



THE TOM-TOM

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Cook Named Tom-Tom Editor

By DIANA EGGLE
Special to The Tom-Tom

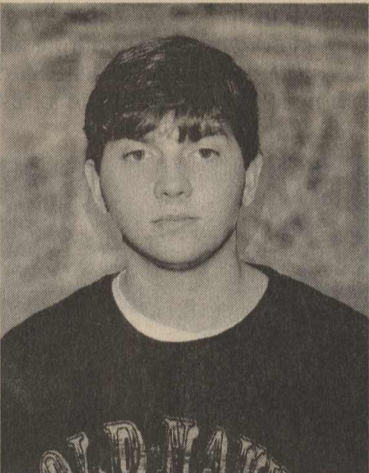
Sophomore Brad Cook of Little Rock was recently named editor of The Tom-Tom campus newspaper at East Central Community College.

A graduate of Clinton High School, Cook decided to major in sports communication, which is what sparked his interest in the school newspaper.

"I decided to go into sports communications and thought that this would be a good experience that could help me in the future," Cook said.

According to Cook, the best part about being the editor of the campus paper is "knowing that I can help enlighten students about what's going on around campus and also getting to let my voice be heard."

After completing his associate's degree at East Central, Cook plans to attend Mississippi State University, where he will pursue a bachelor's degree in communications with an emphasis in sports communication.



Bradley Cook

Cook is a member of the ECCC Scholars Bowl team and the Presidents Council. In addition, he is a President's List Scholar and was named to Who's Who Among American Community/Junior College Students.

When asked what he likes most about East Central, Cook replied, "It's a laid back and easy going place. You just feel like you can be yourself."

Killingsworth Named ECCC Computer Network Instructor

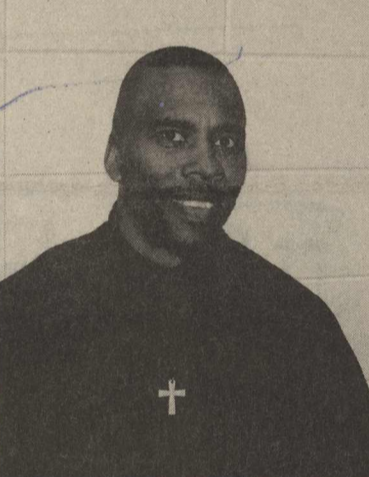
By DIANA EGGLE
Special to The Tom-Tom

Marvis A. Killingsworth of Meridian was recently selected as interim Computer Network Support Technology instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, College president.

Killingsworth is filling the position held by Kelly Cluff, a sergeant in the Marine Corps reserves, whose unit has been activated for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Killingsworth served as a basketball coach and physical education teacher for the Meridian Public Schools. He is also a former network support specialist for Ideal Software Systems, Inc., also located in Meridian.

He is a 1984 graduate of Meridian Community College, where he earned his associate degree in electronics technology. After completing his degree, he attended Nicholls State University in Thibodaux, LA where he received a Bachelor of Science



Marvis Killingsworth

degree in business management.

He is also currently serving as pastor of Pleasant Valley Baptist Church in Meridian. He has a wife of 16 years, Jackie and one son Alex, who is eight years old.

When asked about the kind of experience he wanted to get out of working at ECCC, Killingsworth responded: "I just hope to be able to not only give out knowledge, but retain knowledge."

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Sgt. Cluff: 'God has a mission for me'

ECCC Computer Network Support Instructor Gets the Call to Iraq

Sgt. Kelly Cluff of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves says his unit's deployment to Iraq "is not a negative thing."

In fact, before he left in January, the East Central Community College computer network technology instructor said he was looking forward to serving his country in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"As a Christian, I believe that God has a mission for me and my family," Cluff said.

"I do not see going to Iraq as a negative thing. I view my mission as an opportunity to experience a foreign country, new customs, a different language, the Iraqi people, especially the Iraqi children, and to bond with my fellow Marines."

"I believe that God has a different mission for me. As a Sunday school teacher and educational instructor, what better way to experience a very different culture from ours than doing so by also serving my country? I have the chance to learn and experience something new that most people do not have the opportunity to experience."

Even so, being away from his family for a year or more will take a toll.

"It will be difficult, for sure, to be away from my family for such a long period of time. I am very blessed with the family I have. God sent three miracles to me-my wife (the former Carla Jacome) and my two daughters (Emily, 11, and Katherine, 10). I love them very much and will do anything to keep them safe," Cluff said.

"My girls, as I call them, know what I have to do and they accept that by sacrificing their own needs so Daddy can help other kids in Iraq."

The girls knew Cluff might have to serve the United States in dangerous missions. They knew he might have to go to Iraq.

"But they also know that I'm proud to represent my country in a military branch I feel close to. Soldiers in all military branches have sacrificed their lives for the United States and for other foreign countries for the cause of freedom," Cluff said.

"We, as American people, tend to forget about the sacrifices on a daily basis. We take it for granted that we can walk, talk and do things without having a suppressive government watching us all the time."

President Bush and the media

Cluff experienced a suppressive government first hand. He was born in Saigon, Vietnam, in 1970, during the height of the Vietnam War.

He's adamant regarding the fight for freedom. And, he's strong supporter of President George Bush.

"People who criticize President Bush ... need to understand that we, the American soldiers, Marines, sailors, guardsmen, Reservists, Coast Guard members and airmen believe in the cause for freedom," Cluff said.

"Some of us will die so we can talk, walk and eat with our family, or do anything else, including voicing our opinion, without worrying about being killed or having the feeling of fear."

Cluff also responded to attacks on President Bush in the media.

"I believe in what President Bush is doing. He received a lot of negative media from major networks and newspapers especially during the election process," Cluff said.

"I feel the media has not given him the proper respect, which he justly deserves. Even if one does not respect the person as president, you should respect the position."

"He is not my president, President Bush is our president. He represents us as one of the leaders of the free world and as a leader for the United States of America."

Making choices

Cluff, who has served in the U.S. Marine Corps reserves for five years, said he joined the military for one reason: "To prove to myself that I can do whatever I put my mind to."

He said he chose the Marine Corps because he wanted to be a part of a military branch "where I felt my experience would be most beneficial to God, my country and my family."

And another important reason Cluff chose the Marines: "Ever since I was a kid and saw a Marine in his dress blues, I knew it was the branch for me."

But, Cluff also enjoys his role as community college teacher and he shares his computer knowledge with professionals at various companies.

He recently began his own computer consulting firm, ITG Consulting, in 2003.

Family history, business history

Cluff has just about traveled the world in his 37 years of life, thanks in part to his father's work as a news correspondent while serving in the U.S. Army.

"We came to America in 1970, soon after my birth in Vietnam. We lived in Virginia for five years and moved in 1975 to Anchorage, Alaska," Cluff said.

"In 1985, I moved to Tallahassee, Fla., where I was a beach bum for about three months. I basically started working because I ran out of money-go figure! I worked at a car rental place for about two years, and moved back to Alaska for family reasons."

After his return to Anchorage, Cluff and his wife, Carla, a Tucson, Ariz., native, married in 1990.

That same year, Cluff graduated from Alaska Computer Institute, where he learned about business programming. Following graduation, Cluff went to work for United Parcel Service as an information system technician until 1994.

He was later hired as a computer network programmer/analyst for the State of Alaska, where he was employed until 1998.

Cluff moved his family to Newton, Miss., in 1998, following his mother's death from brain cancer.

He began taking classes at ECCC, and



Sgt. Kelly Cluff

took time off during his sophomore year to join the Marine Corps Reserve.

Cluff graduated from ECCC in 2001, and later went to work for a computer software company in Meridian. He also worked at his family's restaurant, BoRo's in Newton, until he started ITG Consulting. That same year, 2003, Cluff went to work at ECCC.

Far from home

What will Kelly Cluff miss most about home?

Here's a partial list: "The chaotic noise of my loving kids when they want my attention, the quiet time talking to my wife about everything and nothing, my friends at Central United Methodist Church, the ECCC students, my work time with the ECCC family, the sounds of laughter and the 'light bulb' that goes off when a student finally 'gets it,' my computer consulting business and my own cooking."

Although he "loves" his wife's cooking, Cluff said he also enjoys cooking for family and friends. He recently prepared fried egg rolls and other goodies for his colleagues at ECCC.

He said he may write a cookbook called "Fifty Ways to Serve an MRE," because he will be eating a lot of MRE's (Meals Ready to Eat) in Iraq.

Although Cluff was not able to discuss the details of his mission in Iraq, one can rest assured knowing that he and the thousands of other men and women serving our country are doing their best not only to provide freedom for the Iraqi people, but for the rest of the world as well. 0

Crenshaw, Partridge Named ECCC's HEADWAE Honorees

Phillip Crenshaw of Meridian and sophomore Jodi Kelly Partridge of Philadelphia are East Central Community College's HEADWAE instructor and student for the 2004-05 term.

HEADWAE (Higher Education Appreciation Day: Working Toward Academic Excellence) is a program of the Mississippi Legislature and is sponsored by the state's corporate community and coordinated by the Mississippi Association of Colleges.

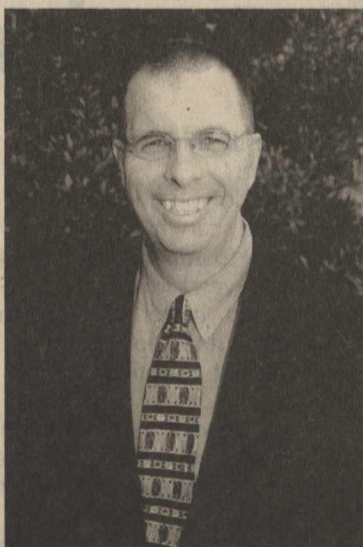
The ECCC honorees will be recognized along with other outstanding instructors and students representing the state's public and private colleges and universities during activities scheduled in February in Jackson. Lawmakers will pay tribute to the prestigious group at the State Capitol followed by an awards luncheon at the Clarion Hotel and Conven-

tion Center. A booklet featuring biographical sketches and photos of the award recipients will be presented at the luncheon.

Crenshaw, who teaches American Government and world history, joined the ECCC faculty in 2003, after previously serving 10 years at Meridian High School where he mostly taught world history and law education classes. Crenshaw twice received "Teacher of the Year" honors at MHS and was chosen "Teacher with the Most Character" by the student body.

He is also a former instructor and coach at Clarkdale Attendance Center.

Crenshaw is also serving as ECCC's "Humanities Teacher of the Year" for 2004-05, an annual recognition sponsored by the Mississippi Humanities Council. He was presented a \$500 hono-



Phillip Crenshaw

rium for receiving the award and lectured on the topic, "The Person That Refuses to Study His-



Jodi Partridge

tory is Doomed to Repeat It: A Comparison of the Peloponessian War to the Current U.S.-Iraqi

Conflict," during a recent program held in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus.

He was also selected to participate in the Mid-South Community College Fellowship Program in 2003.

His civic activities include serving as children's church pastor at Northcrest Baptist Church in Meridian. He also serves as youth basketball coach.

A graduate of Meridian High School, Crenshaw holds a bachelor's degree in secondary education from the University of Southern Mississippi and a master's degree in history from the University of West Alabama. He is currently pursuing a doctorate in community college leadership from Mississippi State University.

He is married to the former Kim Hatcher of Meridian, who is employed at Working Solutions

in Meridian. He has a daughter, Alexandria, and two stepsons, Hunter and Dalton.

Partridge is enrolled in the College's Associate Degree Nursing program.

A President's List scholar, she also received the Bobbie Anderson Nursing Scholarship and ACT Scholarship. She was recently named to Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges.

She said her career goal is "to obtain my degree as a registered nurse and pursue my dream of helping others in need."

Partridge, a graduate of Louisville High School, is married to Sean Partridge.

Her parents are Joe and Cynthia Kelley of Louisville.

'I hereby recommend that each student PLAY this semester'

By **BRADLEY COOK**
Tom-Tom Editor

The holidays are over and the turkey is gone. Winter is ending and groundhog has seen his shadow. As students, we all know what this means: spring is almost here.

Spring is the single most uncomfortable time to sit in a classroom. The radiant sun, beaming through the windows, beckons the mind to a place far away from a learning environment.

Algebraic expressions, literary techniques, and historical dates fall to the wayside. Swimming pools, water parks, fishing ponds, and road trips race freely through our heads as each one struggles through another tumultuous semester.

Spring is indeed a symbol to the mind that the end is near. For high school seniors, the marathon reaches the home stretch. For college freshmen, the anxiety attached to the first year of college is lifted. And for college sophomores, a new beginning approaches as another page of life's novel is turned.

For this reason, the brain of a student reaches a climax, yearning for the annual break. As much as I have tried to break the cycle, my attempts have only yielded failure.

By April, my mind becomes mush. I could not tell you the difference in William Shakespeare and William

Hyungh. The philosophy of John Stuart Mill provokes less thought than the useless philosophy of John Stuart, host of Comedy Central's The Daily Show. Once on a literature exam, when asked about the masterpiece of Bret Harte (famous American writer), I answered the Sharpshooter (finishing maneuver of 5-time WWF Champion Bret "Hitman" Hart). Every piece of knowledge plugged into my cranium during the school year slowly fades away as the temperature rises.

However, new years and new seasons can bring new possibilities and new outlooks. As enticing as it may be to cut a lab to catch a Cubs game or head down to the beach on test day, I have resolved to stay focused on my obligations. So to help myself as well as my fellow Warriors, I hereby recommend that each student PLAY this semester:

Participate
Listen
Allocate your time
Yearn to Learn
I. Participate

As previously mentioned, spring floods each student with continuous activities away from campus. To keep focused, everyone should participate in campus activities in some form. East Central has several activities and events for students of all interests.

For the sports fans, the ECCC Warrior Basketball teams are gearing up for "March Madness" as both drive toward the state tournaments. Baseball and softball seasons are only a few

weeks away, as well as many intramural activities headed by Coach Scott Hill. Music lovers do not want to miss the performances by the Ac cents and Collegians this spring.

Speaking of spring, ECCC's annual Spring Spree sponsored by the Student Body Association is always a great time for students. The BSU and Wesley Foundation provide weekly activities to all students who need something to do. Participation is the key to the total ECCC experience.

II. Listen
Oliver Wendell Holmes once said "It is the province of knowledge to speak and it is the privilege of wisdom to listen". Many times through the years, I've been described as "too quiet". However, I simply choose my times to speak.

I enjoy listening to other people's views and opinions. My favorite memories are sitting with my grandparents and listening to stories of years past.

If one can learn to listen, then one can enjoy live. Enjoying life at school is the only way to survive spring fever. Much can be learned by listening to an instructor or even another classmate.

From Ms. Lucille Wood recalling the beginning of women's sports at ECCC to Mr. Vickers telling a humorous story of his childhood to Mr. Crenshaw's flamboyant description of capitalism, listening is learning. Think about how much you can learn from your instructors at ECCC. You may

not have the same opportunity at a senior college.

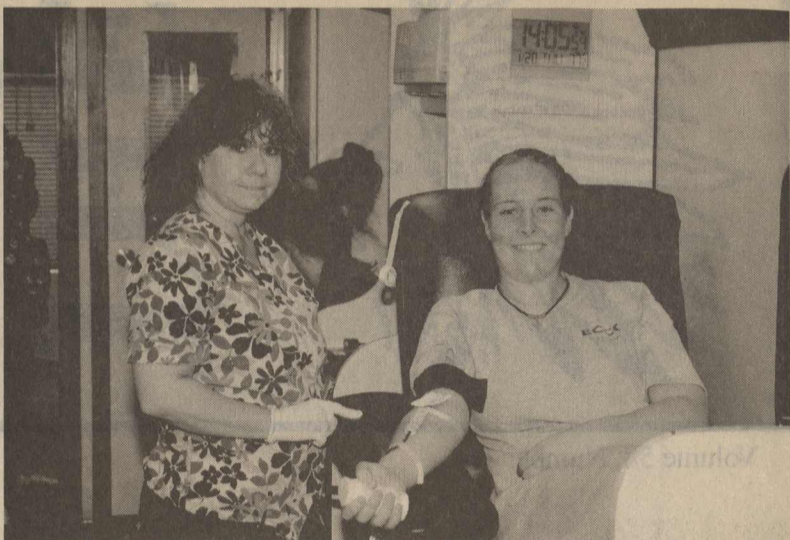
III. Allocate your time
I hate to sound like your high school advisor, but time management simplifies student life. I know everyone reaches a certain point where he or she has too much to do and too little time to do it.

Time management is important. Use your time wisely. Try not to overload yourself. Your professors are indeed correct; studying a little after each class meeting is easier than cramming the night before an exam.

IV. Yearn to Learn
The final point of this after-school special is to enjoy learning. The old cliché "Time flies when you having fun" applies here.

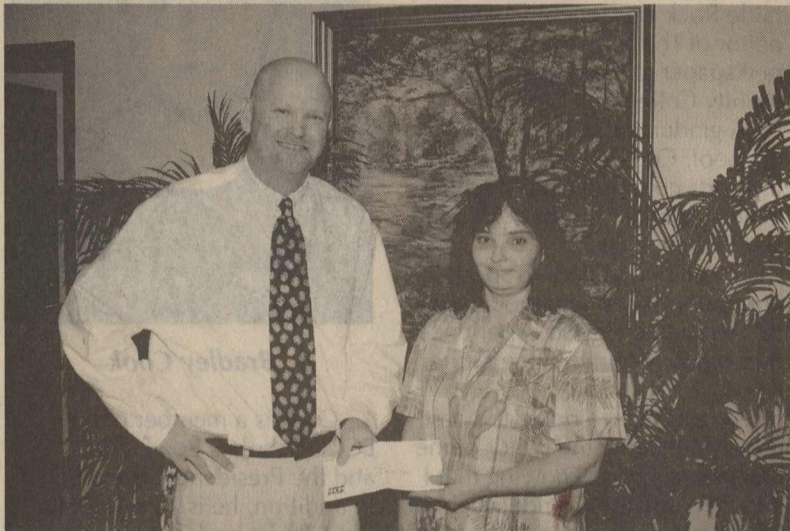
The best way to survive is to have fun learning. Each class can teach you something if you search for it. Instead of dragging into class, go in ready to learn something. Ask questions. Make comments. Voice your opinions. Tell everyone what you think. College can be what you want it to be. Make it an unforgettable experience.

So when the warm weather, the bright sunshine, and the smell of chlorine tempt you this spring, just remember to PLAY. Dave Ramsay has a famous quote "If you live like no one else today, you can live like no one else tomorrow." Enjoy education. We can all enjoy the water come summer. That is if I remember what water is.



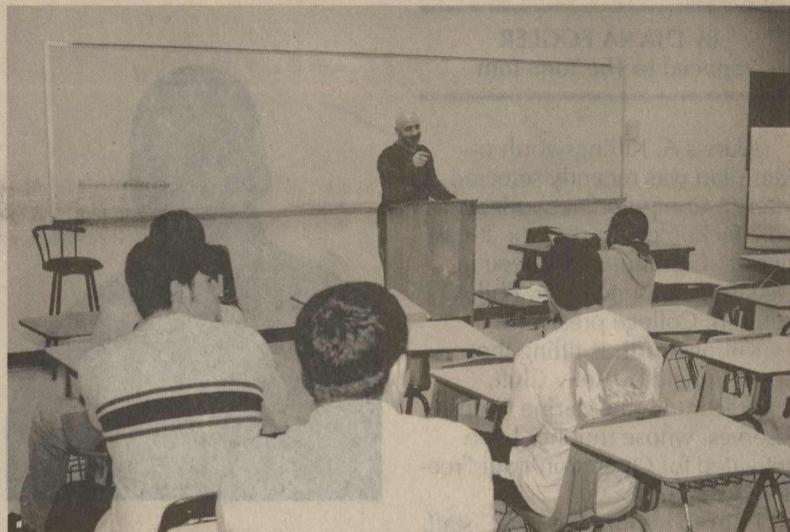
ECCC Health Center Sponsors Blood Drive

Freshman Lauren White (right) of Newton County High School is shown donating blood during a Blood Drive sponsored by the East Central Community College Student Health Center. At left is phlebotomist Nancy Brickenridge of United Blood Services in Meridian. (Photo by Brian Sibley.)



Holley Presented ECCC Scholarship

Lisa Holley of Philadelphia was recently presented a nontraditional student scholarship to continue her studies at East Central Community College. Holley, 35, is a freshman medical office technology major. She is shown receiving the scholarship from Joe Killens, Vice President for Student Services. Nontraditional student scholarships are available to qualified Mississippi residents for three consecutive semesters following the first 12 semester hours earned either as a part-time or full-time student at East Central. For more information contact Student Services, East Central Community College, P. O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, Phone 635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 375. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.



Peterson Addresses ECCC Students

Forest High School head football coach Brad Peterson recently provided tips for success to students enrolled in Lucille Wood's physical education, sports and recreation class at East Central Community College in Decatur. In addressing the future coaches and teachers, Peterson stressed the importance of being able to motivate athletes as one of the main keys to achieving a winning program. Peterson guided the 2004 Bearcats to an undefeated regular season en route to an 11-1 overall mark. Forest finished fifth in The Clarion-Ledger's final State Class 3A poll. Peterson is a graduate of Louisville High School, ECCC and Mississippi State University. He is a frequent speaker for Miss Wood's class. (Note: Coach Peterson was recently named head football coach at Louisville High School.)

Excercise Your God-Given Freedom on Feb. 14

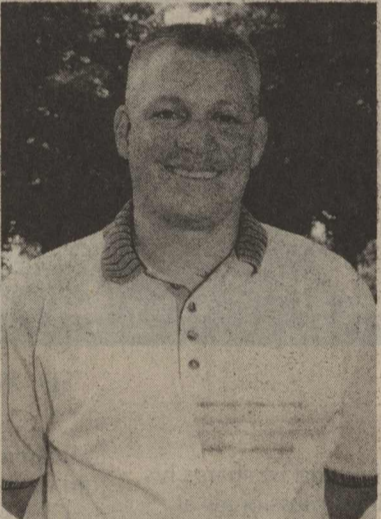
By **SCOTT VAUGHN**
Special to The Tom-Tom

That special day is almost here. The day of LOVE! The day when every guy who has a significant other seeks to find that special trinket or take her to that special place that will bring out the emotional response we so desire to invoke: "That's my man!"

It is the day when girls optimistically hope that this year the guy will actually remember what she has hinted toward or "glory be" they actually received the mental telepathy message that she has been sending for the past two weeks of what to buy or do for her.

Does this remotely resemble past Valentine's Days for you? The dudes will be thinking such important thoughts as:

Does she expect me to notice any difference in her hair tonight? Do I have on enough cologne and deodorant? Should I shave for tonight? Do I have enough money? Will she kiss me tonight? Will she be able to tell that I threw all the plans for tonight together during the 15-minute drive to her house and that I



Scott Vaughn
Director of the ECCC Baptist Student Union

bought her gift at Wal-Mart? Will she kiss me tonight? Will she actually look at the back of the card to see if it is a Hallmark? Will I have to wait for her to get ready, again? Will she kiss me tonight? Will she want me to tell her that I love her tonight? How much talking is she going to want to do tonight? Will she kiss me tonight? Will she look "Hot" tonight? Will other guys think she looks "Hot" tonight?

I wonder if she will kiss me tonight?

Ladies will also be having thoughts, but of a different persuasion.

Does my hair look right and will he notice my new hairdo? Does this outfit make my hips look big and should I change for the tenth time?

I wonder where we are going tonight?

Is it going to be cheap or romantic?

Did he buy me a gift? I want to be surprised as long as it is what I wanted.

I hope he didn't just throw tonight's plans together on the way over here.

What is he wearing and are we going to look cute together?

I shopped for three days for his present, but he probably bought mine at Wal-Mart on the way over here.

He better not have plastic roses from the grocery store again this year.

If he wants me to kiss him tonight the back of that card better say Hallmark!

But actually Valentine's Day is usually a big day of disappointments for everyone. It is this way because our society has convinced us to believe that LOVE is an emotion.

However, according to the Bible and what God has created, LOVE is a God-given freedom. In other words, love is a choice.

The choice involves putting another ahead of oneself in priority.

Jesus said, "Greater love has no one that this, than to lay down one's life for his friends." John 15: 13. Paul wrote in Ephesians 5:25, "Husbands love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her."

He also wrote in 1 Corinthians 13:4-7, "Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."

Do you see that love is a choice, a freedom that you have to lay down your desires, your agenda, your rewards, your gifts, your passion, etc., in order to fulfill and complete another person's desires and needs, but without expecting anything in return.

That is true love. Do you have the patience to wait for it and the wisdom to recognize it?

The Way: A Message of Love Through Music and Drama

By **DANIELLE BARRETT**
The Tom-Tom Reporter

A powerful message is being spread throughout the state by a faithful team at East Central Community College. They use music, interpretive movement, and drama to portray Jesus' love for everyone. They are The Way from the Baptist Student Union.

This group, started about 30 years ago, attends churches

across Mississippi. They have visited First Baptist Macon, St. Matthews United Methodist Church of Madison, and Mars Hill Baptist Church of Noxapater to name a few.

The Way spreads the Word of God in these churches and on this campus in as many ways as they can.

A small production, The Way performances not only influence the churches, but also the members of the group.

"Being a part of The Way has

been very rewarding because I've been able to worship in different places with different people," said member Lee Anne Rawson.

Meagan Mills also loves The Way because she said she has "...made so many new friends that have the same Faith and values."

She also said, "It's fun to be able to glorify God by using the gifts He has given me."

The Way is more than a group of students who attend the Baptist Student Union. It is an inspiring

message to influence people along "the way" to an abundant life.

Future performances include: February 8-North Crest Baptist Church of Meridian; February 13-Hopewell Baptist Church; February 13-Forest Methodist Church; February 16-Neshoba Coliseum; February 20-Clarke Venable Church; February 27-New Harmony Church of Newton; March 6-Antioch; April 3-Pine Grove of Union; and April 10-Forest Baptist Church.

Thoughts to Ponder

By **DANIELLE BARRETT**
The Tom-Tom Reporter

-What is normal? When we call someone weird, how do we know that they aren't normal and we are weird?

-Why do tears sting so much?

-Is there really a heaven or do we just believe in it to help get us through the day?

-If people really believe in heaven, why are they so afraid of death? Would that not encourage them to look forward to it?

-What do you do when a close friend doesn't trust you and you haven't done anything to lose his/her trust?

-What do you do with a dog

that honestly thinks her tail is chasing her?

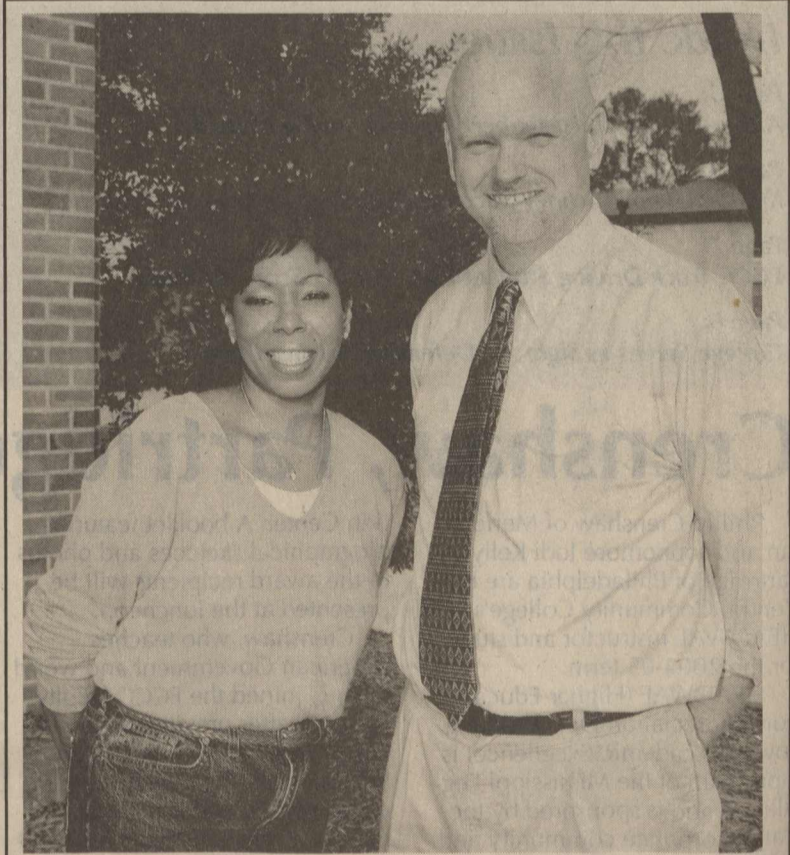
-What do you do when your watching a scary movie and you don't want to admit the movie is too scary, even for you?

-How do you tell someone the food he/she fixed doesn't taste good without hurting his/her feelings?

-What do you do to entertain yourself when you are out with a group of people and you become bored?

-How do you get your opinion across when everyone thinks you are beneath them and they simply will not listen?

-What do you do with questions that simply do not have a real answer?



King Receives Nontraditional Scholarship

Sharon King of Enterprise was recently presented a nontraditional student scholarship at East Central Community College. King, shown with Joe Killens, Vice President for Student Services, is a 40-year-old freshman majoring in medical technology. Nontraditional student tuition scholarships are available to qualified Mississippi residents age 23 or older, at the time of initial enrollment, who enroll full-time at ECCC on the Decatur campus. Scholarships are available for three consecutive semesters following the first 12 semester hours earned as either a part-time or full-time student at East Central.

The Tom Tom is the official campus newspaper of East Central Community College in Decatur, Miss. It is printed three times a semester by the Office of Public Information. For more information you may contact the staff at P.O. Box 129, Decatur, Miss., 39327, Ph. 635-2111, ext. 242, or toll free 1-877-462-3222.

Accreditation
East Central Community College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097; Telephone Number 404-679-4501) to award the Associate Degree.

Non-Discrimination
East Central Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age or handicap. The College is in compliance with Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Right to Know Campus Security Act of 1990.

*Sponsors are Bubby Johnston and Maria McLeod.
Staff members are editor Bradley Cook, Courtney Barrett,
Alyson Burton, Jeremy Clark and Stephanie Culpepper.*

SPORTS

East Central Football Warriors
Receive Post-Season Honors



ECCC Warriors Receiving Post-Season Honors

Above are East Central Community College football players who received various post-season honors following the 2004 campaign. Seated from left are linebacker Sed Eichelberger of Noxapater, J.C. Grid Wire All-American third team, All-Region 23 and first team All-State; wide receiver Derrick Harris of Union, first team All-State and All-Star; defensive back Tony Edison of Collins, first team All-State and All-Star; and tight end Cameron Tawater of Philadelphia, honorable mention All-State and All-Star. Standing from left are defensive end Montrell Ashford of Louisville, first team All-State and All-Star; offensive tackle James Ozment of Sumter (Ala.) Academy, first team All-State and All-Star; and defensive back Brian McNair of Florence, honorable mention All-State and All-Star. The standout athletes were recognized at the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus.



Presented ECCC Football Team Awards

These members of the 2004 East Central Community College football team received honors at the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are linebacker Sed Eichelberger of Noxapater, most valuable player and defensive team captain award; wide receiver Derrick Harris of Union, most valuable offensive back; and fullback Clinton Thomas of Ripley and defensive tackle Michael Johnson of Newton County, Warrior Award co-recipients. Standing from left are defensive end Mantrell Ashford of Louisville, most valuable defensive lineman; offensive tackle James Ozment of Sumter (Ala.) Academy, most valuable offensive lineman and offensive team captain award; and strong safety Tony Edison of Collins, academic award and Kemba Bryant Most Valuable Offensive Back. ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and Warrior football coaches presented the awards.

Receive ECCC Cheerleader Awards



Awards were presented to these cheerleaders at East Central Community College during the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet held recently in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus. Brandi Durant (left), a graduate of Neshoba Central High School, received the captain's award and Erin Yelverton (right), a graduate of Newton County High School, received the academic award. Cheerleader sponsor Katie Sparkman and ECCC President Dr. Phil Sutphin made the presentations.

First Women's Soccer Signee

Maggie McDill (seated right) a senior at Newton County High School, is the first player to sign for the newly formed women's soccer team at East Central Community College. Also pictured are ECCC soccer coach Kenneth Thompson (seated left), McDill's parents, Randy McDill (standing left) and Ellen Upton (standing right) and Newton County High School soccer coach Chad Bond (standing center). McDill maintains a 4.0 grade point average and has played on the varsity soccer team for six years. She has received various honors including the Cougar Award and the Defensive Most Valuable Player Award. She was named All-Division the last three years and was voted the Division 4-3A Defensive Player of the Year for 2003-2004. She currently serves as class president, was the 2004 Homecoming Queen and was a nominee for the Wendy's Heisman Award. She also serves as the 2004-05 Newton County Junior Miss. After high school, she plans to pursue a career in dentistry. (Photo courtesy of Lois Cooper)



East Central Community College defensive standout Sed Eichelberger of Noxapater heads a list of Warrior football players who received post-season honors following the 2004 campaign. Eichelberger, a 6-foot, 230-pound linebacker, was named All-Region 23 and first team All-State. He was also selected to the J.C. Grid Wire All-American third-team. Eichelberger was the second-leading tackler for East Central, with 38 solo stops and 31 assists. Eleven of those tackles were for minus yardage. He also registered two quarterback sacks, two forced fumbles and had two fumble recoveries. Also receiving first-team All-State recognition were wide receiver Derrick Harris (6-2, 185) of Union; offensive tackle James Ozment (6-5, 360) of Eppes, Ala., and a product of Sumter Academy; defensive lineman Montrell Ashford (6-2, 235) of Louisville and defensive back Tony Edison (6', 195) of Collins. Harris had 37 receptions for 559 yards and three touchdowns. He also returned 12 kickoffs for 249 yards, a 20.8-yard average. Ashford had 31 tackles, seven of which were for losses. He also had 15 assists, three quarterback sacks and two fumble recoveries. Edison had 39 tackles, four of which were for minus yardage. He also had 15 assists and was credited with seven pass break-ups and three interceptions. Harris, Ozment, Ashford and Edison along with free safety Brian McNair (6-3, 210) of Florence and tight end Cameron Tawater (6-2, 235) of Philadelphia were selected on the South team for the annual MACJC All-Star Game held Saturday, December 4 at Northeast Mississippi Community College in Booneville. The North won the game 16-6. McNair was also one of ECCC's top defenders during the 2004 campaign, as he had 26 tackles, 10 assists, two pass break-ups, one fumble recovery and one interception. Tawater, who was mostly a blocking tight end and long snapper, had 11 receptions for 78 yards and one touchdown. McNair and Tawater were also named honorable mention All-State along with strong safety Cedric Gray (6', 205) of Scott Central, wide receiver Chris Lark (6-2, 190) of Pickens (Ala.) County High School, wide receiver Chris Smith (5-11, 175) of Ridgeland, fullback Clinton Thomas (5-9, 220) of Ripley, defensive end Courtney Coleman (6-2, 238) of Louisville, tailback Darryl Mapp (5-8, 210) of Newton County, linebacker Derrell Ashford (5-10, 200) of Louisville, offensive tackle Derrick Cleveland (6-2, 280) of Newton County, nose guard George Maddox (6', 280) of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County, defensive end Greg Hathorn (6-2, 240) of Louisville, nose guard Henry Smith (6-2, 320) of Aliceville (Ala.) High School, quarterback/wide receiver Jarius Neal (6-3, 215) of Pickens (Ala.) County High School, free safety/kicker Jay McMillin (5-11, 190) of Winston Academy, offensive tackle Jimmy Coleman (6-2, 265) of Forest, offensive guard Josh Curry (6-2, 300) of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) Central, fullback Justin Ficklin (5-11, 220) of Morton, fullback Kelvin Horne (6-2, 230) of Northeast Lauderdale, cornerback Marcus Arrington (6', 185) of Heidelberg, defensive tackle Michael Johnson (5-9, 255) of Newton County, offensive guard Montero Baker (5-10, 255) of Columbus, linebacker Paul Tolbert (6-1, 215) of Clinch (Ga.) County High School, kicker/punter Ryan Gale (6-2, 210) of Oak (Ala.) Mountain High School and tight end Willie Hickmon (6-5, 215) of Lake. East Central completed the 2004 campaign with a 4-5 overall mark. The Warriors were 2-4 in the South Division.

Outstanding ECCC Warrior

East Central Community College defensive standout Sed Eichelberger (left) of Noxapater received various honors at the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Eichelberger, a 6-foot, 230-pound linebacker, was named to the J.C. Grid Wire All-American third team and was an All-Region 23 and All-State selection following the Warriors' 2004 campaign. He was also chosen the Warriors' most valuable player and was selected defensive team captain. Eichelberger was the second-leading tackler for East Central, with 38 solo stops and 31 assists. Eleven of those tackles were for minus yardage. He also registered two quarterback sacks, two forced fumbles and had two fumble recoveries. The Warrior standout is shown with Terry Underwood, ECCC head football coach.



ECCC Warriors Named Honorable Mention All-State

Named to the honorable mention All-State team are the above members of the 2004 East Central Community College football team who include (seated from left) linebacker Derrell Ashford, Louisville; free safety/kicker Jay McMillin, Winston Academy; defensive lineman Henry Smith, Aliceville (Ala.) High School; tight end Willie Hickmon, Lake; offensive tackle Derrick Cleveland and tailback Darryl Mapp, both of Newton County; fullback Clinton Thomas, Ripley; and defensive tackle Michael Johnson, Ripley. Standing from left are wide receiver Chris Smith, Ridgeland; free safety Brian McNair, Florence; kicker/punter Ryan Gale, Oak Mountain (Ala.) High School; tight end Cameron Tawater, Philadelphia; nose guard George Maddox, Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County; offensive tackle Jimmy Coleman, Forest; strong safety Cedric Gray, Scott Central; and cornerback Marcus Arrington, Heidelberg. Not pictured are free safety Brian McNair, Florence; wide receiver Chris Lark and quarterback/wide receiver Jarius Neal, both of Pickens (Ala.) County; defensive ends Courtney Coleman and Greg Hathorn, both of Louisville; offensive guard Josh Curry, Tuscaloosa (Ala.) Central; fullback Justin Ficklin, Morton; fullback Kelvin Horne, Northeast Lauderdale; offensive guard Montero Baker, Columbus; and linebacker Paul Tolbert, Clinch (Ga.) County.

East Central Announces First Women’s Soccer Team Signees

A Newton County High School standout and four top players from Neshoba Central High School are the first members of the new women’s soccer team at East Central Community College, announced soccer coach Kenneth Thompson.

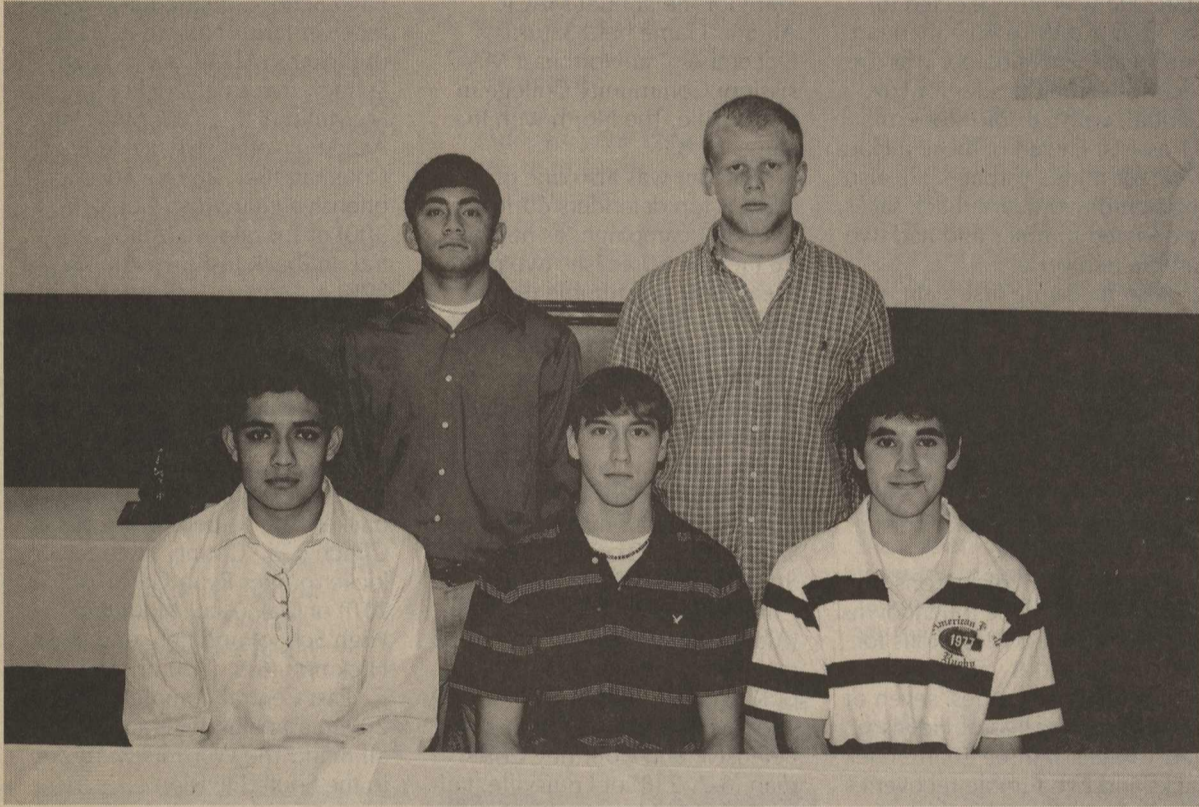
Joining the Lady Warrior soccer program are Lady Cougar Maggie McDill, a 5-4 midfielder, and Lady Rockets Briana Stinson, a 5-7 forward, Celeste Burt, a 5-2 midfielder, Samantha Giambrone, a 5-9 keeper and Jerica Williamson, a 5-5 midfielder.

McDill has played soccer at Newton County for six years. Honors she has received include District Defensive MVP, Cougar Award and Team Defensive MVP.

Stinson is a four-year member of the Neshoba Central girls’ soccer team, where she earned the best offensive player award. Burt has played soccer two years for the Lady Rockets, and is a recipient of the Heart of a Champion Award. Giambrone has played soccer for 14 years. Honors she has received include most valuable defensive player and second team All-State. Williamson is a two-year soccer player, and received the most improved player award.

Lady Warrior freshman softball player Joy Cavanaugh has also joined the soccer team. Cavanaugh, a 5-9 keeper, was a three-year soccer standout at Newton County High School, where she earned All-State and All-District honors and received a defensive player award.

The ECCC Lady Soccer Warriors begin competition in the fall 2005 semester.



Receive ECCC Soccer Awards

Above are members of the East Central Community College soccer team who received honors at the annual Fall Sports Banquet held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Jose Castillo of Raleigh, Coach’s Warrior Award; Ryan Stewart of Northeast Lauderdale, team captain award and best defensive player; and David Prewitt of Clarkdale, most valuable player, best offensive player, academic award and first team All-State. Standing from left are Jason Lopez of Forest, most improved and Trey Whitehead of Southeast Lauderdale, “Shot of the Year” award winner. ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and Warrior soccer coach Kenneth Thompson presented the awards.

Tennis Team Looking to Improve In 2005

Sophomore Gillette Hopes to Lead the Way

By JEREMY CLARK
The Tom-Tom Reporter

Brad Hodge, entering his fourth year as tennis coach at East Central Community College, is planning a great year of EC tennis in 2005.

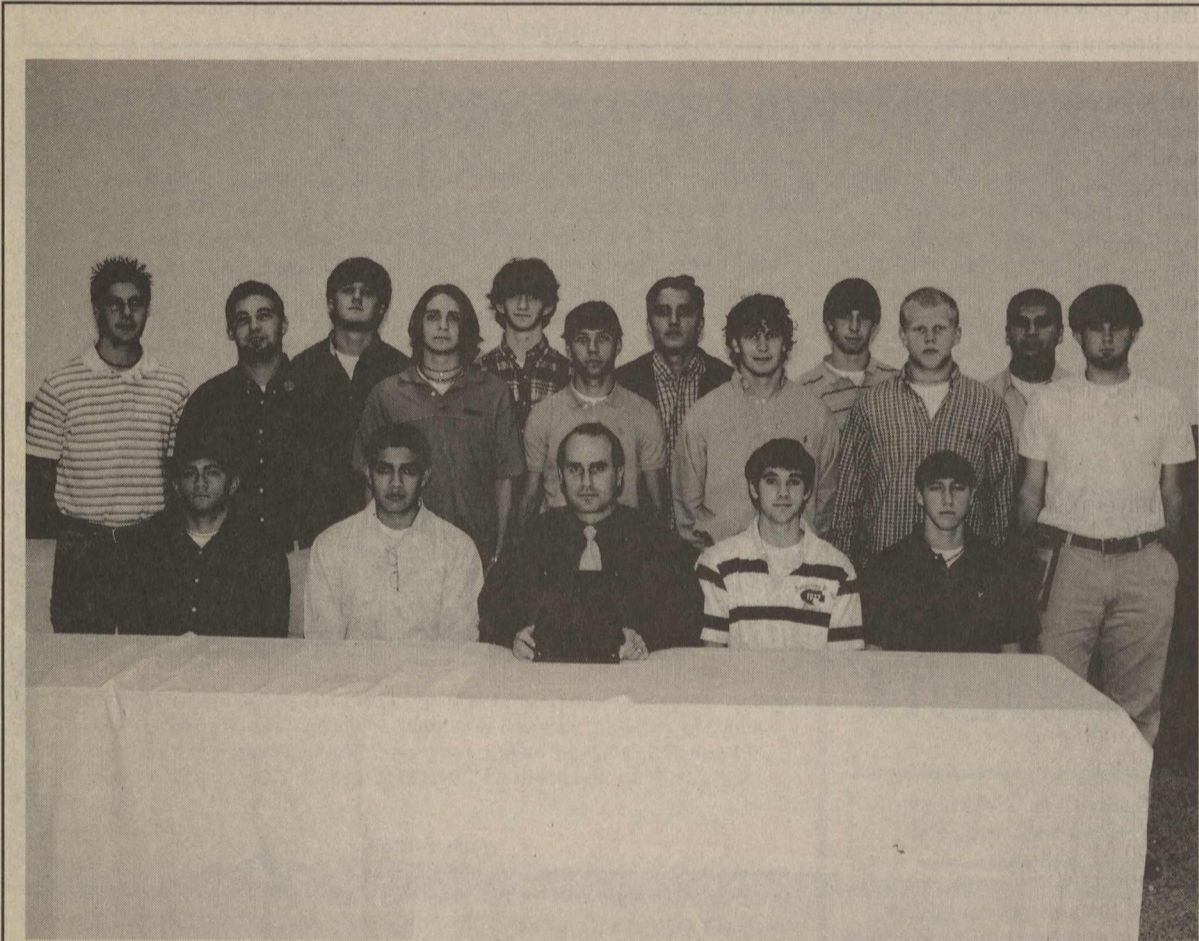
With a team of mostly sophomores, Coach Hodge hopes to lead East Central to its first Region 23 championship.

Jeremiah Gillett, a former member of the Warrior football team, decided to hang up his football cleats and pick up a tennis racket. After playing as the number four man in singles competition his first tennis season, Gillette hopes to play in the number one spot during his sophomore year.

Gillette played with injuries during the fall 2004 semester, but he hopes to make a successful return during the 2005 season. He credits all of his success and triumphs over injury to God, hard work and family.

In addition to Gillette, returnees this season are Jess Davis of Winston Academy, David Dennis of Collierville (Tennessee) High School, Valerie Gibbs of Netwon County High School, Kyle Gordon of Morton High School, Roberto Orellana of Forest High School, Anna Price of Grace Christian School and Ronda Stroud of Louisville High School.

Newcomers for the 2005 season include Clancy Cleveland of Union High School, Amanda McMillan of Newton County Academy, Zac Richardson and Jeremy Clark, both of Louisville High School; and Phillip Savell of Neshoba Central High School.



ECCC Soccer Team Honored

East Central Community College’s men’s soccer team is the 2004 recipient of the Tom Shepherd Sportsmanship Award, presented to the MACJC men’s soccer team which exhibited the best sportsmanship throughout the season. Coach Kenneth Thompson (seated third from left) is shown displaying the prestigious award, which was presented at the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus. Team members include (seated from left) Jason Lopez, Forest; Jose Castillo, Raleigh; Coach Thompson; David Prewitt, Clarkdale; and Ryan Stewart, Northeast Lauderdale; and (standing from left) Zach Joiner, Carthage; Jared Weir, Clarkdale; Austin Herrington, Neshoba Central; Daniel Warren, Clarkdale; Zach Kilpatrick, Newton County; Micah Lanier, Newton County; Diego Perez, Carols Arturo Tores, Bogota, Columbia, South America; Kyle Vowell, Neshoba Central; Ragan Denham, Northeast Lauderdale; Trey Whitehead, Southeast Lauderdale; Luis Araya, Forest; and Taylor Nichols, Newton County. The Soccer Warriors were 5-10-1 overall and finished 2-9 in South Division action.



Sophomore Soccer Warriors Honored

Sophomore members of the 2004 East Central Community College men’s soccer team were honored at the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Jose Castillo of Raleigh and David Prewitt of Clarkdale. Standing from left are Luis Araya of Forest, and Ryan Stewart and Ragan Denham, both of Northeast Lauderdale. The Soccer Warriors are coached by Kenneth Thompson.

Joins EC Women’s Soccer Team

Joy Cavanaugh is the most recent addition to the new women’s soccer team recently established at East Central Community College. Cavanaugh, a 5-9 keeper and former standout at Newton County High School, is shown signing a national letter of intent as her parents Rick and Linda Cavanaugh, and ECCC soccer coach Kenneth Thompson look on. While a member of the Lady Cougar soccer team, Cavanaugh was named to the All-State and All-District teams and received a defensive player award. She was also a member of the slow-pitch and fast-pitch softball squads. Cavanaugh is also a freshman pitcher on the ECCC fast-pitch softball team.



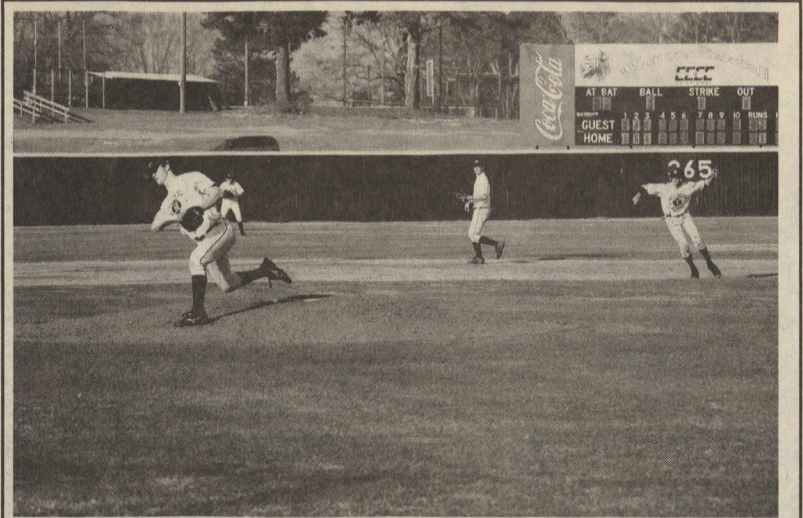
ECCC Intramural Golf Tourney Participants

Participants in an intramural golf tournament held at East Central Community College include (kneeling from left) Josh Palmer, Louisville; Ben Melton and Josh Cumberland, both of Philadelphia; Paul McMahan, Little Rock; Will Pearson, Decatur; Dillon McInnis, Leakesville; Sam Thames, Newton; Brandon Ezell and Coach Dusty Hillman, both of Decatur; and (standing from left) Patrick Brown, Bobby Addy and Coach Jake Yarborough, all of Decatur; Michael Smith, Union; Keith Edwards, Louisville; James Harris, Morton; Ross Pine, Watson, La.; Wes Cox, Forest; Taylor Petty, Philadelphia; Ken Gordon, Morton; Travis Butler, Philadelphia; and Lucas Poole, Newton. Thames and Ezelle teamed to win first-place honors in the nine-hole event. Petty and Butler finished second and Hillman and Poole came in third. Coach Scott Hill serves as director of the College’s intramural program.



ECCC Warrior Corps

Members of the East Central Community College Warrior Corps, a select groups of students who assist in recruiting and serve as hosts for various campus events, include (first row, from left) Abby Miller of Madison, Lindsay Walker of Little Rock, Beth Crotwell of Union, Joy Cavanaugh of Chunky, Marley Smith of Union, Ashley Nicholson of Chunky, Anna Price and Jaimee Jones, both of Louisville; and Kristin Bufkin of Decatur; (second row, from left) Jennifer Johnson of Philadelphia, Haley Harris, Sharli Moulds and Lauren Barrett, all of Decatur; Ashley Clark of Sturgis, Lee Anne Rawson of Carthage, Ronda Stroud of Louisville, Megan Jones of Rose Hill and Misty Mayes of Newton; (third row, from left) Madison Brantley of Decatur, Amy Ealy of Forest, Deidre Coleman of Louisville, Brian Sibley of Newton, Stephanie Culpepper of Forest, Lauren Jones of Enterprise, Keely Morgan of Walnut Grove and Victoria Goodman of Ashland; and (fourth row, from left) Kevin Brown of Carthage, Shane Patterson of Philadelphia, Taylor Nichols of Decatur, Clancy Cleveland of Union, Kurt Nelson of Hickory, Keith Edwards of Sturgis, Kevin Gregory of Louisville and Tiffany Willis of Philadelphia. Not pictured are Todd Body, Mollie Cieglo and Elizabeth Puckett, all of Forest; Courtnee Graham of Preston, Daphanie Hatcher, Jordan Kemp and Heather Steele, all of Louisville; Rick Lachney of Decatur, Holly Jackson and Jessica Sheehan, both of Little Rock; Jason Long of Carthage, Tracy McMahan and Hali Rainer, both of Union; Shay Moncrief of Newton, and Brandi Patterson of Lena. Michael Alexander, Christi Gregory and Lanette Hanna serve as Warrior Corps sponsors.



Members of the Diamond Warrior baseball team prepare for the upcoming season during a recent intra-squad scrimmage.

ECCC Diamond Warriors Host Co-Lin Feb. 9 In Season Opener

After struggling through last's year 12-29 campaign - which was hampered by injuries to several key players - the outlook seems much brighter this season for the East Central Community College baseball team.

