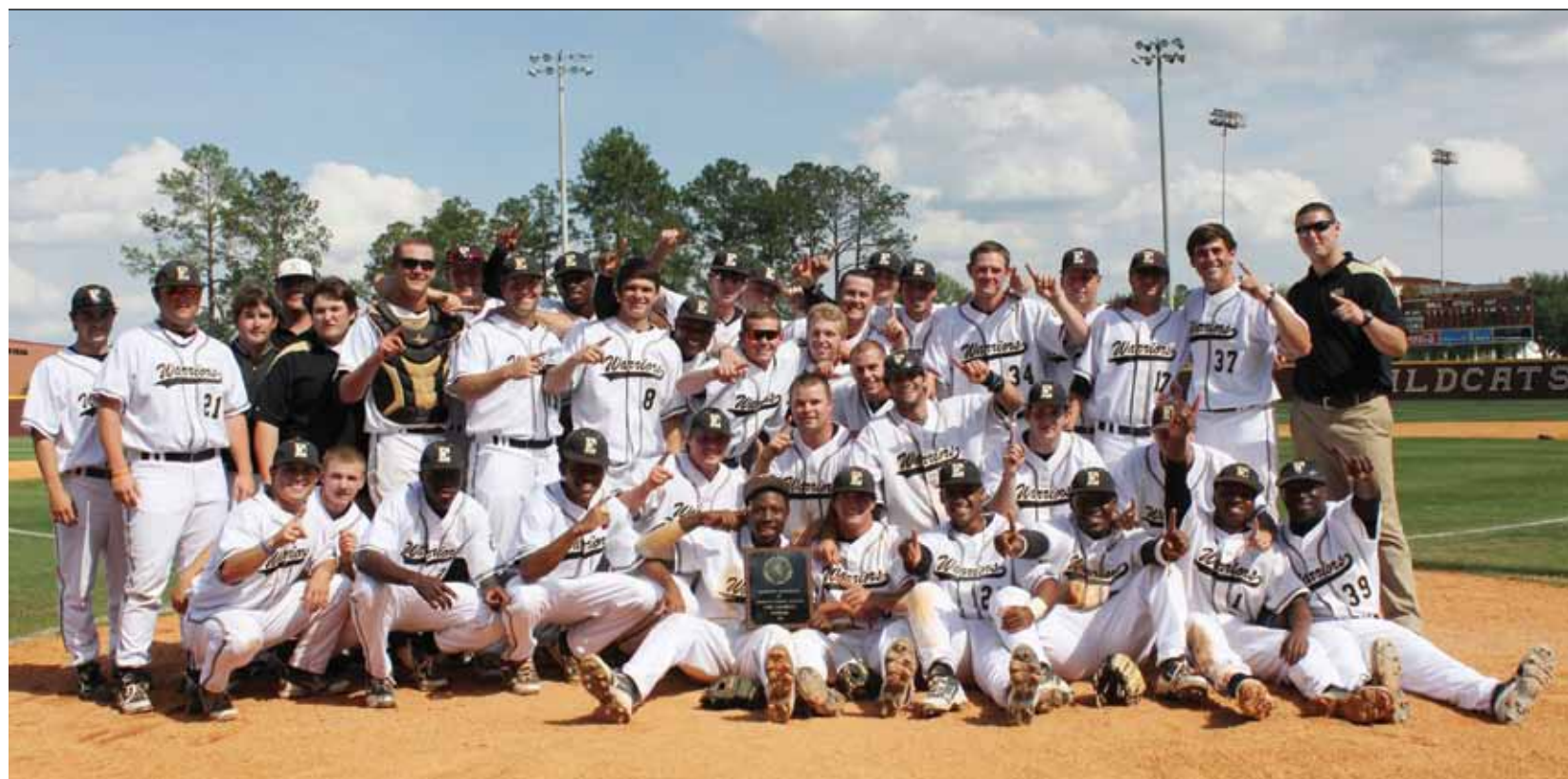
The College Bookstore, located in the Smith Student Union, will also have special hours of operation that day for the convenience of alumni and other campus visitors. The bookstore will be open

See **HOMECOMING, PAGE 3**



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Homecoming Court: Above are members of the 2013 East Central Community College Homecoming Court. Seated from left are sophomore maid Taylor Gressett of Chunky; maid of honor Mary Margaret Bailey of Philadelphia; queen Kaylin Hopkins of Louisville; and sophomore maids Payton Smith of Forest and Allie Killens of Saltillo. Standing from left are freshman maids Megan Robinson of Nanih Waiya, Nikki Triplett of Forest, Myia Evans of Lake and Mallory Turner of Meridian. The queen and her court will be presented during the Warriors' Homecoming game at 2:30 p.m. Saturday.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Diamond Warriors Celebrate MACJC State Championship! East Central Community College's Diamond Warriors celebrate winning the 2013 MACJC State Championship following a 4-0 victory over Northwest Mississippi Community College Sunday, May 12 at Pearl River Community College in Poplarville, which served as host for this year's competition. EC went undefeated in the double-elimination event by posting wins over Northeast (19-1) May 9 and Pearl River (7-6) May 11. After capturing the MACJC State Championship, the Diamond Warriors won one of two matchups in the Region 23 Tournament to finish 32-21 under seventh-year head coach Neal Holliman.

Diamond Warriors Claim State Title

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

A one-hit shutout by right-hander Severino Signa and clutch hitting by Tim Anderson and Chase Domino helped lead East Central Community College to a 4-0 victory over Northwest Mississippi Community College and the 2013 MACJC State Championship May 12 at Pearl River Community College (PRC) in Poplarville, host for this year's competition.

The Diamond Warriors, who improved to 31-16 following their perfect record in the state tourney, were the top seed in the 2013 Region 23 Tournament held May 16-19, also on the Poplarville campus.

The Mother's Day victory represents the second state title for head coach Neal Holliman, who led the Diamond Warriors to the 2007 championship in his first year at the helm. When asked which state title is

"sweeter," Holliman replied, "the next one!"

Holliman was obviously pleased with his team's effort Sunday, which followed a 7-6, 10-inning victory over host Pearl River Saturday night and a 19-1 thumping of Northeast in first-round competition Thursday, May 9. The double-elimination event was hampered by the cancellation of Friday's matchups due to inclement



HOLLIMAN

weather. Finals were originally scheduled for May 11.

"Just a phenomenal effort," said Holliman of his team's performance in capturing the state title. "We talked about defense early in the year and what it could do for us. We had an outstanding pitching performance from Sevy Signa....we could not have asked for more! And for us to play defense like we played behind him is just another phenomenal effort! I'm very proud of them!"

Signa, a sophomore right-hander from Stoneville and product of Deer Creek High School, was in complete command of the Northwest offense, which generated 16 runs the night before in a 16-4 blowout of Pearl River in an elimination game.

"It was amazing," said Signa, whose bid for a no-hitter was nixed in the eighth inning with a one-out single by Walt

See **CHAMPS, PAGE 3**

EC Ranked Among America's Top 50 Community Colleges

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College is once again nationally recognized for its success in providing a quality education.

ECCC is ranked the 23rd best community college in the nation, according to the Sept. 2013 edition of Washington Monthly, which included ECCC in its 2013 College Guide's annual ranking of "America's Top 50 Community Colleges."

According to the publication, "...rankings are based entirely on measures of best educational practices and actual student success. Of the eight measures that determine each college's rank, five are from the respected Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE)....colleges that connect with their students and challenge them to do a good work get particularly high marks. It's also crucial to keep students on track to finish their degrees. That's why this year's rankings include three measures that are used by the Aspen Institute's annual Prize for Community College Excellence: the percentage of new students who return for a second year; the percentage who graduate or transfer elsewhere within three years; the percentage of new students who return for a second year; and the overall ratio of credentials granted for every 100 students enrolled."

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart expressed his appreciation to faculty and staff on receiving the national recognition in a campus-wide e-mail.

"I want to be the first to congratulate the entire East Central Community College family for this honor," wrote Dr. Stewart. "While we will face many challenges in the years ahead as we strive to fulfill the commitments of 2020 Vision the EC Way – Excellence with Class, we are on our way to achieving our vision of being nationally recognized!"

Dr. Stewart also challenged the faculty and staff to reach even greater heights in providing a quality education for East Central students.

"Our faculty and staff will be encouraged by this great recognition, but they will also be motivated to continue to provide excellent learning opportunities for the students and communities we are called and blessed to serve," said Dr. Stewart. "At East Central, we are all in the business of student success. Therefore, we will always strive to provide high quality educational and training

See **TOP 50, PAGE 3**



DR. STEWART

ECCC Mourns Student Killed in Auto Accident

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College is mourning the tragic loss of sophomore Brittany Hutchinson of Forest, who was killed in one-vehicle accident on her way to classes Sept. 30, 2013.

The Mississippi Highway Patrol said the 19-year-old Hutchinson was traveling on Highway 489, about four miles north of Lake, when the accident happened.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart said in a campus-wide e-mail he is "deeply saddened" about Hutchinson's death, and asks the EC family "to keep Brittany's family and friends in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time."

EC sophomore Cahnesiya Donald of Forest remembers her friend and classmate as someone who always had a smile on her face.



HUTCHINSON

See **HUTCHINSON, PAGE 3**

ECCC Hosts 'An Evening with Coach Herman Boone'

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College will host "An Evening with Coach Herman Boone of 'Remember the Titans'" at 6 p.m. on Nov. 20, 2013, in Huff Auditorium. The event hosted by the college and the ECCC Foundation will be free to the public made possible through the financial support of the ECCC Foundation and the Oliphant-Martin Faculty Excellence Endowment.

Coach Boone, legendary head football coach at T.C. Williams High School in Alexandria, Va., and the inspiration behind the 2000 blockbuster movie "Remember the Titans" starring Academy Award-winner Denzel Washington, share lessons in diversity, respect, teamwork, community involvement and the importance of character. He will also offer commentary about his experiences associated with "Remember the Titans." Following his presentation, Coach Boone will engage in a ques-

tion and answer session in the auditorium followed by a reception in Mabry Cafeteria where attendees will have an opportunity to meet and speak to the celebrated coach. Please note all of these events are free of charge and open to the public, but due to limited space in Huff Auditorium seating at the event will be on a first come-first served basis.

For more information on this speaker, please visit www.apbspeakers.com.



BOONE

Coach Tony Dungy to Speak at ECCC Event

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

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

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



DUNGY

See **DUNGY, PAGE 3**

Page Two

STRIKE A POSE



GLORIANA LATHAM
MORTON • NURSING

Why did you choose to attend East Central? *I chose East Central because many of my friends go here, and it's close to home.*

Are you a part of any extra-curricular activities? Which ones? *Yes, I am the captain of the ECCC Wall O' Sound Colorguard. I am the vice president of Sigma Sigma Mu Tau. I am also a member of concert choir, Encore, and the Baptist Student Union.*

Who is your favorite faculty member at East Central? Why? *My favorite faculty member here at EC is Ms. Blaylock. Not only is she very Godly and a role model to me, but she's also a diva!*

What is your favorite meal in the cafeteria or grill? *Fried Chicken Thursdays.*

What is your favorite thing about East Central? *I really enjoy being a part of the Wall O' Sound Band, but colorguard makes it even better.*

What is the worst thing about college life? *College can be extremely stressful sometimes, and the lack of money hurts, too.*

What is your most embarrassing moment at East Central? *Once, while performing with the colorguard, I dropped my flag, and it hit me in the head!*

What would you like to see change at East Central? *I believe that EC should have coed dorms but only at certain hours.*

What are your plans for after you have left East Central? *After leaving EC, I hope to begin my career as a Registered Nurse and hopefully one day get married and start a family.*

— Alec Doggett



JONATHAN BROWN
SECONDARY EDUCATION • CARTHAGE

Why did you choose to attend East Central? *I chose EC because it is close to home and most of my friends go to school here as well.*

Are you a part of any extra-curricular activities? Which ones? *Yes, I am a member of the Wall O' Sound Band.*

Who is your favorite faculty member at East Central? Why? *My favorite faculty member is Mr. (Marc) McCool because he makes history enjoyable.*

What is your favorite meal in the cafeteria or grill? *Fried Chicken Thursdays!*

What is your favorite thing about East Central? *I really like that the campus is small. It's very easy to get from class to class.*

What is the worst thing about college life? *The worst thing about college is the lack of sleep.*

What is your most embarrassing moment at East Central? *One time, while walking down the stairs at the grill, I tripped and fell in front of everyone.*

What would you like to see change at East Central? *I think male students should be offered honors' dorms.*

What are your plans for after you have left East Central? *I plan on furthering my education through MSU in Meridian.*

— Alec Doggett
Staff Writer

FEATURE TEACHER



KEVIN RYALS

Ryals Shares Thoughts on His Teaching Career

1. What inspired you to teach? *My love for students.*
 2. How long have you been teaching? *16 years.*
 3. What's your favorite part of teaching? *Watching students grow and change over the years.*
 4. What's your least favorite part of teaching? *Trying to motivate unmotivated students.*
 5. What's the toughest part of being a teacher? *Watching students you have become close with leave and starting the relationship process over with new ones.*
 6. If you could go back and be anything you wanted to be what would it be? *I like doing many things. If I could be anything, I would be three people, so I could do all the things I like to do.*
 7. What do you expect from your students? *I expect positive attitudes, good study habits and a desire to learn.*
 8. What principles do you use to motivate your students? *I try to engage in conversation with students inside and outside of the classroom.*
 9. If you could change something about EC what would it be? *The distance it is from my house.*
 10. What motivates you as a teacher? *Seeing former students I have taught become doctors, lawyers, teachers and just seeing them successful.*
- Brooke Smith
Staff Writer



BROOKE SMITH
Staff Writer





MISSISSIPPI STATE

UNIVERSITY

MERIDIAN

The Riley Next Step Scholarship is being offered for the 2014 Spring Semester. Admission to the university and an online résumé are required for scholarship consideration. Visit www.meridian.msstate.edu, click Apply Now.

Students with a competitive GPA who have completed at least 48 transferable hours are encouraged to apply for this scholarship.

Become a **Riley Scholar** at MSU-Meridian and receive full tuition! Call 601.484.0134 for details.

The Riley Next Step Scholarship
Apply Now for Spring 2014!
Priority Date: November 15.

EC’s Anderson Chosen in First Round by White Sox

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

A career in Major League Baseball is now a reality for East Central Community College baseball standout Tim Anderson who was a first-round selection by the Chicago White Sox and 17th overall pick in the 2013 MLB Draft June 6.

Anderson, the only community college player in the nation who was invited to attend the draft selection program held in New York and shown live on the Major League Baseball Network, said while interviewed following the announcement: “Dreams do come true....never give up.”

ECCC head baseball coach Neal Holliman, who was also in attendance for the draft selection program, said of the nation-leading slugger and talented shortstop:

“Everyone knew that Tim has the ability and is a tremendous athlete, but what I keep informing people, is that his mental make-up is just as outstanding as his ability. We are very proud of Tim, and the contributions he made to our program go way beyond the field of play. We wish him the best and he will always be a great representative of East Central Community College, just as the other draftees that have come before him.”

Prior to beginning his two-year standout baseball career at East Central, Anderson was a

basketball star at Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa, Ala. However, knee injuries keep him off the court and reintroduced him to his “first love” of playing baseball. After two partial seasons on the diamond, Anderson caught the attention of Coach Holliman who provided the future major leaguer with his only collegiate offer.

Regarding his path to success, Anderson was quoted in *The Meridian Star*: “It wasn’t easy going down my road. I’m very excited I didn’t give up in the beginning. I knew it was going to be a tough road to travel down.”

Anderson batted .360 and had four home runs his freshman season. He was also 30-for-30 in stolen base attempts. He received All-Region 23 and MACJC All-State honors following the successful campaign.

He continued his success in the 2012 Jayhawk Summer League and hit .380 with eight home runs and more than 30 stolen bases. He was named the number-two Major League Baseball



ANDERSON

prospect following competition.

As a sophomore member on the Diamond Warriors’ 2013 MACJC State Championship squad, Anderson led the nation in batting with a .495 (91-184) average and 62 runs scored while finishing second with 41 stolen bases.

The 6-1, 180-pound Anderson collected 10 home runs, 11 triples, 18 doubles and 45 RBIs. He was credited with a .563 on-base percentage and .864 slugging percentage.

Anderson was named a First-Team NJCAA Division II All-American and again garnered All-Region 23 and MACJC All-State honors.

He signed with the University of Alabama in Birmingham earlier in the year but is obviously now focused on the Chicago White Sox organization.

“I’m very excited to be a White Sox,” Anderson said. “It’s a great organization. I’m just ready to climb the ladder.

Everyone says I have a lot of upside, and I do.

I’m just going to come in and give it my all and play with everything I got.”

The White Sox organization is obviously pleased with Anderson’s selection and included the following statement in a news release:

“Tim is a very athletic player who, although we didn’t target a specific position, certainly fits a need in the middle of the diamond,” said Doug Laumann, White Sox director of amateur scouting. “He is an exciting top-of-the-order type player who is a game-changer with great ability to create offense at a key position on the field. Tim was the best player available, and we couldn’t be more happy.”

Anderson is the fifth Diamond Warrior selected in the Major League Draft since 2009, as he follows ZeErika McQueen, Daniel Eichelberger, Donnie Tabb and Carlos Leal.

“With Tim’s selection, this gives the Diamond Warriors more draftees in the last five years any other MACJC school,” said Coach Holliman.

Accolades continue for Anderson who was selected a 2013 NJCAA Division II Baseball All-American, according to the NJCAA Web site.

He earlier received All-Region 23 and MACJC All-State recognition for the second straight year and was selected 2013 NJCAA Division II Baseball Player of the Year.

CHAMPS

From Page 1

McCullough. “It was probably the best pitching performance I have ever had.”

Signa, who fanned five Ranger batters in the nine-inning contest, gave credit for his success to an effective fast ball and advice from pitching coach Justin Brewer.

“The pitching mound is higher here which is a big advantage, especially for the fastball,” said Signa. He noted Coach Brewer told him to “take it one out at a time....and that’s what I tried to do as I faced each batter.”

Signa got all the run support he needed in the third inning following RBI singles from Anderson and Domino, scoring Ryan Shotts of Louisville and Kalik May of Tuscaloosa County.

Domino, a product of Fairhope (Ala.) High School, extended EC’s lead to 3-0 with his solo homer in the sixth inning.

Anderson’s RBI single in the seventh frame scored Shots for the final run.

The Hillcrest (Ala.) High School product also singled in the first inning and finished 3-for-4 at the plate.

Newton County High School product Xzavier Franklin contributed two singles.

EC 7, PEARL RIVER 6

A wild throw to the plate from Pearl River pitcher Ryan Deemes scored pinch runner and Newton County High School product Zach May from third base in the bottom of the tenth inning and provided East Central Community College with a thrilling 7-6 win Saturday, May 11.

The Diamond Warriors sent the scheduled nine-inning battle into extra innings thanks to a three-run seventh inning that knotted the score at 6-6. During the frame, Shotts belted a two-run RBI double scoring John Morgan Berry of Madison Central and Maxwell Harmon of Enterprise. Shotts scored following Anderson’s RBI single.

EC jumped out to a 3-0, first-inning lead following Anderson’s RBI double scoring Shotts, and Domino’s two-run homer that also scored Anderson.

Domino also singled and was among several players with multiple hits. Shotts finished with two doubles; Anderson, double and single; and Berry and Harmon had two singles each. Kalik May contributed a single.

Domino, Shotts and Anderson also collected two RBIs each.

Krisjon Wilkerson and Forrest Duni-gan each belted homers and Braxton Lee slapped four singles to lead the Wildcats, who scored three runs in the second inning, two in the sixth and one in the seventh.

Right-hander Jordan Mixon picked up the win in relief. Mixon hurled two scoreless innings and allowed one hit. He also walked a batter. Mixon is a product of East Webster High School.

Starter Caleb McKee went 5 2/3 innings and allowed four earned runs on five hits. The southpaw from Neshoba Central fanned five batters and walked three.

Southpaw Brady McBride of North-east Jones and right-hander Mitchell Wooten of Edinburg hurled an inning each in relief. McBride fanned a batter

and gave up two hits. Wooten fanned a batter and walked one.

Right-hander Fernando Gonzalez from Puerto Rico made a brief appearance on the mound and allowed one hit.

EC 19, NORTHEAST 1

Anderson and Domino combined for eight RBIs in leading East Central to a 19-1 blowout of Northeast Mississippi Community College Thursday, May 9 in first-round tournament competition.

Anderson belted a double and three singles and knocked in five runs.

Domino contributed a three-run double.

Other EC hitters in the five-inning matchup were Dominican Republic native Rubert Alcantara, double, single and two RBIs; Franklin, Berry and Deion Ulmer of Laurel, two singles each; and Shotts, single. Kalik May and Harmon were credited with an RBI each.

Runs were scored by Kalik May (4), Shotts (3), Anderson (2), Alcantara (2), Franklin (2), Ulmer (2), Terrance Steele (2) of Neshoba Central, Berry

and Harmon.

Gonzalez picked up the win. He hurled three scoreless innings and allowed no hits. He also fanned a batter and walked three. Southpaw Jake Bush of Brookwood (Ala.) High School and right-hander Conner West of Taylorsville each pitched an inning in relief. Bush allowed one hit, and West allowed one earned run on one hit. He fanned two batters and walked two.

REGION 23

However, after rallying for three runs in the bottom of the eighth inning for a 3-3 tie, the state champion Diamond Warriors were unable to repeat the performance in the final frame and Pearl River Community College escaped with a 5-3 victory in the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament.

East Central finished 32-21 following the double-elimination event. The Diamond Warriors fell 12-1 to PRC in the opening round May 16 and rallied for a 7-6 win over Northwest Mississippi Community College May 17.

The Diamond Warriors are led by head coach Neal Holliman.

HOMECOMING

From Page 1

from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. College merchandise will also be available for purchase prior to and during the football game later that day at Bailey Stadium.

The annual ECCC Alumni Association Awards Luncheon begins at 11 a.m. in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

This year’s honorees are Carolyn Cook Huey, Alumna of the Year and her husband, Max Huey, Alumnus of the Year, who are members of the ECCC Class of 1965 and reside in Picayune; and Pete Lucovich (Class of 1973) of Carthage and Louisville native Marcus Thames (Class of 1997) of Tampa, Fla., who will be inducted into the College’s Athletic Hall of Fame.

Luncheon tickets are \$12 each and can be purchased by

contacting Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations.

Election of Alumni Association officers will also be held during the Awards Luncheon.

Also beginning at 11 a.m. is the annual Lil Warrior Kid Zone, which continues through 2:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium.

The annual Warrior Club meeting and tailgating activities begin at 1 p.m. on the deck inside Bailey Stadium.

Meetings of various reunion groups get under way at 1 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

Honorees for 2013 include members of the Classes of 1957,1958 and 1959; Class of 1963; Warriors and Lady Warrior Basketball Teams from 1937 to 1971; the first Graduating LPN Class (1993) in recognition of the group’s 20th Anniversary; and members of other

classes ending in “3” – 1943, 1953, 1973, 1983, 1993 and 2003.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart will present 50th Anniversary Diplomas to the Class of 1963 during a ceremony scheduled at 1:30 p.m. in Brackeen-Wood.

The Warriors host Mississippi Delta Community College in the annual Homecoming battle scheduled at 2:30 p.m. on Warrior Field at Bailey Stadium.

Several activities will be held during halftime ceremonies, including recognition of Homecoming Honorees; presentation of the Queen and her Court; awarding of MACJC State Championships rings and presentation of a Mississippi Legislative resolution honoring the 2013 Diamond Warriors; and performance by the Wall O’ Sound Marching Band.

For more information on Homecoming 2013, contact

Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations, 601-635-3222, ext. 327. Her e-mail address is sholling@eccc.edu.

NOTICE!

Safety Memo: Natural Gas Safety

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

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

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

Damage Prevention

Although safe, tested, and regulated, the system’s most common hazard is from 3rd party damage from excavation. Before any excavations are done, contact Dig Safety - Mississippi One-Call System, Inc. 1800-227-6477 or 811 and call East Central Community College at 601-635-6266. Always call before you dig. It’s as easy as dialing 8.1.1., and it’s the law!

Detecting A Natural Gas Leak

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

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

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

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

Natural Gas Safety Tips:

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

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

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

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

Remember - Never try to find the leak yourself!!

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

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

DUNGY

From Page 1

longtime friend and associate.

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

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

In addition, Coach Dungy is involved in a wide variety of charitable organizations, including the

Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Athletes in Action, Mentors for Life, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Boys and Girls Clubs, Prison Crusade Ministry, All-Pro Dads and many others.

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

More information about Coach Tony Dungy’s visit to East Central Community College will be announced at a later date.

HUTCHINSON

From Page 1

“Brittany was a very sweet young lady who always spoke when you saw her,” Donald said. “You could never tell if she was having a bad day, was sad or down, because she was always smiling! She was my classmate at Scott Central and

we lived on the same floor in Jackson Hall (at EC) last year. She was a friend, and I’m truly going to miss her.”

Hutchinson served as a work-study student at the ECCC Success Center during her freshman year.

She was a tutor and assisted in office work, according to Mary Boulton, Success Center/ Warrior Path to Success Director.

tor.

“Brittany was a very dependable and reliable assistant,” said Boulton. “She was a very special young lady who will be remembered for her warm personality and that very special signature of her name.”

Visitation was held Oct. 3 at Ott and Lee Funeral Home in Forest.Services were 2 p.m. Oct. 4 at the funeral home chapel.

research report in 2005 and according to the publication, “We give high marks to institutions that enroll low-income students, help them graduate, and don’t charge them an arm and a leg to attend....Our rankings aim to identify institutions that are acting on behalf of the true public trust.”

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

TOP 50

From Page 1

programs and services that provide the greatest impact on the teaching and learning process.”

The Washington Monthly is a bimonthly, non-profit magazine of United States politics and government based in Washington, D.C. Its annual college and university rankings began as a

Warrior Viewpoints

FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome back Warriors!

First, I would like to welcome all of the freshmen! On the behalf of *The Tom-Tom* staff, I would like to take it upon myself to say that we, the staff, are so happy to have you choose East Central to start the next phase in your life. I know for some people it's a big step.

There are two different types of freshmen. The first type loved high school. They loved everything about it from the football games to the prom. Now, if you're that type of person, you're most likely going to love college because there are still football games and dances. The second type hated most of the high school experience. They could care less about watching people hit each other or wearing masks at a dance. If you're that type of person, well, you're still going to love college.



MADISON HERRINGTON
Editor

College is a different experience. You can basically do what you want, when you want. Of course, I always suggest going to class seeing as you only have a certain amount of times that you can miss before getting kicked out...

Now, I would like to welcome back all the sophomores! I'm sure you already know the drill of classes and EC traditions. Therefore, I will try not to bore you by going over everything again since you're already taking the time out of your probably exhausting schedule to read this.

When going somewhere new, there are always certain things that are considered "need to know" information. Likewise, there are things that every Warrior, new or not, needs to remember throughout the year.

Unless you want a ticket from the ECPD, don't forget to always wear your ID. I promise, no one really cares how horrible your picture might be. However, I always wore my ID backwards in order to prevent my peers from seeing my horrible picture of me wearing my bright orange shirt that said "Cozumel" that I brought from Mexico. My shirt totally dominated the entire picture. Personally, I promise not to hold it against you for wearing your ID backwards.

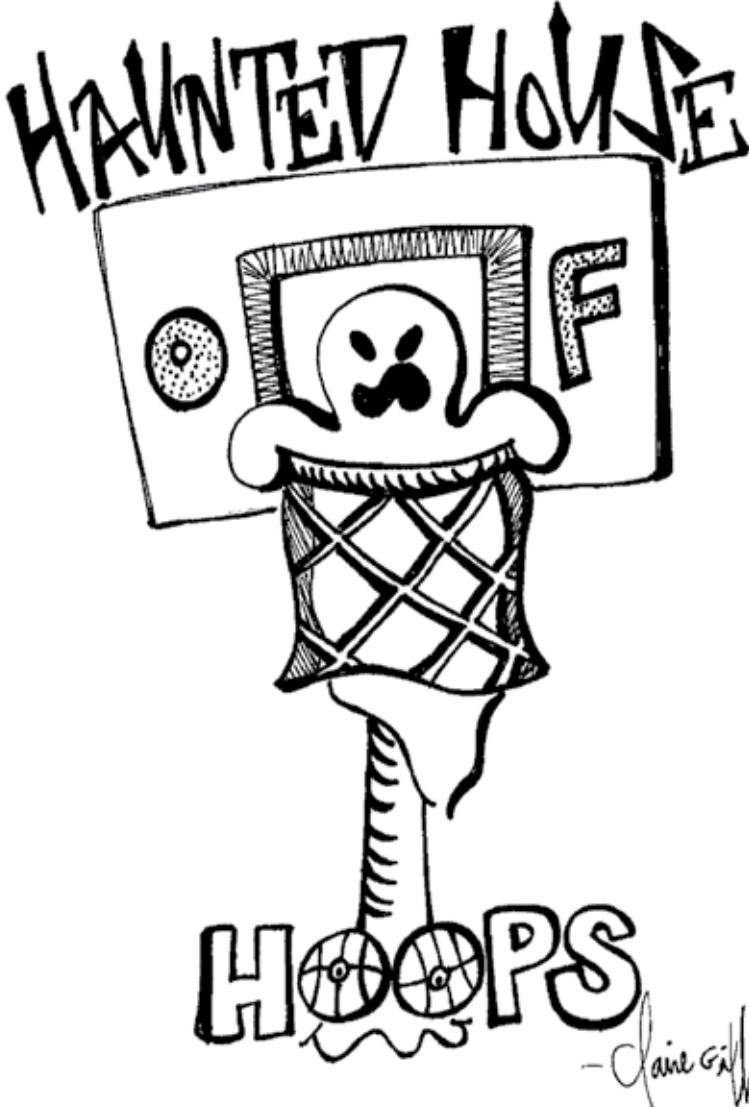
Crosswalks are another must unless you want a ticket. Of course, everyone knows there will be some days you will look both ways and run across because you're late for class. If you do make a run for it, always remember it will take you twice as long to get to class if you get stopped to receive a ticket.

Most importantly, I hope you watch where you're going when you drive. I know you're very important and that friend is just going to die if you don't message him or her back as quickly as possible, but I have a feeling he or she will survive while that person walking in the street (that didn't heed my crosswalk warning) won't.

This year can be a fresh start for everyone and anyone who wishes for it! The college in itself is getting a new seal and new gold color! Cross Hall (an old science hall remodeled) should be done soon which is something that I'm sure has all the science professors excited as well as some of the students!

Let this year become a new and exciting experience for both freshmen and sophomores! I wish you the best of luck with everything you!

—Madison Herrington
Editor



WORDS OF A WARRIOR

BY SAMANTHA MORGAN

What are Your Thoughts on the Changes being Made to ECCC's Campus?

Jenna Lovern
Louisville • Civil & Environmental Engineer • Freshman



"The sign that was in front of campus has been moved to the track and another is being constructed in its place. Also, the cafeteria has been redesigned. I like the changes that have happened to the campus so far."



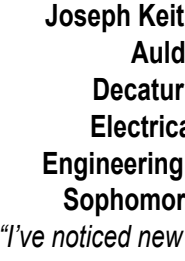
Brady Power
Forest • Mechanical Engineering • Sophomore

"I have seen the renovations to the cafeteria serving line, and also there are new televisions inside the cafeteria. The new science building is coming along fast. The original East Central sign was moved to the track. These renovations were a needed change."



Jesse Vaughn
Decatur • Liberal Arts • Sophomore

"The café has been redesigned. I like the changes. It makes the college look more modern and up to date."



Joseph Keith
Aulds Decatur • Electrical Engineering • Sophomore

"I've noticed new banners and illumination devices all over campus. The renovations at Cross Hall are coming along nicely. There are new televisions in the cafeteria. I like the new aesthetics of the college."



SBA CHAT

Plans for a Year of Fun & Excitement

Hey ECCC students! Welcome to East Central Community College! I hope that your first few weeks have been full of fun, new friends and excitement! However, Welcome Back Week was just a little taste of how hopefully unforgettable your year is here.

I am your SB president for 2013-2014 and in hopes of making your year the best possible I want to hear from you. If you have any ideas, comments or questions please ask me or any of my fellow SBA officers which are Clint Walker; VP, Zack Killion; Secretary, and Tyler Pigg; Treasurer.

This year has just begun and I hope it's all that you expect and more!

—Allie Killens
SBA President



ALLIE KILLENS
SBA President

ECCC Ranked 23rd in Nation

I want to take this opportunity to welcome all of our students to East Central Community College (ECCC), the 23rd best community college in the nation according to a recent edition of the *Washington Monthly*. Whether you are a returning sophomore or a new freshman, we are so glad you are a part of the ECCC family.

We had a busy summer here at ECCC. I hope that students will notice several improvements recently completed and/or ongoing. We have added new street signs and banners around campus to create a more collegiate environment. Some of the banners include our newly identified core values and serve as a reminder each day of who WE ARE at EC. Our cafeteria underwent a major facelift during the summer. We upgraded our Student Wellness Center with new elliptical machines and treadmills. We installed several new sidewalks and pedestrian lights throughout campus. Brackeen-Wood Gymnasium was also upgraded with a newly painted floor, and we anticipate installing new bleachers by mid-October. I hope that you will take the opportunity to walk around the campus to witness the improvements completed this summer through the efforts of Artie Foreman, Director of the Physical Plant, and his talented staff. Also, please know that many of these improvements were a result of the input we received from our students during the strategic planning process last year.



By Billy W. Stewart, Ph.D.

Speaking of strategic planning, ECCC recently completed a comprehensive process of planning resulting in the publication of 2020 Vision. 2020 Vision reflects the culmination of a shared vision for the future of our institution. Using input from all stakeholders, our college clarified our vision and mission statements, identified core values, and clearly defined the institutional commitments that will be the main focus of our future efforts to enrich and transform lives through quality educational programs and services offered the "EC Way—Excellence with Class." The adoption of this "roadmap for the future" is an important step in establishing the expectation that ECCC will continue to build upon its history of excellence. I look forward to working with all of our students as we deliver responsive and relevant academic and career-technical programs, advance key initiatives, and achieve excellence.

One key component of 2020 Vision is student success. The college has already taken steps to enhance your success this fall by offering tutoring services through the college's Success Center. These services are offered for you, so please take advantage of the many opportunities to receive assistance from full-time instructors at the college at designated times in the Success Center. In addition, studies show that involvement in campus activities greatly enhances student success in college and enhances the quality of the student experience. Therefore, I want to encourage you to participate in the many student clubs and organizations as well as the intramural program offered at ECCC. I also want to encourage you to attend campus-wide events such as athletic contests, Homecoming, and other college activities.

It is anticipated that one such activity will be offered the evening of Wednesday, November 20. ECCC is scheduled to host "An Evening with Coach Herman Boone of Remember the Titans." Herman Boone, legendary head football coach at T.C. Williams High School in Alexandria, Virginia, and the inspiration behind the 2000 blockbuster movie *Remember the Titans* starring Academy Award-winner Denzel Washington, will speak at East Central Community College on Wednesday, November 20, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur Campus. Coach Boone will share lessons in diversity, respect, teamwork, community involvement, and the importance of character. He will also offer commentary about his experiences associated with *Remember the Titans*. Following his presentation, Coach Boone will engage in a Q&A session in the auditorium. Coach Boone's address and Q&A session will be followed by a reception in Mabry Cafeteria where attendees will have an opportunity to meet and speak to the celebrated coach. This free event is made possible through the financial support of the East Central Community College Foundation and the Oliphant-Martin Faculty Excellence Endowment. For more information on this speaker please visit www.apbspeakers.com.

Stay connected to East Central while you are here. I look forward to seeing all of you around campus and at all of our campus activities.

—Dr. Billy Stewart
ECCC President

OTHER VIEWS

We Would Like to Hear from You!

Welcome sophomores and new students! I hope you all are enjoying East Central Community College so far.

I sincerely hope that you are excited about your new chapter in life at your new home, East Central Community College. This should be a quite exciting year since EC has had so many changes this past year.

As the Editor of the Opinions of *The Tom-Tom*, I would like to hear your opinion on anything college or news related. I am Will Stokes; a sophomore from Philadelphia. Feel free to e-mail me your opinion at william.stokes5829@students.eccc.edu.

—Will Stokes
Opinions Editor



WILL STOKES
Opinions Editor

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

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

Notice of Non-Discrimination
East Central Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or qualified disability in its educational programs and activities, employment practices, or admissions processes. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies of East Central Community College:
Inquiries regarding compliance with Title VI, ADEA, and Title IX is coordinated by Dr. Teresa Houston, Vice President for Instruction, Walter Arno Vincent Administration Building, Room 171, Post Office Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, Phone: 601-635-6202, Fax: 601-635-4011, thouston@eccc.edu.
Inquiries regarding compliance with Section 504 and ADA is coordinated by Dr. Randall Lee, Vice President of Student Services, Eddie M. Smith Student Union, Room 201, Post Office Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, Phone: 601-635-6375, Fax: 601-635-3247, rlee@eccc.edu.

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Brooke Smith
Madison Barnett
Taylor Townsend

Warrior Viewpoints

OTHER OPINIONS

Crosswalk Drama

Crosswalks are a major deal at East Central Community College. It is a Class C offense and a \$50 fine for not using the crosswalk. Many people don't realize they are there until it is too late. The big question is: Should they be there or should they not be there?

I do not agree with this rule about crosswalks. I feel like it is super inconvenient. Sometimes when you are running late for class, you do not have time to go look for a crosswalk to go across. Also, there are not enough crosswalks throughout campus. If they are going to try to enforce them so much, they should add more around campus. It is so sad that people have to get counted absent and get multiple tardies just because they can't find the yellow lines on the ground.

It is also very time consuming for drivers because they constantly have to wait for the student to get across the crosswalk, but if they don't, they also get a fine. This in turn makes them late for class as well.

Personally, I get very impatient when waiting on students to walk across because a lot of people do not have fast enough paces. I feel like this rule should be completely banned from EC. If they want you to walk in a designated area, then, they should block off what they don't want you walking around.

So, I do not believe crosswalks should be there because of the inconveniences. They are just too time consuming. The college would be much better without them, and I feel like people would be happier. You wouldn't get as many tickets and you could get to where you are going quicker. It is a very big issue that should be resolved soon.



KIMBERLY HARRISON
Staff Writer

—Kimberly Harrison
Staff Writer

OTHER OPINIONS

Think Before You Post

Cyber Bullying is a growing problem in today's society. Too many people confuse Freedom of Speech with harassment or bullying. Under the first amendment of the United States Constitution, we are all granted Freedom of Speech. However, there is a fine line between expressing our freedoms and infringing on someone else's.

As Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. once said, "The right to swing my fist ends where the other man's nose begins." This quote merely means your freedoms end when you harm someone else. Everyone is entitled to their own opinions, and we are all entitled to expressing them however we choose. We are also allowed to disagree with other's opinions and express our disagreements.

The problem begins when you are no longer calmly expressing or defending one's views and beliefs, but slandering someone else; because their opinion is different. We all need to stop and ask ourselves before we post: Am I being respectful? Am I just being hurtful or truthful? Am I only expressing my beliefs and defending them or am I just harassing someone?

If we all would think before we post, the number of depressed and suicidal people due to ugly Internet posts would decrease. Let's make our social networks safer for everyone by considering the feelings of others as well as our own.



ALLISON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

—Allison Johnson
Staff Writer

OTHER OPINIONS

Relationship, Not Religion

Throughout my entire life, I have heard many people say a quote by Laurence Peter that states, "Going to church doesn't make you any more a Christian than going to the garage makes you a car." I'm sure that many people just ignore it and go on with their life because they have probably heard it many times.

However, I've been thinking about that statement a lot recently. There are always people discriminating against different religions. People stereotype when it comes to which denomination a person belongs to. Technically, I am a Baptist. Therefore, according to our stereotype, I am automatically a hypocrite, which I am.

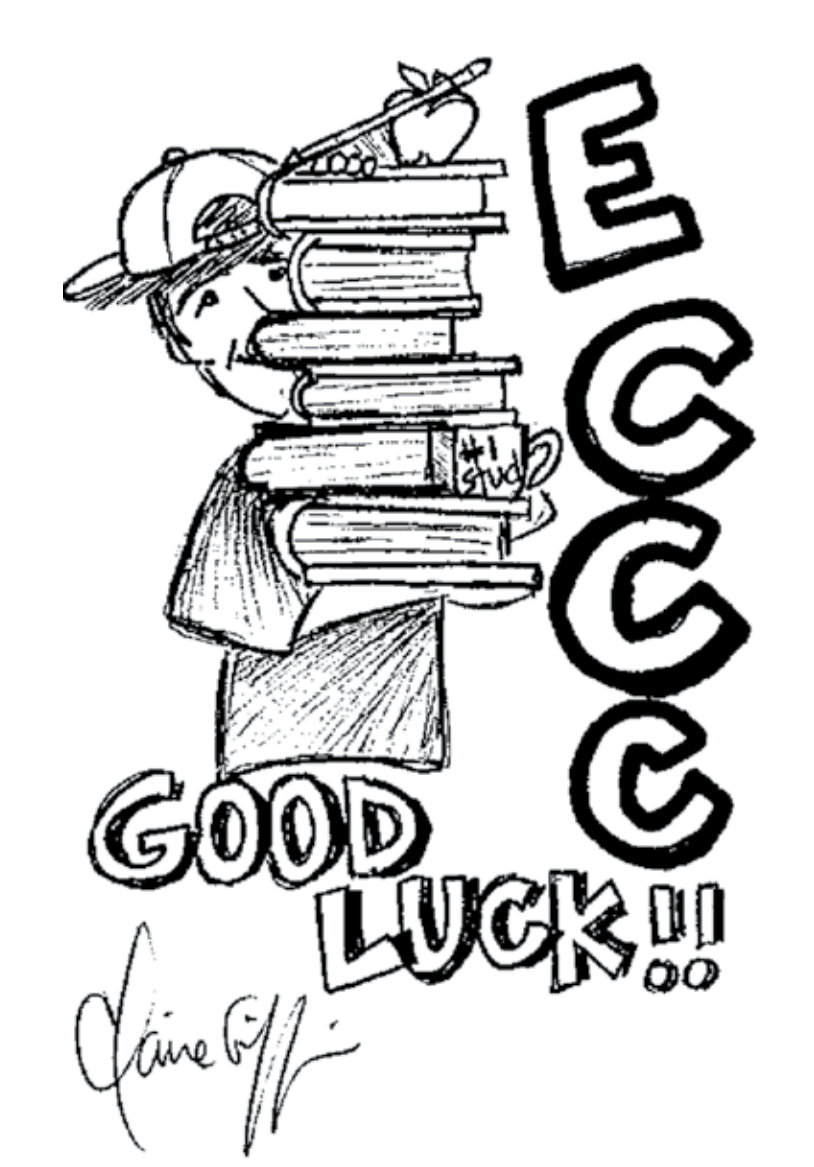
I'm not perfect, nor do I pretend to be. However, I'll let you in on a little secret that a lot of people seem to forget: No one is perfect. I know. My last statement probably comes as a shock to many of you, but I can assure you that it's the truth. There is only one person that has ever had a perfect existence. Jesus Christ is the only person in the world that has ever followed every commandment perfectly.

There's so much discrimination already in the world with race, gender, etc. that there's no point in adding another thing to the list. I don't care if your "denomination" is Catholic, Baptist, Pentecostal, etc. I only care about whether or not you believe in our Lord Jesus Christ. We need to stop focusing on the "religious" part of Christianity. We need to be more worried about our relationship with the Lord. Narrow your focus on him instead of others.



MADISON HERRINGTON
Editor

—Madison Herrington
Editor



WORDS OF A WARRIOR

BY BROOKE SMITH

Has The Increased Tuition Affected You, Have You Even Noticed?

MAXEY PARKER Noxapater • X-Ray Technician • Sophomore "No, I cannot tell because I received a full tuition scholarship for cheerleading."			Jesus Onofre Lake • Civil Engineering • Freshman "No, I received a scholarship for soccer."
	Madison Barnett Noxapater • Nursing • Freshman "No, I have not noticed any change at all. It has yet to affect me."		Hannah Franklin Philadelphia • Surgical Technician • Sophomore "Yes, I can tell a difference. I have to take out a loan."

OTHER OPINIONS

Should Sudanese President be Allowed to Visit U.S.?