The Diamond Warriors, who begin 2005 action by hosting Copiah-Lincoln Community College in a 2 p.m. double-header at Jamie Clark Memorial Field on Wednesday, February 9, are healthy and ready to get the season underway, said fourth-year head coach Jake Yarborough.

Although Yarborough was hesitant to predict wins and losses, he is confident that this year's squad has what it takes to be successful.

"This is the best defensive team that we have had in a while. We are very solid on the infield and we've got good speed in the outfield. Our pitchers are especially excited about our defense. We also have good team speed, and I expect us to be successful running the bases," Yarborough stated.

Among players who experienced a season-ending injury was freshman pitcher John Fortenberry of Carthage, who many thought had suffered a career-ending injury. Fortenberry lost an eye after being struck by a hard-liner during a preseason scrimmage. Despite the handicap, Fortenberry said he is optimistic about returning to the mound.

"I always dreamed of playing college baseball, and I still want to see if I can make it work. I guess I also like to prove people wrong. So many have told me that I would not play again," Fortenberry stated.

He added, "I want to do real good this year and if things go well, maybe I can continue my career at a four-year college or university."

Yarborough said Fortenberry is adjusting well to his return to the team.

"John is doing fine. He's healthy and happy to be back. I expect him to have a big impact on the team this year. I also expect him to have a good season on the mound," Yarborough said.

Yarborough said top returnees on the pitching staff include Josh Miller of Elysian Fields, Texas; Cody Savell of Newton County and Kevin Hatch of Carthage, each of whom had impressive starts during fall competition.

Miller, a 6-1, 193-pound southpaw from Elysian Fields, Texas, put up the most impressive numbers last fall by fanning 28 batters in 22 innings of work. He allowed 15 hits.

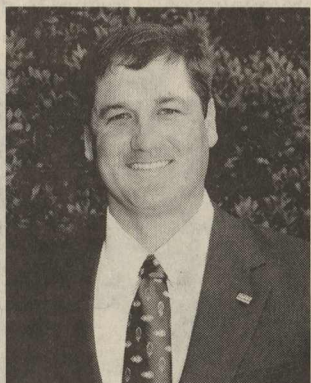
Savell, a 6-3, 216-pound right-hander, also had a successful fall campaign as he struck out 17 batters over 18 innings and also gave up 15 hits.

Hatch, a 6-5, 205-pound right-hander, posted 12 strike outs in 18 innings of work and allowed 13 hits. Yarborough said Hatch, a side-arm hurler, will be the top reliever this spring.

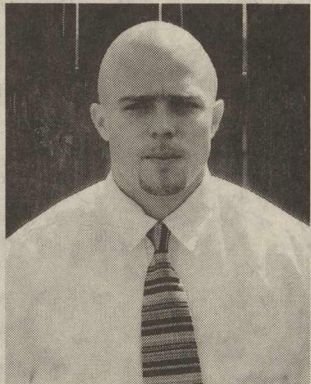
Another top returnee on the mound is Andre Coleman (6-2, 176) of Louisville.

Yarborough said top sluggers during fall competition were Corey Coward of Noxapater, Van Wilson of West Lauderdale, Taylor Petty of Neshoba Central and Marcus Davis of Magee.

Coward, a 6-2, 212-pound catcher/first baseman, batted .422 with one home run and seven doubles last fall. He completed the 2004 season with a .423 average and had two home runs, four doubles and 13



Jake Yarborough



Dusty Hillman

RBIs.

Wilson (6-1, 197), an outfielder, posted a .360 average and slugged two home runs and five doubles during fall competition. Petty (6-1, 165), a catcher/outfielder, also batted .360, and Davis, a 6-3, 199-pound outfielder/pitcher, had a .306 average with two home runs. Davis batted .289 in 2004 and had five home runs, two triples, four doubles and 27 RBIs.

Serving as Yarborough's assistant is Dusty Hillman, who joined the coaching staff last fall after serving as a member of the Mid-Missouri Mavericks, an independent professional baseball team based in Columbia, Missouri.

Hillman, a former standout at William Carey College, Delta State University and Taylorsville High School, is responsible for infielders and base runners, and has weight room responsibilities.

"Coach Hillman works well with our players. He demands a lot from our guys and makes them accountable. He is a great addition to the coaching staff," Yarborough said.

The complete 2005 roster includes sophomores Andre Coleman (pitcher/outfielder) of Louisville, Brandon Ezell (second base/third base), Bud Loper (short stop/pitcher) Will Pearson (first base/outfield) and Joseph Cavanaugh (outfielder), all of Newton County; Josh Miller (pitcher) of Elysian Fields, Texas; Kevin Hatch (pitcher) of Carthage, Corey Coward (catcher/first base) of Noxapater, Cody Savell (pitcher) and Lucas Poole (pitcher), both of Newton, Marcus Davis (outfielder/pitcher) of Magee and Van Wilson (outfielder) of West Lauderdale, and freshmen Jon Maxie (short stop) and Dillon McInnis (outfielder), both of Greene County; Sam Thames (second base) of Newton Academy, James Harris (short stop), Ken Gordon (catcher) and John Harris (outfielder), all of Morton; Travis Butler (outfielder) and Taylor Petty (catcher/outfielder), both of Neshoba Central; Jon Cole (pitcher) of Brandon, Josh Hawkins (catcher) and Wes Cox (first base), both of Forest; Chris Pierce (second base) of Petal, Justin Millinax (pitcher) of Albertville, Ala.; Keith Edwards (third base) of Louisville, John Fortenberry (pitcher) of Carthage and Ross Pine (pitcher/first base) of Live Oak, La.

See schedules on page 9.

One Year Later, East Central's Fortenberry Back on the Mound

What a difference a day makes. What a difference a year makes, especially if you're John Fortenberry. January 23, 2004 was just like any other day for the East Central Community College freshman. After classes he rushed to the baseball field preparing for another practice session with his fellow Diamond Warriors.

The day ended with Forten-

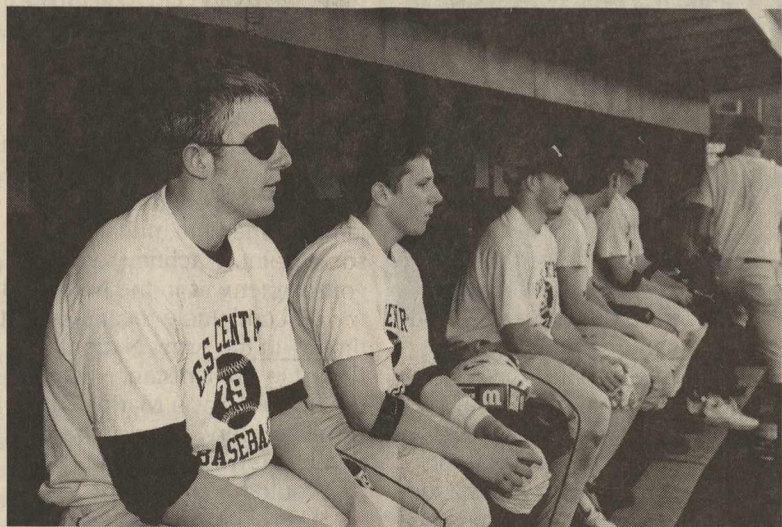
berry being rushed to the hospital after a line drive during an intrasquad scrimmage crushed his right eye and shattered most of the bones around it.

However, it is 2005. A year, almost to the day, after Fortenberry's dreams of a baseball career were almost shattered along with his eye, he's back on the mound doing what he loves best: Pitching.

So why would he attempt another shot on the mound after such a devastating injury? And how does losing his right eye affect his pitching?

"I've always dreamed of playing baseball. I still want to see if I can make it work. And I like to prove people wrong. So many have said that I would never play again.

"As far as my pitching, there has been no major change, except that I can't catch a pop-up fly (ball)," Fortenberry said.



John Fortenberry has returned the ECCC Diamond Warrior baseball team after losing his right eye during an intrasquad game last year.

screws in the right side of his face. It is only natural that he would be a bit nervous each time he steps on the mound.

"I threw one time this summer for a semi-pro team. That was the first time since my surgery and the worst so far. My first game at East Central was this fall against Mississippi Delta (Community College). It was a little scary," he said.

Perhaps the most nervous spectator is his mother, Dawn Fortenberry.

"It's just God and determination that has brought him this far," she said. "The doctors tried to talk him out of playing. They said he was fortunate to have survived and even compared his injuries with those received in a head-on car collision. But he's determined and we're hoping for a better year than ever."

Although they couldn't convince him to stay away from baseball, doctors did insist that Fortenberry wear a type of facemask used mostly by bull riders to protect his face, something that eases his parents' minds.

"I'm nervous," said Dawn Fortenberry, "but the face cage

does make it easier. His dad (Cookie Fortenberry) and I are proud of him and we're glad he has the guts to get back out there. He just has a true love for baseball."

Dawn Fortenberry also said she is glad to see a bill introduced in the legislature that bans aluminum bats.

"We hope that this (bill) is passed," she said. "John hopes this never happens to anyone else and we hope that no parents ever have to go through what we went through."

Whatever happens, John Fortenberry said he is just glad to be back.

"I want to do real good this year and if things go well, continue on to another level," he said.

After his next check up with doctors, Fortenberry will have a new prosthetic eye made. Although it is possible he will have to undergo additional surgery, Fortenberry is in hopes he has completed his treatments and is looking toward a bright future on the baseball diamond.



Although his doctors could not convince him to stay away from baseball, doctors did insist that Fortenberry wear a type of facemask used mostly by bull riders to protect his face from injury.

East Central Lady Diamond Warriors Set Sights On Another Winning Campaign

After leading the East Central Community College fast-pitch softball team to a successful 2004 season in his inaugural year as head coach, Scott Hill is hoping his Lady Warriors will enjoy even more success in 2005.

And he has good reason to be optimistic when this year's campaign gets underway with a 1 p.m. double-header against Mississippi Delta Community College Monday, February 21 on the Decatur campus.

All six returnees were standouts on last year's squad, which advanced to the state playoffs after placing second in the MACJC Central Division with an 11-5 mark. The Lady Warriors fell to tournament host Northeast Mississippi Community College (5-0) and Pearl River Community College (7-5) en route to an overall 26-16 record.

The top returnee from 2004 is Kristin Chaney, a product of Newton County High School, who will again start at short stop. Chaney received second team All-American honors in Division II and was named first team All-State. She finished the season with a .413 batting average and had four triples, seven doubles and 15 RBIs. She also stole 12 bases. Chaney, who is also a standout basketball player, will join the softball squad after basketball season.

Another top returnee is pitcher/first baseman Marley Smith of Union, who also made first team All-State. Smith recorded 13 wins on the mound and had a productive season at the plate by posting a .360 batting average. She led the Lady Warriors in hits with 50 and collected 22 RBIs.

Shelly Ferguson and Obreisha Davis, both of Newton County, are veteran outfielders who were also effective at the plate. Ferguson

drove in 25 runs and led the team in doubles with nine. Davis finished the 2004 campaign with a .315 batting average. She also scored 19 runs and swiped nine bases.

Returning infielders expected to again have productive seasons are Kotreece Bender of Newton and Suzanne Chaney of Newton County. Bender posted a .297 batting average with five doubles and 15 RBIs. Bender is also a basketball standout and will join the softball squad after basketball season. Chaney had eight doubles, 21 RBIs and led the team in walks with 24.

In addition to the returning talent on this year's squad, Hill said he is "very pleased" with the 11 freshmen who complete the 17-player roster.

"We should receive help on the mound from three very capable freshmen - Joy Cavanaugh (Newton County), Lindsay Walker (Union) and Lindsey Smith (Neshoba Central). All three will share pitching duties," Hill said. Cavanaugh and Walker are also outfielders and Smith plays first base.

Hill stated that newcomers Allison McDaniel (Neshoba Central) and Erica Hardin (Louisville) should provide needed depth in the outfield. And he expects the infield play to be strengthened with the addition of second baseman Abby Miller (Madison Central), first basemen Chelsea Wade (Polk County HS, Benton, TN) and Lauren White (Union), third baseman Dominique Mapp (Newton County) and short stop April Boyd (Adams Christian, Natchez). Hill stated that most of the catching duties will be in the capable hands of freshman Jennifer Smith, a product of Newton County High School.

In addition to being a talent-laden squad, Hill said this year's

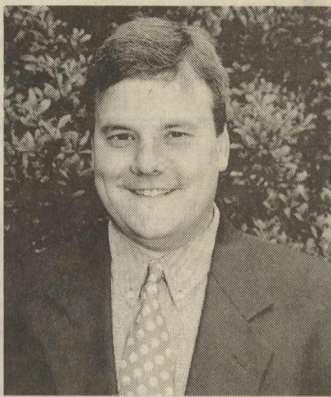
group has "depth and versatility."

"The first thing that I noticed about this team is that we have some depth. We also have a few players that can play a number of different positions. As a coach, it is always comforting to have depth and versatility."

Regarding the outlook for this year's squad, Hill stated: "We feel we can be competitive in our league. If we stay healthy and play with some intensity all season, we should compete well in our (central) division."

Hill also hopes the Lady Warriors will again draw a lot of fans for each game.

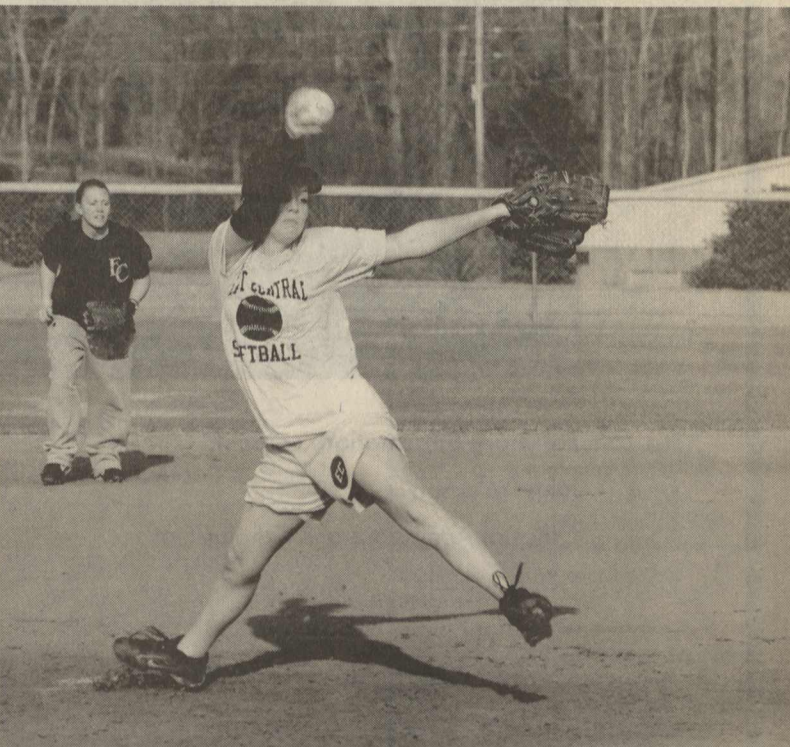
"We were very pleased with our following last year, which played a tremendous role in our success. I hope we can continue to attract a big following this season. It should prove to be an



Scott Hill

exciting year," he stated.

Serving as student assistants are A. Momit Abi Bell of Philadelphia, Justin Copeland, Josh Cumberland and Wesley McGee, all of Neshoba Central, and Ben Melton of Leake Academy.



East Central's Lindsay Walker winds up a pitch during a recent fast-pitch softball practice.

Military Helps East Central Sophomore Succeed in College and Medical Field



EC sophomore Sgt. Rick Lachney studies slides in the biology lab to help prepare for a career in nursing.

Sergeant Rick Lachney, a member of the 1st 204th Air Defense Artillery in Newton and a sophomore at East Central Community College, graduated from Newton County High School in 2001 not knowing if he had what it would take to attend college. But after enlisting in the military and completing basic training, he found he had a new motivation to give it his best try. "When I graduated from high school, I didn't have a really great GPA," said Lachney. "It wasn't that I didn't want to go to college, I just didn't think I could. I didn't realize what I was capable of. After I finished basic training and graduated from the Army's combat medic school, it motivated me to become a nurse. So I enrolled at East Central."

His plans are to complete his associate's degree at East Central and earn his bachelor of science in nursing at MUW (Mississippi University for Women) in Columbus. He eventually wants to become a nurse anesthetist.

Lachney completed his medic training at Brooke Army Medical Center at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas, where he was a member of the first 91-W graduating class.

Lachney explained that the 91-W is the army's new "health-care specialist."

"They did away with the old medic program and added eight weeks to the curriculum, making EMT certification and two weeks of hospital clinicals mandatory," he said.

He began his education at East Central in 2002, but his unit was activated a short time later so college had to be put on hold.

"We were mobilized to provide air defense for Washington, D.C., President Bush's ranch in Crawford, Texas, and the G8 Summit in Georgia," Lachney said. "I was the only medic activated. I was there in case anyone was injured and I also taught First Aid classes and did volunteer work at a hospital at Fort Bliss." There was a time during his

training that Lachney had to question whether or not he could work in the medical field all of his life.

"I was at Brooke Army Medical Center during clinicals and the first patient I had was a guy that had shot himself in the heart. I was only supposed to be observing, but because of circumstances, I had to give chest compressions. He died 10 seconds later. I really had to question if I wanted to do that the rest of my life. It was scary. I knew it wasn't my fault that he died. He shot himself in the heart. But I still questioned myself."

Although there was a time he questioned his calling, Lachney said he has always known he wanted a career in the medical field.

"Both of my grandmothers and my aunt are nurses. I used to go with one of my grandmothers when she worked in the Home Health field. And my other grandmother was the school nurse at East Central for many years. I knew even as a kid that I wanted to work in the medical field. I love the curriculum," he said.

Not only did enlisting in the military help Lachney decide on a career, it also made college classes easier for him.

"A&P (Anatomy and Physiology) was kind of a breeze because we had already crammed a lot of that information in during combat medic school," he said. "And I'm sure the experience in First Aid will help during nursing school. Compared with basic training, college classes are easy. And the experiences and work ethic make it all worthwhile."

Although Lachney spent months serving his country in Washington, Texas and Georgia, there is the possibility that he could be activated again.

"There is a good possibility that I will have to go overseas at some point," he said. "They are

short of medical help. But I try not to think about that. I pray a lot and know that God is in control whatever I have to do."

Besides his parents, Valerie and Blane Lachney of Tunica, La., there is at least one other person who doesn't like to think about Lachney going off to war: his wife, Dinah (the former Dinah Howell-ECCC class of 2004). The couple married during their freshman year at East Central.

"After I was activated last time, we really had to get to know each other again. She doesn't like to think about me having to go overseas, but she supports me totally."

Military ties run deep in Lachney's family.

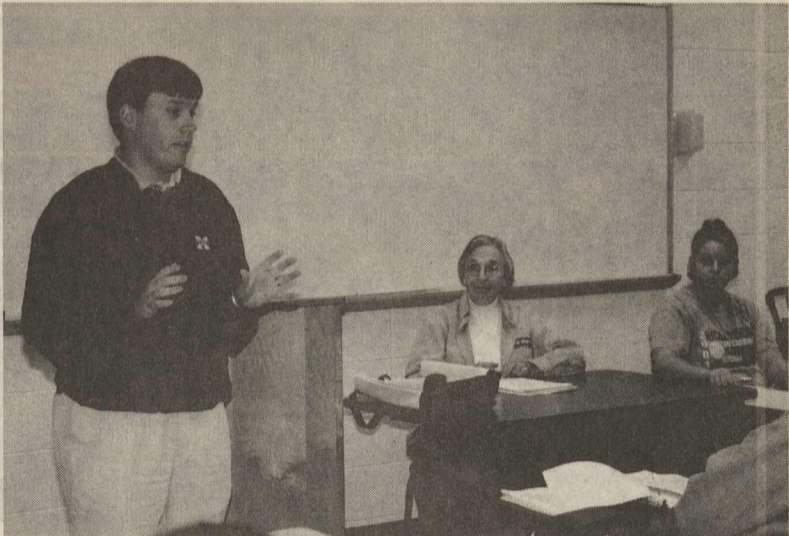
"Almost every man in my family joined the military at some point," Lachney said. "My grandfather was in the Navy and my dad and uncle recently spent time with the Army National Guard in Afghanistan. My mother's brother was a Marine. There is military service on both sides of my family."

Would he join again? "Definitely. Being away is incredibly hard. You can't understand until you have to be away from home and know there is nothing you can do about it. But my experiences have been great. And there is pride in knowing that you are serving your country."

Mark Your Calendars!

Business, Education and Healthcare Expo

April 14, 2005
Brackeen-Wood Gymnasium



Gregory Speaks to ECCC Students

Bart Gregory, field representative for the Mississippi State University Bulldog Club, recently spoke to East Central Community College students enrolled in Lucille Wood's physical education, sports and recreation class. Gregory discussed various occupations available in the sports field and stressed the importance of communication. "To be successful in whatever field you choose, you've got to be an effective communicator," Gregory told the students. Gregory, a Winston county native, is a 1997 ECCC graduate. At right is Miss Wood.

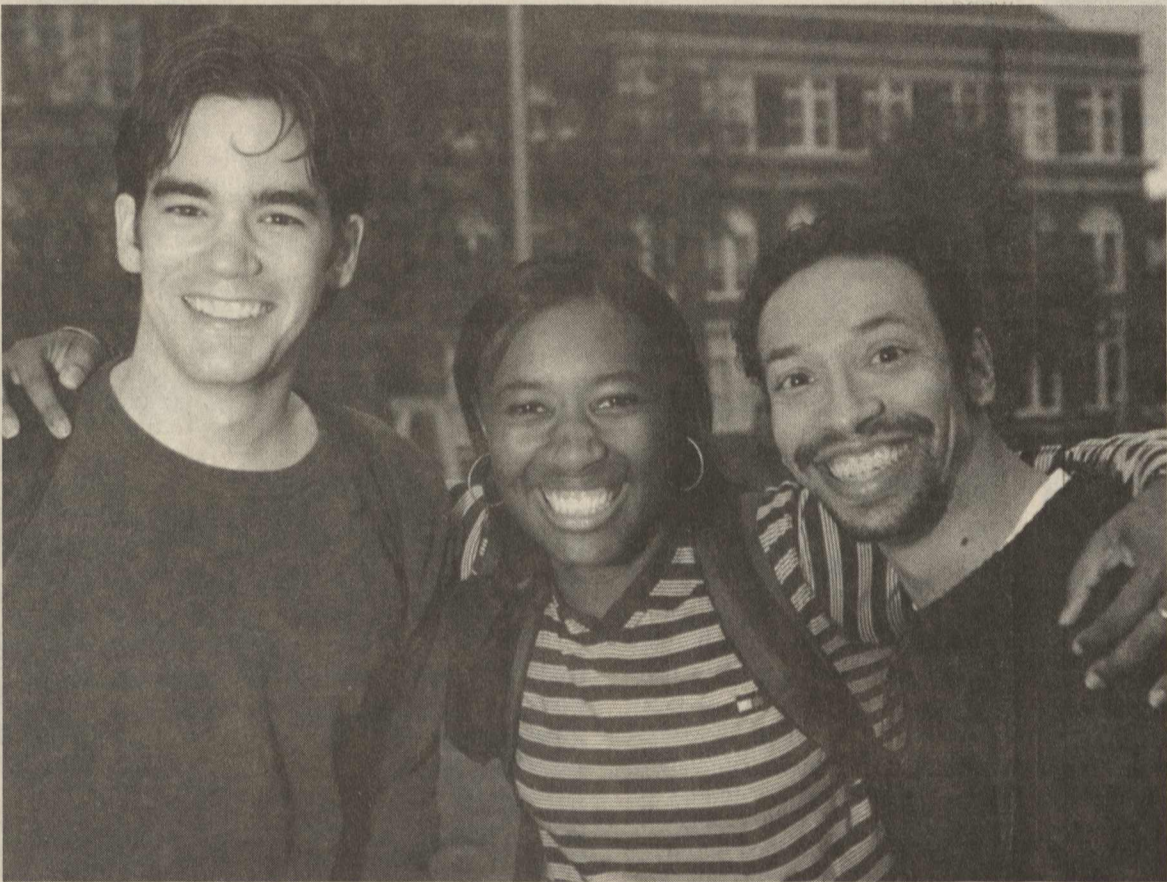


ECCC Student Receives Scholarship

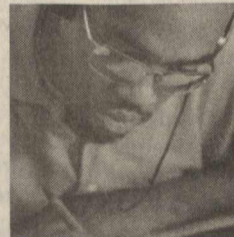
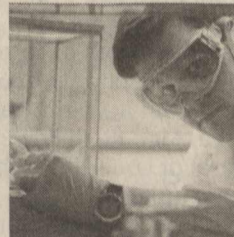
Christmas came a little early for Letha Mae Carter (left) of Union, a nontraditional student at East Central Community College in Decatur, who was presented a \$500 scholarship award for the 2004-05 term from the TeleSouth Communications, Inc./Fred's Second Opportunity Scholarship Program. Carter, a freshman liberal arts major, is a graduate of Neshoba Central High School. She is shown with Joe Killens, ECCC Vice President for Student Services.

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Office of Admissions and Scholarships
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Mississippi State, MS 39762-6334
662-325-2224 662-325-1MSU (fax)
jrd72@msstate.edu



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Priority consideration will be given to community/junior college transfer applicants who submit the Admissions and General Scholarship Application by April 1, 2005. Credentials review will continue on a funds-available basis. You may qualify for one or more of the following scholarships:

Community College Phi Theta Kappa Scholarship, \$3,200 over two years

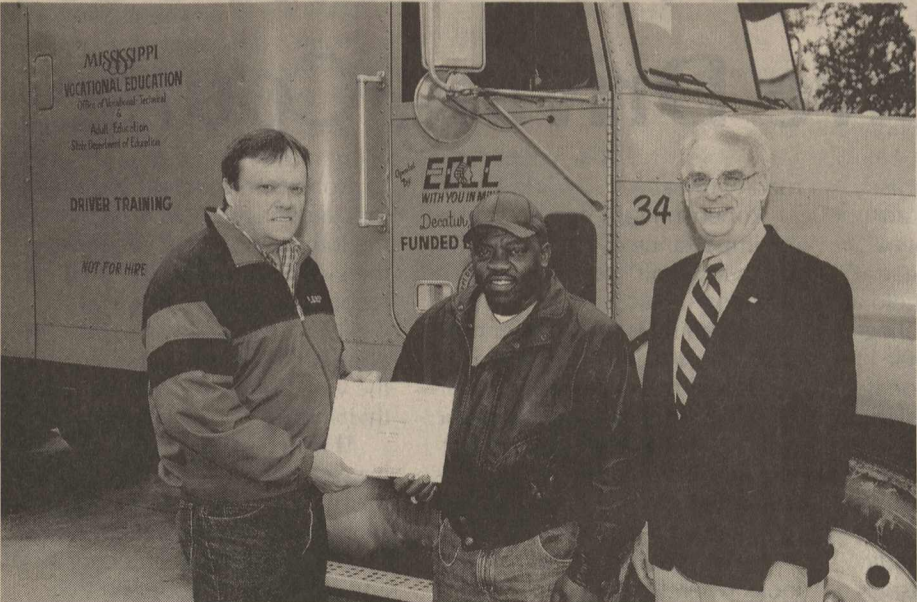
Community College Recognition Scholarship, \$1,600 over two years

Phi Theta Kappa All-Mississippi Academic Team Scholarship, \$1,000 over one year

Presidential Partnership Scholarship, \$800 over one year

At Mississippi State, we believe the college you choose is more than just a school—it becomes your home, your place. We'll help you find it here.

ECCC Truck Driving Student Posts Perfect Score On Exam



Jerry Brantley (center) of Forest recently completed the eight-week truck driving program at East Central Community College by posting a perfect score on the written and driving tests. Brantley is shown receiving his truck driving certificate from program instructor Michael Reeves (left). Also pictured is ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

Ever since he was a young child, Jerry Brantley has wanted to be a professional truck driver, following in the footsteps of his father. Brantley not only realized his childhood dream, but did so with flying colors. The 46-year-old Forest resident is the first ECCC student to post a perfect score on the truck driving exam after completing the eight-week program at East Central Community College. Brantley, who's spent more than two decades as an electrician after graduating from the College's electricity program in 1985, was recently hired by Star Transportation in Flowood and is in the process of completing additional training with the company. He will soon be on his own, driving an 18-wheeler to various locations across the country. Making a career change was a not an easy decision to make, Brantley commented, but he knew the timing was right. "When I was younger and the kids were small, I needed to make more money so I went into the electrical field and opened my own business (Jerry's Fixit

Shop). I've made a good living as an electrician but now that the kids are grown, I decided it was time to do what I wanted and pursue my childhood dream of being a professional truck driver," Brantley said. Brantley began taking classes in November, making the approximately 65-mile round trip to the Decatur campus Monday through Friday. Classes are held from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., with the first two weeks spent in the classroom and the remaining four weeks on the road or at the off-campus site, referred to as the "yard," located near the Newton County Livestock arena. Although Brantley zipped through the exam with ease, he admitted the eight-week course is not easy, especially the "driving" part. "That (driving an 18-wheeler) was the most difficult for me. There's a whole lot involved when handling an 18-wheeler and a lot you have to know. It's especially tough going through traffic. But I made it through the program, thanks mainly to my instructors (Pete Copes and Michael Reeves)," Brantley

stated. Copes serves as classroom instructor and Reeves is responsible for training at the "yard." "They don't come any better than Mr. Copes and Mr. Reeves. I would insist that anyone who wants to go into trucking, come to East Central," Brantley stated. Instructors were also complimentary of their prize pupil. "I wish all our students were like Jerry," Reeves said. "He's a good listener and pays attention to detail. He will do very well as a truck driver." Added Copes: "We've offered the program here at EC for nine years and Jerry is the only student

to make a perfect score on the exam. Jerry has obviously set a record that won't be broken here; it might be tied, but never broken!" In addition to support received from his instructors, Brantley also received encouragement from his wife, Shirley. "Had it not been for her pushing me, I might not have completed the program. The old saying, 'behind every good man is a good woman,' is very true in my case. She is also very proud of me," Brantley stated. Brantley's wife is an USDA inspector for Lady Forest Farms. They have four sons, two of whom are currently serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom, and one daughter. Sammy Harris, 28, resides in Sunflower County and is in the construction business. Vincent Harris, 27, is in the Army serving his second tour of duty. Jeremy Brantley, 24, lives in Newton and works at La-Z-Boy South, Inc. Sherell Brantley, 21, is in the Navy. Their daughter, Crys-tal Brantley, 23, attends college in Virginia. "My sons are also proud of



Jerry Brantley sits in the driver's seat of the 18-wheeler utilized at ECCC for the College's truck driving program. Brantley was recently hired by Star Transportation in Flowood and following a training period will be operating his own rig – a childhood dream come true!

me and very supportive. Their support has been very helpful, along with a lot of praying to the good Lord. Believe me, I've done a lot of praying to help me get through this course!" Brantley exclaimed. Although truck driving will now be his main business, Brantley pointed out that he will still be doing electrical work on weekends when he has time. "And if I get tired of being on the road, I can always go back to electrical work," he stated. But for now Brantley is focused on his new truck driving career. And when he finally completes all the required training and takes the wheel for the first time on his own, he'll probably recall the days he rode with his father, Edward Brantley, who drove for Gilco, Inc. in Forest. "We went all over Mississippi

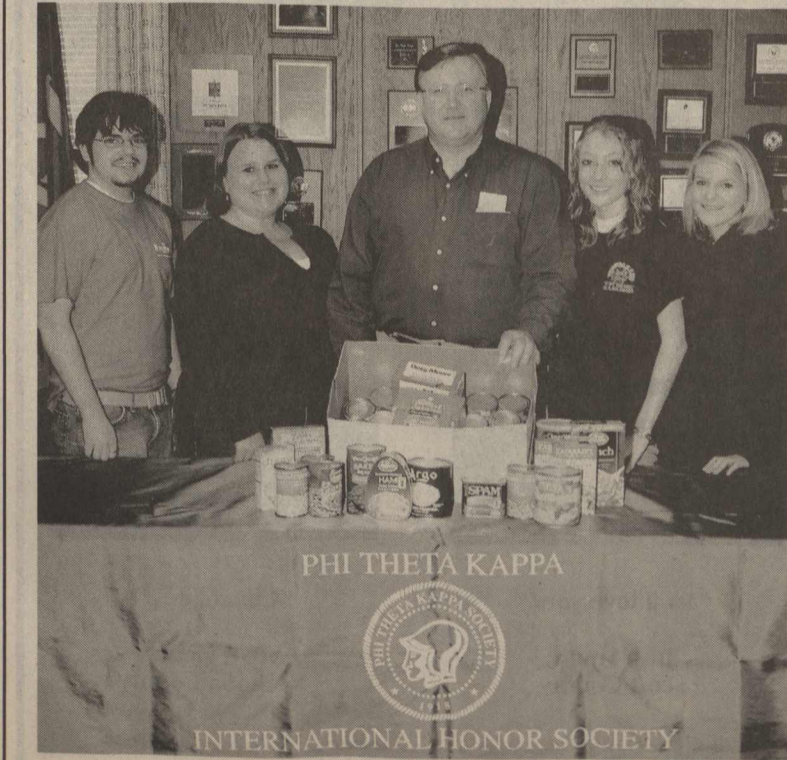
delivering eggs and equipment," Jerry recalled, "and had a great time. I guess that's why I wanted to be a truck driver . . . to be like my dad." Now that the elder Brantley is semi-retired and works part time, maybe Jerry will return the favor and have his dad join him for trips across the country. "That would be great," Jerry replied. "Yes sir; that would really be great." For more information about the ECCC truck driving program, contact Chris Clark, workforce development coordinator at the College's Workforce Development Center, Phone 635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 245. The email address is ccclark@eccc.edu.



ECCC Truck Driving Program Participants

Looking forward to successfully completing East Central Community College's commercial truck driving program are the above participants who are shown with program instructors. Front row, from left are Teresa Clemons of Philadelphia, Terri Estes of Newton, Jerry Brantley (recent graduate) of Forest and Lee Fikes of Vossburg. Back row, from left, are Pete Copes, instructor; Joe Lee of Forest, Alex Langdon of Union, Lonnie Ward of Philadelphia and Michael Reeves, instructor. Not pictured is evening class instructor Sammy Holdiness. For more information about the eight-week program contact Chris Clark, workforce development coordinator, ECCC Workforce Development Center, Decatur, MS 39327, Phone 635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 245.

Students Provide Food Items for Needy



A box full of canned goods and other items were recently donated to the Neshoba County Baptist Center in Philadelphia by members of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, at East Central Community College. Mike Smith (center), Center director, is shown receiving the items from (left to right) Brian Sibley of Newton, student body association president; Ginger Vance, Decatur; Shana Smith, Union; and Ashley Nicholson, Chunky. ECCC faculty members Debbie Boyd and Sylvia Wright serve as Theta Xi advisers.

It's My Mississippi Too!

By LYNLEE HEALY
Special to The Tom-Tom

East Central Community College is a great school with great opportunities. East Central not only focuses on academics and athletics, but on many different widespread organizations. The East Central Environmental Club is one of them. In the Environmental Club, we set our goals high towards keeping our campus and highways clean. When we start to venture out, we certainly know how to get down and dirty, but at the same time, we know how to respect and appreciate God's wonderful creation that he has privileged us with. Without Him, there would be nothing! Each year, ECEC attends

certain events that teach us to have a fun time helping improve our environment. These activities include Mississippi highway cleanups, canoe trips, visits to the University of West Alabama Control Burn to enhance Black Prairie inhabitants, working with the Nature Conservancy on the Pascagoula River and the Gulf Coast, working with the Audubon Society at Strawberry Plains near Holly Springs, a trip to Ship Island and many more productive trips that we are looking forward to this spring! Our main focus and purpose in ECEC is to expose students all over campus to many different environmental issues that are overlooked every day. We truly love keeping God's creation clean and we hope that you will do the same. Thank you and remember to recycle!



Members and friends of the East Central Environmental Club prepare for a canoe trip, one of many activities the club sponsors each year. Pictured are (from left) Sharon Lejeune (sponsor), Rachel Edwards, Krystle Hunter, Chris Fisher, Robin Johnson and Joe Johnson (sponsor). (Submitted Photo)

Registration Set February 28 For Cake Decorating Class

Tips on cake decorating will be available beginning Monday, February 28, 2005, when a six-week class gets underway at East Central Community College. Registration for the special interest course is scheduled at 6 p.m. in the Gold Room of Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Classes meet from 6 to 8 p.m. on successive Mondays through April 18 with Joy Munn serving as instructor. Cost is \$50 to take the class, which is limited to 25 students.

Participants who want to pre-register for the class must pay in advance. For more information contact the Office of Adult of Continuing Education, East Central Community College, P. O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327 or Phone 635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 278/279. The email address is mdavis@eccc.edu.

Ask SIFE: Answers to your financial questions.

Dear SIFE,
I am interested in buying a house and financing \$100,000. Should I borrow with:
1) an interest-only loan.
2) a 5/1 ARM loan.
3) a 15 year fixed loan.
4) a 30 year fixed loan.
I am so confused with all of the options. Help please!!
House Hunter

Dear House Hunter,
Well let's do the math.
1) An interest-only loan is a cheaper interest rate than some other loans, but you are building no equity in your home. At a 4.68% rate the payment will be \$390/month, but in let's say, five years there is no equity in your home – you still owe \$100,000.
2) A 5/1 ARM loan is a loan where the payment is based on a 20 year payout but the interest rate is only locked in for 1 year and the loan is only good for 5 years. At the end of 5 years you are at the task of refinancing the balance. But in this option, you do build some equity. At the end of 5 years at the going rate of 4.5% - assuming the rate remains 4.5% for the entire 5 years, you will have an equity balance of \$8,839.00 – leaving you with a balance of \$91,171 to refinance. The payment on this option is \$507/month
3) With the 15 year fixed the payment is considerably higher at \$790/month, with the rate of 5.0%, but at the end of 5 years the equity is \$25,000 and the principle remaining is \$75,000.
4) With the 30 year fixed the payment is \$577/month at 5.33% but the equity at the end of 5 years is \$7,460, leaving a principle balance of \$92,540.
(All interest rates were taken from Bankrate.com)
Now which option does SIFE think is the best? If equity is your goal, and in most cases it is for homeowners, then option three is the best. You have the shortest time to pay off your home and you are building equity at the same time. If you say to this, well I cannot afford this payment (the highest of the four options) then SIFE's advice is to look at a less expensive home.

Dear SIFE,
How much liability insurance do I need to carry on my vehicle?
Careful Shopper

Dear Careful Shopper,
In the state of Mississippi it is law that you do have to carry liability insurance on any vehicle you drive. The limits are different from state to state on the minimum amount. But the minimum amount may not be enough to cover you if you cause the accident. I will use a quote from an insurance professor at MSU, "You can't afford to buy enough liability insurance for your vehicle." This is true due to law suits, but we suggest at least a combination of \$500,000 per vehicle.
Dear SIFE,
How can the United States Government stop the free trade with China and the fact that so many items here for sale are from China and other foreign countries?
Concerned Citizen

Dear Concerned Citizen,
There is need for concern from you and all of us in the United States, but the way to stop this influx of foreign goods into our country is up to us, the consumer. As long as we spend our money and purchase these goods and services, the more they will supply. Below is some data from the trade deficit of the month of November, 2004.
The United States exported (sold to foreign countries) \$94.5 Billion dollars worth of goods and services.
The United States economy imported (bought from foreign countries) 155.8 Billion dollars worth of goods and services. That gives our country a \$60.3 Billion dollar trade deficit for the month of November, 2004.
What does all of this mean? It means that in one single month of last year, we sent \$60,300,000,000.00 dollars more to other countries and we will never see that money again. How do we stop this? Easy!! Make sure that you check labels and buy Made in the USA whenever possible. It is truly that simple!!
Thanks for your questions. We hope that we helped with the advice. If you have a question about any money matters please send them to Mrs. Wanda Hurley, sponsor of SIFE (you can simply slide any question under the door – Newton Hall, Room 64), or give to any SIFE member.



Provide Books for ECCC Program

Students in East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, recently presented various children's books for use in the College's tutorial program. From left are Brian Sibley of Newton, student body association president; Ginger Vance, Decatur; Katie Sparkman, service learning coordinator; Shana Smith, Union; and Ashley Nicholson, Chunky. Sparkman's office is responsible for coordinating ECCC's after-school tutoring/mentoring program for kindergarten through eighth-grade students. ECCC faculty members Debbie Boyd and Sylvia Wright serve as Theta Xi advisers.

Eggler Interns With EC Public Relations Staff

By BRADLEY COOK
Tom-Tom Editor

Next time you happen to swing by the Public Relations department in the corridor of Huff Auditorium, you just might see a bright new face to the campus of East Central Community College. That bright face belongs to Diana Eggler. Eggler is currently a junior at Mississippi State University in Starkville and is majoring in Public Relations. Diana will spend the spring semester in an intern program with ECCC's Public Relations department. She became interested in public relations after graduating from West Lauderdale High School and spending two years at Meridian Community College. While at MCC, Diana served as the president of the Activities Board and was a member of CORE Performing Group. She also had a lead role in the Meridian Little Theater production of "Chicago."

She is currently a member of the Activities Board at Mississippi State University and recently entertained at the MSU Maroon and White pageant. What makes public relations interesting to Eggler? "Through my activities during high school and at MCC, I became interested in working with different people and advertising companies." Thus far, Eggler has had no complaints about working at East Central. "Everyone has been really friendly. The people have been great. I look forward to meeting new people and I look forward to working here throughout the semester." After graduation, Eggler would like to work with an advertising agency or a major university in a student life position. She also plans to complete her master's degree. What advice does Eggler have for a perspective Public Relations student? "Start early. Be sure this is what you want to do and get all



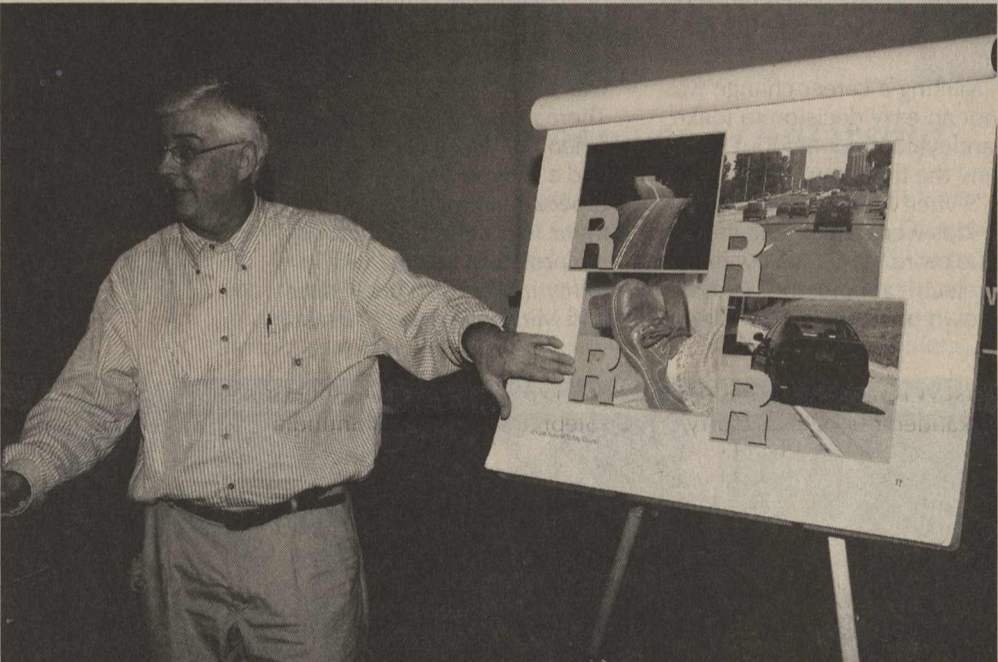
Diana Eggler of your classes in. Try to intern somewhere. Interning will give you experience for jobs later on down the road," she said. So next time your in the area, stop by and say hello to Diana Eggler, a new intern on campus. She will be glad you did.

College Serves As Site For Defensive Driving Course

Teenagers as well as adults who receive traffic tickets can have those violations removed from their records by taking a Defensive Driving Course held at East Central Community College. The award-winning course was developed by the National Safety Council and is provided by Mississippi Safety Services. Classes are held once a month on Thursdays from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. in Newton Hall, Room 60. The next class is scheduled Thursday, February 10. Additional classes are scheduled March 10, April 14, May 12 and June 9. Cost to take the class is \$35. Billy Robertson of Philadelphia, who serves as class instructor, said "accident prevention" is the main focus of the four-hour course, which includes a video presentation. "We teach awareness, safety and provide information on what drivers are responsible for while behind the steering wheel. We also talk about the number of people injured and killed each year in traffic accidents and how alcohol and drugs affect driving ability," said Robertson, who serves as fleet safety officer for the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians and teaches defensive driving courses on the Reservation. In addition, Robertson said he discusses emergency maneuvers such as dealing with a skid, avoiding a head-on collision and how to get the best use from anti-lock brakes. He points out how dangerous 3,000 pounds of glass, rubber and steel is going down the road. "That's basically what a vehicle is - 3,000 pounds of glass, rubber and steel," he reiterated. "And if you have an irresponsible driver behind the steering wheel, there's no telling what that car is going to do. We have to look out for the other drivers on the road with us."

Robertson said he also stresses the importance of "staying within the speed limit" during his presentation. "Speeding is the number one cause of collisions," he noted, "and for drivers age 15-24, speeding is the leading cause for collisions and death," a fact that gets the attention of class participants, he says, most of whom fall into that age category. "We get some interesting looks when I mention that fact, especially when the discussion is about how alcohol and drugs affect people when they are operating a vehicle. Robertson said discussions about cell phone use are also included in his presentation. "We get some interesting conversations on cell phone use - a lot of positives, a lot of negatives and some think it just does not matter. The state law does not say anything about cell phone use while operating a vehicle. What Mississippi law says is anything that distracts a person while operating a vehicle is against the law, and we try to make students aware of that fact," he stated. "And that's some of the basic things we discuss in teaching the class," Robertson explained. "It's very important for people operating a vehicle to know what their responsibilities are and what they should or should not be doing when they've got the steering wheel in their hands."

Robertson said traffic violations under age 21 who complete the four-hour course can have the violation removed from their record and the fine is waived as well. Those over 21 who take the class still have to pay the fine but the violation is not included on their record. The Defensive Driving Course is used nationwide for approximately 1.5 million drivers each year. Older drivers, age 55 and older, may also take the course and receive a discount on their auto insurance premiums. Employers also use the course for employees who utilize company vehicles, and parents opt to have their teens take the class to be better prepared for the hazards of driving. "This is life-saving information for drivers of all ages," said Kay Brodbeck, executive director of Mississippi Safety Services, which provides the class in nearly 60 locations throughout the state. "Mississippi has the highest traffic death rate in the nation and most crashes are preventable when the driver uses the right strategies. It's especially sad that Mississippi has the highest rate of spinal cord injuries due to traffic crashes. This class is protection for everyone." For more information, call Mississippi Safety Services, Phone 601-924-7815 or call toll free, 1-800-257-2338.



Defensive Driving Class instructor Billy Robertson of Philadelphia explains the four R's (Read, Right, Reduce and Ride) during a recent class meeting held on the East Central Community College campus.

Placing Ribbons for Cancer Victims

Colorful ribbons in memory or honor of cancer victims are shown being placed on a Christmas tree at East Central Community College by President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and members of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges. Approximately 200 ribbons at \$1 apiece were purchased by College personnel and students and placed on the tree, located in the lobby of the W. Arno Vincent Administration Building. Proceeds from the Theta Xi-sponsored activity will be sent to the American Cancer Society. Pictured with Dr. Sutphin are (clockwise from left) Ginger Vance of Decatur, Shana Smith of Union, Courtnee Graham of Preston and Ashley Nicholson of Chunky. Debbie Boyd and Sylvia Wright serve as Theta Xi sponsors.



Spring Management Workshops Scheduled

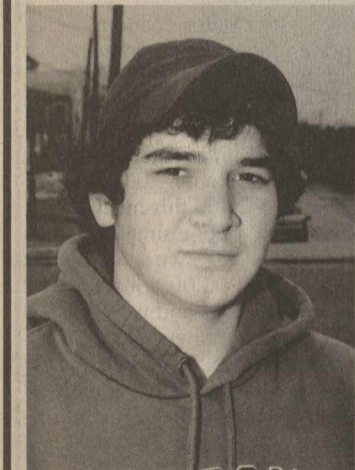



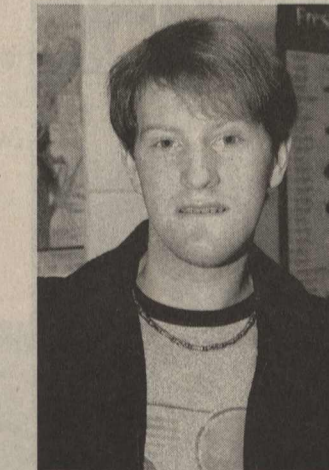
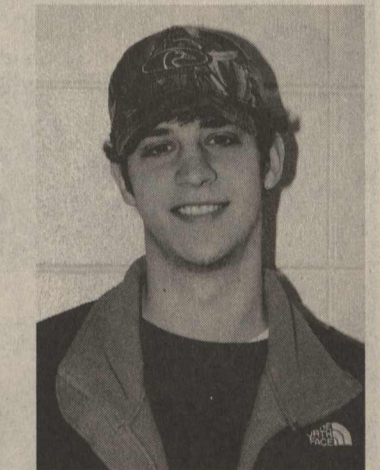
By DIANA EGGLER
Special to The Tom-Tom

Work related problems will be the focus of the 2005 spring workshops at East Central Community College. Beginning February 22, the College will hold sessions with topics related to communication essentials, interview skills, time management, sensitivity training and stress management. The sessions will be held on Tuesday evenings from 4:30 to 6:30 in room 48 of the Associate Degree Nursing Building and on Thursdays in room 15 of the ADN building from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Leading the sessions will be Chris Harris, ECCC Work-Based Learning Coordinator. The series of workshops begins on Tuesday, February 22 and Thursday, February 24 with Communication Essentials, followed by Resume Writing on March 1 and 3. Additional offerings include Interview Skills-March 8 and 10; Stress Management-March 22 and 24; Time Management-

March 29 and 31; Conflict Management-April 5 and 7; Strategies for Success-April 12 and 14; Basic Supervision-April 19 and 21; Sensitivity Training-April 26 and 28; and True Colors, a personality workshop-May 3 and 5. Certificates of completion will given at the end of each session. This series of campus workshops are free and open to the public. For more information contact Harris at 635-2111, ext. 305, or toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 305.

Student Survey: What do you expect from your sweetheart on Valentine's Day?

By: Brian Sibley and Stephanie Culpepper, student photographers

 <p>"Lots of good lovin'."</p> <p>Cody Eure Scott County</p>	 <p>"Kisses and chocolates."</p> <p>Jason Long Leake County</p>	 <p>"Flowers and jewelry."</p> <p>Tasha Cole Lauderdale County</p>	 <p>"A balloon and a hug."</p> <p>Beth Richardson Neshoba County</p>	 <p>"An 'I love you.'"</p> <p>Josh Smith Scott County</p>	 <p>"Chocolates."</p> <p>Scott Fieber Neshoba County</p>
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East Central Announces 2004 Fall Semester Honor Roll

Students named to the 2004 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 Donna Luke, Director 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:

CARTHAGE: Julie K. Debord, Stacy Lynn Hathorn, Chasity M. Odom, Jodie L. Rawson, Lee Ann Rawson and Shirley Mae White;

CHOCTAW: Diana Tehauno Hickman;

CONEHATTA: Sharon E. Griffin and Weyman E. Reece;

DECATUR: Betty Louise Belvin, Kristin Michelle Bufkin, Heather Lynn Clearman, Juston L. Dean, Sarah Drue Hickox, Karla Joi Moody and Jeffery David Wilson;

ENTERPRISE: Ginger E. Richards;

FOREST: Mary Sawana Jones and Kristie Lynn Usry;

HICKORY: Jeania Little Clayton, Kurt Lindsley Nelson and Virginia Marie Walker;

KOSCIUSKO: Alexa Monique Carr;

LAKE: Thomas Christopher Anderson, Mollie Samantha Cieglo, William L. Dooley, Chamblee Even Snell, Leeana E. Stiltner and Jarrod Austin Street;

LAWRENCE: Robert Charles Hardy and Cassie L. Jacobs;

LENA: Kellyn LeeAnn Moss;

LITTLE ROCK: Bradley A. Cook, Henry Tyler Hagan, Jessica Leigh Sheehan and Lindsay N. Walker;

LOUISVILLE: Ama Jean Burns, Michael Douglas Gregory, Kevin Gene Gregory, Jaimee Nan Jones, Anthony Novak Stanford, Heather Gwenay Steele, Sarah Frances Stevenson and Antonia Raynee Torres;

LUMBERTON: Sarah L. Himebrook;

MADISON: Mary Abby Miller;

MERIDIAN: Katherine Claire Stinson;

MORTON: Kimberly Anne Coley and Alicia Purvis Gatlin;

NEWTON: Jessica Lindsey Alexander, Bobby Jean Curry, Laine D. Dickson, Rose Evans Kelly, Johnny S. Martin, Amanda Kay McMillan, Samantha Leigh Merrill, Darren Jamiel Reed, Mary Thrash Vega and Kimberly Charmaine Walker;

NOXAPATER: Rachel Leigh Edwards;

PELAHATCHIE: Chasaty Crowder Sherman;

PHILADELPHIA: Joshua Darrell Benson, Sonya M. Bondie, Cindy Eakes Bryan, Carla Lee Chamblee, Joshua Kent Cumberland, Emily D. Hill, Danny J. Johnson, Priscilla A. Lee, DeAna Evans Morrow, Meagan Marie Myers, Shonda L. Nowell, Jodi Kelley Partridge, Misty D. Phillips, Vivian Seales, Ashley Nicole Tolbert, Brenda Pirkle Tullis, Tanya L. Watkins and Cecily Chantell Zaffar;

PRESTON: Cynthia Hailey Moody;

QUITMAN: Nicole R. McCree;

SEBASTOPOL: Daniel E. Madden; and

UNION: Ashley Skylar Allard, Lauren Elizabeth Beckham, Tonya Shea Belk, Elizabeth A. Bennett, Clancy Lessine Cleveland, Beth A. Crotwell, John Ashley Franklin, Joshua F. Garrett, Lori Annette Horton, Tina Edwards Morgan, Joanna K. Page, James Casey Shackelford, Brant Andrew Winstead and Brooklyn N. Winstead.

DEAN'S LIST

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

BAILEY: Curtis L. Hudnall;

BAY SPRINGS: Mikel L. Pittman;

BRANDON: Scott Allen Duett and Jimmy Wayne Smith;

CARTHAGE: Courtney Danielle Barrett, Shalia Ann Beamon, Leslie JoAnna Daugherty, Amanda Diane Dowell, Kathryn Elizabeth Faulkner, Brandon R. Lang, Danny Ray Moore, Wanda Suzanne Shannon, Crystal Diane Tull and Timothy T. Wilcher;

CHOCTAW: Nikki Shaun Comby and Warren Lee Isaac;

CHUNKY: Jason Kelly Alford, Joy Kristina Cavenaugh and Laya Loper Johnson;

CONEHATTA: Courtney Diana Averett, Felicia DeAnn Carey, Kathleen May Chitto, Vicky Ordoyne Davis, Angela Denise Farve, Jaquetia Santana Lampkin, Laura Boykin Morrow and Melissa Meagan Pace;

DECATUR: Kristy Gardner Clark, Ty Aline Dowden, Monickala Shontreal Ellis, Brandon Martin Ezell, Becky McMullan Garrison, Richmond P. Lachney, Jarel Blake Lanier, Victoria Joy Loper, Daniel Nathan Marshall, Lori Ann McMullan, Denise Nicole Parker, Diego Andres Perez, Misty Ann Smith, Heath Herndon Smylie and Christopher Ryan Weaver;

COLLINSVILLE: Michael Chad Murphy and Henry Blaine Chesney;

ENTERPRISE: Lauren N. Jones and Sharon King;

FOREST: William David Black, Neal Davidson Callahan, Andrew Chambers, Tracy Robinson Curry, Phatosha Toshmean Derrick, Jeana Leanna Foreman, John David Gatewood, Matticia N. Graham, Emily Elizabeth Massey, Marcia K. McMillan, Roberto A. Orellana, Jessica Elizabeth Puckett, Megan Elyse Slay and Sara Lee Stiles;

HARPERVILLE: Christopher Lamar Shuler;

HICKORY: Lisa Bates Parker;

KOSCIUSKO: Shannon Elizabeth Brock;

LAKE: Blair LaNae Anderson, Stephanie K. Griffin, Shundra LaNiece Holloway, Melissa Hollingsworth McCombs and Kimberly Jo White;

LENA: Joshua Lance Brown, Tonia Michelle Pearson and Misty LeAnn Pigg;

LITTLE ROCK: Richard Ivan Burton, Kristin DeAnne Chaney, Andrea L. Chesney, Phillip C. Dean, Laura Ann Foreman, Brandi Sue Griffin, Alisha Shepherd Hitt, Micah Lewis Lanier, Paul Matthew McMahan and Jerry Devon Pinson;

LOUISVILLE: Andrew Larry Addikison, LaRita Antionette Bates, Deidre Ann Coleman, Andre Coleman, Sandra Anita Cooper, Dru Catherine Fulton, Rosie Holmes Harris, Daphanie Marie Hatcher, Amy Lauren Hathorn, Amanda Nicole Hemphill, Faith Michelle Hennessee, Jordan Denson Kemp, Amy Lauren Mayo; Brittany Denise Miles, Marty Steven Quinn, Ronda G. Stroud, Frances C. Warmack, Stanton Ward Smith and William Joshua Weaver;

MCCOOL: Nolan Jackson Burchfield;

MERIDIAN: David C. Bayles, Walter Bunyan Fillingane, Leslie Marie Johnson, Kimberly Denise Johnson, Oumbashi Ottajaw Petersen, Jered Thomas Ridings and Benjamin Colburn Snyder;

MORTON: Amy R. Ealy, Kyle T. Gordon, James Ryan Harris, Daniel Gordon Herring, Tynei

sha N. McDonald, Kimberly N. Weems and Tanya Sanders West-erfield;

LAWRENCE: Kotreecce Annette Bender, Austin Bonds, Sharon Elaine Brown, Lindsey Marie Clanton, Kasey Michelle Hall, Jonathan Jacobs, Casey Brianne Nelson, Cody Lee Savell and John Thomas Shellenback;

NEWTON: Cynthia Renee Boose, Cynthia Denise Campbell, Shari Akins Cooper, Kelli Rae Evans, Valerie Ann Gibbs, Casey Joe Griffin, Marlo Danielle Hollingsworth, Keith L. Johnson, Brooke Allison McMillan, Pamela Arrington Norman, Wilford Eugene Scoggin, Torey Gail Simons, Amanda Marie Therrien, Christopher Scott Walker and Connie McCune Walker;

NOXAPATER: Cody Ryan Coward, Bridget Hindman Jordan, Joshua Cane Swindle and Brenda Ann Wellbrock;

PHILADELPHIA: Cyril Kane Amos, Heather N. Baine, Tehona Liz Bell, Lindsey Nell Bostick, Kimberly L. Brazzle, Shan Carol Chaney, Rachel Leigh Chap-pell, Erica A. Clemons, Tywon Rontrice Davis, Benne Joe Der-tinger, Kevin Lee Fedrick, Ava Watkins Files, Kimberly Rachelle Fitzhugh, Russell Giambrone, Katie Marie Hancock, Clinton D. Howell, Jennifer Ellen Johnson, Ahlshia Johnson, Marjay Har-ison Jones, Jami Gayle Jones, Zachary Tyler Kilpatrick, Theresa Nicole Land, Sylvia D. Majure, Thomi Suzanne McGeisey, Narell Domini Monroe, Paul Martin Moss, Brent Dale Nance, Belen-chia J. Payne, Aristotle Duane Phillips, Joshua Pigg, Elizabeth Charlene Prewitt, Brittnei Rebecca Ray, Victoria F. Reese, Thomas Dwight Rushing, Jason Sand-ers, Jana Elizabeth Sansing, Tina Agent Savell, Marissa Unsharell Shannon, Felicia Lynnette Sharp, Tiffany S. Stack, William L. Tingle, Anna Kathryn Waltman and Troy Dale White;

PRESTON: Brandi Danielle Durant and Kristin Nichole Spears;

PULASKI: Tiffany N. Jones;

QUITMAN: Stacia L. Young;

SEBASTOPOL: Michelle Lynn Jackson;

STURGIS: Ashley N. Clark;

TAYLORSVILLE: Toney Lee Edison;

UNION: Rebekah I. Crenshaw, Amy Nicole Dolan, Ashley Dawn Franklin, Marvin Eli Goss, Jeremy Hamm, Clinton M. Harmon, LaSaundra Cherelle Harrison, Aubrie Elise Howell, Shanna Russell Jones, Christopher Elbert Rush, Christy Ann Savell, Marley Ann Smith, Zach M. Staton, Rachael Latham Sullivan, Natalie Tillman and Jeremy M. Tolbert;

WALNUT GROVE: Kathryn Elizabeth Barney, Helen Bolton Brown, Veronda Amy Fortune, Loretta Gates and Clay Daniel Thrash;

ALBERTVILLE, ALA.: Justin Paul Mullinax;

TUSCALOOSA, ALA.: Joshua James Curry; and

WASHINGTON, D.C.: Chiquilia Nicole Wardell;

HONORABLE MENTION

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

ASHLAND: Victoria Leoniashae Goodman;

BAILEY: Samantha Jeanette Partridge;

BAY SPRINGS: Gloria B. Bishop and Daniel Jonathan Wood;

CARTHAGE: Jonathan G. Belk, Lacey D. Brantley, Carol Brown, Alex C. Dixon, Kristyn Brooke Dorman, Erica Dan Farve, Jada M. Hamm, Jason Robert Hannis, Joshua Dwyane Hayes, Stewart Warren Hoy, Dustin Lynn Johnson, Zachary Clay Joiner, Nicholas Brock Kendrick, Amber Kristin Ladner, Jimmy Earl Lepard, Jason Brett Long, Jerry Antonio Luckett, Andrew Dwight Martin, Stephanie Nicole May, Gina Cain Nazary, Carrie Ann Nolan, Randy Kern Peoples, Randy G. Sanders, Crystal Denise Scott, Christopher Caleb Shepard, DeShun L. Smith, Kim Annette Smitherman, Hyman C. Stovall, Steven Alexander Thornton, Perry Shermaine Truss, Clemetine Vivians, Megan Lee Williamson, Kimberly Satcher Withers and Betty White Dyess;

CHOCTAW: Jamaica Lynn Hernandez and Alan Christopher Martin;

CHUNKY: Matthew Aaron Culepper, Susan Hurst Maxwell, Ashley Leigh Nicholson and Rachel Ann Quillen;

COLLINSVILLE: Robert Wayne Eason, Jeffery Scott Gordon, Michael Allen Hardy, Gloria C. Hearn, Lashawn Terrell Houston, Holly Barrette Jackson and Gregory Maurice McDonald;

COLUMBUS: Kimberly Carletta Wilson;

CONEHATTA: Ron Levelle Anderson, Kimberly Denise Anderson, Victoria Dawn Billy, Anya Grace Dickerson, Ashley Kaye Hillman, Mallory Joyce Shu-make, Jenna Breann Tubby, Bryan Keith Williamson and Clifton Ray Willis;

DECATUR: Lisa Massey Adkins, Josh Charles Avant, Jamie Blackburn, Obreisha Saquita Davis, Angelia Harper Donald, Stacy Jolly Douglas, Bethany L. Garrison, Allison Danielle Gressett, Robin Grimes, Haley Brooke Harris, Kristina Danielle Harrison, Yvonne Terriann Kidd, Veronica Hall Larkin, Timothy J. Lockley, Ryan M. Loper, Domi-nique Carol Mapp, Derek Devon Mapp, Darryl Levon Mapp, Angela Marie Massey, Meghan Dee Moulds, Taylor Wade Nich-ols, Terrie C. Scott, Elizabeth Wiggins Smith, Kristen Leigh Thomas, James Reeves Tucker, Ginger Michelle Vance, Bradley Patrick Walton and Erin Autumn Yelverton;

DEKALB: Roxann Tenekie Ellerby, Andrew McCloud, Har-ington; Charles Redden Millsaps and Christopher Shanon Ryals;

ENTERPRISE: Floyd W. Fowler and David Lee Prewitt;

FLORENCE: Ramona Harvey Stokes;

FOREST: Tammy Renae Baldwin, Karen Channele Bates, Christy Renee Bell, Todrick Jabbar Body, Kristy R. Bounds, Larry Kyle Brantley, Buster Brogdon, Randall Tyler Cahoon, Keli Suzanne Craft, Cassie Michelle Edwards, Larry Bernard Evans, Jessica Kristen Fairchild, Megan Tabitha Harrell, Ashley Nichole Harrell, Jamieshia Nicole Hawkins, Joshua G. Hawkins, Blake Harrison Hines, Courtney Jo Hollingsworth, Amy Carol Kennedy, Brian Patrick Lindsey, Teresa Brown Lofton, Jason Alexander Lopez, Erica Faye McMillan, Amy M. McMil-lan, Pharen Ambrya Nelson, Calvin Orlando Patrick, Holly E. Reeves, Jewel D. Robinson, Tina M. Sanders, Joseph Amon Shelley, Lance Marquain Sigrest, Joshua C. Smith, Rachel Dewana Smith, James S. Smith, Shena Michelle Snow, Shelia Marie Spivey and Leslie Kathryn Stewart;

HICKORY: Ricardo Jovan Alcantar, Shelly Ferguson, Jef-frey Warren Laird, Lucas W. Little, Kellie Jo McGee, Miranda Suzanne Neese, Jennifer Caitlin Smith and Ackana Ja'Na Wesley;

KOSCIUSKO: Jasper Andre Gant;

LAKE: Roshanda Tatyo Butler, Kara Rachelle Clark, Kathy Carr Emmons, Lawanda Yvette Harris, Jennifer Hughes Hill, Frances Emmons Johnson, Charles Brad-ley Palmer; Roxana Maria Rogers, Brian Waltman and Mary L. Wil-liams;

LAWRENCE: Morgan Kyle Craven, Jennifer Renee Harris, Shane Aaron Johnston, Shatwaka Darvesha Ooten, Rachel L. Ste-phens and Mandy Hammons Wilson;

LENA: Crystal Gale Hughes, Apryl Johnson, Richard Erik Latham, Brandi A. Patterson, Milshea Shantez White and Sarah Lynn York;

LITTLE ROCK: James Patrick Burke, Suzanne Nicole Chaney, Daniel Randolph Munn and Alex Scott Smith;

LOUIN: Yvonne Davis and Ocie Andrew Smith;

LOUISVILLE: Lindsey M. Clark, Alven Ahmon Coleman, Jeffery Deshun Davis, Brenda Triplett Hannah, Erica Dany-elle Hardin, Dalphelia Miller

Hathorn, Christie Renae Haynes, Larae J. Hemphill, Donna Michelle Hopkins, Ryan Lacardiss Hudson, Krystle Nicole Hunter, Teresa Anne Jenkins, Delisa L. Jenkins, Justin Kyle Jones, Alan F. Krajewski, Joshua Nelson Palmer, Anna Alissa Price, Anthony Scott Prior, Zachary O'Neal Richard-son, Tim E. Rogers, Jonathan C. Stokes, Kendrick Moncrief Triplett, Roy Brandon Wood, Kristy Dickerson Woodruff and Lindsey Wright;

LUCEDEALE: Jon Mark Maxie;

LUDLOW: Alisha Marquetta Perry;

MADDEN: Rachael Katrina Thaggard;

MARION: Don Joseph Larson;

MERIDIAN: Ryan K. Boykin, David John Holliday, Sheila Christine Jackson, Lynn R. Mauldin, Ryan Edward Stew-art, George Frankly Stockman, Tabitha Renee Thomas, Leo Walk and Daniel Wayne Warren;

MORTON: John Ross Harris, Samantha R. Landon, Joshua Alan Kelley, Phillip Greg Mangum and Jennifer Elizabeth Vance;

NATCHEZ: April Nicole Boyd;

NEWTON: Christopher Alex-ander Cooley, Ronald Gene Foley, Evelyn M. Hill-Lindsey, Wade B. Hollingsworth, John Anthony Kidd, Misty Leigh Mayes, Quintisa M. Moncrief, Carri Posey Myers, Stephanie Marie Pace, John Lucas Poole, Kayla Denise Reece, Stephanie Lorraine Robinson, Sonia M. Rodrigues, Brooke Bohl Tullis and Michael Maurice Wash;

NOXAPATER: Corey Adam Coward, LaShara Stevenson Jones, Jacqueline Graham Miller, Matthew L. Reynolds, Kevin Loyd Roark and Nicholas Keane Rob-inson;

PETAL: William Christopher Pierce;

PHILADELPHIA: Jessica Michelle Alford, Stefanie Erin Ammerman, Teawanna Ander-son, Jonni Diane Anderson, India Backstrom, James Eric Beckham, Matthew E. Bell, Jonathan T. Booker, Latosha Renee Boswell, Mildred Denise Brazzle, Jamika Zabronzaye Brown, Merle Willis Bryan, Nakecia Renee Buckley, Daniel Lee Cain, Hope Lyman Chadwick, Rachel E. Chapman, Gabriel Lee Chickaway, Katie D. Chunn, Lori Denise Cogh-lan, Adrienne M. Coleman, Lela Brooke Cumberland, Brian M. Dunn, Theresa R. Edwards, Brian C. Emerson, Justin Matthew Eubanks, Scott Anthony Fieber, David Lynn Fulcher, Richard Dewain Goldman, Holly Wilson Hardy, Lindsay R. Herrington, Lauren Hillman, Lisa Jean Holley, Dominatrix Franchesca Hunter, Lee Wayne Johnson, Brandy Jones, Heather Holley Kelly, Jimmy Clark Kight, Brett Thomas Latimer, Corey Daniel Logan, Robert Justin Lovern, Summer Jade Lovern, Vanessa Marie Manning, Emily Reagan Melton, Benjamin Alan Melton, Ron Nathanael Moore, Rhonda Fox Moore, Alexander Scott Moore, Joel Edsel Morris, Alexis Moneek Nichols, Tegan Renee Pettis, Jes-sica L. Porter, Paige Lynn Posey, Kirstin DuBose Posey, Tena M. Reynolds, Theresa Frances Savell, Erin Elizabeth Smith, Carl Benja-min Spence, Latisa Shanyell Stew-

art, Stormy Lynn Taylor, Steven Mark Thomas, Kevin Dwight Tindol, Adrienne Lenore Tubby, Kayla Marie Tullis, Elizabeth A. Tullis, Shawnty Nicole Vaughn, Traci Cornelius Walker, Shannon Danae Wallace, Ashley Coleman White, Joshua P. White, Miranda McDonald Williamson, Tiffany Shonique Willis, Elyse L. Willis and Dustin Jay Wilson;

PORTERVILLE: Jashemia Shan-tana Cherry;

PRESTON: Courtnee D. Graham, Melissa Burton Mayo, Elizabeth Ann Richardson, Julie Ann Richardson and Shamra S. White;

PULASKI: Jennifer N. Elliot, Billy Paul Embry, Stephanie Michelle Hord, Terry Edward Ingle and Lacey D. Trout;

QUITMAN: Christine M. Blue and Lora M. Shepherd;

SEBASTOPOL: Jennifer Lynn Allen, Gary Williams Barton, Ryan Guy Kennedy and Tekeyla Lyles;

SHUBUTA: William Preston James;

STONEWALL: Emmett Randle Southern;

STURGIS: Joel Keith Edwards and Gary Hampton;

TAYLORSVILLE: Olivia P. Barnes;

UNION: Lou Ann Averett, Dana R. Boone, Carol Cooksey Bradley, Madison Grace Brantley, Letha Mae Carter, Jessie Chunn, Melissa Ann Eshee, Luke Ben-jamin Howell, Kristi M. Keene, Lindsey M. Knight, Staci Jones Mann, Jammie L. Mason, Heather Dickerson Mathis, Andrew Scott McDaniel, Allison Brooke McDaniel, Dustin Clint Mott, James C. Nelson, Quincy Patrick, Hali Elizabeth Rainer, Billy Rouse Reynolds, Carrie Leann Rowzee, Shana Michelle Smith, Lacie L. Stephens, Jannie R. Talley, Treas-ure L. Vance, Casey Le'Ann Warren, Lauren Elizabeth White, Tabetha D. Willis and Krystal S. Winstead;

VOSSBURG: Gregory Deshawn Cooley;

WALNUT GROVE: William Grant Comans, Amanda McClure Davidson, Susan Beckham Ellington, Mark Anthony Engram, Felecia Mae Gill, Christopher D. Jones, Joseph Andrew Latham, Aaron B. Marcum, Linda Griffin Monk, Jason Price and Harvina Fayenette Weathers;

WAYNESBORO: Lykisa Ken-nett Cooley;

WIGGINS: Sarah Elizabeth Lawson;

MANSFIELD, LA.: Joshua Ste-phen Miller;


WATSON, LA.: Ross Tyler Pine; and

TUSCALOOSA, ALA.: Ray-shawn Smith.

ECCC Spring Musical

“Little Shop of Horrors”


April 21-23



2005 Lady Diamond Warrior Fast-Pitch Softball Schedule

February	April
Mon., 21 MS Delta Home 1 p.m.	Wed., 6 Hinds Away 1 p.m.
Thurs., 24 Co-Lin Away 1 p.m.	Fri., 8 Coahoma Home 1 p.m.
March	Tues., 12 East MS Home 3 p.m.
Tues., 1 Jones Home 3 p.m.	Thurs., 14 Pearl River Away 1 p.m.
Thurs., 3 MS Delta Away 1 p.m.	Sat., 16 Holmes Home 3 p.m.
Sat., 5 Gulf Coast Home 11 a.m.	Wed., 20 Meridian Away 2 p.m.
Mon., 7 Co-Lin Home 1 p.m.	Sat., 23 Hinds Home 11 a.m.
Thurs., 10 Jones Away 1 p.m.	Tues., 26 Coahoma Away 1 p.m.
Tues., 22 Gulf Coast Away 1 p.m.	Sat., 30 East MS Away 1 p.m.
Thurs., 24 Pearl River Home 1 p.m.	May
Tues., 29 Holmes Away 3 p.m.	Fri.-Sun., 6-8 State/Region Championship
Thurs., 31 Meridian Home 3 p.m.	

2005 Diamond Warrior Baseball Schedule



February	Co-Lin	Home	2 p.m.
Wed., 9	Jones	Home	1 p.m.
Sat., 12	MS Delta	Home	1 p.m.
Tues., 15	Gulf Coast	Away	1 p.m.
Thurs., 17	Northeast	Home	1 p.m.
Sat., 19	Itawamba	Away	1 p.m.
Tues., 22	Coahoma	Home	1:30 p.m.
Thurs., 24	MS Delta	Away	1 p.m.
Sat., 26	Jones	Away	2 p.m.
Mon., 28			
March			
Tues., 1	Pearl River	Home	1 p.m.
Sat., 5	Southwest	Home	1 p.m.
Tues., 8	Coahoma	Away	1:30 p.m.
Sat., 12	Itawamba	Away	1 p.m.
Thurs., 17	Northeast	Away	1 p.m.
Sat., 19	Southwest	Away	1 p.m.
Tues., 22	Co-Lin	Away	1 p.m.
Fri., 25	Holmes	Home	1 p.m.
Wed., 30	East MS	Home	1 p.m.
April			
Sat., 2	Meridian	Away	1 p.m.
Tues., 5	Hinds	Away	1 p.m.
Sat., 9	Co-Lin	Away	Noon
Mon., 11	Southwest Tenn.	at Delta State Univ.	3 p.m.
Wed., 13	Holmes	Away	4 p.m.
Sat., 16	East MS	Away	4 p.m.
Tues., 19	Meridian	Home	1 p.m.
Sat., 23	Hinds	Home	1 p.m.

East Central Coach To Receive ‘Pie in the Face’ For Cancer

Either East Central Community College head football coach Terry Underwood or baseball head mentor Jake Yarborough will soon have pie thrown in his face and a spouse will be the guilty party.

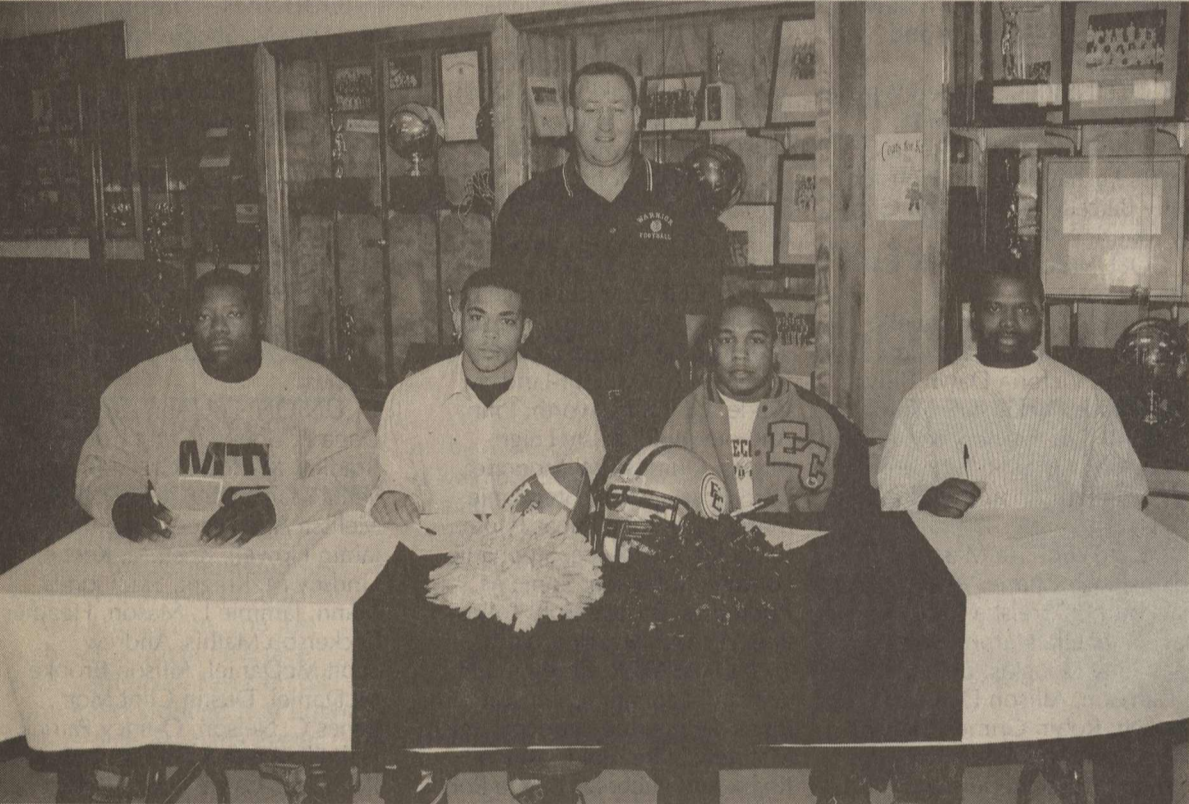
No, it's not a domestic dispute between each couple, nor does it have anything to do with each coach's work schedule, which sometimes goes well into the night.

It's all about fighting cancer, and the public is encouraged to participate in this worthwhile (and no doubt fun!) activity, which is scheduled during halftime of the Lady Warrior basketball game with Meridian Community College on Monday, February 21 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus.

Event organizer Stacey Hollingsworth, who serves as captain for ECCC's Relay for Life team, explains details for the charity fundraiser:

"Cheerleaders will collect contributions designated for Coach Underwood and Coach Yarborough at the game, and the coach with the most money will get a pie in the face thrown by the his wife (either Carrie Underwood or Kim Yarborough). It's going to be a lot of fun and I hope we will have a great turnout at the game. All proceeds go to the American Cancer Society."

For more information contact Stacey Hollingsworth, administrative assistant, Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations,



ECCC Warriors Moving On

Ready to continue their athletic careers with four-year programs are the above East Central Community College football players who signed letters of intent on early signing day December 15 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus. From left are defensive lineman Henry Smith of Aliceville, Ala., who signed with Texas A & M University in College Station, Texas; strong safety Toney Edison of Collins, who inked with Nicholls State University in Thibodaux, La.; tailback Darryl Mapp of Decatur, a Newton County High School product, who signed with Southern Nazarene College in Bethany, Oklahoma; and fullback/linebacker Justin Ficklin of Morton, who is transferring to Bacone College, located in Muskogee, Oklahoma. Standing is ECCC head football coach Terry Underwood.



ECCC Football Players Continuing Careers

These East Central Community College football players are continuing their careers at four-year colleges and universities after signing the dotted line on National Signing Day February 2 during a ceremony in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are defensive lineman/linebacker Mantrell Ashford and his brother, strong safety Derrell Ashford, both of Louisville, who signed with the University of North Alabama; wide receiver Derrick Harris of Union, Jacksonville State University; free safety Robert McNair of Florence, University of North Alabama; and (standing from left) offensive lineman Derrick Cleveland of Newton County, Belhaven College; tight end Cameron Tawater of Philadelphia, Mississippi College; defensive lineman Michael Johnson of Newton County, Mississippi College; and tight end/defensive end Willie Hickmon of Lake, Mississippi College. Not pictured are strong safety Cedric Gray of Lake, who also signed with Mississippi College, and Sed Eichelberger of Noxapater, a Murray State (Kentucky) University signee.



Speak to ECCC Student Education Association

Joyce Luke (second from left), Newton County Elementary School media specialist, and Leah Walker (third from left), Newton County Elementary School third grade teacher, spoke to members of the East Central Community College Student Education Association about the teaching profession. Also pictured are SEA members Kristen Thomas (left) of Decatur and Darlene Moore (right) of Forest. Lucille Wood serves as sponsor.



ECCC Art Scholarship Recipients

These students recently received art scholarships to continue their education at East Central Community College. Recipients of art service scholarships, valued at \$350 (1/2 tuition) per semester, include (from left) Sandy Guess of Union and Megan Harrell of Forest. Those receiving academic art scholarships, valued at \$700 (full tuition) per semester, include (third from left) Chris Shuler of Harpersville and Even Snell of Lake. Also pictured is art instructor Bruce Guraedy.



Raytheon Donates to ECCC Programs

Students in electronic technology and electrical technology at East Central Community College are enhancing their skills in soldering thanks to a recent donation from Raytheon Systems, Inc. in Forest. Raytheon has provided 36 soldering stations, 14 work stations and three microscopes to both programs, all of which "are greatly needed and appreciated," according to Wayne Eason (seated at right), dean of career and technical education at the College's Bradford J. Tucker Applied Technology Center. Shown with some of the new equipment are (seated from left) electronic technology instructors Jim Blackburn and James Clark, Eason; (and standing from left) Raytheon representatives Barbara Bagley, operations planning and control manager and Steve Coleman, operations assembly manager.



Presents Flag to ECCC

Fans at East Central Community College basketball games have a new American flag to salute thanks to the generosity of alumna Tammy Barham (left) of Decatur, who made the donation in honor of her father, retired Marine Master Sergeant Gwendol Barham, also of Decatur. Mr. Barham, a former ECCC employee, is shown presenting the flag to ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin. The new flag, which measures 8' x 12', is displayed on the north wall in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building and replaces a smaller flag that hung above mid-court. Ms. Barham is a 1982 ECCC graduate.

ECCC Lady Warriors Continue Win Streak

Shannon Lloyd pumped in 15 points and Kristin Chaney added 12 to lead the East Central Community College women to their fifth straight win, a 61-55 decision over Copiah-Lincoln Community College Thursday night on the Wesson campus.

With the victory, the Lady Warriors improved to 13-6 overall and 5-3 in South Division action. Co-Lin is also 5-3 in the division and dropped to 12-7 overall.

EC scorers in addition to Lloyd, a product of West Lauderdale High School and Chaney, a former standout at Newton County, were Tierra Young of South Leake, 10; Kotreece Bender of Newton, nine; Kim Cox of Lake, seven; and India Backstrom of Neshoba Central and Sara Judice, a product of Teurlings Catholic School, Lafayette, La., four each.

The Lady Warriors led 33-25 at halftime.

In men's action, the Warriors were outscored 79-70 by the host Wolves and saw their record dip to 5-14 and 2-6. Co-Lin improved to 13-6 and 7-1.

EC point makers were Ryan Hudson of Louisville, 15; Tawon Walker of Neshoba Central and Garrick Nichols of Thomastown, 11 each; Andre Coleman of Louisville, seven; Coshune Bingham of Newton, six; Terrance McNichols of Gautier, five; Pierre Barlow of Scott Central and Jacques Jones of Forest, four each; Andrew Lewis of Morton, three; and Ricardo Alcantar of Newton County and Chavlon Ellis of South Leake, two each.

East Central held a 33-32 advantage at the break.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors will host Gulf Coast Monday night and entertain Jones County Thursday night. Both squads travel to Hinds on Monday, February 14. Monday night games can be heard on KICKS 98 (98.3) with veteran broadcaster Melvin Wooten calling the action. The ECCC/Jones matchup has been designated as "Warrior Club Appreciation Night."



THE TOM-TOM

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Kristin Chaney



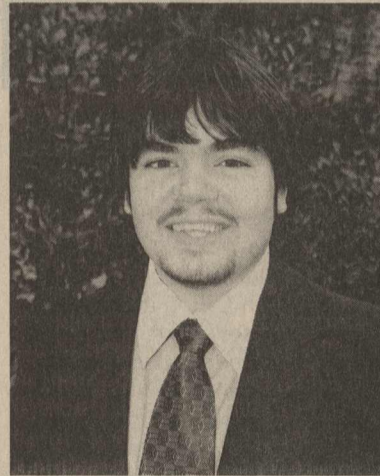
Ashley Clark



Amy Ealy



Lee Anne Rawson



Brian Sibley



Marley Smith

Six Named to East Central Community College Hall of Fame

East Central Community College in Decatur recently observed its annual Awards Day ceremonies where numerous students were honored, including six students who were named to the College's Hall of Fame, the highest honor presented at the two-year institution.

To be considered for this honor, students "must demonstrate exemplary character, superior scholarship, worthy leadership and contribute to the betterment of East Central Community College," according to Dr. Phil Sutphin, College president.

Hall of Fame inductees for 2004-05 include Kristin Chaney of Little Rock, Ashley Clark of Sturgis, Amy Ealy of Forest, Lee Anne Rawson of Carthage, Brian Sibley of Newton and Marley Smith of Union.

Chaney is a graduate of Newton County High School and the daughter of Ricky and Brenda Chaney of Little Rock. A Dean's List Scholar, she was named to *Who's Who Among American Community/Junior Colleges*.

She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, the Lady Warrior basketball and soft-

ball teams and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. She was selected a 2nd Team All-American honoree in softball her freshman year and received the same selection in basketball her sophomore year, becoming East Central's first two-sport All-American. She received First Team All-Region and First Team All State honors in basketball and was named to the All-Region 23 Tournament Team both years. She was selected an All-Star following her sophomore season. She was chosen Newcomer of the Year her freshman season and was selected Team Captain.

Chaney was selected First Team All-State and All-Division in softball and was named ECCC's Most Valuable Player.

Those nominating her wrote, "Kristin is the prime example of the student-athlete. She is a winner in every aspect of life. I would always want her on my team!"

Clark is a graduate of Starkville Academy and is the daughter of Dudley and Susan Clark of Sturgis. A Dean's List Scholar, she was also selected for *Who's Who Among American*

Community/Junior College Students.

She was selected vice president of the sophomore class, vice president of Mu Alpha Theta and secretary of Alpha Alpha Epsilon. In addition, she received the freshman mathematics award and serves as a student assistant for the Lady Warrior basketball team.

Clark is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, Diamond Girls, Wesley Foundation, East Central Environmental Club, Warrior Corps and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. She is also a member of the Baptist Student Union where she serves on the BSU Council and performs with a ministry team called "The Way."

Those who nominated Clark wrote, "She is a goal oriented person with the highest of morals. She is the type of young lady that I would hope my daughter would be."

Ealy is a graduate of Forest High School and is the daughter of Alexander and Willie Ealy of Morton.

She was selected Miss East Central Community College and was also named a freshman class favorite. She was selected as a

Homecoming maid her freshman and sophomore years and was named class secretary both years. In addition, she was selected for *Who's Who Among American Community/Junior College Students*.

Ealy is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, Gospel Choir, Baptist Student Union, Warrior Corps and the Centralettes, the danceline for the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band.

Those nominating her wrote, "Amy is one of those rare individuals who puts 110% into everything that she does. Students like Amy make working in education rewarding."

Rawson is a graduate of Carthage High School and the daughter of Gary and Rhonda Rawson of Carthage. A President's List Scholar, she was selected for *Who's Who Among American Community/Junior College Students*.

She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, Warrior Corps, Mu Alpha Theta, East Central Environmental Club, Wesley Foundation and Diamond Girls. In addition, she is a member of the Baptist Student Union, where she serves on the

BSU Council, directs the ministry team "The Way" and teaches Tae Bo classes.

Those nominating her wrote, "Lee Ann gives 100% in everything she does. She works hard to be a leader on campus and to represent EC well."

Brian Sibley is a graduate of Newton County Academy and the son of Henry and Martha Sibley of Newton. A National Collegiate Student Government Award Winner and Collegiate All-American Scholar, he was also named to *Who's Who Among American Community/Junior College Students*.

Sibley serves as president of the Student Body Association, treasurer of the Warrior Corps and is a sound technician for the Baptist Student Union ministry team, "The Way," and also serves on the BSU Council.

He is a member of Students Against Destructive Decisions, Recruitment and Retention Task Force, EC Alumni Association and Presidents Council.

Those who nominated him wrote, "Brian is possibly the busiest student on campus. He does an amazing job of juggling his

classes and his extra-curricular activities."

Smith is a graduate of Union High School and the daughter of Mark and Donna Smith of Union. A Dean's List Scholar, she was also selected to *Who's Who Among American Community/Junior College Students*.

She serves as co-president of the Warrior Corps and is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and the Newton County Relay for Life Team.

A member of the Lady Warrior softball team, Smith was selected All-State and All-Central Division and was named the Lady Warriors Best Defensive Player.

Those nominating her wrote, "Marley is a bright, responsible and intelligent young lady. She is fully committed to anything she is involved in. She sets goals for herself and does her best to accomplish them."

Photographs of these students will hang in the Hall of Fame collection in the lobby of Huff Auditorium.

See HALL, page 2

Commencement Ceremonies Scheduled May 13 in Warrior Stadium

More than 475 students are scheduled to receive diplomas Friday, May 13, 2005, when East Central Community College holds its annual commencement exercises beginning at 8 p.m. in Warrior Stadium on the Decatur campus.

Included in the total are those who completed degree requirements following the 2004 summer and fall terms, according to Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, Vice President for Instruction.

Sophomore Amy Ealy of Morton, a graduate of Forest High School, will deliver the commencement address.

Dr. Sparkman will present candidates for graduation and ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin will award degrees and certificates to the following:

CANDIDATES FOR MAY GRADUATION

Curtis LeShawn Hudnall and Samantha Partridge, both of Bailey;

Mikel Lee Pittman, Jason William Thigpen and Daniel J. Wood, all of Bay Springs;

Marvis L. Douglas of Canton; Kayla J. Atkinson, Akeinnis

A. Brown, Carol Marie Brown, Edna Collins, Charity Tubby Dixon, Betty Jean Dodd, Brooke Dorman, Loretta Lynn (Mingo) Frazier, Kari Denise Freeny, Jamie Dianne Gilmer, Jason R. Hannis, Kevin R. Hatch, Chance Davis Henderson, Lonnie Ray Henry, Donald Justin Ingram,

Lora Jayroe, Marcus Brandon Jenkins, Rebecca Jones, Ashley Luckett, Jerry A. Luckett, Sonja Mansell, Stephanie N. May, Matt McGowin, Tammy Burkes McMurphy, Danny Ray Moore, Gina Nazary, Chasity Odum, Randy Peoples, Jason Price,

Amanda W. Price, Lee Anne Rawson, LaDerry Reed, Dana Withers Roberson, Wanda

Suzanne Shannon and Perry Shermaine Truss, all of Carthage;

Tabatha Marlene Charlie, Shavon L. Willis and Simeon Willis, all of Choctaw;

Joseph Cavenaugh and Ashley Nicholson, both of Chunky;

Holly Jackson Barrett, Jeffery Scott Gordon and Michael Allen Hardy, all of Collinsville;

Lynlee Healy and Kimberly Carletta Wilson, both of Columbus;

Victoria Billy, Sharon E. Griffin and Weyman Reece, all of Conehatta;

Lauren Barrett, Gloria Buffington Bishop, Jami Blackburn, Kizzy Lucinda Caston-Miller, Heather Lynn Clearman,

Obreisha Davis, Juston L. Dean, Julie Kay DeBord, Angelia Donald, Ty Aline Dowden,

Brandon Ezell, Kristina Harrison, Michael Johnson, Neil Knight, Richmond P. Lachney, Timothy Lockley, Victoria J. Loper, Derek Devon Mapp, Billie S. McCune,

Jessica B. McDaniel, Karla Moody Sharli Amanda Moulds, Diego

Andres Perez, Kalena Y. Pippins, Kaleb A. Smith, Heath Hern-

don Smylie, Brad Sutphin, Brad Walton, Courtney Dorsett Willis

and Erin Yelverton, all of Decatur;

Thomas Boyette, Floyd Walton Fowler, Sarah Himebrook and

Carmelita Naylor, all of Enterprise;

Robert McNair of Florence;

Karen Chanelle Bates, William Black, Larry Kyle Brantley, Darrell

Ervin Brogdon, Buster Brogdon, Monica Patricia Esguerra, Larry B.

Evans, Jr., Stacy Thompson Harris, Brandon Harris, Veronica Har-

rison, Jamieshia Hawkins, Blake

Hines, Toccara Jones, Sawana

Jones, Amy Carol Kennedy, Casey

Lancaster, Beverly Ann McAfee,

Darlene Moore, Sophia Moppins,

Melissa Pilgrim, Jewellia Rochelle

Reid, April N. Robinson, Steven

Zachary Rue, Tina Sanders, Lance

Marguain Sigrest, Linda Lois

Spivey, Pamela Spivey, Leslie K.

Stewart and Lee Turner, all of

Forest;

Jeania Clayton, Shelly Fergu-

son, Shirley L. Hughes, Makesha

Y. Jones and Lucas W. Little, all of

Hickory;

Bradford David Walley of Hill-

sboro;

Mary Bolela of Jackson;

Alexa Carr, Ozzie McMurtry and

Gerrick Nichols, all of Kos-

cusko;

Thomas Chris Anderson, Blair

LaNae Anderson, Yzette B. Butler,

Kara Clark, Kimberly Cox,

Alice Ruth Donald, William Lee

Dooley, Kathy Carr Emmons

Cedric Gray, Jennifer Hunt,

Steven Kelly, Brandy B. McClen-

don, Roxana Rogers,

William Artie Shaw and Jar-

rod Street, all of Lake;

Kotreecce A. Bender, Demetrius

Evans, Shane A. Johnston, Shat-

waka Darvesha Ooten and Cody

Lee Savell, all of Lawrence;

Meco Bloodsaw, Michael

Bradley, Joshua Lance Brown,

Dorothy Janeen Kyzar, Richard

Erik Latham, Kellie Joyner Moore

and Kenneta Nichols, all of Lena;

Brooke Michele Bohl, Richard

Burton, Suzanne Nicole Chaney,

Kristin DeAnne Chaney, Bradley

Aaron Cook, Phillip C. Dean,

Paul Matthew McMahan, Matt

Christopher Rigdon and Jessica

Leigh Sheehan, all of Little Rock;

Ocie Smith of Louin;

Derrell Ricardo Ashford,

Benjamin J. Clark, Alvin Cole-

man, Jessica Nicole Davis, Alisa

Duncan, Jamison R. Eichel-

berger, Katesia LyShae Esters,

Dru Catherine Fulton, Aleatrice

Goss, Demetrice Goss, Rosie

Faith Harris, Daphanie Hatcher,

Shawn'ta Renee Hawthorne,

Bradley J. Hill, Veronica D.

Holmes, Donna Michelle Hop-

kins, Banita Y'tra Houston, Krystle

Niccole Hunter, Jordan Kemp,

Alan F. Krajewski, Amy Lauren

Mayo, Carolyn Mays, James R.

McMillin, III, Lakeshia Miller, Joni

Mitchell, Anna Price, Karquetta

Shanta Smith, Ronda Stroud,

Roger Wesley Thornton, Kendrick

Triplett, Chadrick Triplett and

Frances C. Warmack, all of Lou-

isville;

David Philip Duncan of Madi-

son;

Valerie A. Arrington, David

Christopher Bayles, Steven E.

Belvin, Ophelia Clay, Mildred

Cole, Walter Fillingane, David

John Holliday, KaTrina Nelson,

Dorothy Jean Price, Shawn

Ribble, Jered T. Ridings, Ryan

Edward Stewart, Tayna Williams

and Van Wilson, all of Meridian;

Kimberly Coley, Amy Renae

Ealy, Kyle Taylor Gordon, Daniel

G. Herring, Andrew Lewis

and Teresa Velma Sharp, all of

Morton;

Kacey Brooke Bender, Cyn-

thia Denise Brantley, Arjeanetta

Ann Cary, Valerie Ann Gibbs, Jay

Gipson, Casey J. Griffin, Wade

Benjamin Hollingsworth, Rose

Kelly, Hester Verlinda Knight,

Dominic S. Lewis, Johnny Martin,

Quintisa Moncrief, Precious

H. Moorehead, Carri Posey

Myers, Falind C. Pace, Latoya

Lashun Pugh, Dorothy J. Roberts,

Brian Sibley, Aaron C. Sibley

and Stephanie Wallace, all of

Newton;

Martha Boswell, Corey

Coward, John Creekmore, Rachel

Leigh Edwards, Angela Lyon and

Jacqueline G. Miller, all of Noxa-

pater;

Jessica Michelle Alford, India

Backstrom, Heather Bain, Lola

Barton Beckham, Joshua Darrell

Benson, Jason Blair, La'Quinta

Bonds, Tasha Boswell, Jona-

than Brand, Danny Cain, Marie

A. Campbell, Ashley Conn Carter,

Telly Carter, Pamela Patrice

Carter, Hope Chadwick, Carla

Lea Chamblee, Erica Clemons,

William E. Coghlan, David Brock

Cook, Robert W. Cotton, Tywon

Rontrice Davis, Bennie Joe Der-

tinger, Brian Emerson, Justin

Matthew Eubanks, Raquel Elaine

Farmer, Natasha Foster, Yolandra

Denise Hickman, Marjay L. Hick-

man, K. Bradley Hillman,

Julie Holley, Jonathan LaShun

Hudson, Ahlishia Johnson, Jenni-

fer Ellen Johnson, Jami G. Jones,

Brandy S. Jones, Heather Holley

Kelly, Priscilla A. Lee, Kimberlane

Lewis, Sheila Beckham Loper,

Robert Justin Lovern, Violet B.

Manning, LaTanya McDonald,

Linda R. McMillan, Alexander

Scott Moore, Rhonda Fox Moore,

Trinity Grant Morris, Brent D.

Nance, Erin Thrash Nowell,

Karen Partridge, Jodi Kelley Par-

tridge, Shane Patterson, Aristotle

Phillips, Debbie Poole, Victoria

Flame Reese, Josh Sansing, Vivian

Moore Seales, Marissa Shannon,

Shane Colby Sharp, Kimberly

Smith, Latisha Stephens, Latisa

Shanyell Stewart, Kevin D. Tindol,

See GRADUATION, page 2



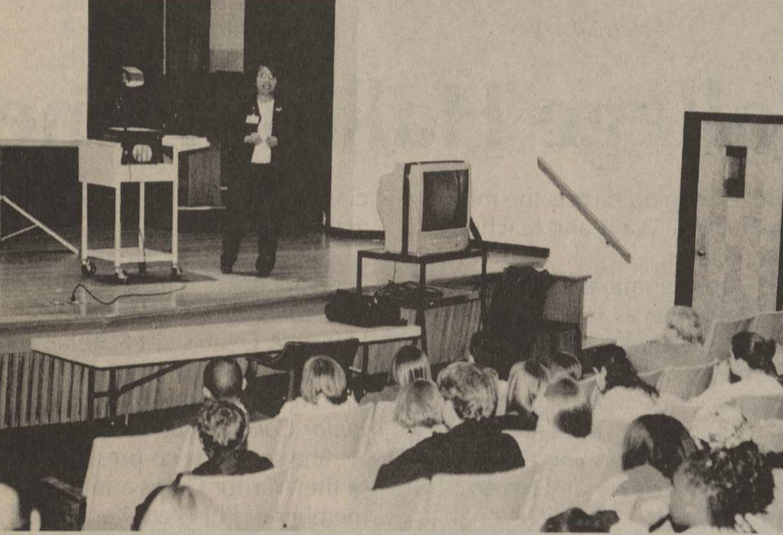
2005-06 SBA Officers

These students were recently elected to lead the Student Body Association at East Central Community College. Pictured are (from left) president Keely Morgan of Walnut Grover, vice president Joy Cavenaugh of Chunky, secretary Jammie Jones of Nanih Waiya and treasurer Clancy Cleveland of Union.



ECCC Intramural Softball Champs

“The Braves” took top honors in the intramural softball competition held at East Central Community College. Team members include (first row, from left) Jason Harris and Daniel Pilgrim, both of Edinburg and Caleb Cochran and Caleb Shepard, both of Carthage; (second row, from left) Jake McRaney, Carthage; Jeremiah Gillett and Joe Buck Peterson, both of Louisville; and Donovan Cooksey, Lake; and (third row, from left) Zac Richardson, Louisville; Chance Henderson, Carthage; and Michael Gregory, Louisville. Not pictured are team members Josh Hayes of Carthage, Clay Reynolds of Louisville and Allen Lanier of Lake. Scott Hill serves as director of ECCC intramurals.



Health Department Official Address Students

April York, disease intervention specialist with the Mississippi State Department of Health, recently spoke to ECCC students about sexually transmitted diseases. Her topics included causation, prevention and treatment. Approximately 75 students attended the program, which was sponsored by the Student Health Center.



Studying ‘The Cold War’

Phillip Crenshaw’s American History II class spent the day outside while studying The Cold War last week. The students learned about North Korea’s invasion into South Korea during June 1950. The students were allowed to decide what they would do if they were faced with the decision to drop an atomic bomb. (Photo by Diana Eggler, Public Relations intern.)

Creative Writing Winners

These students of Carol Shackelford’s Creative Writing class were recently recognized during the 2005 Mississippi Community College Creative Writing Association Student Writing Competition held in Natchez. Pictured are (from left) Bradley Cook of Little Rock, honorable mention in the Personal Narrative category; Misty Smith of Union, first place in Literary Analysis and honorable mention in Short Stories; and Rose Kelly of Newton, honorable mention in the One Act Play category.



Baptist Student Union Volunteers Spend Spring Break in Arlington, Texas, Witnessing To Others

By DIANA EGGLER
Public Relations Intern

Spring break is a time when most college students put down their books and head to some location where they can let their hair down and have a little fun. But for 24 East Central Community College students it was a time to reach out to others in need through a mission trip with the Baptist Student Union. The BSU has been participating in mission trips over the past 10 years and annually go on at least two missions – one during Christmas and another during spring break, according to Director Scott Vaughn. Vaughn said this year’s spring break mission trip was to Arlington, Texas, where students participated in an outreach program called “Rainbow Express.” The special project, which was initiated by Mission Arlington, targets area neighborhoods and apartment complexes and involves teaching children about Jesus Christ through games, learning activities and Bible studies. “Our group’s main goal was to speak to families about accepting Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior,” Vaughn commented. He added, “The mission trip also served as an international experience for our students without them having to leave the country. Arlington has such a wide variety of nationalities and students really learned a lot having to work with all kinds of people.” Sophomore BSU members Justin Dean of Decatur and Cassidy Crenshaw of Philadelphia



Members of the Baptist Student Union at East Central Community College who spent their spring break witnessing in Arlington, Texas, included (front row, from left) David Prewitt of Enterprise, Taylor Nichols of Decatur, Ronda Stroud of Louisville, Micah Lanier of Little Rock, Lynlee Healey of Macon and director Scott Vaughn; (second row, from left) John Walton of Decatur, Anna Price of Louisville and Dinah Lachney of Decatur; (third row, from left) Jordan Kemp of Louisville, Lee Ann Rawson of Carthage, Kellie Jo McGee of Hickory, Heather Clearman of Decatur, Meaghan Mills of Carthage, Ashley Clark of Sturgis, Dru Fulton of Louisville and associate director Joey Lang; and (back row, from left) Mike Fondren of Union, Erik Latham of Lena, Cassidy Crenshaw and Adam Bobo, both of Philadelphia; Adam Duvall of Morton, Andrea Jay of Newton, Justin Dean and Rick Lachney, both of Decatur; and Ryan Stewart of Meridian.

were among students who participated in the mission trip and made the following comments: “The children from the apartment complexes and their families benefited from this trip and we as missionaries also benefited from the experience. God truly blesses those that love and obey him,” said Dean.

He further commented, “I believe we learned a lot from the mission trip. God can use extremely simple things – such as an active child – to teach extremely important qualities such as patience, endurance and even how to compromise. God used this trip to teach us flexibility

Added Crenshaw, “We witnessed nine people from East Central and 35 others who came to know Christ.” For more information regarding BSU activities, contact Vaughn or Joey Lang, associate director.

HALL (continued from page 1)

ADDITIONAL AWARD RECIPIENTS
In addition to the Hall of Fame honorees, various academic, technical, vocational and special awards were presented. Vocational award recipients included Robert Hardy of Lawrence, cabinetmaking; Dustin Johnson of Carthage, carpentry; Sharon Brown of Lawrence, cosmetology; Bennie Joe Dertinger of Philadelphia, welding and cutting and “Vocational Student of the Year;” William Lee Dooley of Lake, welding and cutting; and Betty Dyess of Carthage, licensed practical nursing. Those receiving technical awards included Jason Blair of Philadelphia and William James of Shubuta, collision repair technology; Trey White of Philadelphia, automotive technology; Jeania Clayton of Hickory, child development technology; Betty Dodd of Carthage, computer technology; Larry Brantley of Forest, electrical technology; David Black of Forest, electronics technology; Jacqueline Miller of Noxapater, gerontology technology; Lucas Little of Hickory, machine shop technology; Nolan Burchfield of McCool, computer network support technology; and Faith Hennesius of Louisville, “Technical Student of the Year.” Special award recipients

included Brian Sibley of Newton, Citizenship; Bradley Cook of Little Rock, The Tom-Tom newspaper staff; Chris Smith of Hickory, ECCC Players; Jason Price of Walnut Grove and Elizabeth Tullos of Philadelphia, ECCC Singers; Eddie Smith of Decatur, ECCC Gospel Choir; Rachel Edwards of Noxapater, East Central Environmental Club; Julie Debord of Carthage, Richard Fisher Organic Chemistry Award; William Crenshaw of Philadelphia, Philadelphia-Neshoba County Arts Council Scholarship; Kurt Nelson of Hickory, Kappa Kappa Iota and Freshman Mathematics; Jennifer Johnson of Philadelphia and Anthony Stanford of Louisville, Freshman Mathematics; John A. Franklin of Union, Sophomore Mathematics; Misty Smith of Decatur, Mississippi Community College Creative Writing Association; Cynthia Moody of Preston, Secondary Education; Daniel Warren of Meridian, S. Lebrun Hutchison Engineering; Elizabeth Richardson of Preston, Myrtle R. Hutchison Elementary Education; Jaimee Jones of Louisville, Phi Theta Kappa Margaret Mosal Award for Leadership; Laura Foreman of Little Rock, Ann Burkes Phi Theta Kappa; Cynthia Brantley of Newton and Sharon Griffin of Conehatta, Mississippi

Business Educators Association Student Awards; Nakecia Buckley of Philadelphia, Alyne Simmons Recruitment Grant; Darren Reed of Newton, Spanish; Alan Krajewski of Louisville, Associate Degree Nursing Outstanding Achievement; Ryan Stewart of Meridian, Roy Pete Award for Soccer; Ryan Hudson of Louisville, Anthony Coleman Men’s Basketball; and Kristin Chaney of Little Rock and Marley Smith of Union, Walter Arno Vincent Award for Academic Excellence in Athletics. Alumni Memorial award recipients included Anthony Stanford of Louisville, Billy Wayne Baucum Secondary Education; John Franklin of Union, Ruth Carr-Vincent Award for Academic Excellence in Nontraditional Education and W. A. Coursey, Jr. Engineering; Ama Burns of Louisville, Opal McMullan Dickerson Elementary Education; Cynthia Moody of Preston, Alatha Chaney English Award; Lori McMullan of Decatur, Sara Carr Deaton Business Technology; Emily Massey of Forest, Sue Yarbrough Fulgham Speech; Raphael Wash of Forest, William S. Giffin Men’s Intramural; Justin Copeland of Philadelphia and Daniel Wood of Bay Springs, Homer F. Hunter Award for Athletic Managers; Shana Smith of Union, Jack B. Mayo

Phi Theta Kappa; Julie Debord of Carthage, Dr. Edwin Miller Medical Services; Andre Coleman of Louisville, Howard Sessums Basketball; Kristin Chaney of Little Rock, Earline Wood Basketball; Lashedrick Eichelberger of Noxapater, Andrew F. Webb Football; and Clancy Cleveland of Union, Thomas W. Thrash Memorial. Faculty Memorial Award recipients included Heather Clearman of Decatur, J. Wallace Bedwell Business; Amanda McMillan of Newton, Frank M. Cross Freshman Chemistry; Claire Stinson of Meridian, Robert G. Fick Memorial Music and L. B. Simmons History; Kasey Hall of Lawrence, Frank Edwin and Nena Holt Leatherwood Biology Science; James Shackelford of Union, J. Andy Miller Freshman Engineering; Brant Winstead of Union, O.L. Newell Drafting; Savana Jones of Forest, Charles E. Pennington Business Technology; Tiffany Willis of Philadelphia, General William Patrick Wilson General Academic; Keeley Morgan of Walnut Grove, Leon Eubanks Kaljyc-Peers; and Anna Waltman of Philadelphia, Ruth Hull Wo-He-Lo. Various transfer scholarships were also presented to ECCC students by Mississippi’s colleges and universities.