A coalition of Sudan advocacy groups and leading activists, including actors George Clooney, Don Cheadle, and Mia Farrow, are urging President Barack Obama to do everything he can to prevent Sudanese President Omar al Bashir, an indicted war criminal, from visiting the United States for the United Nations General Assembly, during the week of September 16.

"Our immigration laws prohibit admitting perpetrators of genocide and extrajudicial killings into our country and it is unprecedented for someone wanted by the International Criminal Court for the crime of genocide to travel to the United States," wrote Clooney, Cheadle, Farrow and a host of Sudan groups to President Obama. "While we recognize that the U.S. government is obliged to facilitate President Bashir's visit under the U.N. Headquarters Agreement, we urge you to do everything in your power to prevent the trip." The letter was joined by leaders of the Enough Project, United to End Genocide, Humanity United, Sudan Democracy First Group, Unite for Darfur, Voices for Sudan, American Jewish World Service, iActivism, International Justice Project, Institute on Religion and Democracy, Jewish World Watch, Help Nuba, Act for Sudan, Sudan Unlimited, Jews Against Genocide, New York Coalition for Sudan, Humanity Is Us and STAND.

So as Americans and with our stand against genocide, what should we do? We are not part of the International Criminal Court (ICC). However we do have a law under 18 USC 1091... This law, which codifies the Genocide Accountability Act of 2007, allows for anyone present in the United States to be prosecuted for genocide, even if their crimes were committed abroad. My what a tricky web. Typically when a visiting dignitary visits the U.S, he or she enjoys what is called "diplomatic immunity." Should that be the case now?



WILL STOKES
Opinions Editor

—Will Stokes
Opinions Editor

FROM DR. LEE'S DESK

Get Involved, Attend Class

Homecoming is just around the corner, which means that we are past the one-half way point of the semester already! Make sure you are going to class and keeping up with your studies. You will be tempted to take a day off, but there is no such thing as a "free" absence. It always costs you because you cannot make up what you miss! The number one preventable reason for failure in college is absences!

Always watch the bulletin boards for updates. Lots of things are going on so check the boards and your e-mails for messages. If you have suggestions for improving campus life see the Director of Housing and Student Activities, Ms. Daniele Brock, e-mail her at dbrock@eccc.edu, or call her at 635-6213.

Two new student clubs have been formed, Bon Appetit, the culinary arts club, and EC Encore, the Spring Musical group. See Chef Karrh (bkarrh@eccc.edu) and Ms. Natalie Emmons (nemmons@eccc.edu) for more information if you are interested.

Homecoming 2013 is almost here! On Saturday, October 12, ECCC has a day of activities celebrating the "homecoming" of alumni. I challenge the clubs to show up in force and win the prizes as the three clubs with the highest attendance will be recognized and awarded money! The top club will also win a pizza party! There will be a table for you to check in at during the football game. We encourage you to stay on campus Friday and attend Homecoming.

We (old and young, faculty and staff) challenge you student groups to run or walk in in the 5K at 7:30 a.m. Saturday, October 12! Who can hang with the old folk!? See Dr. Crenshaw (pcrenshaw@eccc.edu) if you are interested.

We are here to assist you. Let me know if you need help. You can reach me at 635-6375 or e-mail rlee@eccc.edu.



DR. LEE

Sincerely

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

ACTIVITIES/HOUSING NOTES

Hello, ECCC Students

I would like to take a moment and introduce myself. I am the interim Housing and Student Activities Director, as well as an adjunct professor.

My husband and I came to EC when he was offered the Defensive Coordinator position with the Warrior football team. We moved from southeast Georgia to Decatur and have loved every minute of being here.

In August, the day before "move in" I was offered the interim position as Housing and Student Activities Director. I was honored and excited to take on this position. As most of you know, Marcie Pinson has been in this position for some time and has done a wonderful job. I have big shoes to fill even if I am in this position a few months.

As Student Activities Director, I work closely with the Student Body Association to plan events for our students. We have many activities to look forward to in the coming months. Keep checking the calendar for future events.

My position as Housing Director at EC is to make sure you are taken care when it comes to dorm and housing issues.

If I can ever offer you assistance, please come by and see me in my office located across from the bookstore.



BROCK

—Daniele Brock
Interim Housing and Student Activities Director

OTHER OPINIONS

An Heir is Born

One of the most exciting things that occurred this summer was the birth of the royal baby. Even though I do not live in the United Kingdom, I was very excited about the birth of the future King of England.

The entire summer turned into a baby countdown to his birth. The world was on the edge of their seats to know if the child would be a girl or a boy. In tradition to Prince William's birth, the baby news was announced on the steps of Buckingham Palace on the official bulletin. A baby boy was born July 22, 2013 in St Mary's Hospital in London, which is where both his father and uncle were born. His Royal Highness Prince George Alexander Louis is third in line for the throne.

The story of William and Kate's fairy-tale life has captured the attention of the American public and it does not look as if we ever hope for it to stop.



DOMINICK FIELDS
Staff Writer

—Dominick Fields
Staff Writer

College 101

THEATER TAKE

Prisoners Captivates Audiences; Sequel Sensations of Summers

The film industry has been lacking lately in movies that truly provoke a variety of emotions. This is why I felt refreshed this weekend when Prisoners left me stunned in my seat and emotionally disturbed. Truthfully, my jaw was hanging open, and I could feel a sense of secondhand depression for the characters.



AAREN AVERA
Staff Writer

The movie centers around a dreary Thanksgiving when two little girls go missing. Detectives have one lead, and due to lack of evidence, they must let the man go. Feeling this is the wrong thing to do, Keller Dover, a father to one of the missing girls, takes matters into his own hands. No spoilers will be mentioned, but the intense actions taken by Dover can only be described in words such as “torturous” “brutal” and “insane”.

The journey into locating the missing girls is a two and a half hour venture down a path that keeps you entertained. Many plot twists and clues grab your attention, and they are so carefully pieced together that nothing overlaps and gets confusing.

You are constantly entertained and do not even realize the time passing as you become engrossed in the fight to save two innocent children’s lives. Such an accomplishment is difficult to achieve, so hats off to writer Aaron Guzikowski and director Denis Villeneuve.

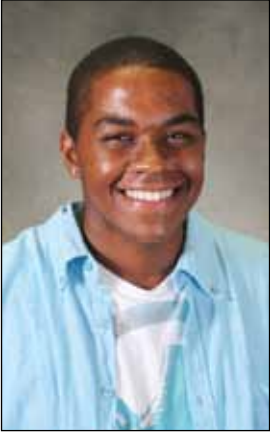
A stellar cast give some of the best performances of their lifetime.

Having been nominated for several awards last year, Hugh Jackman gives himself a run for his own money. This movie could honestly be the best of his career. He’s used to conveying anger and aggressiveness to audiences through his role as Wolverine, but something is different in Prisoners. Jackman is clearly channeling the mindset of someone whose daughter is gone, and this person would do anything to get the girl back.

Again, no spoilers to be mentioned, but I will say that the highlight of Jackman’s performance leaves me with one conclusion: Never make Hugh Jackman angry while he’s got a hammer. Beautiful scenery and cinematography put the icing on this cake. I give it eight out of 10 stars.

—Aaren Avera
Staff Writer

2013 has been a great year for movies. Countless movies have hit the theaters and have broken box office records from week to week. This summer, however, something very interesting happened. Sequels took the theaters by storm.



DOMINICK FIELDS
Staff Writer

FAST AND

FURIOUS 6

First up was “Fast and Furious” 6. The sixth installment of the Fast and Furious franchise did not disappoint. This time around, the crew finds themselves fighting against an orga-

nization of mercenary drivers. One of the drivers who turns about to be Letty, a character from the original movie who was told to be dead. The main character, Dom Torreto, wants nothing more to rescue her, but the main issue is Letty has lost her memory and has no clue who she is.

The movie as expected has some great action scenes and even better cars. It is fair to say the there will be a seventh movie because of how this one ended. The franchise has decided to add another character in the mix. Will the series ever come to an end? I think this should have been the last one but we can only wait and see how many more will be made.

THE HANGOVER PART III

That same weekend was the release of “The Hangover Part III.” In the final part of the trilogy the “Wolf Pack” finds themselves back in Las Vegas to find their kidnapped friend. The always hilarious character of Alan is also trying to escape from going to a mental institution. The movie continues in its humor that has made the series well known to put everything to an end. However, following the credits one might question if it is really the end.

MONSTERS UNIVERSITY

Next we have the animated movie “Monsters University,” the prequel to the movie Monsters Inc. released about 10 years earlier. In this movie, we are taken back in time to the college days of Mike Wazowski and James P. Sullivan. We see how the two meet and become friends during their days as college freshmen. Children were drawn to this movie to learn about these Disney monsters. Another group of people who wanted to see this movie were the teenagers and young adults who grew up watching the original Monsters Inc. I thought it was brilliant for Pixar to

release this movie when it did because many of children who watched it years ago are now either in or about to attend college.

DESPICABLE ME 2

Another animated sequel this summer was “Despicable Me 2.” In this movie Gru and his adorable little minions return along with Gru’s newly adopted little girls Margo, Edith and Agnes. This time Gru is the good guy who is set on a mission to find a stolen laboratory. He is partnered up wit Lucy Wilde. The two go through the story and grow in love. At the end of the movie after they have saved the day and 146 dates the pair gets married. The girls finally have a mother and the minions perform a hilarious reception following the wedding.

GROWN UPS 2

Included with the comedy sequels of the summer was “Grown Ups 2.” The gang has all now moved back to their hometown. This movie goes through hilarious moments that happen to families living in the suburbs of America and was very well liked for its well-rounded family humor.

THE WOLVERINE

The world of mutants also returned this summer with the release of The “Wolverine.” The main character, Wolverine, has found himself in a state of depression because of all he has went through and the fact that he is immortal and will never escape it. A man from his past is dying and invites Wolverine to Japan telling him that Wolverine can become mortal. The story continues and after countless fighting scenes, which were great, Wolverine is turned mortal against his will by Venom, who is the doctor of the dying Japanese billionaire. Wolverine takes on the responsibility of protecting his granddaughter who is being tracked down by a secret

society wishing to take rein of her grandfathers empire. Of course as expected the good side prevails in this movie. Perhaps the most exciting moment of this film came at the credits, the audience learns there will be another X Men movie and that certain characters reappear. Mind blowing! Making it already the most anticipated movie of next summer.

SMURFS 2

Out for another adventure is one child and adult favorite, Smurfs 2. The little blue gang is back with new tales. The movie was great for little children and family all around.

KICK-ASS 2

The return of “Kick-Ass 2” was not well liked this summer because of its use of gun violence following the year of issues on gun control the country has faced. The shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School, Trayvon Martin case, the Boston Marathon bombing, along with other tragedies didn’t help with the success of this movie. In the franchise’s defense, the movie was filmed prior to these occurrences.

UPCOMING

There are quite a few more sequels to be released in the fall of this year. Movies include “Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 2,” “Machete Kills,” “Thor the Dark World,” “The Best Man Holiday,” “The Hunger Games: Catching Fire,” “The Hobbit” and “The Anchorman: The Legend Continues.”

In most cases, sequels are very enthusiastically seen but prove not to be as good as the original. The movies of this summer and the rest of the year have done more to prove themselves as outstanding movies and great continuations of their series.

—Dominick Fields
Staff Writer

FROM THE SHELF

The Longest Ride Explores Love & Tragedy; Catching Fire Keeps Readers on Edge

Written by Nicholas Sparks, *The Longest Ride* is the newest of his now 17 books. It was published on Sept. 17, 2013, and has already sold 85 million copies. Sparks has written 11 #1 *New York Times* Best Sellers. All of his novels are *New York Times* and international best sellers. Eight of these novels have been adapted into major motion pictures.



ALLISON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

The Longest Ride is typical of Sparks’ style of writing; it is a chick flick. His books always explore love and tragedy in their deepest forms. They elicit emotion you simply did not think a book was capable of provoking. While his novels are always tragic and cheerful at the same time, this one leaves the reader satisfied; because it ends the way a novel is supposed to, as some would say.

One of the main characters is Ira Levinson. He is a man who becomes wealthy beyond his wildest dreams simply because he loves his wife immensely and lives only to please her. Another important character is a cowboy named Luke. His whole life is changed because he performs one act of chivalry.

In this novel, I think Sparks accurately conveys the message that your loved ones are all you can keep forever and worldly possessions are just icing on the cake.

I won’t spoil the novel for you. However, I will say that it is a tear-jerker and you should read it!

—Allison Johnson
Staff Writer

What Suzanne Collins gave you in *The Hunger Games* we thought couldn’t be any better until *Catching Fire*. This story begins with Katniss Everdeen and Peeta Mallerk getting ready to go to the victory tour around the districts. There are whispers of rebellion which causes President Snow to want to kill Katniss. Will he get the chance? You have to read to find out.

This book had me on edge the entire

time. I never knew what was going happen. Each chapter had a cliffhanger, and when I thought it wouldn’t get any worse for our heroes, Katniss and Peeta, it always would.

Sometimes, I would find myself grasping and cheering while reading this book. It had something for everyone; action, drama and romance. It never let up. The author keeps you wondering what’s going to happen from chapter to chapter until the very end. But you’ll never expect what happens. It’s a great book.

I hope you enjoy this book as much as I did.

—Chelsea Cleveland
Staff Writer



CHELSEA CLEVELAND
Staff Writer

TUNING IN

New Albums Offer Audiences Variety

MILEY CYRUS- ‘BANGERZ’

It is no secret that Miley Cyrus’ VMA performance appalled people around the world. However, I want to recommend that everyone give her another chance and download her new album, “Bangerz” because I can guarante that it’s worth it. Songs such as “Wrecking Ball” provide a deeper look into Cyrus’ personal feelings and heartache, while other songs such as “We Can’t Stop” still give listeners something to dance to.

LORDE- ‘ROYALS’

Lorde, a 16-year-old girl, is an upcoming superstar. Her voice is absolutely unique, and her music is extremely creative. If you have not heard her debut single “Royals,” go download it now. It is sure to instantly attract you.

CHER- ‘CLOSER TO THE TRUTH’

Recently, Cher debuted her new single “Woman’s World” from her 26th album. Cher is 66 years old, but she is keeping her music, attitude and appearance current by pairing up with artists such as Timbaland and Lady Gaga in an attempt to spark interest from the music audience. She is the only singer who has remained on the top of the charts for almost 5 decades, and no one does it better than Cher.

LUKE BRYAN- ‘CRASH MY PARTY’

For every country fan, this album is a must download. Luke Bryan is notorious for his “feel-good songs” that leave girls drooling, and this album provides the same reaction. Even if you are not a country fan, try his songs out. They are sure to impress.

JAY Z- ‘MAGNA CARTA, HOLY GRAIL’

Jay Z’s new album is full of music that disappoints his audience. It almost seems as if he knows he is famous and important to the music industry, but he takes it for granted. The music content seems to display Jay Z’s inability to understand what brought him to his fame and the listener is left disappointed, wanting more from his lyrics.

—Taylor Townsend
Staff Writer



TAYLOR TOWNSEND
Staff Writer

TECH TIME

iOS7: Is it Worth the Wait?

Technology fans rejoice! The long awaited iOS7 update from Apple was released September 18, and things are looking a lot sleeker. No more are the days of unlock bars! Now iPhone users have an entire lock screen that functions as the unlock mechanism. Once slid over, if a passcode is required, users are presented with the usual prompt to enter the code.

The new design features round buttons that replace the old blocky and dull passcode screen. The new home screen shows that the rounded off look goes for all aspects of the phone now, even to the signal strength, which is now measured in dots rather than bars.

Apps look a lot more fashionable, and they do update automatically. Most major applications have updated to match the new functionality of iOS 7. However, there are some changes to be made as the app updates are causing bugs and crashes.

Aside from apps, there is also a new look to the iPod. Everything about the new iPod look is fantastic aside from one thing. Now, if I want to skip ahead in my song and not just fast forward, I have to struggle to touch the tiny bar measuring the time and drag it to the desired spot. This process is so difficult that I typically spend the entire song and the one after it trying to achieve a

personal goal of just being able to drag the bar.

Other than that, another new feature in the iPod is the iTunes Radio. It requires Internet to work, but it is basically a free version of Pandora that users don’t have to download and update periodically. Users can set stations according to their favorite genres and artists, which is a great way to discover new music to enjoy.

Perhaps my favorite part of the new update is the control center. Scrolling down from the top of the home screen presents the notification center, scrolling up from the bottom of the home screen produces the new control center. This is where users can

change things such as wifi on/off, do not disturb, brightness, volume, etc. There is a new flashlight function located in the control center, and so far it has proven to be pretty bright.

Overall, the new functions and design are nice, but a highly noticeable drop in battery life has accompanied the update. This combined with a slight lag make me love iOS 7 a little less. Though I still believe that Steve Jobs would be proud of the mostly pleasing work done by his surviving colleagues. 7/10

—Aaren Avera
Staff Writer

We Want Your News!

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

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SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
EC's Award-Winning Students at National SkillsUSA Contest: These career-technical students representing East Central Community College in Decatur received various honors at the 49th Annual SkillsUSA Conference held earlier this summer in Kansas City, MO. Award-winners and their respective areas of competition included (from left) Wesley Clark of Decatur, 21st, Collision Repair Technology; and Brittany Smith of Decatur, Sarah Orr of Noxapater and Wanda Harrison of Walnut Grove, fifth place, Promotional Bulletin Board.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
ECCC Phi Beta Lambda Students Receiving National Honors: East Central Community College's Phi Beta Lambda chapter received various honors at the 2013 National PBL Conference held in Anaheim, Calif. Award-winners and other conference participants included (front row, from left) Tanner Fortenberry of Union, fourth place, Small Business Management Plan and Mississippi's representative to Who's Who in Phi Beta Lambda; Chelsea Gilmer of Philadelphia, fifth, Free Enterprise Project; Ashleigh Savage of Union, fifth, Free Enterprise Project and 14th, Integrated Marketing Campaign; Yashica Ickom of Lake, selected Mississippi PBL Vice President; Timmie Ivey Wiggins of Little Rock, fourth, Small Business Management Plan; and Haleigh Graham of Sebastopol, 14th, Integrated Marketing Campaign; and (back row, from left) Jessie Boatner of Philadelphia, fifth place, Free Enterprise Project; Cindy Burnside of Decatur, seventh, Local Chapter Annual Business Report; Denzel Clemons of Philadelphia, fourth, Small Business Management Plan; and Latoya Steele of Louisville. Fortenberry is the third EC student to be chosen as Mississippi's Who's Who award recipient. The outstanding students were accompanied by PBL advisers Christy Ferguson, business technology instructor; and Thomas Fortenberry, computer network support technology instructor.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
ECCC Phi Theta Kappa Inductees: These outstanding East Central Community College students were inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, at the fall induction ceremony held Sept. 23, 2013, in Huff Auditorium. Honorees and their respective home towns include (first row, from left) Julie Clark and Angela Reeves, both of Newton; Megan Thaggard, Carthage; and Lacye Harrison, Newton; (second row, from left) Payton Smith, Forest; Bethany Jones, Philadelphia; Emily Price, Walnut Grove; Shanna Culpepper, Forest; and Chelsey Smith, Brandon; and (third row, from left) Corey Burton, Philadelphia; Zach Yates, Decatur; Joseph McBeath, Carthage; and Justin Laster, Pelahatchie. ECCC Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake was guest speaker. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart and Vice President for Instruction Dr. Teresa Houston also provided remarks. EC staff members Amanda Walton, Chris Ryals and Jenna Wright serve as Theta Xi advisers. Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society on American higher education with more than two million members and 1,200 chapters located in the 50 United States, U.S. territories, Canada and Germany.

ECCC Collegians Selected for 2013-14

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Members of the East Central Community College Collegians were recently selected for 2013-14, announced first-year director Chas Evans.

The popular rock 'n' roll group includes vocalists Ryan Godwin, Claire Griffin and Taylor Gressett, all products of Newton County High School, Jake Wilbourne of Scott Central, Macy Seale of Neshoba Central, Kara Miller, Newton County Academy and Krissy Winstead of Union; saxophonist Zachary Peden and trumpet player Adrian Tucker, both of Neshoba Central; trumpet player Matt Graham of Lake and trombone player Anna Girling of Leake Central; lead guitarist Jamey Tune of Newton County Academy, acoustic guitarist Dillon Evans of Carthage, aux-

iliary percussionist D'Andre Henton of Neshoba Central, drummer Joseph Aulds and bassist Houston Martin III, both of Newton County, and keyboard player Malcolm McBride of Auburn (Ala.) High School.

Technicians are Michael Buntyn (lead), Sarah Labue, Acea Ange and Ryan Packer, all of Newton County; Jeremy Collins of Scott Central, Austin Savell of Neshoba Central, Clay Holdiness of Nanih Waiya and Kendall Wilcher and Cody Smith, both of Leake Central.

The Collegian's fall concert will be held at 8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 18 in Huff Auditorium. There is no charge for admission.

For more information, contact Chas Evans, 601-635-6227 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 227. His email address is cevans@eccu.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
Wo-He-Lo Yearbook Editorial Board for 2013-14: Editors of the 73rd edition of the Wo-He-Lo yearbook of East Central Community College were recently announced. Pictured are, front row from left, assistant editors Penny Easterling of Forest, Emily Cook of Carthage, Samantha Morgan of Louisville and Shannon McNeil of Sebastopol; and back row from left, assistant editor DeeJay Rolison of Decatur; senior assistant editors Madison Herrington of Union and Payton Smith of Forest; and editor Conor Bell of Carthage. Senior assistant editors not pictured include Claire Griffin of Decatur, and Candice Stewart of Morton. Assistant editors not pictured include Anna Girling of Carthage and Christian Little of Philadelphia.

Wo-He-Lo announces Bell Editor, Editorial Board

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

The editorial board of the 73rd edition of the *Wo-He-Lo* yearbook of East Central Community College was recently announced by Publications Coordinator Gennie Phillips. Conor Bell of Carthage will serve as editor for the upcoming publication.

"I feel absolutely honored to have been selected as the editor of the *Wo-He-Lo*," Bell said.


Phillips, who serves as adviser for yearbook and newspaper staffs, said there will be a panel of senior assistant editors and assistant editors who will be helping Bell with editorial duties. Senior assistant editors include sophomores Payton Smith of Forest, Madison Herrington of Union, Candice Stewart of Morton and Claire Griffin of Decatur. Assistant editors serving on the board include freshmen Samantha Morgan of Louisville, Anna Girling and Emily Cook, both of Carthage; Bailey Easterling of Forest, Shannon McNeil of Sebastopol, DeeJay Rolison of Decatur and Christian Little of Philadelphia.

"We have a great year ahead and look forward to having the staff come together to best capture the 2013-14 school year," Phillips said.

Bell and his editorial board have already begun the planning process for the upcoming yearbook and have been meeting with staff members to prepare for the publication.

"This year will be different and new for all of us on staff and for the college as we will be doing a magazine-style book," Bell said, referencing that the yearbook will include less pictures, more articles and more classy designs.


"Because of this style of book being so new, we are striving to have one of the top yearbooks in the state among community colleges," he said. "I feel confident that with the guidance of our sponsor and the creativity and work of our assistant editors and soon-to-be yearbook staffers that we can accomplish this goal with ease."



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SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Wall O' Sound Marching Band: Above are members of the 2013 East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Marching Band. Pictured are (first row, from left) Kayla Covington, Louisville; Emilee Cox, Forest; Kara Beth Johnson, Morton; Emma Burton, Union; Katie Sanford, Decatur; Nathan Williams, Union; Emily Jacome-Cluff, Hickory; Sarah Hall, Philadelphia; Emily Gully, Louin; Caitlyn Sant, Decatur; Kelsey Cox, Forest; and Kellie Boulton, Newton; (second row, from left) Jayohnnie Slaughter, Union; Grayson Harrell, Morton; Davita Ragsdale, Forest; Joni Hickman, Louisville; Emily Cook, Carthage; Hannah Mitchell, Meridian; Mackenzie Gannon, Newton; Jordan Lovorn, Louisville; Hillary Williams, Philadelphia; Cara Jackson and Jessica Moffett, both of Louisville; Kasey Logan, Lake; and Taylor Gressett, Chunky; (third row, from left) Kierra Stewart, Forest; Brittany Foster, Morton; MaChasity Leflore, Carthage; Livi Harrison, Little Rock; Gloriana Latham, Morton; DeeJay Rolinson, Conehatta; Nicole Cater, Decatur; Torie Quinn, Louisville; Katy Ezelle, Decatur; Shelby Horn, Hickory; Heather Bradley, Philadelphia; and Katherine Jacome-Cluff, Hickory; (fourth row, from left) Faith Emmons, Lake; Samantha Farley and Elora Nicholas, both of Philadelphia; Dakota Hollingsworth and Symone Ickom, both of Lake; Haley Taylor, Union; Sarah LaBue, Katie Bradley and Tabby LaBue, all of Conehatta; Sarah Freeman, Decatur; Mattie Brooks and Emily Crane, both of Carthage; and Sarah Thorne, Noxapater; (fifth row, from left) Aaliyah Cook, Kasia McQueen, Tiffany Flowers and Keshela Boyd, all of Carthage; Taylor Townsend, Beth Price, Tori Malone, Rachel Justice and Meghan McPherson, all of Union; Kara Miller, Decatur; Daniela Vargas, Morton; Mallory Wilkerson, Union; and Holly Logan, Madison; (sixth row, from left) Chireatha Drummond, Union; Danette Harris, Brandon; Leslie Young, Philadelphia; Bri Cooks, Forest; Tyiesha Evans, Philadelphia; Mariah Boyd and Anna Girling, both of Carthage; Lorrie Moore, Lena; Kristy Athey, Morton; Adrian Tucker and Zach Peden, both of Philadelphia; Claire Griffin, Decatur; and Tammie Triplett, Louisville; (seventh row, from left) Shardae Spears, Philadelphia; Brittney Taylor, Lake; Shauncey Rich, Union; Brittinae Smith, Philadelphia; Georgia Doner, Bailey; Kara Yates, Morton; Aaren Avera, Hickory; Ashley Bowman, Union; Kristen Felton, Chunky; Cady Smith, Ashley Cumberland and Brittany Sharp, all of Philadelphia; and Brianna Parkman, Lake; (eighth row, from left) Denzel Clemons, Philadelphia; Dustin Fisher, Lake; Charles Taylor, Preston; William Milner, Lena; Ian Lanthrip, Forest; Jaron Croft, Decatur; Hunter Vance, Little Rock; Sam Lovorn, Philadelphia; Conor Bell, Carthage; Houston Martin, Chunky; Kendall Wilcher, Carthage; Matt Graham, Meridian; and Brandon Warrick, Union; (ninth row, from left) Jonathon Hodge, Lake; Clay Drury, Damian Savage and D'Andre Henton, all of Philadelphia; Jonathan Brown, Canton; Stafford Griffin, Carthage; Jermaine Russell, Philadelphia; Julian Fuentes, Newton; Adam Pryor, Decatur; Cody Smith, Carthage; Colton Horne, Noxapater; Blake Faulkner, Carthage; and Corey Burton, Philadelphia; (tenth row, from left) Samson Pace, Forest; Quintin Darden, Louisville; John Ford, Philadelphia; James Hanna, Carthage; Acea Ange and Patrick Embrey, both of Hickory; Michael Buntyn, Newton; Ryan Packer, Decatur; Austin Savell, Philadelphia; Jamey Tune, Newton; Damien Lewis, Philadelphia; Malcolm McBride, Phenix City, Ala.; and Glenn Bender and Chris Kelley, both of Newton; (eleventh row, from left) Thomas Robertson and Thomoz Smith, both of Forest; Taylor Cornelison, Morton; Jeremy Collins, Forest; Benji Walton, Decatur; Ben Avera, Hickory; Dillon Evans, Carthage; Chauncy Griffin, Morton; Jeremiah Chapman, Newton; Neal Wilson, Decatur; Nisa Jones, Newton; Jeremy Dade, Hickory; and Ryan McClendon, Forest; and (twelfth row, from left) Jacob Emmons, Lake; Sara Pell, Forest; Austin Mize, Newton; Aaron Hancock, Philadelphia; Clay Holdiness, Louisville; Mark Beasley, Walnut Grove; Cody Harrison, Philadelphia; Matt Mason, Union; Josh Chesnut, Philadelphia; Josh Finley, Conehatta; and David Wilson, Collinsville. Not pictured is Chandler Smith of Philadelphia. Hunter Corhern serves as Director of Bands and Ed Girling serves as assistant director.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Centralettes – Dance Line for Wall O' Sound Marching Band Providing halftime entertainment during East Central Community College football games are the above members of the Centralettes, the dance line for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band. Members include (first row, from left) Kasey Logan, Lake; Kara Beth Johnson, Morton; Taylor Gressett, Chunky; Emily Gully, Louin; Jayohnnie Slaughter, Union; and Hillary Williams, Philadelphia; (second row, from left) Mackenzie Gannon, Newton; Kayla Covington, Louisville; Kelsey Cox and Emilee Cox, both of Forest; Caitlynn Sant, Decatur; and Hannah Mitchell, Meridian; and (third row, from left) Emily Cook, Carthage; Jordan Lovorn, Cara Jackson, Jessica Moffett and Joni Hickman, all of Louisville; Kelly Boulton, Newton; Davita Ragsdale, Forest; and Grayson Harrell, Morton. Tina Sanders begins her first year as coordinator/choreographer. Hunter Corhern serves as Director of Bands and Ed Girling is assistant director.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Color Guard: Color Guard members in the 2013 East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Marching Band include (first row, from left) Livi Harrison, Little Rock; Gloriana Latham, Morton; Heather Bradley, Philadelphia; Katherine Jacome-Cluff, Hickory; Torie Quinn, Louisville; and Shelby Horn, Hickory; and (second row, from left) Kierra Stewart, Forest; Brittany Foster, Morton; DeeJay Rolison, Conehatta; MaChasity Leflore, Carthage; and Katy Ezelle and Nicole Cater, both of Decatur. Kelsey Sikes begins her first year as Color Guard coordinator. Hunter Corhern is Director of Bands and Ed Girling is assistant director.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Practical Nursing Students Complete Community Service: Practical Nursing students at East Central Community College recently completed their first community service project of the college term, which included collecting school supplies for area elementary students. Class members are shown with the donations, which have been delivered to Newton County Elementary and Newton Elementary schools. The group's efforts were lead by nursing instructors Theresa Cole, Violet Lambert and Christy Williams.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Drum Majors: Serving as drum majors for the East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Marching Band in 2013-14 are (from left) Sarah Hall, a product of Philadelphia High School; Nathan Williams of Union; and Emily Jacome-Cluff and Katie Sanford, both products of Newton County High School. Hunter Corhern serves as ECCC Director of Bands and Ed Girling is assistant director.

Hueys Named Alumni of the Year at EC

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

For the first time in school history, a husband and wife have been named Alumnus and Alumna of the Year, respectively, at East Central Community College.

Max and Carolyn Cook Huey of Picayune, both members of the Class of 1965, were recently selected for the honors after each was nominated by a different person and later selected by a committee of ECCC alumni representatives. They will be recognized during the college's annual Homecoming celebration scheduled Saturday, October 12.

Both Max and Carolyn said they were surprised when College President Dr. Billy Stewart contacted them regarding their selection.

"What a wonderful honor," Carolyn said of her selection. "I thought what have I done to deserve this? So many others I'm sure have done much more."

Max added, "I was humbled and honored when I received the call."

Max retired in 2012 as CEO and Chairman of the Board at First National Bank in Picayune, a position he held since 1990. Carolyn is a retired school teacher, having taught upper elementary and junior high school in Petal and junior high school in Picayune.

The Hueys are both active in civic and professional organizations and have been dedicated to bettering the communities in which they have lived.

"One of the themes I took from East Central (Community College) was that one needed to work hard and improve the community in which they live," Max said.

Carolyn added, "I have been very active in civic organizations all my life. The Civic Woman's Club motto 'Service to your community is the price you pay for the space you occupy' has always stood out to me, perhaps because I've always tried to serve my community wherever we lived."

Max served in the banking profession for 41 years, including stints at Deposit Guaranty Bank in Petal and Hattiesburg and was a member of the Mississippi Bankers Association where he served on the Executive Committee.

He was a member of the Petal Optimist Club for 20 years and was active in coaching Dixie Youth sports when his children were young. Since moving to Picayune, he has been active in the Rotary Club and for many years helped organize and participated in the group's annual Fishing Rodeo for special education children. He was the recipient of the R.H. Crosby President's Cup and was selected Rotarian of the Year.

In 2009, he was selected Citizen of the Year by the Greater Picayune Area Chamber of Commerce.

Max recently completed a five-year term on the Mississippi Community College Board and is a former member of the

Pearl River Community College Board of Trustees.

Carolyn spent 29 years as a school teacher before retiring in 1996.

She was nominated on several occasions for Who's Who Among American Teachers and was nominated for Teacher of the Year in 1991.

She served as President of the Petal Association of Educators and was a member of Alpha Delta Kappa national teachers' organization. She helped organize the Picayune chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa where she served as the group's first President and received a 25-year service certificate.

She is a member of the Picayune Civic Woman's Club, of which she was named Clubwoman of the Year in 1996 and served as Grand Marshal of the Christmas Parade that same year. Carolyn was also selected Outstanding New Club Member in 1993.

As a member of the Mississippi Federation of Woman's Clubs (MFWC), Carolyn served in various positions including Secretary and President-Elect prior to her term as state President from 2008-2010.

She received the Jennie Award in 2006, the highest award given to a state member for leadership.

For her "President's Special Project," a statewide initiative by the MFWC, she chose an Emergency Needs Fund for Blair E. Batson Children's Hospital Pediatric Cardiology Department, which raised in excess of \$80,000.

"I chose Batson's Cardiology Department after our second grandchild, Jonathan, was born with Hypo-Plastic Left Heart Syndrome," Carolyn said. "By the time he was two years old he had three open heart surgeries at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. We were there for everything and were able to be in a room attached to the hospital.

Others were not as fortunate and were sleeping on couches and getting dressed in public restrooms. This made me aware of the need for funds to help those who couldn't take care of themselves."

Both Max and Carolyn served as co-chairs of the Highlanders Club, a Foundation set up to support the new Highland Community Hospital in Picayune.

They are also active members of First Baptist Church, Picayune, and have served on numerous committees. Carolyn has also been active in the church choir and mixed ensemble.

Both Max and Carolyn credit family as their greatest influences.

"My parents, Cline and Mary Lee Cook were very hard working and always wanted better for their children," Carolyn said. "Getting an education and attending college was never an option. My brother attended East Central three semesters before enlisting in the Navy and getting an appointment to West Point. Both sisters attended East Central and then



MAX & CAROLYN HUEY

MSCW (Mississippi State College for Women). All four of us were teachers so education has played a major role in my life."

Neighbors, high school friends and college roommates were also among those who all had a great effect on Carolyn's life. "It looks like it took the whole community to raise me!" she said.

One such neighbor, Winifred McElhaney Vincent, widow of former ECCC President W. Arno Vincent, said of Max and Carolyn Huey, "I believe a cross-stitch sampler done by their daughter, Renee, says it all, 'Chance made us neighbors, hearts made us friends.' They are most deserving of this honor bestowed on them."

In addition to his mother, Willie Mae Huey, insisting he attend college, Max said his brothers, who all still reside in the Decatur area, encouraged him to attend and have always been very supportive of him.

Both credit their time at then East Central Junior College as some of their best days. And it was at the college where they first met.

"I had served three years in the Army before coming to East Central. I promised my mother I would go to college if she would sign for me to join

the last house on the route and I didn't pick her up.

"I was in the registration line outside Huff Auditorium later that day and she proceeded to chew me out. When she left, I asked the principal who she was and I made sure to pick her up the next day!"

Carolyn was active in the music department at East Central and was a member of the band, choir and Bell Cantos ensemble. She also participated in the Baptist Student Union.

"I remember my sophomore voice recital where I was performing a song from Sampson and Delilah. I was anxious to get it over with and somehow got ahead of myself. Miss (Brenda, music teacher) Cox was flipping pages as fast as she could and somehow we managed to finish at the same time!"

Among teachers who influenced her life were high school English instructor Lillian Horton who she said, "made me believe in myself and realize if I wanted something I could attain it" and ECJC BSU Director Gladys Bryant whom she had "great respect for."

Music instructors Mr. (Robert) Fick and Miss Cox and history instructor Dr. Richard Ethridge were also favorites.

"They (Fick and Cox) helped fulfill my love of music and Dr. Ethridge made western civilization come alive!" she said.

Max said he made many friends at East Central and still maintains those friendships today. But his involvement in campus life was limited as he spent most of his time working.

"I worked and drove a bus. On the weekends, I worked at Charles Sims' Shell Station. I only had time to go to class and attend all performances of the Bell Cantos!" he said.

His most memorable East Central instructors were J. Wallace Bedwell, Jessie Mae Everett, Dr. Richard Ethridge

and L.B. Simmons.

"Mr. Bedwell always told us 'If you don't understand the numbers, you won't be successful at business.' Mrs. Jessie Mae Everett always encouraged you to improve your skills and made you believe you could.

Of course, Dr. Ethridge taught me more about Western Civilization than I really wanted to know, but you learned other important things while attending his class.

"Mr. Simmons, my economics instructor, talked about 'guns vs. butter' and we are still discussing those issues today."

The Hueys dated throughout their time at East Central and then both attended and graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg.

Max completed his bachelor's degree in business administration and has completed additional studies at Louisiana State University. Carolyn received her bachelor's in education and later received a master's in education from William Carey College (now University).

Following their graduation from USM, Max and Carolyn were married in 1968.

They agreed their greatest accomplishment is their family, which Carolyn said includes "two fabulous children and six sweetie-pies."

Their daughter, Renee, lives in Olive Branch with her husband, Lance Presley, and three children, Jonathan, Joshua and Payton. Their son, Stewart, lives in Picayune with his wife, Julie, and children, Madalyn, Lauren and Hadley.

Since retiring, the Hueys enjoy traveling and spending time with family and friends. They are currently dividing time between their home in Picayune and a newly built home in Decatur.

SBA Hosts a Week of Homecoming Activities

BY MADISON HERRINGTON
EDITOR

The Student Body Association of East Central Community College will be hosting a week full of Homecoming events for the students to enjoy.

"We hope everyone will come out and enjoy the activities we have planned," said SBA President Allie Killens. "We have a lot of fun events planned and encourage all students to participate and have a great homecoming week."

Festivities kicked off Monday night with a movie night at the pavilion, where the movie "Radio" was shown. A Homecoming Volleyball tournament began Tuesday evening and will conclude Wednesday evening. Tuesday's winners will compete at 3 p.m. followed by the "Totally 80s" dance from 9 until 12 p.m. in South Campus gymnasium.



MADISON HERRINGTON
Editor


Students are advised that they will be asked for their student ID to attend the dance. All students are encouraged to attend.

Last, but not least, on Thursday, October 10th, SBA is hosting a pep rally from 7 until 10 p.m. The homecoming court will be introduced and welcomed with the EC Warrior Walk. The band, cheerleaders, and centralettes will be performing! There is also going to be a tailgating event, where everyone can enjoy some local bands' performances followed by a fireworks show.

Students are also reminded to come out to Bailey Stadium and cheer on the Warriors at 2:30 p.m. Saturday while the Warriors take on Mississippi Delta Community College.




KILLENS



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Four years ago, I had no idea what I wanted to do in life. However, I did know that William Carey University's amazing scholarships were right for me.

As a Carey student, I've had opportunities that I never imagined. I've been on trips to Europe, excelled academically and now serve as the president of the Student Foundation, which raises money for student scholarships.

*My name is Randi Clark
and I enjoy helping my fellow students. And I encourage you to find out what opportunities await you at Carey.*

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Former ECCC Students Receive Rural Physicians Scholarships

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Two recent graduates of East Central Community College in Decatur were accepted into the Mississippi Rural Physicians Scholarship Program.

William Meruvia and Meghan Johnson were selected to participate in the undergraduate portion of the prestigious program. Both are members of the ECCC Class of 2013.

“East Central is so proud of William and Meghan on their selection for participation in this prestigious scholarship program,” said ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart. “It is a direct reflection on their hard work and dedication to scholarship and academic achievement. It is also a reflection of the quality instruction provided by faculty at East Central. We are proud that two of the 17 college sophomores chosen from across the state to participate in this program are recent EC graduates. Also, knowing both William and Meghan, they will make their families and their East Central family proud. We look forward to celebrating with them in the future when they become Dr. Meruvia and Dr. Johnson.”

Meruvia, a Neshoba Central High School product, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Osvaldo Meruvia of Philadelphia.

Johnson is a Leake Academy graduate and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Johnson of Lena.

Created in 2007, the Mississippi Rural Physicians Scholarship Program identifies up to 20 college sophomores “who demonstrate the necessary commitment and academic achievement to become competent, well-trained rural



JOHNSON



MERUVIA

primary care physicians in our state,” according to Dr. Wahnee Sherman, MRPSP executive director.

The program offers two years of undergraduate academic enrichment including MCAT (Medical College Admission Test) preparation and a clinical experience in a rural setting. Upon completion of all medical school admissions requirements, students will be admitted to the University of Mississippi School of Medicine through Direct Entry.

During medical school, each MRPSP scholar may receive \$30,000 per year based on available funding. Consistent legislative support of MRPSP translates to 50 medical students receiving a total of \$1,500,000 to support their education this fall. Additional benefits include personalized mentoring from practicing rural physicians and academic support.

Upon completion of the

training, MRPSP Scholars must enter a residency program in one of five primary care specialties: family medicine, general internal medicine, medicine-pediatrics, obstetrics/gynecology or pediatrics.

The MRPSP Scholar must provide four years of service in a clinic-based practice in an approved Mississippi community of 20,000 or fewer population located more than 20 miles from a medically served area.

MRPSP provides a means for rural Mississippi students to earn a seat in medical school, receive MCAT preparation valued at \$2,000, earn a \$120,000 medical school scholarship in return for four years of service and learn the art of healing from practicing rural physicians.

For more information, contact MRPSP Executive Director Dr. Wahnee Sherman at 601-815-9022, wsherman@umc.edu or <http://mrpsp.umc.edu>.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC students participate in state honors choir: Nine choral students from East Central Community College performed at the Mississippi Community College Honors Choir at the Southern Invitational Choral Conference in Hattiesburg on Sept. 23-24. The students were under the direction of Dr. Paul Hondorp of Western Kentucky University and joined in the 300-member choir when it presented a public concert on Sept. 23 at Main Street Baptist Church in Hattiesburg. The ECCC students participating and their respective high schools included: (front row, from left) Sarah LaBue, Newton County; Anna Girling, Leake Central; and Claire Griffin, Newton County; (second row, from left) Clint Walker, Newton County Academy; DeeJay Rolison, Newton County; and Georgia Doner, West Lauderdale; and (back row, from left) Ryan Godwin, Newton County; Sam Lovern, Neshoba Central; and Chandler Smith, Newton County. The students are members of the ECCC Concert Choir under the direction of Vicki Blaylock.

EC Joins Other JUCOs in Announcing Tuition Increase

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College is among the state’s community colleges to announce a tuition increase for the 2013-14 academic year.

East Central is one of 11 community colleges to increase tuition and other fees, according to a recent published report from the Mississippi Community College Board.

State officials cite part of the reason for the increase is now that the economy is improving, people are going back to work, thus reducing enrollment levels and cutting tuition income.

“Increasing tuition is necessary to ease the financial burden of the community and junior colleges,” said Dr. Eric Clark, State Board executive director. “Sometimes it is necessary just to pay the bills.”

Tuition will increase \$50 per semester at EC, from \$940 to \$990. Fees for part-time students also increase, from \$90 to \$95 per credit hour. Cost for meals also rises, from \$765 to \$790 for a five-day plan, and from \$920 to \$970 for a seven-day meal ticket.

Despite the increase, East Central remains an educational bar-

gain, according to EC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

“We never like to raise tuition, but it is necessary due to budgetary challenges the college is currently facing,” said Dr. Stewart. “Although we were forced to raise our full-time tuition cost slightly, we are the only community/junior college in the state with fees less than \$1,000 per semester. So we are still very economical in comparison to other colleges and universities and we will continue to offer the highest quality of instruction and services to students through our talented faculty and dedicated staff.”

All other semester fees remain the same.

East Central offers several orientation/registration sessions for new and transfer students planning to attend the 2013 fall semester.