GRADUATION (continued from page 1)

William Tingle, Joseph D. Tingle, LaToya Triplett, Clint Vowell, Tawon A. Walker, Anna Waltman, Troy Dale White, III, Robert Bryan Whitley, Jr., Dustin Wilson and Tiah Rae York, all of Philadelphia; Courtnee Graham, Melissa Mayo and Cynthia Hailey Moody, all of Preston; Greta Hodge Butts, Stephanie Michelle Hord and Tiffany N. Jones, all of Pulaski; Marcus Reed of Quitman; Cory D. Bender of Raleigh; Tekeyla Lyles and Jackie Tharp, both of Sebastopol; William Preston James of Shubuta; Ashley N. Clark of Sturgis; Sheila Hodge of Toomsaba; Jodie Barker Burroughs, John A. Franklin, Eli Goss, Clinton Harmon, Luke Benjamin Howell, Tonya Johnson, Lindsey Marie Knight, Staci R. Mann, Robert McPherson, Anthony B. O’Neal, Quincy Yarnell Patrick, Christopher Rush, Marley Ann Smith, Shana Smith, Lacie Stephens, Jannie Talley, Talon William Terrell, Rachel Thaggard, Leticia Vinet-Shipley, Krystal Winstead and Brant Andrew Winstead, all of Union; Susan Ellington, Chavlon Ellis, Janice Fortune, Kathleen S. Hogue

and Melton York, all of Walnut Grove; and Joshua Stephen Miller of Mansfield, La. **SUMMER, DECEMBER 2004 GRADUATES** Shelby Swanner of Bailey; Emily Denita Chamblee, Jada Billingsley Hamm, Bonnie Carol Harrell, Melanie C. Jones, Gloria A. Martin, Celeste Martin, April Jasmine McCurdy, William Brody Perkins, Jennifer Perkins, Eva Sam and Kenesha B. Thomas, all of Carthage; L’Ree Thompson of Choctaw; Rebecca Jones of Chunky; James Allen Keys of Collins; Judy Bugg and Angela Denise Farve, both of Conehatta; Heather Felicity Adkins, Tony Huddleston, Yvonne Terriann Kidd, Heather Lewis, Tammy Sessums and Denise Shoemaker, all of Decatur; Ramona H. Stokes of Florence; Kristy R. Bounds, Jeffery Brantley, Jimmy Coleman, Latrice Spivey, Elizabeth Anne Steptoe and Mary L. Williams, all of Forest; Jason Eaves of Hattiesburg; Dewanna Ford, Jeremy Wayne Joiner and Virginia M. Walker, all of Hickory; Chloris Hornsby and Frances

V. Johnson, both of Lake; Fabian Johnson of Lauderdale; Jessica Bricker, Randi Bricker and Teshia Johnson, all of Lena; Henry Tyler Hagan and Dean Williamson, both of Little Rock; Malisa King of Louin; Delisa Jenkins, Amber Renee Jewell, Courtney Smith, Jonathan C. Stokes and Chris Weaver, all of Louisville; Benjamin S. Boyette, Jr., Brit-tany Diller, Keith A. Jacoby, John W. Johnson, Anthony S. Kidd and Derek Wright, all of Meridian; Tanya Westerfield of Morton; Billye Jean Bowden, Dina Campbell, Percy Hester, Matthew L. Parks, Janis Elizabeth Simmons, Mary Vega, Christopher S. Walker and Melinda Walker, all of Newton; Kristy Ward Ellis of Pelahatchie; Stefanie Erin Ammerman, Teawanna Anderson, Tehona Bell, Jamika Z.L. Brown, Katie Burrage-Allard, Katie Chunn, Bernadine Hickman Dixon, Byron Donald, Emily M. Files, Russell James Giambrone, Coco Graham, Emily D. Hill, Darlene M. Hunter, Lee Ann Jayroe, DeAna Morrow, Alicia M. Murphy, Valerie Joyce Nicholson, Genna Donald Pope, Stephanie Sanders, Connie

LaShell Smith, Melissa Tindol, Tanya B. Watkins, Ashley S. White, Elyse Willis, Jaxie Lynn Willis and Koreather Zapata, all of Philadelphia; Jashemia Cherry of Porterville; Sharon Collins of Quitman; Clinton Thomas of Ripley; Evelyn Hayes of Starkville; Emmett R. Southern of Stone-wall; Hampton Gary of Sturgis; Toney Edison of Taylorsville; Ashley Addy, Aubrie Cleveland, Melissa Ann Eshee, Myrtle Hopson, Lori Horton, Shanna D. Jones, Vincent E. McElhenney, Melissa Overton, Stephanie Rigdon, Laura Rosar, Natalie Tillman and Matthew Winstead, all of Union; Cynthia L. Gibson, Jessica Ann Martin and Kanta Monique Overstreet, all of Walnut Grove; Joshua Curry of Tuscaloosa, Ala.; Oumbashi Petersen of Grove-hill, Ala.; Henry Smith of Aliceville, Ala.; Robert Christopher White of Kernersville, NC; Virginia Robinson of Chicago, IL; and Dexter Sellers of Bastrop, LA.

The Tom Tom is the official campus newspaper of East Central Community College in Decatur, Miss. It is printed three times a semester by the Office of Public Information. For more information you may contact the staff at P.O. Box 129, Decatur, Miss., 39327, Ph. 635-2111, ext. 242, or toll free 1-877-462-3222.

Accreditation
East Central Community College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097; Telephone Number 404-679-4501) to award the Associate Degree.

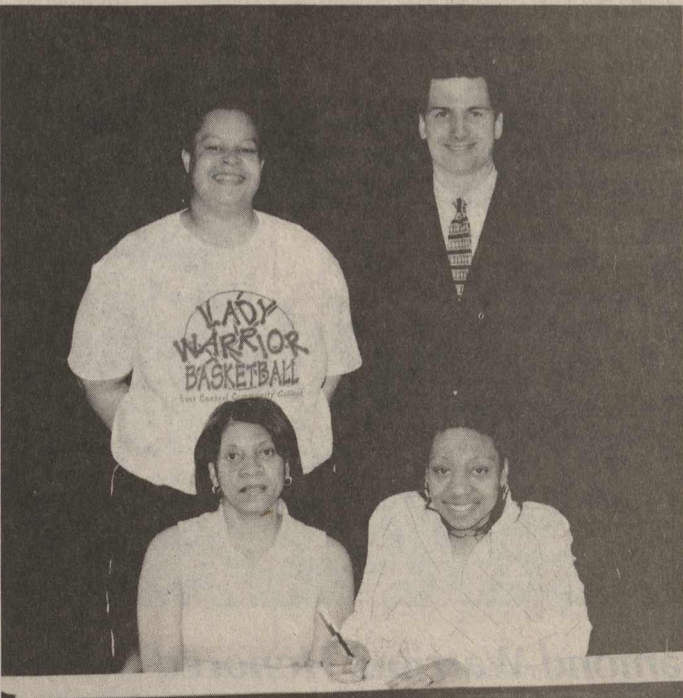
Non-Discrimination
East Central Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age or handicap. The College is in compliance with Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Right to Know Campus Security Act of 1990.

Sponsors are *Bubby Johnston* and *Maria McLeod*.
Editor is *Bradley Cook*.

SPORTS

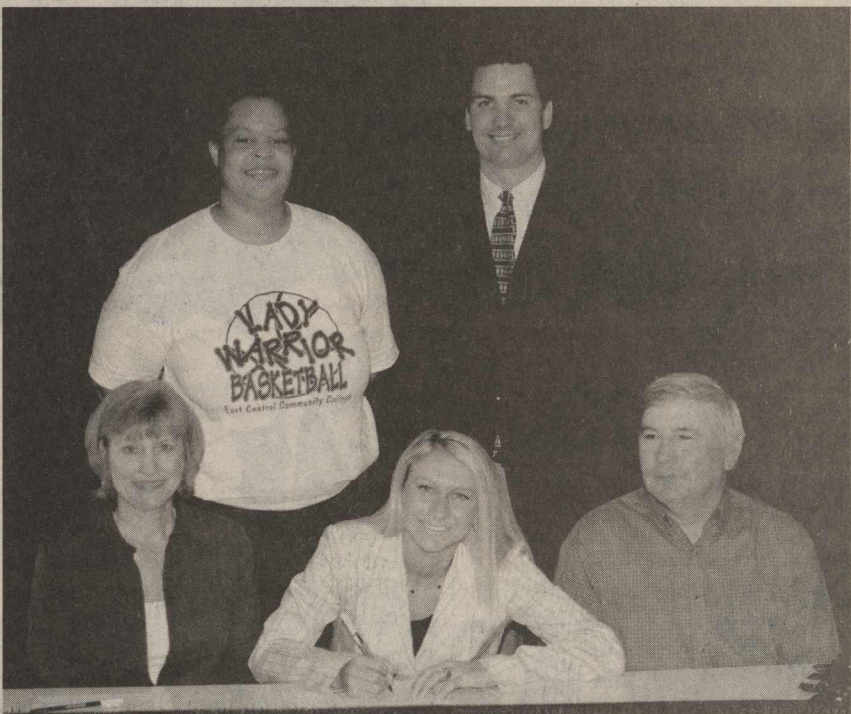
ECCC's Cox Signs With UT-Martin

East Central Community College basketball standout Kim Cox of Lake has signed a national letter of intent to continue her athletic career at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Cox, a 5-7 guard, averaged 10 points and five rebounds for the 20-10 Lady Warriors who were Region 23 Tournament runners-up and a semi-finalist in the MACJC State Tournament. The Lake High School product also helped lead the 2003-04 Lady Warriors to the Region 23, MACJC State and South Division crowns, and an Elite Eight finish in the NJCAA Tournament en route to a 31-4 record. Cox was named a second team All-State selection and All-Star following the 2004-05 campaign. Cox is shown with her mother, Margaret Cox, and (standing from left) ECCC women's assistant basketball coach Zareth Gray and head coach Brad Hodge. Kim's father, Grover Cox, is a member of the Mississippi Army National Guard and is serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom. (Note: Former ECCC assistant women's basketball coach Lacole Brooks is serving as an assistant at UT-Martin).



Chaney Inks With USM

Kristin Chaney, a standout two-year member of the East Central Community College basketball team, has signed a national letter of intent with the University of Southern Mississippi. Chaney, a 5-4 point guard, averaged 13 points, five rebounds and five assists for the 20-10 Lady Warriors who were Region 23 Tournament runners-up and a semi-finalist in the MACJC State Tournament. The Newton County High School product helped lead the 2003-04 Lady Warriors to the Region 23, MACJC State and South Division titles, and an Elite Eight finish in the NJCAA Tournament en route to a 31-4 record.



Chaney received second team All-American honors following the 2004-05 season in addition to being named first team All-Region 23, All-State and an All-Star. She was twice named to the All-Region 23 Tournament Team. Chaney, who was selected a second-team All-American in softball last year, will also play softball at USM. Shown with Chaney during a recent signing ceremony are her parents, Brenda and Ricky Chaney of Little Rock, and (standing from left) ECCC women's basketball assistant Zareth Gray and head coach Brad Hodge.

Chaney Becomes East Central's First Two-Sport All-American

East Central Community College standout athlete Kristin Chaney probably does not consider herself as a history-maker, but that is exactly what the Little Rock native recently accomplished when the 5-4 point guard recently received second team All-American honors as a member of the Lady Warrior basketball team.

Chaney also received second team All-American honors as a freshman on the Lady Warrior fast-pitch softball squad.

She is the only Mississippi JUCO player to make the Division I All-American first or second teams in basketball, and she was the only Mississippian to receive the same honor in Division II softball.

Chaney, who recently signed a letter of intent to play basketball and softball at the University of Southern Mississippi, said earning All-American honors in basketball caught her by surprise.

"I never dreamed I'd make it (All-American) in basketball," Chaney was quoted in a recent news article. "Our high school (Newton County) was a softball-oriented school instead of basketball. I've got to give Coach (Brad) Hodge (ECCC head women's basketball coach) a lot of credit for where I am and for getting All-American."

Chaney added that her success on the basketball court was not anticipated by some.

"I know a lot of people thought I'd never step foot on the court at East Central," she stated. "I'm glad I proved them wrong. I know I've got a lot of critics that say I won't step foot at Southern, but I hope I can prove them wrong, too. Right now, I'm the only point guard that they're bringing in, along with the one they had last year."

Hodge was quoted saying Chaney's success on the basketball court "is a testament to her

natural ability."

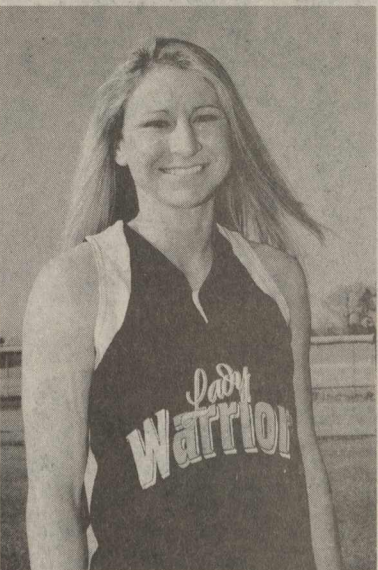
"That just shows you what kind of competitive student-athlete she is," Hodge said. "To be named second-team All-American thus far in two separate sports shows you what kind of athlete she is and what she's capable of doing."

"We're just very excited and proud for her. There's been nobody more deserving of such an honor. We're going to miss her but we're proud of what she has brought to us the past two years and hope she continues her success at Southern."

Chaney averaged 13 points for the 20-10 Lady Warriors who were Region 23 Tournament runners-up and a semi-finalist in the MACJC State Tournament. She scored a career high 31 points against Mississippi Delta. She also averaged four assists and two steals. Chaney was also named first team All-Region and All-State and was named to the All-Region 23 Tournament Team.

She averaged 11 points per game during the Lady Warriors championship season in 2003-04, garnering first team All-State honors in addition to being selected on the All-Region 23 Tournament Team. She helped lead ECCC to the Region 23, MACJC and South Division titles and a top eight finish in the NJCAA Women's Basketball Championship in Salina, Kansas, en route to a record 31 wins and just four losses.

Chaney played a key role in leading the Lady Warrior softball team to 26-14 regular season record and a second-place finish in the MACJC Central Division with an 11-5 mark. The ECCC women, led by first-year head coach Scott Hill, advanced to the Region 23/MACJC Tournament at Northeast Mississippi Community College in Booneville where they were winless in the double-elimination competition.



Kristin Chaney

Chaney, a shortstop, completed season action with a .423 batting average. She had four triples, seven doubles and collected 15 RBIs. She also scored 34 runs. In addition to receiving second-team All-American honors, Chaney was named first team All-Region 23, All-State and All-Division.

Coach Hill made the following comment about Chaney when she received All-American recognition:

"Kristin is a real pleasure to coach. She raises the rest of the team's level of play with the energy she brings to the field every game. Players like Kristin don't come around very often."

Chaney and the Lady Warrior softball team are having another successful season and sport a 25-3 overall record and 12-0 division mark following a sweep of Hinds Community College on Saturday, April 23. With the wins, East Central clinched the Central Division championship and will serve as host of the MACJC/Region 23 Tournament scheduled May 6-8.

East Cental Lady Warriors Clinch Central Division Title; Will Host State/Region Tourney

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team needed a sweep of Hinds Community College Saturday to clinch the MACJC Central Division and the Lady Warriors responded in fine fashion claiming 7-1 and 9-0 victories over the Lady Eagles on the Decatur campus.

With the pair of victories, East Central improved to 25-3 overall and a perfect 12-0 division mark under second-year head coach Scott Hill.

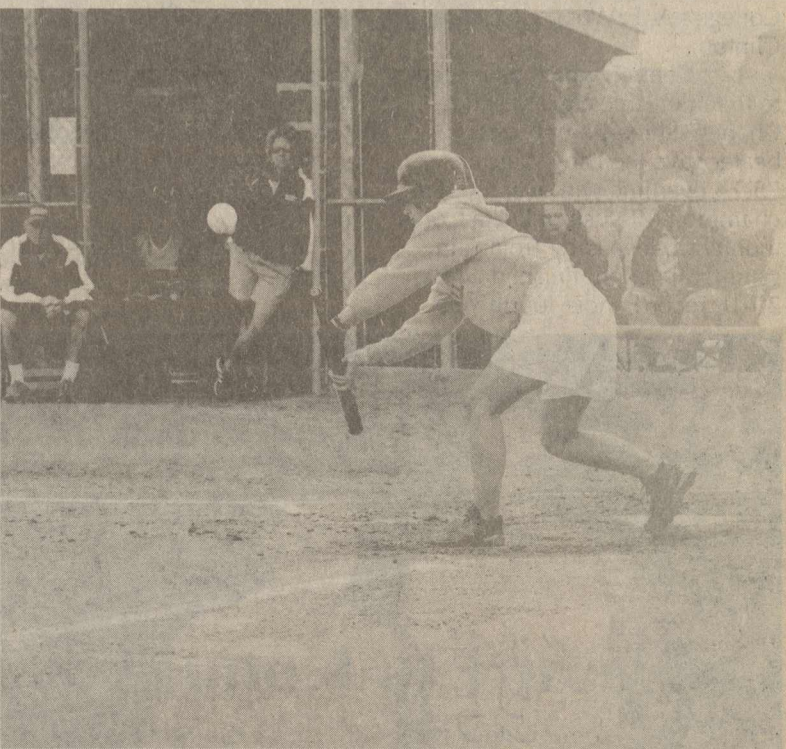
The Central Division winner is designated as host of this year's MACJC/Region 23 Championship, which is scheduled May 6-8. Six teams-two from each division-will compete in the double elimination tournament.

Marley Smith of Union picked up the win for East Central in the first game, allowing just two hits during the seven-inning match-up. Smith also had a single and knocked in a run.

Kristin Chaney of Newton County had a triple and a single to lead the Lady Warriors at the plate. Chaney was also three-of-three in the base-stealing department and scored three runs.

Other sluggers were Abby Miller of Madison Central, who pounded a double and a single, had two RBIs and scored two runs, and Dominique Mapp of Newton County, who had two singles, two RBIs and also scored. Lauren White of Union, and Shelley Ferguson and Obreshia Davis, both of Newton County, had singles and RBIs each. Davis also scored.

Lindsey Walker of Union pitched a no-hitter for the Lady



Abby Miller lays down a bunt during the Lady Warriors' double-header sweep (7-1, 9-0) of Hinds Community College Saturday, April 23 on the Decatur campus. With the wins, East Central improved to 25-3 overall and clinched the MACJC Central Division title with a perfect 12-0 mark. The Central Division champion is designated as the host of this year's MACJC/Region 23 Championship, which is scheduled May 6-8. Miller, a freshman infielder, is a product from Madison Central High School.

Warriors in the second game, which was called after five innings.

Hitters were Chaney, double and single; Ferguson, two singles; and April Boyd of Adams Christian, Mapp, Miller, White and Kotreece Bender of Newton, singles each. Mapp also collected three RBIs and Miller, Chelsea Wade of Union and Joy Cavanaugh of Newton County knocked in a run a piece.

Runs were scored by Boyd (3), Chaney (2), Ferguson (2), Miller and Bender.

The Lady Warriors have four double-headers remaining in regular season action: road contests with Hinds (April 25), Coahoma (April 26) and East Mississippi (April 30) and the home finale with Copiah-Lincoln on Monday, May 2.

Brackets for the MACJC/Region 23 Championship will be

Cash Excels in Wheelchair Tennis

By BRADLEY COOK
Tom-Tom Editor

Throughout the 76 year history of East Central Community College, many outstanding athletes have graced the halls of the institution. One current student at ECCC is not only a nationally renowned athlete, but a great inspiration to all.

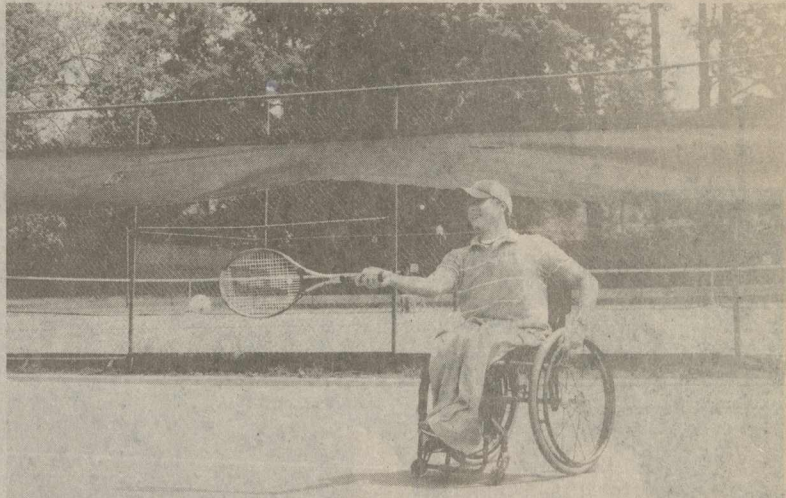
Philip Cash, freshman from Forest, was born with spina bifida, which technically means "cleft spine". As a result, Cash has a hole in his lower backbone, paralyzing him from the waist down. Despite this condition, Cash has fought against the obstacles and become a nationally ranked wheelchair tennis player.

How did Philip begin playing tennis?

"When I was about 11, I played a lot of wheelchair basketball. A guy I played basketball with talked me into playing tennis with him. I haven't played basketball since. I play about four or five tournaments a year and I try to add a new tournament every year," he said.

Wheelchair tennis was pioneered during the 1970s by a man named Brad Parks, one of the greatest wheelchair players ever. In 1988, the International Wheelchair Tennis Foundation (IWTF), the sports governing body, was formed and continues to grow internationally.

The rules are the same as regular tennis except for one exception. Players are allowed two bounces of the ball instead of one before returning.



Born with Spina Bifida, a cleft spine which causes paralysis, Philip Cash of Forest has become a nationally known tennis player.

And Cash has found his fair share of success on the tennis court. He is the two-time defending juniors champion at the Music City Classic in Nashville. He finished second in the Cajun Classic in Baton Rouge and was awarded the Sportsmanship award. Cash ended 2004 ranked number nine in the country among junior wheelchair players.

Cash realized the extent of his accomplishments during the summer of 2004 when he was featured in the June 28 issue of Sports Illustrated as a Starter All-American Teen.

"The Sports Illustrated article really was big back home," he Cash said. "They still talk about it all the time."

Cash's career will take an even bigger step when he completes his work at East

Central. He has accepted a scholarship to Middle Tennessee State, one of the elite wheelchair tennis programs in the nation.

A current Liberal Arts major, he is planning a career in law and plans to play tennis as long as his body holds out.

Still Cash has a message that he invokes to his colleagues at East Central.

"There are so many people around campus in chairs that do not know about sports. I want to let them know that there are sports out there that people in chairs can participate in. I want to help them get involved."

And Philip has succeeded in inspiring many. He has met several across campus in chairs and helped those individuals become involved in sports. Cash is indeed a very special athlete and an even better person.

East Central Announces Softball Signees for '05-'06

Five area softball standouts have signed national letters of intent with East Central Community College, announced Lady Warrior softball coach Scott Hill.

Joining the ECCC squad for the 2005-06 campaign are first baseman Samantha Giambrone of Neshoba Central; outfielder Loren Kennedy and catcher Tiffany Thomas, both of Union; outfielder Candace Griffin of Philadelphia; and shortstop Amanda Schmidt of Carthage.

ECCC Lady Warriors Denied Consecutive Region 23 Titles

It seemed only fitting following Wednesday night's dramatic win that the East Central Community College Lady Warriors would need a last-second shot in hopes of claiming back-to-back Region 23 Tournament titles, but Kotreece Bender's three-pointer at the buzzer was off the mark and Northwest Mississippi Community College held on for 58-55 decision in the championship contest held Thursday night at Mississippi College's A. E. Wood Coliseum in Clinton.

East Central, which advanced to the title game after Kristin Chaney's three-point buzzer-beater gave the Lady Warriors a 75-74 overtime win over the state champion Mississippi Delta Community College Lady Trojans in semi-final action, finished with a 20-10 record under fourth-year

head coach Brad Hodge. Chaney had also launched a successful trey sending the contest into the extra period.

Tierra Young of South Leake led EC scorers in the title matchup with 16 points. Other point makers were Bender, of Newton, who had 12 points; Roxana Rogers of Lake, nine; Kim Cox, also of Lake, eight; Chaney, a product of Newton County High School, six; and Shannon Lloyd, four. Chaney and Neshoba Central product India Backstrom were named to the Region 23 All-Tournament Team.

Nikita Taylor of Holly Springs led Northwest with 19 points and Candy Hall of Robinsonville added 16.

The scored was tied 28-28 at halftime.



Lady Warriors India Backstrom (left) of Neshoba Central and Newton County High School product Kristin Chaney were named to the Region 23 All-Tournament Team following EC's 58-55 loss to Northwest in the title game Thursday night. The Lady Warriors advanced to the championship contest after posting wins over Gulf Coast (75-62) and Delta (75-74).

ECCC Sophomore Diamond Warriors Honored

Sophomore members of the East Central Community College baseball team were honored prior to the Warriors' double-header sweep (9-2, 8-7) of Hinds Community College Saturday at Jamie Clark Memorial Stadium on the Decatur campus. With the wins, the Diamond Warriors improved to 25-21 and 6-10 in division competition and qualified for the Region 23 Championship scheduled May 5-8 at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in Perkinston. Sophomore Diamond Warriors and family members who were also recognized include outfielder (18) Joe Cavanaugh of Newton County and mother Linda Cavanaugh; pitcher/outfielder (2) Andre Coleman of Louisville and parents Leon and Ruth Coleman, catcher/first baseman (20) Corey Coward of Noxapater and parents James and Judy Coward, manager Brian Deel of East Rankin Academy and parents Billy and Dawn Deel, outfielder/pitcher (25) Marcus Davis of Magee and mother Brenda Davis, infielder (3) Brandon Ezell of Newton County and parents Marty Ezell and Patty Ezell, pitcher (16) Kevin Hatch of Carthage and parents Ricky and Linda Hatch, pitcher (11) Josh Miller of Elysian Fields, Texas, and parents Thumper and Tracy Miller, pitcher (21) Cody Savell of Newton and father Hamp Savell and outfielder Van Wilson of West Lauderdale and parents Van and Bettie Wilson.

**SPRING SPORTS
BANQUET**

**Tuesday, May 10
7 p.m.**

**Mabry Memorial
Cafeteria**

East Central Community College Hosting State/Region 23 Softball Tournament May 6-8, 2005

When the Lady Warrior softball team captured the MACJC Central Division Championship by sweeping Hinds Community College on April 23, they also qualified to host the annual MACJC/Region 23 Softball Championship.

This year's event gets underway Thursday, May 6 and concludes with the title game on Sunday, May 8.

Participating in the double-elimination competition are East Central and Meridian, representing the Central Division;

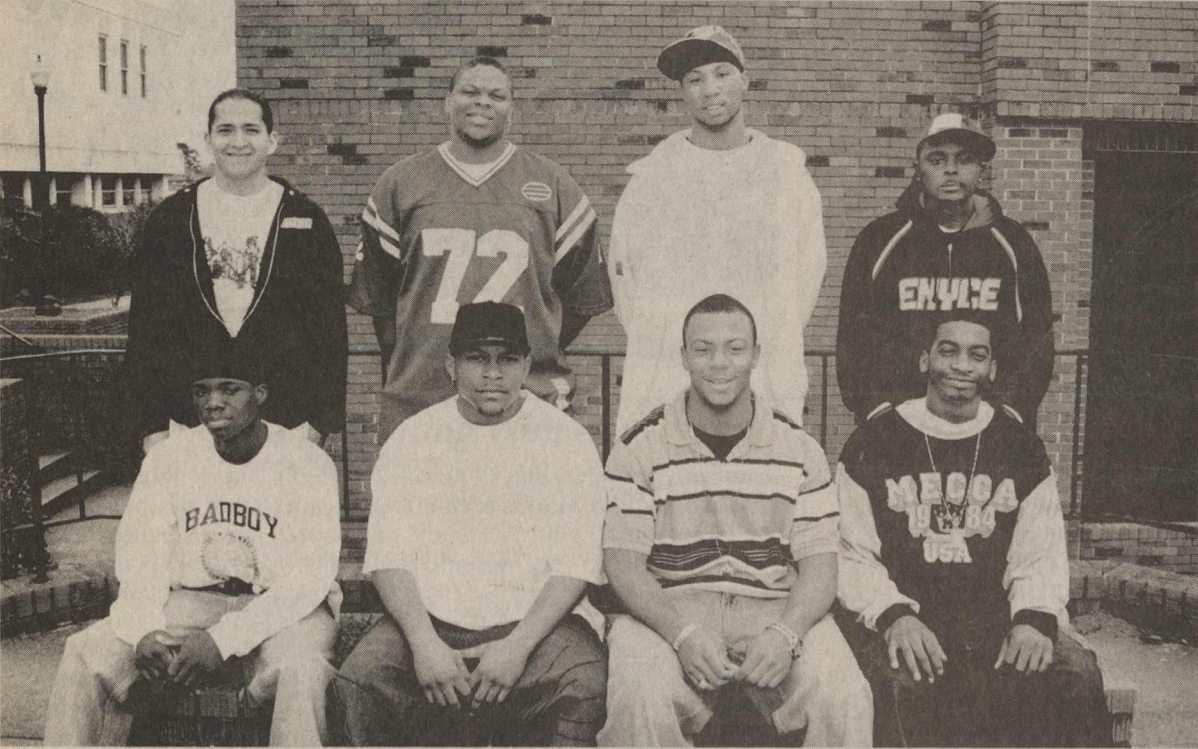
Gulf Coast and Copiah-Lincoln from the South; and Northeast and Northwest representing the North.

Tournaments brackets were not available at press time.



ECCC Lady Warrior Tennis Team

Above are members of the East Central Community College women's tennis team for the 2005 season. Seated from left are Valerie Gibbs of Newton, and Jess Davis, Ronda Stroud and Anna Price, all of Louisville. Standing from left are Courtney Partridge of Louisville, Clancy Cleveland of Union and Shonda Blaylock and Amanda McMillan, both of Newton. Brad Hodge serves as coach.

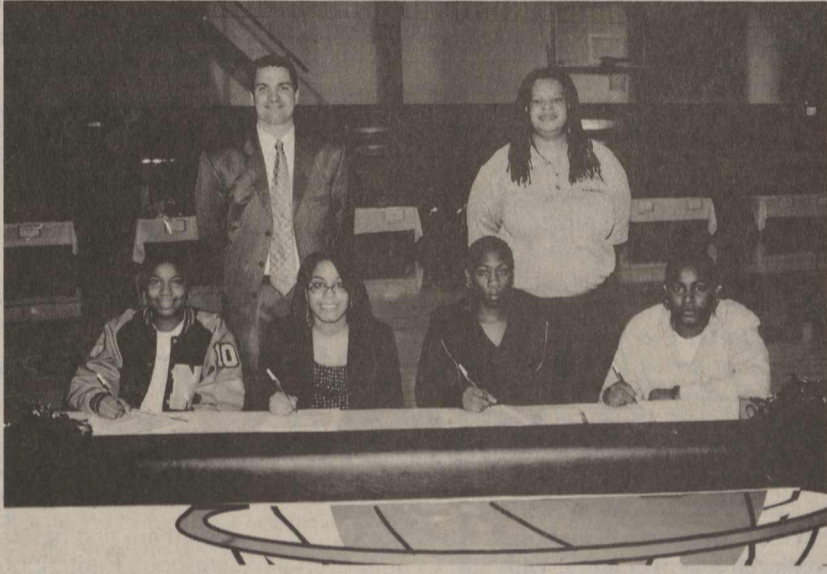


ECCC Intramural Basketball League Winners

"The Timberwolves" won top honors in the intramural basketball competition held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Team members include (seated from left) Otavian Patrick of Newton, Rocky Wash of Forest, Ivon Hickmon of Lake and Meco Bloodsaw of Walnut Grove, and (standing from left) Stanley Johnson of Conehatta, James Broach of Hickory, Willie Hickmon of Lake and Ken Windham of Decatur. Scott Hill serves as director of intramurals.

New Lady Warriors

New members of the 2005-06 East Central Community College women's basketball team were introduced during a scholarship signing ceremony held April 11 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus. Joining the Lady Warriors are (seated from left) Jessica Anderson of Newton, Elyse Clay of Scott Central, Valerie Harris of Lake and Ashley Johnson of Sebastopol. Standing from left are Lady Warrior head coach Brad Hodge and assistant Zareth Gray. The new Lady Warriors were welcomed during a scholarship signing ceremony held April 11 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus. Also signing with ECCC are Andrea Dubose of Newton County, Jamoya Guy of Capitol High School in Baton Rouge, La.; Constance Hayes of Provine and Kandra Johnson and Tandra Johson, both of Lanier.



ECCC Warrior Tennis Team

Members of the East Central Community College Warrior tennis team for 2005 include (from left) Philip Savell of Philadelphia, David Dennis of Collierville, TN; Zac Richardson of Louisville, Kyle Gordon of Morton and Roberto Orellana of Forest. Brad Hodge serves as coach.

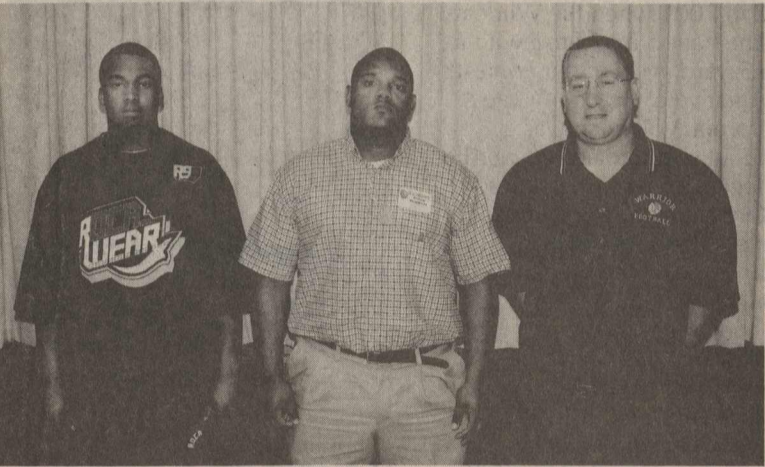
Warrior Signees

New members of the 2005-06 East Central Community College men's basketball team were introduced during a scholarship signing ceremony held April 11 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus. Joining the Warriors are (seated from left) guard Earnesto Green (6') and forwards Bryan Johnson (6'5") and Odell Carter (6'4"), all of Provine, and forward Johnny Hodge (6'4"), a product of Ouachita High School in Monroe, La. Standing from left are Warrior head basketball coach Billy Smith and assistant Kevin McGhee. The new Warriors were introduced during a scholarship signing ceremony held April 11 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus. Also signing with ECCC are forward Lee Trebotich (6'3") of Vancleave and center Sam Walton (6'5") of Lanier.

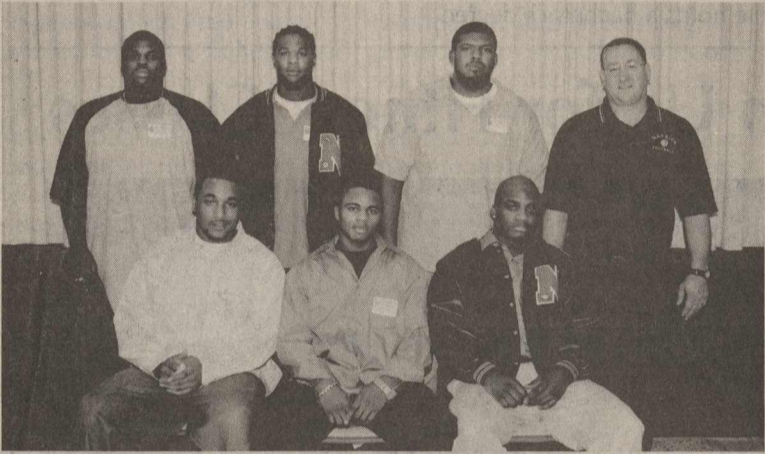


Warriors Honor New Signees

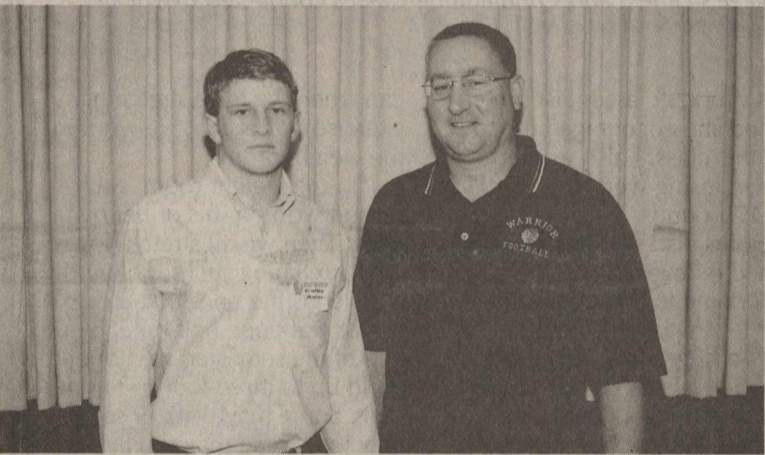
East Central Community College recently recognized its district football signees during a dinner/program held in the Gold Room of Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. ECCC athletic director/head football coach Terry Underwood said 27 area student-athletes signed national letters of intent to continue their football careers at East Central.



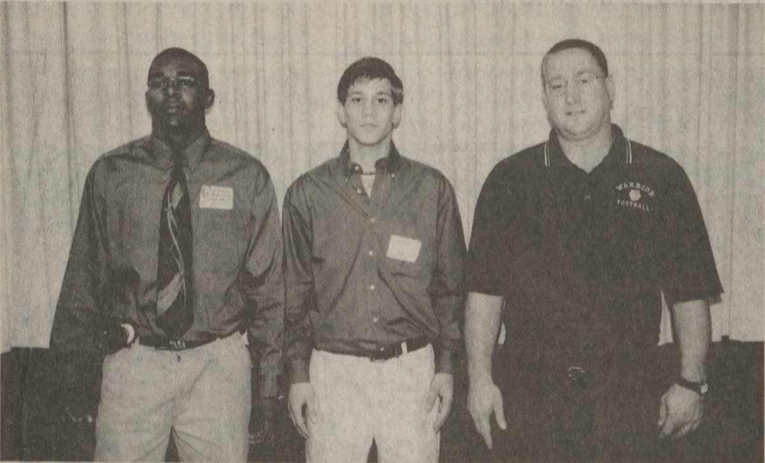
Joining the 2005 Warrior squad from Leake County are safety Chance Parhm of South Leake and defensive lineman/fullback Jerry Triplett of Carthage, who are shown with ECCC athletic director/head coach Terry Underwood.



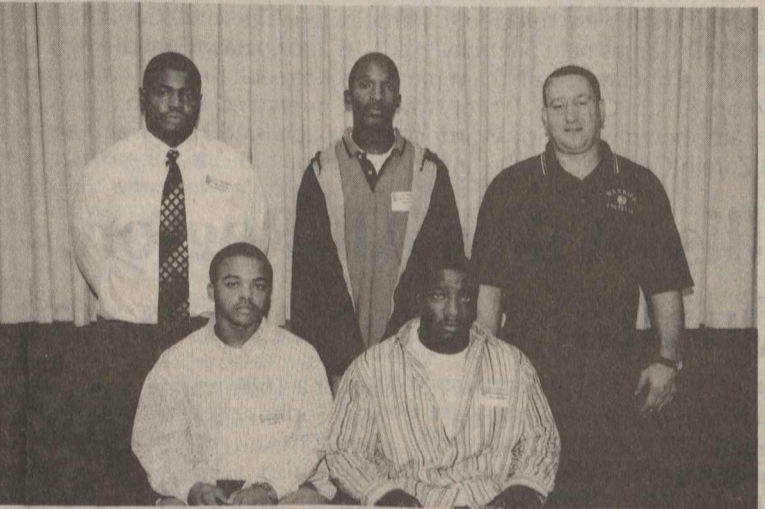
Joining the 2005 Warrior squad from Neshoba County are (seated from left) fullback Dustin Crockett and defensive back/wide receiver Jeremy Holmes, both of Philadelphia; and linebacker/fullback Kevin Marshall of Neshoba Central; and (standing from left) offensive lineman Kerry Hudson of Philadelphia, defensive lineman Kenyon Boatman of Neshoba Central, offensive lineman Johnathan Pickens of Philadelphia. They are shown with ECCC athletic director/head football coach Terry Underwood.



Joining the 2005 Warrior squad from Newton County is quarterback/wide receiver Colby Amis (left) of Newton County High School, who is shown with ECCC athletic director/head football coach Terry Underwood. Unable to attend the special program was signee Anthony Johnson, a running back/linebacker from Union.



Joining the 2005 Warrior squad from Scott County are (from left) linebacker/defensive end Jason Qualls and student assistant Justin Hurdle, both of Forest, who are shown with ECCC athletic director/head football coach Terry Underwood. Unable to attend the program was signee Mitch Bradford, a linebacker from Scott Central.



Joining the 2005 Warrior squad from Neshoba County are (seated from left) quarterback DeAngelo Carter and running back/linebacker Desmond Graham, both of Noxapater, and (standing from left) offensive lineman Menral Ledbetter and linebacker/safety Jermaine Glass, both of Louisville, who are shown with ECCC athletic director/head football coach Terry Underwood. Signees unable to attend the special program were defensive back Michael Sims and safety Caleb Reed, both of Louisville, and tight end/defensive end Dedrick Bates of Noxapater.

East Central Diamond Warriors Sweep Hinds; Qualify for Region Tournament

Powered by Marcus Davis' three home runs and Sam Thames' game-winning single, East Central Community College swept a doubleheader from Hinds Community College Saturday afternoon thus qualifying for the Region 23 Tournament scheduled May 5-8 at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in Perkinston.

The Diamond Warriors, who improved to 25-21 overall and 6-10 in division competition under fourth-year head coach Jake Yarborough, cruised to a 9-2 victory in the first game and rallied for three runs in the bottom of the seventh to take an 8-7 victory in the nightcap.

East Central and Northeast were tied for the final spot in the Region Tournament but the Tigers were eliminated following a weekend split with rival Northwest.

Davis, a sophomore outfielder/pitcher from Magee, gave EC a 1-0 lead in the first inning of game one and later added a two-run blast for the easy win. Designated hitter Ross Pine, a product of Live Oak High School in Watson, La., also

homered for East Central as he sent a towering shot over the right field lights. Pine was also credited with a single.

Other EC sluggers were Corey Coward of Noxapater, two singles; and James Harris of Morton and Will Pearson and Joseph Cavenaugh, both of Newton County, singles each.

Southpaw Josh Miller of Elysian Fields, Texas, picked up the win for East Central, improving to 9-2. Miller fanned four and allowed eight hits in six innings of work. Right-hander Kevin Hatch of Carthage worked the seventh inning and allowed two hits and fanned one.

Thames' heroics occurred with one out, the bases loaded and the game tied at 7-7. Thames, a product of Newton County Academy, also singled earlier in the contest.

Other sluggers in the one-run victory were Davis, home run and two singles; Van Wilson of West Lauderdale, double and single; Coward and Harris, two singles each; Ken Gordon of Morton, double; and Pearson, single.

Right-hander Cody Savell of



ECCC slugger Marcus Davis of Magee is congratulated by teammates after hitting the first of his three home runs during a doubleheader sweep of Hinds Community College (9-2, 8-7) April 23 at Jamie Clark Memorial Stadium. By winning both contests, the Diamond Warriors qualified for the Region 23 Tournament scheduled May 5-8 at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in Perkinston. East Central completed regular season action with a 25-21 overall mark and posted a 6-10 record in division competition.

Newton was credited with the win, improving his record to 4-6. Savell was on the mound for three innings, allowing four runs on seven hits. Right-hander John Fortenberry of Carthage

started on the mound for the Warriors and was relieved after four innings of work. Fortenberry fanned one, walked two and allowed eight hits.

ECCC Warrior Golf Classic Set June 4 at Forest CC

The annual East Central Community College Warrior Golf Classic has a new home for the 2005 event, but the top prize remains the same: scholarships for area students to attend the two-year institution in Decatur.

Sponsored by the College's Alumni Association, the fourth annual tournament will be held Saturday, June 4 at Forest Country Club.

Registration begins at 8 a.m. followed by a 9 a.m. shotgun start for the four-person scramble.

Awards will be presented to the corporate team winner and the top three teams in each flight. Various on-course prizes are also available and door prizes will be presented to each participant.

Bill Lovett of Forest, Alumni

Association president, said committee members decided to move the tournament from its previous location - the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club on the Pearl River Resort in Choctaw - so other golf courses in the five-county district could have an opportunity to host the fundraising event.

"The Dancing Rabbit courses are among the best in the country, but we thought it was time to start having the tournament at other area courses so more people will have an opportunity to participate. Since it costs less to have the tournament at Forest, we are able to pass on those savings with lower fees," Lovett stated.

Stacey Hollingsworth, administrative assistant in the Office of

Foundation and Alumni Relations, said the fee for an individual player is \$85, which includes green fee, breakfast, box lunch, T-shirt and a door prize. The fee for cart rental is \$15 per player. There is no charge for golfers who provide their own carts.

Hollingsworth said corporate sponsorships are available on various levels. Gold Sponsorships are \$550, which includes a hole sponsorship and fees for one four-person team. A Silver Sponsorship is \$350 and includes a hole sponsorship and fees for two players. Also available are hole sponsorships for \$150.

Proceeds from the one-day tournament will help fund scholarships for ECCC students residing in Leake, Neshoba, Newton,

Scott and Winston counties.

Hollingsworth said a record \$8,700 was raised in the 2004 event, with \$2,800 provided for scholarships. The remaining \$5,900 went into the endowment fund, which now totals approximately \$8,500.

Scholarship winners are announced at the annual Scholarship Awards Luncheon held in May.

For more information contact Stacey Hollingsworth, administrative assistant, Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations, East Central Community College, P. O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, Phone 635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 327. The email address is shollings@eccc.edu.

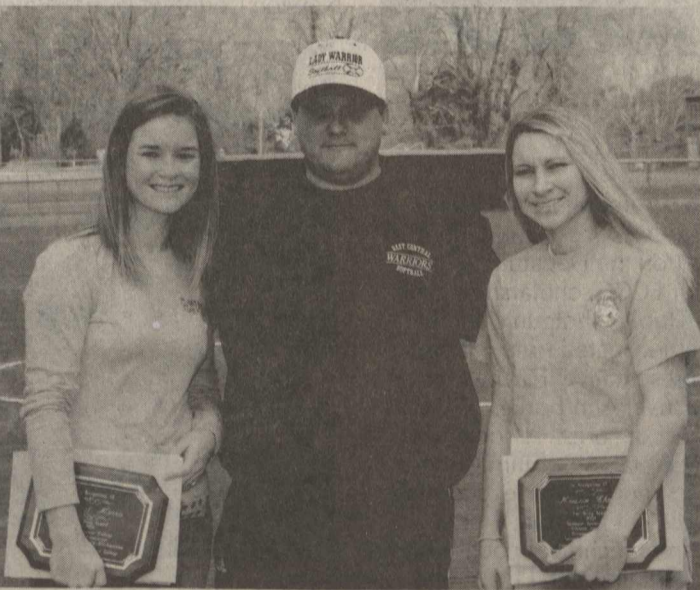


La-Z-Boy Donates to Soccer Program

East Central Community College soccer matches will soon be played under the lights thanks to a \$10,000 donation from La-Z-Boy South in Newton. Darrel Edwards, La-Z-Boy plant manager, is shown making the presentation to ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin. Also pictured are (from left) Kenneth Thompson, ECCC soccer coach; Tom Keith, La-Z-Boy human resource manager; Mark Killens Warrior Club president; Chris Harris, Warrior Club member; Chris Reed, La-Z-Boy special project engineer; and Terry Underwood, ECCC athletic director/head football coach. La-Z-Boy made a similar contribution in 2004 to provide lights on the ECCC softball field.

ECCC Softball All-Americans Honored

Two members of the 2004 East Central Community College fast-pitch softball team received special recognition by head coach Scott Hill prior to the 2005 season opener against Mississippi Delta Community College February 21 on the Decatur campus. Hill presented plaques and certificates to Krissi Harris (left) and Kristin Chaney in recognition of their selection to All-American teams following last year's 26-16 campaign. Krissi Harris (left), an outfielder, was named to the NJCAA Distinguished Academic All-American Team while also earning first team All-State and All-Division honors. A 2004 ECCC graduate, Harris is currently attending Mississippi State University. Chaney, a returning shortstop, was selected second team NJCAA All-American in Division II and was also chosen first team All-Region 23 and All-State and All-Division. In addition, she was selected the Lady Warriors' most valuable player. A dual sport star at ECCC, Chaney recently committed to play softball and basketball at the University of Southern Mississippi. Harris and Chaney are products of Newton County High School.



Ac'cents To Hold Auditions May 10 in Vickers Fine Arts

The East Central Community College music department will hold auditions for the Ac'cents, the College's show choir, Tuesday, May 10 at 1 p.m. in the Vickers Fine Arts Center, announced Vicki Blaylock, director.

Ac'cents is a 12-member group consisting of six men and six women. They sing and dance to musical selections of pop, rock, jazz, swing, blues and country. Each member receives a full tuition scholarship and one hour of class credit.

Blaylock said, "Those auditioning should be prepared to sing a solo selection using a cassette tape or CD or an accompanist will be provided. They may also sing accapella."

Blaylock said those auditioning will also be judged on their ability to learn dance steps.

"A choreographer will be available to help with teaching simple dance steps to see how quickly each student can learn them," Blaylock said. "No professional dance experience is necessary."

She added, "Reading music notation is not mandatory; however, it is an excellent tool that will help in the audition process."

According to Blaylock, auditions should take about two hours and each student should arrive early in order to fill out the necessary paper work.

For more information contact Blaylock at 635-2111, ext. 225, or call toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 225. The email address is vblaylock@eccc.edu.

Ac'cents Spring Concert
7 p.m.
Thursday, May 5
Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium



An Easy Score!

East Central Community College running back Joe Mingo of Homerville, Ga., crosses the goal line during the Warriors' scrimmage with East Mississippi Community College held April 14 on the Decatur campus. The Warriors' new offense was unveiled during the matchup, which basically concludes spring drills. East Central will operate from a no-huddle offense and has implemented a "more wide open attack," according to head coach Terry Underwood.

EC Announces Basketball Signees

East Central Community College welcomed new members of the women's and men's basketball teams for 2005-06 during a scholarship signing ceremony held in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

Joining Coach Brad Hodge's Lady Warriors are Jessica Anderson of Newton High School, Elyse Clay of Scott Central, Andrea Dubose of Newton County, Jamoya Guy of Capital High School in Baton Rouge, La.; Val-

erie Harris of Lake, Constance Hayes of Provine, Ashley Johnson of Sebastopol, and Kandra Johnson and Tandra Johnson, both of Lanier.

Warrior coach Bill Smith signed six new squad members, who include Lee Trebotich of Vancleave, Earnesto Green, Bryan Johnson and Odell Carter, all of Provine; Sam Walton of Lanier and Johnny Hodge of Ouachita High School in Monroe, La.

'05 Diamond Warrior Signees

Four area baseball standouts have signed national letters of intent with East Central Community College, announced Diamond Warrior head coach Jake Yarborough.

Joining the ECCC squad for 2005-06 are Josh Denson, a 6-foot, 160-pound infielder/

outfielder/pitcher from Carthage; Joe Patterson, a 6-4, 215-pound pitcher/outfielder and Luke Baugh, a 6-foot, 165-pound outfielder, both of Morton; and Jordan Robinson, a 6-1, 170-pound infielder/outfielder/pitcher of Union.

2005-06 Warrior Soccer Signees

Members of the recently organized women's soccer team and additions to the men's soccer squad for 2005 at East Central Community College have been announced by head coach Kenneth Thompson.

Lady Warrior signees include Maggie McDill and Joy Cavanaugh, both products of Newton County High School; Samantha Giambrone, Celeste Burt, Briana Stinson and Jerica Williamson, all of Neshoba Central; Heather Lewis and Danyell Taylor, both of East Central; Brittany Harper, Southeast Lauderdale; Alisia Perry, Morton; and Jaimee Jones, Nanih Waiya.

Also expected to join the Lady Warriors are LaKeisha Neely of George County, Chelsea Brown of Stone County, and Sarah Williamson and Ashley Tolbert, both of Neshoba Central.

Warrior signees include Alex

Deason of Philadelphia; Jared Wabel and David Hammond, both of Stone County; P. J. Harvey, Laurel; Reid Whittington, Blakney Brown and Zachary Bullock, all of East Central; Vance Taylor, Quitman; Kale Gardner, Wayne County; Nick Shanks, Philadelphia; and Daniel Marshall, Newton County.

Also expected to join the Soccer Warriors are Richard Mann, Florence; Pablo Gomez, St. Stanislaus (originally from Madrid, Spain); Ivan Garcia, Scott Central; and Jason Murphy, Brandon.

Returning Warriors are Taylor Nichols and Micah Lanier, both of Newton County; Zach Joiner, Carthage; Jason Lopez, Forest; Daniel Warren, Clarkdale; Kyle Vowell, Austin Herrington and Zach Kilpatrick, all of Neshoba Central; and Mitch Myers, McLaurin.



Making Plans for Golf Tourney

The fourth annual Warrior Golf Classic was among items discussed by the above officers and directors of the East Central Community College Alumni Association which recently met on the Decatur campus. This year's golf tournament - a fundraiser for ECCC scholarships- will be held Saturday, June 4 at Forest Country Club. A shotgun start at 9 a.m. officially begins the four-person scramble. Seated from left are James Vance of Meridian, out-of-district representative; Dayna Morgan of Philadelphia, Neshoba County representative; Ann Burkes of Decatur, Newton County representative; Bill Lovett of Forest, Association president; Florence Hawkins of Carthage, secretary; and Tam Cooper of Brandon, past president and out-of-district representative. Standing from left are ECCC representatives Brian Sibley of Newton, Student Body Association president; Sylvia Bush, career-technical counselor; Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, vice president for instruction; Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, president; Joe Killens, vice president for student services; and Stacey Hollingsworth, administrative assistant, Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations. For more information about the Warrior Golf Classic contact Hollingsworth, Phone 635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 327. The email address is sholling@eccc.edu.

East Central Hires New Offensive Coordinator

Mike Volarvich, recognized as one of the top offensive minds in the National Junior College Athletic Association, has been hired to run the offense at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Warrior athletic director/head football coach Terry Underwood.

Volarvich, 28, whose hiring was approved at the April meeting of the College's Board of Trustees, served the past three years as an assistant coach at Blinn College in Brenham, Texas.

He served as offensive coordinator in 2003 when the Buccaneers broke 15 school, conference, and national records while leading the NJCAA in offense averaging 52.8 points and 558.7 yards per game.

Volarvich was co-offensive coordinator in 2004 when the Buccaneers finished second in the nation, averaging 44.6 points and 469 yards per contest. Blinn completed the 2004 campaign by defeating Jones County Junior College 18-14 in the Golden Isles Bowl Classic in Brunswick,

Georgia. Volarvich also coached quarterbacks and wide receivers during his tenure with the Buccaneers.

Underwood said Volarvich, who recently joined the Warrior coaching staff and is assisting during spring drills, plans to implement a "wide open attack" for the ECCC offense.

"Mike will bring a lot of multiplicity to our offense. We'll have a more open attack than we've had in the past; it will basically be a spread offense. He's planning a unique passing attack that will enable us to attack defenses with a lot of different schemes. We'll also run a no-huddle offense, which will be a new look for us. We're real excited about Mike joining our staff; he brings a lot of knowledge and enthusiasm to our football program," Underwood said.

In addition to serving as offensive coordinator, Volarvich will coach quarterbacks and wide receivers and serve as the team's academic adviser.

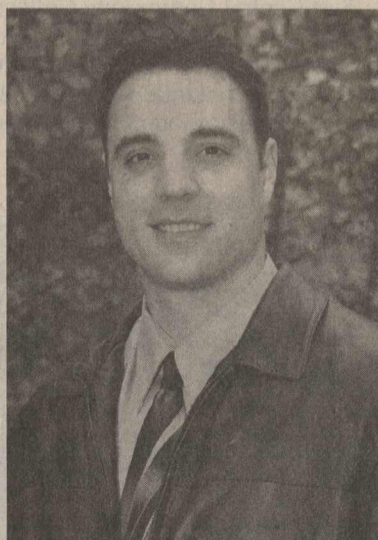
Volarvich is also a

former assistant at Pearl River Community College in Poplarville and served as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at Cabrillo College in Aptos, California. He served as wide receiver coach at PRC in 2001 when the Wildcats led the nation in offense with a 460.5-yard average per contest.

A native of Boulder Creek, California, Volarvich was a standout quarterback at Cabrillo College before transferring to Kentucky State University. While at Kentucky State, Volarvich earned first team All-Conference honors after leading the conference in passing for two consecutive years. He was named most valuable player of the Pioneer Bowl in 1998.

After leaving Kentucky, Volarvich was invited to minicamp with the Miami Dolphins and tryout camp with the San Francisco 49ers in 1999. He has participated in the Arena Football League and the German Football League.

He holds a bachelor's degree



Mike Volarvich

in applied arts and sciences from Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, and an associate in arts degree from Cabrillo College. He has also completed coursework at Kentucky State University and Pearl River Community College.

Students Encouraged to Sign Up for Fitness Classes

Whether one is looking to add physical activity to his or her life or to stimulate weight loss, fitness classes at East Central Community College could be just what the doctor ordered.

"So many people think that anything pertaining to health and physical education is for athletes only," said Lucille Wood, instructor and Chairman of the Division of Social Science, Business and Education. "I try to encourage all students to enroll."

She said one's size, gender or athletic ability doesn't matter when enrolling in Fitness and Conditioning.

Wood said, "The class time is primarily set up to meet the needs of each individual. We don't demand that every person do the same thing. Each one does what they can and then I expect them to improve it over the course of the semester."

"Several students are enrolled this semester. And they seem to benefit from it. One student has lost 17 pounds. This class is for any person on campus. Not just the physically-abled."

Although this class is not required of students anymore, Wood said she believes the college should have fitness classes going every period of the day.

She said, "There was a time when most everyone came from small schools where they played some sport. They had to play in order for the school to have enough for a team. Now students come from consolidated

school districts and most have no athletic experience at all. They don't even know how to play individual sports."

Students have many reasons for enrolling in fitness classes.

Tammy Killens, a computer programming major from Decatur, said she "wanted to do this to lose some weight. I had a car wreck in 1997 which resulted in the outside of my leg and foot being paralyzed. I couldn't walk for two years. I just hopped around on a walker."

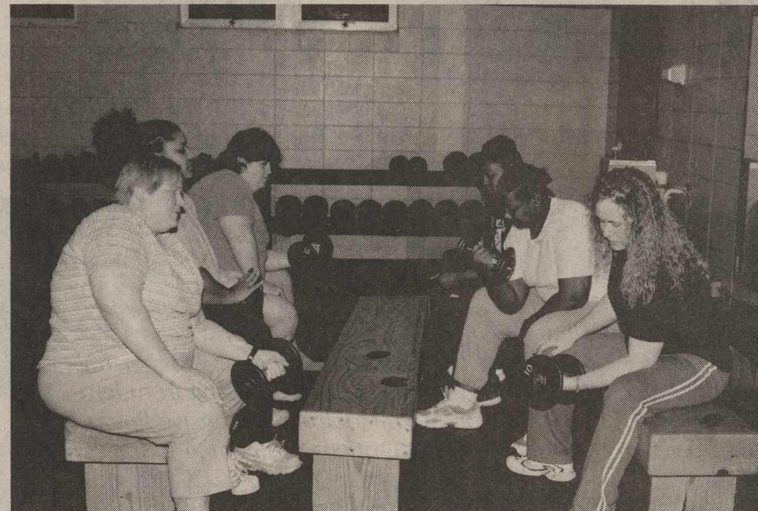
Is it difficult for someone who continues to suffer the effects of that accident?

"Some days are difficult when my legs hurt so bad," she said. "Some days I can get up and down and some days I can't. But Miss Wood allows me to go at my own pace. I love the walking and stretching and really like getting on the machines. It seems to have helped my foot some."

"I wanted to get in shape and get healthy," said Latasha Barnes, an engineering major from Forest. "I just had a baby so it's time to get in shape. And I love the feeling I have when class is over. Energetic. I just feel good. It's hard work, but I love it."

Julie Hollis, a liberal arts major from Hickory, had high blood pressure and knew that diet and exercise would help bring it down.

She said, "My blood pressure was a little high. I knew exercise would help that. I took one of



Weight training is just one part of what students do in the College's Fitness and Conditioning classes conducted by Lucille Wood.

Miss Wood's classes last semester and she encouraged me to join this class. I also wanted help in losing weight. So far I've lost 17 pounds."

Hollis also said this class helped relieve stress.

"I come to this class after A&P II (Anatomy & Physiology), so it's a huge stress reliever. Everyone is so supportive. We have a really good time."

The class teaches three basic ideas: Aerobics, Flexibility and Strength Exercise.

"We begin the same way each class period," Wood said. "When students arrive, they begin walking. When the class starts we jog two laps around the gymnasium floor. Those who can't jog walk as much as they

can. Then we have stretching exercises. After that we work in the weight room.

"In the weight room, each person works at his or her own pace. Then we all stretch down with stretching sticks. Before the class ends the ones that are able run or walk one half mile. By the end of the semester, we hope to build up to three-fourths to one mile. Some may walk or some may jog. Some may run the whole thing. I just like for them to show some improvement over the semester."

Anyone interested in participating in a fitness class should contact Lucille Wood at 601-635-2111, ext. 237. Her office is located Newton Hall.

2005 ECCC Football Signees

Numerous area football players have signed national letters of intent to continue their athletic careers at East Central Community College.

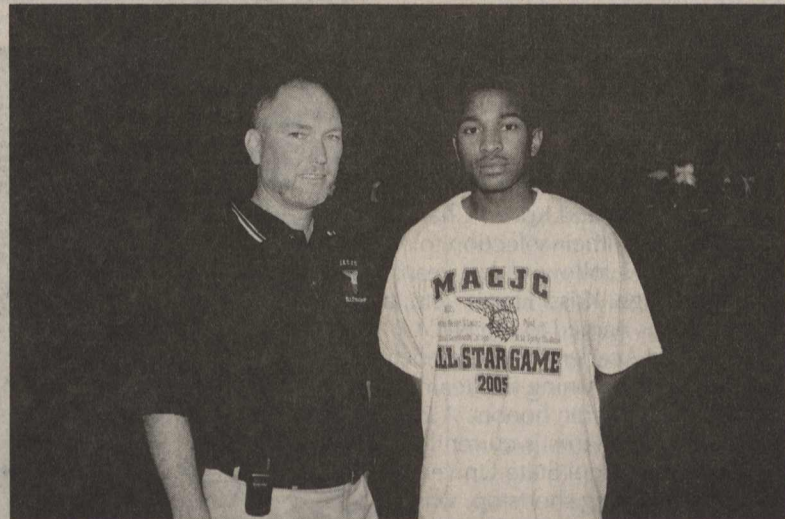
Signees and their respective high schools include Jerry Tripplett, Carthage; Keith Spann, Clinton; Jason Qualls and Gray LaPrade, both of Forest; Ken Chatham, Hillcrest Academy; Xavier Combest and Gary Lindsey, both of Laurel; Michael Sims, Jermaine Glass, Caleb Reed and Mentrall Ledbetter, all of Louisville;

Kenny Fuller, Madison Ridge-land Academy; Curtis Smith, Mendenhall; Kenyon Boatman and Kevin Marshall, both of Neshoba Central; Colby Amis, Newton County; Dedrick Bates,

Desmond Graham and DeAngelo Carter, all of Noxapater;

Jeremy Holmes, Dustin Crockett, Kerry Hudson and Johnathan Pickets, all of Philadelphia; Mitch Bradford, Scott Central; Ross Tew, Stringer; Chance Parham, South Leake; Carlos Moffett, Taylorsville; Anthony Johnson, Union; Randall Lofton, Wayne County;

Alan Stewart and TaQuan Lowe, both of Holt (Ala.); Jesse Badgewell, Paul W. Bryant (Ala.); Timothy Richardson, Hillcrest (Ala.); David McCants, Brad Petrey and Brad Sydner, all of Tuscaloosa County (Ala.); and Alfred Pettway of Wilcox Central (Ala.).



ECCC All-Star

East Central Community College standout basketball player Andrew Lewis (right) of Morton represented the Warriors in the MACJC All-Star Basketball Games held Saturday, April 16 at Choctaw Central High School in Choctaw. Lewis, shown with Warrior head coach Billy Smith, scored two points in the annual matchup.



ECCC Lady Warrior All-Stars

Three members of the East Central Community College women's basketball team were selected to participate in the MACJC All-Star Basketball Games held Saturday, April 16 at Choctaw Central High School in Choctaw. South team members Kotreece Bender (40) of Newton, Kristin Chaney (21) of Newton County and Kim Cox (20) of Lake are shown with Lady Warrior head coach Brad Hodge and assistant Zareth Gray prior to the annual matchup.

Ellis Makes All-Region; Qualifies for Nationals

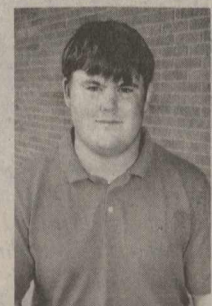
Arick Ellis of Forest, a freshman member of the East Central Community College golf team, was named to the Division III All-Region 23 Team following competition at the MACJC State Championship held April 26-27 at Kirkwood National in Holly Springs.

The Leake Academy product also qualified for the Division III NJCAA Tournament scheduled in early June at the Chautauqua (New York) Golf Club.

Ellis carded a 78 in first-round action and posted a 90 the final

day for a 168 total. Sophomore Jon Bergin, also of Forest, shot 169 (81-88) and missed qualifying for Nationals and All-Region by one stroke.

Tim Coats serves as golf team coach.



Arick Ellis

Amis Retiring As ECCC Tech Prep Coordinator



Sandra Amis

After serving 31 ½ years in the field of education, Sandra Amis says it's time to do some things that she never had time to do when she was full-time employed.

Amis, who has served as East Central Community College's coordinator of Tech Prep education since joining the College staff in 1997, will have that opportunity when she retires on June 30.

Amis emphasized she is not retiring because of her responsibilities at the College, which also includes serving as an adjunct instructor.

"I'm not tired of working as Tech Prep Coordinator and a teacher. Both jobs have been the joy of my life. I started teaching my classmates when I was in the first grade and have continued teaching throughout my life. I cannot imagine my life without studying and teaching," she

stated.

As Tech Prep Coordinator, Amis provides technical assistance to schools implementing Tech Prep into the curriculum. She also provides educational resources, teacher-training workshops, career awareness information, and professional development for administrators, teachers, counselors and career center managers. In addition, she has conducted math training and given motivational speeches for schools throughout Mississippi and at national conferences.

Her duties in the classroom include teaching intermediate algebra, college algebra, and problem solving with real numbers.

What has she liked most about her job?

"The best thing about my job has been the opportunity to form a superb working relationship

with the ECCC staff as well as with the administrators, teachers and staff at local schools in our district," she stated.

Amis added that completing her work has sometimes been a challenge.

"Most of the time I have several programs going at the same time. I laughingly tell everyone that I am 'multi-tasking,'" she said.

"But I really love my work and will miss the close camaraderie that I have shared with the staff in the Career and Technical Division as well as the many staff members and instructors on campus," she added.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Amis served 10 years as a math instructor at Lake Attendance Center.

She left teaching for five-and-a-half years to assist her husband, Robert, with their farming operation, which included cattle and eight broiler houses.

Amis later returned to Lake and taught math for 12 ½ years. She also sponsored the yearbook, Beta Club and cheerleading squad.

During her tenure at Lake, she was selected STAR Teacher eight times.

In reflecting on her career, Amis said she was inspired to enter the field of education by several of her elementary and high school teachers:

"From Mrs. Lila Brown (second grade teacher), I learned the benefits of peer teaching; from Mrs. Pittman (fifth grade teacher), I learned the worth of common dominators; and from Mrs. Lillian Horton (high school

English teacher), I learned to appreciate poetry; and from Lois and Raymond McMullan (high school math teacher and counselor), I learned to value teaching as a profession."

Amis replied that had she not selected a career in education, she "would have chosen an occupation that provided help for people, such as nursing."

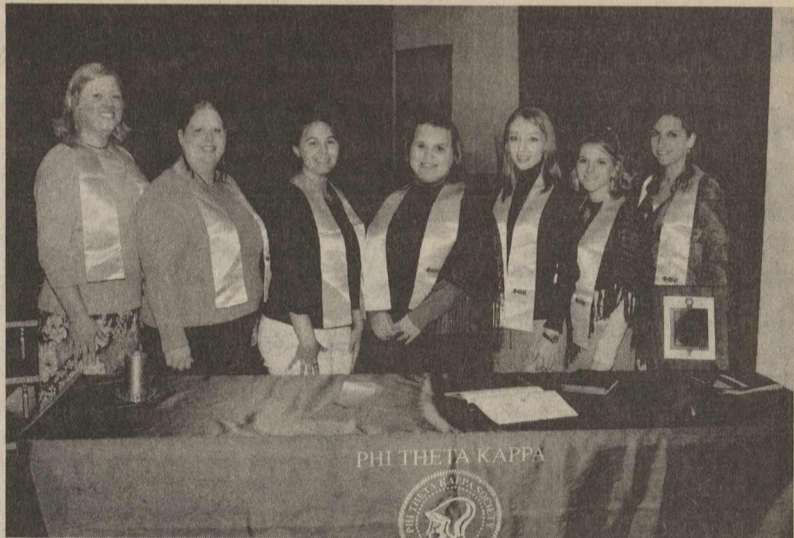
When she is not "multi-tasking" at EC, Amis said she likes to work in her yard, and read and study the Bible. She also teaches Sunday school and has conducted numerous Bible study groups at her church (Reid Chapel Church of God).

Amis said leaving EC will be difficult, as the College has served a vital role in her family's life.

"As a graduate of East Central Community College, I value the education and experiences gained during my college days. Robert and I dated at East Central. We married soon after graduating and have enjoyed almost 37 years of marriage. Our three children (Alisia, Deirdre and J.O.) and their spouses also attended East Central," she stated.

Amis is also a graduate of Decatur High School and Mississippi State University, where she received a Master of Education degree. She has also completed an additional 45 hours above the master's in vocational-technical education and community college leadership.

Amis will be honored with other retirees at the College's end-of-the-year dinner in May.



These East Central Community College students serve as officers of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges. From left are Courtnee Graham of Preston, president; Faith Hessenius of Louisville, vice president for scholarship; Rachel Edwards of Noxapater, vice president for fellowship; Ginger Vance of Decatur, vice president for service; Shana Smith of Union, vice president for leadership; Ashley Nicholson of Chunky, secretary; and Dru Fulton of Louisville, historian. Advisers are faculty members Debbie Boyd of Meridian and Sylvia Wright of Louisville.

Sixty-Six ECCC Students Tapped For Phi Theta Kappa Membership

Sixty-six East Central Community College students were welcomed into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, during the spring semester induction ceremony held in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus.

The ceremony also included the presentation of the annual Shelby Harris Alumni Award, named in memory of the longtime Theta Xi adviser and ECCC math instructor. Melissa Thrash Carleton (ECCC Class of 1988) of Newton was selected the 2005 recipient and received the award from Martha Sibley, an ECCC staff member who serves as president of the Theta Xi Alumni Chapter. Carleton is Acting Attorney General for the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians. She and her husband Robert reside in Newton.

Ann Burkes, retired ECCC librarian and longtime Theta Xi adviser who along with Dr. Harris organized and chartered the Theta Xi Alumni Association, also presented remarks to the new inductees from Phi Theta Kappa International Headquarters, located in Jackson, Miss.

ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and Vice President for Instruction Dr. Lavinia Sparkman also provided remarks.

Theta Xi officers Courtnee Graham (president) of Preston, Faith Hessenius (vice president for scholarship) of Louisville, Rachel Edwards (vice president for fellowship) of Louisville, Ginger Vance (vice president for service) of Decatur, Shana Smith (vice president for leadership) of Union, Ashley Nicholson (secretary) of Chunky, and Dru Fulton (historian) of Louisville, conducted the induction ceremony with the assistance of advisers Debbie Boyd of Meridian and Sylvia Wright of Louisville, both members of the ECCC faculty.

New members of the prestigious honor society and their hometowns include the following:

Leake County: Jodie Rawson, Crystal Tull, JoAnna Daugherty and Beth Faulkner, all of Carthage; Loretta Gates, Walnut Grove; and Alexa Carr, Thomas-town.

Neshoba County: Heather Bain, Meagan Myers, Kimberly Fitzhugh, Jana Sansing, Flame Reese, Ashley Tolbert, Scott Duett, Zach Kilpatrick, Joshua Benson and Clinton Howell, all of Philadelphia; and Lauren Beckham, Beth Crotwell and Rebekah Crenshaw, all of Union.

Newton County: Courtney Averett and Megan Pace, both of Conehatta; Marlo Hollingsworth, Evelyn Hill Lindsey, Amanda Therrien, Amanda McMillan, Laine Dickson, Monickala Ellis and Kurt Nelson, all of Newton; Kristin Bufkin, and Daniel Marshall, both of Decatur; Kasey Hall, Lawrence; Micah Lanier, Alisha Hitt, Tyler Hagan and Richard Burton, all of Little Rock; Lindsey Walker, Casey Shackelford and Clancy Cleveland, all of Union; and Joy Cavanaugh, Chunky.

Scott County: Megan Slay, Elizabeth Puckett and Mollie Cieglo, all of Forest; Kathryn Barney, Clay Thrash and Tonya Johnson, all of Sebastopol; and Kristie Usry and Even Snell, both of Lake.

Winston County: Diedre Coleman, Jordan Kemp, Marty Quinn, Stan Smith and Michael Gregory, all of Louisville; and Nikki Spears, Daphanie Hatcher and Brittney Miles, all of Nanih Waiya.

Out-of-District: Abby Miller, Madison; Samantha Merrill, Garlandsville; and Megan Jones, Enterprise.

Bush Retiring As Career-Technical Counselor

Sylvia Bush has "mixed feelings" regarding her upcoming retirement from East Central Community College, where she has served the past three years as counselor of career-technical education following two years service as work-based learning coordinator.

"I am excited about beginning a new segment of my life but sad to be leaving the friends I have made at East Central," she stated.

Bush, who also teaches Intermediate Algebra and Human Growth and Development as part of the College's evening class schedule, has served 33 years in the field of education.

Prior to beginning her employment at ECCC, Bush was Tech Prep Coordinator and Counselor at Mississippi Delta Community College in Moorhead. She has also worked at several secondary schools as a high school counselor and mathematics teacher.

Bush said working with students has brought her the most enjoyment.

"I love working with students. Without a doubt, we have the greatest group of students anywhere," she stated.

What's been her biggest challenge?

"Counseling sessions with students who have had excessive absences is always a challenge on the college level," she stated.

She added, "I will not miss the tears and frustrations that students have when they have not been accepted into one of our programs. That's always tough...but we try to encourage our students to look at other opportunities."

She will, however, miss her EC "family."

"I will definitely miss the people at EC – the faculty, staff, administration and students. I will especially miss getting to know the students. I always look forward to August when a new group of students begin their year at EC," she said.

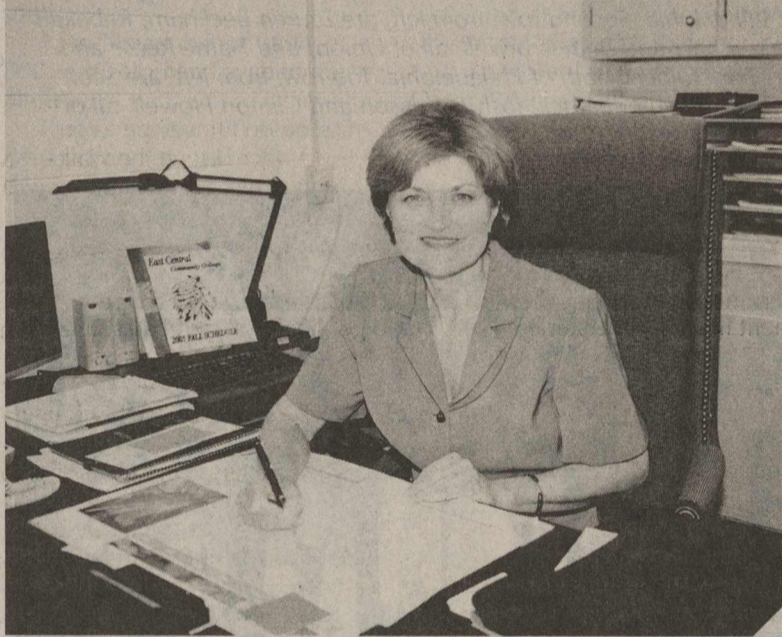
Bush, who plans to work for a private consulting company after she officially retires on June 30, said she always knew a career in education would be her calling, thanks mainly to her father's influence.

"My dad (Kenneth Horn) spent his life in the education field as a high school principal and counselor. I was impressed how he made a difference in the lives of so many students," she stated.

Had she not chosen a career in education, Bush replied, "I would have chosen something where I was providing a service or helping people."

During her spare time, she enjoys reading, walking and watching movies.

A graduate of Carthage High School, Bush received an associate's degree from East Central Junior College. While attending East Central, she was a member of the women's basketball team coach by Miss Lucille Wood. She received a bachelor's degree from Mississippi State College for Women, a master's degree from



Sylvia Bush

Mississippi State University, and completed additional graduate work at Mississippi College and Delta State University.

She has two sons, Todd Bush and Ken Bush. Todd is currently stationed at Ramstein Air Force Base in Germany and Ken is employed at a ski resort in Mammoth Mountain, California.

Among honors she has received during her career include being named to Who's Who Among America's Teachers and her selection as a STAR Teacher by the Mississippi Economic Council. She is also past

president of the ECCC Administration, Faculty, Staff Association (AFSA).

Bush, who will be honored with other retirees at the College's end-of-the-year dinner in May, expressed appreciation to her ECCC colleagues:

"I would just like to thank everyone for the opportunity to have worked at one of the best community colleges in the state. It has been a great experience for me."

Lane Looking for Scholar's Bowl Team Members for '05-'06

By **BRADLEY COOK**
Tom-Tom Editor

East Central Community College offers many social and extracurricular activities for students of all interest groups. One group, however, that many may not have heard of is the East Central Community College Scholar's Bowl Team.

Scholar's Bowl is a quiz bowl activity that attracts participants of all varieties. Each year the team competes at various tournaments across the state with other community colleges.

The Scholar's Bowl season begins at the beginning of fall semester and runs through February. The 2004-2005 campaign was a rebuilding year for the Scholar's Bowl team. Dr. Linda Lane, EC Spanish instructor, serves as the advisor and coach for the team. Dr. Lane has held this capacity for the past six years and is looking forward to success in the future.

"Last year was probably our best since I took over the team," she said. "I was very pleased

with the number of participants we had last year and would like participation to grow next year. When we have a large number of participants, the students see competition on campus before we compete off campus. As a result, last year we finished second at South Mississippi and competed well at Ole Miss."

Members of the 2004-2005 team have gained outstanding experiences through participation in Scholar's Bowl.

Jordan Kemp, a sophomore from Louisville, said "I've learned things that I probably would not have learned in class that will help me in the future."

Elizabeth Puckett, a freshman from Forest, added, "Scholar's Bowl has been an enriching experience and I have met a lot of wonderful people."

Team member Molly Cieglo, also a freshman from Forest, said, "I have met many interesting people that I would not have met otherwise."

So who is Dr. Lane looking for to compete on the Scholar's Bowl team?

"Anyone that wants to expand their knowledge base

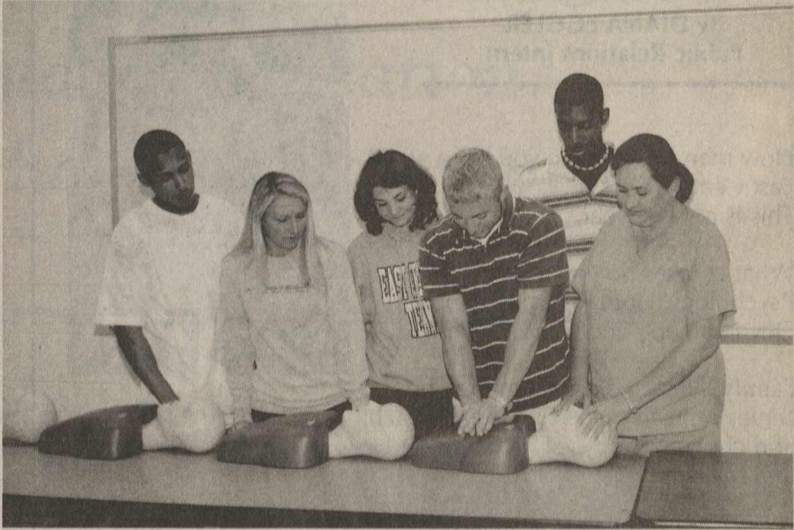


Team members for 2004-05 include (seated from left) Anthony Engram of Decatur, and Elizabeth Puckett and Mollie Cieglo, both of Forest; and (standing from left) Bradley Cook of Little Rock, Jordan Kemp of Louisville and Andrew Kirkland of Philadelphia.

and associate with students with similar interests from other colleges. This is also a great activity for anyone who wants to compete with students from other community colleges and represent East Central," Dr. Lane said.

And Dr. Lane added that her ultimate goal is "To win every competition."

So if anyone reading this



Learning CPR Skills

Donna Pace (right) of Newton Regional Hospital recently instructed students in CPR training as a part of Lucille Wood's First Aid class at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured with Pace are (from left) Jonathan Nichols of Morton, Kristin Chaney of Little Rock, Courtney Partridge of Louisville, T.J. Rushing of Philadelphia and Marcus Wash of Carthage.

ECCC All-State Band Members

East Central Community College band members Claire Stinson (left) of Clarkdale and Daniel Herring of Morton were named to the Mississippi Community College Honor Band following recent auditions. They joined other outstanding community/junior bandsmen for a concert performance held at the University of Mississippi. Stinson is a clarinetist and Herring plays trumpet. Thomas W. Carson serves as ECCC Director of Bands.



Tucker Selected East Central Speech/Theater Instructor

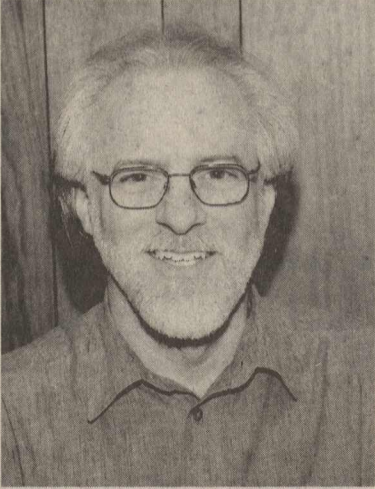
After serving the past two years as adjunct speech instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur, Stan Tucker has been named to the position on a full-time basis, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

Tucker, who resides in Philadelphia, will also serve as theatre instructor and is responsible for directing the annual fall dinner theatre and spring musical productions at the College.

A native of Philadelphia, Tucker is a former adjunct instructor in the Speech and Theatre Department at Hinds Community College and served as instructor/director of theatre in the Communication Department at Mississippi College. His experience in theatre also includes serving as producing artistic director for a Christian theatrical touring group in Jackson.

Tucker began his career as a writer/editor/photographer for the Simpson County News in Mendenhall.

In addition to his teaching duties at ECCC, Tucker serves



Stan Tucker

as pastor of Springfield Baptist Church in Carthage.

He is a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi, where he received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in theatre and a Master of Arts degree in theatre.

He is married to the former Gail Edwards of Philadelphia.

Tucker officially begins his fulltime duties at East Central on August 1.

East Central Establishes Hummel Scholarship

A scholarship in memory of Martha Kate Tullos Hummel of Greenwood was recently established at East Central Community College, her alma mater.

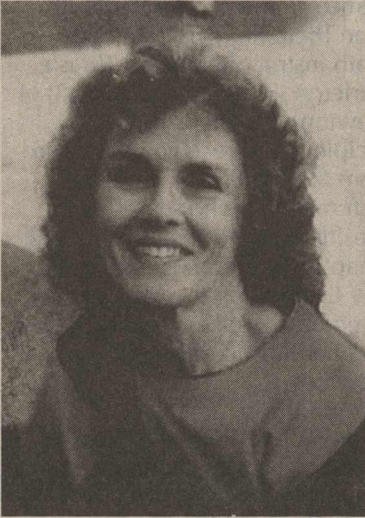
Hummel, 65, died of respiratory failure Sept. 29, 2004, at Greenwood Leflore Hospital. A year earlier she underwent surgery for a brain tumor.

The scholarship endowment is funded by her husband, Donald; her sons, Andrew, Robert and Jeffrey; and other family members and friends.

A native of Choctaw County, Hummel graduated with honors from Louisville High School in 1956 and received the highest honor a student can receive at ECCC with her induction into the College's Hall of Fame in 1958. She also participated in the band, choir, ECJC Players and was voted a class favorite. She continued her association at ECCC by helping to organize the annual reunion of 1957-58-59 class members during Homecoming.

Hummel was an active member of First United Methodist Church in Greenwood. She also had lead roles in several Little Theater groups. In addition, she directed and sang in "Harmony," a female choral group.

Students interested in applying for The Martha Kate Tullos Hummel Scholarship must be a



Kate Hummel

legal resident of the ECCC five-county district (Leake, Scott, Newton, Neshoba and Winston counties); have a minimum 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale; be a full-time student starting the sophomore year; and be a music major.

The amount of the scholarship will be determined by the interest earned each year.

For more information contact the Vice President of Student Services, East Central Community College, P. O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, Phone 635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 375.

Teacher Spotlight: Susan Smith

By DIANA EGGLER
Public Relations Intern



Susan Smith

How many years have you been at East Central?
This is my first year.

What courses do you teach?
Psychology, Human Growth and Development, and Child Psychology.

Family: Husband, Billy Smith, who serves as head men's basketball coach; and children, Andy, 21, Chandler, 11, and Mackie, 9.

Where did you attend college?
I received my associate's degree from East Central, my bachelor's degree from Mississippi State and my master's degree from Mississippi College.

What do you like to do in your spare time?
I like to take care of my kids and do whatever actiities they are doing.

What do you like most about working at East Central?
I really like teaching students on the level and the age that they are. Also, I like working with my husband.

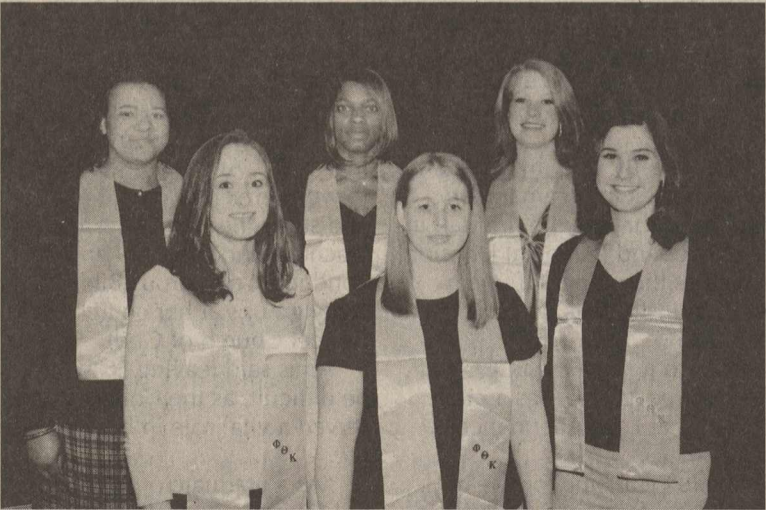
Hudson Receives ECCC Scholarship

Sheila Hudson (left) of Sebastopol was recently presented a nontraditional student scholarship to continue her studies at East Central Community College. Hudson, shown with Joe Killens, Vice President for Student Services, is a 49-year-old second semester freshman majoring in pre-nursing. She is also a Dean's List Scholar, having earned a 3.5 grade point average for the fall term. She is married to Nick Hudson and they have three grown children and five grandchildren. Nontraditional student tuition scholarships are available to qualified Mississippi residents, age 23 or older at the time of initial enrollment, who enroll fulltime at ECCC on the Decatur campus. Scholarships are available for three consecutive semesters following the first 12 semester hours earned as either a part-time or full-time student at East Central.

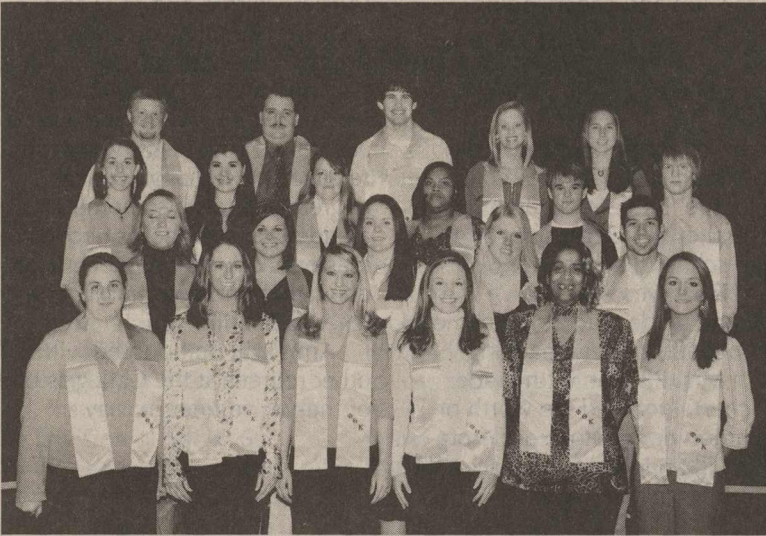


Phi Theta Kappa Spring Initiation

Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of the two-year college, recently held spring induction ceremonies in the Ovid S. Vickers Fine Arts Center. Membership in Phi Theta Kappa is by invitation only, with inductees required to have a minimum 3.5 grade point average earned as a full-time student in addition to having an overall 3.5 GPA. ECCC faculty members Debbie Boyd of Meridian and Sylvia Wright of Louisville serve as Theta Xi advisers.



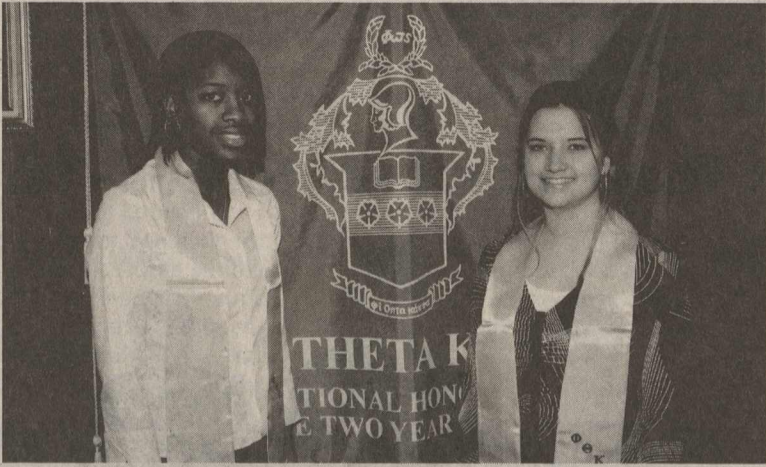
Above are Leake County students who were inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa. First row, from left, are Jodie Rawson, Crystal Tull and JoAnna Daugherty, all of Carthage. Second row, from left, are Loretta Gates of Walnut Grove, Alexa Carr of Thomastown and Beth Faulkner of Carthage.



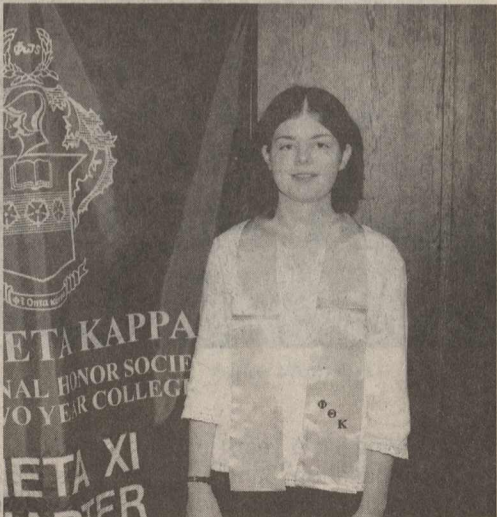
Above are Neshoba County students who were inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa. First row, from left, are Heather Bain, Meagan Myers, Kimberly Fitzhugh and Jana Sansing, all of Philadelphia. Second row, from left, are Lauren Beckham, Rebekah Crenshaw and Beth Crotwell, all of Union; and Flame Reese and Ashley Tolbert, both of Philadelphia. Top row, from left, are Scott Duett, Zach Kilpatrick, Joshua Benson and Clinton Howell, all of Philadelphia.



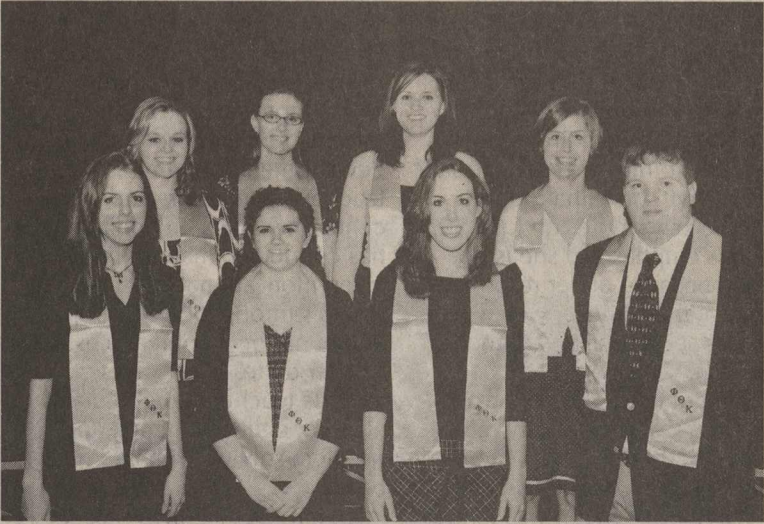
Above are students from Newton County who were inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa. First row, from left, are Courtney Averett, Conehatta; Marlo Hollingsworth, Newton; Kristin Bufkin, Decatur; Lindsey Walker, Union; and Evelyn Hill Lindsey and Amanda Therrien, both of Newton. Second row, from left, are Amanda McMillan and Kelly Evans, both of Newton; Kasey Hall, Lawrence; Laine Dickson, Newton; and Micah Lanier, Little Rock. Third row, from left, are Lindsey Alexander, Little Rock; Megan Pace, Conehatta; Alisha Hitt, Little Rock; Monickala Ellis, Newton; Casey Shackelford, Union; and Daniel Marshall, Decatur. Top row, from left, are Tyler Hagan and Richard Burton, both of Little Rock; Kurt Nelson, Newton; Clancy Cleveland, Union; and Joy Cavanaugh, Chunky.



East Central Community College freshmen Heather Steele (left) and Jamie Jones, both of Nanih Waiya, were among students recently inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa.



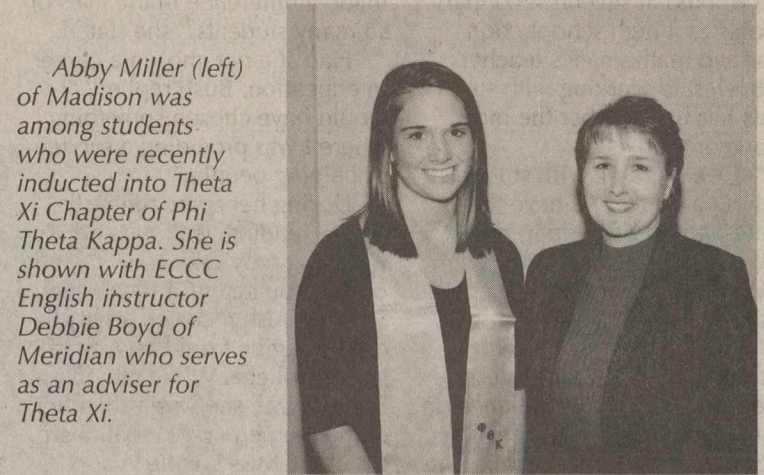
Freshman Claire Stinson of Clarkdale was among students inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa.



Above are Scott County students who were inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa. First row, from left, are Megan Slay and Elizabeth Puckett, both of Forest; and Kathryn Barney and Clay Thrash, both of Sebastopol. Back row, from left, are Kristie Ustry and Even Snell, both of Lake; Mollie Cieglo, Forest; and Tonya Johnson, Sebastopol.



Above are Winston County students who were inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa. First row, from left, are Deidre Coleman of Louisville and Nikki Spears, Daphanie Hatcher and Brittney Miles, all of Nanih Waiya. Back row, from left, are Jordan Kemp, Marty Quinn, Stan Smith and Michael Gregory, all of Louisville.

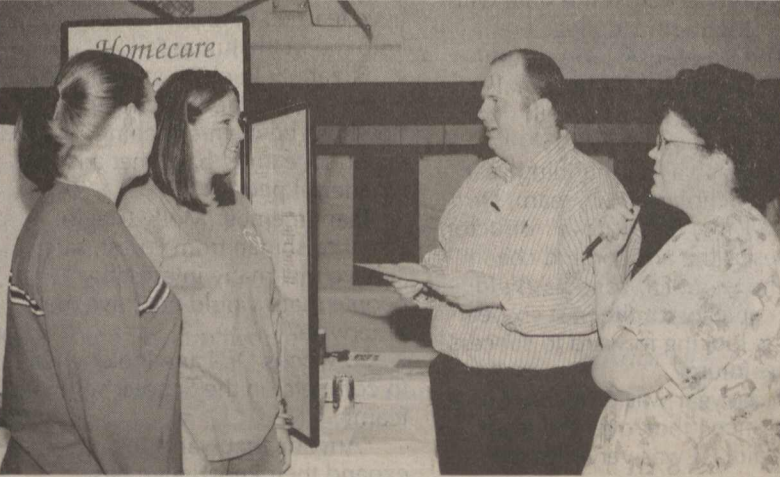


Abby Miller (left) of Madison was among students who were recently inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa. She is shown with ECCC English instructor Debbie Boyd of Meridian who serves as an adviser for Theta Xi.



East Central Community College freshmen Samantha Merrill (left) of Garlandville and Megan Jones of Enterprise were among students recently inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa.

Attend ECCC Expo



Associate Degree Nursing student Lisa Adkins of Decatur (left) and pre-nursing major Anya Dickerson (second from left) of Conehatta visit with Homecare Hospice of Sebastopol representatives Floyd Bozeman (second from right) and Ilydia Hall (right) during East Central Community College's annual Business, Education and Healthcare Expo. More than 440 students toured the 57 exhibitor booths, which were located in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

EC's Blaylock Knows Importance of Organ Donation

When Angela Gunn Marketing/Quality Assurance Coordinator for the Mississippi Lions Eye Bank, spoke to East Central Community College students on the importance of organ donation, music keyboard instructor Vicki Blaylock knew exactly what she was talking about.

At age 21, Blaylock was diagnosed with Keratoconus, a genetic eye condition that deteriorates the corneas in the eye. She credits her ability to see to a cornea transplant from an organ donor.

"A cornea transplant replaced what the Keratoconus had destroyed," Blaylock said. "That enabled doctors to better fit me with contacts in order to see. I wear two contacts in each eye and vision at best is 20/30. Sometimes my vision is blurry and I often stumble because my depth perception is very bad."

Before transplant surgery was available, most with the disease went blind.

Before being diagnosed, Blaylock said she had never heard of Keratoconus, nor did she realize the impact it would have on her

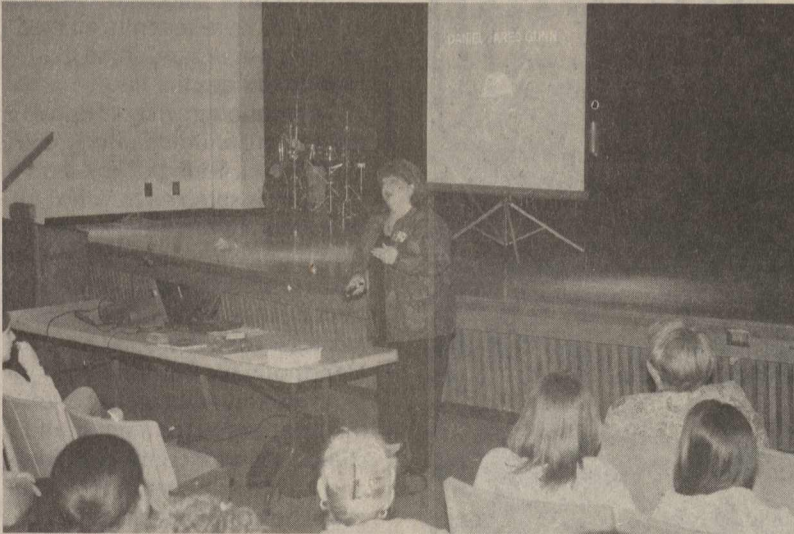
life. Twenty years and 10 eye surgeries later, she is grateful that she can see as well as she does.

"I initially thought I could have eye surgery down the road, fix the problem and move on with my life," Blaylock said. "But that was not the case; Keratoconus consumed my life.

Blaylock encourages others to consider organ donation.

"It is likely that one or both of my children will have this genetic disease or at least carry the gene for it," she said. "Someone's willingness to donate their corneas could enable one of my family members to see.

Angela Gunn



Angela Gunn of the Mississippi Lions Eye Bank recently spoke to East Central students on the importance of organ donation.

Jared's other kidney," Gunn said. "He's 79 now and still says thank you every time I talk to him. A 56-year-old woman received Jared's liver. When her family found out he was only seven, they waited a long time to tell her about her donor. But when they did, she said she already knew. She said she had seen him in her dreams and that he was a little red-headed boy. She calls him 'our' son.

"A 71-year-old woman received a cornea transplant because of Jared. She's now 88 and says she sees like she was 15 again. She had a second chance at sight."

These are only a few examples of how organ and tissue donation can help others.

Gunn said that up to 75 lives can be saved or enhanced by one person donating all of their organs and tissues.

She presented the following statistics:

As of November of 2004, 800 Mississippians needed transplants.

That same year, 60 people donated organs and 223 donated corneas in Mississippi.

Every 13 minutes a new name is added to the transplant list.

Each day, an average of 17 people die waiting for a transplant.

She also stressed the fact that signing your drivers' license does not make you a donor.

"Your family must give consent," she said. "Signing a license will help your family know your wishes, but the next of kin must give consent.

Gunn also noted that there are many misconceptions regarding donation.

"There are so many concerns

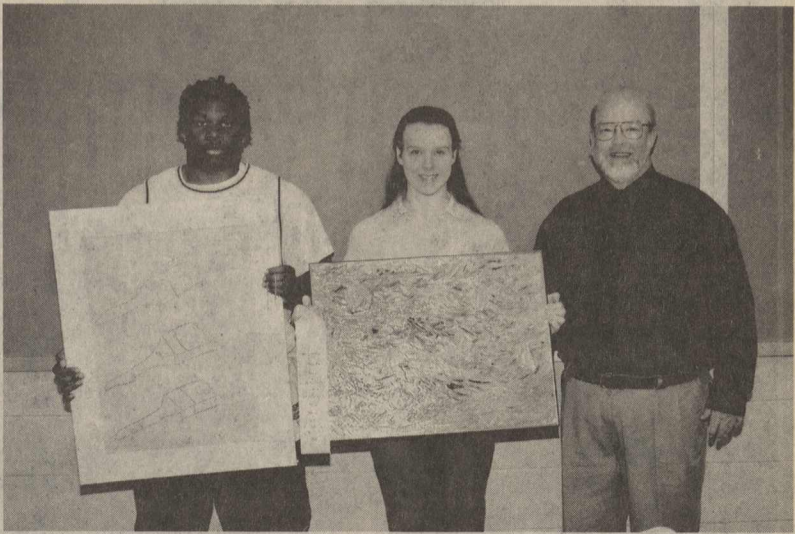
that donor families have," she said. "Knowing that there are needed organs across the country, some worry that the quality of medical treatment will suffer if they make their family member a donor. Everything is done to try to save someone's life and it is after all efforts cease, that the family is approached about donation. Being a donor won't affect your treatment."

She added that donor families are not required to pay anything for donation and families may choose which organs to donate. Gunn also stressed the fact that donating organs does not disfigure the body in any way.

She said, "After the recovery of organs and tissue, restoration is done to make sure the body can be viewed for open casket. They take good care of the donors and their families."

For more information on organ and tissue donation contact Gunn at 601-624-9766, the Mississippi Lions Eye Bank at 601-420-5739 or the Mississippi Organ Recovery Agency at (601) 933-1000 or 1-800-690-8878.

(Article written by ECCC Public Relations intern Diana Egger and Public Relations Assistant Maria McLeod.)



Award-Winning ECCC Art Students

East Central Community College art students Sarah Hickox (left) of Decatur and Montero Baker (center) of Columbus received honors at the Mississippi Community/Junior College Art Contest held at Northwest Mississippi Community College in Senatobia. Hickox won honorable mention in the Painting in Mixed Media competition for her work titled, "Christmas 04 Revisited." Baker placed third in Drawing with his entry, "Paint Brush - 10-Second Gestures." Also pictured is ECCC art instructor Bruce Guraedy.



ECCC Coaches 'Pied' for Cancer!

"Why did we do this?" is probably what East Central Community College coaches Terry Underwood (left) and Jake Yarborough said to each other after they were "pied" in the face by their wives during halftime activities of the Warrior's season-ending basketball game with Meridian Community College. The two coaches were good sports throughout the event and more importantly helped raise almost \$230 for the American Cancer Society. Money was collected during the basketball games and the coach with the most funds was designated as the one to receive a pie in the face thrown by his wife. However, the amount collected was so close that pies were "presented" to both coaches!