Remaining sessions are scheduled Friday, July 12; and Friday, August 9.

Fall classes begin Wednesday, August 14.

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



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

McMullan Joins ECCC Board of Trustees: Ken McMullan (center) of Louisville was recently welcomed as a new member of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees. McMullan, shown with ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart (left) and Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake, joins the Board following his selection as Superintendent of the Louisville Municipal Separate School District. McMullan is a former principal at Louisville High School and Nanih Waiya Attendance Center. He has held other positions at Nanih Waiya, including athletic director, head football coach, assistant principal and teacher. McMullan is a graduate of Decatur High School, ECCC and Mississippi State University, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in physical education, a master’s degree in sports administration and an Educational Specialist in educational leadership. He is married to the former Leigh Warner of Louisville and they have two children, Kenley and Trey.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Preparing for ECCC Homecoming: Finalizing plans for East Central Community College’s 2013 Homecoming celebration are the above Alumni Association Officers and Board of Directors, who include (seated from left) Florence Harkins Henley of Starkville, out-of-district representative; Ann Hunter Burkes of Decatur, Newton County representative; Alumni Association officers Jeanette Beevers Thrash of Decatur, secretary, Lois Blount Cooper of Madison, president, and Dow Thomas of Louisville, vice president; and Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, ECCC Executive Director for Foundation and Alumni Relations; and (standing from left) Harvey Trapp of Decatur, Newton County representative; Dr. Billy Stewart, ECCC President; Dayna Morgan of Philadelphia, Neshoba County representative; Jerald Everett of Clinton, out-of-district representative; ECCC staff members Dr. Randall Lee, vice president for student services, Dr. Teresa Houston, vice president for instruction and Amanda Walton, workforce education counselor; and Paul Chamblee of Carthage, Leake County representative. Homecoming is scheduled Saturday, October 12. For more information, contact Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth at 601-635-6327 or email sholling@eccc.edu. A list of Homecoming activities is available on the college’s Web site, www.eccc.edu.



CHELSEA CLEVELAND
Staff Writer

Come be Spooked at The Haunted House of Hoops

BY CHELSEA CLEVELAND
Staff writer

The Haunted House of Hoops, where the boys’ and girls’ basketball teams showcase their talent in front of East Central Community

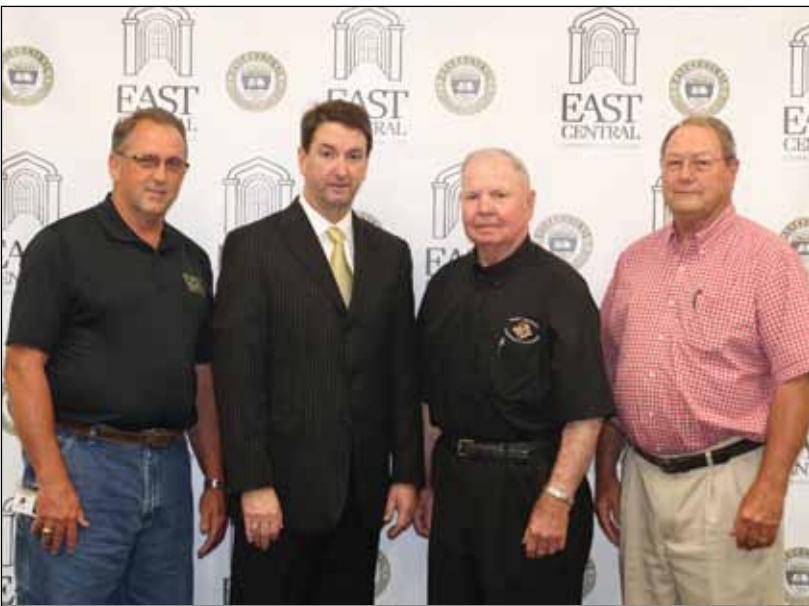
College students, will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Bracken Wood Gymnasium.

The Haunted House of Hoops is also a time when the Warrior cheerleaders, Centralettes and Wall O’ Sound Drumline put on a show between the scrimmages.

There’s no telling what these groups will come dressed up as!

There will be a costume contest for the students.

Valley Food Services will also be serving hot wings in the gym for supper.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Trustees Honored for Service: These members of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees were honored for their service at the annual Mississippi Community/Junior College Trustees’ Association Conference held July 12-13, 2013, in Biloxi. Receiving special recognition and their respective years of service include (from left) Ricky Goldman of Philadelphia, 10 years; Board Chairman Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake, 10 years; former Board Chairman Prentice Copeland of Philadelphia, 45 years; and Randal Livingston of Louisville, 25 years. The trustees were also honored at the ECCC Board of Trustees meeting held August 13, 2013.

EC Honors ADN Graduates at Annual Pinning Ceremony



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
Johnson Named ECCC's Top ADN Student: Leah Johnson (right) of Louisville was selected East Central Community College's Associate Degree Nursing Student of the Year and is shown receiving an award certificate from Dean of Healthcare Education Denita Thomas at the 2013 ADN Pinning Ceremony held May 3 in Huff Auditorium. Johnson also provided the address to her fellow graduates. For information on EC's healthcare programs, contact Dean Thomas, 601-635-6294 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 294.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College recognized its Associate Degree Nursing graduates at the annual ADN Pinning Ceremony held Friday, May 3, 2013, in Huff Auditorium.

Receiving special recognition was Leah Johnson of Louisville, who was selected 2013 ADN Student of the Year. Johnson also delivered the program address.

Other program participants were graduates Caleb Jay of Philadelphia and Richie Ferguson of Decatur, who performed "Time of My Life." Ashley Bar-

nett of Union gave the invocation and Jay provided the benediction.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart, Vice President for Instruction Dr. Teresa Houston, Dean of Healthcare Education Denita Thomas, ADN instructor Paula Russum and music instructor Len Bobo were also program participants.

Associate Degree nursing students who received pins included the following:

LEAKE COUNTY: India Nichols, Edinburg; Katie Loper, Walnut Grove; and Ariel Tolleson, Jenna Tolleson, Leigh Mangina, Bobbye Evans and



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
ECCC Associate Degree Nursing Program Graduates: Above are graduates of East Central Community College's Associate Degree Nursing program who were recognized at the annual ADN Pinning Ceremony held Friday, May 3, 2013, in Huff Auditorium. Honorees and their respective hometowns include (first row, from left) India Nichols, Edinburg; Kelsie Boykin, Preston; Ariel Tolleson, Carthage; Jessica Coleman, Union; Alicia Boykin, Morton; Leah Johnson, Louisville; Christina Burt, Philadelphia; and Jeanna Tolleson, Carthage; (second row, from left) Katie Loper, Walnut Grove; Bobbie Evans, Carthage; Ashley Barnett, Union; Ashley Lovern, Philadelphia; Marquata Brown and Jessica D. Brister, both of Jackson; Rachel Bryant, Macon, Leah Rigney, Morton; and Karley Allen, Lake; (third row, from left) Jill Warren, Union; Leigh Mangina, Carthage; Brandie Bounds, Forest; Summer Hallman, Brandon; Katie Gardner, Starkville; Amanda Howard, Nanih Waiya; Mae Aldridge-Lane, Huntsville, Ala.; Myrna Parkman, Raleigh; and Darlene Beckham, Union; and (fourth row, from left) Sheena Nicholson Barnes, Taylorsville; Diane Rea Andrews, Union; Jeremy Woods, Noxapater; Sade Rogers, Carthage; Caleb Jay, Philadelphia; Richie Ferguson, Decatur; Mychal Neal, Meridian; Kelsey White, Louisville; Jonee Cumberland and Randy Talbert, both of Philadelphia; and Jessica Quinn, Brandon. Johnson was program speaker and was recognized as 2013 ADN Student of the Year. Jay and Ferguson performed "Time of My Life." ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart, Vice President for Instruction Dr. Teresa Houston, Dean of Healthcare Education Denita Thomas, ADN instructor Paula Russum, music instructor Len Bobo and graduate Ashley Barnett also participated in the pinning program.

Sade Rogers, all of Carthage;

NESHOBA COUNTY: Diana Rhea Andrews, Jill Warren and Darlene Beckham, all of Union; and Ashley Lovorn, Christina Burt, Caleb Jay, Jonee Cumberland and Brandy Talbert, all of Philadelphia;

NEWTON COUNTY: Ashley Barnett and Jessica Coleman, both of Union; and Richie Ferguson, Decatur;

SCOTT COUNTY: Karley Allen, Lake; Brandie Bounds, Forest; and Alicia Boykin and Leah Rigney, both of Morton;

WINSTON COUNTY: Amanda Howard, Nanih Waiya; Kelsie Boykin, Preston; Jeremy Woods, Noxapater; and Leah Johnson and Kelsey White, both of Louisville;

OUT-OF-DISTRICT

HINDS COUNTY: Marquata Brown, Raymond; and Jessica Brister, Ridgeland;

JASPER COUNTY: Katie Gardner, Louin;

LAUDERDALE COUNTY: Mychal Neal, Meridian;

NOXUBEE COUNTY: Rachel Bryant, Macon;

RANKIN COUNTY: Summer Hallman and Jessica Quinn, both of Brandon;

SMITH COUNTY: Sheena Nicholson Barnes, Taylorsville; and Myrna Parkman, Raleigh; and

OUT-OF-STATE

ALABAMA: Mae Aldridge Lane, Huntsville.

Members of the Associate Degree Nursing faculty are Dr. Sherri Cantey, Lisa Gorgas, Lori Luke, Alicia Lundstrom, Dr. Evada Lyons, Melanie Pinter, Paula Russum, Christy Savell, Martie Vaughn and Denita Thomas, who serves as Dean of Healthcare Education.

For more information, contact Dean Thomas, 601-635-6294 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 294. Her email address is dtomas@eccc.edu.

EC Receives \$92K MDOT Grant for Campus Improvements

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Several improvements will soon be made on the East Central Community College campus as a result of a \$92,000 Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) grant presented today (June 11) by Central Transportation Commissioner Dick Hall.

Commissioner Hall "officially" presented the grant check to ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart during the June meeting of the College's Board of Trustees.

While making the presentation, Commissioner Hall said, "We are pleased to be part of a project that is a key component in creating safe and easy pedestrian access to several areas on the Decatur campus and the Town of Decatur. The grant will be an invaluable investment for East Central students and the Town of Decatur for years to come."

Dr. Stewart said the College is "most appreciative" to Commissioner Hall for coming to campus and personally presenting the \$92,000 grant check, and looks forward to completion of the much-needed project.

"I am excited about the work that will be accomplished through these funds, which will improve the personal safety of pedestrians in transit while providing access for those with disabilities. We appreciate Commissioner Hall's support of the project and cannot thank him enough for his assistance. The College is fortunate to have a great friend and supporter in Commissioner Dick Hall," said Dr. Stewart.

The Mississippi Transportation Commission approved the College's request for up to \$92,000 in Federal Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) funds at its April 23, 2013, meeting. The funds, along with a required 20 percent local match, comprise the total cost of the project.

The TAP program works with local public agencies such as municipalities and community

college districts to construct, plan and design facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists and other non-motorized forms of transportation.

Dr. Stewart expressed appreciation to EC staff members in compiling information for the grant request and to local legislators for their support and assistance.

"I would be remiss if I did not thank Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth (Executive Director for Foundation and Alumni Relations) and Mr. Artie Foreman (Director of the Physical Plant) for their hard work on this project. They were instrumental in the success of our grant application. They worked extremely hard to coordinate and prepare an application that would 'put our best foot forward' and they deserve much credit for the success of the application. They will also be involved in the implementation of the project."

"I also want to recognize the assistance of our legislative delegation throughout the application process. Scott Bounds, Randy Rushing, Giles Ward, Michael Evans, Tom Miles, Terry Burton and Ferr Smith were enthusiastic supporters of this project. I believe their help was also instrumental in the success of our grant application and they deserve a big thank you from the College!"

The project includes construction of the following: a five-foot sidewalk west of Decatur United Methodist Church and east of EC's South Campus facilities to the parking lot of Barber Hall; an adjoining five-foot sidewalk parallel to West Broad Street (in front of Ethridge Hall and the Decatur Public Library) to the corner of South Seventh Avenue; an adjoining five-foot sidewalk parallel to South Seventh Avenue (west of Ethridge Hall and the Rives Education Building); and replacement of the stairs adjacent to the Rives Educational Building.

The project is comprised of 859 feet of sidewalk space with handicap accessible curbing located at the Barber Hall parking lot and at



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
ECCC Presented \$92,000 MDOT Grant: Dick Hall (center), Central Transportation Commissioner with the Mississippi Department of Transportation, presents East Central Community College with a \$92,000 grant during a presentation held June 11. Also pictured are State Rep. Randy Rushing (left) of Decatur and ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart. Funds will be used to construct new sidewalks and other campus improvements.

South Seventh Avenue. Twelve pedestrian-scale lights will be installed along the sidewalks for safety purposes with added landscaping to beautify the area. Cross walk thermo-plastic striping will be applied to West Broad Street cross

walk and to the South Avenue Seventh Avenue cross walk.

Dr. Stewart stated work on the project is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2013 with estimated completion during the spring of 2014.

Herrington named Editor of The Tom-Tom; Stokes, Smith, Griffin Named to Positions

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Talking the helm as editor of East Central Community College's student newspaper, *The Tom-Tom*, is Madison Herrington of Union of the 2013-14 school year.

"I am very excited about this position and hope to lead the newspaper staff successfully while also representing the students' voices of ECCC," Herrington said.

A sophomore nursing major, she is a second-year member of *The Tom-Tom* staff. Herrington placed second in



HERRINGTON

the Sports Features category of the Mississippi Press Association's Better Newspaper Contest for Community Colleges in last year's competition. The Phi Theta Kappa honor student is reporter of the Associates Student Nurses of East Central, senior assistant editor of the *Wo-He-Lo* yearbook staff and a member of the Warrior Cheerleader squad, Warrior Corps and Art Club.

Joining Herrington in leading *The Tom-Tom* is Opinions Editor Will Stokes of Philadelphia and Design Editor Payton Smith of Forest.

Stokes,



STOKES

a political science major, served on *The Tom-Tom* staff last school year. He won third place in the General Interest News Column category of the Mississippi Press Association's Better Newspaper Contest for Community Colleges in last year's competition. Stokes is also a member of ECCC Players and the *Wo-He-Lo* yearbook staff.

This is Smith's first year to serve on *The Tom-Tom* staff. She is a speech pathology major. The Phi Theta Kappa Honor scholar serves as a senior assistant editor of the *Wo-He-Lo* yearbook.



SMITH

She is a member of Warriors Cheerleading squad and Student Educator's Association.

Serving as cartoonist for *The Tom-Tom* is Claire Griffin of Decatur. She is a sophomore music major. She a senior assistant editor of the *Wo-He-Lo* yearbook staff, a member of Phi Theta Kappa, where she served as president in 2012-13; Ac'cents show choir, Wall O' Sound Marching Band, Baptist Student Union, Collegians, Concert Choir and Art Club.



GRIFFIN



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Receive GED Diplomas at ECCC: Ready to begin a new chapter in their lives are the above students who received their high school equivalency diplomas at the semi-annual GED Graduation ceremony held July 18, 2013, at East Central Community College. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart presented diplomas during the special program held in Huff Auditorium. The Rev. Mark Vincent, pastor of Clarke-Venable Church, served as guest speaker. Providing testimonials were Brittany Perkins, David Hebert and Steven Hampton. Other program participants were Dr. Teresa Houston, vice president for instruction and Natalie Emmons, music instructor, both of ECCC; and Edward McGowan, an Adult Basic Education/GED/ESL instructor. GED graduates include (first row, from left) Kimberly Nowell, Philadelphia; Kristen Yarbrough, Louisville; Noel Waggoner, Forest; Jackqulynn Ables, Morton; Barbara Ables, Crystal Springs; Ellen Reilly, Union; Roshonda Needom, Walnut Grove; Ashley Morrow, Newton; Tiffany Hayes, Lake; Brittany Jones, Morton; and Casey Sammons, Carthage; (second row, from left) Cornelius Dan, Choctaw; Casey Harrell, Lena; Tania Rhodes, Conehatta; Jeyde Fitzgerald, Brandon; Derangelos Anderson, Lake; Samantha Jolly, Lena; Cindy Bozeman, Union; Meghan Wheeler, Lena; Freddie Johnson, Pelahatchie; Brittany Perkins, Carthage; Franchesca Rankin, Forest; and Rachel McCord, Lawrence; (third row, from left) Stephen McCulloch, Macon; Alisha McClelland, Philadelphia; Samuel Hill, Louisville; Tyler Ricks, Carthage; David Herbert, Louisville; Andrena Alford, Morton; Lanisha Bridges, Forest; Bryan Drury, Philadelphia; Sid Nichols, Forest; Tina Emmons, Pelahatchie; Claude Epting, Jr., Morton; and Rosemary Lum, Forest; and (fourth row, from left) Cristie Carter, Louisville; Celia Hathorne, Morton; Reginal Brown, Noxapater; David Atkison, Morton; Rickey Adams, Clinton; Brandon Weaver, Forest; Justin Stuart, Morton; Jamison Davis, Lake; Desmond Rush, Philadelphia; Ocean Roberson and Stephen Hampton, both of Louisville; and Cappi Reese, Philadelphia. Not pictured is Alana Goodin of Philadelphia. ECCC offers free ABE/GED/ESL classes throughout the College’s support district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties. For more information, contact Ryan Clarke, Director of Adult Basic Education and GED Testing, 601-635-6387 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 387. His email address is rclarke@eccc.edu.

‘Don’t Waste Your Dreams; Live Them’

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

David Hebert is a prime example of someone who refused to be denied an education and a better way of life. After four attempts, the 20-year-old from Louisville received passing scores on all parts of the GED exam and was among the approximately 55 students to receive high school equivalency diplomas from East Central Community College President Dr. Billy Stewart at the semi-annual GED Graduation held July 18, 2013. Hebert, one of three graduates to provide testimonials during the special program held in a packed Huff Auditorium, said finally earning his GED diploma has provided a positive direction in his life. “Now that I have my GED, you may ask, ‘Where will you go now?’” A few years ago, Hebert said his response would have been, “I don’t know.” But with the GED diploma, Herbert plans to pursue his “dream” careers in the food and video games industries by enrolling in Culinary Arts, Computer Programing and Drafting and Design technology classes at ECCC. “I’ve always loved to cook... and want a second career designing video games,” he said proudly. “Why two careers?” he asked. “I have one answer, I dream big...and I am willing to work for my dreams, and so should you,” he challenged fellow graduates. “You earned it (GED diploma); now take it and live it before it is too late. Life is too short to waste it. Don’t waste your dreams - live them!” Hebert expressed appreciation to instructors Daphne Donald and Kay Ward “for their encouragement and support in helping me obtain my GED Diploma.” Brittany Perkins of Carthage,

who also provided a testimonial, said having earned her GED Diploma means she can pursue a career in the medical field. “I want to go to college and become a registered nurse,” said the wife and mother of a young daughter. “I enjoy caring for and helping others.” Perkins, 22, is a Port Gibson native who at age 14 was placed with the Department of Human Services. She moved from one foster home to another. She said during her remarks that she dropped out of school in the tenth grade, got married and had a baby. She admitted returning to the classroom was a tremendous challenge.... but she found success thanks to family members and her instructors. “It was difficult to get back into school being a full-time wife and mother,” she stated. “My husband (Larry Perkins) persuaded me to get my GED diploma and was my biggest supporter. He helped me complete my homework and took care of our daughter (Abbygail Perkins) while I was in class.” Perkins said her mother-in-law, Marsha Perkins, also encouraged her to pursue a GED diploma and took her to the Leake County Career-Technical Center to register for classes. She attended classes and did well in all areas except one. “I passed all subjects except math....and continuously failed the subject time after time,” she said. “I was at the point of giving up.” But Perkins did not give up, and continued taking GED classes at the Carthage Career Advancement Center. “My instructor (Carolyn Harris) worked with me and was very patient,” said Perkins. “After I took several practice tests and maintained a score of 450 or better, she assured me that I was ready to take the official GED Test at East

Central Community College.” Perkins took the test at EC and said she “felt confident and knew in her heart” that she would pass the exam. Her feelings were accurate, as she explained. “That was a joyous moment for me,” she said of the passing grade, “knowing that someone believed in me. I was so determined to prove others wrong who did not believe I could do it.” Perkins said she is ready to pursue her dream of becoming a nurse. Stephen Hampton, 52, is a Sturgis native now residing in Louisville. He excelled in football at Sturgis High School but dropped out of school his senior year. He and his wife Clara married while in high school and he was called into the ministry a short time later. Prior to earning his GED Diploma, Hampton said he was ashamed to tell people that he had dropped out of school. His feelings changed when he watched comedian Bill Cosby admit during an interview on television that he was a high school dropout but later returned to the classroom to earn his GED Diploma. “This made me realize that many people, regardless of who they are, have made some wrong choices in their lives,” said Hampton. “But that does not matter as long as you try to better yourself. I realized that if Bill Cosby could do it, I could, too....and then he quoted scripture: ‘I can do all things through Jesus Christ who strengthens me.’” Hampton, who attended GED classes at the ECCC Career Advancement Center in Louisville, said his return to the classroom was not an easy experience. “When I first started trying to get my GED Diploma, I would go to class and stay a

few minutes,” he said. “I wasn’t taking it seriously enough. Then I realized, after some time, that if I wanted this I was going to have to buckle down and get it. But I thank God for giving me the desire to stick with it because quitters never win and winners never quit.” He encouraged others to “don’t give up” no matter the obstacles to overcome. “Whatever your goal is in life, keep the faith, be persistent and believe that you can make it,” Hampton said. “The best advice I can give when you feel like giving up is to pray. God answers prayers. I know this for myself because he did it for me. He may not come when we want Him to, but I know He’s on time.” Hampton, a father of five, said he realizes how important it is to have an education. “Years ago, when jobs were plentiful, I could quit a job or get laid off and find another other job,” he said. “Now, it does not matter how much experience you have, you are required to have a high school diploma or GED Diploma.” Hampton is employed at Brasfield and Gorrie Construction. He also enjoys preaching and singing, and recently released his first Gospel CD, “The Last Days.” He expressed appreciation to instructors Mrs. Shelby Varner, Mrs. Shannon Smith, Mrs. Janice Greene and the late Mrs. Jean Sanders for “working with me and believing in me.” Also receiving GED Diplomas were Jackie Ables, Andrea Alford, David Atkison, Claude Epting, Jr., Celia Hawthorne, Brittany Jones and Justin Stuart, all of Morton; Barbara Ables, Crystal Springs; Devangelos Anderson, Jamison Davis and Tiffany Hayes, all of Lake; Cindy Bozeman and Ellen Reilly, both of Union; Lanisha Bridges, Rosemary Lum, Sidbreanna Nichols, Franchesca Rankin, Noel



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Provide Testimonials at ECCC’s GED Graduation: Recent graduates (from left) David Hebert and Stephen Hampton, both of Louisville, and Brittany Perkins of Carthage provided testimonials at the semi-annual GED Graduation held July 18, 2013, at East Central Community College. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart presented diplomas to approximately 55 graduates during the special program held in Huff Auditorium. The Rev. Mark Vincent, pastor, Clarke-Venable Baptist Church in Decatur, was guest speaker. Other program participants were Dr. Teresa Houston, vice president for instruction and Natalie Emmons, music instructor, both of ECCC; and Edward McGowan, an Adult Basic Education/GED/ESL instructor. ECCC offers free ABE/GED/ESL classes throughout the College’s support district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties. For more information, contact Ryan Clarke, Director of Adult Basic Education and GED Testing, 601-635-6387 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 387. His email address is rclarke@eccc.edu. Waggoner and Brandon Weaver, all of Forest; Reginal Brown, Noxapater; Cristie Carter, Samuel Hill, Ocean Roberson, Antionette Webster and Kristen Yarbrough, all of Louisville; Cornelius Dan, Michelle Dan and Mikkolette Dan, all of Choctaw; Bryan Drury, Alana Goodin, Alisha McClelland, Kimberly Nowell, Cappi Reese, Desmond Rush and Leslie Tubby, all of Philadelphia; Tina Emmons and Freddie Johnson, both of Pelahatchie; Jeyde Fitzgerald, Brandon; Olen Graham, Decatur; Casey Harrell, Samantha Jolly and Meghan Wheeler, all of Lena; Dusty Harris, Tyler Ricks, Latica Riley and Casey Sammons, all of Carthage; Rachel McCord, Lawrence; Stephen McCullough, Macon; Ashley Morrow, Newton; Roshonda Needom, Walnut Grove; Tania Rhodes, Conehatta; and Mitchell Spangler, Little Rock. East Central Community College offers free ABE/GED/ESL classes throughout the College’s support district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties. For more information, contact Ryan Clarke, Director of Adult Basic Education and GED Testing, 601-635-6387 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 387. His email address is rclarke@eccc.edu.



ECCC Practical Nursing Program Graduates: These recent graduates of East Central Community College’s Practical Nursing Program received special recognition at the program’s annual pinning ceremony held July 30, 2013, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. Completing the 12-month program are (first row, from left) Sannella Payton, Union; Latoria Boler, Carthage; Deborah Williams, Newton; Betty Tucker, Morton; and Kimberly Kendrick, Carthage; (second row, from left) Paula Bounds, Hickory; Brittany Pinter, Forest; Lacey Johnson, Philadelphia; and Susan Jackson, Sebastopol; (third row, from left) Jackie Hogue, Sebastopol; Summar Fortenberry, and Briana Spears, both of Philadelphia; Amber Thaggard, Carthage; and Kenisha Carter, Louisville. Tucker was the featured speaker and was selected Practical Nursing Student of the Year. Also pictured are Practical Nursing instructors (fourth row, from left) Christy Wilson, Theresa Cole and Violet Lambert. For more information, contact Denita Thomas, Dean of Healthcare Education, 601-635-6294 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 294. Her email address is dthomas@eccc.edu.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Presents \$71,340 in Student Scholarships during Annual Event

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Attending East Central Community College became even more affordable for approximately 130 students who received scholarships presented at the ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Program held earlier this summer.

Provided by numerous alumni, individuals, businesses and industries, the ECCC Foundation scholarships are valued at \$71,340, according to Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations.

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

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart provided remarks at the annual event and expressed appreciation to donors for their support and congratulations to scholarship recipients.

Dr. Randall E. Lee, Vice President for Student Services, served as master of ceremonies.

Scholarships presented and the respective recipients/high schools are as follows:

Albert F. and Fannie Mae Hollingsworth - Samantha Adams, Lake; Mississippi Land Bank - Zachary Allen, Winston Academy; Willis E. Blum and Frances Gaines Blum Slagle Memorial - Aaren Avera, Newton County; Taylor Advanced Welding - Hansel Bell, Nanih Waiya; La-Z-Boy - Glenn Bender, Jr., Newton and Tyler Spence, Newton County; Cox and Associates Insurance- Kaitlyn Blanton, Leake Academy and Emily Cook, Leake Central; BankPlus - Emily Bounds, Newton County Academy and Aaron Brown, Newton County; Sam Rush Memorial - Kristy Bradley and Dakota Wright, both of Neshoba Central; Andrew Wilson Lathem - Jonathan Brown, Leake Central; ECCC Board of Trustees - Alexander Bucklew, Winston Academy; JC White - Lauren Cantey, West Lauderdale; MS Association of Supervisors (Newton County) Nicole Carter, Alana Kron and Tabitha LaBue, all of Newton County; Frances Aycock Johnson and JoAnn Aycock Thomas - Dustie Chisolm, Sylva-Bay Academy;

MS Association of Supervisors (Neshoba County) - Hunter Coley, Caleb McCown and Hannah Pilgrim, all of Neshoba Central; Captain Charles E. Ward USN/RET Memorial - Noah Corcoran, Winston Academy; Dr. Austin P. Boggan - James Cornelison, Morton; Prentice and Dorothy Copeland - Ashley Cumberland, Neshoba Central; Ben Myers Memorial - Elizabeth Curran, Philadelphia and Allison Johnson, Neshoba Central; Pleas Clayton and Amanda Breazeale Blount - Sam Davis, Leake Academy; Taylor Advanced Welding - Harley Dennis, Neshoba Central; ATCO Loans, Inc., - Kescia Dickinson, Leake County; East Central Scholars (EC Alumni Association) - Alec Doggett, Leake Central; James E. Land - Courtney Elliott, Union; MS Association of Supervisors (Leake County) - Kristen Evans, Leake Academy and Emily Cook and Raney Morgan, both of Leake Central; Kinoth and Ella Mae Thornton/ Emerson Electric - Katy Ezelle, Newton County; Jeffrey G. and Kathy L. Hitt Memorial - Dominick Fields, Forest;

William Wade Long Memorial - Julian Fuentes, Newton County; Jack and Mary Jo White - Mackenzie Gannon, Newton County; MS Association of Supervisors (Scott County) - Whitney Garrett, Lake; Bailey Easterling, Scott Central; and Kimberly Harrison, Forest; Dr. Frank and Bobbie McPhail Bowen - Anna Girling, Leake Central; T. T. Beemon - Danielle Gregory, Newton County; Dan Harrison Memorial - Stafford Griffin, Leake Central; Russell McCann Memorial - Jennifer Grove, East Rankin Academy; AT&T - Delton Harrison, Newton County; Citizens Bank of Philadelphia - Lacye Harrison, Newton County; Regina Gail Gibbs Rigby Memorial - Kimberly Harrison, Forest; Ernest Harrison Boswell Memorial - Byron Hathorn, Louisville; MS Automotive Manufacturers Association - Wesley Hines, Lake and Cody Smith, Leake Central;

Nellie Neill Cross Memorial -Jonathon Hodge, Lake; Hudspeth - Clayborne Holdiness, Nanih Waiya; Kyle Dunkerson Memorial - Shelby Horn, Newton County; MS Association of Supervisors (Winston County) - Cara Jackson, Jessica Richardson and Warner Parkes, all of Nanih Waiya; Warrior Golf Classic Alumni Association - Kristine Jenkins, Forest and Makenzie Rowzee, Newton County; Jacob Stovall Memorial - Myeisha Jones, Philadelphia; Jones and Carrie Williamson and Bascom and Hattie Chisolm Memorial - Sherry Nash, Leake Central; U.S. Electrical Motors - Bethany Jones, Leake Academy; Dr. Beverly Oliphant- Martin and John E. Martin - Makayla Kelly, Nederland; Weems Family - Rachel Laird - Homeschool;

Taylor Advanced Machining - John Lipsey, Nanih Waiya; Shirley Renaud Memorial - Jenna Lovorn, Winston Academy; Jessica Cager Memorial - Victoria Malone, Union; Willis W. “Bubba” Smith Memorial - Houston Martin, Newton County; Polk and Jennie Pace - Dylan Mayes, Lake; Clyde B. and Flossie H. Goodson - Walter McCool, Neshoba Central; Thomas Rudolph Mayes Memorial - Shelby McKelvaine, Enterprise; Jay B. and Frances Harris Smith - Justin Moore, Leake Academy; Dr. L. B. and Dixie Adkins - Joshua Parker, McComb; Hubert D. Gilmore - Trystan Parker, Newton County; Larry B. Therrell Memorial - Hannah Peoples, Leake Academy; Mable Moore Carr Educational - Lauren Peterson, Forest; W. R. Covington - Haley Pierce, Noxapater; Ruth Round Volunteer - Chelsea Pilgrim, Newton County; Charles and Judy Dowdle Thomas - Sabrina Prince, Philadelphia; Newton Rotary Club - Abbey Rigdon, Union and John Reiss, Newton County Academy;

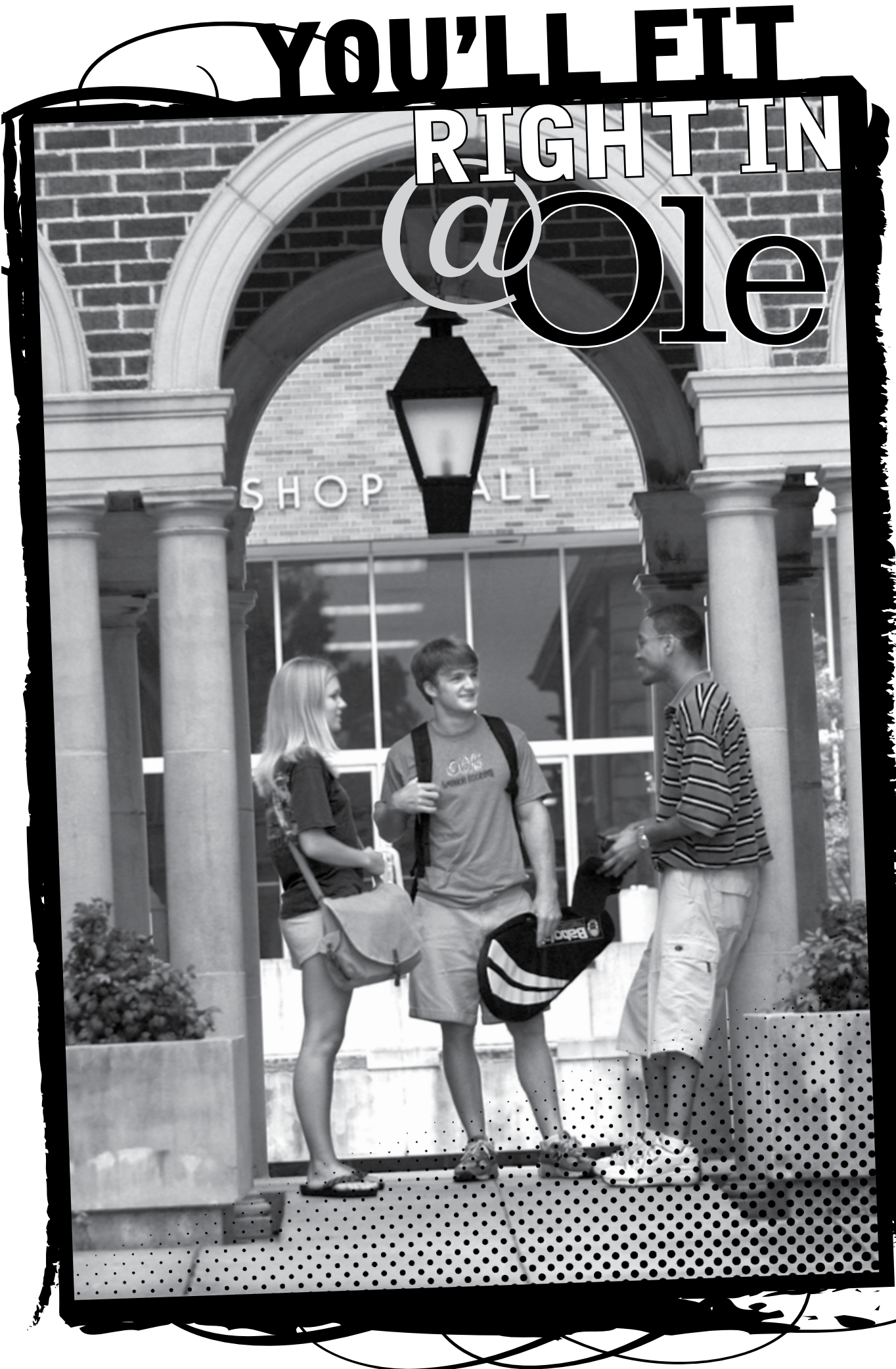
Lavern and Elizabeth Vowell Memorial - Ephraim Ringo, Forest; Charles P. and Bonnie Saxon Phillips - Darrin Rolison, Newton County; Harrison Memorial - Makenzie Rowzee, Lacye Harrison and Delton Harrison, all of Newton County; Wilks-Palmer Scholars - Brooke Smith, Noxapater; East Central Scholars (Thomas) Brittany Taylor, Lake; Arno and Ruth Carr Vincent - Charles Thorne, Newton County; Wallace Strickland - Haleigh West, Newton County; James M. Vance - Hanna Williams, Sebastopol; R.O. and Bertha Hannah - Keifer Wolfe, Lake; Bank of Morton - Kara Yates, Morton; Frank Edwin and Nena Holt Leatherwood - Trevor Ayllon, Newton County; Coach Ken Pouncey Memorial - Conor Bell, Leake Central; Denver Brackeen - Katie Brackeen, Newton County; Classes of 1957-58-59 - Katie Bradley, Newton County;

Rev. John Lambert Neill Memorial - Kennedy Castleberry, Clarkdale; Johnson-Taylor Memorial - Casey Cherry, Union; Sue Gunter Memorial - Erika Clark, Neshoba Central; State Farm Insurance Company - Gary Cooksey, Lake; Alumni Association Lifetime Membership - Aaron Cooper, Morton; Lucille Wood - Rayanne Craven - Newton County Academy; Myrtle R. Hutchison - Tiffany Dorman, Neshoba Central; Elva Smith Sigrest Memorial and S. Lebrun Hutchison - Shawn Evans, Forest; Frances Brown Crenshaw Nursing - Chelsy Ezell, Newton County; Class of 1964 - Savannah Glover, Newton County Academy; Kelley Humphreys Nursing - Alisha Jones, Carthage;

Leon Eubanks Kaljyc-Peers - Allie Killens, Saltillo; Hogue Brantley - Traci Lewis, Scott Central; Robert J. Moody, Jr. Special Education - Morgan Luke, Newton County; Aaron R. Davis Memorial - Hannah McCurdy, Morton; Dr. Shelby L. Harris Memorial - Jacob Oliver, Newton County; Thomas W. Thrash Memorial - Aderian Partain, Newton County; Dr. Margaret Mosal Memorial - Nathan Powell, Enterprise; Tony Dobbs Memorial - Emily Price, Sebastopol; Edwin and Marie Lowe - Angela Reeves, Decatur; General William Patrick Wilson Memorial - Felica Robinson, Newton County; Martha Kate Tullos Hummel and Robert G. Fick Memorial - Chandler Smith, Newton County;

Iris Pellegrine Boggan - Hailey Smith, Neshoba Central; Landon Bryan Burt Memorial - Jesse Vaughn, Newton County; Harvey and Martha Wheeler Pre-Pharmacy/Pre-Med - Jordan Walker, Newton County; Roscoe C. Pugh Memorial - Paige Wall, Newton County; Richard L. Harris - Nathan Williams, Union; Johnson Family Engineering - Bryant Williams, Newton County; Fred Preston Dallas and Maudie Threatt Dallas Memorial and Opal McMullan Dickerson Memorial - Hillary Williams, Neshoba Central; Ann H. Burkes PTK - Bryant Williams, Newton County; Sylvia Ann Graham Haywood Memorial - Brody Richardson, Winston Academy; Stella Weathersby Newsome - Sarina Murry, USM; Nancy Auline Hiett ADN - Angela Reeves, Decatur; and New Directions - Jennifer Collins, Newton.

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

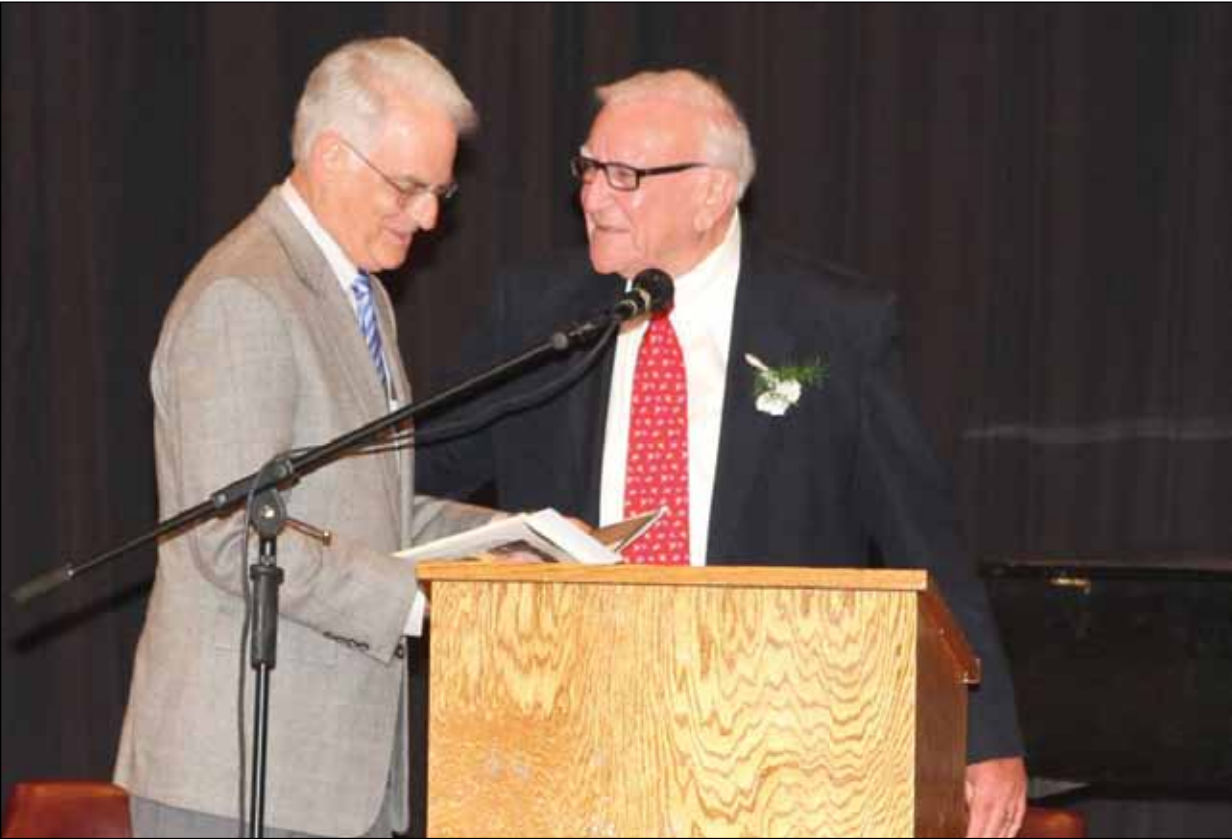


Miss!

It's the right move

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





SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Sutphin Presented First Copy of Vickers' EC Book: Former East Central Community College President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin (left) receives the first copy of “The East Central I Knew: A History of East Central Community College” from author Ovid Vickers during a special program held Sunday, June 2, 2013, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. Dr. Sutphin asked Vickers to pen the book prior to Sutphin's retirement as the College's seventh president on June 30, 2012. Vickers, a longtime English instructor, noted author and folklorist, earlier entertained the large crowd in attendance with his humor and remembrances of his 40-plus years as a faculty member. Vickers signed approximately 150 copies of the book during a reception held in the Fine Arts lobby. Copies of the book are available for \$24.95 plus tax and can be purchased by contacting Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth in the Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations, 601.635.6327 or call toll free, 877.462.3222, ext. 327. Her email address is sholling@eccc.edu. Net proceeds from book sales are designated for the EC Foundation.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Vickers Autographs Book on EC History: Retired East Central Community College English instructor Ovid Vickers autographs a copy of his book, “The East Central I Knew: A History of East Central Community College,” during a book signing held Sunday, June 2, 2013, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center lobby. Prior to signing approximately 150 books during the special event, Vickers entertained the large crowd in attendance with his humor and remembrances of his 40-plus years as a faculty member during a presentation in the auditorium. Copies of the book are available for \$24.95 plus tax and can be purchased by contacting Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth in the Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations, 601.635.6327 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 327. Her email address is sholling@eccc.edu. Net proceeds from book sales are designated for the EC Foundation.

ECCC Announces Spring Semester Honor Roll

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

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

PRESIDENT'S LIST

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

BAY SPRINGS: Trina House;
BENTONIA: Taylor Potter;
BRANDON: Chelsey Smith;
CARTHAGE: Penny Thaggard, Kati Gill, Kenzey Kahn, Conor Bell, Matthew Tucker, Kamanan Malone, Matthew Sullivan, George Woods, Aaron Shepard and Kristen Chipley;
COLLINSVILLE: Hannah Cade;
COLUMBUS: Eric Warnat;
CONEHATTA: Darin Hillman;
CRESTWOOD, KY: Zachary Killion;
DECATUR: Jacob Loper, Kathrin Smith, Hannah Farmer, Angela Reeves, Jordan Walker, Joseph Aulds, Stephanie Spence and Robert Hebert;
EL DORADO, AR: James Williams;
ETHEL: Brittany White;
FLORA: Madeline Potter;
FLOWOOD: Daniel Myrick;
FOREST: Megan Everett, Emilee Cox, Kelsey Cox, Shawn Evans, Kimberly Rigby, Peggy Sims and Sharley Hardin;
HICKORY: Hickory Blake Cochran, Haley Chapman and Felica Robinson;
LAKE: Shelby Parkman;
LENA: Amanda Lott, Shelby Johnston and Meghan Johnson;
LITTLE ROCK: Jacob Oliver and Tracy White;
LONG BEACH: Blake Dubouison;
LOUIN: Emily Gully;
LOUISVILLE: Amanda Howard, Ryan Shotts, Leah Johnson, Lindsey McCool, Laken Fulcher, Hayden Fryery, Nakia Miller, Kelsey Nowell, Hayden Stokes and Mary Kohen;
MCCOOL: Quinn Toya Miller;
MENDENHALL: Alana Turner;
MERIDIAN: Tanzanekia Adams, Demondrae Stribling, Steven Harmon, Paige Gower and Jamie Mathis;
MORTON: Justin Runnels, Emily Marler, Anna Boyd, Melissa Bailey and Claude Epting;
NEWTON: Jennifer Collins, Judson Bounds, Kimberly Moore, Aream Leverette, Kelsey Bounds, Rayanne Craven, Megan Wall, Cassidy Tasker, Christiana Collins, Timothy Laird and Johnnie Spires;
NORTHPORT, AL: Kalik May;
NOXAPATER: Barbara Hodges and Alanna Massey;

PELAHATCHIE: Clinton Baker, Justin Laster and Aaron Cooper;
PHILADELPHIA: Tamie Powe, William Barfoot, Eden McGee, Caleb McKee, Allison Perry, Bobbi Schwebel, Katherine Upchurch, Nathan Stone, Hailey Rhodes, Donald Pendgrass, Leigh Loper, Nicholas Chunn, Savannah Stuart-Dahl, Hailey Smith, Chandler Smith, Terrance Steele, Mary Bailey, Joshua Gaines, Hannah Jones, Dagan Elliott, Gregory Clemmons, Zachary Peden, Cospir Collins, Samuel Lovorn, Bradley Winstead and Corey Burton;
PRESTON: Kelsie Boykin;
PULASKI: Myrna Parkman and Joseph Matuszewski;
UNION: Matthew Mason, Shawn Anderson, Andrew Hanna, Hannah Berryhill, Malory Williams, Jacob Wiggs, Lee Smith, Casey Cherry, Robert Baker, Silvia Viana Carvalho, Tiffany Dorman, Erika Clark, Victoria Holsen, Ashlyn Pullin and Patricia Thweatt;
VIDALIA, LA: Mary Sanders;
WALNUT GROVE: Megan Thaggard, Derron Gates, Jeremy Denson and Kristen Smith;

DEAN'S LIST

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

BENTON: Devin White;
CARTHAGE: Sherry McKee, Anthony Thaggard, Kimberly Leflore, Joseph Freeny, Richard Ainsworth, Christopher Hamilton, John Evans, Jeremy Marble, Joshua Peoples, Stephen Mayo, Benjamin Prestage, Victoria Kelly, Kendall Wilcher, Alyssa Shelton, Kacey Quick, Hanna Kemp, Hannah Smith and Daniel Massey;
Chunky: Denise Glover, Taylor Gressett and Heather Johnson;
COLLINSVILLE: Jessie Armstrong and Matthew Morris;
CONEHATTA: Tracie Harris, Sarah Labue, Christy Williams and Jacob King;
DEKALB: Sydney Dawkins;
DECATUR: Cindy Burnside, Guy Loper, Melissa Griffin, Latishia Johnson, Tiana Grover, Russell Thompson, William Thompson, Miriam Williams, Aaron Brown, Jesse Vaughn and Zachary Yates;
ENTERPRISE: Jage Doss;
FAIRHOPE, AL: Charles Domino;
FLORA: Ruby Potter;
FLORENCE: Mackenzie Britt;
FOREST: Demetrice Moore, Ryan McClendon, Shelby Patterson, Shyanna Bell, Jessica Barnett, Crystal Anderson, Mae Patrick, Brittney Darby, Daniel Chim, Thomas Phipps, Jessica Brown, Eliud Alvarez, Brady Power, Eryn Smith, Jason Stroud, David Aust, Adriana Esguerra and Maria Martinez;
GUAYNABO, PR: Fernando

Gonzalez;
HATTIESBURG: Jatton Walker;
HICKORY: Aaron Lawson, Alexandria Meador, Melissa Manues, Emily Jacome-Cluff, Alexandria Hollingsworth, Samantha Gunn, Bryant Williams and Aaron Rose;
LAKE: Leslie Tucker, Tamantha Qualls, Matthew Risher, Gary Cooksey, Tracy Gray, Clarence Creel, Jacob Emmons, Spear Gilmer, Pheanice Hamm-Brown and Andrea Tafinger;
LAUDERDALE: Amanda Breland;
LAUREL: Brady McBride;
LAWRENCE: Nathaniel Richardson, Ashley Johnson and Justin Miller;
LENA: Elizabeth Wilson;
LITTLE ROCK: Dustin Yeager, Sandra Alexander, Savannah Vance, Charlie Dean and Samantha Ellingburg;
LOUISVILLE: Santana Carter, Hailey Myers, Jamal Bates, Montana Thomason, Kayla Covington, Lucas Calvert, Zach McGarr, Christopher Mays, Teylor Martinez, Morgan Parkes, Kaylin Hopkins, Abbie Smith, Alexis Hartness and Bristol Buffington;
MCCOOL: Kelvin Ball and Charlean Glass;
MERIDIAN: Jacob Burrage, Gregory Mitchell, Bailey Laird, Kennedy Castleberry, Manesha Brown and Tanashia Clark;
MORTON: Samuel Irby, Kara Johnson, Chauncy Griffin, Joseph Patrick and Hannah McCurdy;
NEWTON: Robin Towner, Colt Collins, Christopher Trammill, Kim Amerson, Emily Lucy, Jack Brand, Victoria Shimpfessel, Michael Buntyn, Magen Pierce, Robin Coker, Karri Miller, Jackie Humphreys, Trevor Ayllon, Ryan Godwin, Brandon St.Clair, Kiyanna White, Sara Kilgore, Leah Humphreys and Hannah Robinson;
NOXAPATER: Mitzi Kirk, Sarah Orr and Haley Vowell;
PHILADELPHIA: Colt Killen, William Meruvia, LaJoya Griffin, Jordan Clearman, Scott Walker, Cynthia Patrick, Britany Winstead, Lauren Daniels, Carrie McLemore, Blake Gordon, Anna Graham, James Savage, Dylan Peden, Leslie Young, Alexandra Weir, Dylan Sparnecht, Elauran Vowell, Jessie Boatner, Heather Bradley, Julie Osborne, Hillary Williams, Miranda Clark and Ty-lan Buckley;
PRESTON: Martin Johnson and Ruby Stewart;
PULASKI: Ivory Weldon;
RALEIGH: Matthew McCallum;
RIDGELAND: Brittany Gilmer;
STONEVILLE: Severino Signa;
TAYLORSVILLE: Mason Woodrow and Conner West;
UNION: Anna Himebrook, Summer Richardson, Tyler Gilmore, Jamie Elliott, Tanner Fortenberry, Nathan Griffin,

Madison Herrington, Meghan McPherson, Aderian Partain, Carley Townsend, Nathan Williams, Jonathan Fortenberry, Adriana Alderson, Hayley Stephens, Allison Rawson, Julie Clark and Brandon Downing;
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA: Michaela Gross;
WALNUT GROVE: Sabrina Posey, Krystan Bolton, Wanda Harrison, William Stevens, Emily Price, Felicia Clark and Jacob Bush;

HONORABLE MENTION

The following students were named to the Honorable Mention List and earned a 3.0 or above grade point average:

AUBURN, ME: Rachel Field;
BAILEY: Tarra Gibson;
BAY SPRINGS: Amy James;
BILOXI: Jared Canoy;
BOYNTON BEACH, FL: Franck Alexandre;
BRANDON: Jessica Quinn, James Parker, Amber Mann, Mary Jefcoat, Danette Harris, Amber McBroom, Hunter Edmonson;
BROOKSVILLE: Margaret Taylor and Ty-Neisa Mickens;
BRUNSWICK, GA: Zachary Donner;
CANTON: Yumiko Linn, Lacy Miles and Nathaniel Dickens;
CARTHAGE: Alisha Jones, Brandi Williams, Gary Winstead, Jessica Bozeman, Bobbie Evans, Jenna Tolleson, Dakota Morris, Brandon Sellers, Debra Watson, Mitchell Wooten, Foshore May, Erin Wooten, William Coleman, Haden Bozeman, Evan Dowell, Kimberly Kendrick, Samantha Farley, Jennifer Moore, Austin Shepard, Justin Caldwell, Aaliyah Cook, Kimyatte Townsend, Vanessa Frazier, Anna Crawford, Shazandra Bridges, Cassie Sessums, Regina Smith and Stephanie Neal;
CHOCTAW: Jared Jim, Corey Bell and Allen Bell;
CLEVELAND: Emily Woodward;
COLLINSVILLE: Brandy Talbert, Gareth Driskill and Matthew Walker;
COLUMBUS: Johnny Beamon and Louis Richardson;
CONEHATTA: Jerry Hazlip, Audiann Thomas, Jessica Coleman, Hanzel Isaac, Kelsi Shelley, Laryssa Gonzalez, Samantha Evans, Katie Bradley, Adrian Tucker and Andreka Buie;
DECATUR: Stephanie Harrison, Brittany Edwards, Haley Chaney, Jeremy Carson, Matthew Brown, Adam Savell, James Gentry, Lauren Ezelle, Jessica Brashier, Joseph Pigg, Caitlyn Sant, Mallory Wilkerson and Kara Miller;
ELLSVILLE: Lekerra McGilberry;
ENTERPRISE: Morgan Porter and Nathan Patrick;
FLORENCE: Ryne Riebock;
FOREST: Shaki McLaurin, Pasha Williams, Brandie Bounds, Lee Crimm, Larreessa Pace, Tina Cargile, Keisha Bob-

bitt, Erica Ervin, Jasmine Bobbitt, Tony Alford, Gabriel Harmon, Angela Withers, Justin Johnson, Jacy Peoples, Gwendolyn Loper, Lydia Henderson, Lorraina Burkes, Danielle Pettigrew, Nieshia Walker, Rosa Orellana, Tevin Nickols, Shaticeka Kincaid, Joshua Haralson, Lucretia Gaddis, Syneisha McCurdy, Samantha McDaniel, Chelsea Campbell, Erik Moya, Jesse Clark, Allison Colbert, William Hodges, Clayton Edmonds, Justin Rushing and Kerry Ingle;
GRENADA: Ryan Artman;
GULFPORT: Ghafton Owens;
HICKORY: Shellandra Bogan, Samantha Floyd, Julien Gillis, Tadarin Foster, Benjamin Avera, Shelby Bishop, Marquis Ellis;
HOUSTON: Jose Aju Tzunun;
JACKSONVILLE, AL: Elisabeth Mayes;
LAKE: Tiffany Gardner, Karley Allen, Casey Bryant, Jessie Barrett, Marquel Evans, Brianna Parkman, Emmarald Jones, Devyn Harrison and Jacob Gibbs;
LAUREL: Cory Kitchens and Deion Ulmer;
LAWRENCE: Hanah Parker, Tanner Clanton and Tiffany Watkins;
LENA: Denise Townsend, Lacie Sessums, Archie Johnson, Lucas Odom, Kaitlyn Busby, Katie Spears, Dontaries Jobe and Stephanie Latham;
LITTLE ROCK: Tiffany Vrbicky, Candis Edmonds, Kristen Hawks, Olivia Harrison, Zachery May and William Cress;
LOUIN: Jalisa Wheaton;
LOUISVILLE: Katrina Combest, Charlotte Carter, Kelsey White, Tiandra Parker, Rebecca Estes, Michael Stokes, Kenya Hickman, Cory Goodin, Hunter Swart, Jacob Thompson, Becky Watt, Jeffrey Hemphill, Kayla Jenkins, Jack Vowell, Angela Jenkins-Coburn, Sidney Hendrix and Ieshia Hall;
MABEN: Jordan Mixon;
MADISON: Kathryn Anderson and John Bruening;
MEADVILLE: Terry Wilkinson;
MERIDIAN: Bailey McElroy, Ashley Green, Tnaizha Brown, Courtney Mackey, Zachary Sterdivant, Jonathan Graham, Melissa Damiens, Nichole Wray, Nikki Ward, Malauri Robinson, Nathan Powell, Helen Milling, Matthew Taylor, Judd Clinton, Lindsey Beard and Dustin Lott;
MILLBROOK, AL: William Richard;
MORTON: Betty Tucker, Alicia Boykin, Kelsey Hall, Jada Crain, Daxton Fairchild, Rachal Aburto, Justin Nutt, Leah Rigney, Jose Pereira, Tori Franklin, Makenzie Aycock, Meghan Schmidt, Alice Towner, Jessica Stinson, Zachery Mason and Tyler Stewart;
NEWTON: Javossiia Walker,

Pamela Glenn, Lillian Curry, Rachristopher Jones, Kimberly Lindsey, Marquita McLaurin, Aristotle Love, Jasmine Skinner, Alma Pickens, Courtney Pugh, Ashley Roebuck, Jamey Tune, Lacrystal Rhynes, Nikki Jones, Jessica Wright, Julie Myers, Mikayla Carson, Amanda Pientowski, Morgan Luke, Kacey Smiley, Robert Walker, Shanice Walker, Deeanna Carlson, Britney Johnson and Virgil Williams;
NORTHPORT, AL: TeJimion Leatherwood;
NOXAPATER: Taylor Smith, Steven Strehle, Elizabeth Hurt, Zachery Kemp, Brandon Coleman and Taylor Deese;
PACHUTA: Natalia Jones;
PEARL: Summer Hallman;
PELAHATCHIE: Matthew Pennypacker and David Vaughn;
PHILADELPHIA: Jeremy Nowell, Jeremy Woods, Stephanie Miles, Mary Burns, Dwight Jenkins, Christina Burt, Nikita Wilson, Austin Buchanan, Alicia Breedlove, Jonee Cumberland, Robert Flake, Ashley Lovern, John Ford, Donna Hickman, Shanna Isaac, Austin Savell, Cydney Stuart, Summar Fortenberry, Christon Flores, Karla Seales, Shilendria Dixon, Whitney Jenkins, Meagan Warren, Dakota Vowell, Douglas Greer, Heather Ellingburg, Jessica Skinner, DeShayna Hickman, Sharon Hobby, Raymond Farlow, Lanna Parker, Jonathan Tindol, Jermaine Russell, Dakota Wilcher, Ashley Lawrence, Kezwon McWilliams, Tarra Hudson, Dylan Goines, Cody Harrison, Sarah Shank, Cory King and Thomas Sellers;
PULASKI: LeaVivica McGee;
QUITMAN: Margaret Kennedy;
RALEIGH: Lee Sullivan;
RALPH, AL: Cedric Kirkman;
RAYMOND: Marquata Brown;
ROGERSVILLE, AL: Tenna Patterson;
SANTO DOMINGO, DR: Robert Alcantara;
SEBASTOPOL: Weston Shaw;
SHUQUALAK: Barbara Primas;
TUSCALOOSA, AL: Timothy Anderson;
UNION: Chelsea Rigdon, Meagan Graham, Justin Fender, Stephen Horne, Melissa Warren, Ashley Barnett, Tiffany Smith, Amanda Barnett, Candice Gore, Megan Montgomery, Tori McInnis, Reneisha Evans, Emma Burton, Ashley Bozeman, Jayohnnie Slaughter, Mary Price, Kristien Winstead, Jonathan Moore and Joshua Bradley;
WALNUT GROVE: Cynthia Carter, Lauren Davidson, Mary Loper, Amber Jones, Erin Thornton, Hannah Kersgaard, Amber Pierce, Yasmin Gill, Janice Poling, Ashland Ellington, Kelsey Loper and Aleiaha Bloodsaw; and
WATERFORD: Shelby Davis.

Faculty Corner

Evans Named Collegians Director; Guitar Instructor

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Chas Evans is a recent addition to the music faculty at East Central Community College, announced ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

Evans will serve as guitar/music instructor and director of the Collegians – the College’s rock ‘n’ roll group.

The ECCC alumnus is a former member of the popular group, led for 31 years by Thomas W. Carson who recently lost his battle to cancer.

Evans said he hopes to continue the tradition of “music excellence” as established by Carson during his distinguished career as EC’s Director of Bands.

“Mr. Carson lit up the lives in this community with his love of music,” said Evans. “I hope to pass along the spark that he lit in me to future generations of aspiring musicians.”

Evans, a Chunky native, brings several years of teaching experience to his new position.

He began his teaching career as a guitar instructor at Mississippi Music stores in Meridian and Hattiesburg, serving from Sept. 1998 to August 2003.

During this time, he also taught guitar classes at Southwest Mississippi Community College in Summit, from August 2002 to May 2003.

He served as guitar and music theory instructor at Holmes Community College in Good-

man, from January 2003 to December 2006.

He mostly recently served as guitar instructor for Selah Music Instruction in Flowood from April 2012 to May 2013.

In addition to his teaching career, Evans is an award-winning performer. He received a first place award at the 1999 Mississippi Music Teacher Association Guitar Competition and finished runner-up in the 2000 Pine Belt Guitar Symposium.

He has also performed as a member of the Mississippi Guitar Quartet and was recorded on the group’s album, “Soundscapes,” which was published through Centaur Records.

In 2006, Evans and the quar-

tet performed various selections from their “Soundscapes” album at Carnegie Hall in New York City.

Evans has also participated as a guest judge in the Mississippi Music Teacher Association Guitar Competition and at the Pinebelt Guitar Symposium, where he gave a master class for the competitors.

In 2012, Evans released his solo album “Mississippi Sounds,” featuring pieces inspired by the state’s heritage and scenery.

He is also a former member of the Mississippi Army National Guard. He was deployed in Operation Noble Eagle in Washington, D.C., and Operation New Dawn in Baghdad, Iraq.

Evans received an Associate of Arts degree from ECCC in 1999. He continued his education at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, earning a Bachelor of Guitar Performance in 2001 and a Master of Music Performance degree in 2003. He served as a graduate teaching fellow at USM from August 2001 to May 2003, and during this time served as conductor of the USM Guitar Orchestra. While a student at USM, Evans studied under acclaimed guitar instructor Giovanni De Chiaro.

Evans and his wife, Laura, reside in Decatur. They have two children, Katie and Chas Michael.



EVANS

EXTRAORDINARY TEACHER

Blaylock Selected As Mississippi Humanities Council Teacher of the Year for ECCC

**BY CONOR BELL
Staff Writer**

Choral/Music Instructor Vicki Blaylock has been recently chosen as the Mississippi Humanities Council Teacher of the Year. Though surprised about this honor, Blaylock said she was honored that she was chosen by her peers. As the recipient of this prestigious award, Blaylock will present a program on November 12 entitled “Music: The Ripple Effect.”

“I plan to discuss the importance of music both economically and culturally as well as music education and its importance,” said Blaylock. “I will also be performing several musical selections while discussing the ‘ripples,’ or the people that were influences in my music career, and how all of us can be a ripple to ensure music is a vital part of education.”

Blaylock said her students



BLAYLOCK

are the best part of her job.

“We have the best students at EC. I am so blessed to play a small part in their education. Whether it’s the Wall O’Sound Band, the EC Concert Choir, Ac’cents or Collegians, the pride in the students’ faces while they are performing is priceless to me.”

Though not actually faced with any obstacles in her workplace, Blaylock said she would like to change the mindset of people “who seem to think that the music program is extracurricular.”

“There is also the perception that being a music major

is easy, and I would challenge anyone with that idea to join me for Music Theory class any morning at 8:00 am,” she said.

A 31-year teaching veteran, Blaylock began teaching at the college in 2000. In her 13 years, Blaylock has served as keyboard, voice and music instructor. She currently is the director for the Concert Choir and Ac’cents. She is also the division chair of the Department of Fine Arts.

Blaylock was recently elected to serve as president of the Mississippi Community and Junior College Choral Association. She was also selected a Lamplighter for ECCC in 2003.

Prior to coming to EC, she also had previous stints in Winona Municipal School District and Newton Municipal School District.

When not teaching, Blaylock said, “I love reading! I average around six books a month on my Kindle. I probably shouldn’t mention that I love playing Candy Crush as well!”

Blaylock has been married to Ronnie Blaylock for 30 years. They have two children, Clanton and Anna Rose.

The Mississippi Humanities Council is a non-profit organization that provides public programs in the liberal arts. The Council promotes programs to strengthen humanities and the cultural heritage of the state.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Lamplighters: These East Central Community College faculty members were recently selected to attend the annual Lamplighters Conference, which honors outstanding community and junior college instructors throughout the state. Lamplighters and their respective teaching areas include (from left) Christy Savell, associate degree nursing; Lynn Selman, special populations mathematics; and Pam Fowler, English.

Sullivan Chosen ECCC Computer Network Technology Instructor

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Laura J. Sullivan of Collinsville was recently selected computer network technology instructor at East Central Community College, announced ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

Sullivan, who began her new duties on August 12, 2013, was previously employed as a Systems Operator and PC/Network Technician at Anderson Regional Medical Center in Meridian since 2009.

She previously worked for Ergon Incorporated as a Hardware Support Technician and for Meridian Public Schools as a PC Technician.

Sullivan currently serves as an adjunct instructor for Indiana Wesleyan University facilitating online classes for the College of Adult and Professional Studies in the areas of Computer and Information Processing, Desktop Applications, Hardware Troubleshooting and Operating Systems Concepts.

In addition, she is co-owner of Snap It Sports Photography in Meridian. She is also very active with the multimedia ministry at Midway Baptist Church.

A graduate of Meridian High School, Sullivan earned an associate of applied science degree from Meridian Community College in 2006; a

bachelor of science degree (cum laude) in Information Technology from Columbia Southern University in Orange Beach, Ala., in 2009; and a master of science degree in Management-Information Systems Security from Colorado Technical University located in Colorado Springs, Colorado, in 2011.

She has also earned Microsoft Certified Professional designation.

She is married to Steven Sullivan of Collinsville.

Her parents are Larry and Sharon Johnson of Meridian.



SULLIVAN



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Public Information Staff Honored: Public Information staff members at East Central Community College received various honors 2013 College Public Relations Association of Mississippi (CPRAM) Conference held May 20-21 in Gulfport. From left are Karen Robertson of Decatur, administrative assistant to the vice president for public information; Gennie Phillips, publications coordinator and Bubby Johnston, vice president for public information, both of Forest; and Maria McLeod of Mize, assistant to the vice president for public information, who won awards in the community/junior college division of the annual competition. Robertson received second- and third-place awards in graphics design for her “Friday Night Lights” and “Basketball Schedule” posters. Phillips provided assistance in producing the award-winning designs and publications. Johnston and McLeod received first-place honors for the EC Express, a newsletter sent to district high school seniors and juniors. McLeod also received second- and third-place awards in feature writing for her entries, “Carson Stepping Down as ECCC Director of Bands” and “Cooper Marks Half-Century on Warrior Sidelines,” respectively. McLeod serves as CPRAM secretary and Johnston was selected to serve as the organization’s president for 2013-14. CPRAM is comprised of public relations professionals at the state’s universities, four-year colleges and community/junior colleges.

Sikes Named Color Guard Coordinator

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Kelsey Sikes of Carthage was recently selected Color Guard Coordinator for the 2013 East Central Community College Wall O’ Sound Marching Band, announced Director of Bands Hunter Corhern.

Sikes served the past four years as instructor of the All-Superior Carthage High/Leake Central Color Guard.

She was a member of the ECCC Color Guard from 2009-2011. She is currently pursuing an associate’s degree at ECCC and plans a career in education.

Sikes is a 2009 honor graduate of Carthage High School, where she was a percussionist for three years and Color Guard member for two years.

Her parents are Eric and Rebecca Sikes of Carthage.



SIKES

Sanders to Direct ECCC Centralettes

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Tina Sanders of Little Rock was recently selected coordinator/choreographer for the East Central Community College Centralettes, the dance line for the Wall ‘O Sound Marching Band, announced Hunter Corhern, director of bands.

Sanders previously served as dance teacher at Beverly’s School of Dance in Brandon and

Pear

She is also a former professional dancer, ballroom dancer and gymnastics coach.

A Pennsylvania native, Sanders is a 2000 honors graduate of Downingtown (PA) Area High School.

She is married to ECCC alumnus and former Collegians member Josh Sanders. They have a daughter, Ava Sanders.



SANDERS

Faculty Corner

Thames Selected MSBDC ‘State Star’

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Virgie Thames of Decatur is being honored for her exemplary work as administrative assistant for the Mississippi Small Business Development Center at East Central Community College.

Thames is the 2013 recipient of the MSBDC State Star Award and received special recognition at America’s Small Business Development Center’s 33rd Annual Conference on Sept. 9-12 in Orlando, Fla.

State SBDC “Stars” are presented to “exemplary performers who make significant contributions to their state or regional SBDC program and shows a strong commitment to small business,” according to criteria established for the prestigious award. Only one award winner is selected for each state or region.

Thames said she is “very appreciative” to receive the honor. “I am very grateful for the award and express appreciation to the Mississippi Small Business Development Center for selecting me for the prestigious honor,” said Thames. “This award could not have been possible without the inspiration I have received from my family and colleagues, for whom I have deep respect and from whom I have derived the strength to challenge myself and perform better.”

Thames added, “I have faced several challenges on my way here, but each has only strengthened me to make me the person I am today: a thorough professional who knows exactly what she wants; someone who sets her eyes on a goal and does not take them off it unless it is achieved.”

Ronald B. Westbrook, director of the ECCC Small Business Development Center, said Thames “goes beyond the call of duty” in providing assistance to small business clients since joining the SDBC staff in 1995. “Virgie understands the importance of small business owners to their respective communities and what these businesses do for their areas,” said Westbrook. “She is most deserving of the ‘State Star’ recognition and we are very proud of her.”

Thames attended Decatur High School and earned an associate’s degree from ECCC in December 2003. She is also a 1991 graduate of Moore Business College, previously located in Meridian.

Thames is married to Kerby Thames and is the daughter of Mary L. Buckley, also of Decatur.

She is a member of Murray Chapel Church of God in Christ located in Decatur.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Thames Receives MSBDC ‘State Star’ Award: East Central Community College staff member Virgie Thames displays the 2013 Mississippi Small Business Development Center’s State Star Award she was presented at America’s Small Business Development Center’s 33rd Annual Conference held Sept. 9-12, 2013, in Orlando, Fla. Thames received the prestigious honor for her “exemplary performance” in making significant contributions to the Mississippi Small Business Development program. Thames has served as executive assistant to ECCC Small Business Development Center Director Ronald B. Westbrook since 1995.

Adebisi Named ECCC Physics Instructor

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Dr. Rasheed Adebisi of Oxford was recently selected physics instructor at East Central Community College, announced ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

Dr. Adebisi, a native of Nigeria, began his new duties on August 12, 2013.

He earned a bachelor of science degree in engineering physics from Obafemi Awolowo University, located in Ile-Ife, Nigeria, in 2000.

He entered the doctoral program at the University of Mississippi in 2006 and earned a Ph.D. in Physics from Ole Miss in 2011.

While a graduate student at Ole Miss, Dr. Adebisi conducted research at the National Center for Physical Acoustics and served as a teaching assistant for six semesters, teaching and grading laboratory exercises for general introductory physics.

He also taught calculus and physics for the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps at Ole Miss.

After earning his terminal degree, he worked for Soair, LLC, as a research scientist.

He and his wife Funke have two daughters, Ibukunoluwa and Oluwadara.



ADEBISI

Anderson Named CBJT Grant Coordinator

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Candy Anderson was recently named Community Based Job Training (CBJT) Grant Coordinator at East Central Community College, announced ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

Anderson, who began her new duties on July 1, 2013, previously served the College as Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) Grant Navigator, a position held since 2010.

A 1991 graduate of Warren Central High School, Anderson received an Associate Degree in Nursing in 1994 from Hinds Community College in Raymond. She received an Associate Degree in Liberal Arts from ECCC in 2012 and the same year earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Mississippi University for Women in Columbus, graduating Magna Cum Laude.

She is currently pursuing a Master of Science in Nurse Education from William Carey University in Hattiesburg.

Anderson and her husband Steven have three children – Cole, Payton and Madalyn.



ANDERSON



DENSON

Denson Named Chemistry Instructor

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Amy Denson of Petal was recently selected chemistry instructor at East Central Community College, announced ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

Denson, who began her new duties on Aug. 12, 2013, served the previous year as a science instructor at Petal High School. She served the past four years as an adjunct science instructor at the Hattiesburg campus of Pearl River Community College.

In addition, she taught general chemistry laboratory courses for the University of Southern Mississippi while working on her doctoral degree in chemistry.

A graduate of Petal High School, Denson earned an associate of arts degree from Jones County Junior College in 1998, where she was member of the Lady Bobcat softball team.

She continued her education at the University of Southern Mississippi, earning a bachelor of science degree with highest honors in chemistry. She received a master of science degree in agricultural life sciences from Mississippi State University.

In addition, she has earned more than 70 graduate hours in chemistry from USM and only needs to complete her dissertation to fulfill requirements for a Ph.D.

Her parents are Scott County natives Nancy Thorne Denson and Donald Denson of Petal.

Bowles Named Heating/Air Conditioning Instructor

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Clarence Edgar “Eddie” Bowles, III of Chunky was recently selected heating and air conditioning technology instructor at East Central Community College, announced ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

Bowles, who began his new duties on Aug. 12, 2013, served the past year as a product analyst at Fairbanks Scales in Meridian. He has also worked as a civil engineer for H&T Consultants, Inc., in Jacksonville, Fla.

He began his career at Tew Heating and Air in Meridian, a heating/cooling service and repair organization, where he directed projects and gathered materials necessary to complete jobs.



BOWLES



JONES

Jones Named Carpentry Instructor

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Nancy Lee Jones of Lake was recently selected residential carpentry instructor at East Central Community College, announced ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

Jones, who began her new duties on Aug. 12, 2013, was previously employed by Yates Construction and/or Yates Engineering in Philadelphia since February 1999, where she served as a submittal coordinator, drafts person and in the area of quality control.

While employed at Yates, she was involved in several major construction projects including Neshoba County General Hospital, Bok Homa Casino in Sandersville, NAS Fire Station at Joe Williams Field in DeKalb and Canton Elementary School of Math and Science in Canton, MS.

Prior to her 14 years at Yates, she worked for

Taylor Machine Works as a drafts person for two years and at La-Z-Boy South as a shipping clerk for one year.

A 1994 graduate of Lake High School, Jones received a two-year certificate from ECCC in 1995 in Advanced Carpentry and Cabinetmaking. She earned an applied science degree in Drafting and Design Technology – Architectural Drafting at ECCC in 1997.

While at ECCC, Jones was named Carpentry Student of the Month in November 1995 and received an Achievement Award for Cabinetmaking the same year. She won first-place honors at the 1995 Mississippi VICA (SkillsUSA as known today) Competition in Cabinetmaking and advanced to the national contest.

She is the daughter of Tommy and Johnnie Ruth Sanders of Lake, and Jerry and Carolyn Jones of Newton.

Derrington Selected ECCC Biology Instructor

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Dan Derrington of Clinton was recently selected biology instructor at East Central Community College, announced ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

Derrington, who began his new duties on Aug. 12, 2013, previously served as student worker in the Office of Graduate Studies and served as an ACT tutor for the Office of Continuing Outreach Services, while a graduate student at Mississippi College.

A 2006 graduate of Meridian High School, Derrington received a bachelor’s degree in biological sciences from Mississippi State University in 2011. He earned a master’s degree in biomedical sciences from Mississippi College in 2013.



DERRINGTON

Have you discovered the following Study/Hangout places on Campus?

- **The Grille** – offers “cash-only” breakfast every morning from 8 until 9:30 a.m.;
- **Lunch (meal cards)** from 10:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.; and **Dinner (meal cards)** from 4:30 p.m. – 7 p.m. It closes at 1 p.m. on Fridays.
- **The Cafeteria** – Monday through Friday: **Breakfast** – 7 until 8:15 a.m.; **Lunch** – 11 a.m. until 1 p.m.; and **Dinner** – 4:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m.; **Saturdays:** **Breakfast** - 9 – 10 a.m. and **Dinner** – 3 – 4 p.m.; **Sundays:** **Lunch** -11 a.m. – 1 p.m. and **Dinner** – 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
- **The Success Center** – a quiet place to study or use the computer on the 2nd floor of the Smith Student Union
- **The Activity Center** – the game room is a place that is a little livelier in which you can gather with friends to have a good time. It also has a fantastic fitness center to ward off the *freshman 15*! The Activity Center is available from 8 a.m. until 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. on Fridays.
- **The Library** - the library is open Monday –Thursday from 7:30 a.m. – 9 p.m.; Friday from 7:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.; and Sunday from 6 – 8:30 p.m.

Faculty Corner

EC Names Davis, Selman Instructors of the Year

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Patti Davis, biology instructor, and Lynn Selman, support services math instructor, were recently selected Academic and Career-Technical Instructors of the Year, respectively, at East Central Community College.

Both instructors were honored during an end-of-the-year faculty dinner held May 9 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

PATTI DAVIS

Davis, a Decatur resident, said she has always had a love for science, which eventually led to her career as a science instructor.

“Teaching science has been a way for me to share my love of science with others,” Davis said. “Teaching seemed a great way to do that and to be able to work with people.”

“I was very surprised and humbled when I received notification that I had been selected. I truly appreciate the honor,” she said of being selected for the highest academic teaching honor at the College.

Davis currently teaches microbiology and in the past has also taught Biology I and Biology II and Anatomy and Physiology I and II on the Decatur campus.

In addition to her on-campus instruction, Davis has also taught Biology courses online since ECCC began offering eLearning courses.

While at East Central, Davis has served as state vice president and president of the Mississippi Association of Biologists. She is currently serving as a state vice president in Kappa Kappa Iota - a teaching organization.

Also at East Central, she has been named a lamplighter, established the East Central Bluebird Trail and sponsors

Sigma Sigma Mu Tau – the College’s medical club.

Davis said ECCC has always been a special place to her and her family.

“I met my husband, Ron Davis when we were both students at East Central,” Davis said. “We had been married for 31 years when he passed away in 2006.”

Ron Davis was also a science instructor for ECCC and served as science division chair before his death. The Davis’ have one son, Matthew, who also attended East Central Community College and works as design engineer in Jackson.

In addition to her family connection to the College, Patti Davis said she enjoys working for EC.

“East Central is a great place to work,” she said. “I know I am able to work with the best students, faculty, and staff anywhere.”

Davis earned an associate of science degree from East Central Junior College, a bachelor of science degree from the University of Southern Mississippi, and a master’s in education degree from Mississippi State University, as well as addition post master’s coursework at MSU.

In Davis’ spare time, she has been involved in gifted education, planned and directed beauty pageants, planned and directed competitions between schools, served as a team leader and served as a system-wide science chairman.

LYNN SELMAN

Selman of Decatur said it was her experiences as a student that drives her to be the teacher she is today.

“I attended many different schools as a child. I wouldn’t trade the great experiences and difficulties that sometimes brings,” Selman said. “I still

remember and often share a particular story with my students each year. I had transferred in the middle of a school year. I approached my (algebra) teacher and asked for help with something. She told me she didn’t have time because she had a class to teach. That one comment pretty much drives my approach to teaching. I love to encourage students and take time to really help them understand the mathematical concepts. Thankfully, I have been influenced by other great teachers who set models of what a teacher should be.”

“I am deeply honored and grateful to those who nominated me,” Selman said of receiving the top instructor honor.

Crediting the people who influenced her life for her career success, Selman said she was fortunate to have role models in great teachers throughout her education and her family.

“My high school science teacher set the stage for setting high standards and expecting excellence without sacrificing the content,” Selman said. “I experienced this again in college, as my mother was my advisor and primary instructor. Her passion for teaching and love of math poured out in her work. I take great pride in coming from a family of educators. I am a third-generation math teacher and most of my siblings teach in the same field.”

Selman began as a support services mathematics instructor at ECCC in 2003.

As a support services mathematics instructor, Selman said her primary goal is to help students “to and through” college algebra, which sometimes includes the classes beginning and intermediate algebra along the way.

“Students come as their schedule allows and bring

questions of all kinds,” Selman said. “Through the years it has morphed into a few additional things. I have helped with other classes such as applied business math, accounting and food and beverage control.”

Selman said she even assists nursing students as they are tackling dosage calculations during the fall semester each year.

Selman said she enjoys the interaction with students and assisting them with bettering their lives.

“There are no dull moments,” Selman said. “Every day is different and no matter how long I have taught, I learn something new every year. I love meeting new faces and helping people. The simple things are what matters. Seeing students as they ‘get’ the different concepts is always exciting.

“One of the greatest rewards is seeing students walk across the stage to receive their diploma. I love seeing people excel and conquer things they weren’t sure they could.”

Selman said she was never cut out for a “desk job.”

“I knew I loved working with people and couldn’t sit still for a desk job. I couldn’t ask for a better match career-wise,” she said of her teaching career.

As a student at William Carey College, Selman received the Student Teacher of the Year award.

“This was a great encouragement and validated my career choice,” she said. “It challenges me to always give my best.”

Prior to working at ECCC, she worked at Petal High School as a math instructor.

“My husband’s job as a student minister brought us to Decatur,” Selman said. “I was not ready to leave the high school setting, but we moved knowing God had led us here. I have



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Instructors of the Year: East Central Community College faculty members Patti Davis (left) and Lynn Selman, both of Decatur, received “Instructor of the Year” honors for 2012-13 during the College’s end-of-the-year luncheon held May 9 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Davis, a member of the science faculty, was named “Academic Instructor of the Year.” She joined the staff in 1994. Selman, who teaches special populations mathematics, was chosen “Workforce Education Instructor of the Year.” She began her employment in 2003.

served as the Support Services Mathematics Instructor at East Central for 10 years now. I have found a new family of coworkers and continue to grow in my new ministry field. Teaching is really my chance to impact others for Christ. It is all about loving others and encouraging them to give their best in all things.”

A graduate of William Carey College, Selman earned her bachelor of science degree in mathematics in 1996 and completed her master’s in education degree in math education in 1997.

Selman and her husband, Shaun, have three children, Kiersten (11), Keenan (8), and Kenton “Kent” (6).

She is a member of National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Selman served as president of ECCC’s Administration Faculty and Staff Association in 2012-2013 and as secretary in 2011-2012.

She also serves in the Clarke-Venable Baptist Church music ministry as a choir member and praise team leader. Moreover, she was selected to coordinate and manage preschool and children’s discipleship activities from August of 2012 until May of 2013.

Rush Named ECCC Director of Admissions, Records

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Deanna Bankston Rush of Union was recently selected Director of Admissions and Records at East Central Community College, announced EC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

Rush, who began her new duties on June 1, 2013, was previously employed by the Union Public School District and served as guidance counselor since 2006. She was an English instructor from 2001-2006. She began her education career as an English instructor for the Clinton Public School District, serving from 2000-2001.

Rush received several honors while employed at Union High School, including District Staff Person of the Year in 2011 and STAR Teacher in 2006.



RUSH

She is a member of First Baptist Church of Union, where she serves as church clerk and Youth Girls’ Sunday School Teacher.

She is also a member of Chi Sigma Iota and is a National Board Certified Counselor.

Rush is a 1996 honor graduate of Union High School, where she received various honors, including being named Salutatorian and a member of the UHS Hall of Fame. She continued her education at ECCC where she earned a perfect 4.0 grade point average and received an Associate of Arts degree in 1998. She was a recipient of several honors at EC, including her selection to the 1998 ECCC Hall of Fame.

She was a Summa Cum Laude graduate at Mississippi State University, where she also maintained a 4.0 grade point average and received a Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education – English in May 2000. She received a Master of Science in Counselor Education from MSU in May 2005, again achieving a 4.0 GPA.

While at MSU, Rush was recognized as a Distinguished President’s Scholar.

She is married to Hugh Rush and they have three children: Chandler, eleven; Bankston, eight; and Luke, two.

Rush is the daughter of Kenny Joe and Lisa Bankston of Union.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Retirees Honored: These East Central Community College retirees received special recognition during the College’s annual end-of-the-year luncheon held May 9, 2013, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Each received a framed resolution commemorating their years of service to ECCC and the field of education. They were also presented various gifts. From left are William (Billy) Miles of Morton, physics instructor; Frederick Lyons of Decatur, carpentry and cabinetmaking instructor; Len Bobo of Union, music keyboard instructor; and Peggy Clayton of Meridian, chemistry instructor. Miles completed 35 total years in education, the last 11 at ECCC. Lyons has been employed at the college since 1988 and spent his entire teaching career at East Central. Bobo began his tenure at the College as concert choir director in 2002, and began his teaching career in 1975. Clayton has been an instructor at the college since 2004 and completed 29 years of service in education.

Williams Named Director of Workforce Development

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Lucretia Williams of Lena was recently selected Director of Workforce Development at East Central Community College, announced ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

Williams, who began her new duties in May 2013, previously served the College as Personal Development Specialist, a position held since 2006. She began her employment at EC in 2005 as WIN Job Center Education and Training Coordinator.

Prior to joining the EC Workforce Development staff, Williams served two years as Human Resources Supervisor at HiSan, Inc., in Carthage.

She is also a former Human Resources Assistant at Koch

Foods and served as an Executive Assistant/Recruiting Specialist at B.C. Rogers Food Service, both located in Morton.

In all, Williams has 19 years of service with area businesses and industries.

A graduate of South Leake High School, Williams received a Bachelor of Science in 1993 and a Master of Science in Workforce Education in 2007, both from Mississippi State University in Starkville. She is currently enrolled in the Community College Leadership Doctoral program at Mississippi State.

She and her husband Michael have two sons, Zachary and Brandon.



WILLIAMS

Riley Chosen Personal Development Specialist/Site Coordinator

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Matthew Riley of Walnut Grove was recently selected Personal Development Specialist/Site Coordinator at East Central Community College, announced ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

Riley, who began his new duties on July 1, 2013, previously served the College as Community Based Job Training (CBJT) Grant Coordinator, a position held since 2010.

In his new position, Riley is assigned to coordinate day-to-day activities of the ECCC Career Advancement Center (CAC) in Carthage.

He also owns Riley Consulting Group of Walnut Grove.

A Leake County native, Riley is a 1991 graduate of South

Leake High School and a 1993 graduate of ECCC. He received a bachelor’s degree in sociology from Mississippi Valley State University in 1995. He was a standout basketball player at all three schools and helped lead South Leake and ECCC squads to state championships.

He is currently enrolled in the Masters of Educational Technology program at Liberty University.

Riley is a member of New Friendship M.B. Church, where he serves as Associate Minister. He is also an active member of the Leake County community, serving as a motivational speaker and mentor to young men.

He is married to the former Marie Cherry of Columbia. They have two children, Kymberlie and Matthew.



RILEY

Warrior Athletics

Thames Named to ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Marcus Thames is the only former East Central Community College baseball player to experience a 15-year career in Major League Baseball. Not only did he “experience” a long career, his first at-bat resulted in a home run and he continued the successful journey in a World Series. In recognition of his success on the diamond, Thames will be inducted into the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame during the 2013 Homecoming activities scheduled Saturday, October 12. Thames and former Carthage High School head football coach Pete Lucovich will be enshrined at the Alumni Association Awards Luncheon beginning at 11 a.m. in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Thames, who is continuing his career in professional baseball as a coach in the New York Yankees’ minor league system in Tampa, Fla., said he was “speechless” when informed of his selection for the prestigious award. “When Dr. (Billy) Stewart called me I was so shocked I could not speak,” said Thames. “I never thought for a second that when I walked on East Central’s campus in January of 1996 that this honor was in the making. I am very appreciative.” The Louisville native began his major league career by belting a home run off Cy Young winner Randy Johnson of the Arizona Diamondbacks at Yankee Stadium on June 10, 2002. Thames hit the dinger off the first pitch he saw from Johnson and became the 80th player in history to accomplish such a feat. As his coaches and teammates were laughing in amazement, Thames stepped out of the dugout for a curtain

call to a capacity crowd at Yankee Stadium! (Ironically, his last at-bat at the old Yankee Stadium was a home run and his first hit at new Yankee Stadium during his second stint with the Yankees in 2010 was a homer!) Thames spent just one season with the Yankees who traded the outfielder to the Texas Rangers on June 6, 2003. He began his career with the Rangers as he did with the Yankees, by belting a home run in his first at-bat! The following two seasons Thames split times between the Detroit Tigers and their AAA affiliate, the Toledo Mud Hens. In 2006, Thames made his opening day roster for new Detroit manager Jim Leyland. He was regarded as a “key component” to the Tigers’ vast improvement in 2006, which resulted in the American League pennant and a trip to the World Series, won in five games by the St. Louis Cardinals. Thames set career highs in every offensive category during the championship season. He batted .256 with 26 home runs and 60 RBIs in only 348 at bats. He was infamously nicknamed “Country Strong” by Tigers broadcaster Rod Allen. Other highlights of Thames’ career in Detroit came during the 2007 season. On July 1, he hit a solo home run on the bottom of the eighth inning to score the only run in a victory over the Minnesota Twins. On July 6, he hit the third grand slam of his career at Comerica Park against the Boston Red Sox. Two days later, Thames belted one of the longest home runs in the history of Comerica Park, when his dinger to centerfield bounced off the camera area.