Ask SIFE:

Answers to your financial questions.

Dear SIFE,

I am interested in buying individual stocks. How do I decide what to buy, at which price to buy and at which price to sell?

Stock Hunter

Dear Stock Hunter,

In buying individual stocks, a good rule of thumb is to buy stock from a company that you are very familiar with or stock from a company that you buy from.

When deciding the right time and price to buy-go to Yahoo!finance.com, look up the company and click on the "track stock" menu button.

See what the stock has been doing in the last quarter. This will give you an indication as to what the stock price could do in the future. Some analysts state to buy when the stock is on the rise from a low, some say purchase the stock at a low.

Once you purchase the stock, a good rule as to when to sell is to set a predetermined percentage (say 10%) that you will allow the stock to drop below purchase price before you sell.

This is usually very hard for a person to do, because they keep hoping the stock price will rise again and he/she will make a profit. So once you set that percentage, you have to be very disciplined to stick to it. Just remember MCI/WorldCom stock!!!

Dear SIFE,

I have a number of credit cards with different balances and different monthly interest rates. I am trying desperately to pay these cards off and do not know which ones to focus on. Help!!

Troubled Credit

Dear Troubled Credit,

First you need to make a list of each credit card, the balance and interest rate. You need to come to terms with how much you owe. Next, make sure that you make at least the minimum payment, on time, to all credit cards to keep your credit in good standing.

Next, focus on the credit card with the highest interest rate. Try to apply any extra monthly income or lump-sum money you receive (such as tax refund checks or bonuses from work) to that credit card balance.

Each month keep a tally of each credit card and compare it to last month's to see the progress you are making. Once you pay off the card with the highest interest rate, then move to the next highest and work your way down from there.

Another key ingredient to this working is to not continue to use any credit cards. Work out a budget to help you achieve this.

If all credit cards have the same interest rates, then start with the one that has the smallest balance. Once you pay that one off, move that payment to the next smallest. If you stick to this plan those cards will be gone in no time and you will feel a great financial burden lifted.

Thanks for your questions. We hope that we helped with the advice. If you have a question about any money matters please send them to Mrs. Wanda Hurley, sponsor of SIFE (you can simply slide any question under the door - Newton Hall, Room 64), or give to any SIFE member.



Carleton Presented Harris Award

Melissa Thrash Carleton (left) is the 2005 recipient of the Shelby Harris Alumni Award, which is presented to an East Central Community College alumnus "for outstanding and continuing support of academic excellence" to the College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges. Martha Sibley, an ECCC staff member who serves as president of the Theta Xi Alumni Chapter, presented the award during Theta Xi's 2005 spring induction ceremony held in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus. The annual award honors the late Dr. Harris who, along with fellow longtime Theta Xi adviser Ann Burkes, organized and chartered the Theta Xi Alumni Association "to support and encourage the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society at East Central. Carleton, a 1988 honor graduate of ECCC, Phi Theta Kappa and Hall of Fame member, serves as Acting Attorney General for the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians. She was recently named to the "Top 40 Under 40" in addition to receiving various other honors. She is a member of the ECCC Alumni Association, the University of Mississippi Alumni Association, and is involved in various community activities. She is married to Robert Carleton and they reside in Newton.

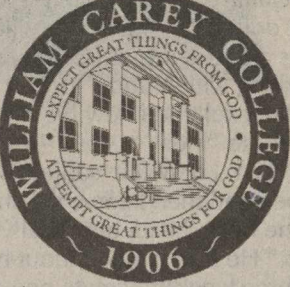
Ac'cents Spring Concert Schedule Thurs., May 5

The Ac'cents, East Central Community College's show choir, will present their annual spring campus concert at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 5, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium.

The group will perform hits such as "Footloose," the title hit from the popular movie; "Love is a Wonderful Thing," made popular by Michael Bolton; "Reach Out," a Motown number; and "We Are Family," by Sister Sledge, plus many more. Admission is

free and the public is invited.


Members include Zach Logan of Newton, Felicia Chapman, Victoria Loper, Sam McDill, Eddie Smith, Luke Howell and Anthony Engram, all of Decatur; Kelly Bankston and Grant Comans, both of Sebastopol; Amy Kennedy and Mollie Cieglo, both of Forest; Bryon Whitley and Cassidy Crenshaw, both of Philadelphia; and JoAnna Daugherty of Carthage. Vicki Blaylock serves as director.



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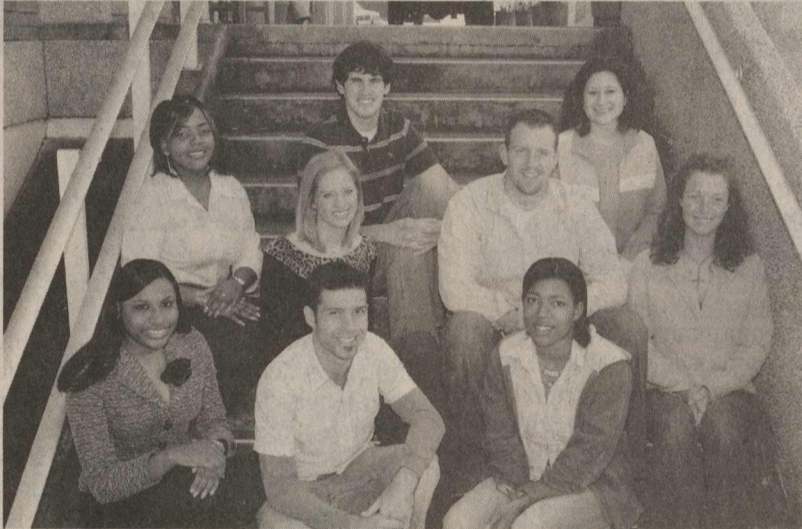


ECCC Instructors Honored

These East Central Community College faculty members were selected to participate in the annual Lamplighters Conference, which recognizes the state's outstanding community and junior college instructors. From left are Kenneth Thompson (developmental mathematics) of Decatur, Sherri Cantey (associate degree nursing) of Meridian, Tanya Boler (English) of Union, Martha Graham (psychology) of Decatur, Len Bobo (music) of Union and Gerald Jordan (welding) of Carthage. This year's conference was hosted by East Mississippi Community College and held in Columbus. (Photo courtesy of East Mississippi Community College)

ECCC Class Favorites

These students were selected class favorites at East Central Community College. Pictured are (front row, from left) freshmen Sherrell Brown of Forest and Micah Lanier of Little Rock; and sophomore Keely Morgan of Walnut Grove; (second row, from left) freshmen Tiffany Willis of Philadelphia and Clancy Cleveland of Union, and sophomores Rick Lachney of Decatur and Shelly Ferguson of Hickory; and (back row, from left) freshman Kurt Nelson of Newton and sophomore Stephanie Culpepper of Forest. Not pictured are sophomores Tasha Boswell of Philadelphia, Lynlee Heely of Macon, and Shay Moncrief and Brian Sibley, both of Newton.



Gallaspy's 'Dancing Dolls' Displayed

By DIANA EGGLE
ECCC Public Relations Intern

Willie Gallaspy definitely has talent when it comes to wood working, and the East Central Community College staff member is sharing his expertise for the public to enjoy.

Gallaspy, 61, provided Burton Library with several of his hand-carved "Dancing Dolls," which were recently on display in the library foyer. The "dolls," which measure two inches tall by three inches wide, attracted a lot of attention, said ECCC head librarian Gloria Johnson.

"Mr. Gallaspy is a skilled craftsman. He pays attention to details and does an excellent job of recreating the type of building structures of a time gone by. Several of our patrons have shown an interest in purchasing his items. Mr. Willie even donated a dancing doll to the Child Care Department and one for the College's Memorabilia Room," says Johnson.

Gallaspy said he carved his first doll in 1978 for one of his sons after seeing his cousin begin working with wood.

He explained how his subject comes to "life."

"First, I draw the subject on paper, and then I carve the shape of the body, head, and finally the legs." He said it takes about two to three weeks to create one of the "dancing dolls."

His next wood project includes a series of log cabins, outhouses, wells and horse-feeding troughs, all of which will be displayed in Burton Library later this semester.

Gallaspy obviously has a passion for working with wood.

"It's (carving) something I really enjoy doing, especially in the winter when it's too cold to be outside. I get a lot of pleasure just trimming and whittling the wood," Gallaspy stated.

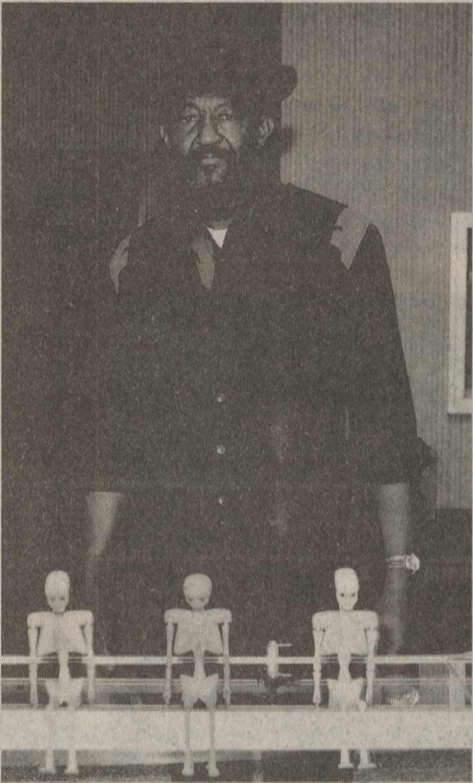
In addition to wood carving, the longtime maintenance staff member spends his free time doing mechanical work, which he described as his "real" passion. He said he especially enjoys

working on antique cars and trucks. He also owns several antique vehicles.

Gallaspy, a Newton County native, and his wife Clara Mae have two sons, Willie Scott Gallaspy of Newton and Rodney Dewayne Gallaspy of Newton, and two grandchildren, Collin Scott and Mallory Claire Gallaspy of Newton.

Gallaspy said he plans to retire in May 2005 after completing 25 years of service on the ECCC campus. And how does he plan to spend his retirement years?

"I'll be spending a lot more time doing what I enjoy doing—wood carving and working on vehicles! I can hardly wait to June 1," Gallaspy replied.



Willie Gallaspy displays his 'dancing dolls' in the foyer of Burton Library.

ECCC Basketball Assistant Named Bevill State Head Coach

Zareth Gray spent the last year helping guide the East Central Community College women's basketball team to another successful season.

Next year she hopes to do the same for Bevill State Community College, located in Fayette, Ala.

Gray, who has served as an assistant to five different head coaches during her young career, said she is "pretty excited" about her first head coaching job.

"It's a great opportunity for me," Gray stated soon after she was named to lead the Lady Bears. "Bevill has a lot to offer and they want to do what it takes to win."

Gray inherits a team that finished 8-22 overall and 2-10 in the Alabama Community College Conference. Bevill lost twice to East Central in 2004, falling 80-66 in the season opener in Decatur and 65-59 in the fourth game of the season in Fayette. A 2005 match-up is currently being planned between the two schools and is tentatively scheduled to be played on Bevill's campus in Jasper, Ala.

Gray helped lead the East

Central women to a 20-10 record and a second place finish in the Region 23 Tournament. Gray said her association with a successful program such as East Central played a role in her landing the head coach position.

"There's no doubt that the experience I gained working with Coach (Brad) Hodge was instrumental in my getting the job at Bevill. East Central has been highly ranked for a long time and my association with such a successful program was very beneficial."

"Coach Hodge said he is "excited" that Coach Gray has met her goal of becoming a head coach.

"She's very deserving of the opportunity to be head coach. We're going to miss her; she brought a lot to our program and she was a big help. But this is an opportunity for her to move on, and we appreciate the year she put in with us," Hodge said.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Gray served as an assistant coach and recruiting coordinator at Southern Illinois University. She is also a former assistant at

Wichita State University, Eastern Illinois and Ball State University.

She is also a former basketball standout on the professional, college and high school levels.

Professionally, Gray played in the Women's First Division of the German Professional Basketball League of the DJK Wuerzburg X-Rays. In her only season on the team, she finished 10th in the league in rebounding.

She was a four-year letter-winner at Michigan State University, and was instrumental in leading the Lady Spartans to the second round of the 1996 NCAA Tournament during her senior season. She was selected Most Improved Player during her junior year and was also named to the Felpausch All-Tournament Team, an event hosted at MSU.

Prior to her junior season, Gray was a member of the Big 10 All-Stars, which became the first team from the Big 10 Conference to go undefeated on the European Tour.

Gray was also a standout at Fairfield (Calif.) High School, where she helped lead FHS to the Monticello Empire League

Body, Ealy Named Mr., Miss ECCC

Todd Body and Amy Ealy, both of Forest, were recently elected Mr. and Miss East Central Community College.

A psychology major, Body is the son of Shauranda Body and Ssgt. Terry J. Young of Forest.

He was selected to Who's Who Among American Community/Junior College Students and received a National Junior College Minority Student award. He was selected Most Handsome his freshman year.

Body serves as secretary of the Warrior Corps, a group of students who assist in recruiting, and he is a member of the Concert Choir and the ECCC cheer-leading squad.

Honors he has received include the Mable Moore Carr Endowed Scholarship, the Wal-Mart Scholarship and an ACT Scholarship.

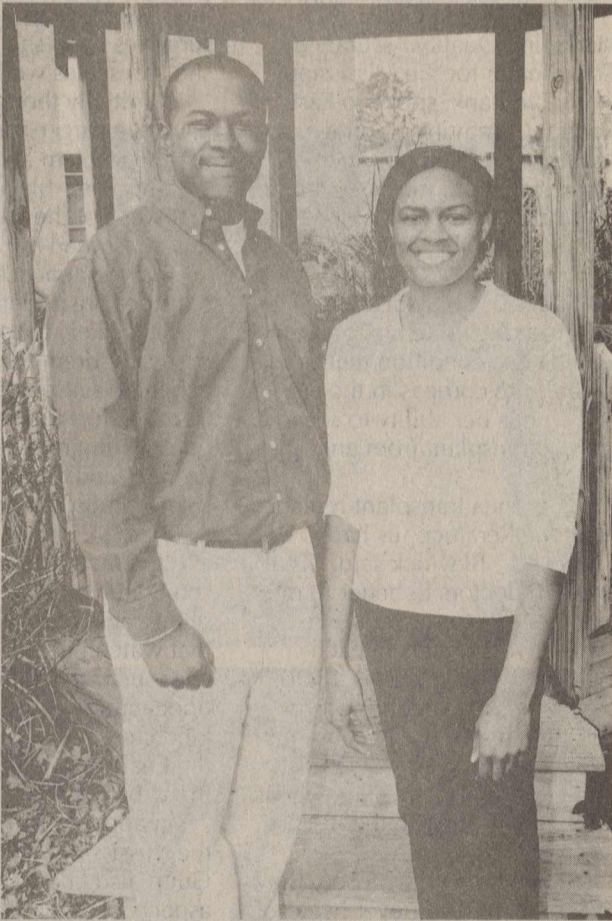
A graduate of Forest High School, Body was selected Mr. FHS and Most Handsome. He is also a National Honor Roll student and was selected to Who's Who Among American High School Students. In addition, he participated on the track, baseball and football teams.

Ealy, also a psychology major, is the daughter of Alexander and Willie Ealy of Forest.

A Dean's List Scholar, Ealy

serves as secretary of the Student Body Association and was selected a class favorite her freshman year. She was also selected a homecoming maid her freshman and sophomore years.

She is a member of the Centralettes, the danceline for the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band, Warrior Corps, Gospel Choir, ECCC Players, Mu Alpha Theta and Phi Theta Kappa. She also participates in "The Way," a ministry team sponsored by the Baptist Student Union.



Mr. and Miss ECCC will be featured in the 2005 edition of the College yearbook, the Wo-He-Lo.

Receive Phi Theta Kappa Regional Awards

Members of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of the two-year college, at East Central Community College recently attended the Mississippi/Louisiana Regional Convention at Southwest Mississippi Community College in Summit, where they received various honors and awards. Theta Xi received recognition as a five-star chapter and also received the Service Hallmark Award. In addition, chapter president Courtnee Graham (second from left) of Preston was named to the Order of the Golden Key. Pictured are (from left) advisor Debbie Boyd, chapter officers Graham, Rachel Edwards of Noxapater, Faith Hennessey of Louisville, Ginger Vance of Decatur and Dru Fulton of Louisville; and advisor Sylvia Wright. Not pictured are officers Ashley Nicholson of Chunky and Shana Smith of Union.



ECCC Instructor, Student Honored

East Central Community College social studies/history instructor Phillip Crenshaw (seated third from left) of Meridian and sophomore associate degree nursing major Jodi Partridge (seated center) of Philadelphia were among outstanding faculty members and students representing Mississippi's public and private universities and colleges who were honored by the Mississippi Legislature during the 18th annual HEADWAE Program. Also pictured with the honorees are ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin (seated left), and (standing from left) State Rep. Gale Gregory of Louisville, honoree spouses Sean Partridge and Kim Crenshaw, and Rep. Scott Bounds of Philadelphia. The HEADWAE (Higher Education Appreciation Day: Working Toward Academic Excellence) program was established in 1988 by legislative resolution to honor individual academic achievement and the overall contribution of the state's public and private institutions of higher learning. (Photo courtesy Hinds Community College Public Relations Office)



Hammes Accepted for MAF Exhibit

Jill Hammes (left), adjunct art instructor at East Central Community College, recently had three works accepted for the Mississippi Art Faculty Juried Exhibition. Her mixed medium fibers-Mementomori II, Mementomori II, and Mementomori III-will be exhibited March 23 through May 29 in the Lower Level Gallery of the Lauren Rogers Museum of Art in Laurel. This exhibit includes works by full-time and part-time art studio faculty at Mississippi colleges and universities. Hammes received the BFA from Mississippi University for Women and the MFA from University of Arizona. She and her husband, David, have one daughter, Sarah, and they reside in Meridian. Pictured with Hammes is Bruce Guraedy, Chairman of the Division of Fine Arts and art instructor.



Cooper Joins ECCC Board

Dr. Kimsey O’Neal Cooper (center) of Carthage was recently welcomed as a new member of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees. Dr. Cooper, shown with Board Chairman Prentice Copeland (left) of Philadelphia and ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, succeeds her father, the late Silas O’Neal of Carthage, who served 16 years on the Board prior to his untimely death in December 2004. Dr. Cooper serves as District Pharmacy Supervisor for Walgreens Company. She is a former basketball standout at Carthage High School and the University of Mississippi, where she received honorable mention All-American honors and was named All-Southeastern Conference for four years. She was also selected Miss Ole Miss. Dr. Cooper was recently inducted into the University of Mississippi Hall of Fame and was honored in March by the Southeastern Conference, which is recognized her as one of “SEC’s Best.” She is married to Jay Cooper and they have two children, Kobe, four and Jacia, two.



Clark Joins ECCC Board

Patsy Dunigan Clark of Louisville was recently welcomed as a new member of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees. Clark, shown with Board Chairman Prentice Copeland (left) of Philadelphia and ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, is a retired paralegal for Fair and Mayo attorneys in Louisville, where she was employed for 25 years. A longtime supporter of ECCC, Clark is a former president of the College’s Alumni Association and the Warrior Club, a support group for ECCC athletics, which she helped found. She currently serves on the ECCC Foundation Board of Directors. She was selected the College’s Alumna of the Year in 1993. Clark, a graduate of Philadelphia High School and ECCC, is married to William Clark who is employed with Taylor Machine Works. Their daughter, Lisa Clark Fournet, serves as choral director at Ridgeland High School.



ECCC Resolution Honors O’Neal

A resolution and plaque commemorating the service of longtime East Central Community College Board of Trustees member Silas O’Neal of Carthage was presented to family members at the February Board meeting. Board Chairman Prentice Copeland (left) of Philadelphia is shown making the presentation to Mr. O’Neal’s widow, Mrs. Helen McIntosh O’Neal, and their daughter, Dr. Kimsey O’Neal Cooper, both of Carthage. Mr. O’Neal served 16 years as a trustee prior to his untimely death in December 2004. Dr. Cooper was named to succeed her father on the ECCC Board.



Howell Honored For ECCC Service

David Howell (third from left) of Carthage was recently recognized for his nine years of service as Chairman of the East Central Community College Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors. Howell is shown receiving a plaque of appreciation from current Board Chairman George Taylor of Forest. Also pictured are ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and Stacey Hollingsworth, administrative assistant in the Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations.

EC Environmental Club Takes Trip to Pascagoula/Gulf Coast

By RACHEL EDWARDS
Special to The Tom Tom

On April 11, the East Central Environmental Club left the College to go on our annual Pascagoula/Gulf Coast trip. We set off at about 8:30 a.m. not knowing at the time what an amazing weekend was ahead for us.

Before arriving at the Nature Conservancy in Pascagoula, we stopped for lunch at a tiny, country restaurant called Caroline’s. We later arrived at the Nature Conservancy and met up with Reed and Becky Stowe, coordinators of the Conservancy.

Becky then took us out to a nesting site for gopher tortoises, where we measured the height and width of the holes and determined if they were active or not.

Even though we did not get to spot a tortoise, we did see much more wildlife including spiders, birds, and insects of all types. Later on that evening, we grilled out at the Nature Conservancy and took a night walk down the river where we sang songs (or at least some of us tried to sing) and watched the beautiful night sky. We later played Canasta and camped out on the Nature Conservancy floor.

We woke early Saturday morning and prepared for an archaeological dig at an old house site with Reed. We headed out about 10 a.m. and arrived at the site shortly after.

We then divided up in teams and began digging in already marked spots. We soon worked

up an appetite and took a short break for lunch. During our dig we found pieces of glass, pieces of old plates, nails and brick fragments, which helped date back when the house was actually standing, which was our mission.

After our dig we went back to the Nature Conservancy and prepared to head down to the coast. We said our good-byes to Becky and Reed and left for the Methodist Assembly. It was booked, but we luckily had a place to sleep. Later, we all loaded up the van and went to eat at a local restaurant called the Blow Fly Inn. It was a nice dinner. When we returned to the assembly, some of us played cards and walked on the beach while others went to bed to get a good night’s sleep for our big plan the next morning—Ship Island.

Early Sunday morning we ate breakfast and loaded up in the van to head over to where the boat would take us out to Ship Island. It was an hour ride out to the island, but it was such a beautiful day that none of us noticed the time.

When we arrived at the island, we took a tour of Fort Massachusetts, ate lunch, and then headed down to the swimming area for some “fun in the sun.” Some of us took a walk around the island where we saw porpoises, sting-rays and jellyfish, pelicans and crabs. Mr. J (Johnson) and Mrs. L (Lejeune) used the opportunity to teach us a few things about some of the animals that we did not know. On the way back to the mainland, we were amazed and entertained at some dolphins that were swimming and performing



Members and friends of the East Central Environmental Club who participated in a trip to the Pascagoula/Gulf Coast area included (kneeling from left) Rachel Edwards and Krystle Hunter, both of Noxapater, Robin Grimes of Decatur and Smantha Merrill of Newton; and (back row, from left) EC science instructor and ECEC advisor Sharon Lejeune, Tommy and Hayley Knight of Union, Robin and Joe Johnson, who also serves as ECEC sponsor and EC science instructor; and Brad Sutphin of Decatur.

jumps near the boat.

The Pascagoula/Gulf Coast trip was great. We all had some good laughs and I’m sure it was a trip that none of us will ever forget.

On behalf of the entire Environmental Club, I would like to say “Thank you” to Mr. and Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Lejeune for a very memorable weekend!

ECCC Students Named To All-State Academic Team

Two East Central Community College sophomores are among 52 Mississippi community junior students named to the 2005 All-Mississippi Academic Team, which recognizes scholarly achievements and leadership accomplishments of students enrolled in the state’s two-year colleges.

The annual program is coordinated by The Clarion-Ledger, Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society, Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges and the Mississippi State Board for Community and Junior Colleges. Faith Hessenius of Louisville was named on the First Team and Ashley Nicholson of Chunky is a Second Team selection.

college or university after graduation from ECCC.

She also received the Kappa Kappa Iota Scholarship, presented to an outstanding elementary education major.

Nicholson was also recently named to Who’s Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges.

She plans to be a school teacher.

The two ECCC students were honored with the other Academic Team members at the State Capitol and were guests of honor during a luncheon held at the Regency Hotel in Jackson.



Faith Hessenius (center) of Louisville is a First Team selection on the 2005 All-Mississippi Academic Team. The East Central Community College sophomore is shown displaying the award, which includes a \$1,000 scholarship. At left is ECCC English instructor Debbie Boyd of Meridian, who serves as an adviser for the College’s Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, a sponsor of the annual program. At right is ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin. (Photo courtesy Hinds Community College Public Relations Office)

Hessenius, who has a 3.8 grade point average, is majoring in architecture/drafting.

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

She received the Shelby Harris Memorial Scholarship in 2004 and was named Outstanding Freshman member of Phi Theta Kappa. She was also selected to Who’s Who Among American Junior College Students.

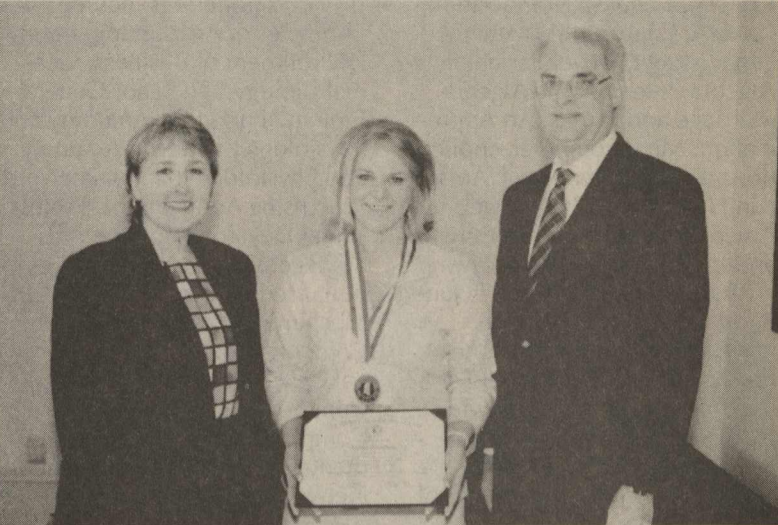
Her career goal is to become a mechanical engineer.

Her community activities include serving as chairman for the Great American Smoke-Out Project in addition to being a mentor/tutor to underprivileged children and a nursing home volunteer. She also spends time painting houses for disabled senior citizens.

In addition to statewide recognition, students named to the All-Academic Team have the opportunity to receive scholarships to continue their education at four-year colleges and universities.

“By being named to the All-Mississippi Academic Team and having earned membership in Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society, many of these students will receive substantial scholarship offers to attend senior institutions in Mississippi and across the nation,” said Rod A. Risley, executive director of Phi Theta Kappa International, based in Jackson.

“Research suggests that these students’ level of academic achievement at the senior college will equal, if not exceed, that earned while attending their community/junior colleges,” added Risley.



Ashley Nicholson (center) of Chunky is a Second Team selection on the 2005 All-Mississippi Academic Team. The East Central Community College sophomore is shown following the awards presentation with ECCC English instructor Debbie Boyd of Meridian, who serves as an adviser for the College’s Theta Xi Chapter, of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, a sponsor of the annual program. At right is ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin. (Photo courtesy Hinds Community College Public Relations Office)

As a First Team All-Academic Team selection, Hessenius received a \$1,000 scholarship to the college of her choice.

Nicholson, an elementary education major, has a 3.65 grade point average.

She is the 2004 recipient of the Myrtle R. Hutchison Scholarship, which is presented to a member of the Student Education Association who has the “potential and genuine interest” in pursuing a career in the field of elementary education at a senior

Students named to All-Mississippi Academic Team compete for placement on the national All-USA Academic Team for Community and Junior Colleges, which is sponsored by USA Today, Phi Theta Kappa and the American Association of Community Colleges.

Twenty students named to the national All-USA First Team were featured in the April 11 issue of USA Today, and each student receives a \$2,500 stipend. Approximately 1,600 nominations were received for the All-USA Academic Team competition.

Mississippi ranks in the top five states in the nation having students named to the All-USA

Academic First, Second and Third teams.

Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society administers the All-State and All USA Academic Programs from its Jackson-based headquarters. The first All-State Academic Team Program was launched in 1994 in Mississippi. This year, 32 states will sponsor All-State Academic Team programs using the All-Mississippi program as a model.

EC ‘Industry in Classroom’ Participants

Students in career and technical programs at East Central Community College received first-hand information on what to expect when entering the working world thanks to the above industry/business representatives who participated in the College’s annual “Industry in the Classroom” program. Participants spoke to the various classes and related information from their respective areas to help prepare students for the workforce. Pictured are (first row, from left) Durvin Lewis of Killens Chevrolet, who spoke to students in automotive mechanics technology; Janean Harrison of Weems Community Health Center, business technology; George Taylor of Community Bank, computer network support and technology; and Eddie Holmes of Holmes Industries, machine shop technology; and (standing from left) Tammy Sessums of Riley Hospital, surgical technology; Tommy McKinley of Taylor Machine Works, welding; and Larry Cook of Peavey Electronics, electronic technology.



East Central Offers Various '05 Summer Term Courses

East Central Community College will kick off its 2005 summer class schedule by offering three-week terms on the Decatur campus and at the Winston-Louisville Vocational Complex.

Registration for Decatur classes will be held at 8 a.m. Monday, May 16 in Newton Hall, Room 60. Registration in Louisville is scheduled the same day beginning at 6 p.m. Classes at both locations begin following registration.

Course offerings in Decatur include General Biology I and Lab, Anatomy and Physiology I and Lab, Microbiology I and Lab, General Chemistry I and Lab, Microcomputer Applications, English Composition I, American History I, Developmental Algebra, Intermediate Algebra, College Algebra, Music Appreciation, Introduction to Sociology, Oral Communication and Introduction to Computer Concepts.

Classes offered at the Winston/Louisville Vocational Complex include Intro to Computer Concepts and Microcomputer Applications.

The deadline to register for the three-week term is May 17.

10-WEEK TERM OFFERED ON CAMPUS

Registration for a 10-week term offered on the Decatur campus is scheduled at 6 p.m. May 16 in Newton Hall, Room 60. Classes begin May 30 and end August 5.

Course offerings include Anatomy and Physiology II and Lab, Human Growth and Development, The Legal Environment of Business, Nutrition, College Algebra, Trigonometry, American National Government, Principles of Economics I (Macro), English Composition I, American History II, Principles of Accounting I, Microcomputer Applications, English Literature I, The Real Number System, Introduction to Criminal Justice, Introduction to Computer Science, English Composition II and General Psychology.

The deadline to register is June 3.

ECCC FOUR-WEEK TERMS

Two four-week day terms are also offered on the Decatur campus this summer.

Registration for the first term will be held at 8 a.m. Monday, June 6 in Newton Hall, Room 60. Classes begin June 7 and end June 30.

Course offerings include General Biology II and Lab, Anatomy and Physiology II and Lab, General Chemistry II and Lab, Physical Science Survey I and Lab, Introduction to Computer Concepts, English Composition I, World Civilization I, American History I, Developmental Algebra, Intermediate Algebra, Marriage and Family, Art Appreciation, Microcomputer Applications, English Literature I, American History II, College Algebra, American National Government and Introduction to Sociology.

The last day to register is June 8.

Registration for the second four-week term will be held at 8 a.m. Tuesday, July 5 in Newton Hall, Room 60. Classes begin July 6 and end July 29.

Course offerings include Biology I and Lab, Anatomy and Physiology I and Lab, Physical Science Survey II and Lab, English Composition II, Biology II and Lab, English Literature II and Music Appreciation.

Registration deadline is July 7.

ADDITIONAL SUMMER CLASS OFFERINGS (OFF-CAMPUS SITES)

CHOCTAW RESERVATION

Two four-week terms are scheduled at the Choctaw Hospitality Institute located on the Pearl River Resort in Choctaw.

Registration for the first term is scheduled at 8 a.m. Monday, June 6. Course offerings include Elementary Spanish I and Music Appreciation. Classes begin June 7 and end June 30. The last day to register is June 8.

Registration for the second term will be held at 8 a.m. Tuesday, July 5 at CHI. Course offerings include American History I and American History II. Classes begin July 6 and end July 29. The last day to register is July 7.

A 10-week term is also scheduled at CHI, with registration scheduled at 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 17. Classes, which begin May 30, include Developmental English I, American Literature I, College Algebra, Introduction to Sociology, English Composition I, American History II, Personal and Community Health, Developmental Algebra, American History I, First Aid and Business Calculus I. The deadline for registration is June 3. Classes end August 5.

LEAKE COUNTY VOCATIONAL CENTER

Registration for a 10-week term offered at the Leake County Vocational Center in Carthage will be held at 6 p.m. Wednesday, May 18. Classes begin May 30 and end August 5.

Course offerings include American Literature I, English Composition I, Human Growth and Development, Child Psychology, College Algebra, English Composition II and American History II.

The last day to register is June 3.

FOREST/SCOTT COUNTY CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER

Registration for a 10-week term in Forest will be held at 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 17 at the Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center. Classes begin May 30 and end August 5.

Courses offered include American History I, College Algebra, Music Appreciation, Oral Communication and English Composition I.

The deadline to register is June 3.

WINSTON/LOUISVILLE VOCATIONAL COMPLEX

A 10-week term is also scheduled in Louisville at the Winston/Louisville Vocational Complex. Registration is scheduled at 6 p.m. Monday, May 16. Classes begin May 30 and end August 5.

Course offerings include American National Government, World Civilization II, English Composition I, English Composition II, Oral Communication, American History I and College Algebra.

The deadline to register is June 3.

ONLINE COURSES

Registration for online courses, which are offered through the Mississippi Virtual Community College, continues through May 31. Courses begin June 6 and end July 29.

Course offerings include Principles of Accounting, Legal Environment of Business, General Biology I and Lab, General Biology II and Lab, Anatomy and Physiology I and Lab, Anatomy and Physiology II and Lab, Word Processing Applications, Professional Development, Records Management, Machine Transcription, Medical Terminology I, Mechanics of Communication, Computerized Accounting, Medical Office Concepts, Business Communication, Integrated Computer Applications, Fundamentals of Data Communication, Network Components, Survey of Micro Applications, Intro to Computer Concepts, Microcomputer Applications, Principles of Economics I, Principles of Economics II, English Composition I, English Composition II, American Literature I, American Literature II, Child Psychology, American History I, American History II, Intermediate Algebra, College Algebra, Real Number System, Music Appreciation, Physical Science Survey I and Lab, General Physics I, General Physics I Lab, American National Government and Oral Communication.

For more information contact the ECCC Office of Admissions, Records and Research, P. O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, Phone 635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 206. The email address is dluke@eccc.edu.

EC Electrical Students Aid in Habitat Home

By **ROBBIE ROBERTSON**
Special to The Tom Tom

What was once a dream is lowly becoming a reality.

The Newton County Habitat for Humanity house being built on Tatum Street is Newton is well under way with a good portion of the work done already.

And the group got some help this past week from the East Central Community College Electrical Technology students that helped wire the house.

Under the direction of instructor John Everett, the students got the house ready to receive electricity.

"It's a win-win situation for us," Everett said. "Our students get the opportunity to do some more hands-on work. And at the same time, they get to give something back to the community."

The East Central students were asked to help with the house after several meetings of the Habitat board, finance chairman Glenn Johnson said.

"After a couple of board meetings, we decided to let the East Central boys get that hands-on experience," Johnson said. "And those guys really got out there and worked hard. We're so fortunate to have something like that just up the road."

Everett and his dozen or so students spent a good portion of

the day on Thursday wiring the house that will eventually be Darlene Brown's new home. And the Habitat group got plenty of help on the project. Lunch for the students was donated by local Pizza Hut General Manager Tracey Reed.

"I can't thank the people at Pizza Hut enough," Johnson said. "We have different people donating their time and efforts. We've got somebody coming in next week and doing the air conditioning work and somebody coming in after that to work on the plumbing."

The students in the Electrical Technology course are on a two-year program. Everett said every year the students build a house that East Central eventually sells to someone in the community and his students do the wiring for the house.

"Along with the construction students, we do build a house every year at East Central," Everett said. "We learn a lot there but this gives us more hands-on experience. Just like anything else, the more experience you have, the better chance you will have at getting a job somewhere down the line."

And in the end, it's all about getting employed once they graduate.

"If a kid comes through our program and wants to work, they won't have any problem finding a job," Everett said. "It's just a matter of if they want to work or not. We place about 97



East Central Community College's Darrell Brogdon of Forest works on the wiring at the Habitat for Humanity House located on Tatum Street in Newton. Brogdon is assisted by James Broach of Hickory.

to 98 percent of our students so we feel like that's a pretty good number."

Retired ECCC instructor, Vickers, Named 'Ageless Hero'

At age 74, retired East Central Community College English instructor Ovid Vickers continues his creative talents writing a column for four newspapers and passing on knowledge through speaking and writing.

In recognition of his accomplishments, Vickers was recently honored as a Mississippi Ageless Hero at an awards luncheon at the Lake Terrace Convention Center in Hattiesburg. Veteran television personality and journalist Hugh Downs was the featured speaker.

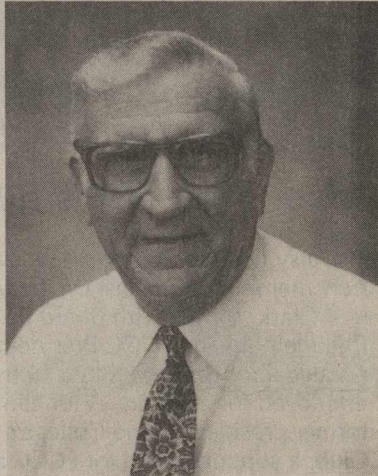
Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi sponsors the Mississippi Ageless Heroes program to recognize seniors who show that life after age 65 can be a time of activity, vitality and accomplishment. Each hero is a Mississippi resident who represents achievements in one of six categories:

Community Involvement, Creativity, Good Neighbor, Love of Learning, New Beginnings, and Vitality. Six heroes each are chosen from the northern, central and southern regions of Mississippi. Another six heroes represent the state as a whole.

A regional honoree in the Love of Learning category, Vickers is a retired chairman of the East Central Community College English Department. He continues as an adjunct instructor.

A published poet, Vickers was one of four Mississippians to read from their work at the 2000 inauguration of Governor Ronnie Musgrove, and his short stories have appeared in national and regional magazines and journals.

Vickers is often a consultant on folklore topics and was a founding officer of the Mississippi Folklore Society.



Ovid Vickers

community builders, educators, youth workers and more.

In honor of Vickers Blue Cross & Blue Shield will donate \$500 to the charity of his choice.

SBA President Sibley Raises Awareness on Dangers of Smoking

By **DIANA EGGLE**
Public Relations Intern

In the past year, Brian Sibley has become a very familiar face to students and teachers alike on the East Central Community College campus.

Along with being selected Student Body President, Sibley is also campus coordinator for The Partnership for a Healthy Mississippi.

A sophomore from Newton, he became aware of the new position as campus coordinator through Joe Killens, Vice President for Student Services.

"I was told about the new position, so I filled out an application and interviewed. I have

a deep passion for telling others about the dangers of smoking," Sibley said.

The Partnership for a Healthy Mississippi is a statewide program that focuses on the prevention of smoking. The Partnership not only tries to help prevent young adults from smoking, but also has programs to help those who want to quit smoking. According to Sibley, The Partnership has helped Mississippi become number one in tobacco prevention in the United States.

Since beginning his work with The Partnership, Sibley has been to several meetings in Jackson, which helps him to come up with new ideas and activities for the East Central campus.

"I have met so many students from all over the state that do the

same as I do on their campus," he said.

The Partnership funded Sibley \$11,500 for activities on campus. Many of the activities that Sibley prepares involve passing out different materials to students and covering many of the campus organized events. One activity that he put on this year was promoting heart health on Valentine's Day with a "Quit Smoking for Your Sweetheart" campaign, where heart-shaped stress balls were passed out to students all over campus.

Sibley says that he has seen many positive changes since The Partnership has been on campus.

"Students and faculty alike are seeing the dangers of smoking. We have also had several students that have stopped smoking," Sibley said. "In the month of March alone, nine students vowed to quit smoking."

Sibley hopes that his work on the East Central campus will help to inform more students, faculty and staff about the dangers of smoking and second-hand smoke.

As for other students who want to get involved in The Partnership, Sibley said, "I'm not The Partnership. The students of ECCC are The Partnership. We need anyone and everyone to become involved."

For more information on how you can become involved, contact Sibley by email at partnership@eccc.edu.

SIFE Wins Regional Competition

The East Central Community College SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise) organization, after presenting a report of its year-long community outreach projects, was recently named a SIFE USA Regional Champion in the overall competition and a finalist in the HSBC Education Trust and the Corporate, Investment Banking and Markets Division of the HSBC SIFE USA National Personal Financial Success Skills Competition and SIFE USA Business Ethics Competition sponsored by Campbell's and Sealed Air. The team will now advance to national competition at the SIFE USA National Exposition May 22-24 in Kansas City, Missouri. Team members include (front row, from left) Latisha Stewart of Philadelphia, Albertina Laster of Forest and Krystle Hunter of Louisville; and (back row, from left) SIFE advisor and Sam Walton fellow Wanda Hurley of Union, Kyle Gordon of Morton, Heath Manning of Philadelphia, Brandon Harris of Forest and Eric Beckham of Philadelphia.



GRADUATION
8 p.m. • May 13, 2005
Warrior Stadium



The Tom-Tom

Volume 59, Nunber 1

A Student Publication of East Central Community College

October 2005

Homecoming Set for Oct. 15; Full Day of Activities Planned

East Central Community College has a full day of activities planned for alumni and friends on Saturday, October 15, when the College hosts its annual Homecoming celebration.

Registration begins at 8 a.m. on the East Mall Patio near Mabry Cafeteria. A ceremony officially opening the ECCC Memorabilia Room in Burton Library begins at 9 a.m.

The East Central Community College soccer teams host Meridian Community College beginning with the women's contest at 9 a.m. followed by the men's game at 11 a.m.

Reunion groups are scheduled to meet at 10 a.m. and include members of all classes ending in "5"; Classes of 1957-1958 and 1959; and the Alumni Band and Centralettes.

The College will also recognize and honor the 1954-55 and 1955-56 football teams on their 50th anniversary.

The Warrior Club which supports the College's athletic teams will hold its annual meeting at 11 a.m. in Huff Auditorium.

Recipients of the annual Alumni Association awards will be honored during an luncheon in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Honorees include Alumna of the Year Maxie Dodson Phillips of University Park, Maryland; Alumnus of the Year Bill Lovett of Forest; Athletic Hall of Fame inductees Dr. Bob Tom Johnson of Forest and Lucy Young of Vicksburg; and Instructor of the Year Nan Davis Anderson (Academic) of Decatur and Lori Hudson Luke (Career-Technical) of Newton.

The Warrior football team

will take on the Bulldogs of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College at 2:30 p.m. Due to the damage at Warrior Stadium caused by Hurricane Katrina, the game will be held at Newton County High School.

After the football game, a reunion will be held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria for members of the 1956 through 1963 basketball teams coached by Denver Brackeen.

Activities are also scheduled on Thursday and Friday prior to Homecoming.

The Fine Arts Department will host the annual Alumni Art Exhibit from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. The exhibit will feature works by Eric Adcock of Sebastopol and Chris Kemp of Louisville.

An Alumni Baseball game is scheduled Friday, October 14, at Jamie Clark Memorial Stadium. For more information about the Diamond Warrior Alumni contest, contact Coach Jake Yarborough at ext. 374.

The Soccer Warriors will also hold an alumni match at 5 p.m. on October 14 at the ECCC Soccer field. For more information contact Coach Kenneth Thompson at ext. 370.

For more information regarding Homecoming 2005, contact Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director, Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations, East Central Community College, P. O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 327. The email address is sholling@eccc.edu.

Student Union Nearing Completion



The second and final phase of the Eddie M. Smith Student Union Building is nearing completion. The College Bookstore, Office of Admissions, Records and Research, Student Activity Center and Campus Grill are all scheduled to be relocated to the new addition during Christmas holidays and will be open for the Spring 2006 term.

ECCC To Present Homecoming Court Oct. 15 at NCHS Stadium

The 2005 Homecoming Court at East Central Community College in Decatur will be presented Saturday, October 15, during halftime activities of the East Central vs. Gulf Coast football game. Kickoff is set for 2:30 p.m. at Newton County High School.

Members of the court include queen Sherrell Brown of Forest, maid-of-honor Joy Cavanaugh of Newton County High School, sophomore maids Clancy Cleveland of Union, Allison McDaniel of Neshoba Central and Abby Miller of Madison Central; and freshman maids Kelsi Ables of Newton County Academy, Kim Cleveland of Union, Casey Cooper of Scott Central and Laura Beth Wray of Winston Academy.

Brown is the daughter of Charles and Rose Mary Brown of Forest.

A sophomore liberal arts major, Brown is a member of the Centralettes, Concert Choir, Chamber Choir, Gospel Choir, Baptist Student Union, Wesley Foundation and the Diamond Girls. She was also selected a freshman class favorite.

An honor graduate of Forest High School, she was selected Miss Forest High School and was inducted into the FHS Hall of Fame. She was a member of the Beta Club, was a National Honor Roll student and was selected to Who's Who Among American High School Students.

In addition, she served as a student mentor, was captain of the varsity cheerleading squad and was a UCA All-Star Cheerleader. She was also a class favorite and received the Outstanding Choral Musician award. During Who's Who elections she was chosen Neatest Senior Girl and Most Talented.

Serving as the queen's escort is Jeremie Jordan, a sophomore music major and graduate of Newton High School. He is the son of Frankie Johnson and Lisa Windhelm of Newton.

Cavanaugh is the daughter of Ricki and Linda Cavanaugh of Chunky.

A sophomore psychology



Members of the East Central Community College Homecoming Court include (from left) freshman maids Kim Cleveland of Union, Laura Beth Wray of Winston Academy, Kelsi Ables of Newton County and Casey Cooper of Scott Central; queen Sherrell Brown of Forest, maid-of-honor Joy Cavanaugh of Newton County, and sophomore maids Abby Miller of Madison Central, Clancy Cleveland of Union and Allison McDaniel of Neshoba Central.

major, she is vice president of the student body association, captain of the Lady Warrior soccer team and a member of the fast-pitch softball team. In addition, she is a member of Students Against Destructive Decisions, Warrior Corps, Wesley Foundation, Baptist Student Union, Phi Theta Kappa and the Partnership for a Healthy Mississippi. She served as vice president of the freshman class.

A 2004 graduate of Newton County High School, Cavanaugh was Homecoming Queen, Miss NCHS, senior class president and a senior class favorite. She was selected Best Personality and Most Athletic during Who's Who elections and was named to Who's Who Among American

High school Students.

She was a member of the Student Council, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Mu Alpha Theta, Health Occupation Students of America and Future Community and Career Leaders of America. In addition, she was a member of the slow and fast-pitch softball teams and the Lady Cougar soccer team.

Serving as Cavanaugh's escort is Daniel Grimes, a sophomore x-ray technology major and graduate of Newton County Academy. He is the son of Tony and Tina Grimes of Chunky.

Clancy Cleveland is the daughter of Jerry and Cindy Cleveland of Union.

A secondary education major, Cleveland is a member of the

Centralettes, Warrior Corps, Phi Theta Kappa, Baptist Student Union, Students Against Destructive Decisions and the Partnership for a Healthy Mississippi.

In addition, she serves as treasurer of the Student Body Association and is a member of the Lady Warrior tennis team. She served as a freshman homecoming maid, freshman class favorite and was treasurer of the freshman class.

A 2004 graduate of Union High School, she was Homecoming Queen, Miss UHS, Student Body President, Salutatorian and a member of the UHS Hall of Fame.

See COURT, page 5



Pete Copes, an instructor in the East Central Community College Truck Driver Training Program, loads disaster relief supplies onto the College's 18-wheeler. In addition to delivering these supplies to the MEMA office in Jackson, Copes and members of his classes made several trips to the Mississippi Gulf Coast to deliver supplies.



East Central Community College students and staff donated 11 pallets of supplies for hurricane victims.

East Central Family Sends Disaster Supplies to Coast

Members of the East Central Community College administration, faculty, staff and student body collected 11 pallets of items to send to the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency in Jackson to assist victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Items were collected in the College's Public Information Office and were then taken to the South Campus Gymnasium,

where various student and staff volunteers sorted and packed them.

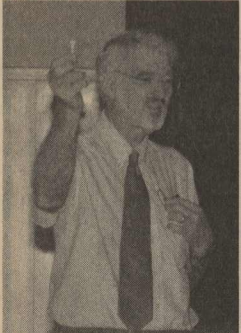
Pete Copes and members of the College's Truck Driver Training classes delivered the items to Jackson.

Organizers thanked those who donated items and those who assisted in the process in any way.

Hypnotist Still a Hit After 33 Years at EC

Col. Ed Wallington, a psychologist from Starkville, has been entertaining and amazing East Central Community College students for more than three decades during the College's annual Welcome Back Week.

Each year, Col. Wallington entertains students with a hypnosis demonstration and each year his mission has remained the same.



Col. Ed Wallington

"My motivation for being here is to give back," Wallington said. "God gave me this wonderful gift. My purpose is to convince these young people that they are on the threshold of their whole adult life. And if they can learn about themselves, they can do things that they thought they couldn't. The bottom line is that what our mind conceives, our body achieves."

During the much-anticipated show each year, Wallington picks his participants from the audience. Some of the amusing things he has students do during his demonstration include eating 'apples' which are really onions and chasing after \$1000 bills which are actually pieces of newspaper.

Participants also imitate electric washing machines, chain saws and blenders, and take part in a ballet dance. And that's just the beginning. The rest of the show one would have to see to believe!

Joe Killens, ECCC Dean of Students, said, "Colonel Ed is a tradition on campus. Not only does he put on a great show for a packed house every year, he has a genuine care for our students. He stays most years for at least two hours after the show to counsel with students."

"If a particular student has a problem, he will call me several times throughout the year to check on that student. His show is by far the most attended event that the SBA (Student Body Association) sponsors every year."

Wallington began his career as an army psychologist.

"As an army psychologist, they sent me to different schools to learn about para-psychology, the other side of normal," Wallington said.

He explained, "We have five basic senses. We go beyond that with our sixth sense-ESP: Extra Sensory Perception. But it is not an organ-based sense like an eyeball or taste buds or eardrums. We have identified 38 senses. Hypnosis is a tool that allows us to very rapidly modify behavior."

During the years 1970 and 1971, he said he was traveling so much and away from his family that he decided his next mission with the Army would be his last.

He was assigned a research mission and was relocated to Mississippi State University. That's where his association with East Central Community College began.

"The Army needed officers badly and the ROTC was a great source for them," Wallington said. "But, when a student went to a junior college they couldn't transfer to advanced ROTC in senior college So my job was to convince all the junior colleges to let us bring ROTC to them."

"That led me to East Central where Dr. (Charles) Wright was the president and Denver Brackeen was Dean of Students. I went through all of the information and they thought it was a good idea and we established the (ROTC) program."

"The three of us were in cafeteria having lunch. I was about ready to leave the campus. I said 'you all have been so good to me, what can I do to help you.' They said 'Oh nothing.' Then the conversation led to the fact that, back in those days, most of the freshman student population was from back in the rural areas and they had a big problem with students being homesick."

"Dean Brackeen said they would lose 10 percent of their freshman class the first night. They would just go home and quit."

"I said 'I can help you.'" Wallington told the men that he would present a hypnosis demonstration on campus because that was very appealing to people. The college was to advertise it to all the students.

He added, "I told them we wouldn't start until about 8 p.m. so that the students would have to wait around to see the show. Then I told them I would make it last about two hours. By this time the students would be so excited about the hypnosis that they would hang around and talk until midnight and then they would be sleepy and go to bed and forget about going home. That would get them through that first night. And it worked so well that I've been here every year since."

Wallington says that during the course of hypnosis, he becomes the participant's perception.

"Perception is defined as the sum total of all of our life experiences," he said. "If you can visualize something you can do it. If you can't visualize it, you can't do it."

"Because they are in this altered state of being, which we call hypnosis, I will become their perception. And whatever I say to them is real. You could not pay people to do the things that they will perform during a hypnosis demonstration. However, I am very careful not to embarrass anybody. I will not do anything unethical or downgrade anybody. But I do have to make it entertaining."

Wallington has appeared at other community colleges throughout the state and in the

1970s made regular appearances. He is also listed on the National Speaking Circuit as a motivational speaker and has a private practice in Starkville.

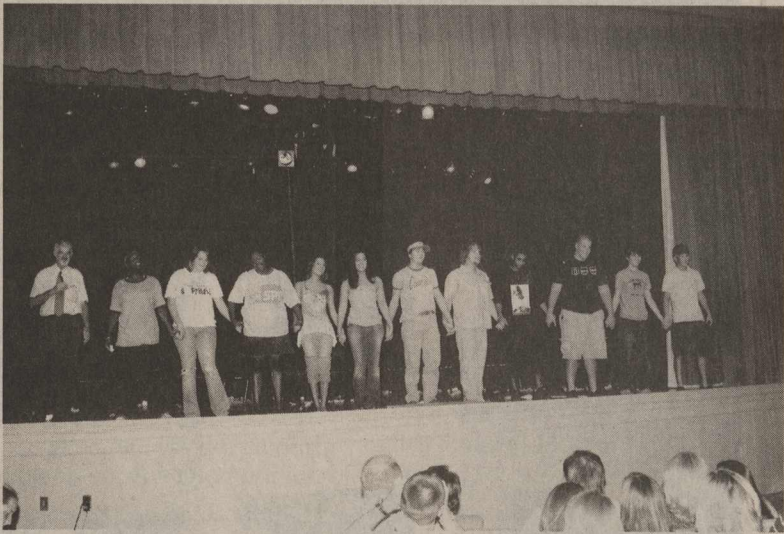
He has helped thousands of people with behavior modification, such as cigarette smoking and weight loss. He has also helped with anesthesia for elderly surgical patients and pregnant women.

He says the the two ingredients to being hypnotized are motivation and intelligence.