The following season, Thames hit eight home runs in seven consecutive games from June 11 to June 17, becoming the first Tiger in team history to achieve that feat. During the streak, eight consecutive hits were home runs! On August 9, 2009, Thames hit his 100th career homer. He was released from the Tigers at the end of the season. Thames signed a minor league deal to return to the Yankees on February 8, 2010. His contract was purchased prior to the regular season, adding him to the Yankees’ opening day roster. Although he usually only started against left-handed pitchers. Thames came through with several big hits in 2010. On May 17, he hit a walk-off home run against Boston Red Sox closer Jonathan Papelbon. On July 4, he returned from a DL stint to hit a game-ending single against the Toronto Blue Jays. On August 11, he helped the Yankees rally from a five-run deficit by hitting a home run in the eighth inning and a go-ahead single in the ninth inning to beat the Rangers. In a six-game stretch from August 24 to August 30, Thames had six home runs and 11 RBIs in 21 at bats!



THAMES

Normally an outfielder, Thames made his first career appearance at third base on July 29, 2010 but later returned to the outfield. During the 2010 American League Championship Series, Thames served as designated hitter. The Yankees lost the series to the Texas Rangers in six games. Thames elected free agency from the New York Yankees on November 7, 2010. He signed a one-year deal with the Los Angeles Dodgers for the 2011 season. He made 70 appearances for the Dodgers prior to his release in July. Thames completed his career with a .245 batting average, 115 home runs and 301 RBIs. He averaged a home run every 15.4 at bats. He reached 100 home runs in 1,549 at bats, which is fewer than any other player with 100 home runs. Thames was drafted twice by the New York Yankees before beginning his major league career. He was first tapped in the 30th round of the amateur draft following his freshman season at East Central in 1996, when he batted .382 with three home runs, seven triples, 14 doubles and 36 RBIs. Thames preferred instead to return to Jamie Clark’s Diamond Warrior squad and sharpen his skills. The 1997 Diamond Warriors were MACJC State Tournament runners-up and advanced to the Region 23 Tournament en route to a record 40 wins and just 18 losses. Thames led the offense with a then school record .420 batting average and had 13 home runs while collecting 70 RBIs. He was named to NJCAA All-American, All-Region 23 and MACJC All-

State squads following his record-setting season. Thames credits the late Jamie Clark for his success in Major League Baseball. “Thanks to Coach Clark, I excelled on and off the field,” Thames said, “The work ethic he instilled in me stayed with me throughout my professional career.” Thames also has fond memories of his two years at East Central. “From the moment I arrived on campus, I felt comfortable,” he said. “East Central welcomes its students with open arms. From my coaches, to professors, to teammates and friends....it was like a family.” Thames made frequent visits to the EC campus during his professional career and often spoke to Lucille Wood’s physical education classes prior to her retirement in 2011. During one of Thames’ visits to EC, his number “24” was retired during a ceremony held at the 2007 First Pitch Dinner prior the Diamond Warriors’ season opener. Thames and the late Jamie Clark are the only ECCC baseball team members to have their jersey numbers retired. Both jerseys are on display in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building and replicas are displayed on the right field fence at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex. Clark’s number was “41.” Thames has donated various autographed items to the ECCC Memorabilia Room in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. He continues to provide support for the Diamond Warrior program. Thames and his wife Danna have four children, Deja, Jade, Marcus, Jr., and Ella.

Lucovich Tapped for EC Athletic Hall of Fame

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Pete Lucovich spent 32 years as a successful high school coach and teacher at Carthage High School following a standout football and baseball career at then East Central Junior College from 1971-73. In recognition of his success in athletics, Lucovich will be inducted into the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame during the 2013 Homecoming activities scheduled Saturday, October 12 on the Decatur campus. Lucovich and former Major League Baseball player and Louisville native Marcus Thames, now of Tampa, Fla., will be enshrined at the Alumni Association Awards Luncheon beginning at 11 a.m. in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Lucovich, who came to EC following a stellar athletic career at Hickory High School, said he is “deeply honored and thankful” for the prestigious award. When he retired in 2010, Lucovich had logged 28 years as athletic director and head football coach at Carthage High School, where his teams compiled an overall record of 162 wins and 125 losses. He led 10 Tiger teams to the state playoffs, and three squads (1991, 1992 and 2007) finished Class AAA South State runners-up. He also had four squads (1983, 1991, 1992 and 2007) to achieve number-one rankings in the state during season competition. Lucovich also achieved success as a junior varsity head football coach, compiling and overall 49-14 mark. He also served as golf and tennis

coach at CHS. He led the golf team for 12 years (1998-2010) and seven squads qualified for state tournament competition. He coached tennis for eight years (2002-2010), compiling four district tournament titles and a state tournament appearance. Lucovich received numerous honors and awards throughout his career, and credits the ECCC staff and coaches “for preparing me for a successful teaching and coaching career.” Honors include Choctaw Conference Football Coach of the Year in 1982 and 1983; District VI Football Coach of the Year in 1991 and District V Football Coach of the Year in 2007; District IV Tennis Coach of the Year in 2006, 2007 and 2008; District V Golf Coach of the Year in 2006; and Mississippi Association of Coaches (MAC) Athletic Director of the Year in 2004-05. In addition, he served as president of the Mississippi High School Activities Association (MHSAA) for District V, which includes 36 schools in 10 counties. Lucovich was a member of the MAC from 1977-2013 and served on the organization’s Board of Directors from 1998-2006. He was also a feature coach in the *Gridiron Gold* book published in 2007 by the Mississippi Sports Council and Mike Frascogna. He served on the Leake County Country Club Board of Directors from 1997-2003. He is a lifetime member of the ECCC Alumni Association and is a member of the Warrior Club, a fundraising orga-

nization for the College’s athletic teams. Although retired from full-time employment, Lucovich continues to teach driver’s education on a part-time basis at Leake County High School. Lucovich began his athletic career at Hickory High School, where the 1971 graduate was a three-year All-Choctaw Conference selection in football, basketball and baseball. He was awarded a football scholarship by Warrior head coach Ken Pouncey and assistant Willie “Tenny” Coats, and recalls beginning his career a little earlier than expected. “We opened the 1971 football season with Jones County in Laurel and I was a freshman playing on special teams and was a back-up wide receiver,” Lucovich said. “On the first play of the game, Jimmy Wright of Forest, our starting wide receiver, separated his shoulder. I had to play the rest of the game on offense. I caught two passes from quarterback Freddie Bagley (also of Forest) to keep scoring drives alive. We won the game 14-3....but I had not expected to begin the season playing as



LUCOVICH

a freshman!” Another highlight of his freshman season involves the College’s longtime rival- East Mississippi Community College, or more commonly referred to as simply “Scooba.” “We were taught very early of the rivalry between East Central and East Mississippi,” said Lucovich. “My freshman year we played them in Decatur and all week the sophomores on the team told us about the possibility of a fight breaking out during the game.” He continued, “They instructed us in what to do making sure we kept our helmets on during a fight. During the game our mascot – a Warrior riding a horse – rode over to the Scooba side to celebrate an East Central touchdown. The Scooba students took exception to this, an altercation followed, and before you knew it a huge fight had broken out between the fans. The game was stopped momentarily until order was restored in the stands! We won the game 28-25 without a fight occurring among the players on the field. The fight that night belonged to the fans in the stands!” The 1971 squad finished 7-3 and recorded other impressive victories over Itawamba (30-0), Northwest (7-0), Holmes (34-14), Northeast (41-7) and Southwest (35-13). Narrow losses were to Gulf Coast (28-27), Pearl River (13-7) and Delta (14-9). The Warriors were MACJC North Division co-champions but lost a coin flip to determine which team would represent the division in the state championship game. During his sophomore season, Lu-

covich was a two-way starter, as he played flanker on offense and was a defensive cornerback. He was also a punt returner. EC finished 4-6 in 1972 with wins over Northwest (29-8), Delta (27-0), Northeast (19-3) and Itawamba (13-6). Lucovich was an honorable mention Mississippi Junior College All-Conference selection following his sophomore campaign. He also excelled in baseball and led the Warriors with a .365 batting average in his sophomore campaign, during which he was a shortstop and pitcher. In recalling his EC days, Lucovich said he mostly enjoyed “the camaraderie with fellow athletes/classmates, coaches and faculty.” Regarding his least favorite experience, Lucovich replied: “No doubt it was the three-day football practices in the Mississippi August heat when drinking lots of water was not encouraged for athletes!” After graduating from EC in 1973, Lucovich continued his education and athletic career at Mississippi State University, earning a bachelor’s degree in 1975 and a master’s degree in 1976. While at MSU, he was a member of the Pi Kappa Alpha social fraternity and participated in intramural football and received the Douglas Lee Dunn Outstanding Athlete Award for 1974-75. It was at MSU where he met his future wife, the former Kay McCain of Eupora. They have a son, Lance Lucovich, 31; and a daughter, Anna Lucovich, 26.

ECCC Tennis Players Reach Tourney Finals

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Several East Central Community College tennis players reached the consolation finals of the 2013 USTA/ITA Regional Championships held Sept. 19-21 at Meridian Community College. Javon Yarbrough of Louisville and Juan Miranda of Mor-

T.J. Carter and Reed Wade to conclude competition in men’s doubles. Yarbrough and Miranda, along with Daniel Giles of Union and Hunter Tharp of Clinton advanced through the first round in men’s singles. Dianne O’Neill and Robert Thompson serve as EC tennis coaches.



ECCC Women Basketball Players Assist Newton Youngsters: Members of the 2013 East Central Community College women’s basketball team recently participated in a community service project at Newton Elementary School. Players and managers read books to kindergarten and first-grade students, assisted with their homework and concluded activities by playing various games outside. In the above photo, (from left) freshman guards Whitney Williams of Chicago, Andreka Harper of Forest and Keoceania Yarbrough of Louisville take turns reading to students in Mrs. Cindy Strickland and Mrs. Faye Chapman’s first-grade class. Lady Warrior head coach Crandal Porter, who previous led Newton High School basketball programs, initiated the community service project. “Because of my obvious connection with the Newton community, I felt the need to show the connection between sports, and basketball in particular, and education,” said Coach Porter. “Also, I wanted to see the impact that athletes could have on the lives of young kids. We plan to make appearances in other communities and schools as well.”

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

We Want Your News!

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

Warrior Athletics

EC Plans New Football Operations Center

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Fundraising efforts are under way to construct a new Football Operations Center at East Central Community College, announced ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

Dr. Stewart said the \$4.8 million complex will be located on north end of Bailey Stadium and includes a state-of-the art weight room and athletic training facility for all student-athletes. Also included in the plans is a \$1 million turf field to replace the existing grass field.

“The completion of this facility and field has the potential to positively affect the future of Warrior athletics for many years,” said Dr. Stewart. “First and foremost, its construction will impact each of the five commitments our institution has made as a component of 20/20 Vision. But it also has the potential to seamlessly connect our athletic facilities to the college and our community. I am confident that the construction of this facility will set us apart from our peers and enhance our reputation as a training ground for ex-

cellence. It will certainly communicate Excellence with Class – the EC Way.”

Added Athletic Director Chris Harris: “I’m excited about the commitment Dr. Stewart and the Board of Trustees have made on behalf of our athletic programs. As with any project involving improvements to athletic facilities, private donors have a tremendous impact on the success of the project and the timing in which the project will be completed.”

First-year head football coach Ken Karcher has played a key role in the design of the Football Operations Center.

“This facility will be a place to further develop our student-athletes in all four phases of their life – intellectually, physically, spiritually and socially – which is our mission at ECCC,” said Karcher.

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



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC’s Proposed New Football Operations Center: Above is an architect’s rendering of proposed Football Operations Center to be constructed on the north end of Bailey Stadium. The estimated \$4.8 million complex will include a state-of-the-art weight room and athletic training facility for all student-athletes at the college. It will also include a Warrior Room as well as a meeting space for the department of athletics and the community. Plans also include installation of a \$1 million turf field to replace the existing grass field. Fundraising efforts are under way to construct the facility.

Bates Joins Warrior Football Staff

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

A former University of Alabama standout is the most recent addition to first-year head football coach Ken Karcher’s staff at East Central Community College.

Todd Bates will coach defensive linemen and serve as strength and conditioning coach, effective Aug. 1, 2013.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart said he is confident Coach Bates will fit into the program of “whole-person development” being implemented by Coach Karcher and assistants Scott Brock and Mickey Mays.

“Coach Bates is committed to helping build a program that will model the ‘EC Way – Excellence with Class,’” said Dr. Stewart.

Karcher said he is “very excited”

about Bates joining his staff.

“Todd’s background with the defensive line and strength and conditioning will be a great asset for our players,” said Coach Karcher. “Most importantly, Todd is a great man who desires to build young men. I am very excited to have Todd Bates become a member of my staff.”

Added Athletic Director Chris Harris: “I’m excited about what Coach Todd Bates adds to the table. He is a great guy who has a passion for student development and student success, both on the field and in the classroom. He will indeed, be an asset and a great addition to our new football coaching staff.”

Bates, a native of Heflin, Ala., is a 2005 graduate of the University of Alabama, where he received a Bachelor of Science in Commerce/Business

Administration and was a defensive lineman on the football team.

In 2001, Bates was the only true freshman to play for the Crimson Tide and later became a three-year starter capped off by his selection as permanent team captain after the 2004 season.



BATES

After graduating from Alabama, Bates was signed as an undrafted free agent by the NFL’s Tennessee Titans, but several injuries ended his professional football career.

Bates has seven years of experience coaching defensive linemen and four years of experience as a strength and conditioning coordinator. He most recently served as defensive line coach at Idaho State University, where his duties included serving as team chaplain, NFL Liaison and recruiter for the states of Alabama, Texas and Mississippi.

He is also a former head strength and conditioning coach and defensive line coach at both Talladega and Oxford high schools in Alabama.

In addition to his coaching experience, Bates is a noted writer and poet. He penned “The Bama Way” which lat-

er turned into a book, “The Bama Way: Profiles of Champions,” which was released in October 2011. The book highlights the life of one extraordinary player from each of the Crimson Tide’s National Championship Teams from 1926 to 2010. The five-stanza, 134-word poem was included on a banner hanging in the UA strength and conditioning area.

Bates is also the founder of Todd Bates Enterprises LLC and conducts the annual Todd Bates Football Skills Camp in his hometown since 2007.

In addition, he is a motivational speaker and has served as a certified personal trainer.

Bates is married to his college sweetheart, the former La’Tesa Owens of Birmingham, Ala. They have a two-year-old daughter, Angel Maylene Bates.

Ruffin Named EC Women’s Assistant Basketball Coach

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Kiara Ruffin of Meridian was recently selected women’s assistant basketball coach at East Central Community College, announced Lady Warrior head coach Crandal Porter.

Ruffin is a former basketball standout at Alcorn State University and Southeast Lauderdale High School.

At ASU, she was named to the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) All-American Team in 2011 and received All-Southwest Athletic Conference First-Team honors in 2010-11 and 2011-12. She was also selected SWAC Most Valuable Player in 2011.

Ruffin was a Dean’s List Scholar at ASU, where she received a bachelor’s degree in human science in child development in May 2013.

She helped lead Southeast Lauderdale to state

titles in 2006 and 2008 and received most valuable player honors in both championship games.

She was an All-State selection from 2004-2008. She was also named to the Mississippi/Alabama All-Star Team in 2008 and Mississippi All-Star squad in 2007.

Ruffin’s coaching experience includes her work at ASU Basketball Camps from 2008-2012.



RUFFIN

Sims Named Diamond Warrior Assistant

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Ronald Sims of Hazlehurst was recently selected an assistant baseball coach at East Central Community College, announced Neal Holliman, Diamond Warrior head coach.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Sims served since 2009 as either a student assistant or student manager on the Mississippi State University baseball team.

He is also a former baseball team assistant at Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson, where he served from August 2007 to December 2008.

Sims is a graduate of Hazlehurst High School and received an Associate of Arts degree at Copiah-Lincoln, where he graduated with high honors in December 2008. While at Co-Lin, he was a member of Phi Theta Kappa international honor society and was named to the 2008 Hall of Fame.

He continued his education at MSU, where he received a bachelor’s degree in business administration/business information systems in 2011 and earned a master’s degree in kinesiology-sports administration in May 2013.



SIMS

Warrior Golfers Participate in Meridian Community College Invitational

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College’s golf team participated in the annual Jim Redgate Invitational held at Briarwood Country Club in Meridian Sept. 30 – Oct. 1, 2013, and hosted by

Meridian Community College.

The Warrior linksters finished sixth with a 959 total in the three-day event, won by Central Alabama Community College’s squad which posted an 891 total.

Faulkner State was second

at 898, followed by MS Gulf Coast, 904; MCC, 907; and Copiah-Lincoln, 923.

Aaron Tucker and Sawyer Williams led EC with a 234 total. Tucker posted rounds of 76, 80 and 78, and Williams recorded scores of 80, 80 and 74.

Tucker is a product of Leake Central and Williams hails from Parkers Chapel High School in Eldorado, Ark.

Other team members, their respective scores and high schools include Kirk Stonestreet, 251 (80-89-82), Koscius-

ko; Jonathan Amis, 256 (87-88-81), Newton County; Michael Jones, 258 (85-84-89), Forest; and Sam Williams, 266 (94-87-85), Newton County Academy. Karlton Ginn began competition with scores of 81 and 75 but had to withdraw in the fi-

nal round due to a wrist injury. Ginn is a product of Franklinton (La.) High School.

Chris Clark serves as Warrior golf coach.



Dr. Clark Encourages Warrior Football Team: Dr. Howard Clark of Morton provided an inspirational message and devotion to East Central Community College football players prior to the 2013 campaign. Dr. Clark challenged the Warriors “to be the best they can be” and added, “It’s not the dog in the fight....it’s the fight in the dog” that will lead a team to victory. Dr. Clark is a longtime supporter of Morton athletics and has received numerous honors for his support of student-athletes and the many decades of healthcare provided patients in Scott County and the surrounding area.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Warrior Athletics

Tennis Squads Named Top NJCAA Academic Teams

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Seven East Central Community College athletic teams and numerous student-athletes were recognized for academic achievement by the National Junior College Athletic Association, according to a news release from the NJCAA Headquarters in Colorado Springs, Colo.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart said the academic honors reflect the type of athletic program the College strives to produce each year.

“East Central’s 2020 Vision includes a desire to be ‘nationally recognized.’ Well, few, if any, of the more than 500 NJCAA community/junior colleges can claim that seven of the 10 athletic teams (70 percent) qualified for NJCAA Academic Team of the Year by earning at least a 3.0 average team grade point average,” said Dr. Stewart. “Fewer still can boast that five of their teams finished in the Top Five in the nation with two national Academic Teams of the Year – Men’s Tennis and Women’s Tennis. In addition to that, 15 East Central student-athletes were recognized for outstanding individual academic achievement. Those numbers are remarkable when considering the size of our student body and the number of student-athletes enrolled at our college. I want to congratulate and thank our coaches and our student-athletes for their efforts in the classroom this year. They performed the EC Way – Excellence with Class, and I am so proud of each of them!”

Athletic Director Chris Harris said he is “very proud and appreciative” of EC coaches and student-athletes for their performance in the area of scholastic achievement.

“Their accomplishments in the academic arena are out-

standing, both as individuals and as a team,” said Harris. “Our coaches are to be commended for their work in this area as they stress academics when we recruit student-athletes to our institution. We would love to win every ball game in which we participate; however, we also want our student-athletes to be positioned when they leave us to be successful in life.”

ECCC’s women’s and men’s tennis teams received the highest honors as each was recognized as 2012-13 NJCAA Academic Team of the Year.

The Lady Warrior tennis team led the nation with a 3.77 grade point average.

Squad members and their respective high schools include Kelsey Tadlock and Haley Chapman, both of Newton County; Amber Pierce and Hannah Smith, both of Leake Academy; Nan Hartness and Hayden Fryery, both of Winston Academy; and Alana Turner, Florence.

Tadlock also received an NJCAA Award for Exemplary Achievement, presented to student athletes who achieve a 3.60 to 3.79 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

The Warrior tennis squad achieved a 3.76 grade point average to claim the most prestigious national honor.

EC team members and their respective high schools included Blake Cochran and Brandon St. Clair, both of Newton County; Andrew Hanna, Newton County Academy; Chris Mays, Louisville; Hunter Mayo and Josh Peoples, both of Leake Academy; and Lucas Calvert, Neshoba Central.

Cochran and Hanna were also recipients of NJCAA Pinnacle Awards for Academic Excellence, presented to student athletes who achieved a perfect



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
NJCAA Academic Men's Tennis Team of the Year!: The 2013 East Central Community College men's tennis team earned NJCAA Academic Team of the Year honors by achieving a 3.76 grade point average. Team members and their respective high schools include (kneeling from left) Hunter Mayo, Leake Academy; and Chris Mays, Louisville; and (standing from left) Brandon St. Clair and Blake Cochran, both of Newton County; Josh Peoples, Leake Academy; and Andrew Hanna, Newton County Academy. Not pictured is Neshoba Central product Lucas Calvert of Louisville. Dianne O'Neill and Kyle Watson served as coaches.

4.0 grade point average.

Calvert and Mayo received NJCAA Exemplary Achievement awards.

Dianne O'Neill and Kyle Watson served as EC tennis coaches.

The Soccer Warriors finished a close second for NJCAA Academic Men's Soccer Team of the Year by posting a 3.13 grade point average and missed earning the top honor by two hundredths (.02) of a point.

Team members who received NJCAA Awards for Superior Academic Achievement, presented to student-athletes achieving a 3.80 to 3.99 GPA on a 4.0 scale, were Zack Killion, a product of South Oldham High School in Crestwood, Ky., and Zach McGarr of Leake Academy. Taylor Potter earned a NJCAA Award for Exemplary Achievement (3.60 – 3.79 GPA). Potter is a product of the Mis-

issippi School for Math and Science.

Kenneth Thompson serves as head coach.

The State Champion Diamond Warriors placed third for NJCAA Academic Baseball Team of the Year with a 3.35 grade point average. The recognition marks the fourth consecutive year EC's baseball team has finished in the top 20 in the nation and second straight year the squad placed in the top three.

Receiving individual honors were Caleb McKee of Neshoba Central, NJCAA Pinnacle Award for Academic Success (4.0 GPA); Ryan Shotts of Louisville, Terrance Steele of Neshoba Central and Kalik May of Northport (Ala.) High School, NJCAA Awards for Superior Academic Achievement (3.80 - 3.99); and Blake Dubuisson of Long Beach and Puerto Rico



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
NJCAA Academic Women's Tennis Team of the Year!: The 2013 East Central Community College women's tennis team earned NJCAA Academic Team of the Year honors by achieving a 3.77 grade point average. Team members and their respective high schools include (kneeling from left) Haley Chapman, Newton County; Nan Hartness, Winston Academy; and Kelsey Tadlock, Newton County; and (standing from left) Alana Turner, Florence; Hayden Fryery, Winston Academy; and Amber Pierce and Hannah Smith, both of Leake Academy. Dianne O'Neill and Kyle Watson served as coaches.

native Fernando Gonzalez, who received NJCAA Awards for Exemplary Achievement (3.60 – 3.79 GPA).

Neal Holliman serves as Diamond Warrior head coach.

The Lady Warrior soccer team tied for fourth for NJCAA Academic Women's Soccer Team of the Year honors with a 3.37 grade point average.

Team member Kelsey Tadlock of Newton County received an NJCAA Award for Exemplary Academic Achievement (3.60 – 3.79 GPA).

Since the program's inception in 2005, the Lady Soccer Warriors have never finished lower than sixth in the nation and earned NJCAA Academic Team of the Year honors on three occasions, most recently in 2011 and 2009.

Kenneth Thompson served as Lady Warrior head coach.

EC's softball team tied for

12th in the nation by posting a 3.42 grade point average.

Lady Warrior LaJoya Griffin of Philadelphia earned an NJCAA Award for Superior Academic Achievement (3.80 – 3.99 GPA).

Kristin Chaney serves as Lady Diamond Warrior head coach.

EC's golfers finished tied for 23rd in the nation with a 3.15 grade point average.

Chris Clark serves as Warrior golf coach.

More than 1,600 NJCAA student-athletes met the requirements for individual academic honors, including 169 who earned the Pinnacle Award for Academic Excellence (4.0 GPA). Superior Academic Achievement (3.80 – 3.99 GPA) honors went to 592 student-athletes and more than 900 qualified for Exemplary Academic Achievement (3.60 – 3.79 GPA).

Former EC Warrior Park Stevens Mourned by Hundreds

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Several hundred mourners paid last respects to former East Central Community College football player Park Stevens who was laid to rest Saturday, July 6, 2013, at Mt. Vernon Baptist Church in Columbus.

Stevens, 20, lost his life July 3 after his pickup truck collided with an 18-wheeler around 3 p.m. at the intersection of Egypt Road and Highway 45A in Chickasaw County, according to the Mississippi Highway Patrol. The driver of the 18-wheeler was uninjured, and no one else was involved in the accident.

The 6-8, 325-pound offensive lineman was a two-year standout for the EC Warriors. He had transferred to Ole Miss as a walk-on lineman.

Brian Anderson, former Warrior head football coach, said the tragic loss of the young man “full of life and spirit” as described by family and friends “has left a void in our hearts.”

“Park has left us all too soon,” said Anderson, who is now an assistant football coach at Louisville High School. “We didn’t just recruit players at East Central...we brought in people and their families. My heart is broken not only for Park’s teammates and coaches but especially his family. As a player, Park was the type to go the extra mile. He did not settle for good enough; he always wanted to be better...and do more than was expected.”

Anderson said it was “difficult circumstances” that brought out the best in Park as a player, especially in the weight room and off-season conditioning.



STEVENS
PHOTO COURTESY OF JUCOWEEKLY

He added, “I have to say that my fondest recollections of Park will always be the interaction with him off the field, particularly in Scott Hall. He had an uncanny knack for making the most of any situation. His attitude was always one that the glass is half full. No matter the place or the situation, he was going to keep everyone one around him positive, upbeat and usually laughing. Park had such a magnetic personality. He didn’t meet a stranger.”

Kyle Watson, Park’s offensive line coach at EC, was among eulogizers at the funeral service and provided the following comment:

“Park’s that kid you loved to coach because he made it fun and he worked hard. He gave 100 percent all the time. He was larger than life in football and with his size and personality.”

Ole Miss head football Hugh Freeze said there “was not a single time” Park did not bring in a positive vibe with him.”

Freeze issued the following statement when hearing of the tragic accident:

“Our team is hurting with the loss of Park Stevens. He was a tremendous young man that was loved by his teammates and coaches, and the Rebel Nation will never forget him. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Stevens family, his friends, our team and all those he touched during his life.”

Park was a product of New Hope High School, where he earned Max Emfinger All-American and MS/LA All-Star honors.

He was the son of Dean and Gail Stevens of Columbus.

Wilson Joins Warrior Coaches

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Cody Wilson was recently named an assistant football coach at East Central Community College.

Wilson serves as tight ends and running backs coach, announced first-year head coach Ken Karcher.

Prior to joining the Warrior staff, Wilson was an assistant coach at his alma mater, Louisiana College in Pineville, La., where he held various positions since 2011, including assistant offensive line coach/strength and conditioning assistant; tight ends coach; and most recently assistant defensive backs coach.

Wilson was a three-year starter on the offensive line for the Louisiana College Wildcats from 2007-2010.

He graduated with a double major from Louisiana College in 2012, earning degrees in mathematics education and applied mathematics with concentration in economics and finance.

Wilson, a native of Kentwood, La., graduated valedictorian from Jewel Sumner High School in 2007, where he was also a standout football player. The four-year letter-winner was an All-State selection and three-



WILSON

time recipient of All-District honors. He was also a Wendy’s High School Heisman Top 10 state finalist.

Wilson is the son of Jesse and Tammy W. Strickland and Melanie Wilson, all of Kentwood, La. He is the grandson of Fay W. Simmons of Magnolia, MS and the late Lowell (Whip) Wilson of Kentwood.

Mays Named ECCC Offensive Coordinator

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Mickey Mays was recently named offensive coordinator at East Central Community College, announced head football coach Ken Karcher.

Mays is a former assistant to Coach Karcher, having served on his Liberty University staff as defensive line coach and special teams coordinator.

Karcher said he looks forward to working with his former assistant and what he brings to the Warrior football program.

“Coach Mays is someone I trust and respect as a football coach,” said Coach Karcher. “He does a great job teaching the fundamentals of the game to his players and is someone who cares about the whole person. I am excited that Mickey has agreed to become a part of my staff and help East Central build a first-class program.”

Mays has 30 years coaching experience on the high school, college and professional levels.

He began his career in 1982 as a secondary coach at Milan High School in Milan, Tenn.

His high school coaching experience also includes stints as secondary coach at Humboldt (Tenn.) High School (1985); head coach at Chester County High School in Henderson, Tenn. (1990-91), where he was named 1991 District Coach of the Year; head coach at Cordova (Tenn.) High School; and defensive coordinator/offensive line coach at Sequatchie County High School in



MAYS

Dunlap, Tenn.

Mays entered the collegiate coaching ranks as a graduate assistant at the University of Tennessee-Martin (defensive ends) in 1986, then Memphis State University (offensive line/tight ends) in 1987-88, and Louisiana State University (running backs) in 1989.

He coached on both sides of the ball during a six-year stint at the University of Texas-El Paso (1993-98). He was part of the 1996 defense (linebackers’ coach) that ranked number two in total defense in the 16-team WAC Conference.

Mays was a member of Coach Karcher’s staff at Liberty University from 2003-05. Under Mays’ leadership, the special teams scored six touchdowns in 2004 and was ranked seventh nationally in net punting in 2005.

Mays was later named defensive line

coach and special teams coordinator at Charleston Southern University in Charleston, South Carolina, serving from 2006-07. The squad registered a school record nine victories and led the Big South Conference in defensive sacks in 2006.

Mays also experienced successful coaching stints on the professional level.

He served as defensive line and punt team coach for the Orlando Thunder of the World League of American Football in 1992, when the squad won the Eastern Division title and finished World Bowl runners-up.

Other professional league coaching stints include the Saskatchewan Roughriders of the Canadian Football League (1999), the Berlin Thunder of NFL Europe (2000), and the X.F.L. Division Champs, the Orlando Rage (2001).

Mays served in 2008 as offensive and defensive line coach for Arena Bowl Champion Philadelphia Soul, which set a franchise record for victories (16) and team sacks. He also served as director of player personnel.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Mays served as defensive assistant with the Virginia Destroyers of the United Football League in 2012.

A native of Adamsville, Tenn., Mays is a 1977 graduate of Humboldt (Tenn.) High School. He received a bachelor’s degree from Rhodes College in Memphis in 1981 and earned a master’s degree in education administration from the University of Memphis in 1989.

Warrior Athletics



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC FCA Participates in “Glowing for Christ”: These members of East Central Community College’s Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) participated in the “Glowing for Christ” campaign, a joint effort by Mississippi’s FCA and Mission Mississippi. As part of the campaign, they carried the wooden cross, which is shown in this photo, from Mt. Zion Church on Highway 15 to Decatur. The cross is being carried by FCA members throughout the state and by the end of October will have made its journey through all 82 counties in Mississippi. Pictured are (front row, from left) Haley Stephens of Union, Morgan Porter of Enterprise, Malauri Robinson of Meridian, Zack Killion of Crestwood, Ky., and Matt Sykes of Columbus; (second row, from left) Amber McBroom of Brandon, Lindsey Beard of Meridian, Dalton Smith of Florence , Nick Breland of Perkinston and Hunter Thrower of Meridian; (third row, from left) Nathan Powell of Meridian, Kyle McCullouch of Madison, Daniel Myrick of Flowood and Clint McGraw of Tupelo; and (back row, from left) Cody Daigle of Addis, La., Chance Whitten of Batesville, Jordan Walker of Decatur and assistant football coach Scott Brock, ECCC FCA sponsor.

EXTRAORDINARY COACH

Karcher Prepares Team for Life

BY KATY MARIE EZELLE
Staff Writer

The Extraordinary Coach for this edition of *The Tom-Tom* is Ken Karcher, the new head coach of the ECCC Warrior football team. This is his first season with the Warriors. He enjoys the family atmosphere that comes with a rural area such as Decatur. Coach Karcher said he is a family man, and his family is very important to him. He and his wife have been married for 27 years. They have lived in 18 different places. They have four children. Their oldest son is a physical education coach and teacher in Birmingham, Alabama. Their oldest daughter, a recent graduate of Mississippi State University, is an 11th grade English teacher in Georgia. Their third child, a daughter, is currently attending Mississippi State University pursuing a degree in fitness and exercise science. The youngest son is a senior at Newton County High School where he plays football.

When asked about this season for the Warriors, Coach Karcher’s main concern is to give the best experience to his players at this point and time. He is a believer in preparation. He stated, “I think if you prepare as a football team or in life as a person then you have an opportunity to be successful, not a guarantee. Sometimes people are better than you. That is ok. If you have done your best and you have prepared, and you don’t do well on the football field or a test, I don’t think you should hang your head or think something worse of yourself. I try to tell them that you only have a few of these in life. You want to be the best prepared that you can be and then enjoy it, because it is a game. It’s not life and death. It is



KATY EZELLE
Staff Writer

a game.”

Coach Karcher’s role as a father and husband and coach are both equal. He states, “These are my kids. Just like I have four kids, I have 55 to 60-some kids. Everything that I would do as a father and husband at home, it is what I try to do as a coach with the young people here. That is what I share with them. From an academic environment or expectation, same thing I ask of my kids, I ask of my players. Their study habits and how they prepare for the classroom or deal with a social issue, I apply the same method.”

Coach Karcher has one main challenge he presents to his players. This challenge is their mission, which is “that they grow as a whole person. They are people who understand that their academics, their athletics, their spiritual side and their social side are all equal. He said he believes that this has been a challenge for a lot of young people that haven’t grown up with that goal in mind.”

When asked about the advice he could give to the fan base to support the Warriors, he stated, “What I would encourage people to think about is that these are young men who are out there playing a game. It is obviously something brings an excitement and social atmosphere to the college everyone can be involved in. But I think what happens sometimes in sports is that people forget that these are individuals, that these are humans, that these are someone’s kids. So, I just hope that they would support them like they support someone else in another team. Look at them as a potential friend or maybe they already are friends. Support them as human beings.”



KARCHER

Gray Selected EC Assistant Football Coach

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Eric Gray is a recent addition to the football staff at East Central Community College, announced first-year head coach Ken Karcher.

Gray, a former University of Alabama football standout, serves as cornerbacks coach and assistant strength coach.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Gray coached running backs and defensive backs at several football skills camps. He also coached running backs, defensive backs and special teams for the Birmingham Wildfire professional team in 2008 and 2009.

Gray, a Decatur, Ala., native, was a four-year (2004-2007) letterman at the University of Alabama, where the standout cornerback/special teams member earned All-Southeastern Conference Academic Team honors in 2004 and 2005.

He continued his career at running back with the Birmingham Wildfire, a semi-professional football team, in 2008 and 2009. He helped lead the team to the SFL Championship in 2008 and earned numerous



GRAY

honors. He was named on the SFL All-Pro Team, received Southern Football League Player of the Week and was a four-time recipient of team player of

the week honors.

Honors continued in 2009, when he led the Southern Football League in rushing and was again selected on the SFL All-Pro First Team. He also received team most valuable player and team captain awards.

Gray was a member of the Sioux City Bandits of the Professional Arena Football League and led the team in rushing touchdowns during the championship season in 2011. He was the second-leading rusher on the 2010 squad. He was also a special teams member for both seasons.

He completed his football career as a defensive back with the Bloomington Edge of the Professional Indoor Football League from February 2012 to July 2012 and was among the team’s top tacklers.

Gray received a bachelor’s degree in Sports Fitness and Management from the University of Alabama in December 2007.

He is currently pursuing a master’s degree in Healthcare Administration at Walden University in Baltimore, MD.

He is also a certified ASFA trainer.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Tennis Teams Recognized for Academic Success: Special recognition was given to the 2013 East Central Community College tennis teams during halftime ceremonies of the ECCC/Copiah-Lincoln Community College football game Sept. 12 at Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus. The Lady Warriors and Warriors were named NJCAA Academic Tennis Teams of the Year and were recognized as MACJC All-State Academic Teams for 2012-13 for their academic success. The Lady Warriors led the nation with a 3.77 grade point average and the Warriors achieved a 3.76 GPA. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart (left) presented NJCAA-provided plaques to each team. Shown with Dr. Stewart following the presentation are (second from left) Coach Kyle Watson, Lady Warriors Haley Chapman of Hickory, Alana Turner of Florence, Amber Pierce of Walnut Grove, Nan Hartness of Louisville, Hannah Smith of Madden and Hayden Fryery of Louisville; Warriors Andrew Hanna of Union, Brandon St. Clair of Newton, Hunter Mayo and Josh Peoples, both of Carthage; and Coach Dianne O’Neill. Team members unable to attend the ceremony included Kelsey Tadlock of Decatur, Lucas Calvert and Chris Mays, both of Louisville, and Blake Cochran of Hickory.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Football Coaches: East Central Community College football coaches and their respective areas of responsibility include (from left) Todd Bates, defensive line/strength coach; Charles Jones, safeties; Scott Brock, defensive coordinator/linebackers; Ken Karcher, head coach; Mickey Mays, offensive coordinator/ offensive line; Cody Wilson, tight ends/running backs; and Eric Gray, corners/assistant strength coach.

Risher Joins Football Coaches

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Gary Risher of Forest is a recent addition to the football coaches’ staff at East Central Community College, announced head coach Ken Karcher.

Risher is serving as an offensive assistant.

His coaching career spans approximately 40 years on the high school level and includes a Little Dixie Conference title in 1970 during his inaugural season as head coach of the Forest High School Bearcats. Risher received Coach of the Year honors following the championship season.

Risher also served on coaching staffs for the Mississippi Public High School All-Star Football Games and Mississipp-

pi Private High School All-Star Football Games.

Risher attended ECCC from 1960-62 and continued his education at Mississippi College, where he received a bachelor’s degree in secondary education in 1965, and earned master’s degrees in secondary administration in 1974 and in physical science in 1987.

He is married to the former Nelda Greer, a 1962 ECCC graduate. They have two sons, the Rev. Robin Risher, who is married to the former Tracy Ladd; and Rusty Risher, who is married to the former Stephanie Hathcoat; and a daughter, Jan Risher, who is married to Julio Naudin. Gary and Nelda have six grandchildren.



RISHER



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Warrior Football ‘Voices’: Continuing to serve as the “voices” for East Central Community College football games are (from left) public address announcer Frank Edmondson of Lake, radio play-by-play announcer Melvin Wooten of Starkville and game analyst Gilbert Barham of Madden. Edmondson returns for his 16th year of service. Wooten is in his 10th year in calling all the Warrior action and Barham is serving his 16th year as the “color man.” ECCC football games can be heard on 98.3 The Groove as a production of Boswell Media Sports. The radio broadcasts can also be heard on the College’s Web site, www.eccc.edu.

Warrior Athletics

Anderson Named NJCAA Male Athlete of the Year

SPECIAL TOT THE TOM-TOM

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. – The NJCAA national office announced the winner of the 2013 David Rowlands Award, presented annually to the nation's top male student-athlete, East Central Community College shortstop Tim Anderson earned the award after a remarkable season with the Warriors.

"It feels great to win this award," Anderson said. "To be recognized out of all of the junior college athletes in the country is a real honor."

"Anytime you have one of your athletes win a national award it's amazing because there's so many teams across the country that play junior college sports and it's such a large pool for them to be chosen from," said East Central CC head coach Neal Holliman. "We strive from the administration down to not only have quality players but quality individuals in all of our programs. This award is just another reiteration on what we're trying to achieve. We want to have a top-notch program that's not just about winning and losing, but that is successful all around."

Selected with the 17th overall pick in the 2013 MLB Draft in

June, the Chicago White Sox made Anderson the seventh-highest drafted player to come straight from an NJCAA college. The Tuscaloosa, Ala., native is the highest drafted shortstop to come straight from a two-year college since Glen Franklin of Chipola (Fla.) was taken with the ninth overall pick in the 1978 draft.

"I was speechless. It was an exciting moment for me and my family to have my name called. It was a once-in-a-lifetime thing to do. My family and I got to tour New York City which was great. I didn't expect to be picked so high. My agent texted me saying 'Smile', right before the 17th pick so that's when I knew."

It didn't take the White Sox long to lock up their first round pick, signing Anderson to a minor league contract less than a week later – which included a \$2.164 million signing bonus. The shortstop had originally signed a letter of intent with NCAA Division I program UAB before being drafted.

Anderson has already begun his professional baseball career, having played 19 games with the Kannapolis Intimidators in the South Atlantic League. The rookie is batting for a .320 average with six RBIs and seven



ANDERSON

stolen bases with the White Sox low-A affiliate.

"He's got the physical tools that it takes but more than anyone else that I've ever coached or played with, he has the mental makeup," Holliman said. "I think that is what separates a lot of people. Baseball is a game of failure and how you can deal with it. A lot of people have the physical tools, but can they make the mental and social adjustments? That is what he has

more than anyone else I have ever been around and what will allow him to play in the Big Leagues."

Leading all of DII baseball with a .495 batting average in 2013, Anderson ranked 12th in DII with 18 doubles and hit 11 triples – third most in DII. The first team All-American recorded 10 home runs on the year, compiling an .879 slugging percentage – second highest in the DII ranks. Anderson drove in 45 RBIs during the season and ranked fourth in DII with 41 stolen bases. Closing out his career as a Warrior, Anderson spurred East Central on to a 32-21 record and the Mississippi Association of Community & Junior Colleges championship.

"He's just a guy that continually got better ever since he came into our program," Holliman said. "I wish we could take all the credit for it but he's just somebody who is a tremendous athlete that got better and better through reps and continuous work. This was an absolutely exceptional year for him and he also did a lot as a marked man while we were struggling as a team."

In 2012, Anderson enjoyed immediate success as a freshman at East Central. The infielder led the Warriors with a

.360 batting average, 37 RBIs and was a perfect 30-for-30 stealing bases. Anderson's effort in his first season earned him All-Region 23 honors.

"When we signed him, I knew he would be a very good player," Holliman said. "I thought he would be drafted when we signed him, although I had no idea he would go in the first round. He was a very exceptional athlete and hit coming out of high school. Physically he has gotten a lot better with reps but he's always been an athlete that has been able to hit."

Anderson is quick to credit Holliman and the East Central staff for playing a major role in where he is today.

"I had a bunch of one-on-one time with Coach Holliman," Anderson said. "We worked every day hitting in the cages, fielding ground balls and talking about the things I need to work on. He helped me identify my weaknesses and has helped me improve a lot."

At Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa, Anderson played a role in the Patriots winning the Alabama 6A State Basketball Championship in 2011. Despite his tremendous talents, Anderson didn't begin playing high school baseball until his junior year.

"It was a good decision because I had knee injuries in high school as a basketball player," Anderson said. "I felt that baseball was my best sport and once I got to East Central, it was the only sport that I had to focus on."

Although Anderson didn't benefit from the years of specialized training that most professional baseball players enjoyed, he believes his time playing basketball has helped develop his baseball game.

"It helped me be more alert and able to see everything on the field," he said. "The game has actually slowed down a lot because basketball is so quick. It's helped me react faster on the baseball field."

With his exceptional abilities and a load of potential, Anderson has become one of the most talked about players to come out of the 2013 MLB Draft. Despite all the acclaim, Anderson has identified what areas of his game need improvement and is focusing on them.

"Right now, I'm working on my defense," Anderson said. "A lot of people say that I can't stay at shortstop so I want to prove them wrong and show that I can play there."



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Football Alumni Meet: Former East Central Community College football players gathered earlier this summer to meet new head coach Ken Karcher and show support for the Warrior football program. Coach Karcher presented his vision and goals for success and offered levels of financial support, "The Coaches 20," to the former players for consideration. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart also provided remarks and expressed appreciation to the former Warrior standouts for their support. He also discussed plans to improve facilities as funding is available. Other speakers included offensive coordinator Mickey Mays and defensive coordinator Scott Brock, who related their respective philosophies for success. Pictured are (seated from left) Phil Smith, Decatur; Jeff Breland, Lake; Pete Lucovich, Carthage; Wilmer James, Morton; Earl Marshall, Hattiesburg; Van Lucas, Newton; Tony Henderson, Hattiesburg; Dr. Stewart; Coach Karcher; Steve Moorehead, Union; Guy Nowell, Philadelphia; and Jerry Johnson, Carthage; and (standing from left) Coach Mays; Kyle Watson, Decatur; Tod Wall, Brandon; Ricky Harrison and Dr. Randall Lee, both of Decatur; Mark Killens and Pat Kirby, both of Newton; Chris Perry, Decatur; Chris Rowell, Philadelphia; Mike Moorehead and Brad Breland, both of Union; Coach Brock; and Chris Harris, Decatur. For more information on levels of financial support, contact Coach Ken Karcher, 601-635-6107 or email kkarcher@eccc.edu.

Jones Named Assistant Football Coach

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Charles Jones of Waynesboro, Ga., was recently named an assistant football coach at East Central Community College, announced first-year head coach Ken Karcher.

Jones' main area of responsibility will be coaching safeties.

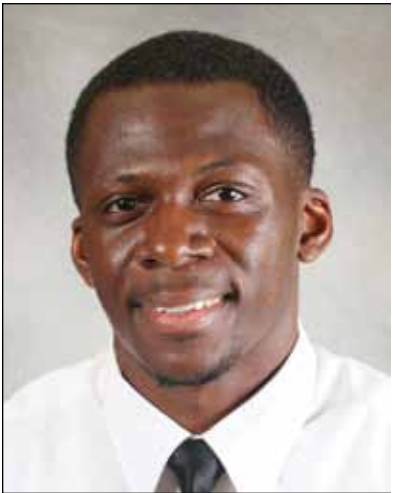
Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Jones served as defensive coordinator/strength and conditioning coach at Bessemer City High School in Bessemer, Ala., a position held since June 2011.

He was defensive coordinator at Jackson-Olin High School in Birmingham, Ala., from May 2010 – May 2011, followed by a stint as defensive backfield coach at Bessemer (Ala.) High School from February 2009 to March 2010.

Jones began his coaching career as a graduate assistant at Mississippi State University, where he coached defensive backs from July 2008 to December 2008.

A former football standout at Burke County High School, Jones continued his career at the University of Alabama having received a four-year athletic scholarship from 1999-2003.

He was a three year starter



JONES

and was named to the All-Southeastern Conference (SEC) Team as a defensive back in 2003. He also received the Bobby Jones Most Improved Defensive Back Award in 2001.

Jones continued his football career on the professional level. He was a member of the New York Giants team from April 2004 to December 2004 and later joined the Georgia Force of the Arena Football League from February 2006 to June 2007.

He received a bachelor's degree in marketing from the University of Alabama in August 2005.

Thompson Named New ECCC Men's Basketball Coach

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Robert Thompson is the new men's head basketball coach at East Central Community College.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart introduced the new Warrior head coach during a press conference held Tuesday, May 14, 2013, in the Board of Trustees Room located in the Vincent Administration Building.

Dr. Stewart said he was initially impressed with Coach Thompson's 20-year coaching career at the college level, including 14 years as the head basketball coach at institutions in the NAIA and NCAA Division II. However, he quickly added he was more impressed with what he learned about Coach Thompson during the search process.

"While we were honored to have several outstanding coaches apply for this position, I am convinced that we have hired the best fit for our basketball team at this time in our program's development," said Dr. Stewart. "Coach Thompson has been described to me as a tireless recruiter with an unmatched work ethic who knows what it takes to develop a program from the ground up. He has also been described as a role

model for young men, a man of great integrity, and a humble person who just loves to work with and develop young men of character. That is what we are all about here at East Central. I know that Coach Thompson is committed to building a men's basketball program that will model the 'EC WAY – Excellence with Class' and we look forward to great things in our men's basketball program through his leadership."

Added Athletic Director Chris Harris: "It's exciting to see the direction in which our men's basketball program is headed. To have Coach Robert Thompson lead our men's basketball program back into a competitive program in this league is going to create a lot of excitement for this area. In my opinion, Coach Thompson brings a lot to the table; he's concerned about the total student athlete – athletically, academically, socially, spiritually and emotionally."

Coach Thompson, who begins his new duties Wednesday, May 15, said he is "excited" and "ready to start building" a successful Warrior basketball program.

"I'm very grateful to be here. I've been very blessed...I've been around some great people who did some great things in my life and I want to share that with

the kids here at East Central... I'm very fortunate and blessed.

"I told the board members earlier today it's going to be real simple...ABCs-Academics, Basketball and Character. If they are here for two years, I want to make sure they graduate in two years. We're going to do player development every day: pass, dribble and shoot. We're going to get better. We're going to teach them how to play and let them play. And then we're going to work on character. We're going to make them men. When they leave here, I want them to be proud to have been at East Central and make their parents proud. Because that's what I'm going to do."

Thompson, 44, comes to East Central following a 10-year career as head coach at Spring Hill College in Mobile, Ala., where his teams accumulated an overall 142-156 mark.

He led the Badgers to four winning seasons and two campaigns in which the squad finished with a .500 record. His best season was in 2005-06 season when the Badgers went 23-7 and finished second in the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference and made a Sweet 16 appearance in the NAIA National Tournament. Thompson was named Conference Coach of the Year in recognition of the successful

campaign.

Prior to arriving at Spring Hill, Thompson was head men's basketball coach at Arkansas Tech University in Russellville for four seasons, compiling a 43-62 record. His "Wonder Boys" squad in 1999-2000 finished third in the Gulf South Conference West Division and was ranked eighth in the NCAA South Regional. Thompson received Gulf South Conference Coach of the Year honors following the successful season.

His overall record as head coach is 185-215.

A Tupelo native, Thompson has also served as an assistant men's basketball coach at several colleges in Mississippi.

He was a member of the Delta State University staff from 1996 to 1999 and helped lead the Statesmen to the NCAA South Regional Championship in 1997-98 and Gulf South Tournament titles in 1996-97 and 1997-98.

Thompson was employed at Belhaven College from 1993-96, where in addition to duties as a men's basketball assistant he served as cross country coach.

He began his coaching career in 1992-93 as an assistant men's basketball coach at Neosho County Community College in Chanute, Kansas, where helped lead the Jayhawks to their most



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Dr. Billy Stewart (right), President of East Central Community College presents the new Men's Basketball Coach, Robert Thompson (left) with Warrior attire following his announcement to the position.

wins in the school's history (23) and first division championship in 25 years.

Thompson was a standout basketball player at Shannon High School and continued his athletic career at Belhaven College, where the four-year letterwinner served as team captain from 1989-92. He was also a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Student Government Association Execu-

tive Council. He was elected a Senior Senator in 1991.

He received a bachelor's degree in physical education from Belhaven College in 1992 and completed a master's degree in physical education from Jackson State University in 1997.

Coach Thompson is married to the former Freda Rowe of Louisville. They have two sons, Joshua, 15; and Justin, nine.

Warrior Athletics

Warriors Fall to Nationally Ranked JCJC

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Struggles continue on the gridiron for the young East Central Community Warriors who were victims of another nationally-ranked team Thursday, Oct. 3 at Bailey Stadium.

After trailing just 7-0 following first-period action, East Central was simply no match for the No. 3 Jones County Junior College Bobcats who added 24 points in the second quarter on their way to an easy 47-0 victory.



KARCHER

Jones County improved to 6-0 overall and leads the MACJC South Division with a 4-0 mark. East Central dropped to 0-6 and 0-4.

“Jones is a much-better football team than us,” said first-year Warrior head coach Ken Karcher in a post-game interview. “We had a couple of chances (to score) but when you don’t capitalize against a good team you’re not going to have those things happen.”

One such opportunity collapsed following the Bobcats’ first score when the Warriors drove from their own 19 to the Jones County 32, where the drive stalled on fourth and short yardage. A highlight of the 49-yard march was JaDerrick Farrow’s 12-yard run on a fake punt when EC faced fourth and six near midfield. Farrow is a freshman defensive back from Bleckley County High School in Blakely, Ga.

EC missed another scoring opportunity late in first-half action while trailing 31-0. Quarterback Donnie Farmer connected on a 61-yard pass play to wide receiver Hakeem Parker, which gave the Warriors possession on the Bobcat 10-yard-line. However, the drive stalled and Austin Franklin’s 23-yard field goal attempt was partially blocked.

Farmer, a freshman signal caller from Harrison Central, finished the night completing 13 of 22 passes for 129 yards. Parker, a sophomore from Joseph S. Clark High School in New Orleans, led EC receivers with five grabs for 84 yards. Franklin, also a sophomore, hails from Petal High School.

The Warriors reached the Bobcat 17-yard-line on their final drive of the night but turned over possession when Farmer’s pass attempt fell incomplete on fourth and nine.

The Bobcats were led by freshman quarterback Steven Swindle of Oak Grove, who completed eight of 10 passes for 192 yards and two scores.

His top receiver was sophomore wide receiver Quarteaz Cooks of Quitman, who had four catches for 158 yards and scored on 45- and 24-yard receptions from Swindle.

The Jones rushing attack was led by freshman running Keshod Willis of Lumberton, who had 106 yards on 14 carries and scored on a one-yard.

Also scoring for Jones were sophomore running back Justin Harris of Morton, who gave the Bobcats a 7-0 lead on his four-yard run midway in the first period; freshman quarterback Kenneth Coleman of Hazlehurst, who tallied on a two-yard run; and freshman running back Jamal Hatten of Hattiesburg, whose two-yard plunge gave the Bobcats their final tally.

Sophomore kicker Grant McLaurin of Forrest County AHS connected on 47- and 45-yard field goals and made five of six PATs.

EC’s rushing attack was led by sophomore Martin Johnson of Nanih Waiya, who had 15 attempts for 50 yards. Freshman running back Lamarcus Franks of Greene County contributed 22 yards on nine carries.

The Warriors host Mississippi Delta Community College in the annual homecoming battle Saturday, Oct. 12. Kickoff is set for 2:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium.

The Trojans are 0-5 prior to their matchup with Northwest Mississippi Community College scheduled Saturday, Oct. 5 on the Senatobia campus.

WARRIORS FALL TO HINDS 48-14

Hinds Community College lived up to its national ranking as the No. 20 Eagles cruised to a 48-14 victory over East Central Community College September 26 at Renfroe Stadium on the Raymond campus.

EC’s Warriors fell to 0-5 overall and 0-3 in division play following the

MACJC South Division matchup, while Hinds improved to 3-2 and 1-2.

The Eagles led 28-0 at halftime and held a 34-0 third-quarter advantage when East Central tallied its first points of the night on Martin Johnson’s 27-yard scamper with six seconds remaining in the stanza. Johnson’s score capped a six-play, 45-yard drive and provided his first score of the season. Franklin added the PAT.

East Central’s other score came with 4:54 left in the contest, when Taylor and freshman wide receiver Jimmy Cockrell hooked up on a 19-yard scoring pass play, capping a seven play, 38-yard march set up by a Hinds fumble during a punt attempt. Cockrell hails from Columbus High School. Franklin added the PAT.

Hinds took control early in the contest on Gregory Foster’s four-yard TD run and Diante Thomas’ 12-yard touchdown strike to Desmond Anderson during first-period action. Joseph Houston booted both PATs.

The Eagles extended their lead in the second period on Tommy McCalpin’s three-yard run and Thomas’ 27-yard TD toss to Robert Lockhart. Houston kicked the PAT following McCalpin’s score but his attempt was blocked by the Warriors following the scoring pass play.

Hinds extended its lead to 34-0 on Foster’s second tally, a one-yard run midway in the third stanza. Houston added the PAT.

Foster added a third tally on his 11-yard run early in the fourth quarter. Houston’s PAT stretched the Eagle advantage to 41-7.

The game’s final points came on McCalpin’s second score, this time on a 41-yard burst to pay dirt with 1:57 left in the game.

EC’s offense was led by freshman running back Lamarcus Franks who had 20 carries for 107 yards. Franks is a product of Greene County High School.

Johnson finished with 42 yards on 11 attempts, which included his 27-yard TD run.

Freshman running back Matthew Hicks of Ocean Springs had three carries for 30 yards.

Freshman Donnie Farmer started at quarterback for the Warriors. The Harrison Central High School product completed three of seven passes for 11 yards and one interception. Farmer had four rushes for six yards.

Anthony Triplett was the Warrior signal caller for most of the second half. The freshman from Philadelphia High School completed two of six passes for 19 yards. He had nine rushes for seven yards.

Taylor finished the game and completed two of six passes for 28 yards and one interception. He had one rush for five yards.

Parker was the top receiver with five catches for 31 yards.

Cockrell had one catch for 19 yards and a score.

Franklin averaged 40 yards on five punts.

Farrow led the EC defense with five tackles and two assists.

Other top tacklers were freshman linebacker Fredrick Rich of Tanner High School in Athens, Ga., four tackles, one assist; sophomore linebacker Zachery Thigpen of Laurel, three tackles and one assist; freshman defensive back Phakezian Walker of Quitman, two tackles and three assists; and freshman defensive back Darrion Burnside of Neshoba Central, two tackles and two assists.

WARRIORS LEAD EARLY BUT FALL 24-7 TO SOUTHWEST

On the game’s first possession, ECCC quarterback Donnie Farmer engineered an eight-play, 77-yard drive capped by a three-yard TD toss to tight end Tyler Pace.

Austin Franklin’s PAT put the Warriors up 7-0 and the Warriors had a successful start to their MACJC South Division battle with Southwest Mississippi Community College September 19 at John L. Hurst Stadium on the Summit campus.

However, the home-standing Bears rallied to take a 10-7 lead at halftime and added touchdowns in the third and fourth stanzas to claim a 24-7 victory.

The Bears improved to 2-2 overall and 1-0 in league play, while the Warriors fell to 0-4 and 0-2.

Farmer finished the night by completing 12 of 24 passes for 128 yards and had one interception. Pace, a 6-2, 260-pound freshman from Newton, had another reception for minor yardage.

Southwest tied the contest later in the first period on quarterback De’Angelo Ballard’s one-yard plunge and Michael McDaniel’s PAT. Angelo is a 6’, 180-pound freshman from Nox-



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Warrior Football Squad: Members of the 2013 East Central Community College football squad include (first row, from left) wide receiver Hakeem Parker (2), defensive back JaDerrick Farrow (3), quarterback Jacori Taylor (4), defensive back Chris Apperwhite (5), defensive back Anthony Triplett (6), running back Martin Johnson (7), linebacker Christian Wraggs (8), defensive back Sheppard Jones (9), wide receiver James Clark (10), quarterback Donnie Farmer (11), and defensive Blake Bateaste (12); (second row, from left) defensive backs Jabri Selmon (13), Blake Gordon (14) and Phakezian Walker (15), kicker/punter Austin Franklin (20), running backs Lamarcus Franks (22) , Matthew Hicks (26) and Pascal Desir (33), defensive backs Caleb Autrey (38) and Grant Landrum (39) and linebackers Matthew Moore (40) and Zachary Thigpen (41); (third row, from left) defensive back Darrion Burnside (42), tight end Kyle Adkins (43), linebacker Thomas McCool (44), tight end Tyler Pace (45), linebackers Isaiah Williams (46) and Chris Washington (47) defensive back Anthony Ruffin (48), and offensive linemen Kyrton Samuels (60), Brody Martin (61), Ronald Dixon (62), and Andy Morris (63) (fourth row, from left) offensive linemen Edward DeLee (65), Chris Yarbrough (71), Quincy Cole (72), Brandon Thomas (76), Charles Robinson (77), Johnathan Chambers (78) and Demetre McCleon (79), wide receiver Zachary Bobbitt (80), defensive back Chris Thornton (81) and tight end/wide receiver Layton Holcomb (82); (fifth row, from left) tight end/wide receiver Wesley Smith (83), tight ends Lucas Morgan (85) and Brandon Davis (86), wide receivers Desmond Grayson (88) and Jimmy Cockrell (89), defensive end Jeremy Pyles (90), defensive linemen Darryl Rogers (91), Monroe (92) and Anthony McGee (93) ; linebacker Tyler Armistad (94), Caledonia; and defensive lineman Xavier Woodard (96); (fifth row, from left) defensive linemen Joshua Brown (97), Romario Cobb (98) and Xavier Telefort (99), quarterback Treveonte Willis, offensive lineman Kenrick Maxwell, linebacker Quanterris Newby, long snapper Trent Haden, and managers Daniel Myrick, Tyler Warnat and Steven Bloodsaw. Standing from left are assistant coaches Cody Wilson, Eric Gray and Mickey Mays; head coach Ken Karcher; assistant coaches Scott Brock, Todd Bates and Charles Jones; and athletic trainers Derrick Jones and T.J. Robbins of the Rush Sports Medicine Sports Team. Not pictured are linebacker Fredrick Rich, and manager Adam Hamill.

ubee County and McDaniel hails from Northwest Rankin.

McDaniel, a 5-7, 153-pound freshman, gave Southwest the lead for good on his 43-yard field goal with 10 seconds left before halftime.

The Bears took advantage of a Warrior miscue early in third-period action, as Ballard again found the end zone, this time on an 18-yard scramble. McDaniel added the PAT.

The short scoring drive began at the EC 34 and was set up by a Warrior fumble on a punt return.

EC was unable to take advantage of a scoring opportunity later in the third period when Franklin’s 45-yard field goal attempt fell short. Franklin is a 6’, 180-pound sophomore from Petal.

The Bears’ added their final tally with 4:12 left in the division contest on Jamal Hall’s 30-yard run. Hall is a 5-8, 200-pound sophomore running back from Picayune. McDaniel added the PAT.

East Central’s rushing attack was led by running back Lamarcus Franks, who had 15 carries for 52 yards. Franks is a 5-7, 150-pound freshman from Greene County High School.

Running back Johnson contributed 48 yards on seven carries. Farmer finished with 25 yards on six carries.

The top receiver was Parker, who had six grabs for 48 yards.

WARRIORS FALL 23-0 TO NATIONALLY RANKED CO-LIN

Led by third-string quarterback Anthony Triplett, ECCC’s injury-plagued Warriors faced their third-straight nationally-ranked opponent in the Copiah-Lincoln Community College Wolfpack September 12.

After exchanging early turnovers, Triplett – who is listed on the roster as a defensive back – engineered a 13-play, 68-yard drive only to have the scoring threat nullified due to a Warrior fumble near the goal line.

EC’s offense was unable to recover from the early miscue and the sixth-ranked and defending MACJC State Champion Wolves struggled early offensively as well but managed to seal the victory with two second-half scores and a 23-0 victory in the MACJC South Division opener for both squads.

Karcher said the early turnover was a momentum changer for his young squad.

“I thought if we knocked the first one in there, down on the one-yard line where we fumbled, it’s a different ball game,” Karcher said following the squad’s home opener at Bailey Stadium. “You can’t make those mistakes against a good football team. Our kids will continue to get better and not make those mistakes, but that’s a key point in the ball game right there.”

Triplett finished the night by completing nine of 16 passes for 78 yards and had two interceptions. One of his interceptions nixed a scoring threat early in the third period with the visi-

tors up 16-0.

Karcher praised the performance of the young signal caller, who was called to action due to injuries sustained by Farmer and Taylor.

“I thought Anthony brought some life to our football team,” Karcher said. “I thought all the players fought hard and showed much improvement from the previous two games.”

EC began the 2013 campaign with a 40-7 loss to then 16th-ranked Itawamba followed by a 59-0 defeat to fifth-ranked East Mississippi.

The Warrior offense was also sparked by Franks, who was the top rusher with 89 yards on 17 carries.

Johnson had eight carries for 28 yards.

James Clark was EC’s top receiver, as the 6’, 192-pound sophomore from Laurel High School hauled in three catches for 41 yards.

Franklin had three punts, including a 49-yarder late in second half action.

Freshman Desmond Grayson led EC in kickoff returns with 91 yards on four attempts. Grayson is a 5-11, 175-pound wide receiver from Meridian High School.

Co-Lin was led by sophomore running back Kelton Smith who had three touchdowns – a seven-yard run in the first period followed by one-yard scoring plays in the third and fourth stanzas. Smith, a 5-11, 205-pound product of Copiah Academy, finished with 86 yards on 15 carries.

Blayne Jones made two of three PATs and gave Co-Lin a 3-0 lead with his 25-yard field goal in the second quarter. Jones is a 5-10, 160-pound freshman from St. Joseph High School.

Wolfpack quarterback Daniel Fitzwater completed 12 of 22 pass attempts for 181 yards. Fitzwater is a 6-6, 230-pound freshman from Calvary High School in Shreveport, La.

WARRIORS FALL 59-0 TO EMCC

ECCC’s young and injury-plagued football squad was simply no match for nationally ranked East Mississippi Community College which scored early and often in posting an easy 59-0 victory over the Warriors September 5 at Sullivan-Windham Field on the Scooba campus.

The No. 4 Lions (2-0) scored on their first play from scrimmage on quarterback Dontreal Pruitt’s 30-yard TD strike to Kameron Myers, and extended their first-quarter lead to 21-0 following Lakendric Thomas’ one-yard run and an 18-yard return of a Warrior fumble by Lion linebacker Christian Russell.

Thomas tallied on another one-yard plunge early in the second period, which also featured Pruitt’s 19-yard TD toss to Kameron Myers and a 36-yard field goal by Drew White as time expired for halftime. White also connected on all seven PATs.

The Lions wasted little time in padding their 38-0 halftime advantage as Thomas scored his third TD on a two-

yard run with 11:09 left in the third stanza.

East Mississippi tallied twice in the fourth quarter – first on Preston Baker’s four-yard scamper early in the period followed by Thomas’s fourth TD, a one-yard run with 9:40 remaining. Thomas finished with 96 yards.

The Warriors, who fell to 0-2 under Karcher, were led by Johnson who had 55 yards on 19 carries.

Taylor completed three of seven passes for 39 yards.

Freshman tight end Brandon Davis of Newton County High School had one grab for 20 yards and Clark caught two passes for eight yards.

Farmer also saw action at quarterback. He attempted four passes and had one interception.

WARRIORS FALL 40-7 TO ITAWAMBA IN SEASON OPENER

JaKori Taylor’s 60-yard touchdown pass to Parker was the offensive highlight for the Warriors who fell 40-7 to nationally ranked Itawamba Community College in the season opener for both teams August 29 at Eaton Field on the Fulton campus.

The non-division matchup also began the Karcher era as ECCC’s head football coach.

Taylor’s screen pass to Parker came with 10 minutes left in third-quarter action and narrowed the Itawamba advantage at 27-7. Franklin added the PAT.

The No. 16 Indians were led by quarterback Griff Loftis who passed for 331 yards and four scores for the easy victory. Jon Williams, a former Warrior assistant, is in his fourth season as head coach.

Itawamba took a 3-0 lead with 5:19 left in first-period action on a 20-yard field goal from Emmitt Dendy of Houston.

The Indians stretched their lead to 10-0 followed by Loftis’ 25-yard TD strike to wide receiver Shante Rogers of Itawamba Agricultural High School with 18 seconds left in the period. Dendy added the first of his four PATs on the night.

Loftis continued his scoring success in the second quarter, as he connected with wide receiver Chance McNulty of Germantown on a 16-yard TD strike with 14:03 left followed by an eight-yard scoring pass play to tight end Archie Dennard of Hollandale Simmons with 45 seconds remaining before halftime.

Dendy also contributed to second-quarter scoring as he connected on a 24-yard field goal with 8:13 left.

Loftis’ fourth TD pass came in the third stanza – a 30-yard strike to wide receiver Jaquez McMillian of Southaven with 2:28 remaining, which gave ICC a 33-7 lead.

Indian running back Chris Ingram of Southaven scored the game’s final points on his 10-yard dash with 11:30 remaining.

Warrior Athletics

Soccer Warriors Blank MCC 3-0

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Ty Miller scored twice and Dalton Smith contributed a goal in helping lead the East Central Community College men's soccer team to a 3-0 shutout over Meridian Community College Oct. 1 on the MCC campus.

Miller, a sophomore defender from Moss Point, scored in the 19th and 56th minutes of the non-division matchup. Joe McGaskin, a freshman forward and product of Maranatha Christian, was credited with a scoring assist on Miller's second goal.

Smith, a freshman forward from Florence, scored his goal in the 65th minute. Russ Thompson, a sophomore midfielder/forward from Newton County, was credited with a scoring assist.

The Soccer Warriors are now 6-4-1 under head coach Kenneth Thompson. MCC's Eagles fell to 3-8.

In women's action, EC was blanked 3-0.

MCC scorers were Merrick Watkins, Meme Huff and Kristen Morris. Kayla Phillips was credited with a scoring assist on Huff's goal.

The Lady Warriors are 4-7 under first-year head coach Gray Massey.

EECC SOCCER TEAMS DEFEAT SOUTHWEST

East Central Community College's soccer teams each posted 2-1 decisions over Southwest Mississippi Community College squads Friday, Sept. 27 on the Decatur campus.

Ashlan Culberson scored both goals for the Lady Warriors, who improved to 4-6 overall under first-year head coach Gray Massey.

Culberson, a freshman midfielder from Brandon, gave EC an early 1-0 lead and later provided the game-winning goal in overtime.

Nicole Daigle scored for the Lady Bears and sent the contest into the extra period.

After trailing 1-0 following an early score by Southwest's Chris Gomez, the Warriors responded with goals from Clint McGraw followed by the game-winner from Will Thompson. Russ Thompson was credited with a scoring assist on McGraw's goal, and McGraw and Zack Killion received scoring assists on the Thompson score.

McGraw is a sophomore forward from Tupelo Christian and Will Thompson is a sophomore forward/midfielder and product of Newton County High School.

Russ Thompson is a sophomore midfielder/forward from Newton County, and Killion, a sophomore defender, hails from South Oldham High School in Crestwood, Ky.

EECC SOCCER SQUADS DEFEAT COPIAH-LINCOLN

EECCs soccer squads recorded a pair of 2-1 victories over Copiah-Lincoln Community College in non-division competition held Sept. 24.

Paige Gower and Erika Joyner each scored unassisted goals for the Lady Warriors, who improved to 2-6 overall under first-year head coach Gray Massey.

Gower is a sophomore defender from Clarkdale and Joyner is a freshman forward/keeper from West Lauderdale. Addison Wright scored an unassisted goal for Co-Lin.

Clint McGraw and Will Thompson scored for the Warriors, who improved to 4-4-1 under head coach Kenneth Thompson.

McGraw, a sophomore forward, is



THOMPSON



MASSEY



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Alvarez Attempts Tough Shot: Eliud Alvarez (16), a freshman midfielder on the East Central Community College men's soccer team, came close to making this overhead shot attempt during the Warriors' matchup with Hinds Community College September 10. Alvarez is a freshman from Forest High School. The MACJC North Division opener went into double overtime and ended at 1-1.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

'Flying' Warrior: Forest Muller (17) goes airborne after sending this kick across field during East Central Community College's soccer match with visiting Jones County September 4. Muller is a sophomore midfielder from Hahnville High School in Luling, La. The Bobcats held on for 4-0 shutout.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Culberson Leads EC to Victory: Ashlan Culberson (16) helped lead the East Central Community College women's soccer team to a 2-1 overtime victory over Southwest Mississippi Community College September 27. Culberson, a freshman midfielder from Brandon, scored both goals for the Lady Warriors, who improved to 4-6 overall under first-year head coach Gray Massey.

a product of Tupelo Christian. Jesse Vaughn was credited with a scoring assist. Vaughn is a sophomore defender and product of Newton County High School.

Thompson is a sophomore forward/midfielder from Newton County. McGraw was credited with a scoring assist.

Today Carr scored for Co-Lin.

EECC SOCCER WARRIORS BLANK MCC 2-0; LADY WARRIORS FALL 3-0

East Central Community College's Soccer Warriors posted a 2-0 victory over Meridian Community College Aug. 30.

Taylor Potter of Bentonina and Joe Gaskin of Greenville scored for EC, which improved to 2-1 under 15th-year head coach Kenneth Thompson. MCC remained winless at 0-3.

Potter's goal came on a penalty kick in the 27th minute. The sophomore forward is a product of the Mississippi School for Science and Math.

Gaskin's "insurance goal" came in the 46th minute. Russ Thompson was credited with a scoring assist. Gaskin is freshman forward and product of Maranatha Christian. Thompson is a sophomore midfielder/forward and product of Newton County High School.

The Lady Warriors sustained their first season loss in a 3-0 setback to the Lady Eagles. EC is now 2-1 under first-year head coach Gray Massey.

Meme Huff scored all three goals for MCC, which improved to 3-0. Merrick Watkins and Taylor Hanes were credited with scoring assists on the first and last goals, which came in the



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Men's Soccer Squad: Above are members of the East Central Community College men's soccer team, who begin 2013 competition as defending co-champions of the MACJC North Division. Squad members and their respective high schools include (first row, from left) manager Ethan Gressett, Newton County; forwards/midfielders Will Thompson (2) and Russ Thompson (3) and defender Jesse Vaughn (4), all of Newton County; forward Taylor Potter (5), MS School for Math and Science; forwards Tim Nix (6) of D'Iberville and Jesus Onofre (7) of Forest; defenders Zack Killion (8) of South Oldham (Ky.) and Jordan Walker (9) of Newton County; midfielder Jordan Alfonso (10), Newton County; and manager Mason Boyer, Des Allemands, La.; (second row, from left) Kenneth Thompson, head coach; midfielders Chase McNair (11) of Neshoba Central and Kennon Craft (12) of Clinton; defender Tyravian Miller (13), Moss Point; forward Daniel Casaca (14), Forest; midfielders Nick Breland (15) of Stone and Eliud Alvarez (16) of Forest; defender Forest Muller (17), Hahnville (La.); midfielder Garrett Blevins (18), Harrison Central; and Gray Massey, assistant coach; and (third row, from left) manager Alana Walker, Pascagoula; forward Dalton Smith (19), Florence; defenders Jerry Byrd (20) of D'Iberville and Hector Ortiz (21) of Enterprise; keepers Matt Taylor of Clarkdale and Matt Sykes of Heritage Academy, Columbus; defender David Williams (22), Newton County; forward Clint McGraw (23), Tupelo Christian; defender Ryan Artman (24), Grenada; and manager Tyler Pigg, Newton County.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Women's Soccer Team: Above are members of the East Central Community College women's soccer team. Squad members and their respective high schools include (first row, from left) midfielder Claire Milling (2), West Lauderdale; forward Bailly McElroy (3) and defender Paige Gower (4), both of Clarkdale; forward Addie Ambrosier (6), Magee; forward/keeper Erika Joyner (8), West Lauderdale; forward Heather Johnson (9), Newton County; midfielder Sydney Dawkins (10), Clarkdale; and forward Kennedy McReynolds (11), Southeast Lauderdale; (second row, from left) forwards Tamia Cavett (12) of Murrah and Miranda Clark (13) of Neshoba Central; midfielders Madi Trapp (14) of Philadelphia, Morgan Luke (15) of Newton County and Ashlan Culberson (16) of Brandon; defender Tesia Keith (17), Corinth; midfielder Mackenzie Britt (18), Florence; defender Kennedy Castleberry (19), Clarkdale; and defender Jessie Hennington (20), Neshoba Central; and (third row, from left) Kenneth Thompson, assistant coach; managers Ethan Gressett and Tyler Pigg, both of Newton County; keeper Alana Turner, Florence; managers Alana Walker of Pascagoula and Mason Boyer of Des Allemands, La.; and Gray Massey, head coach.

second and 68th minutes, respectively. Her second goal came on a penalty kick on the 48th minute.

EECC SOCCER TEAMS SWEEP SOUTHWEST

EECC's soccer teams claimed victories over Southwest Mississippi Community College in non-division matches held Tuesday, August 27 on the Summit campus.

The Lady Warriors won 2-0 to remain undefeated on the young season and the Warriors rallied for a 2-1 decision and their first victory of 2013.

Tamia Cavett scored for the EC women. She is a freshman forward from Murrah High School in Jackson. EC's other score was an "own goal" and credited to a Southwest player.

The Lady Warriors are 2-0 under first-year head coach Gray Massey.

In the men's contest, EC scorers were Taylor Potter of Bentonina and Will Thompson of Decatur. Potter is a sophomore forward and product of the Mississippi School for Math and Science. Thompson is a sophomore forward/midfielder from Newton County High School.

Joe Gaskin and Tyler Miller were credited with scoring assists. Gaskin is a freshman forward from Maranatha Christian in Greenville. Miller is a

sophomore defender from Moss Point.

Connors Masters scored for Southwest. Joel Villa was credited with an assists.

LADY SOCCER WARRIORS BEAT CO-LIN; WARRIORS DROP DECISION

MacKenzie Britt scored two goals and helped lead the East Central Community College women's soccer team to a 4-0 shutout of Copiah-Lincoln Community College Thursday, August 22 on the Wesson campus.

The season-opening victory also successfully began the Gray Massey era as Lady Warrior head coach.

Britt, a sophomore midfielder from Florence, scored her first goal with assistance from freshman defender Tesia Keith of Corinth. Britt tallied the second goal unassisted.

Also scoring for EC were freshman midfielder Madi Trapp of Philadelphia and sophomore forward Heather Johnson, a product of Newton County High School. Johnson and freshman forward Ericka Joyner of West Lauderdale were credited with scoring assists on Trapp's goal, and freshman midfielder Ashlan Culberson of Brandon received a scoring assist on Johnson's score.

In the men's contest, Blayne Jones scored for Co-Lin and was assisted by Johnny Walker.



Scenes from Fall Festival

Students, faculty and staff enjoy activities during Fall Festival. **PAGE 18**

The Tom-Tom

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Thanksgiving
Break
Nov. 25-29



EC Hosts 'An Evening with Coach Herman Boone'

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College will host "An Evening with Coach Herman Boone of 'Remember the Titans'" at 6 p.m. on Nov. 20, 2013, in Huff Auditorium. The event hosted by the college and the ECCC Foundation will be free to the public made possible through the financial support of the ECCC Foundation and the Oliphant-Martin Faculty

Excellence Endowment.

In honor of Coach Herman Boone's visit to campus, ECCC students are invited to a showing of the movie "Remember the Titans" at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Free popcorn and admission for students.

Coach Boone, legendary head football coach at T.C. Williams High School in Alexandria, Va., and the inspiration behind the 2000 blockbuster movie

"Remember the Titans" starring Academy Award-winner Denzel Washington, share lessons in diversity, respect, teamwork, community involvement and the importance of character. He will also offer commentary about his experiences associated with "Remember the Titans."

Following his presentation, Coach Boone will engage in a question and answer session in the auditorium followed

by a reception in Mabry Cafeteria where attendees will have an opportunity to meet and speak to the celebrated coach. Please note all of these events are free of charge and open to the public, but due to limited space in Huff Auditorium seating at the event will be on a first come-first served basis.

For more information on this speaker, please visit www.apbspeakers.com.



BOONE



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College's rock-n-roll band, "The Collegians," will present its annual fall campus concert at 7 p.m. Monday, November 18 in Huff Auditorium. The popular group will perform hits by Bon Jovi, Katy Perry, Miranda Lambert, Miley Cyrus, Imagine Dragons, Fall Out Boy and many more. There is no charge for admission and the public is invited to attend. Pictured are (kneeling, from left) Jake Wilbourne (vocals) of Forest, Joseph Aulds (drums) of Decatur and D'Andre Henton (auxiliary percussion) of Philadelphia; (second row, from left) Claire Griffin (vocals) and Kara Miller (vocals), both of Decatur, Macy Seale (vocals) of Philadelphia, Taylor Gressett (vocals) of Chunky; Dillon Evans (acoustic guitar) of Carthage, Jamie Tune (electric guitar) of Newton, Houston Martin (bass) of Chunky, and director/guitarist Chas Evans; (third row, from left) Zach Peden (saxophone) of Philadelphia, Cody Smith (tech) of Carthage and Micahael Buntyn (lead technician) of Newton; (fourth row, from left) Adrian Tucker (trumpet) of Philadelphia, Matt Graham (trumpet) of Lake, Anna Girling (trombone) of Carthage; and Malcolm McBride (keyboard) of Auburn, Ala.; and (top row, from left) Sarah LaBue (technician) of Conehatta, Jeremy Collins (technician) of Forest, Ryan Packer (technician) of Decatur and Austin Savell (technician) of Philadelphia.

Collegians to Present Fall Concert Nov. 18

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

East Central Community College's rock-n-roll band, "The Collegians," will present its annual fall campus concert at 7 p.m. Monday, November 18 in Huff Auditorium. There is no charge for admission and the public is invited to attend.

The popular group will perform hits by Bon Jovi, Katy Perry, Miranda Lambert, Miley Cyrus, Imagine Dragons, Fall Out Boy and many more.

Vocalists include Jake Wilbourne of Forest, Kara Miller and Claire Griffin of Decatur; Macy Seale of Philadelphia; and Taylor Gressett of Chunky;

Wind and rhythm section members include drummer Joseph Aulds of Decatur; auxiliary percussionist D'Andre Henton saxophonist Zack Peden, and trumpeter Adrian Tucker, all of Philadelphia; acoustic guitarist Dillon Evans and trombonist Anna Girling, both of Carthage; electric guitarist Jamie Tune of Newton, bass gui-

tarist Houston Martin of Chunky, trumpeter Matt Graham of Lake and keyboardist Malcolm McBride of Auburn, Ala.

Technicians are Jeremy Collins of Forest, Ryan Packer of Decatur, Austin Savell of Philadelphia, Sarah LaBue of Conehatta, Cody Smith of Carthage and Michael Buntyn (lead) of Newton.

Music instructor Chas Evans serves as director/guitarist.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Cast members for the East Central Community College production of "Blazing Guns at Roaring Gulch," a western comedy by Shubert Fendrich, include (front row, from left) Danielle Shelley, Sebastopol; Will Stokes, Philadelphia; Shelby Davis, Oxford; George Conner Bond, Brandon; Virginia Easley, Nanih Waiya; and Jeremy Hudson, DeKalb; and (back row, from left) Bristol Buffington, El Paso, Texas; Delaney Kilgore, Newton; Chelsea Smith, Brandon; and Stephanie Neal, Edinburg. English instructor Stacey Pollock serves as director.

EC Players Present 'Blazing Guns at Roaring Gulch'

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

The East Central Community College Players presented their annual fall dinner theater November 14-16, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. This year's presentation, "Blazing Guns at Roaring Gulch," is a comedy by Shubert Fendrich and was directed by English instructor Stacey Pollock.

According to Pollock, "The story takes place in the lobby of the Roaring Gulch Hotel, where the hero, Harry Heartstone (Jeremy Hudson of DeKalb), is found in hot pursuit of the villain, Snipe Vermin (also played by Hudson). Here the story takes an unusual turn because the villain and hero are twin brothers and it is inevitable that the two should meet face to face!"

The play also featured additional characters including a lady sheriff, an evil proprietress, a stranded actress, a

nutty sidekick and a traveling theatrical group.

Additional cast members included Chelsey Smith (Willie Lovelace) of Brandon, Delaney Kilgore (Betty Black) of Newton, Will Stokes (Bill Filbert) of Philadelphia, Bristol Buffington (Widow Black) of El Paso, Texas; Danielle Shelley (Martha Muldoon) of Sebastopol, George Conner Bond (Colonel Crabtree) of Brandon, Shelby Davis (Flora) of Oxford and Virginia Easley (Dora) of Nanih Waiya. Stephanie Neal of Edinburg serves as a member of the technical crew.

The dinner menu included fresh baked tortilla chips with Old West Salsa and Cowboy Caviar, Stage Coach Flank Steak, Giddy Up BBQ Chicken, Round-Up Roasted Potatoes, Wild West Corn, Buckaroo Beans, Campfire Roasted Vegetables, Iron Skillet Cornbread and Biscuits and assorted Prairie Desserts.

Coach Tony Dungy to Speak at ECCC Event

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

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

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

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

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

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

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

More information about Coach Tony Dungy's visit to East Central Community College will be announced at a later date.



DUNGY

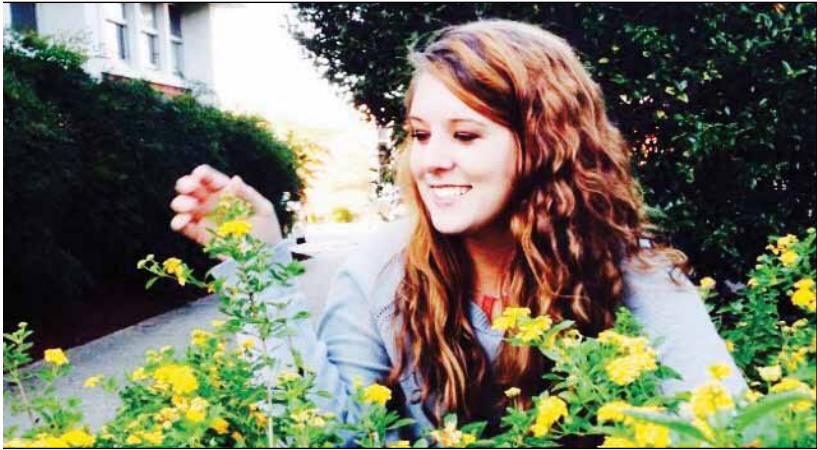


SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Homecoming Court: Members of the 2013 Homecoming Court at East Central Community College included (front row, from left) freshman maids Mallory Turner of Meridian, Nikki Triplett of Forest, Megan Robinson of Nanih Waiya and Myia Evans of Lake; maid of honor Mary Margaret Bailey of Philadelphia; queen Kaylin Hopkins of Louisville; and sophomore maids Taylor Gressett of Chunky, Payton Smith of Forest and Allie Killens of Sattillo; and (back row, from left) escorts Ethan Gressett of Chunky, Matthew Evans of Forest, Warner Parkes of Nanih Waiya, Kardarius McClendon of Lake, Matthew Morris of Chunky, Johnathan Hunt of Louisville, Maxwell Harmon of Enterprise, Zach May of Little Rock and Tyler Patrick of Morton. The queen and her court were presented Saturday, October 12, during halftime of the ECCC vs. MS Delta Community College football game.

Page Two

STRIKE A POSE



SHELBY DAVIS
OXFORD • SOPHOMORE
SECONDARY EDUCATION & COACHING

Why did you chose to attend East Central Community College? *I lived in Scott County for a little while and I loved it down here, so I decided to come back down to central Mississippi for junior college.*

Are you part of any extra-curricular activities? Which ones? *Yes, I am involved in quite a few. To name a few: The Diamond Darlings, Student Education Association, and the East Central Players...which by the way, I am playing Flora in this year's dinner theatre.*

Who is your favorite faculty member at EC? *It's a tie between Dr. Philip Crenshaw and Mr. Jason Armstrong. They're both great instructors and with my time at East Central I've enjoyed being in their classes. Everyone needs to take both of them for their Western Civilization and English Composition classes.*

What is your favorite thing about EC? *The student life and the campus events. EC is such a close-knit family and there's always something to plug into.*

What is your favorite meal in the cafeteria or grill? *The cafe on Thursday of course! Fried chicken and mashed potatoes. A Southern favorite!*

What is the worst thing about college life? *For me, I really don't like that Barber Hall is so far from everything else on campus; it drives me crazy!*

What is your most embarrassing moment at EC? *That's an easy one. I was walking to class and my clumsiness kicked in and I literally tripped over air and pretty much fell on my face in the mall area for everyone and their momma to see. I'm not the most graceful person.*

What would you like to see change at EC? *I really think the campus should be expanded, made bigger and more dorms built. I love EC, and if more students had a place to live on campus, I think the school would grow more and gain more enrollment.*

What are your plans after you leave EC? *I plan to attend Ole Miss' school of education.*



MATT FERGUSON
LAKE • FRESHMAN • SPORTS MEDICINE

Why did you chose to attend East Central Community College? *I chose to come to EC because I really wanted to be around everyone I knew from my years in high school.*

Are you part of any extra-curricular activities? Which ones? *Yes, I am part of the intramural football, softball and basketball teams.*

Who is your favorite faculty member at East Central? *I would definitely have to say Mrs. Natalie Emmons. I grew up knowing her and I really enjoy how she is always energetic and spontaneous about her work.*

What is your favorite thing about East Central? *Truthfully, I really enjoy being able to know a lot of the student body. It allows me to feel more at home.*

What is your favorite meal in the cafeteria or grill? *That's easy, it would have to be Chicken Thursday.*

What is the worst thing about college life? *Driving back and forth is definitely the worst part. I am a commuter and the drive can be draining.*

What is your most embarrassing moment at East Central? *That would definitely have to be the time I struck out TWICE in an intramural slow pitch softball game.*

What would you like to see change at East Central? *I think there should be more parking for commuters.*

What are your plans after you leave East Central? *I plan to attend Ole Miss (Hotty Toddy) and pursue a degree in sports medicine and hopefully one day become an orthopedic surgeon.*

—Will Stokes
Opinions Editor



WILL STOKES
Opinions Editor

FEATURE STAFF



BROCK
Brock Joins ECCC Staff
BY JEREMY HUDSON
Staff Writer

Daniele Brock has been announced as East Central's Interir Director of Student Activities.