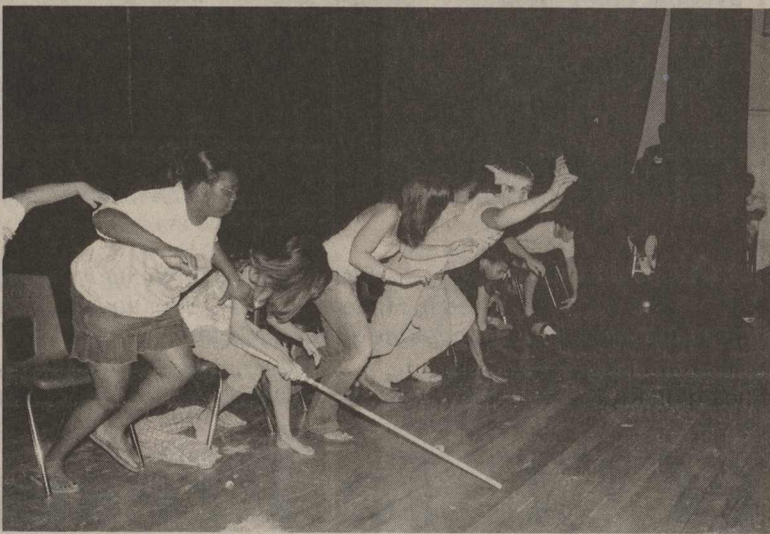
He said, "A person has to have the desire to be hypnotized and the more intelligent a person is, the more easily they are hypnotized."



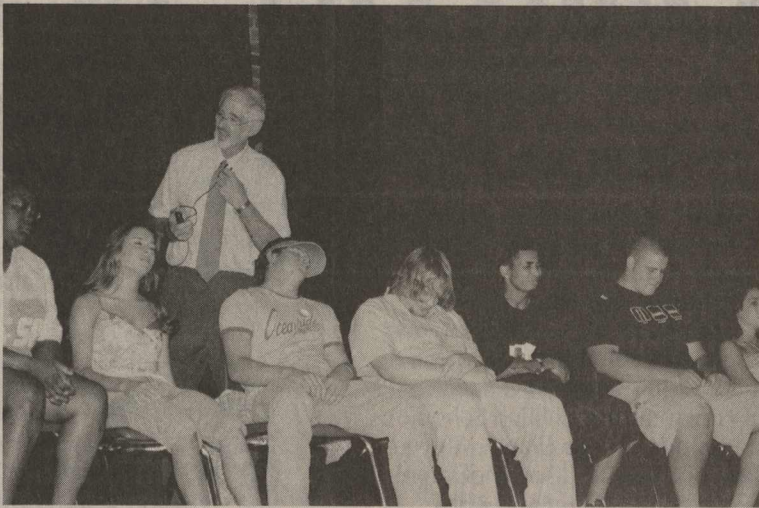
Misty Mayes (center) of Newton was one of many students hypnotised by Col. Wallington during Welcome Back Week. In this photo, participants have just watched a very funny cartoon!



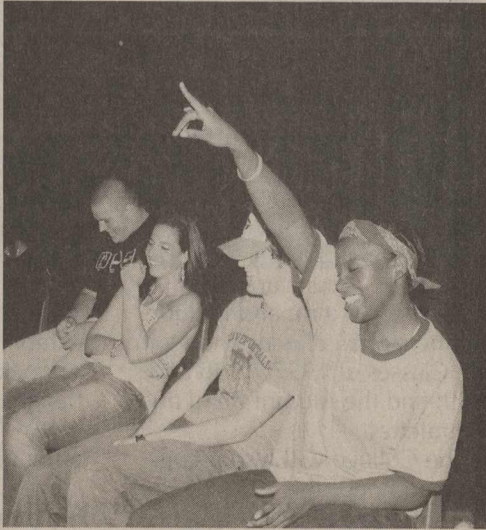
Near the end of the show, participants, gather to the front of the stage to sing "God Bless America."



Quick! Run get your shoes before that big rat gets them!



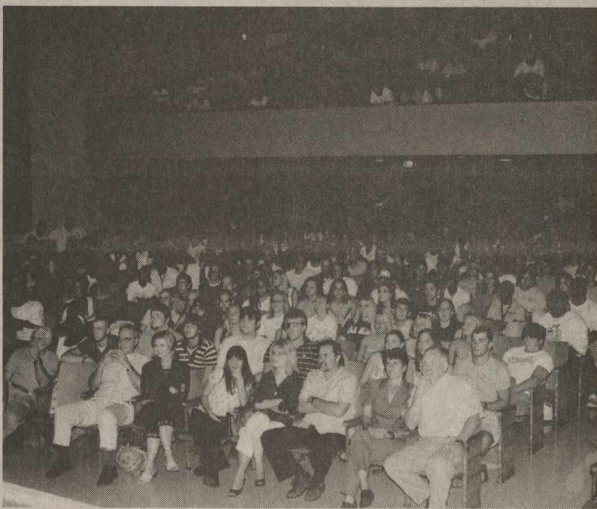
Col. Wallington has been an EC tradition for more than 30 years.



Freshman soccer player Alisha Perry of Morton was one Col. Wallington's "victims."



Freshman soccer player David Harmond of Wiggins displays his rendition of a ballet dance!



The hypnotist show always draws a large crowd to Huff Auditorium.

'Constitution Day' Speaker



Don Price, ECCC adjunct government instructor, was guest speaker for Constitution Day activities held last month in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. The annual observance is held to commemorate the signing of the United States Constitution. Price also presented a slide show on the signing of the historical document in Philadelphia, PA, on Sept. 17, 1787.

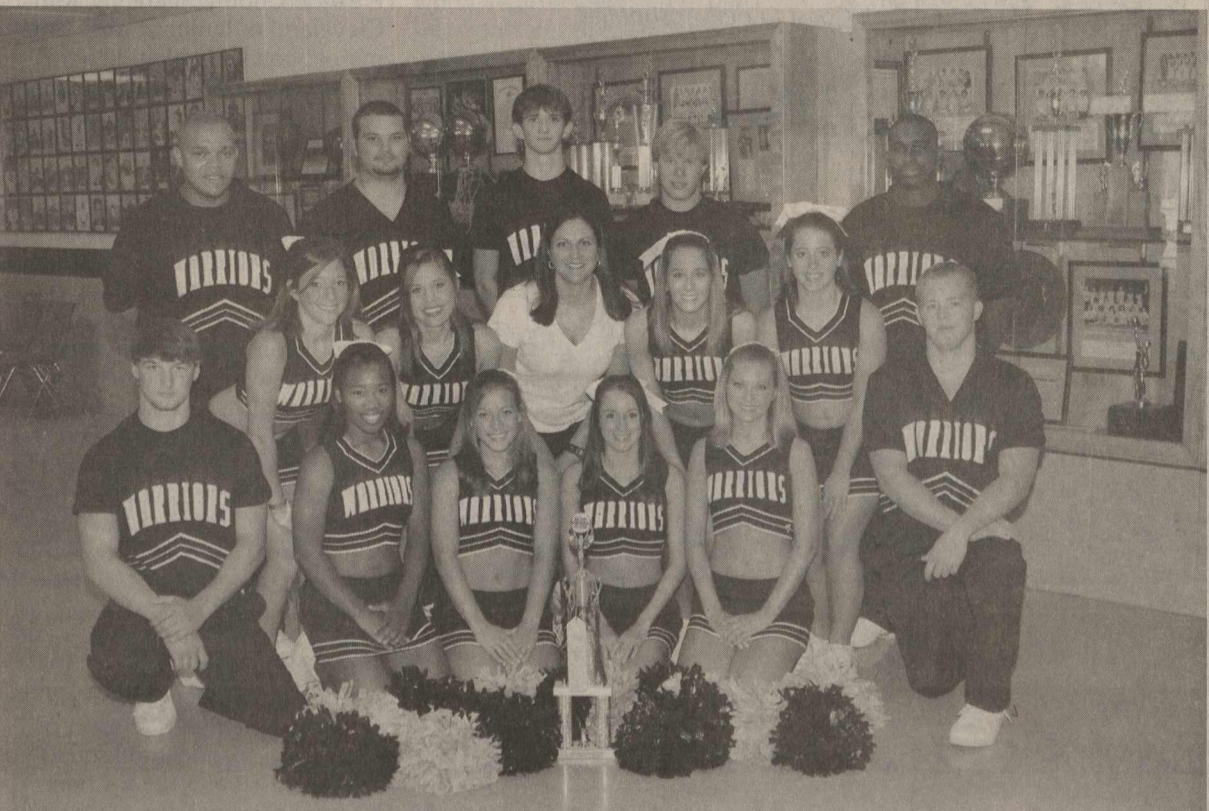
Accreditation

East Central Community College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097; Telephone Number 404-679-4501) to award the Associate Degree.

Non-Discrimination

East Central Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age or handicap. The College is in compliance with Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Right to Know Campus Security Act of 1990.

Staff members include Donald Bell, Michael Brown, Katie Corley, Lindsey McKay, Sharli Moulds and Jacob Thames. Sponsors are Bubby Johnston and Maria McLeod.



ECCC Cheerleaders Receive Awards

The East Central Community College cheerleading squad received three superior ribbons and one excellent ribbon during the Universal Cheerleaders Association Cheer Camp held in July at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. In addition, ECCC was named a superior squad and was selected Most Improved. Warrior mascot Carl Spence was also named all-superior during mascot camp held the same week. Pictured with their awards are (front row, from left) Stephen C. Parker of Nanih Waiya, Brittany Barfield of Carthage, Loren Kennedy of Union, Susanna Pace of Neshoba Central, Kristin Bufkin of Newton County, and Josh Pigg of Edinburg; (second row, from left) Maggie McDill of Newton County, Megan Jones of Enterprise, cheer coach Coco Boone of Decatur, Marlo Hollingsworth of Newton County Academy and Kristina Moore of Enterprise; and (back row, from left) Tavarius Walker and Chris Gatewood, both of Morton; Zach Kilpatrick of Neshoba Central, Kyle Jones of Nanih Waiya and Christopher Boose of Newton County. Not pictured is Neal Hall of Neshoba Central.

SPORTS

Warriors Rally Past Co-Lin for 12-7 Win

Freshman running back David McCants' 12-yard touchdown run late in the third period gave East Central Community College the lead for good and the Warriors held on for a 12-7 South Division victory over Copiah-Lincoln Community College Saturday afternoon in Wesson.

With the win, East Central improved to 2-1 overall and 1-1 in league play, while the Wolves dropped to 1-2 and 1-1.

Warrior head coach Terry Underwood was obviously pleased with his team's efforts in recording their second-straight victory of the 2005 campaign.

"I was very proud of our team for finding a way to win. It was a very physical game, and several of our players were banged up and bruised but they continued to play. Our defense really came up big, allowing just 98 yards total offense. And Lowery did a great job leading the offense after McDonald got hurt. McCants had another good day running the ball and Derrick Qualls had several key plays. Overall, it was a great team effort and I was especially proud of our team's toughness....they did what they had to do to win," Underwood stated.

McCants, a product of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County High School, scored the game-clinching touchdown with a minute left in the third period, capping a six-play, 49-yard drive. McCants also had runs of 11 and two yards during the march but the key play was a 29-yard burst by sophomore running back Derrick Qualls of Forest, which gave EC possession on the Wolves' 12 yard line. McCants scored on the next play. The try for the two-point conversion was not successful, as Lowery's pass attempt to Lonnie Starks, a freshman from Warwick High School in Newport News, VA, fell incomplete.

Lowery, a freshman from Sparta, Tenn., and a former standout at White County High

School, led the Warrior offense after starter Elijah McDonald of Morton left the contest midway in the second period due to an ankle injury.

On his first series as the Warrior signal caller, Lowery directed the Warrior offense on a seven-play, 44-yard march capped by his 19-yard touchdown strike to Qualls with 8:34 left before halftime. Grey LaPrade, a freshman from Forest, missed on his PAT attempt.

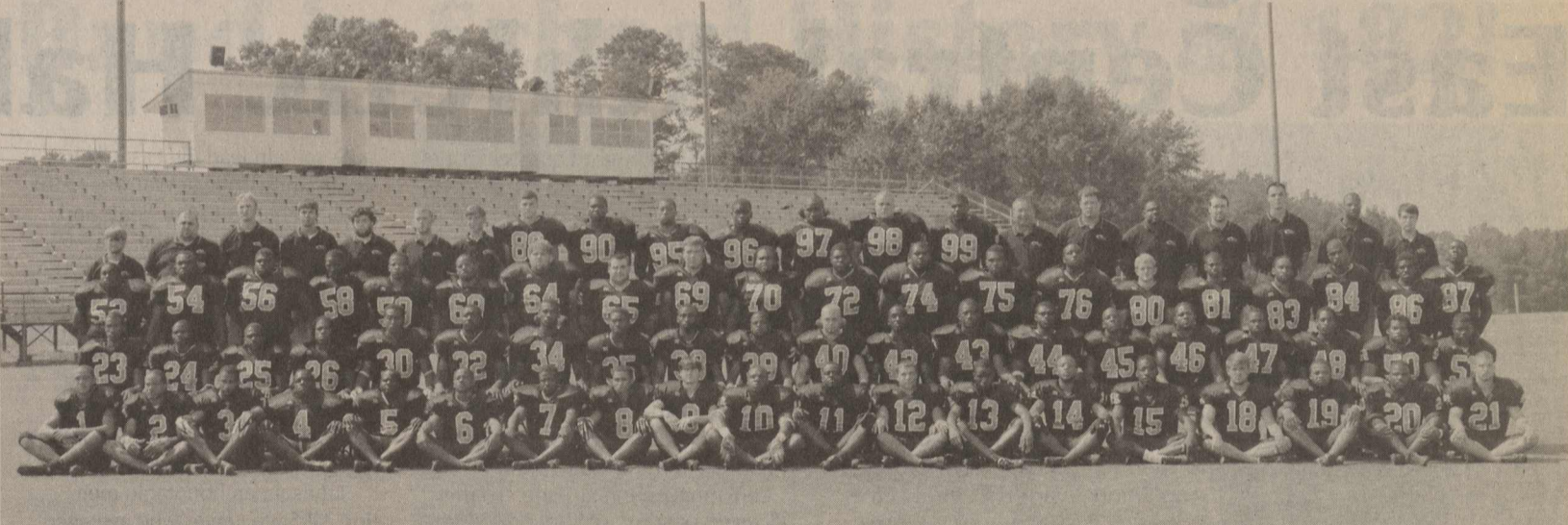
Co-Lin took a 7-6 lead late in the first half when quarterback Cedric Johnson of Americus, Ga., tallied on a two-yard run with just 34 seconds remaining. Nick Gunter of Wesson added the PAT.

The Warrior defense kept the Co-Lin attack in check most of the day, and did not allow the Wolves into EC territory following the go-ahead score. The Warrior offense also made key plays to maintain possession late in the contest, including a 25-yard pass completion from Lowery to Qualls on third and 10 at the Warrior 15, and McCants' six-yard burst for a first down at midfield, which allowed EC to run out the clock for the win.

McCants led EC in rushing with 133 yards on 27 carries and one score. Lowery completed six of 14 passes for 80 yards and a touchdown.

McDonald was four of 12 with 18 yards prior to leaving the game with an injury. Qualls was the leading receiver with two receptions for 44 yards and a touchdown. Qualls also had 31 yards on three carries. Linebacker Paul Tolbert, a product of Clinch (Ga.) County High School, led the Warrior defense with seven tackles and six assists. Defensive back Ivon Hickmon of Lake had eight solo stops and two assists.

The Warriors host Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College for Homecoming this Saturday. Kickoff is set for 2:30 p.m. at



2005 ECCC Warriors

Members of the 2005 Warrior football team at East Central Community College in Decatur and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) quarterback Robbie Morse (#1), Walton County (Fla.), defensive back Marcus Arrington (#2), Heidelberg; wide receiver Chris Lark (#3), Pickens County (Ala.); linebacker Derrick Qualls (#4), Forest; tailback Terrance McFadden (#5), American Heritage (Fla.); cornerback Nick Robinson (#6), Morton; wide receiver Letez Fortune (#7), South Leake; defensive back Johnathon Thornton (#8), Morton; wide receiver Lenny Boatner (#9), Winston Academy; defensive end Greg Hathorn (#10), Louisville;linebacker Paul Tolbert (#11), Clinch County (Ga.); free safety Anthony Stanford (#12), Louisville; quarterback Elijah McDonald (#13), Morton; defensive back Ivon Hickmon (#14), Lake; quarterback/wide receiver Jarius Neal (#15), Pickens County (Ala.); kicker/punter Ryan Gale (#18), Oak Mountain (Ala.); quarterback DeAngelo Carter (#19), Noxapater; running back Timmy Barnes (#20), Collins; and linebacker Ken Gordon (#21) Morton; (second row, from left) defensive back Kris Thomas (#23), American Heritage (Fla.); defensive back Jeremy Holmes (#24), Philadelphia; running back/wide receiver David McCants (#25), Tuscaloosa County (Ala.); defensive back George Lowe (#26), Columbus; fullback Dustin Crockett (#30), Philadelphia; running back/linebacker Desmond Graham (#32), Louisville; linebacker Headrick Ficklin (#34), South Leake; cornerback Marioe Harris (#35), Columbus; defensive back Cedric Cox (#38), Morton; defensive back Gary Lindsey (#39), Laurel; linebacker T.J. Rushing (#40), Neshoba Central; linebacker/safety Jermaine Glass (#42), Louisville; linebacker Andrew Harrington (#43), Kemper County; running back Lakendrick Coleman (#44), Louisville; defensive back Xavier Combest (#45), Laurel; linebacker Mitch Bradford (#46), Scott Central; safety Chance Parhm (#47), South Leake; wide receiver Blair Fridge (#48), Clinton; and offensive guard Montero Baker (#50), Columbus; and linebacker Demetrius Bishop (#51), Batesville; (third row, from left) center Nathan Weaver (#52), Columbus; offensive guard Josh Moore (#54), Neshoba Central; offensive lineman Kerry Hudson (#56), Philadelphia; wide receiver Daniel Heidelberg (#58), Laurel; linebacker Jeffrey Wilson (#59), Lake; linebacker Alan Greer (#60), Philadelphia; offensive guard Reed Myers (#64), Newton County; offensive lineman Brad Petrey (#65), Tuscaloosa (Ala.); offensive lineman Ross Tew (#69), Stringer; center Javares Dobbins (#70), Tuscaloosa County; offensive lineman Mentrell Ledbetter (#72), Louisville; offensive lineman Johnathan Pickens (#74) Philadelphia; defensive lineman Marcus Ickom (#75) Lake; defensive lineman (#76) Tim Stamper, Rome (Ga.); wide receiver Colby Amis (#80), Newton County; wide receiver Curtis Smith (#81), Mendenhall; wide receiver Ricardo Smith (#83), Carthage; wide receiver Allen Stewart (#84), Holt (Ala.); wide receiver Ken Chathman (#86), Hillcrest Christian; and wide receiver Alex West (#87), Southeast Lauderdale; (and back row, from left) managers Matt Fondren, Union; Mike Fondren, Caledonia; Patrick Woodward, Winston Academy; Chris Ryals, Kemper Academy; Josh Crowson, Winston Academy; Micheal Pientowski, Newton and Justin Hurdle, Forest; kicker/punter Grey LaPrade (#88), Forest; defensive lineman Kenyon Boatman (#90), Neshoba Central; defensive lineman Carlos Moffett (#95), Taylorsville; defensive end Timothy Richardson (#96), Hillcrest (Ala.); and defensive end Keith Spann (#97), Clinton; defensive lineman Jesse Badgewell (#98), Paul Bryant (Ala.); noseguard George Maddox (#99), Tuscaloosa County; head coach Terry Underwood; assistant coaches, Carey Melvin, James Miller, Chris Boone, Mike Volarvich and Terry Evans; and athletic trainer Derrick Jones of the Rush Sports Medicine Team.

Newton County High School. The Bulldogs are 2-1 following their 34-31 overtime homecoming loss to visiting Southwest Mississippi Community College Saturday afternoon.

All Warrior football games can be heard on KICKS 98 (98.3 FM) in Carthage, featuring veteran broadcasters Melvin Wooten and Gilbert Barham, and on the ECCC website, www.eccc.edu.

County on Friday, October 7. The men were blanked 3-0 and the women dropped a 3-1 decision. Celeste Burt of Philadelphia scored for the Lady Soccer Warriors and Brittney Harper of Meridian was credited with an assist.

Remaining contests for EC teams (following matches at Pearl River on Oct. 10) are all at home: Pearl River (Oct. 12), Meridian (Oct. 15), Gulf Coast (Oct. 18) and Co-Lin (Oct. 20).



ECCC Soccer Warriors

Members of the 2005 East Central Community College men's soccer team include (seated from left) kicker Mitch Myers, Brandon; midfielder David Harmond, Wiggins; midfielder Zach Joiner, Carthage; forward/defender Jason Lopez, Forest; forward/defender Randy Bankston, Philadelphia; midfielder Micah Lanier, Little Rock and defender Kale Gardner, Waynesboro; (kneeling from left) forward P. J. Harvey, Laurel; midfielder Reid Whittington, Lucedale; midfielder Blakeny Brown, Moss Point; defender Zachary Bullock, Lucedale; defender Taylor Nichols, Decatur; forward Nick Shanks and midfielder Alex Deason, both of Philadelphia; and (standing from left) head coach Kenneth Thompson; midfielder/defender Jason Murphey, Brandon; forward/defender Ivan Garcia, Forest; keeper Pablo Rodriguez, Madrid, Spain; keeper Zerell Gardner, Jackson; keeper/defender Wesley Haggard, Philadelphia; manager Jared Weir, Quitman; and student assistant David Prewitt, Enterprise.



First ECCC Women's Soccer Team

Above are members of the first women's soccer team at East Central Community College in Decatur. Members of the 2005 squad include midfielder/forward Celeste Burt and midfielder Jerica Williamson, both of Philadelphia; forward Angela Ferguson, Union; defender Amanda Eaves, Chunky; midfielder/forward Maggie McDill, Decatur; and defender Danyell Taylor, Moss Point. Kneeling from left are midfielder Heather Lewis, Moss Point; defender Chelsea Brown, Perkinston; defender/midfielder Jamiee Jones, Louisville, midfielder Alisha Perry, Morton; defender Kristina Moore, Enterprise; and defender Lacey Green, Carthage. Standing from left are head coach Kenneth Thompson; defender/keeper Brittany Harper, Meridian; defender Megan Rosar, Union; keeper Samantha Giambrone, Philadelphia; keeper/forward Joy Cavanaugh, Chunky; student assistant David Prewitt, Enterprise; and managers Jared Weir of Quitman and John Walton of Decatur.

Wood in 1988.

Brackeen also had a distinguished career in the Mississippi National Guard. He served as Mississippi's Adjutant General during Desert Storm and retired from military service with the rank of major general.

Brackeen, who resides in Union with his wife Charlotte, currently serves on the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges. They are the parents of two sons, Morgan, who resides

Soccer Warriors Defeat Co-Lin 3-1 for First Win

Mitch Myers scored two goals and led the East Central Community College men's soccer team to its first victory of 2005, a 3-1 decision over Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson on Tuesday, October 4.

Myers, a sophomore from Brandon, scored his first goal at the 33rd minute and received an assist from freshman Ivan Garcia of Forest. Myers' second tally came on a penalty kick at the 52nd minute.

Nick Shanks, a freshman from Philadelphia, closed out the scoring with his goal at the 74th minute. Garcia was credited with an assist.

In women's action, East Central fell 2-1 to the host Lady Wolves.

Danyell Taylor, a freshman from Moss Point, scored EC's only goal at the 68th minute. Freshman Maggie McDill of Decatur was credited with an assist.

Both teams fell to Jones

EC Scholarship Endowed in Honor of Denver Brackeen

Players of former East Central Community College men's basketball coach Denver Brackeen recently led efforts to endow a scholarship in his honor at the two-year institution.

Billy Frank Alford of Forest, who played for Brackeen on the 1958-59 and 1959-60 squads, said he hopes fundraising efforts will be completed when a reunion of Brackeen-coached teams is held during homecoming activities scheduled Saturday, October 15.

Alford said Brackeen, who is battling cancer, is "most deserving" of such an honor.

"Denver Brackeen has probably brought more publicity and accolades to EC athletics than any other person. He was involved with EC as a player, coach and administrator for almost 30 years. He touched many lives in all these positions, and we are all better persons for having known him. He definitely deserves a scholarship in his name, and I had no doubt that the people who know him would support this effort financially," Alford said.

A minimum \$10,000 was needed to endow the scholarship, according to Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director, Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations.

Brackeen led Warrior basketball teams from 1955 to 1963, compiling a record of 137 wins and 52 losses. His most

successful season was his last at the Warrior helm. The 1962-63 team finished 22-3 and advanced to the state tournament semi-finals.

Brackeen, the first inductee into the prestigious group, is also a member of the NJCAA Men's Basketball Hall of Fame, Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame and the University of Mississippi Athletic Hall of Fame in recognition of his accomplishments on the hardwood. He has also been named a Chick-fil-A SEC Basketball Legend of the Year.

He was twice selected to All-State teams at Hickory High School, where he led the Bulldogs to a 51-1 record his senior season.

At East Central, Brackeen led the Warriors to state and region championships and a fourth place finish in the National Junior College Tournament during the 1952-53 season. While participating in the national tournament, he scored a record 51 points in one contest. He averaged 31 points per game during season action.

Brackeen was selected the nation's most valuable player in 1952-53 and also earned All-American honors, the first ECCC athlete to receive All-American status.

He continued his basketball career at the University of Mississippi, where he received All-American honors by the



Denver Brackeen

Helms Athletic Foundation and was selected most valuable player in the Southeastern Conference. He was twice named to All-SEC teams and was chosen byLook Magazineas the most valuable player in District V, which consisted of nine southern states. Brackeen averaged 28 points per contest at Ole Miss.

Brackeen was drafted by the New York Knickerbockers but soon returned to East Central to begin a 28-year career serving in various capacities including coach, guidance counselor, admissions director, dean of students and academic dean. Brackeen, who served 21 years in dean of students' administrative work, is recognized as the first dean of students in Mississippi public community colleges.

Brackeen was selected East Central's Alumnus of the Year in 1982 and the College's physical education building was named for him and former coach Lucille

in Union, and Charlie, who is deceased. The Brackeens have four grandchildren, Jonathan, Sable, Dillon and Ashlee.

The Brackeens are active members of Decatur United Methodist Church.

Young, Johnson To Be Inducted Into East Central Athletic Hall of Fame



Lucy Young

If ever a person was called to coach and teach it is Lucy Young, a Morton native who has successfully led soccer and softball programs at Warren Central High School in Vicksburg.

Young, now in her 33rd year in education, is being honored for that success by her alma mater by being inducted into the East Central Community College Athletic Hall of Fame.

Becoming a member of the elite group came as quite a surprise to the former Miss ECJC.

“Being inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame at this school I love so much is overwhelming. When I was informed that I had been selected, I felt shock, disbelief, joy but most of all gratitude. I am grateful to Miss Lucille Wood for nominating me, the committee for selecting me, and East Central for all it has done and continues to do in my life,” Young stated.

Young coached boys’ soccer for 23 years at Warren Central, compiling numerous titles and individual honors en route to a 258-63-16 record. Her teams won five Central Mississippi championships, nine District VI titles, four North State championships and four runner-up state titles. She was twice selected National High School Athletic Coaches Association “Coach of the Year” for Region Five, which includes Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas and Kansas. She was also twice selected Coach of the Year by the Mississippi Association of Coaches and on three occasions served as a MAC All-Star Coach.

When she retired as boys’ soccer coach in 1999, Young was recognized as the state’s winningest coach.

Young led the girls’ soccer program for eight years, compiling an 84-27-2 mark including three division titles and a Central Mississippi championship. She also served as tennis coach for 12 years.

Young continues to coach slow-pitch and fast-pitch softball teams in addition to her teaching duties.

Her slow-pitch softball record is 398-201 as of September 22, 2005, which covers a 29-year span beginning in 1977. Accomplishments include: four league championships, two runner-up Central Mississippi titles (after the playoff system was established in softball), 11 district championships and a North State title. Young was twice selected to coach the MAC All-Star teams.

In girls’ fast-pitch softball competition, her record is 99-44-1 in six years of competition. Four district championships have been won during this period and Young was twice chosen Vicksburg Evening Post “Coach of the Year.”

Her teaching assignments include Safety Education, which includes instruction in American Red Cross First Aid and CPR. She also teaches various physical education classes as well as Adaptive Physical Education. APE classes include students who have physical or mental disabilities. Young said she works with APE students on a daily basis helping prepare them for Special Olympics competition. Warren Central is the host site for many of the Area 10 Special Olympic events and Young serves as games’ director.

Regarding her career as a coach and teacher, Young mentioned several people who served as positive influences.

“My parents and family provided the means and encouragement to pursue a degree in teaching. Even now after all these years in coaching it is a thrill for me to have my mother attend a ball game. There were many of my own teachers and coaches from whom I borrowed and embraced their styles of teaching. On the other hand, there were those of whom I determined I would never want to be like.”

Among those she continues to admire is former ECCC coach Lucille Wood, who has begun her 50th year teaching physical education and education classes on the Decatur campus.

“Miss Lucille Wood was and continues to be my mentor. I took seriously her comments about teachers who also coach. Oftentimes, teachers who coach have little regard for their teaching duties. If they allow themselves to, they simply pass the time in the classroom and pour all their energy into their coaching duties. She told us it was very difficult to maintain the highest standards in both areas. At first I thought this meant I should not coach. I wanted so desperately to be a good teacher. Later I realized she was only making it clear to us how difficult it would be to excel at both. She did not want us to become the stereotype, then and now, of the coach who is not a good classroom teacher.”

Young obviously took advantage of Miss Wood’s advice as she has been the recipient of Teacher of the Year honors in addition to receiving Coach of the Year recognition several times. To her amazement, she once received both honors in the same year. Among the first people she contacted about the double-award was Miss Wood.

“I immediately wrote to Miss Wood to share the good news and what I felt, which was not pride or self-satisfaction but gratitude for the challenge she placed before us. She had conquered the stereotype and it was my duty to do the same. From the classroom to the playing field; it’s all about teaching,” Young stated.

Young, who attended East Central during the 1969-70 and 1970-71 terms, said she “could fill volumes with wonderful memories of my years on the Decatur campus.”

She continued, “The faculty and staff not only taught us and guided us, but also nurtured us. It was as though they could see inside each of us and draw out the potential we had of becoming the best we could be. We revered them as our leaders and our surrogate parents.”

Young said she “embraced” campus life and “pretty much reinvented myself,” as she explains: “I felt campus rules were too

strict so one night I staged a one-woman protest in the cafeteria at supper by wearing shorts with a trench coat over them. (We had to be dressed for supper in skirt, dress, etc.) I was promptly pulled from the line, and (then) Dean of Students Denver Brackeen gave me this advice: ‘Change things from within.’ So I got myself elected Student Body President with all female officers!”

Young, who said she “really loved” serving as SBA president, recalled that her platform for election was simple:

“I knew the guys wanted more time with the girls and the girls wanted more freedom in what they could do and what they could wear. So, like any good politician, I took those ideas and ran with them, promising both sides what they wanted. Thanks to Dean Brackeen, Mr. (Ovid) Vickers, Mr. (Bruce) Peterson, Miss Wood and all the other faculty members who advised me, changes did take place, which probably helped me get elected Miss ECJC.”

Young’s campus involvement also included participation in volleyball, tennis, basketball and intramurals – “which we played for the love of the game, loyalty to our coach, ECJC and each other.”

Highlights of her career as an athlete include being a member of the 1970 state champion volleyball team and serving as manager of the 1971 women’s state basketball championship squad. She also cited playing for the state doubles title in tennis with Wanda Blackwell McPhail of Union and serving as intramural team captain. Another highlight came recently when she and other former female athletes “finally” received letters in volleyball, basketball and tennis during the 2002 homecoming celebration, thanks to Lucille Wood who made the presentation to members of her “Club Teams” from 1954 to 1975.

Young was a member of the Baptist Student Union, helped create a “Coffee House” on campus and was involved in the dinner theater production of “The Man Who Came to Dinner,” for which she received the best actress award. She was also the recipient of the Citizenship Award and was voted a freshman class favorite.

Young continued her education at Mississippi State University, where she received a bachelor’s degree in education, majoring in physical education with a minor in biological science. She participated in intramural sports while a student at MSU.

She holds membership in various civic, professional and religious organizations.

Young is a recent recipient of the first ever Outstanding Service Award presented by the Vicksburg/Warren School District Special Education Department, in recognition of her involvement with Adaptive Physical Education, Special Olympics and “Special Prom,” an annual activity for students with physical and learning disabilities.

Young is the daughter of Neila Young and the late Spurgeon Young of Forest. She has three sisters, Latain Blossom and Ruby Hamilton, both of Forest, and Sherrie Johnson of Morton, and a brother, Dub Young of Morton.

Described as a jump-shot artist and a hook-shot specialist, Bob Tom Johnson of Forest used his basketball

skills to help lead the East Central Community College Warriors to the state tournament semi-finals and a 22-3 record during the 1962-63 season.

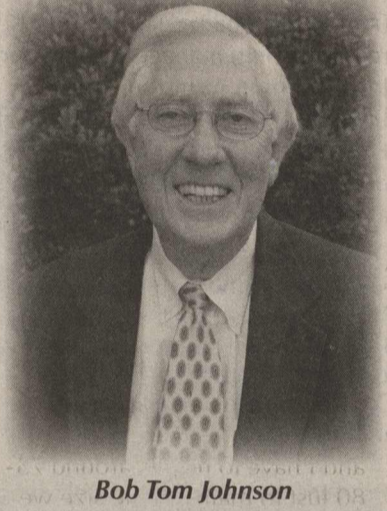
The 6’5” Johnson, who also had a stellar career at Morton High School and later played for the University of Southern Mississippi, is being recognized for his success on the hardwood with his induction into the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame.

Johnson, an honorable mention All-State center who averaged 23 points as a sophomore and was the team’s top rebounder, said he is “pleased and honored” to be included with other athletes and coaches in the prestigious group.

“Never in my wildest dreams did I envision this honor,” said Johnson, who gave credit for his success in athletics to his former coaches – Ken Gordon at Morton High School, Denver Brackeen at East Central, and the late Lee Floyd at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Johnson, who currently operates two small businesses with his wife, Ellen, following a 27-year career in education, said playing basketball at East Central was so much fun that he wished he and his teammates could have continued playing for another two years.

“My world at East Central revolved around playing basketball, and I really enjoyed practices as much as I did playing because of



Bob Tom Johnson

Coach Brackeen. It was indeed a pleasure and a great experience to have the opportunity to play for him,” Johnson said.

Johnson said the most memorable game during his two-year career was when East Central lost to Southwest in the state tournament semi-finals.

“I really think we could have won that game had not Charlie Payne, our top scorer, been sick with the flu. Of course we’ll never know, but we really had a great team that year,” Johnson stated.

Johnson said one of the keys to the Warriors’ success was the support received from the community and five-county district.

“I particularly remember local businessman Jay Cox and Postmaster Homer Hunter always being in attendance for home games. When we looked in the stands and saw both of them, we knew it was time to play ball!”

In addition to enjoying his basketball experience at East Central, Johnson said he has fond memories of attending classes.

“There were so many faculty members who provided quality instruction, which often times far exceeded what I received at higher levels of college,” he stated.

However, Johnson admitted to first being a little apprehensive regarding chemistry instructor Frank Cross.

“Without a doubt, I was in fear of him each day I walked into class. However, as I continued my education after finishing East Central, I felt well-prepared for higher level science courses,” Johnson stated.

Johnson also recalled being a member of English instructor Una Harris’ class.

“As a student, I perceived that Miss Harris’ entire world revolved around her English and literature classes. Little did I expect that she even knew we had a basketball team. Well, on a Friday before the season began Coach Brackeen cancelled practice. One of my teammates- who will remain nameless- told me that he was going to ‘cut’ Miss Harris’ class so he could go home early for the weekend. At the end of class, Miss Harris asked me to remain. In a matter-of-fact voice, she told me, ‘Tell your friend that just because you did not have basketball practice today was no excuse for him to skip my class.’ I quickly realized that she knew a lot more about what was going on than I gave her credit!”

Johnson said he also has fond memories of Pearl’s Cafe, a popular hangout for students after the Student Center closed for the night.

“My favorite food at Pearl’s was the open-faced roast beef sandwich, which I consumed regularly to the clanging of bells on the pin ball machines in the background. Not only was the food great at Pearl’s, but the school cafeteria attracted my interest so much that I gained 30 pounds during my two years at EC!”

Johnson readily admits that the highlight of his EC career was meeting his future wife.

“I met Ellen near the end of my second year at East Central. The 1949 Cadillac which she and her sisters drove was quite impressive for a fellow who basically got around by walking!”

Johnson continued his basketball career at USM, where he helped the Golden Giants (as they were called then) set a new school scoring mark with 118 points. Johnson used his patented hook shot for the team’s 116th point, breaking the previous record of 115 points. Johnson closed out the scoring with a tap-in from a rebound, giving USM a 118-80 victory over Northwestern Louisiana in Hattiesburg.

Johnson received bachelor’s and master’s degrees in health and physical education from USM, then began a teaching and coaching career at Ponchatoula High School in Ponchatoula, La., where he served from 1967 to 1969. Johnson led the boys’ basketball team to a 22-15 record his second year as coach. The squad had won just one game two years earlier.

Johnson returned to East Central in 1969, serving one year as dean of men and physical education instructor.

Then in 1970 Johnson began a 23-year run serving education on the county and state levels, including Director of Federal Programs, Scott County School District (1970-77); Staff Specialist, Mississippi Educational Services, Division of Continuing Education, Mississippi State University (1977-78); Director of Federal Programs, Scott County School District (1978-81); Assistant Superintendent of Education, Scott County School District (1981-84); Executive Director, Mississippi State Textbook Procurement Commission (1984-87); Director of Division of Minimum Program and Textbooks, Mississippi State

Department of Education (1988-93); and Director of Teacher Certification and Textbooks, Mississippi State Department of Education (1993).

Johnson cited his work as assistant Scott County Superintendent and his tenure with the Mississippi Textbook Procurement Commission and Mississippi Department of Education among his career highlights.

“As assistant superintendent, I worked with Supt. A. F. Hollingsworth in establishing a kindergarten program in the Scott County schools several years before state programs were established and funded by the State Legislature,” stated Johnson, who also had words of praise for the late school official.

“Mr. Hollingsworth was a great influence on my career. He was not only an effective educator, but he had one of the greatest educational finance minds with which I have been associated. He was a great encourager who was most beneficial in making it possible for me to return to college at the age of 34 to pursue a doctorate in school administration, which I received in 1982.”

While working with the Mississippi Textbook Procurement Commission and later the Mississippi Department of Education, Johnson served as president of the National Association of State Textbook Administrators. “My involvement with this group allowed me an opportunity to influence various components of the textbooks being made available to students in schools throughout the United States,” he stated.

Johnson has also received numerous awards for his success in educational sales.

Since 1993 Johnson has been self-employed and currently serves as owner and president of Johnson Educational Sales and J & J Trucking Company.

Through the years Johnson has also taught business management, finance and education course for four different universities, including the Jackson branch of Mississippi State University; Meridian branch of Mississippi State University; Forest branch of Jackson State University; and at Mississippi College in Clinton. In addition, he is a former associate professor at Delta State University in Cleveland.

He was also certified as a high school and college basketball official and is a member of various organizations, including the ECCC Alumni Association, which he currently serves as a Scott County representative and is a lifetime member.

Johnson is also an active member of Forest Baptist Church, where he has held various leadership positions.

His wife is the former Ellen Thompson of Decatur. They have four children: Bob Tom Johnson, Jr. of Brandon; Amy Johnson of Hernando; Jay Johnson of Pulaski; and Joy Johnson Lowrey of Louisville; and three grandchildren, Jonathan and Carrie, children of Jay and Ruby Johnson, and Matlyn Lowrey, daughter of Joey and Joy Lowrey.

Johnson’s parents are the late J. C. Johnson and Zola Miles Johnson. His brother, James Russell Johnson, resides in Morton. Their sister, Ruby Nell Johnson Stancill, is deceased.

ECCC Pool Tourney Champion



Alex Hickman (left) of Louisville captured top honors in the intramural nine-ball pool tournament held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Also pictured is J. J. Lott of Morton, who serves as student assistant in the College’s intramural program. Not pictured is runner-up Willie Lathem of Decatur. Coach Scott Hill serves as intramurals director.

ECCC ‘Iron Warriors’

Receiving special recognition for successfully completing strength and conditioning goals during spring workouts are these members of the East Central Community College football team. “Iron Warriors” for 2005 and their respective high schools include (first row, from left) cornerbacks John Thornton and Nick Robinson, both of Morton; offensive guard Josh Moore and linebacker T.J. Rushing, both of Neshoba Central; defensive end Courtney Coleman, Louisville; and cornerback Marcus Arrington, Heidelberg; (second row, from left) defensive back George Lowe, Columbus; linebacker Paul Tolbert, Clinch County (Ga.); offensive lineman Justin Hamilton, Edinburg; linebacker Derrick Qualls, Forest; kicker Ryan Gale, Oak Mountain (Ala.); free safety Anthony Stanford, Louisville; offensive guard Montero Baker, Columbus; defensive end Greg Hathorn, Louisville; wide receiver Ricardo Smith, Carthage; tailback Terrance McFadden, American Heritage (Fla.); linebacker Demetrious Bishop, Batesville; and center Nathan Weaver, Columbus; and (third row, from left) cornerback Joe Mingo, Clinch County (Ga.), wide receivers Chris Lark of Pickens County (Ala.) and Alex West of Southeast Lauderdale; tailback JiMichael Gordon, Hillcrest (Ala.); center Javares Dobbins, Tuscaloosa County (Ala.); offensive lineman Ryan Jones, Bay Springs; linebacker Ivon Hickman, Lake; defensive back/wide receiver Jarius Neal, Pickens County (Ala.); nose guard George Maddox, Tuscaloosa County (Ala.); wide receivers Patrick Woodward of Winston Academy and Cornelius Caraway of Newton; linebacker Marvin Prude, Carrollton (Ala.); defensive tackle Greg Cooley, Heidelberg; and cornerback Rayshawn Smith, Paul W. Bryant High School (Ala.).



Three conductors will lead 2005 ECCC marching band

With the increase in the number of students participating in marching band, East Central Community College band director Thomas Carson saw the need for additional drum majors to lead the group.

"As the band has grown, the need for more 'conductors' has been forthcoming," Carson said. "I had two outstanding young ladies coming to ECCC, so I thought this would be a great year to have three. It is working out beautifully!"

Returning for her second year as head drum is Danielle Boyd, a sophomore from Carthage. Boyd is a graduate of Carthage High School where she earned All-Superior ratings during her two years as drum major for the Tiger Band.

She has also received honors as a clarinetist, having received the John Phillip Sousa Award her senior year. She was also selected Most Outstanding

Player as a freshman.

She is the daughter of Wania Boyd and Douglas Boyd, Jr.

Serving as assistant drum majors are freshmen Kimberly Bassett and Lauren Estes.

Bassett is a graduate of Scott Central High School, where she earned All-Superior ratings as drum major of the Rebel Marching Band. She was also the recipient of the John Phillip Sousa Award.

She is the daughter of Carl and Terrie Bassett.

Estes is a graduate of Forest High School, where she served as Color Guard Captain her senior year and received the Captain's Award.

She is the daughter of Randy Estes and Teresa Clark.



Danielle Boyd



Kimberly Bassett



Lauren Estes

COURT (Continued from page 1)

Cleveland served as State Beta Club Secretary, was a class officer, a member of the color guard, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the Math and Science team, drama club and was president of Future Business Leaders of America.

During Who's Who elections, she was selected Friendliest and Most Courteous.

Serving as Cleveland's escort is Grant Morris, a massage therapy major and graduate of Neshoba Central High School. He is the son of Jackie and Delbert Matthews of Philadelphia and the late David Morris.

McDaniel is the daughter of Tim and Linda McDaniel of Philadelphia.

A physical education and coaching major, McDaniel is an honor student and is a member of the Lady Warrior softball team and Students Against Destructive Decisions.

A 2004 graduate of Neshoba Central High School, she was a member of the Beta Club and the National Society of High School Scholars. She was selected for the National Honor Roll and was listed in Who's Who Among American High School Students.

In addition, McDaniel was a member of the Lady Rockets basketball team and the slow and fast-pitch softball teams. An All-District softball player, she was named to the Neshoba Democrat's All-Area Softball Team.

Serving as McDaniel's escort is Jason Murphey, a freshman wildlife biology major and graduate of Brandon High School. He is the son of Barry and Rosie Murphey of Brandon.

Miller is the daughter of Jay and Mary Miller of Madison.

A pre-pharmacy major, she is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, Baptist Student Union, Warrior Corps and the Lady Warrior softball team.

A 2004 graduate of Madison Central High School, Miller was selected a class favorite and was a member of Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Beta Club, Students Against Destructive Decisions, DECA and the Big Brother, Big Sister Mentoring Program.

In addition, she was a member of the slow- and fast-pitch softball teams and the varsity basketball team. She was selected All-District in slow-pitch softball and basketball.

Serving as Miller's escort is Lee Blackburn, a freshman x-ray technology major and a graduate of Newton County Academy. He is the son of Tim and Felicia Blackburn of Newton.

Ables is the daughter of Zolanda Ables of Decatur and Tom Ables of Newton.

A nursing major, Ables is a member of the Warrior Corps and the Centralettes, the danceline for the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band.

A 2005 graduate of Newton County Academy, she served as senior class secretary and was treasurer of the National Honor Society and secretary of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Miss Ables was also a member of the annual staff, the cheerleading squad and the Lady Generals softball team, where she received the Coach's award.

In addition, she was selected Most Talented and Most School Spirit during Who's Who elections.

Serving as Ables' escort is Truitt Pace, a freshman EMT-Paramedic Technology major and a graduate of Newton County Academy. He is the son of Marty and Rose Ann Pace.

Kim Cleveland is the daughter of Jerry and Cindy Cleveland of Union.

A liberal arts major, Cleveland is a member of the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band, Warrior Corps, Baptist Student Union and Students Against Destructive Decisions. In addition, she serves as secretary of the freshman class and is a member of the Lady Warrior tennis team.

A 2005 graduate of Union High School, Cleveland was selected Miss UHS and was named to the UHS Hall of Fame. She was also selected a senior homecoming maid and served as secretary of the Student Body Association and the senior class. She was selected most dependable during Who's Who elections and was elected Mississippi Beta Club secretary for the 2004-05 term.

In addition, Cleveland was a six-year member of the band and the tennis team at Union.

Serving as Cleveland's escort is Benjamin Ingram, a freshman pre-pharmacy major and a graduate of Leake Academy. He is the son of Bennie and Gloria Ingram of Carthage.

Cooper is the daughter of Tom and Carolyn Cooper of Forest.

A secondary education major, Cooper is a member of the Centralettes and the Baptist Student Union.

A 2005 graduate of Scott Central High School, she was selected Homecoming Queen and Miss Scott Central High School. She also served as secretary of the Student Body Association and Beta Club, and was a varsity cheerleader.

In addition, she was a member of Future Community and Career Leaders of America, Health Occupation Students of America and the National Technical Honors Society. She was selected Most School Spirit in Who's Who elections.

Serving as Cooper's escort is Jess Dille, a freshman education major and graduate of Forest High School. He is the son of Randy and Pat Dille of Forest.

Wray is the daughter of Jeff Wray of Louisville and the late Cindy Wray.

A nursing major, Wray is a member of the Centralettes and the Baptist Student Union.

A 2005 graduate of Winston Academy, she was a member of the annual staff, Gazette staff, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the German club and the Spanish club. In addition, she served as a varsity cheerleader.

Serving as Wray's escort is Patrick Peterson, a freshman business major and graduate of Winston Academy. He is the son of Michael and Gina Peterson of Louisville.

East Central Boasts Biggest Band in School History at 182!

Topping out at 182 members, the 2005 edition of the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band is the largest band in East Central Community College history. The number of musicians has increased greatly since director Thomas W. Carson took over the program in 1982.

"I think 17 kids reported to band camp my first year," Carson said.

So what is the secret to recruiting such a large number?

"There is no secret," said Carson. "My philosophy is to have a band program that the students want to be in and are proud to be in. I always tell them that I have put my heart into this program because I love it so much, and I want them to feel the same dedication and pride."

Carson said that current band members are his best recruiters.

"They go out and tell their friends about the band," he said. "Also, my great working relationship with area band directors plays a large part in recruiting."

Carson said he has also built a program that has many areas of interest for students to become involved in, which includes marching and concert bands, a jazz band, the Collegians rock-n-roll band, a drumline and percussion ensemble. The band department also features an outstanding color guard and the Centralettes, the danceline for the Wall O' Sound.

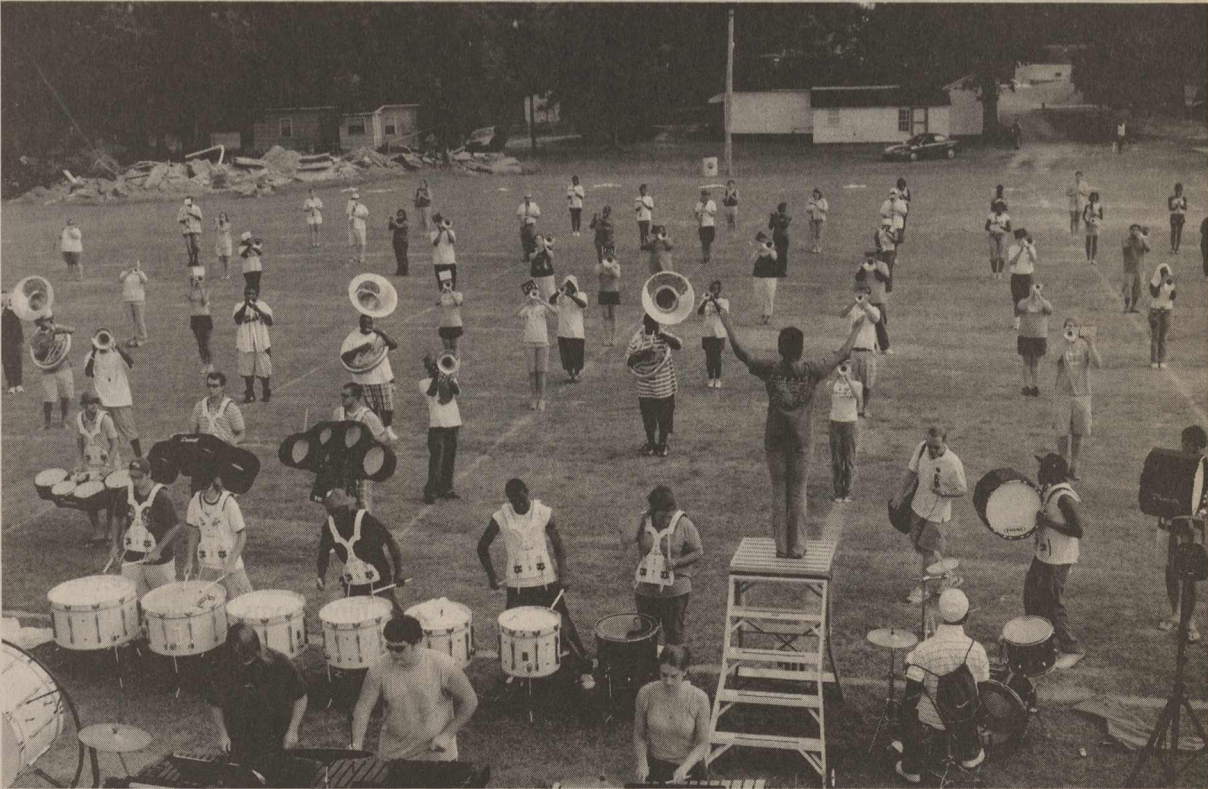
With the increase in students comes the need for more space and more help.

"We have outgrown the band hall and we have outgrown having two directors, and I am going nuts," Carson said. "But, all musicians are crazy, so that falls in line with that thought!"

He added, "My dream was to one day have 100 in the band here, so I long since passed that goal. I am on edge every year as about half the band graduates and I have to recruit around 75-80 just to maintain the size we have had the past few years. So an increase of over 30 this year was outstanding! But, whether I have 50 or 500, I just do my job the best I can. Every single band member is special to me."

Carson said such a large number hasn't changed much about the way he runs daily practices.

"It runs about the same; it just takes longer to get them to the field and take care of band business.



On a hot August afternoon, the ECCC Wall O' Sound practices for the fall halftime shows. This ECCC band, with 182 members, is the largest in college history!

There is a lot more paperwork for me to deal with."

So are there any surprises for this season of marching music?

Carson said, "As usual, we are doing a variety of music! One big change is we are doing a pre-opener at halftime just to announce to the world 'here we are!' There will also be some top-secret surprises. Our shows are always fun!"

Carson is not alone when it comes to running the Wall O' Sound and he had great things to say about his co-workers.

"I am very fortunate to have such great staff members to work with," he said. "All four of us absolutely love what we do and the kids know it. None of us are afraid to get right out there with them, whether it is me playing guitar, Jared (Brownlee, assistant director) playing drums, Coco (Boone, Centralette coordinator/choreographer) dancing with the girls, or Ricardo (Robinson, color guard coordinator/choreographer) tossing the flags."

"There is certainly no 'secret' why our drum line is the best in the state: Jared Brownlee. What drummer would not want to be in this caliber drum line? Ricardo has been a blessing and will makes zillions over the years teaching color guard squads all over this nation."

"We do have a new drill sergeant on our staff in Coco Boone!

I say that with a very appreciative smile, as our new Centralette coordinator is completely into what she does with 31 young ladies. Not only do they learn very precise dances, she is also dedicated to their over-all fitness and health. That is very important for the type of activity they have to do and the look a college dance line needs to have. You might see the Centralettes running across campus on any given day! Coco is a joy to work with!

Fans will also notice three drum majors for this year's marching band.

"As the band has grown, the need for more 'conductors' has been forthcoming," Carson said. "I had two outstanding young ladies coming to ECCC, so I thought this would be a great year to have three. It is working out beautifully!"

Next year, the Wall O' Sound will sport new uniforms, but will have to make do with what they have for the '05 season.