Mrs. Brock moved to Decatur from Folkston, Ga. because he husband, Scott Brock, was named defense coordinator for the Warrior Football team. She was hired to work for East Central during the summer term. The former director, Marcie Pinson, decided to resign to help take care of her family, and the college wanted to have the job filled as quickly as possible.

When offered the job, Mrs. Brock gracefully stepped in and accepted the position. Now, she's not only the Director of Student Activities but also still a teacher. When asked how she could balance these two demanding jobs, she admitted that while it is certainly a challenge, she has really enjoyed filling both of the positions.

Mrs. Brock said she loves being able to interact with both the students and faculty here at East Central.

When asked about Decatur as a whole, she says, "We have bee amazed by the people of Mississippi. Everyone here is very friencly and helpful."

Editor Madison Herrington contributed to this article.



JEREMY HUDSON
Staff Writer

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

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

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

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Warrior Viewpoints

FROM THE EDITOR

Be Thankful for Blessings

Now, I know that everyone is excited about the idea of Thanksgiving break. We get a full week off from school November 25 to November 29, and I, for one, could not be more excited about not having to go to nursing school for a full week. We get a week not to worry about getting up early or working on homework that we've been assigned for weeks in advance but didn't think about until the night before.

Being out of school, gives us all something to be thankful for, so let's not forget the main purpose of Thanksgiving. We all get to take a break and spend time with our families. Sometimes we get so caught up in everything that's going on with us that we forget what everyone else in our family is dealing with. Sometimes, if you're like me, you barely have any time at all to talk with your family during the week and most of the time on the weekends because you're so busy with studying. Use your week off to be thankful for everything that God has given you throughout your life. Don't forget about the little things either like a roof to sleep under, food on the table, or even family members that love you. Everyone, including myself, gets caught up in the material items that we have or want to have in our life. We forget to be thankful for what we already have that some people might not like even getting the opportunity to attend East Central in the first place.

However, don't forget that when we all get back from our Thanksgiving break that we have to buckle down for final exams. Let's try not to think about that right now though. I hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving break and remembers to thank the Lord for everything they have.



MADISON HERRINGTON
Editor

—Madison Herrington
Editor

OTHER OPINIONS

Growth in 'Greater Decatur'

Have you noticed something new about Greater Decatur? Decatur is growing with the addition of new businesses! Brae Brae's, Pop's Restaurant, and El Patio Mexican Restaurant have already begun to make my experience at EC even better!

It is great to have shops and restaurants really close to the school so that you do not have to travel far for something to eat or a quick shopping trip! If you have not visited these business, you should, they are worth the trip!

—Madison Barnett
Staff Writer



WORDS OF A WARRIOR

BY BROOKE SMITH

Are You a Big 'Black Friday' Shopper?

Justice Steele
Louisville •
Pre-Veterinary
Science •
Freshman



"Yes! I love all the deals and the best part NEW CLOTHES!"



Jessica Richardson
Nanih Waiya •
Nursing •
Freshman

"I do but I don't. I like getting new clothes and the deals but hate all the walking."



Javan Yarbrough
Louisville • Physical Therapy •
Freshman

"I have to be in the mood and really need something to shop so yes and no."

Carl Steward
Rock Island, Ill. •
Psychology •
Freshman

"Yes, I actually do enjoy 'Black Friday!'"



OTHER OPINIONS

Safe or Not So Safe?

School is what some students call their home away from home. It is the place where they cannot only get an education but also see their friends. It is scary to turn on your radio or flip on the TV to hear another crime has been committed at a school. It is time to take a stand.

In my opinion, schools today have done a 360 from being safe. Just in the past couple of weeks, innocent lives have been taken at school. I feel as if not only the principals of the schools but also the counties need to take more of a stand in protecting lives at school. It is the little things that count anyway, right? Personally, I feel as if schools should start getting more cameras, security guards and metal detectors.

Cameras are a good resource in solving many problems in society today. If you get caught red-handed, how can you deny the crime that has been done? You can't. With security guards walking around, it is more likely to feel a lot safer not only for students and faculty, but for parents as well. You have someone on the watch every hour making sure your life is not put in danger. As far as the metal detectors, they are a big plus in my book. Students get away everyday with bringing drugs and weapons to school. Taking out just a minute or two of your time for each student to get searched, could save one or even multiple numbers of students a day.

So, do I believe schools are safe? In my opinion, some have done a great job with keeping their students and faculty from any harm, but on the other hand, some have let it slip their minds. Schools could be a lot safer with just a few renovations.

—Brooke Smith
Staff Writer



BROOKE SMITH
Staff Writer

FROM DR. LEE'S DESK

Register Now for Classes!

Advance registration is upon us. Take advantage of this early registration to get the classes you need to graduate! Graduation is the ultimate goal! Ensure you know what courses you need to reach that worthy goal.

Check out the events for the rest of the fall semester:

The Collegians rock-n-roll group plays at 7 p.m. on Monday, November 18 in Huff Auditorium.

On Tuesday, November 19 we will show the movie "Remember the Titans" in the cafeteria at 5:30 p.m. with popcorn served.

This is to get ready for the once-in-a-lifetime visit by Coach Herman Boone who was played by Denzel Washington in the movie. On Wednesday night Coach Boone will be speaking in Huff Auditorium at 6 p.m. What an opportunity!

On November 21, the Ac'cents Show Choir will perform in Vickers Fine Arts Center at 7 p.m.

Thanksgiving vacation will begin at 2 p.m. Friday, November 22 with the closing of the dorms! Enjoy the much-needed break and see y'all Monday, December 2. Dorms open back up on Sunday, December 1.

The Concert Choir Christmas show will be conducted on December 3 at 7pm at the Clarke Venable Church. It will get you in the Christmas mood!

Final Examinations – December 9 – 12 (observe 24/7 Quiet Hours)

Some dormitory rooms become available after grades are posted so if you are tired of the long drive and searching for a parking spot, please see the Director of Housing and Student Activities, Ms. Daniele Brock, or e-mail dbrock@eccc.edu or call 635-6213 to reserve a bed. Get your housing application and \$60 deposit in now to secure a room.

If you have any questions or concerns please let me know. You can reach me at 635-6375 or e-mail lee@eccc.edu. Don't miss class!

Have a Blessed Thanksgiving.

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

OTHER OPINIONS

The Woe\$ of Healthcare

Obamacare" is starting to resemble a patient bleeding from self-inflicted wounds.

A month after launch, the online health exchanges, where individuals are supposed to shop for insurance, remain slow or unusable, except in states that opted to run their own marketplaces and did a more competent job than the administration.

As if that weren't trouble enough, critics are justifiably mocking President Barack Obama for his repeated, untrue promise that if people liked their health plans, they could keep them. Oops. Hundreds of thousands of people are getting termination notices for plans that don't meet the strict new requirements of the Affordable Care Act. Apparently, not all those people disliked their plans.

There's no mystery about why President Obama engaged in fiction. The Clinton administration's bid to overhaul healthcare failed largely because it would have disrupted coverage for millions of consumers satisfied with their employer-based or government plans."Obamacare" doesn't terminate any of those plans, and the President just wanted to sound reassuring. Surely, Mr. Obama knew that a major goal of his own law was to wipe out cheap insurance.

Now he can't seem to admit he overpromised and oversimplified. He and his aides compound their credibility problem by suggesting that people whose plans are being canceled "just shop around in the new marketplace" —while the HealthCare.gov Web site is plagued by bugs. It's a mess, and no doubt not the last one that will be associated with the implementation of the Affordable Care Act. The law is sure to produce consequences, intended and unintended, that ripple throughout the nation's healthcare system. But while the start-up problems and the president's airy advice are disappointing, it's important to keep them in perspective. Change this big is almost always disruptive and messy. In 2006, turbulence and confusion marked the early days of healthcare overhaul in Massachusetts and the start of the Medicare prescription drug program; both are now operating relatively smoothly.

Also, it's quite amazing how many Americans are currently still very ignorant about the new law. In a recent poll, I saw on Jimmy Kimmel I was shocked to see no one knew the difference between "Obamacare" and The Affordable Care act. People! They are the same thing! I really believe that Americans are very ignorant towards their government. Many say they don't care...well you are the one who is being blindsided and doesn't even know it. So good luck!

—Will Stokes
Opinions Editor



WILL STOKES
Opinions Editor

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

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

Notice of Non-Discrimination
East Central Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or qualified disability in its educational programs and activities, employment practices, or admissions processes. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies of East Central Community College:
Inquiries regarding compliance with Title VI, ADEA, and Title IX is coordinated by Dr. Teresa Houston, Vice President for Instruction, Walter Arno Vincent Administration Building, Room 171, Post Office Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, Phone: 601-635-6202, Fax: 601-635-4011, thouston@eccc.edu.
Inquiries regarding compliance with Section 504 and ADA is coordinated by Dr. Randall Lee, Vice President of Student Services, Eddie M. Smith Student Union, Room 201, Post Office Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, Phone: 601-635-6375, Fax: 601-635-3247, rlee@eccc.edu.

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Reminder: Wear IDs at All Times!

Warrior Viewpoints

OTHER OPINIONS

A House Divided

Where America found its roots is often an object of debate. Many people argue that America was not founded on Christian principles alone, but that America's founding fathers did not all believe in God and were of many different religions. However, this is not true. There is much evidence otherwise. All of America's founding fathers' believed in the existence of God and most, excluding a couple of deists, in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

In the Declaration of Independence Thomas Jefferson, a deist, states, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights." On Oct. 3, 1789, in Washington's Thanksgiving Proclamation he said "Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor..." Alexander Hamilton, signer of the Declaration of Independence and ratifier of the U.S. Constitution, once said, "I have carefully examined the evidences of the Christian religion, and if I were sitting as a juror upon its authenticity I would unhesitatingly give my verdict in its favor. I can prove its truth as clearly as any proposition ever submitted to the mind of man." These three men along with many others laid the foundation for America, and yes it was formed on Christian principles.

Many also argue about the first amendment of the U.S. Constitution, and the things it entails regarding religious freedom and separation of church and state. The first amendment says "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

Many secularists believe this to mean that government and religion were meant to be two completely separate institutions that never interact with one another. Though, I do not think this is what our founding fathers intended. In George Washington's inaugural address, he talks of God favoring America and says that our government's success depends on His (God's) blessing. The Northwest Ordinance of 1787 Sec. 14 Art. 3 states this, "Religion, morality, and knowledge, being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged." Thomas Jefferson even gave government money to missionaries and proposed laws requiring church attendance.

I have come to believe that our founding fathers feverently supported the idea that government cannot be successful without some underlying religious principles. For example, all humans have an innate sense of right and wrong; yet, we would have no justification for our moral standards and laws in America without The Holy Bible.

While our founding fathers believed religion to be necessary to good government, they also believed government should not control the entities of religion or vice versa. Although, even this principle is derived from the Bible. In Matthew 22:21 Jesus says, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." For the majority of the time, I think our Supreme Court has and still does implement this principle the way the founding fathers intended, but a lot of our original principles have been misconstrued. Abe Lincoln once said, "A house divided against itself cannot stand." Jesus Christ actually coined this phrase first in scriptures Mark 3:24 and Matthew 12:25. America is most definitely what these men would have considered "a house divided." I whole heartedly believe that our founding fathers would be disappointed in our nation and what it has become. The only question left unanswered is the most important one. How will we continue to stand and are we as Americans willing to do anything about the dangers lurking below the surface?

—Allison Johnson
Staff Writer



ALLISON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

OTHER OPINIONS

Dealing with Stress while in College

College life can be extremely stressful. Many students are overwhelmed and frustrated. Either they have too much on their plate or they do not have enough time to do all the things they love. The competition for grades, career choice or just trying to fit in can cause one to over-stress.

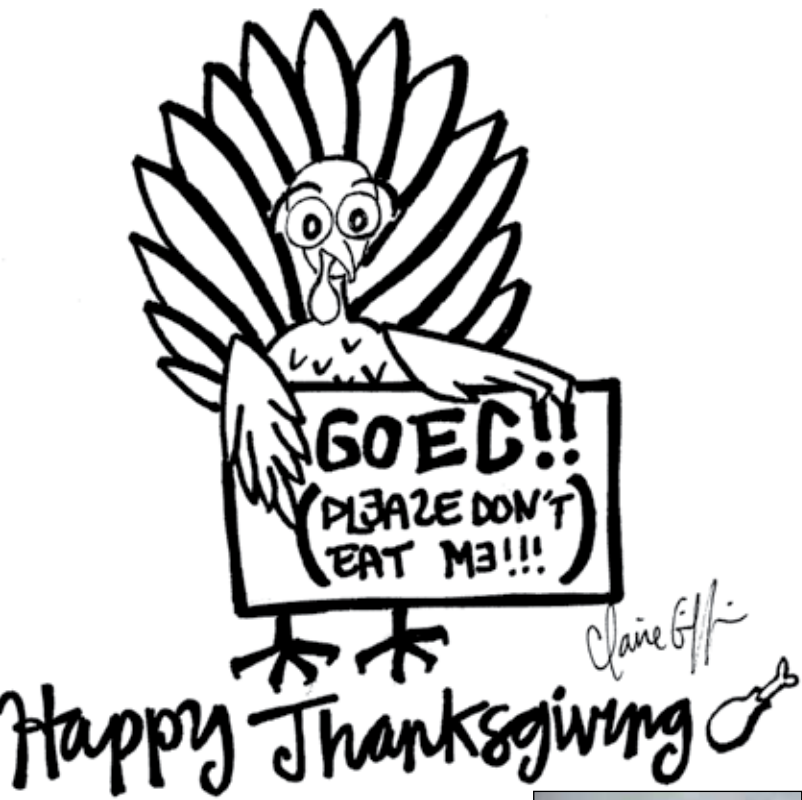
Most teenagers have the daily routine of waking up, going to school and going home but for others it is a hectic chaos. In other cases, students not only have school work but other extra-curricular activities that take up their time. I walk around campus and hear every day that someone is stressed to the max! It is not easy going from a little school where you barely have to study to college where most of your time is consumed with studying. You also get a lot more freedom in college, which most people neglect.

If students would figure out how to cope with their stress, they would feel much better. Some examples are: take a walk, talk to someone you trust or do something that calms you down or you enjoy. Anyone who has attended college can tell you it was not as stress-easy as one might think, but if you get a good schedule flow going it will go a lot smoother.

—Brooke Smith
Staff Writer



BROOKE SMITH
Staff Writer



We Want Your News!

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



CLAIRE GRIFFIN
Cartoonist

WORDS OF A WARRIOR

BY BROOKE SMITH

Do You Believe Our Country is Heading in the Right Direction?

Mary Boswell
Noxapater • Computer Networking & Technology • Sophomore



"No! For one they have taken prayer out of school and the leaders of our government are too concerned about themselves."



Blair Miller
Philadelphia • Child Development • Sophomore
"Yes, I just think that our country is just a little off track that is all."



Kevin Hughes
Gautier • Liberal Arts • Freshman
"No, because our country was founded on religion and now it seems as if the Constitution does not even matter."

Taylor Smith
Noxapater • Nursing • Sophomore



"No, because our leaders are more worried about themselves than about the American people."

Reminder: Wear IDs at All Times!

NOTICE!

Safety Memo: Natural Gas Safety

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

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

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

Damage Prevention

Although safe, tested, and regulated, the system's most common hazard is from 3rd party damage from excavation. Before any excavations are done, contact Dig Safety - Mississippi One-Call System, Inc. 1800-227-6477 or 811 and call East Central Community College at 601-635-6266. Always call before you dig. It's as easy as dialing 8..1..1, and it's the law!

Detecting A Natural Gas Leak

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

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

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

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

Natural Gas Safety Tips:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Clublicity



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Phi Beta Lambda: Phi Beta Lambda members for 2013-14 have been announced for East Central Community College. Phi Beta Lambda is the premier Business Education Association preparing students for careers in business and success in life. Its purpose is to foster a better relationship between one another and to cultivate a better understanding of business principles in general. Members include: (front row, from left) Tyeshia Meeks of Newton, Chelsea James of Union, Yashica Ickom of Lake, Taylor Townsend and Patricia Thweatt, both of Union; Latishia Johnson of Decatur, Delphine Edwards of Raleigh, Leah Ferguson of Philadelphia, and Shawn Smith of Conehatta; (second row, from left) Hannah Smith of Madden, Courtney Johnson of Conehatta, Kacey Quick of Carthage, Demetria Jones of Newton, Katessa Hutchins of Carthage, Deelenna Jefferson of Philadelphia, Cindy Burnside of Decatur, Jeremy Hudson of DeKalb, Allison Johnson of Philadelphia, and Mattie Slaughter of Union; and (back row, from left) Tiara Morris of Conehatta, Jared Jim of Choctaw, Kardarius McClendon of Brandon, Rico Graydon of Lake, Brandon Clark of Louisville, Chance Lovern of Philadelphia, Josh Bradley and Austin Jordan, both of Union; and Virginia Easley of Nanih Wayia. For more information about ECCC Phi Beta Lambda, contact Christy Ferguson at 601-635-6292 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 292.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC's Phi Theta Kappa Hosts War Paint 5K: East Central Community College's Theta Xi chapter of Phi Theta Kappa hosted the inaugural War Paint 5K on the morning of Nov. 2, 2013 as a fund-raising event. The event boasted more than 60 participants who took part in the paint fun run throughout campus.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Warrior Corps: Above are members of the 2013-14 East Central Community College Warrior Corps, a select group of students who assist in recruiting and serve as hosts for special events. Members and their respective hometowns include (first row, from left) Ashlyn Pullin, Union; Savannah Alawine and Bridgette McFarland, both of Philadelphia; Jenny Grove, Forest; Grayson Harrell, Morton; Jenna Lovorn, Louisville; Bailey Easterling, Forest; Nat Reed, Nan Hartness, Madelyn Peterson and Teylor Martinez, all of Louisville; Ben Killen, Union; Brianna Parkman, Lake; Alana Kron and Courtney Tillman, both of Decatur; and Madison Herrington, Union; (second row, from left) Paige Wall, Hero; Casey Cherry, Union; Zack Killion, Crestwood, Ky.; Emily Cook, Carthage; Katherine Jacome-Cluff, Hickory; Mikayla Carson, Newton; Courtney Moore, Carthage; Lindsey McCool and Hayden Fyery, both of Louisville; Mary Margaret Bailey (Co-President), Philadelphia; Daniel Giles, Union; Hillary Williams, Philadelphia; Haley Chapman, Hickory; and Kennedy Castleberry and Greg Mitchell, both of Meridian; (third row, from left) Matthew Evans (Co-President), Forest; Denzel Clemons, Philadelphia; Taylor Townsend, Union; Mary Anna Jefcoat, Brandon; Lauren Cantey, Collinsville; Elauran Vowell and Kimberly Talbert, both of Philadelphia; Kristen Gordy, Forest; Cara Jackson and Warner Parkes, both of Louisville; Taylor Gressett, Chunky; Joseph Aulds, Decatur; Allie Killens, Philadelphia; Hannah Mitchell, Meridian; Nathan Powell, Enterprise; and Emily Gully, Bay Springs; and (top row, from left) Keifer Wolfe, Lake; Kardarius McClendon, Brandon; Brooke Wilson, Goodhope; Estefania Olmedo Lumbreras, Carthage; Jessica Moffett, Nanih Waiya; Brody Richardson and Zach Allen, both of Louisville; Mackenzie Gannon, Decatur; Jordan Lovorn, Louisville; Regan Reiss, Forest; Jayohnnie Slaughter, Union; Bryan Burton, Louisville; Clint Walker, Newton; and Tyler Pigg, Decatur. Student Services staff members Lanette Hanna and Romonica Evans serve as sponsors.



ECCC Phi Theta Kappa Chapter Leaders: Leaders of East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa include (from left) Kacey Smiley of Newton, executive board; Hannah McCurdy of Morton, vice president of scholarship; Bryant Williams of Hickory, vice president of fellowship; Jacob Oliver of Little Rock, vice president of leadership; adviser Jenna Wright, math instructor; Mary Margaret Bailey of Philadelphia, president; advisers Chris Ryals, drafting and design technology instructor and Amanda Walton, workforce education counselor; Sydney Dawkins of DeKalb, executive board; Nathan Powell of Meridian, vice president of service; and Jessie Barrett of Lake, executive board. Advisers and officers were recognized at the fall induction ceremony held Sept. 23, 2013, in Huff Auditorium. Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than two million members and 1,200 chapters located in the United States, U.S. Territories, Canada and Germany. In 1929, the American Association of Community Colleges recognized Phi Theta Kappa as the official honor society for two-year colleges.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Clublicity



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ECCC's Phi Theta Kappa Hosts War Paint 5K: East Central Community College's Theta Xi chapter of Phi Theta Kappa hosted the inaugural War Paint 5K on the morning of Nov. 2, 2013 as a fund-raising event. The event boasted more than 60 participants who took part in the paint fun run throughout campus.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Warrior Corps: Above are members of the 2013-14 East Central Community College Warrior Corps, a select group of students who assist in recruiting and serve as hosts for special events. Members and their respective hometowns include (first row, from left) Ashlyn Pullin, Union; Savannah Alawine and Bridgette McFarland, both of Philadelphia; Jenny Grove, Forest; Grayson Harrell, Morton; Jenna Lovorn, Louisville; Bailey Easterling, Forest; Nat Reed, Nan Hartness, Madelyn Peterson and Teylor Martinez, all of Louisville; Ben Killen, Union; Brianna Parkman, Lake; Alana Kron and Courtney Tillman, both of Decatur; and Madison Herrington, Union; (second row, from left) Paige Wall, Hero; Casey Cherry, Union; Zack Killion, Crestwood, Ky.; Emily Cook, Carthage; Katherine Jacome-Cluff, Hickory; Mikayla Carson, Newton; Courtney Moore, Carthage; Lindsey McCool and Hayden Fyery, both of Louisville; Mary Margaret Bailey (Co-President), Philadelphia; Daniel Giles, Union; Hillary Williams, Philadelphia; Haley Chapman, Hickory; and Kennedy Castleberry and Greg Mitchell, both of Meridian; (third row, from left) Matthew Evans (Co-President), Forest; Denzel Clemons, Philadelphia; Taylor Townsend, Union; Mary Anna Jefcoat, Brandon; Lauren Cantey, Collinsville; Elauran Vowell and Kimberly Talbert, both of Philadelphia; Kristen Gordy, Forest; Cara Jackson and Warner Parkes, both of Louisville; Taylor Gressett, Chunky; Joseph Aulds, Decatur; Allie Killens, Philadelphia; Hannah Mitchell, Meridian; Nathan Powell, Enterprise; and Emily Gully, Bay Springs; and (top row, from left) Keifer Wolfe, Lake; Kardarius McClendon, Brandon; Brooke Wilson, Goodhope; Estefania Olmedo Lumbreras, Carthage; Jessica Moffett, Nanih Waiya; Brody Richardson and Zach Allen, both of Louisville; Mackenzie Gannon, Decatur; Jordan Lovorn, Louisville; Regan Reiss, Forest; Jayohnnie Slaughter, Union; Bryan Burton, Louisville; Clint Walker, Newton; and Tyler Pigg, Decatur. Student Services staff members Lanette Hanna and Romonica Evans serve as sponsors.



ECCC Phi Theta Kappa Chapter Leaders: Leaders of East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa include (from left) Kacey Smiley of Newton, executive board; Hannah McCurdy of Morton, vice president of scholarship; Bryant Williams of Hickory, vice president of fellowship; Jacob Oliver of Little Rock, vice president of leadership; adviser Jenna Wright, math instructor; Mary Margaret Bailey of Philadelphia, president; advisers Chris Ryals, drafting and design technology instructor and Amanda Walton, workforce education counselor; Sydney Dawkins of DeKalb, executive board; Nathan Powell of Meridian, vice president of service; and Jessie Barrett of Lake, executive board. Advisers and officers were recognized at the fall induction ceremony held Sept. 23, 2013, in Huff Auditorium. Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than two million members and 1,200 chapters located in the United States, U.S. Territories, Canada and Germany. In 1929, the American Association of Community Colleges recognized Phi Theta Kappa as the official honor society for two-year colleges.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



Hopkins Crowned ECCC Homecoming Queen: Sophomore Kaylin Hopkins (second from left) of Louisville was crowned Homecoming Queen at East Central Community College during ceremonies held October 12, at Bailey Stadium. Hopkins received her crown from College President Dr. Billy W. Stewart (left) during halftime of the Warriors’ 36-31 victory over Mississippi Delta Community College. Serving as Miss Hopkins’ escort was Johnathan Hunt (third from left) of Louisville. At right is 2012 queen Erin Thornton of Madden who presented the new queen with a bouquet of roses.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



Legislators Honor State Champion ECCC Diamond Warriors: Mississippi Legislative resolutions honoring the 2013 MACJC State Champion East Central Community College Baseball Team were presented during halftime ceremonies of the ECCC/MS Delta Community College football game held Oct. 12 at Bailey Stadium. State Reps. Randy Rushing (left) of Decatur, Mike Evans (third from left) of Preston and Tom Miles (far right) of Forest presented framed resolutions on behalf of the Mississippi Senate and House of Representatives to Diamond Warrior head coach Neal Holliman (second from left) and ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart during the special ceremony. A resolution honoring the championship squad was also presented by the Mississippi Community College Board. Dr. Stewart and Coach Holliman earlier presented team members with state championships rings, provided through private donations from individuals and organizations. Former Diamond Warrior Tim Anderson was also honored for receiving the 2013 David Rowlands Award, presented annually to the NJCAA Male Athlete of the Year. Anderson, a first-round draft choice by the Chicago White Sox, was unable to attend the festivities and was represented by family members.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Provides Remarks at Veterans’ Appreciation Program:
Major General (Ret.) William L. Freeman, Jr. of Newton served as guest speaker during a Veterans’ Appreciation Breakfast held as part of Veterans’ Appreciation Outreach Day Nov. 6, 2013, at East Central Community College. Major General Freeman, a former Mississippi Adjutant General, expressed appreciation to all military veterans for their service at the college-sponsored event held in the Molly McGee Gold Room in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. During his remarks, the EC alumnus emphasized the importance of remembering “the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month,” referring to the end of hostilities during World War I between the Allied Nations and Germany on Nov. 11, 1918.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



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Funding for this project was made available through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Hurricane-Katrina Related Youth Suicide Prevention Grants. The views and opinions contained in the 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.

Supporting a Better Tomorrow...Today

Faculty Corner



MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

ECCC Art Instructor Honored at MS College: East Central Community College art instructor Chris Brady was honored during Mississippi College’s homecoming activities Saturday, Oct. 26, 2013, in recognition of the artwork he created and presented to his alma mater. Brady stands in front of his mixed media painting which was unveiled during a ceremony in Nelson Hall, where the artwork is permanently displayed. Brady’s artwork is designed “to capture the essence of Mississippi College’s venerable history and depict Clinton campus landmarks like Provine Chapel.” Brady used 600 aging photos gleaned from “Tribesman” yearbooks and the MC archives in the 54-inch by 147-inch painting, titled “E Pluribus...” which means “out of many.” Brady is a 1995 graduate of MC. He later earned a master’s in art education and fine arts degrees from the University of Mississippi. Brady and his wife, LeAnne, are Ridgeland residents. Brady has served as ECCC’s art instructor since 2008.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Board of Trustees: Serving on the East Central Community College Board of Trustees in 2013 are (first row, from left) Ricky Goldman, Philadelphia; Beverly Hart, Union; Delane Hudson, Louisville; Van Lucas and Rodney Bounds, both of Newton; Vernon Crotwell, Morton; William E. Kitchings, Carthage; and Jerry Smith (vice chairman), Philadelphia; (second row, from left) Ken McMullan of Louisville, Louisville Municipal School District Superintendent; Dr. Danny Lanier, Little Rock; Rebecca Farris, Morton; Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth (chairman), Lake; Royce Shaw (secretary), Forest; Prentice Copeland, Philadelphia; Janie Wilbanks, Carthage; Randal Livingston, Louisville; and Annie Stowers, Forest; and (back row, from left) David Byars, Philadelphia; Tommy Dearing of Philadelphia, Neshoba County Superintendent of Education; Pat Cleveland, Conehatta; Leo Parker, Noxapater; Patrick Posey of Carthage, Leake County Superintendent of Education; Alan D. Rhea, Carthage; W. B. Jones, Walnut Grove; Bingham Moncrief of Morton, Scott County Superintendent of Education; and Patsy Clark, Louisville. Board members not pictured include Dr. Kimsey Cooper, Carthage; Edsel Cliburn, Union; J.O. Amis of Decatur, Newton County Superintendent of Education; and Jerry Nance, Louisville. Located in Decatur, ECCC serves Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties.



New Decatur Mural Dedicated: The new Decatur Town Mural and picnic area was officially dedicated by the Greater Decatur Chamber of Commerce during a brief ceremony held October 9, 2013. Mayor Pat O’Neill (eighth from left) presided at the program and expressed appreciation to the various individuals and organizations “that came together” to complete the project. The mural serves as a “welcome” to downtown Decatur and includes the Chamber’s message of “Faith, Family and Education.” East Central Community College art instructor Chris Brady (ninth from left) and students Jessica Skinner of Philadelphia and Deeana Carlson of Newton painted the mural. Also attending the ceremony were (from left) ECCC Vice President for Business Operations Mickey Vance and President Dr. Billy Stewart; Dr. Stewart’s daughter, Lizzie Stewart; Chamber representatives Doug Smith and Candy Babson; State Rep. Randy Rushing; Dianne and Mayor O’Neill; and ECCC Vice President for Instruction Dr. Teresa Houston and music instructors Natalie Emmons and Vicki Blalock.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

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SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Supports Breast Cancer Awareness: Numerous East Central Community College students, faculty and staff members show their support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month by wearing "pink" for "Power of Pink Day" October 8. Pictured are (first row, from left) instructors Susan Fox Smith and Christy Ferguson, Delphine Edwards of Raleigh, Jared Jim of Philadelphia, Yashica Ickom of Lake, Patricia Thweatt of Union, Gloriana Latham of Morton, Leah Ferguson of Philadelphia, Latishia Johnson of Decatur, Brianna Parkman of Lake, Nikita Barney and Virginia Easley, both of Philadelphia; and (second row, from left) instructor Judy Hurtt, Tyeshia Meeks and Cindy Burnside, both of Decatur; Chelsea James of Union, Demetria Jones of Newton, Jeremy Hudson of DeKalb, Hannah Smith of Madden, Allison Johnson of Philadelphia, Adrian Tucker of Conehatta, Juan Cervantes of Forest and Dareen Hicks of Louisville. "Power of Pink Day" was sponsored by the College's Phi Beta Lambda chapter. Several activities are being held this week on the Decatur campus of East Central Community College in observance of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. "Think Pink Week" got under way Monday, October 7, with the distribution of pink ribbons. "Bright Pink Day" is set for Wednesday, October 9. Survey forms will be available from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Tucker Applied Technology Center to determine one's risk for breast cancer. Additional information about breast cancer will be available Thursday, October 10, as Association of Student Nurses representatives plan to distribute pamphlets regarding the disease and provide instruction on self-breast exams. The week's activities conclude with a "Pink Balloon Release" scheduled at 11 a.m. Friday, October 11, in the East Mall area. Balloons are available for \$1 each in memory or in honor of those who have fought or continue to fight breast cancer. Donations must be received by Wednesday, October 9 for the balloon release. For more information, contact PBL adviser Christy Ferguson, 601-635-6292 or e-mail cferguson@eccc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Planning ECCC's 'Salute to Military': Finalizing plans to honor military veterans during activities scheduled at East Central Community College are committee members (seated from left) Dr. Randall E. Lee, Vice President for Student Services; Jessica Gibson, Coordinator of Veteran's Affairs and Enrollment Services; and Hunter Corhern, Director of Bands, all of ECCC; and (standing from left) SFC Russell Jones, MAJ Brian Hawkins and SGM Tony Ainsworth, of the 1/204th ADA Headquarters unit in Newton, which also serves Bay Springs, Forest and Morton. EC honored the men and women in uniform during "Military Appreciation Night" on Oct. 24, when the Warriors hosted Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in the season finale. Veterans and their families received a complimentary meal from 5 to 6 p.m. on the deck inside Bailey Stadium. Veterans also served as team honorary co-captains prior to the 6:30 p.m. kickoff at Bailey Stadium. A tribute to America was held during halftime ceremonies. ECCC also hosted Veterans Appreciation Outreach Day November 6. A Breakfast Ceremony from 7 to 8 a.m. in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria began the day's events. Major General (Ret.) Bill Freeman of Newton served as guest speaker. A Mobile Health Clinic from the G. V. (Sonny) Montgomery VA Medical Center was available on campus from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. to assist veterans with various needs and services.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

MS Army National Guard Partners with ECCC : The Mississippi Army National Guard is providing financial support for East Central Community College athletics in an effort to also increase the guard's recruiting efforts and presence. Staff Sergeant Jonathan McDonald (left) presents a replica of a \$1,500 check to ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart and Athletic Director Chris Harris during a recent visit to campus, with funds designated for advertisements in sports media guides, signs on athletic fields and other public relations projects.

Wilkinson Presents Game Ball at EC



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Retired U. S. Marine Corps First Sergeant I. E. "Sarge" Wilkinson (left) of Forest presented the game ball to East Central Community College President Dr. Billy Stewart prior to the football team's home final against Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College October 24. Wilkinson, a 30-year veteran and recipient of numerous honors for his service in World War II and the Korean Conflict, was among area veterans in attendance for Military Appreciation Night at the College. All veterans served as honorary team captains and were honored at mid-field prior to kick off.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Barnes Scholarship Recipient: Jaron Croft (left) of Decatur, a graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of the Dr. Conrad C. Barnes, Jr. Math and Science Scholarship at East Central Community College. The \$1,000 scholarship was established in 2013 to honor the life and work of Conrad Clement Barnes, Jr. D.M.D, and is awarded to an outstanding student majoring in math or one of the basic sciences at East Central. Dr. Barnes was a long-time resident of Newton County and practiced general dentistry in Natchez for more than 30 years. Also pictured is Romonica Evans, ECCC Career Center Director/Recruiter. For more information on the many endowed and other special scholarships available at ECCC, contact Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, Executive Director for Foundation and Alumni Relations, at 601-635-6327 or by email at sholling@eccc.edu.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Students Assist with Carthage Cemetery Project: East Central Community College drafting and design technology instructor Chris Ryals (third from left) and several of his students recently traveled to Carthage to map the old cemetery mentioned in the original town layout in 1876. The survey will be used to assist Carthage Main Street and the Carthage Historical Commission in rehabilitating the cemetery, where several markers were vandalized and broken through the years. Ryals said surveys were completed and information gathered pertaining to 156 graves. He and his students plan a return trip to the cemetery to complete the community service project. The final map will show all the data about the graves with a detailed list of all grave data. Assisting Ryals were (from left) Ashley Devine of Carthage, Elizabeth Hunt of Louisville and Ryan McClendon of Forest. "We hope our efforts will provide a chain of evidence of the persons buried in the cemetery for genealogical purposes and a plan for rehabilitation by the city," said Ryals.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
McCall Visits VA Mobile Health Clinic at ECCC's Outreach Day : East Central Community College hosted Veterans Appreciation Outreach Day on Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2013. Activities began with a complimentary breakfast and program for military veterans from 7 to 8 a.m. in the Molly McGee Gold Room in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Retired Major General and former Mississippi Adjutant General William L. Freeman, Jr. of Newton was the guest speaker. Military veterans also had access to the VA Mobile Health Clinic as part of the day's activities. The mobile health clinic was provided by the G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery VA Medical Center in Jackson. Services provided include eligibility determination, registration, enrollment in MyHealtheVet, physical exams, patient education, Vet Center information, benefits information, cemetery information, and female veterans' information. Dr. Selika Sweet (right) of the VA Medical Center in Jackson provides Veteran Bruce McCall of Newton information regarding the Affordable Care Act and its effects on veterans after his physical exam in the VA Mobile Health Clinic.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
VA associates assist Capps during ECCC's Outreach Day: East Central Community College hosted Veterans Appreciation Outreach Day on Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2013. Activities began with a complimentary breakfast and program for military veterans from 7 to 8 a.m. in the Molly McGee Gold Room in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Retired Major General and former Mississippi Adjutant General William L. Freeman, Jr. of Newton was the guest speaker. Military veterans also had access to the VA Mobile Health Clinic as part of the day's activities. The mobile health clinic was provided by the G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery VA Medical Center in Jackson. Services provided include eligibility determination, registration, enrollment in MyHealtheVet, physical exams, patient education, Vet Center information, benefits information, cemetery information, and female veterans' information. Associates Kathi Cain with Compensation and Pension (left) and Charles King, an Eligibility and Enrollment PSA from the VA Medical Center in Jackson, assisted veteran Walter Capps of House with information about the assistance provided through the VA Medical Center.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
ECCC Daycare Enjoys Halloween Fun: Early Childhood Education students, faculty, staff and children of the East Central Community College Daycare enjoyed a hayride throughout campus as part of the college's Halloween festivities. Following the hayride, the Daycare children went trick-or-treating throughout the offices on campus.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
ECCC Healthfest Provides 'Real' Career Opportunities: Area high school students who attended East Central Community College's Healthfest 2013 not only received information on the college's health-related programs but learned what to expect in actual medical emergencies while observing simulated exercises in each area. In the above photo, surgical technology students "perform an operation" on a "wreck victim" while program director/instructor LeAnn Shirley and others observe the procedure. More than 300 high school students from ECCC's five-county district attended the inaugural event held Nov. 8 at the Phil A. Sutphin Associate Degree Nursing/Child Care Technology Building.

Numerous EC Graduates Selected MSU-Meridian Riley Scholars

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

For the fourth year in a row, numerous graduates of East Central Community College in Decatur are among recipients of The Riley Foundation Scholarship provided at Mississippi State University-Meridian.

The 15 outstanding students were recognized with other community college transfers at a scholarship reception held on the MSU-Meridian campus on Oct. 17, 2013.

Sixty-four former community college students were awarded The Riley Next Step Scholarship and will receive more than \$396,400 in scholarship money, made possible through a grant from The Riley Foundation and other generous benefactors.

Riley Scholars receive full tuition and fees for two years (or four semesters) at MSU-Meridian. Since its inception in the fall of 2010, 252 individuals have received the Riley Next Step Scholarship.

Megan Everett of Lake was among ECCC graduates who received the special recognition.

Everett, 20, who chose the field of education as her career path, said being an educator runs in her family. Her grandmother was a teacher, and her mother currently teaches third grade at Lake Elementary School.

She plans to continue the tradition. "I briefly thought about going into speech pathology but I dismissed that idea," said the Lake High School graduate. "I've always loved school, particularly history, and I had such great history teachers in high school and at ECCC. I wanted to do something where I can make a difference. I feel being a teacher and a good positive influence on young people is what God wants me to do."

While at ECCC, Everett said she looked into MSU-Meridian and knew the university offered a degree in secondary education – social studies and they had the Riley Next Step Scholarship as well as other scholarships available.

"I really prayed about it (the scholarships) and trusted that God would make a way – and He did!" Everett stated. "I know I was very fortunate to receive the Riley Next Step as well as Phi Theta Kappa and a few other scholarships which will cover my expenses while I'm in school."

Everett said she is also grateful that MSU-Meridian is close to home, which allows her to spend more time with her family.

"It's been real convenient going to school here and everybody has been so nice and helpful," she said. "I must admit it did take me a few weeks to get in the groove since my classes here are a bit harder than I've been used to but that's to be expected at a university. But I've really enjoyed



EVERETT

it and like the smaller classes – it allows for more conversation and discussion in class – and I think that's important. It's been a perfect fit for me!"

Other ECCC students chosen Riley Scholars and their respective majors include William Chandler Barfoot of Philadelphia, business administration; Edward Joseph Boudreaux of Decatur, special education; Casey Shea Bryant of Lake, psychology; Haley Nicole Chaney of Hickory, secondary education; Tanner Jacob Fortenberry of Union, special education; Tarra Elise Gibson of Bailey, elementary education; Kati Ann Gill of Carthage, elementary education; Jessica Haleigh Graham of Union, business administration; Bridgett Marie Hitt of Little Rock, business administration; Robert Darrell Jones of Louisville, undeclared; Emily D. Lucy of Newton, elementary education; Brittany Danielle Mallory of Philadelphia, secondary education; Bobby Jo Schwebel of Philadelphia, elementary education; and Tiffany Nicole Watkins of Lawrence, elementary education.

For more information, contact Lisa Sol-lie, MSU-Meridian Public Information Office, 601.484.0113.



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SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Observing their 50th class reunion at East Central Community College's 2013 Homecoming celebration held October 12, were (front row, from left) Stanley Douglas of Baton Rouge, La., Van Lucas of Newton, Janell McWhirter of Louisville, Davis Comans and Charlotte Moore-Comans, both of Flowood; Ann Burkes of Decatur, and Dr. Jerry White of Morganton, N.C.; (second row, from left) Carole Blount Leach of Clinton, Nelda Risher of Forest, Elaine Moss of Decatur, Ellen Johnson of Forest, D. A. Richardson of Calhoun, Ga., Chester Gardner of Sandhill, and James McWhirter of Louisville; and (back row, from left) Charlie Payne of Florence, Johnny Freeman of Mobile, Ala., Doyle McMullen of Decatur, Dr. Bob Tom Johnson of Forest, John Ray of Clinton, David Holder of Louisville, Jerry Magers of Hoover, Ala., and Bernie Whatley of Forest. ECCC President Dr. Billy W. Stewart presented "Golden Anniversary" diplomas to the 1963 class members during a ceremony in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Warrior/Lady Warrior Basketball Teams Honored: Members of the East Central Community College Warrior and Lady Warrior basketball teams of 1937 - 1971 were among special groups honored during the College's Homecoming celebration held October 12. Pictured are (front row, from left) Lois Cooper of Madison, Inez Moody Boyles of Louisville, Mary Elizabeth Crotwell Hegwood of Mize, Mack Wayne Fondren of Oxford, Coach Joe Clark of Decatur, Gloria Gayle Hunt Smith of Boyce, La., James Lowery of Georgiana, Ala., and Dr. Clyde Muse of Raymond; (second row, from left) Linda Lea Glasgow of Utica, Patsy Clark of Louisville, Jackye Staton Britt of Grenada, Bill Lea of Madison, A.G. Robinson of Pascagoula, Joe Lee Johnson of Madison, James Griffin of Grenada, and Robert Thomas of Philadelphia; and (back row, from left) June Brantley Seale of Philadelphia, Joe Fondren of Abbeville, Madeline McKay Strahan of Meridian, Barbara Jo Russell of Decatur, Patsy Hollingsworth of Morton, Betty Haney of Brandon, Dr. Bob Tom Johnson of Forest, Ron Dodson of Denham Springs, La. Charlie Payne of Florence and Derrell Thomas of Mobile, Ala.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Class of 1957, 58, 59 Honored: Members of East Central Community College's classes of 1957, 1958 and 1959 were among special groups honored during the College's Homecoming celebration held October 12. Pictured are (front row, from left) Beverly (Henry) Oliphant of Roanoke, Va., Nancy Haggard of Clinton, Jimmy Rea of Flora, Lois Cooper of Madison and Jeanette Thrash of Decatur; and (back row, from left) Hank Moreau of Decatur, Bill Lovett of Forest, Bubba Hudspeth of Louisville and Danny Hopkins of Clinton.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC First Graduation LPN Class Honored: Members of the first graduating licensed practical nursing class for East Central Community College were among special groups honored during the College's Homecoming celebration held October 12. Pictured are Elizabeth Matlock of Union and former nursing instructor Sandra Thomas of Chunky.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Class of 1983 Honored: Members of East Central Community College's Class of 1983 were among special groups honored during the College's Homecoming celebration held Saturday, October 12. Pictured are classmates Derek Pace of Collinsville, Dr. Earlene Bradford of Jackson, Greg Henley of Starkville and Laura Thorne of Decatur.

Homecoming Honorees 2013



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Receiving special recognition during East Central Community College's 2013 Homecoming celebration held Saturday, October 12, were (from left) Max Huey (Class of 1965) and his wife, Carolyn Cook Huey (Class of 1965), of Picayune, who were selected Alumnus and Alumna of the Year, respectively; and Athletic Hall of Fame inductees Marcus Thames (Class of 1997) of Miami, Fla., and Pete Lucovich (Class of 1973) of Carthage. Award presentations were made during the annual Alumni Luncheon held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Class of 1953 Honored: Members of East Central Community College's Class of 1953 were among special groups honored during the College's Homecoming celebration held October 12. Pictured are (front row, from left) Eddie Findley of Oceans Springs, Elaine (Spence) Brown of Meridian, and Ciera Hollingsworth Hughes of New Orleans; and (back row, from left) Frank May of Canton, Tam Ethridge of Jackson, Bill Cole of Brandon, James Addy of Decatur, and Gerald Cook of Gulfshores, Ala.

Warrior Athletics

EC Squads Split Decisions at Holmes

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Jaleshia Jones pumped in 26 points and led East Central Community College's Lady Warriors to a hard-fought 81-79 victory over Holmes Community College Monday night in Goodman.

EC improved to 3-1 following the non-division matchup and swept the season series with the Lady Bulldogs. The Lady Warriors cruised 76-63 in the season opener at Brackeen-Wood.

Jones, a 5-8 freshman forward and product of Wayne County High School, connected on 10 of 16 field goals and was perfect on all three trey attempts. She made three of six free throws.

Also scoring in double figures were Tynika Bender, a 5-3 freshman guard from Newton, 18; and Ty-neisha Mickens, a 5-9 sophomore forward and product of Noxubee County High School, 12.

Bender made three crucial free throws down the stretch. Mickens led in rebounds with 12.

Other point makers were Shamyia Evans and Bryanna McClendon, both of Lake, eight each; Keoceania Yarbrough of Louisville, five; and Tanihhija Hughes of Forest, four.

Carmesha Nalls tallied 22 points to lead the Lady Bulldogs, who fell to 1-3.

EC led 42-35 at the break.

In the men's contest, EC was outscored 78-68 and fell for the second time this season to the Bulldogs, who escaped with a 68-65 decision in the season opener in Decatur.

Jacques Johnson was again the top scorer for EC (2-2), as the 6-4 sophomore guard/forward from Jackson Provine poured in 25 points. Johnson connected on nine of 19 field goals, made two of seven shots from three-point range, and was five of six from the charity stripe.

Also scoring in double figures was Quinton Campbell, who had 10 points and grabbed seven rebounds. Campbell, a 6-7 freshman forward, is a product of Mary G. Montgomery High School in Mobile.

Other scorers were Terrance Mujahid of Westwood High School in Memphis, nine; Demond Morgan of Morton, eight; Michael Matlock of Central High School in Memphis, seven; Demarkus Jones of Terry, six; and Ramone Tate of St. Stanislaus, three. Mujahid led in rebounds with nine.

Dayshawn Watkins poured in 17 points to lead the Bulldogs, who improved to 3-1.

EC trailed 43-37 at halftime.

WARRIORS RALLY TO BEAT DELTA; LADY WARRIORS FALL

Quinton Campbell and Jacques Johnson each scored 17 points and Michael Matlock added 15 in leading East Central Community College's Warriors to a 77-72 come-from-behind victory over Mississippi Delta Community College Saturday, Nov. 9 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

With the win, EC improved to 2-1 under first-year head coach



PORTER

Robert Thompson.

Campbell, a 6-7 freshman forward from Mary G. Montgomery High School in Mobile, also led in rebounds with seven.

Johnson, a 6-4 sophomore guard/forward from Jackson Provine, collected six boards. Matlock, a 6-6 freshman guard/forward from Central High School in Memphis, grabbed five rebounds.

Other scorers were Terrance Mujahid of Westwood High School in Memphis, nine; Kristian Clark of St. Martin in Ocean Springs, seven; and Demarkus Jones of Terry and Ramone Tate of St. Stanislaus, six each.

Marquarius Boddie pumped in 20 points to lead the Trojans, who fell to 2-1.

EC trailed 43-30 at the break.

In the women's contest, EC dropped its first contest of the 2013-14 campaign with an 85-77 setback to the Lady Trojans.

Jaleshia Jones poured in 21 points and grabbed eight rebounds to lead the Lady Warriors, who are now 2-1 under second-year head coach Crandal Porter.

Jones is a 5-8 freshman forward and product of Wayne County High School.

Also scoring in double figures were Bryanna McClendon, a freshman guard from Lake, 16; Tynika Bender, a freshman guard from Newton, 14; and sophomore forward Tanihhija Hughes of Forest, 11.

Other point makers were Ty-nesisa Mickens of Noxubee County, eight; Shamyia Evans of Lake, six; and Andreka Harper of Forest, one. Mickens led in rebounds with nine.

Aqueshia Kimble had 23 points to lead the Lady Trojans, who remain undefeated at 3-0.

EC trailed 34-28 at halftime.

ECCC SQUADS TAKE

TWO FROM COAHOMA

It was "sweep night" for the East Central Community College basketball teams who captured victories over Coahoma Community College Monday, Nov. 4 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

The Lady Warriors cruised 64-44 and improved to 2-0 on the young campaign under second-year head coach Crandal Porter, while the Warriors held on for a 61-53 decision and presented new Warrior head coach Robert Thompson with his first victory following a season-opening setback.

Freshman guard Tynika Bender tallied 14 points and



THOMPSON

grabbed seven rebounds in leading the Lady Warriors to the easy victory. Bender is a product of Newton High School.

Also scoring in double figures were Jaleshia Jones, 13; and Ty-neisha Mickens, 10. Jones is a freshman forward from Wayne County High School and Mickens is a sophomore forward and product of Noxubee County High School in Macon. Jones and Mickens were also credited with nine rebounds each.

Other scorers were Tanihhija Hughes of Forest, seven; Shamyia Evans and Bryanna McClendon, both of Lake, six each; Keoceania Yarbrough of Louisville and Andreka Harper of Forest, three each; and Breona Foster of Neshoba Central, two. Hughes led in rebounds with 14.

Amber Sisk poured in 10 points to lead the Lady Tigers in their season opener.

Coahoma is led by former ECCC assistant coach Lacole Brooks.

EC held a 28-24 advantage at the break.

In the men's contest, freshman forward Quinton Campbell led the scoring with 12 points and six rebounds. Campbell is a product of Mary G. Montgomery High School in Mobile.

Jacques Johnson also scored in double figures as the sophomore guard/forward pumped in 11 points and had five boards. Johnson hails from Jackson Provine.

Other point makers were Terry Carter of Louisville, eight; Demarkus Jones of Terry and Terrance Mujahid of Westwood High School in Memphis, seven each; Ramone Tate of St. Stanislaus, six; Michael Matlock of Central High School in Memphis, five; Demond Morgan of Morton, three; and Kristian Clark of St. Martin High School in Ocean Springs, two.

Billy Jackson led Coahoma with 13 points in the squad's season-opening contest.

The Warriors led 25-23 at halftime.

BASKETBALL SQUADS SPLIT

OPENER AGAINST HOLMES

Jalesisha Jones poured in 27 points and grabbed 11 rebounds in leading East Central Community College's Lady Warrior to a 76-63 season-opening victory over Holmes Community College Saturday, Nov. 2 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

Johnson, a 5-7 freshman forward and product of Wayne County High School in Waynes-



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

2013-14 ECCC Lady Warriors: Pictured above are members of the 2013-14 East Central Community College women's basketball team. First row, from left are managers Warner Parkes of Nanih Waiya, D'Noskin Hornsby of Morton, Laromeo McKee and Teelisa Kennedy, both of Scott Central; and Javarious Moore of Newton. Second row, from left, are head coach Crandal Porter, guards Tyler Hearn (5) of West Jones; Keoceania Yarbrough (15) of Louisville, Breona Foster (32) of Neshoba Central, Tynika Bender (20) of Newton, Bryanna McClendon (30) of Lake, Gabrielle Wilson (55) of Leake Central and Haley Watkins (25) of Scott Central; and assistant coach Kiara Ruffin. Back row, from left are guard Whitney Williams (24) of Percy L. Julian (Chicago, Ill.), forwards Tanihhija Hughes (23) of Forest, Jaleshia Jones (21) of Wayne County and Ty-neisha Mickens (4) of Noxubee County; center Kimberly Wallace (14) of Ouachita Parrish (Monroe, La.); guards Andreka Harper (22) of Forest, Shamyia Evans (10) of Lake and Shaniqua Quinn (11) of Brandon; forward Sharayne Walker (35) of Leake Central; and guard Anna Katherine Nowell (12) of Leake Academy.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

2013-14 ECCC Warriors: Ready to begin a successful 2013-14 campaign are the above members of the East Central Community College men's basketball team. Seated from left are guards Demond Morgan (3), Morton, and Keon McKinney (2), West Point; managers Malcom Stubbs, Forest Hill, and DeBarius Thigpen, Forest; assistant coach Devarus "Scooter" Walker, head coach Robert Thompson, managers Kardarius McClendon, Lake, and Jamere Eichelberger, Louisville; and guards Ramone Tate (12), St. Stanislaus, and Kevin Kirk (10), St. Martin. Back row, from left are guards Demarkus Jones (00), Terry, and Nigel Bradley (14), Forest Hill; forward Tre Collins (11), Newton County Academy, and Michael Matlock (1), Memphis Central; guard/forward Quinton Campbell (23), Mary G. Montgomery (Mobile, Ala.) forward/center Terrance Mujahid (4), Westwood (Memphis, Tenn.); guard Kristian Clark (5), St. Martin; and forwards Terry Carter (21), Louisville; Jacques Johnson (30), Provine; and Kiese Kirkland (35), Yazoo City.

boro, made 10 of 15 field goals, connected on six of 10 free throws and nailed a trey in the non-division matchup.

Also scoring in double figures for Crandal Porter's squad were sophomore forward Tanihhija Hughes of Forest, who contributed 12 points; and freshman guard Tynika Bender of Newton, who had 11 points.

Other scorers were Bryanna McClendon of Lake, nine; Ty-neisha Mickens of Noxubee County, seven; Keoceania Yarbrough of Louisville, five; Shamyia Evans of Lake, four; and Breona Foster of Neshoba Central, one.

Vonkesha Miller led the Lady Bulldogs with 17 points.

EC held a 36-32 advantage at halftime.

In the men's contest, East Central led 63-57 with 6:13 left but the Bulldogs rallied to claim a 68-65 victory and spoil Robert Thompson's debut as head coach.

Sophomore Jacques Johnson led EC with 17 points and six rebounds. He made seven of nine field goals, was two of four from the free-throw line and connected on his only attempt from three-point range. Johnson is a 6-4 guard/forward from Jackson Provine.

Other double-figure point makers were freshman forward Quinton Campbell, 12; and freshman guard Ramone Tate,

11.

Campbell is a product of Mary G. Montgomery High School in Mobile, and Tate hails from St. Stanislaus HS in Bay St. Louis.

Also scoring were Terrance Mujahid of Westwood High School in Memphis and Kristian Clark of St. Martin in Ocean Springs, six each; Michael Matlock, a product of Central High School in Memphis, five; and Nigel Bradley of Forest Hill and Terry Carter of Louisville, four each.

Jarvis Williams led Holmes with 26 points and provided the winning margin with three free-throws in the game's final seconds.

EC trailed 34-33 at the break.

EC Warrior Soccer Squads Drop Season Finale

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Season competition ended on a disappointing note for East Central Community College's soccer squads who were defeated by playoff-bound Pearl River Community College teams in non-division matchups held Oct. 25.

The Lady Warriors fell 5-0 to the Lady Wildcats and completed the 2013 campaign with a 6-10-1 record under first-year head coach Gray Massey. The six victories tied a school record for season wins. The Lady Warriors posted a 2-6 mark in the MACJC North Division.

Karly Mitchell of Poplarville

High School scored twice for the Lady Wildcats, who improved to 11-4 overall and 8-2 the MACJC South Division.

Also scoring goals were Tori Ladd and Rachel Jacobson, both of Biloxi, and Kacy Mixon of East Central High School.

In the men's contest, the visitors led 2-0 at halftime and held on for a 3-1 decision.

Clint McGraw scored the lone goal for the Warriors who finished 7-9-1 overall and went 2-5-1 in league play. Will Thompson was credited with an assist.

McGraw is a sophomore forward and product of Tupelo Christian. Thompson is a soph-

omore forward/midfielder from Newton County High School.

Jay Lang of Oak Grove, Kyle Ladner of Gulfport and Gerard McLaurin of Ocean Springs scored for the Wildcats, who improved to 11-3 overall. Pearl River won the MACJC South Division with a 9-1 mark.

SOCCER SQUADS

FALL TO HINDS

East Central Community College's soccer squads dropped decisions to Hinds Community College October 11 in MACJC North Division action on the Raymond campus.

The Lady Warriors were clipped 3-1 and the Warriors

fell 2-1 in double overtime.

Mackenzie Britt scored the lone goal for the Lady Warriors. Britt is a sophomore midfielder from Florence.

Nathan Miley provided the Eagle victory with his goal on a free kick in the 110th minute.

The Hinds Eagles had taken a 1-0 lead on a goal by Breland Brooks in 79th minute. Ellisons Cousins was credited with a scoring assist.

Warrior Joe Gaskin tied the contest a short time later. Will Thompson was credited with a scoring assist.

Gaskin is a freshman forward from Maranatha Christian in Greenville. Thompson



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Will Thompson Gives EC Early Lead: Sophomore forward/midfielder Will Thompson (2) gives the East Central Community College Soccer Warriors an early 1-0 lead in their division matchup with Holmes Community College Oct. 18. Thompson is a product of Newton County High School.

is a sophomore forward/midfielder and product of Newton

County High School.

Warrior Athletics



EC Soccer Team Makes Presentation: The 2013 East Central Community College men's soccer team experienced its best season in the program's history by capturing a share of the MACJC North Division title and qualifying for post-season competition. The Soccer Warriors went 5-2-1 in league play and finished 10-6-3 overall under 14-year head coach Kenneth Thompson. Coach Thompson and team members recently presented an autographed soccer ball to ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart in recognition of the historic season. Matt Taylor, a freshman team member and Clarkdale High School product, is shown making the presentation to Dr. Stewart.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
ECCC Athletics Raises Funds for Eden's 'Swim with Dolphins': Eden Smith's "Make-A-Wish" trip to Hawaii where she swam with dolphins became a reality thanks to fundraising efforts led by coaches and student-athletes at East Central Community College. Approximately \$2,000 was raised to help send the young cancer victim and her family on her "dream vacation." Athletic Director Chris Harris is shown making the presentation to Eden's mother, Lynne Smith, an ECCC English instructor and Quitman resident.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
Holliman Chosen MACJC Baseball Coach of the Year: East Central Community College head baseball coach Neal Holliman was named 2013 MACJC Baseball Coach of the Year in recognition of his team's championship season. Holliman, shown displaying a plaque received in recognition of the honor, led the Diamond Warriors to the MACJC State Championship and a berth in the Region 23 Tournament en route to a 32-21 record. The talented EC squad also received national recognition throughout the successful campaign and was ranked as high as 16th in the NJCAA Division II Baseball Poll. The 2013 championship represents the second state title for Coach Holliman, who led his first Diamond Warrior squad to the prestigious honor in 2007. He also received MACJC Coach of the Year honors following the 2007 season. Holliman has a record of 200 wins and 159 losses during his seven years at the helm. He is married to the former Tracy Blackburn of Decatur and they have two young sons – Levi and Hayes.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
ECCC Warrior Golf Classic Champions!:Community Bank captured overall and corporation division honors in the 2013 East Central Community College Warrior Golf Classic held June 27 at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club in Choctaw. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart (left) is shown presenting the championship award to team members Steve Gibson of Forest, Ray Riley and Gary Jolly, both of Madison; and Tim Leitaker of Carthage, who carded an 18-under par 54 in the four-person scramble held on the Azaleas course. Sponsored by the ECCC Alumni Association, the 12th annual event is held to provide scholarships for students residing in the College's district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties. This year's event netted \$11,300, according to Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations.

Patterson Participates in NJCAA Golf Tourney

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM
Shelby Patterson of Forest represented East Central Community College in the 2012-13 NJCAA Division II National Golf Tournament held May 21-24 on the Goose Pond Colony golf course in Scottsboro, Ala. Patterson recorded rounds of 83, 83, 82 and 86 for a 331 total in the four-day event. The Forest High School product qualified to compete in the national tournament following his selection on the NJCAA All-Region 23 Division II Team. Patterson posted rounds of 74 and 78 for a 152 total in leading the Warrior golf team to a third-place finish in the region competition held April 22-23 at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club in Choctaw. ECCC served as tournament host. Chris Clark, who serves as Warrior golf coach, said of Patterson: "I cannot express adequately how proud I am of Shelby in making the All-Region Team and earning the privilege of participating in the NJCAA Golf Tournament. It is an opportunity that not many individuals get to experience. Shelby has represented ECCC well, both on the course and off, during two years in our program."



EXTRAORDINARY ATHLETE Thompson Twins Thrive Together on Field

BY DEEJAY ROLISON
Staff Writer

When one thinks of an extraordinary athlete, one might picture a tall, fit, and stereotypically "athletic" guy. He or she is probably the one that scored the most points at the football and basketball games or hit the most homeruns on the softball or baseball field. Typically there is only one extraordinary athlete; however, this time there's an exception that has to be made seeing as our extraordinary athletes are twins. Will and Russ Thompson of Decatur have been playing soccer together since they were four years old. They were on the soccer team at Newton County High School and have now moved up to playing here at EC. Not only does EC have these magnificent twins showcasing their skills here, the college also have their talented father as the head coach of the soccer team.

According to the twins, their father has always been a huge part of their lives, especially when it came to soccer. For most people, the mere thought of having any member of their family coach them in a sport would make them cringe. However, these boys seem to thrive. They have to view him as both a father and coach while on the field. This



DEEJAY ROLISON
Staff Writer



RUSS THOMPSON

gives them extra drive because every athlete always wants to impress their coach while on the field, and most athletes want to impress their families as well. This forces the twins to work extra hard both on and off the field. Just like with all siblings in general, there are always going to be ups and downs especially when you're twins. They are each other's biggest fans and critics. Both of the twins feel comfortable telling the other when he is doing something wrong or when he's doing a great job. Will admits that while they get along most of the time, they sometimes get into screaming matches about different things especially while on the



WILL THOMPSON

field. When asked about soccer, Will said, "You have to work at it... like by the end of the 90 minute game, towards the 70th minute you can beat the other team just by being able to run more." Russ chimed in as well by saying, "There are no commercial breaks and there are only a few seconds of down time. You play the whole 90 minutes." Anyone has to be passionate about something that basically involves running for almost a full 90 minutes. However, soccer isn't just about running up and down a field. "It gives you work ethic, and it helps make you a team player. You have to learn how to



COACH THOMPSON

work well with others," said Russ. These boys know that they need to put a lot of work into playing soccer, but they also know how to have fun as well. It's easy to trick the team on who you are when you have someone that looks just like you. "We have switched at practice before, but we couldn't ever switch at a game," Will said with a laugh. It's no wonder these two were chosen as the Extraordinary Athletes. Their passion, drive, and skill are prominent on the field; they will surely be doing great things in the future!

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Warrior Athletics

Warrior Football Sophomores Honored



These sophomore members of the 2013 East Central Community College football team were honored October 24, prior to the Warriors’ home finale against Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. Pictured are (from left) Chris Apperwhite (5), Laurel; Blake Bateaste (12), D’Iberville; James Clark (10), Laurel; Donnie Farmer (11), Harrison Central; Austin Franklin (20), Petal; Layton Holcomb (82), Oak Grove; Martin Johnson (7), Nanih Waiya; Hakeem Parker (2), Joseph S. Clark HS (New Orleans); Jeremy Pyles (90), Oxford; Kyron Samuels (60), Fairhope, AL; Wesley Smith (83), Morton; and Zachary Thigpen (41), Laurel. Each player was introduced at mid-field as head coach Ken Karcher presented flowers to their mothers. In addition to sophomore night, area veterans were honored during pre-game ceremonies as part of Military Appreciation Night.

Warriors Fall 49-7 to Finish Season 1-8

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

A salute to military veterans and recognition of sophomore football players highlighted the season finale for East Central Community College’s Warriors who were once again victims of a national power.

Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College proved worthy of its No. 5 ranking as the Bulldogs cruised to a 42-0 halftime advantage and completed the onslaught with a 49-7 MACJC South Division victory Oct. 24 at Bailey Stadium.

The Warriors finished 1-8 overall and 0-6 in league competition under first-year head coach Ken Karcher.

Pre-game activities featured a tribute to military veterans - who were recognized as honorary team captains - and included a presentation of the game ball by U.S. Marine Corps First Sergeant (Retired) I.E. “Sarge” Wilkinson of Forest. Wilkinson, a 30-year veteran and recipient of numerous honors for his service in World War II and the Korean Conflict, was accompanied by his great-great niece-in-law, sophomore cheerleader Payton Smith, also of Forest, as he presented the game football to ECCC President Dr. Billy W. Stewart. Wilkinson will observe his 90th birthday in November.

Sophomore football players also received special recognition and were accompanied by family members or special guests during the pre-game ceremony. Honorees and their respective hometowns included Chris Apperwhite, James Clark and Zachary Thigpen, all of Laurel; Blake Bateaste, D’Iberville; Donnie Farmer, Saucier; Austin Franklin, Petal; Layton Holcomb, Hattiesburg; Martin Johnson, Nanih Waiya; Hakeem Parker, New Orleans; Jeremy Pyles, Oxford, Ala.; Kyron Samuels, Fairhope, Ala.; and Wesley Smith, Lena. Coach Karcher presented flowers to the mother of each player in attendance.

It did not take long for the high-powered Gulf Coast offense to find the end zone as running back Antwon Wells of Hurley crossed the goal line from one-yard out with 11:01 left in the first period. Tristan Reynolds connected on the first of his seven PATs on the night.

Justin Brister extended the Bulldog lead to 14-0 when the running back from D’Iberville tallied on a five-yard rushing play with 5:05 left in the initial period.

The Bulldogs added 28 points in the second quarter, beginning with defensive back Justin Evans’ 36-yard interception return for a score with 13:15 left before halftime. The turnover was one of six Warrior miscues during the division battle.

Former ECCC quarterback Colton Kane of Navarre, Fla., stretched the lead to 28-0 following his 33-yard TD toss to wide receiver Jermey Cutrer of Kentwood, La., with 9:30 left in the stanza.

Back-up quarterback Terrian Page of Taylorsville connected with wide receiver Dhaquille Williams of Laplace, La., on a four-yard scoring pass play for a 35-0 advantage with 6:09 left before the break.

Running back T.J. McCann of Leakesville completed first-half scoring with his 20-yard scamper to pay dirt with 3:05 left.

McCann tallied again for the Bulldogs on his two-yard run in the final seconds of third-quarter action.

The Warriors got on the scoreboard following speedster Lamarcus Franks’ 31-yard sprint to the end zone with 9:41 remaining in the final stanza. Austin Franklin of Petal added the PAT.

Franks, a freshman running back from Greene County High School, led EC rushers with 72 yards on 13 carries.

Sophomore running back Martin John-

son of Nanih Waiya contributed 44 yards on 11 carries.

Donnie Farmer and freshman Anthony Triplett of Philadelphia shared quarterback duties and combined for two completions on nine attempts for 18 yards.

WARRIORS CRUSHED 45-7
BY PEARL RIVER

Martin Johnson’s late 34-yard touchdown run avoided a shutout for the East Central Community College Warriors who were 45-7 homecoming victims of Pearl River Community College October 19 at Dobie Holden Stadium on the Poplarville campus.

Johnson’s TD scamper came with 2:39 remaining and capped a 75-yard, four-play drive engineered by freshman quarterback Donnie Farmer of Harrison Central.

Farmer quickly moved the Warriors toward the end zone with his 29-yard strike to sophomore H-back Layton Holcomb of Oak Grove followed by a 12-yard completion to freshman wide receiver Jimmy Cockrell of Columbus.

Farmer’s third pass during the drive fell incomplete but was followed by Johnson’s burst to pay dirt.

Johnson, a sophomore running back from Nanih Waiya High School, broke two tackles on his way to the end zone. He finished the day as EC’s top rusher with 45 yards on six carries.

Farmer competed 13 of 24 passes for 148 yards.

East Central fell to 1-7 overall and 0-5 following the MACJC South Division battle, while the Wildcats improved to 4-4 and 2-3.

Pearl River led 14-0 after the first period and held a 28-0 advantage at halftime.

Sophomore running back Detrick Goff of Hancock County scored first for the Wildcats following his one-yard run with 5:23 left in the first period. Sophomore kicker Mark Moore of Hattiesburg connected on the first of his six PATs.

Scottie Murrell of Picayune Memorial extended the Wildcat lead to 14-0 with his 17-yard scamper to pay dirt with 37 seconds remaining in the first period.

Darrell Robinson gave PRC a 21-0 lead with 8:01 left before halftime, and Goff earned his second tally on another one-yard burst with 1:55 left before the break.

After a scoreless third period, Moore connected on a 22-yard field goal with 14:54 left in the division matchup and provided the Wildcats with a comfortable 31-0 lead.

Goff’s third tally came on a two-yard run with 7:42 remaining.

Freshman wide receiver Charles Ducksworth of Mize gave the Wildcats their final score when he hauled in a 41-yard TD toss from freshman quarterback Will Gross of Memphis.

WARRIORS DEFEAT MS DELTA ON LATE TD PASS

Quarterback Donnie Farmer’s 37-yard touchdown strike to wide receiver Jimmy Cockrell with 46 seconds remaining gave East Central Community a thrilling 36-31 homecoming victory over Mississippi Delta Community College October 12 at Bailey Stadium.

Cockrell’s finger-tip grab in the end zone provided the Warriors and first-year head coach Ken Karcher with their first victory of the 2013 campaign and snapped a six-game losing skid.

Following the non-division battle, Karcher said he was “very pleased” with the win and was “very proud” that his squad “never quit battling.”

“I’m happy for the kids; it’s been a long, emotional time for them,” said Karcher.

“It’s been hard, but they kept fighting. Finally we played an evenly-matched team. The game could have gone either way...and our kids made a big play at the end.”

The Warriors started well against the now 1-6 Trojans by putting up two scores in the first quarter – a 43-yard run by freshman speedster Lemarcus Franks with 9:40 remaining, followed by Farmer’s 18-yard TD toss to Cockrell with 6:48 left. The first PAT attempt was blocked and Farmer ran for the two-point conversion following the second tally.

Farmer, a freshman product from Harrison Central, finished the day by completing 10 of 22 passes for 116 yards and two scores. Cockrell, a freshman from Columbus, led EC receivers with three grabs for 75 yards and the game-winning TD.

Delta got on the scoreboard when quarterback Jaylon Daniels of Greenwood and wide receiver Passarrio Collins of Itta Bena connected on a 41-yard scoring pass play with 5:30 left. The PAT failed.

The Trojans narrowed the EC advantage to 14-13 on Daniels’ 27-yard TD pass to wide receiver Carlton Archer of Indianola early in second quarter action. Zacarion Goodman of Greenville added the PAT.

Delta took its first lead when Goodman split the uprights on his 26-yard field goal with four seconds left before halftime.

The Warriors regained the lead midway in the third stanza on sophomore running back Martin’s Johnson’s five-yard scamper, capping a nine-play, 62-yard march. Johnson is a product of Nanih Waiya High School. Farmer and Cockrell combined talents for the two-point conversion, which gave the Warriors a 22-16 advantage.

EC extended the lead to 30-16 early in the final stanza on Franks’ 16-yard dash to pay dirt for his second tally and best day at running back, as he finished with 204 yards on 28 carries. Farmer again connected with Cockrell for the two-point conversion.

However, the Trojans were not done on this sunny afternoon and rallied for two scores and the lead.

Daniels fired an 11-yard TD strike to wide receiver Kamron Carter of Greenwood with 9:11 left, and following Goodman’s PAT the Trojans closed the scoring gap to 30-23.

After an exchange of possession, Delta took over on its 32-yard line with 5:32 remaining, and eight plays later the visitors found the end zone on Daniel’s 22-yard TD toss to Carter with 1:53 left.

Instead of tying the contest, the Trojans opted for the two-point conversion and were successful as workhorse running back Edward McCadney of Cleveland walked into the end zone untouched and gave his team a 31-30 advantage. McCadney led Delta rushers with 132 yards on 22 carries.

Warrior special teams member Desmond Grayson of Meridian returned the ensuing kickoff 32 yards to near midfield, and following Franks’ 22-yard scamper on first down, EC was in scoring position at the Delta 35-yard line.

But after Franks lost two yards on first down, and following two incomplete passes, the Warriors faced fourth and 12 at the 37 and needed a miraculous play to finally enter the win column.

Farmer and Cockrell provided the “miraculous play,” and the Warrior defense kept the Trojans from gaining a yard in their final possession, which began at the Delta 42.

Freshman linebacker Christian Wraggs of Louisville put an exclamation point to the victory when he sacked quarterback Daniels on fourth and 10. The Warrior offense ran out the clock and the celebration was under way.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Flag Football Champs: “Hometown Heroes” captured top honors in the intramural flag football completion held recently at East Central Community College. Team members include (kneeling from left) Percy Lewis, Morton; Jonathan Hunt, Louisville; Jeremiah Chapman, Newton; JaDarrias Patrick, Decatur; Davais Scharrer, Louisville; Charles Griffin, Carthage; and Rodrick Young, Newton; and (standing from left) Nick Nichols, Morton; Antonio Parrott, Walnut Grove; William Howington, Little Rock; and Devonte Gardner, Keondre’ Hodges, Kenadaria Watts, Walter Johnson and Coach Javaris Moore, all of Newton.



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Flag Football Runners-Up: “Hoopers on the Field” finished second in the intramural football flag football competition held recently at East Central Community College. Team members include (kneeling from left) Quintin Darden, Louisville; LaRomeo McKee, Forest; Carnail Minor, Starkville; and Matthew Everette, Winona; and (standing from left) Brian Wright, Kosciusko; Malcolm Stubbs, Jackson; Shedrick Fair, Aberdeen; and Dee Carter, Forest.

STOP BEFORE YOU DROP

...that Class

- Be aware of Refund dates. If you drop a class, you will still have to pay for it!
- Dropping a class may affect your financial aid status for Pell grants and student loans now and in future semesters. Ask a Financial Aid Office employee to be sure!
- Dropping a class may affect scholarships, VA benefits, and other aid programs. Be aware that in most cases you will lose money, and you may lose the entire scholarship or benefits. Ask the VA representative in the Admissions Office how dropping a class will affect your VA funds. Ask someone in the Financial Aid Office to be sure how dropping classes will affect you and your scholarships or other aid programs!
- Dropping to less than full-time status (12 hours) may adversely affect automobile or medical insurance coverage.
- Have you talked to your instructor about dropping the class? Ask your instructor for advice! Hang in there if you can!
- Is the class a prerequisite for another class you need? Will dropping this class delay graduation or transfer plans? Ask your advisor to be sure!
- Are you working too many hours? If so, is there another solution? More work hours often leads to lower grades.
- If after careful consideration you decide to drop a course, please complete the appropriate paperwork.

Warrior Athletics



ECCC Soccer All-Stars: Several East Central Community College soccer players were selected to participate in the inaugural MACJC Men's and Women's All-Star Soccer Games held Nov. 16, 2013 at Freedom Ridge Park in Ridgeland. Selected on the men's All-Star squad are (kneeling from left) forward/midfielder Will Thompson, midfielder/forward Russ Thompson and defender Jesse Vaughn, all products of Newton County High School in Decatur. Lady Warrior All-Stars are (standing second from left) defenders Kennedy Castleberry and Paige Gower, both of Meridian and products of Clarkdale High School; and keeper Alana Turner of Mendenhall, a product of Florence High School. Also pictured are Warrior head coach Kenneth Thompson (left), selected to serve as an All-Star assistant, and Lady Warrior head coach Gray Massey who was named women's All-Star head coach.



ECCC Soccer Players Support Area Youth: East Central Community College soccer teams recently participated in a community service project involving second-graders from Newton County Elementary School. The Lady Warriors and Warriors conducted various soccer drills with the young athletes, including an activity on scoring goals as shown above. Approximately 140 Newton County students participated in the one-day event, coordinated by ECCC men's soccer coach Kenneth Thompson. The ECCC soccer field also serves as host site for "Serious Soccer" activities held each fall and sponsored by Clarke-Venable Baptist Church.



ECCC Golf Bag Winner!: Ralph Cole of Eldorado, Ark., was the lucky winner of the Adidas Golf Bag raffle conducted by the East Central Community College Golf Team. Golf Coach Chris Clark reported \$740 was raised as a result of the fundraising effort.



ECCC Alumni Tennis Tourney Participants: East Central Community College tennis coach Dianne O'Neill (left) is shown with alumni who participated in the annual Alumni Tennis Tournament held Saturday, Oct. 5. From left are Kerry Huddleston (1982) of Little Rock, Dee Walker (2011) of Hickory, Josh Moore (2008) of Decatur, Dru Anderson Dilley (2008) of Crystal Springs, Phillip Savell (2008) of Louisville, Devarus "Scooter" Walker (2009) of Decatur and Matt Wade (2009) of Forest. Dee Walker won the fastest serve competition with his 103 miles-per-hour effort. Current ECCC tennis team members and other area tennis enthusiasts also participated in the event, which included competition in mixed doubles and men's doubles.

EC Alumni Tennis Tourney Winners Announced

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

The annual East Central Community College Alumni Tennis Tournament was held Oct. 5.

Taking top honors in the mixed doubles draw were Juan Miranda of Morton and Shannon St. Clair of Decatur, who posted a 6-3 decision over Dru Dilley of Crystal Springs and Devarus "Scooter" Walker of Decatur.

In the men's draw, Decatur Mayor Pat O'Neill and Josh Moore of Decatur defeated Juan Miranda of Morton and Javon Yarbrough of Louisville by a 6-1 margin.

In other results, Pete Mazzella of Lake partnered with Daniel Giles of Union to defeat Ethan Rigdon, also of Union, and Dee Walker of Hickory by a 6-3 score.

Dee Walker won the fastest serve contest with his 103 miles-per-hour serve. Shannon St. Clair had the fastest serve in the woman's division with a 72 miles-per-hour effort.

Other participants in men's doubles were Kerry Huddleston of Little Rock and Zeno Rodriguez of Hickory, Hunter Tharp of Clinton and Matt Wade of Forest, Brandon and Steve St. Clair of Decatur, and Brandon Huddleston of Little Rock and David Brand of Hickory.

Also participating in mixed doubles were Ethan Rigdon of Union and Hannah Peoples of Carthage, Kennedy Rodriguez of Hickory and Chase Rigdon of Newton, and Nan Hartness and Phillip Savell, both of Louisville.

ECCC tennis coach Dianne O'Neill served as tournament coordinator.



ECCC Lady Warriors Helping Educate Youngsters: East Central Community College student-athletes (from left) Shamiya Evans of Lake, Anna Katherine Nowell of Leake Academy and Haley Watkins of Scott Central were among Lady Warrior basketball players who recently participated in a community service project at Newton Elementary School. Team members read books to kindergarten and first-grade students, assisted with their homework and concluded activities by playing various outside games. ECCC women's head basketball coach Crandal Porter, who previously led Newton High School basketball programs, initiated the project. "Because of my obvious connection with the Newton community, I felt the need to show the connection between sports, and basketball in particular, and education," said Coach Porter. "Also, I wanted to see the impact that athletes could have on the lives of young kids. We plan to make appearances in other communities and schools as well."



ECCC Tennis Team Assists Native Americans : East Central Community College tennis coach Dianne O'Neil and several team members recently participated in a community service project by helping Native Americans improve their skills as tennis players. Coach O'Neill is shown speaking to the special campus guests and later conducted various drills during the one-day activity held on the EC tennis courts.



ECCC Student Manager Reads to Area Children: Laromeo McKee was among East Central Community College student-athletes who recently participated in a community service project at Newton Elementary School. McKee, who serves as a student manager, and Lady Warrior basketball players read books to kindergarten and first-grade students, assisted with their homework and concluded activities by playing various outside games. McKee is a product of Scott Central High School. ECCC women's basketball head coach Crandal Porter, who previously led Newton High School basketball programs, initiated the project. "Because of my obvious connection with the Newton community, I felt the need to show the connection between sports, and basketball in particular, and education," said Coach Porter. "Also, I wanted to see the impact that athletes could have on the lives of young kids. We plan to make appearances in other communities and schools as well."

Warrior Athletics



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

State Champion ECCC Diamond Warriors Honored: East Central Community College's 2013 MACJC State Champion Baseball Team was honored during halftime ceremonies of East Central's homecoming contest with MS Delta Community College Saturday, Oct. 12, 2013, at Bailey Stadium. ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart and head baseball coach Neal Holliman presented the Diamond Warriors with state championship rings, provided through private donations from individuals and organizations. The special ceremony also included presentation of resolutions adopted by the Mississippi Legislature and Mississippi Community College Board in recognition of the squad's championship season. Team members and their respective hometowns include (kneeling from left) Justin Brewer, assistant coach; Zach May, Little Rock; Mitchell Wooten, Carthage; Brady McBride, Laurel; Caleb McKee, Philadelphia; Ryan Shotts, Louisville; and John Bruening, Madison; and (standing from left) Carolyn Frierson (aunt), A. J. Peeler (girlfriend), Lucille Brown (mother) and Roger Brown (father), representing former Diamond Warrior and first-round Major Baseball League selection Tim Anderson of Tuscaloosa, also selected NJCAA Male Athlete of the Year; Colton Hurst (game announcer), Hickory; Chase Domino, Fairhope, Ala.; Coach Holliman; Maxwell Harmon, Meridian; Mason Woodrow, Taylorsville; Corey Jackson (manager), Nanih Waiya; Kalik May, Northport, Ala.; Xzavier Franklin, Decatur; Severino Signa, Stoneville; Caleb Woods, Carthage; Hunter Graham, Meridian; Conner West, Taylorsville; Nate Dickens, Canton; Terrance Steele, Philadelphia; Hunter Swart, Nanih Waiya; Cory Kitchens, Laurel; John Morgan Berry, Madison; Jake Bush, West Blocton, Ala.; Ty Hendrix and Jordan Mixon, both of Maben; Rubert Alcantara, Dominican Republic; Fernando Gonzalez, Guaynabo, Puerto Rico; Slater Lott (student assistant), Clarkdale; Channing Darty, Hattiesburg; Robert Greer, Philadelphia; Cojuante McMillin, Hamilton; Jack Edmondson, assistant coach; and Deion Ulmer, Laurel. Team members not pictured are Blake Dubuisson, Long Beach; Anderson; and Ian Creemen (manager), Enterprise. "We are all very proud of these young men as they made such a contribution to our institution and we wish them all the best in their future endeavors," said Coach Holliman.

DeLoach Joins Diamond Warrior Staff

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

Scott DeLoach was recently named assistant baseball coach at East Central Community College, announced head baseball coach Neal Holliman.

Holliman said DeLoach's main duties include serving as pitching coach and recruiting coordinator. He will also assist with catchers and hitters for the defending MACJC State Champion Diamond Warriors.

"I cannot express how excited I am to have Scott join our team," said Holliman. "His knowledge of baseball is outstanding and he communicates extremely well, which will be a tremendous asset in recruiting. Scott has traveled the path where our guys want to go in community college competition and on the Division I level, as he competed in a World Series as a player and coach. It is a great advantage for us to have Scott's experience and qualities on our staff."

Prior to joining the EC staff, DeLoach served the past two years as an assistant baseball coach at Millsaps College in Jackson.

He helped lead the 2013 Diamond Majors to their first Southern Athletic Association regular season and tournament championships and a first-ever berth in the NCAA Division III World Series. The talented squad completed season action ranked eighth in the country with an impressive 38-14 record.

While at Millsaps, DeLoach



DELOACH

worked extensively with catchers and hitters and assisted pitchers and outfielders. He also assisted in recruiting high school and community college players. In addition, he implemented and oversaw off-season and in-season workouts and conditioning and helped organize and run seasonal baseball camps.

The Madison native was a standout baseball player at Mississippi State University in Starkville prior to beginning his coaching career at Millsaps.

DeLoach played three years for the Diamond Dawgs and led the team in hitting during his senior season in 2009. The starting catcher posted a .353 batting average with one home run, a triple, seven doubles and 21 RBIs in 47 games played.

He was a member of the 2007

MSU squad that advanced to the NCAA College World Series in Omaha, Nebraska.

DeLoach was a two-time Southeastern Conference Honor Roll recipient and graduated in 2009 with a degree in physical education. He earned a master's degree in sports administration in the spring of 2011.

He was also a standout at Itawamba Community College, where he was named MACJC Defensive Player of the Year during his sophomore season in 2006, during which he batted .338 with 32 RBIs. As a freshman, he helped lead the Diamond Indians to a 41-16 record and a berth in the NJCAA Super Regionals in St. Katherine, Ky.

DeLoach was an All-State selection at Madison Central High School and a member of the 2002 State Championship squad led by head coach Gregg Perry.

Holliman's staff is now complete following the addition of Ronald Sims to the coaching staff earlier this year. Sims is a former MSU assistant and baseball standout at Copiah-Lincoln Community College.

"I am very confident and comfortable with the staff we have in place to help us continue to grow our program," said Holliman. "We are very appreciative as to where we are with our program, but not at all satisfied. We will continue to work and strive for the opportunity to compete for a national championship."



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

ECCC Homecoming 5K Winners: Capturing first-place honors in their respective division in the annual East Central Community College 5K Race, held as part of homecoming activities Saturday, Oct. 12, were (seated from left) Zack Killion, Crestwood, Ky.; Ali Grace Walker, Decatur; Nina LaBue, Conehatta; Traci Lewis, Decatur; Jennifer Temple, Collinsville; and Lanette Hanna, Louisville; and (standing from left) Andrew Carlisle, Jesse Vaughn and Caleb Vaughn, all of Decatur; Greg Sanders, Forest; Kristie Pilgrim, Philadelphia; Charlie Creel, Sebastopol; Howard Crenshaw, Newton; and Polly Medcalf, Porterville. Kneeling is race chairman and ECCC faculty member Dr. Phillip Crenshaw. Not pictured is division winner Makenzie Rowzee of Hickory. Caleb Vaughn was the overall winner with a time 18:30.



Vaughn Wins ECCC Homecoming 5K Race: Caleb Vaughn crosses the finish line to capture the East Central Community College 5K Run/Walk held Saturday, Oct. 12. The Decatur resident posted a time of 18:30 in the annual event, held as part of homecoming activities. Vaughn was among the approximately 85 participants who endured an early morning fog to complete the challenging 3.1-mile course. ECCC Faculty member Dr. Phillip Crenshaw serves as race chairman.

SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM



SPECIAL TO THE TOM-TOM

EC Baseball Assists With NCES 'Fun Day: East Central Community College freshman baseball player Chance Whitten (right) is shown working the inflatable slides during Newton County Elementary School's annual Fun Day. Whitten, a graduate of South Panola High School, was among several ECCC Diamond Warriors who assisted in the day's activities as part of the team's commitment to community service. Neal Holliman serves as ECCC head coach.

Warrior Scene

Scenes from Fall Festival 2013

PHOTOS BY CANDICE STEWART/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