"We ordered new uniforms, but they will not be here in time for this season," Carson said. "We ran out of our present uniforms, so we are having the drum line and tubas wear temporary band shirts and band pants to get us through. When the new uniforms come in, it will be a totally different and exciting look for the Wall O' Sound next fall!"

Carson said his biggest need for the band department is with-

out a doubt a new band hall!

He said, "A new band hall is our most pressing need. We have the best equipment available, a great practice field, but our band hall space is depleted! We are storing equipment in all the practice rooms and hallways, and even in my garage at home!"

"My dream is to have the best band building in the state, that others will want to model after, and a building that will completely serve the needs of our entire band program for years and years to come."

In addition to more space, there are a few other items the band needs.

We always have immediate needs for instruments such as tubas, and other large brass instruments. Also, a large U-Haul type truck is essential; at the present time, we must rent one for all our trips. Those areas would be a great contribution from any alumni, family and friends of the band!"

Carson has served as Director of Bands at the College for 23 years. His reason: "I love working with young musicians and providing them with something worthwhile."

The Wall O' Sound will present its halftime show during all home football games, which will be held at Newton County High School.



ECCC Centralettes

Members of the Centralettes, the danceline for the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band, and their respective high schools include (first row, from left) Jennifer Key, Neshoba Central; Misty Mayes, Newton County Academy; Jana Sansing, Neshoba Central; Aly Burton, Newton County; and Ashley Rigdon, Union; (second row, from left) Madison Brantley, Union; Sherrell Brown, Forest; Amanda Dowell, Edinburg; Clancey Cleveland, Union; Kia Latiker, Carthage; and Laura Beth Wray, Winston Academy; (third row, from left) Kristen Thompson, Union; Paige Randolph, Newton County; Kelsi Ables, Newton County Academy; Whitney Whiteside, Winston Academy; Lauren McDonald, Newton County; Casey Cooper, Scott Central; and Mykel Hoy, Edinburg; (fourth row, from left) Krisha Dickens, Newton County Academy; Cassie Neal, Morton; Gretchen Stubbs, Forest; Caylee Sullivan, Winston Academy; Bethany Sharp, Sebastopol; and Morgan Milling, Union; and (back row, from left) Lydia Adkins, Union; Sarah Peeples, Winston Academy; Rachel McElhenney, Newton County Academy; Elizabeth Jackson, Newton County Academy; Ashley Brooks, Newton County; Kathryn Barney, Sebastopol; and Sally Jones, Newton County Academy. Coco Boone serves as choreographer/coordinator.

ECCC Hotel Restaurant Program Provides Unique Opportunities



Victoria Loper (left) of Decatur was the first student to sign up for the College's new Hotel and Restaurant Management Technology program. At right is instructor Lisa O'Neill.

Victoria Loper of Decatur, received an associate degree in art last spring at East Central Community College. She aspired to have a career in graphic design, but soon realized that she didn't want to sit in an office all day. So when the college announced it would offer a degree in Hotel and Restaurant Management Technology beginning with the fall 2005 term, Loper decided to combine her love of art and design with this new degree in order to one day design upscale hotels and restaurants.

"I knew that I didn't want to sit in front of a computer all day," Loper said. "So when one of my instructors told me about the Hotel and Restaurant Program, I decided I would give it a try. I plan to later complete my degree in Interior Design and use my skills to design upscale hotels and restaurants."

Course instructor Lisa O'Neill said there are endless opportunities in the hospitality industry for those completing their degrees and she is excited about the new

program.

"There are so many hands-on opportunities available through this class and in this area," O'Neill said. "With classes located at the Choctaw Hospitality Institute (CHI) and near the Pearl River Resort, the opportunities are endless. There aren't that many 500-plus room hotels in this area. To be able to see an operation of that magnitude compared with smaller operations, to compare the similarities and differences, is an amazing opportunity. To see the different restaurants available at the resort and in Philadelphia is wonderful. And there aren't many attractions like Geyser Falls in the area. All of these provide such great opportunities for our students."

Although there are no prerequisites for the course, O'Neill says that customer service is key to this industry and that people skills are a necessity. But she also said that students can learn almost everything they'll need to know for the business in this course as long as they keep an open mind.

"When I enrolled in college, I was quiet, shy and didn't know how to cook. But I was looking for something to have fun with that wouldn't limit me. Mainly I wanted to not walk into the same thing everyday. And with this type job, you have no idea what you're going to walk into."

"You need to like all kinds of people. In this job, we deal with customers, employees, vendors and others and you can't have a closed mind to any type person."

Classes offered during the first semester include Sanitation and Safety, Culinary Principles (a basics of cooking class), Introduction to Hospitality Management, and Hospitality Management, Facilities and Design, which instructs students in the proper placement of kitchen equipment, and the layout of dining rooms, lobbies and guest rooms.

Loper, who was the first student to sign up for the new program, said she is excited about the first semester.

"This is something that is new for East Central and for me. I don't really know what to expect. I'm a little apprehensive, but excited about all the different courses that I will be taking," she said. "I already have my own business as a Mary Kay independent beauty consultant and I believe that the management-type courses I will be taking will also be beneficial in that area."

With the courses offered on the Choctaw Reservation, there have been some misconceptions about the classes, but O'Neill assures that the courses are not related to gaming.

"The only courses offered by the college are related to the management of hotels, restaurants and tourism," O'Neill said. "No gaming courses are offered and we will not be visiting the gaming floor, only the hotels and restaurants."

Those interested in the Hotel and Restaurant Management Technology Program can contact O'Neill at 601-650-1234, ext. 3509.

Hurricane Katrina Gives Freshman New Perspective on First Days of College Life

By KATIE CORLEY
Tom-Tom Staff

My assignment was to write an article about the ups and downs and turn-arounds of the first day of college through a freshman's eyes. I was going to write about how scatter-brained and spastic I was and how I was so nervous and excited that I had to get my good friend to drive me.

I was going to write about how I had to get that same wonderful friend to walk me to all of my classes, even if we didn't have that same class, (She really deserves an award!) and how you should never under any circumstance wear new heels that, besides the time you tried them on, had never been worn before.

I had plenty to write about and I knew it would be a good article. I sat down Saturday morning before I went to work and stared at my computer screen trying to decide where to begin. I punched out a few paragraphs before I left.

Throughout the day I added to and took away things from my mental list. I was so excited to write this article because I knew that hundreds of other students more than likely went through the same things that I did. I knew that most of you would be able to relate to this and hopefully look back and laugh at the things that traumatized you at the time or at least smile about them.

After work I had some friends over and I neglected to work on

my assignment and then again Sunday, I just couldn't make myself sit down to work on it. By Sunday evening it was the farthest thing from my mind. All I kept hearing about was the bad weather that we were going to get because of Hurricane Katrina and how the schools were going to be closed the next day.

Well, Monday was the day my assignment was due so I figured that with the school being closed I could work on the assignment all day Monday and I could postpone working on it another day.

The next morning I woke up to the phone ringing. It was my mom telling me to finish all the laundry and to take a shower and then fill up the bath tubs before noon because we were supposed to lose electricity and possibly water and that my dad was on his way home because his office was closing.

I hung up the phone and kept thinking that everyone seemed to be over-reacting for "bad weather." Little did I know that in a few hours the worst natural disaster to ever hit the U.S. was going to ravage the Gulf Coast and continue inland all the way to the Great Lakes.

Suddenly the "traumas" of my first day of school didn't seem so important any more. Luckily I had enough sense to recharge my laptop before the electricity went out so I could attempt to work on this.

However, every time I sat down to work on it I wouldn't get any where. I had writer's block against my assigned topic, so I decided to change the topic.

I am really not sure what my new topic is. I just know that I have realized that a lot of things that seem so important to my self and others, like what shoes we are going to wear or what T-shirt or blouse looks good with the pants we picked out really don't seem to be worth as much energy as I put in them before.

I am definitely not saying that we should stop putting thought and care into our appearance but that we should realize that there are thousands of people just like us who lost everything that they have ever put thought and care into, including their clothes. Everybody was and will continue to be affected by this catastrophe in some way, shape, or form.

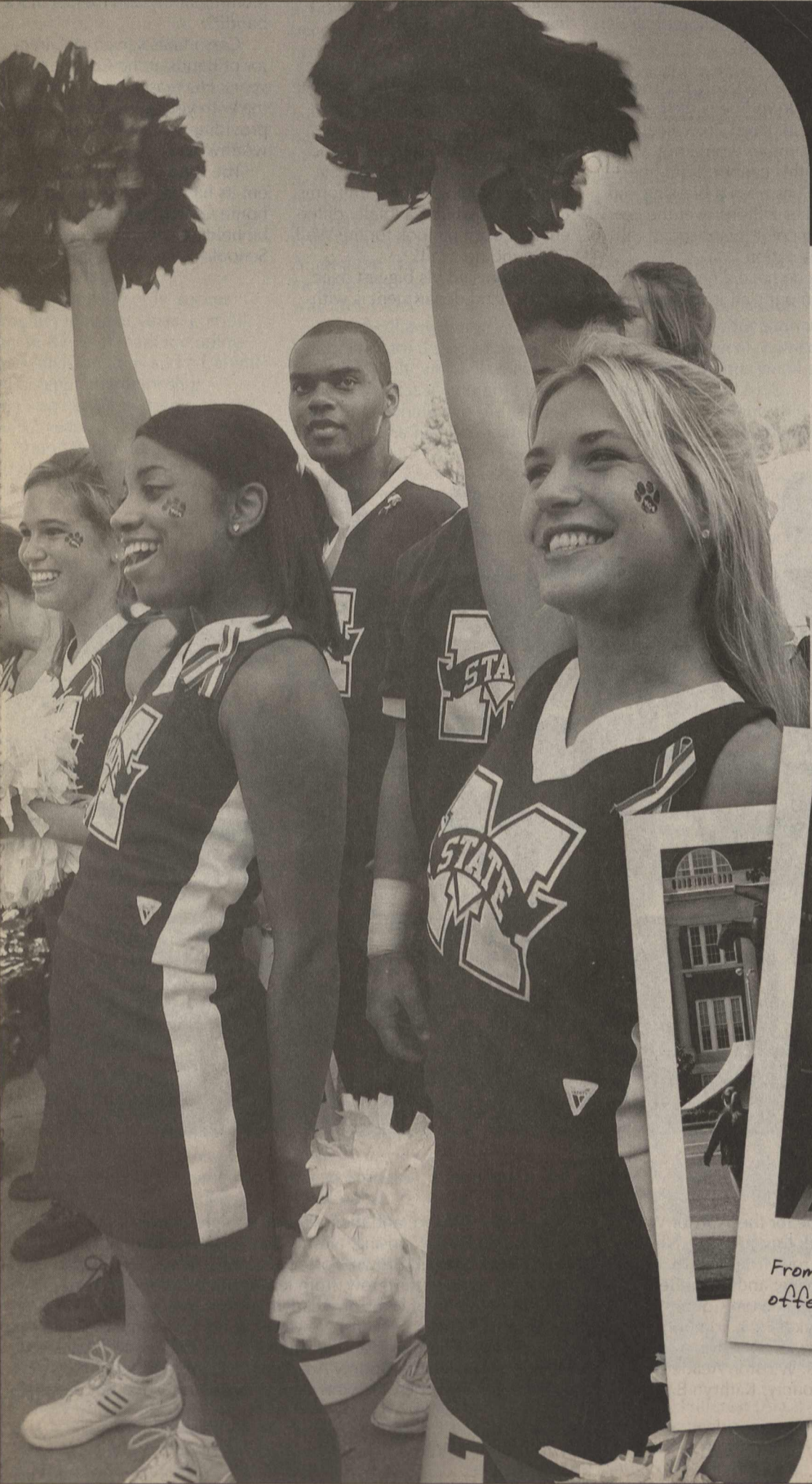
Although some are definitely affected more than others we are all going through the same thing and this gives us all an opportunity to put aside all the things that molded our lives before and come together to help rebuild what was destroyed.

All the news talks about is how they need donations for this and that. And donations really will help, but not everybody can afford a great donation even though every little bit helps. If you can, I encourage you to donate, if not your money, than your time.

As we continue to try to put back together the messes in our own lives I hope we can take time to realize at least we have something to put back together, at least we have something to work with and how truly blessed we are.

Wall O' Sound Band Managers Needed!

The Wall O' Sound Marching Band has an immediate opening for two male managers. See Tom Carson, Director of Bands, for details. Scholarship money is available.



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Phillips, Lovett To Be Honored During Homecoming



Maxie Phillips

East Central Community College "Alumna of the Year" Maxie Doddson Phillips of University Park, Maryland, began her career as an educator and, although she has retired, continues to support school students and her community through volunteer work with various organizations.

Those nominating Phillips for the prestigious honor wrote, "Mrs. Phillips' contributions to her community have played a significant part in making it a warm and vibrant place to live. Her volunteer work has been commended by numerous groups including the National Gallery of Art, the National Archives, the National Museum of Women in the Arts, Parent-Teacher Associations and the Folger Library, to name a few."

Upon receiving the honor, Phillips said, "I am very surprised, very pleased and most appreciative! No doubt Mrs. (Stella) New-some (her former ECCC instructor) would be very surprised as well. I am sure she would press into service her elegant lace handkerchief if she knew I was a docent at the Folger Shakespeare Library and working with the student Shakespeare festivals and events!"

Phillips, who graduated from Harpersville High School, began her career as a home economics teacher at Sebastopol High School from 1947 to 1949. After marrying, she and her husband, Dr. Willie E. Phillips, lived in Georgia, where he was a graduate student and she taught at Lilburn High School. The couple then moved to Texas, where Dr. Phillips taught at Texas Tech and Mrs. Phillips taught at Carroll Thompson Junior High School. After Dr. Phillips accepted a posi-

tion with the National Bureau of Standards in the U.S. Department of Commerce, the couple moved to Maryland, where Mrs. Phillips taught in the Prince George's County School District from 1972 until her retirement in 1978.

Regarding her career, Phillips said, "I enjoyed the opportunity to interact with such a variety of students from a wide range of backgrounds, from the gifted and talented to those with significant challenges. Their enthusiasm in learning new skills is inspirational."

Today, Phillips serves as a volunteer at the Smithsonian Institution's new National Museum of the American Indian, the National Archives, Riverside House Museum, Folger Shakespeare Library, the Library of Congress, National Gallery of Art, and the National Museum of Women in the Arts.

Among her duties are leading public and school group tours, assisting at special events such as the opening ceremony and family days at the National Museum of the American Indian, National Book Festivals sponsored by the Library of Congress and Laura Bush, the National Archives Fourth of July Declaration of Independence celebrations, and Constitution Day ceremonies.

Phillips, who attended East Central Junior College from 1943 to 1945, said, "My compass was set at East Central. My career and interests reflect my experience there and the great opportunities I was given."

During her days at East Central, Phillips served as reporter for the Home Economics Club, was a member of the Glee Club and "Y" Council, vice president of the YWCA, secretary-treasurer of the state YWCA, worship chairman for Sunday school and youth fellowship, first vice president of the Vesper services and president of the Wesley Foundation.

Upon graduation, Phillips received a bachelor's degree in home economics from Mississippi State College for Women and a master's degree in education from Mississippi State University. She received the specialist's degree in education from Peabody College of Vanderbilt University and has completed the coursework toward the doctorate degree in human development at the University of Maryland.

Active in civic organizations, Phillips serves on the town

Education Advisory Committee; is past branch president of the American Association of University Women; a charter member and officer of College Park Toastmasters; past president of the University of Maryland Campus Club; past president of the University Park Woman's Club; former chairman of the State Federation of Women's Clubs Arts Program and Safety Program; past president of the American Antique Arts Association; chairman of the town Foreign Policy Association; past president of the county Genealogical Society; a former troop leader and neighborhood chairman for the Girl Scouts of America; was a judge for the National History Day final competitions; past president of Parent-Teacher Associations; served on County PTA Council; former state committee chairman and honorary PTA life member; and past chapter president of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees.

Phillips founded two National Association of University Dames clubs, was founder of the town Historic Preservation Association, which received historic district listing for the town on the National Register of Historic Places; was founder and past chairman of the board of directors for Junior and Senior Cotillions, and received Civic Association community service recognition.

She is certified in Family and Consumer Sciences by the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences and received Paul Harris Fellow Recognition for Community Service from Rotary International.

A member of the University United Methodist Church, Phillips serves as a Sunday school teacher and was on the Nominating Committee, Administrative Board, Council of Ministries, Education Committee and was a Stephen Minister and Family Living Coordinator.

Phillips lives in one of the area's historic homes and each year invites the local elementary school children to a tea party in her home. As a fundraiser for local schools, Phillips began the town's annual holiday candlelight house tour. The Phillips have also been on the state house and garden tour, which is a fundraiser for historic preservation in Maryland.

The Phillips had three chil-

dren. Martha, who teaches adult education as a licensed nurse, and Margaret, an artist, both reside in Carthage, Mississippi. Their middle child, Mary, was a buyer for the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. She died of cancer in 2002.



Bill Lovett

Billy R. Lovett of Forest is being recognized by his alma mater as Alumnus of the Year for his distinguished military career and dedication to the field of education and public service.

Lovett, a 1957 ECCC alumnus, said receiving the honor "is a great thrill for me." He added, "Taking note of the accomplishments of those named Alumnus of the Year for the past several years, I am both honored and humbled to be included in their ranks."

Lovett spent 27 years as a flight officer in the U.S. Navy, serving primarily in aviation squadrons and aviation-related duty stations in or near Norfolk, Virginia, and San Diego, California. He was assigned to five different squadrons flying the E-1B Tracer and the E-2C Hawkeye, the Navy's carrier based command-and-control aircraft. Lovett was deployed worldwide aboard seven different aircraft carriers.

Highlights of his military career include serving as executive officer and later commanding officer of an aviation squadron (VAW-114) based out of the Naval Air Station in Miramar, California. During this tour he made one regular deployment to the Western Pacific, followed by an extended deployment to the West Pacific and Indian oceans.

Regarding his Navy career, Lovett said it "was filled with interesting, challenging assignments, and I served with many,

impressive, dedicated people."

Lovett said his career was influenced by "several highly qualified, professional naval officers and senior non-commissioned officers, all of whom were positive, motivational mentors. I had plenty of role models to follow!"

He retired from military service in 1990 with the rank of Captain and in 1991 returned to Forest.

In 1992 he joined the faculty at ECCC, where he taught speech and psychology classes for more than seven years. He also served as an adjunct faculty member, teaching evening classes at various locations in the College's five-county district.

Lovett described his academic career as "rewarding, challenging and educational." He also expressed appreciation to his faculty colleagues, administrators and supervisory personnel, and "almost all" of his students!

While a member of the ECCC faculty, Lovett was known for the personal attention he gave to students of all ages.

One of his nominators for the Alumnus of the Year award described how Lovett "took a 55-year-old retired man with a poor educational background from the mountains of Georgia and instilled in him the belief that he had worth and could successfully complete the requirements for graduation at East Central." The nominator further stated that the nontraditional student did graduate from East Central "and became an inspiration to other students."

Lovett was also involved in various campus activities during his tenure on the faculty and continues to be a part of the ECCC family.

He served on committees related to accreditation and homecoming while being a working member of the faculty association. He continues to be a member of the Warrior Club, a support group for ECCC athletics, and the Alumni Association, currently serving as its president. He also provides assistance for the College's annual Warrior Golf Classic, which raises funds for scholarships.

Lovett is also involved in various clubs and organizations in Forest and Scott County.

He has held offices in the Scott County Forestry Association, Scott County American

Legion Post, United Methodist Men in Forest and Homewood Water Association. He has also assisted with Forest Community Arts theater productions.. He continues to be a member of each organization mentioned in addition to holding membership in the University of Southern Mississippi Eagle Club. He is also active member of Forest United Methodist Church and Gideons International.

Lovett also spends time with responsibilities associated with being a tree farmer, which include maintaining the family timber acreage. In addition, he is involved with upkeep and landscape maintenance around his house in Forest.

Lovett attended East Central from 1955-57 and was involved in various campus activities. Honors included winning a trophy in an intercollegiate speech event and receiving a "best actor" award for one of the College theater productions.

He remembers East Central as being a "supportive and close-knit institution." He further commented, "Instructors were knowledgeable and caring, and took time to help us master our courses. Most students were dorm residents, so we knew most of our school mates. It was really a great environment."

Lovett participated in theatre productions, speech competitions and was a member of the chorus.

He graduated from East Central with honors and continued his education at USM where he received a bachelor's degree in speech. He later earned a master's degree in personnel administration from George Washington University, and completed additional graduate work at Mississippi State University.

He is married to the former Sandra Cloud, a native of Pensacola, Florida. They have two daughters, Dr. Laura Lovett of Amherst, Massachusetts, and Terrin Lovett of San Diego, California. Laura serves on the faculty at the University of Massachusetts and is married to Dr. Michael Dietrich, a faculty member at Dartmouth College. They have two daughters, Lydia and Arlena. Terrin is employed by a pharmaceutical manufacturer and operates her own copyediting business.

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To Present Homecoming Art Exhibit

Eric Adcock (left) of Sebastopol and Chris Kemp (center) of Louisville will be the featured alumni artists during the annual Homecoming festivities at East Central Community College. The opening reception for the exhibit, which will feature multimedia works, will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. on Thursday, October 13, in the lobby of the Ovid S. Vickers Fine Arts Center. Admission is free and refreshments will be served. Also pictured is Bruce Guraedy, Chairman of the ECCC Division of Fine Arts and art instructor.

ECCC Student Receives PTK ‘Leaders of Promise’ Award

Jaimee Jones of Louisville, a sophomore engineering major at East Central Community College in Decatur, has been named a recipient of the 2005 Phi Theta Kappa Leaders of Promise Scholarship.

Jones and 29 other community and junior college students from across the nation were selected to receive the \$1,000 scholarship to further their associate degree studies.

The purpose of the Leaders of Promise Scholarship Program is to provide new Phi Theta Kappa members with financial resources to help defray educational expenses while enrolled at a two-year college. The program also provides opportunity and encourages students to assume leadership roles by participating in Society programs. Thirty members from 20 different states were selected for their demonstrated leadership potential and scholastic achievement.

“This is a noteworthy honor because it recognizes the potential success of outstanding students such as Jaimee,” explains Rod A. Risley, Phi Theta Kappa Executive Director. “The 2005 Leaders of Promise have demonstrated academic excellence and are committed to improving their communities. Jaimee exemplifies the outstanding students enrolled not only at East Central Community College, but at community colleges everywhere.”

Jones was valedictorian of her 2004 graduating class at Nanih Waiya High School. At East Central, she serves as president of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa and is secretary of the Student Body Association. She also serves as Girls’ Bible Study Leader at the Baptist Student Union where she is also a



East Central Community College sophomore Jaimee Jones of Louisville displays a certificate designating her as a recipient of the 2005 Phi Theta Kappa Leaders of Promise Scholarship. Jones is one of only 30 community and junior college students nationwide to receive the \$1,000 award.

member of “The Way” team. In addition, she is a member of the College’s first women’s soccer team, Warrior Corps, Partnership for a Healthy Mississippi, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and National Society of Professional Engineers. She also participates in intramural sports.

Phi Theta Kappa, the largest honor society for higher education, has more than 1.5 million members at 1,200 community colleges in all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canada and Germany. Approximately 100,000 students are inducted annually in the Society’s 1,200 chapters.

turned in a drift, and a jurist who makes life miserable for everyone!

Cast members include Beth Alexander (Mollie Ralston) of Little Rock, Michael Brown (Giles Ralston) of Morton, Steven Cullen (Christopher Wren) of Carthage, Rebecca Washburn (Mrs. Boyle) of Highland, Illinois; Chris Tramill (Major Metcalf) of North Miami, Florida; Kenya Singleton (Miss Casewell) of Morton, Chris Smith (Mr. Paravicini) of Union and Danny Harrison (Detective Sergeant Trotter) of Forest.

Monica Chesney of House serves as stage manager. Erin Copeland of Union serves as assistant director. ECCC speech/theater instructor Stan Tucker serves as director.

Mu Alpha Theta Meeting (Honorary Mathematics Club)
October 20, Room 2, Ethridge Hall
Activity Period (10:56 - 11:30 a.m)

If you made an ‘A’ in College Algebra, Trig, Finite Math, Elementary Functions, Business Calculus or Business Statistics, or if you made an ‘A’ or ‘B’ in Calculus I, II, III or IV, you are invited to join!

Dues are a one-time fee of \$7.
Please see Mrs. Ford or Mrs. Fulton by October 17.

EC’s Anderson, Luke Named ‘05 Instructors of the Year



Nan Anderson

Starkville native Nan Anderson, East Central Community College’s 2005 Academic “Instructor of the Year,” recognized as a 15-year-old candy striper that she was meant to be a nurse. However, it was her father who gave her the inspiration to teach.

“Daddy was an administrator at (Mississippi) State, but he loved teaching,” Anderson said. “He was a great teacher and loved his students. At home, we saw that enthusiasm. I had some wonderful nursing teachers at the ‘W,’ both in the clinical setting as well as the classroom. I realized that it was possible to combine roles, nursing and teaching, into a career.

“Over the next 20 years, I practiced my nursing skills and worked in a variety of settings. I received my master’s degree in 1995 and began teaching. I can’t imagine doing anything else now!”

Anderson serves as an instructor in the College’s Associate Degree Nursing program. Prior to accepting her position at East Central, Anderson served as an instructor in the Division of Nursing at Calhoun Community College in Decatur, Ala., and is also a former faculty member of graduate nursing studies in the College of Nursing at the University of Alabama-Huntsville. She has also served as an independent childbirth educator and has held positions with the Mississippi Division of Medicaid, Rush Hospital and the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

Anderson said she enjoys

teaching at a community college because “there is a feeling of community and the students are so diverse. They come from different experiences and backgrounds. Some of my students have a spouse and a family to take care of after they attend classes. Many are employed. Some of my students are the first person in their family to go to college.”

She also said that her entire department works together to reach students.

“We teach as a team,” said Anderson. “Any success of one is the success of all of us. We treat our students as individuals. We use different strategies to appeal to a variety of learning styles and spend a lot of one-on-one time. By working with students in the hospitals and the classrooms, we get to know a lot of things about our students. They come to us for many things.”

Seeing students succeed is what Anderson says makes it all worthwhile.

“I once had a middle-age male student who had come from an oppressed environment,” she said. “I don’t know what brought him to nursing, but he was very kind and humble. Many people had already decided that he wasn’t going to make it as a nurse. He seemed so sincere in his desires as we continued working with him. We could see him blossoming as the semesters passed. He had never been successful in anything before, but he graduated and passed his boards. He became a really good nurse. He was very humble and very kind. I think that was my first recognition that you should never pass judgment on whether or not someone can become successful. He had simply never been given the opportunity. That was an eye-opener for me.”

Anderson received her bachelor’s degree in nursing from Mississippi University for Women and completed the master’s degree in nursing administration at the University of Alabama in Huntsville.

She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau, Phi Kappa Phi and the Mississippi Nurses Association. She received the Outstanding Graduate Student in Nursing Administration Award from UA-

Huntsville and has been named to Who’s Who Among American College Educators. She received the Alabama College System Award of Excellence in 2003 and received the 2002-03 Carlton W. Kelley Teaching Excellence Award at Calhoun Community College. She is a member of Clarke-Venable Baptist Church.

Anderson and her husband, Mike, who is an instructor in the College of Business and Industry at Mississippi State University, have two daughters, Anna Claire, 16, and Grace, 13.



Lori Luke

A special mentor gave East Central Community College practical nursing instructor Lori Luke, the College’s 2005 Career-Technical Instructor of the Year, the inspiration she needed to become not only a good nurse, but a good teacher as well.

“I had a wonderful preceptor when I first became a nurse,” said Luke. “She mentored me and basically taught me how to use the knowledge I had acquired during nursing school. Her name was Emma and I will never forget her.

“I would have to say that I chose to become a teacher because of Emma, because without her mentoring I would have never survived. It was then that I realized the significant impact a good mentor/teacher can have on students.”

Luke serves as director of the College’s practical nursing program. She and one other instructor team-teach most courses, although some courses, such as Pharmacology, she teaches alone.

Prior to her position at East Central, Luke worked as a registered nurse in various areas, predominantly Surgery and Post-Anesthesia Care Units.

When asked why she enjoys teaching at a community college Luke said, “I love the small classes that enable you to get to know students on a personal basis. I am thankful for the family/community environment that abounds at the community college level. Plus, being a graduate of East Central myself, I have a special fondness and great memories of ECCC.”

When asked how she reaches her students, Luke said “respect.”

“I have respect for them and I expect respect in return,” Luke said. “An open door policy encourages student participation and good communicative dialogue.”

Although Luke says it is sometimes challenging finding out individual learning needs and then striving to meet those needs, she says her best memories as a teacher are when students are successful for the first time.

“I love the excitement they feel when they accomplish a goal. I never get tired of seeing that light go on,” Luke said.

Luke received her associate’s degree from East Central Community College and the bachelor’s degree in Nursing from the University of Southern Mississippi. She has completed additional coursework towards the master’s degree.

She has been an advisor for Health Occupation Students of America and SkillsUSA. In addition, she was named to Who’s Who Among American Teachers.

Luke is a member of the Association for Rural Health and the International Association for Human Caring and has worked with the Diabetes Foundation of Mississippi. She is a member of First Baptist Church in Newton.

She is married to Keith Luke, who works with the USDA in Jackson, and they have two daughters, Morgan, 11, and Maggie, 8. Luke is the daughter of Wayne and Elizabeth Hudson of Newton.

PBL Students Set Up Business to Sell Christmas Items

Students in business technology instructor Christy Ferguson’s Database Management class will be learning the basics of the American Enterprise system when members of Phi Beta Lambda present information and teach six sessions to the class.

Leading the project is Jamaica Hernandez of Choctaw, who serves as the chairperson of Phi Beta Lambda’s American Enterprise Project.

To help students understand the concept, club members set up their own business, which will include making creative Christ-

mas gifts. The company name “Christmas Creations” was chosen by the class.

Students will be involved in marketing, selling, and producing the Christmas items, which will be on sale beginning the week of November 14.

Items for sell include decorated Christmas frames, Christmas candles, Christmas Tips/Idea books, candy and much more. See any PBL member to purchase a Christmas item. The last day to place a order will be December 2, 2005.



PBL Officers

These students have been selected to lead the Phi Beta Lambda chapter at East Central Community College in Decatur. Front row, from left, are Andy Johnson of Philadelphia, parliamentarian; and Rebecca Brand, vice president, and Ernest Spivey, treasurer, both of Decatur. Back row, from left, are Julia Tucker of Decatur, historian; Jamaica Hernandez of Pearl River, secretary; Jeffery Davis of Louisville, president; and Michael Pettey of Philadelphia, reporter. Business technology instructor Ruth Gregory of Little Rock serves as lead adviser. Phi Beta Lambda is an organization for business and computer students.

Want to Quit Smoking?
Smoking Cessation Program Offered in the Student Health Center.
Eddie M. Smith Student Union Bldg.



Phi Beta Lambda sponsor Christy Ferguson (left), who teaches business technology, and Jamaica Hernandez of Choctaw, chairman of PBL’s American Enterprise Project, display some of the Christmas items the group plans to market as a class project.

Phi Beta Lambda
March of Dimes Pumpkin Sale
\$1 Donation
Hurry Home Bears \$5
USA Rider Bears \$5/each or
\$15/set
Bradford J. Tucker Applied Technology Center
and Mabry Memorial Cafeteria
10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
October 11-20

New Faces Join East Central Staff for 2005-06 College Term

Several new employees have joined the East Central Community College family during the past months. They include Joe Barrett, Workforce Development Coordinator; Coco Boone, Cheerleader Coach, Centralette Coordinator, Remedial Reading Instructor; Katrina Bryant, EMT-Paramedic Director/Instructor;; Brenda Cheatham, Student Services Secretary; Brandon Cornelius, assistant men's basketball coach; Romanica Evans, Tech Prep Career Center Director/ Recruiter; Norman Gillis, Business Office Accountant II; Dr. Mark "Talmage" Graham, Physics Instructor; Christi Lee Gregory, Career/Technical Counselor; Joan Grimes, Coordinator of Tech Prep Education; Kim Willis Hardy, Biology Instructor; Krissi Harris, assistant softball coach; Jane Jackson, Train the Trainer/Adult Education Instructor; Terri Killens, Business Office Clerk; Robert Kilpatrick, Industrial Maintenance Technology Instructor; Joseph Knight, Workforce Development Coordinator; James Miller, assistant football coach; James Moore, Golf Coach; Lisa O'Neill, Hotel and Restaurant Management Technology Instructor; Billy Smith, Head Women's Basketball Coach; Princess Swilley, assistant women's basketball coach; Vivian Taylor, Burton Library Secretary; and Mike Volarvich, Assistant Football Coach, Tennis Coach.

Barrett was previously employed at Choctaw Maid Farms/Tyson since 1990, where he held various positions.

He is also a former maintenance supervisor and crane operator for Dixlyn-Field Drilling Company in Houston, Texas, and served as a meat and poultry inspector for the Mississippi State Department of Agriculture and Commerce. In addition, he is a former business owner, having co-owned and co-operated Barrett's Dairy and Poultry Farm (currently a timber farm) and Barrett's Quick Stop Convenience Store.

Barrett is currently serving as president of the Decatur Lions Club and is a past member of boards of directors for the Decatur Development Association and Newton County Fair Association.

He is also a former girls' softball coach, having taken teams to state and national tournaments.

He is a member of Clarke-Venable Baptist Church, where he is active in the youth department.

A graduate of Decatur High School, Barrett holds an Associate of Arts degree from ECCC and a Bachelor of Science in agricultural extension education from Mississippi State University.

He is married to the former Glenda Rigdon and they have two children, Lauren, a junior at the University of Southern Mississippi, and Kyle, a senior at Newton County High School.

Coco Boone has served as a choreographer, coach and judge for various cheer and dance squads throughout the southeastern United States and has over 12 years experience.

Her most recent stint was cheer coach at Thibodaux (La.) High School, where members of her squad captured first place at the 2004 UCA Summer Camp and were also named "Camp Champs" in both the cheer and dance competitions.

Boone is also a former cheer coach at the University of Arkansas-Monticello, Wayne Academy and Wayne County High School. In addition, she was a member of the "Rebelette" Dance Team at the University of Mississippi from 1995 to 1998, where she also served as a member of the Ole Miss Pom Squad and was a part of the Ole Miss National Competition Squad. She was three-time High School NCA All-American cheerleader.

From 1993 to 2000, Boone served as a staff instructor for the National Cheerleaders Association, where she also assisted with the choreography team, the NCA National Cheer and Dance Competition and several special events.

In addition to serving as

cheer coach, Boone serves as coordinator/choreographer for the Centralettes, the danceline for the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band.

She is married to Chris Boone, who serves as defensive coordinator for the Warrior football team. They have a daughter, Cameron, 2.

Bryant is also a member of the College's adjunct faculty. In addition to her teaching duties, Bryant serves as an EMT-Paramedic and education officer at Metro Ambulance in Meridian. She is also a former EMT-Paramedic for Emergstat Ambulance in Vernon, Ala.

A graduate of Newton County High School, Bryant attended ECCC and received EMT-Basic Certification and EMT-Intermediate Certification from Alabama Fire College. She also received EMT Paramedic Certification from the University Medical Center. She is scheduled to receive a Bachelor of Science degree in health-related sciences at UMC in August 2005.

Cheatham previously served at East Central in 2002-03, when her husband, Steve, was a member of the Warrior football coaching staff.

The Cheathams lived in Oxford for two years when Steve served on Coach David Cutcliff's football staff at the University of Mississippi. During this period, Brenda was senior staff assistant for the women's soccer, volleyball, softball and rifle teams.

Brenda Chatham, who also served ECCC as bookstore manager, was secretary at Philadelphia High School prior to joining the College staff in 2002. She also has experience in the banking business, having served as a customer specialist and customer service specialist.

She is a graduate of Neshoba Central High School and received an associate's degree in business administration from ECCC.

Her husband, Steve, is head football coach at Neshoba Central High School. They have a daughter, Lindsey, a dental hygienist in Philadelphia.

Cornelius is a former basketball standout at the University of West Alabama in Livingston. A two-year starter, the 6'7" forward averaged 10 points, 10 rebounds and five blocked shots during his senior campaign.

He was also a President's and Dean's list scholar at UWA and received a bachelor's degree in physical education in December 2004.

Cornelius served as assistant basketball coach during his senior year, splitting duties his final semester at UWA with Sumter County Public Schools in Livingston, Ala., and at Forest Hill High School, his alma mater. He is also a former basketball assistant at Livingston (Ala.) High School.

The new ECCC assistant averaged 12 points, 10 rebounds and eight blocked shots during his senior year at Forest Hill and received the Best Rebounder and Best Sixth Man awards.

Evans has been a member of the ECCC staff since 2003, serving as administrative assistant to the Vice President of Student Services. She is also a former teller at Bank of Forest and clerk at Wal-Mart in Newton.

A graduate of Newton County High School, Evans holds an associate degree in business administration from ECCC and a bachelor's degree in business administration with an emphasis in accounting from Mississippi State University.

She has a son, Demarius Evans.

Gillis is a former cost accountant at La-Z-Boy South in Newton, where he had been employed since 1988.

He is a member of Little Rock Baptist Church, where he serves as deacon, clerk/treasurer and Sunday school teacher.

A graduate of Central Academy in Macon, Gillis holds an Associate of Arts degree in Business Administration from East Mississippi Community College and a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration with emphasis in accounting from the Meridian branch of Mississippi State University.

He is married to the former Elizabeth Massey and they have two sons, Drew and Ryan.

Prior to joining the ECCC faculty, Dr. Graham served as an instructor for algebra-based physics (with emphasis on medical applications) at Jones County Junior College. He has also served on faculties at Clemson University, University of Alabama, Vanderbilt University and Millsaps College. In addition, he is a former science advisor for the Jemison-Van de Graaff Foundation, Homeland Security and the British Broadcasting Corporation Science Department.

Dr. Graham has received various honors for his work in physics, including the Davis Planetarium Award for Outstanding Service to Astronomy Education, which he received while a student at Millsaps College in Jackson. He also received first-place honors in biology at the Mississippi College Science and Mathematics Tournament. In addition, the new ECCC faculty member has had several articles published on such topics as cloud formation, electric fields and the physics of tornado safety.

Dr. Graham is a member of the American Association of Physics, American Management Association, American Meteorological Society and American Association for the Advancement of Science.

A Jackson native, Dr. Graham holds bachelor degrees in physics and mathematics from Millsaps College and received a doctorate in materials and laser physics from Vanderbilt University.

Gregory previously served the College as Tech-Prep Career Center Director/Recruiter, a post she held for six years. Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Gregory served as community education coordinator at Hospice South in Philadelphia. She is also a former telemarketer for the Mississippi State University Alumni Association and served as an account service representative at The Citizens Bank in Philadelphia. In addition, she is a former engineering department assistant at Yates Construction Company in Philadelphia.

A graduate of Neshoba Central High School, Gregory holds an Associate of Arts degree from ECCC; a Bachelor of Arts degree in educational psychology from Mississippi State University; and a Master of Science in counseling/psychology from the University of West Alabama.

She is married to Brent Gregory, who serves as ECCC's Director of Student Life. They have a daughter, McKinley. Grimes previously served as English and chorus instructor at West Lauderdale High School. She also held teaching positions in Leland and Newton schools. During her tenure at Leland, she received Teacher of the Year honors on three occasions.

In addition, she has served as Professional Development Presenter/Trainer in the Tech Prep office of the Mississippi Department of Education.

She is a member of the National Tech Prep Network, National Association for Tech Prep Leadership, National Council of Teachers of English, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development and Mississippi Theatre Association.

A graduate of Union High School, Grimes holds an Associate in Arts degree from ECCC and a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Education from the University of Southern Mississippi. She is working toward a master's degree at Mississippi State University.

She has a son, Joshua Joyner (Jo-Jo) Grimes, a first-grader at Newton County Elementary School.

Hardy served the College as interim instructor during 2004-05 and has been a member of the ECCC Adjunct Faculty since 2000.

She is a former biology and human anatomy instructor at Philadelphia High School and previously taught general science at Kosciusko Middle School. In addition, she is a former science methods instructor and creative writing instructor at Mississippi State University.

Hardy has received numerous awards for teaching excellence. 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 graduate of Neshoba Central High School, Hardy received bachelor and master's degrees in biology from Mississippi State University. She also has an associate's degree in dental hygiene from Meridian Community College.

She is married to Bobby Hardy, owner of Hardy Tire in Philadelphia. They have three daughters, Carman Hardy, Leigh Willis Payne and Deanna Hardy. They also have one grandson, Mason Payne.

After a two-year stand-out career as a member of the East Central Community College fast-pitch softball team, Harris has returned to the squad as an assistant coach.

Harris posted a .317 batting average in helping lead the 2004 Lady Warriors to berths in the state and regional tournaments en route to a 26-16 record. She also had a triple, two doubles and scored 23 runs. An outfielder, Harris was named to the All-State and All-Division teams and was selected an NJCAA Academic All-American. She also received the Lady Warrior award. Harris graduated with honors at ECCC in 2004.

Harris is a 2002 graduate of Newton County High School and helped lead the Lady Cougars to three state titles. She is currently attending classes at the Meridian branch of Mississippi State University in addition to her coaching duties.

Jackson previously served the past year as Adult Education Instructor/Facilitator/Trainer for the College's ABE/GED program.

Her new duties include teaching adult basic education classes at the College's ABE/GED lab on South Campus and at the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center. She also assists with GED orientation activities and staff development.

A graduate of Manhattan Academy, Jackson holds a bachelor's degree in secondary education/social studies from Mississippi State University. She is also a certified AchieveGlobal Leadership Trainer.

She has a daughter, Angela Spence, a 2005 summa cum laude graduate in aerospace engineering at Mississippi State University employed at Eglin



Norman Gillis



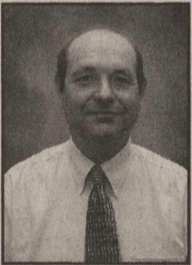
Katrina Bryant



Dr. Mark T. Graham



Brenda Cheatham



Joe Barrett



Brandon Cornelius



Coco Boone



Christi Gregory



Krissi Harris



Jane Jackson



Joan Grimes



Terri Killens



Robert Kilpatrick



Joseph Knight



James Moore

professional at Forest County Club since December 2002, where he is also general manager and course superintendent.

The Forest native also coaches the Forest High School golf team, which won its first State Class 3A title in 2005.

Moore began his career as a golf professional in 1991 at Big Creek Golf Club in Millington, Tenn. He has also served the Covington Country Club in Covington, Tenn.; Lake Bruin Golf and Country Club in St. Joseph, La.; Newport Golf Club and Conference Center in Crosby, Texas; Dancing Rabbit Golf Club in Choctaw; and Canton County Club in Canton. In addition, he is a former general manager/golf professional at West Point and Prentiss country clubs and served as golf coach at L. B. Wallace College in Andalusia, Ala.

A graduate of Forest High School, Moore attended East Central Junior College and the University of Southern Mississippi. He also attended PGA Business Schools in Jackson and Destin, Fla., and is a Class A member of PGA of America.

He played golf professionally on the Ben Hogan Tour in 1990, and was a member of the Mississippi Cup Team and Mississippi PGA Makel Cup Team in 2004.

Moore is married to the former Lynn Holland of Pascagoula. They have two sons, J.C. and Brandon, both students at Forest Public Schools.

O'Neill previously served as community development coordinator with the Diabetes Foundation of Mississippi.

She is also a former marketing manager for the Lauderdale County Tourism Bureau and held sales and marketing positions at the Holiday Inn Express Hotel and Suites, Quality Inn and Howard Johnson's Hotel, all in Meridian. In addition, she previously served as general manager of the Hampton Inn in Meridian.

O'Neill is a graduate of McComb High School, Southwest Mississippi Community College and the University of Southern Mississippi, where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism Management.

She is also Promus certified in general management and holds certification by the American Hotel and Motel Association as a hospitality supervisor.

In addition, she attended the Southeast Tourism Society Marketing College in Dahlonega, Georgia.

O'Neill serves on boards of directors for the Meridian Rotary Club; Jimmie Rodgers Foundation; and the East Central Chapter of the Diabetes Foundation of Mississippi. She is a former ambassador for the East Mississippi Business Development Corporation.

She is married to Kurt O'Neill and has two step-children, Jesse and Zak O'Neill.

Smith has served as the College's men's basketball coach since 2001, following a successful 16-year career leading the girls' basketball program at Neshoba Central High School. During his tenure, the Lady Rockets compiled a 388-151 mark, which included a state title and six district championships.

In all, the new Lady Warrior head coach has 23 years coaching and teaching experience.

Swilley, a four-year letter winner for the Lady Tigers, capped her career in 2004, scoring exactly 1,000 career points while helping lead Memphis to the second round of the Women's



Princess Swilley



Ribbon-cutting ceremonies were recently held at East Central Community College in Decatur for the Mississippi debut of “Between Fences,” a Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition, which is on display in the Associate Degree Nursing Building through October 18. Between Fences is a cultural history of fences and land use. It examines how neighbors and nations divide and protect, offend and defend through the boundaries they build. The traveling exhibit is part of Museum on Main Street, a collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution and the Federation of State Humanities Councils. Participating in the ribbon-cutting ceremony were (from left) Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director, ECCCC Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations; Dr. Barbara Carpenter, executive director, Mississippi Humanities Council; Carol Harsh, co-director and co-founder of Museum on Main Street; Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCCC president; Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, ECCCC vice president for instruction; Dr. Kathy Baxter, associate vice president for Research and Development and Government Affairs at Meridian Community College; Carol Andersen, assistant director for programs, Lil Lovette, project volunteer and David Morgan, project specialist for the “Between Fences” exhibit, all with the Mississippi Humanities Council; and Betty Lou Jones, Governor’s appointee to the MHC. For more information about “Between Fences” or to arrange tours of the exhibit contact the ECCCC Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 327. The email address is sholling@ecccc.edu.

‘Between Fences’ Exhibit Attracting Attention at EC

East Central Community College, in cooperation with the Mississippi Humanities Council, continues its exploration of the cultural history of fences and land use as it hosts the local showing of Between Fences, a Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibition. Between Fences will be open for viewing weekdays through October 18, 2005.

ECCC was expressly chosen by the Mississippi Humanities Council to host Between Fences as part of the Museum on Main Street project – a national/state/local partnership to bring exhibitions and programs to rural cultural organizations. After it leaves Decatur, the exhibition will travel to five additional communities in Mississippi before it returns to the Smithsonian.

Through a selection of artifacts, photographs, and illustrations, Between Fences examines the multiple meanings behind this everyday icon. Whether

made of split rails, decorative white pickets, or tall chain link, a fence conveys information about the people who built it, how they view and use their property, and the nature of their relations with their neighbors.

ECCC officials say they are pleased with the community’s reaction and support thus far to Between Fences with nearly 500 visitors having registered as viewing the exhibit.

“We are pleased to host this traveling exhibit as part of the College’s commitment to the area. To have an exhibit of this caliber at the College is a real opportunity for the community and we extend a special invitation to everyone to visit East Central and view this fine exhibit,” said ECCCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

Between Fences is part of Museum on Main Street, a unique collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution

Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES), state humanities councils across the nation, and local host institutions. To learn more visit www.museumonmainstreet.org, www.sites.si.edu, or www.mshumanities.org.

Support for Museum on Main Street has been provided by the United States Congress. Local sponsors include: SAM’S CLUB; The Citizens Bank; Community Bank; LA-Z-BOY SOUTH; Newton Junction; Decatur Telephone Company; Great Southern National Bank; Bank of Walnut Grove; BankPlus; Killens Chevrolet Oldsmobile Pontiac, Inc.; and Milling Funeral Home.

The exhibit is on display in the Associate Degree Nursing building on the Decatur campus of East Central Community College. For more information about the exhibit, please contact the ECCCC Foundation Office toll-free at 1-877-462-3222 ext. 327.

Wilson Overcomes Odds To Complete EC GED Program

At age 17, Roxanne Wilson of Lena left school only months from graduation to take care of her newborn child.

She said she remembers the “heartbreak” she felt when she had to leave school without achieving her dream of obtaining a high school diploma.

Now almost 15 years later, Wilson, 32, has finally achieved her goal. She received the high school equivalency diploma at the annual East Central Community College GED Commencement held this summer, overcoming several obstacles during the process.

“Finances were tight, my son (Marquez) was diagnosed with Type A Diabetes, I became a dislocated located worker and my marriage ended,” she stated. “But with all that was happening to me, I was even more determined to achieve my dream.”

Making sure Wilson stayed focus on her dream were ABE/GED instructors Ed McGowan, Lorene Graham and Jane Jackson.

“Roxanne was one of the most determined and dedicated students I have had the opportunity to work with at the Decatur campus. I honestly feel I learned more from her than she actually learned from me! She faced so many obstacles while attending classes but she did not give up,” Jackson said.

Wilson said her three children – Coneasha, now 14; Ashley, 12;



Roxanne Wilson (left) of Lena recently received her GED diploma after taking adult basic education classes offered by the Office of Adult and Continuing Education at East Central Community College in Decatur. Jane Jackson (right) of Philadelphia was one of the instructors who helped the 32-year-old mother of three achieve her goal.

and Marquez, six – “also provided encouragement and support. They were my inspiration to succeed.”

Now 33, Wilson has enrolled at ECCCC and plans to major in business administration. She said she will always be grateful to East Central for helping her begin a new life.

“I faced many obstacles after I began classes at East Central. I wanted to give up, but the support from Mrs. Jackson and Mr. McGowan kept me encouraged as I continued working on my

goal. Also, receiving telephone calls from my teachers when I was not in class made me realize there are teachers that really care about me and want me to succeed,” Wilson stated.

For more information about the College’s ABE/GED program, contact the Office of Adult and Continuing Education, East Central Community College, Decatur, MS 39327, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 278 or 279. The email address is mdavis@ecccc.edu.

ECCC Staff Assists PRCC With Hurricane Katrina Clean-Up



Physical plant employees from East Central Community College spent some time in Poplarville following Hurricane Katrina helping with clean-up and repair work at Pearl River Community College. Thanks to the help of other community colleges, PRCC was able to resume classes only three weeks after the storm. ECCCC employees who assisted with the clean-up efforts included (from left) Wes Chandler, Scott Everett, Damion Russell, Jonathan Merritt, Sean Mowdy, Artie Foreman, Stuart Tune and Adam Foreman. (PRCC Photo)

After spending two weeks cleaning up their home campus, volunteers from the East Central Community College Physical Plant staff headed to Poplarville, where they assisted workers at Pearl River Community College with cleanup from the devastating effects of Hurricane Katrina.

ECCC Physical Plant director Mike Dearing praised his staff for their efforts.

“After working two 60-hour weeks on our campus, including Labor Day, and taking care of damage to their own homes, 10 of our employees volunteered to go to Poplarville to assist with clean-up and repairs to their campus. We were able to send eight of them down there. The other two remained on our campus to keep things running here.

“We had numerous calls from Pearl River as to the quality of the work our people did. I’m very appreciate to my staff and glad that we were able to help out after such a devastating storm,” Dearing said.

Thanks to the efforts of the East Central employees and those of other Mississippi community colleges who assisted, Pearl River Community College was able to resume classes on Monday, Sept. 19, only three weeks after Hurricane Katrina made landfall on Monday, Aug. 29.

“We certainly appreciate what these other community colleges were able to do for us,” said PRCC President William Lewis. “Some of their skilled workers, like carpenters, electricians, plumbers and locksmiths were here lending us a helping hand.”

Among the community colleges who sent workers to Poplarville were Copiah-Lincoln, Itawamba, East Central, Mississippi Delta, Northwest and Northeast. Workers from other community colleges were expected during the weeks following as PRCC continued to bounce back from Katrina’s devastation. Pearl River Community College suffered between \$15-25 million in damages from the hurricane.

“Without the help of these workers from the other community colleges, we would not have been able to make it in time to resume classes Monday (Sept. 19),” said Clint Tapper, director of the PRCC Physical Plant. “If we can ever return the favor, we will.”

Teacher Spotlight: Peggy Clayton

How many years have you been employed at East Central? 2

What courses do you teach?
General and Organic Chemistry

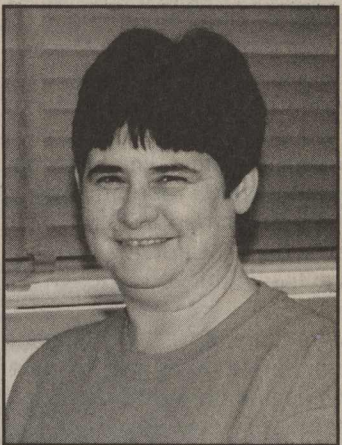
Where did you attend college?
My bachelor’s degree is from Millsaps College. My master’s degree is from Mississippi State University.

What do you like most about working at EC?
It is a pleasure to work with students who are interested in the coursework and appreciate how it is important to their future plans.

What do you do in your spare time?
I love to read, listen to music and watch theater and dance.

Family:
My husband Tom and I have been married 31 years. We have three grown sons: Sean, Jason and Adam. Jason is married to Danielle. I have one granddaughter, Kaitlyn, 3.

By SHARLI MOULDS
Tom-Tom Staff



Peggy Clayton

STAFF (Continued from page 9)

National Invitational Tournament.

A native of Hazlehurst, Swilley battled through off-season shoulder surgery to end her career as the Lady Tigers’ 16th 1,000-point scorer. She also finished her career with 251 assists, 179 steals and 266 rebounds. Swilley played in 113 career games, averaging 8.8 points and 2.2 rebounds while shooting 40.8 percent from the floor. She scored double digits in 51 career contests and forced a steal in 84 games. Recognized as one of the Lady Tigers’ cornerstones, Swilley also handed out an assist in 92 career games.

Taylor was previously employed at ECCCC from 1988-93 as a secretary in the Business Office.

Prior to rejoining the ECCCC staff, Taylor served as an instructor for a Federally-funded program at Newton Elementary School in 2003-04. She was employed as a substitute teacher at Newton Public Schools from 1994-2002.

A graduate of Newton High School, Taylor holds an Associate in Applied Science degree in elementary education and an Associate in Arts degree in business technology from ECCCC. She

received a Bachelor of Science degree in elementary education from Mississippi State University. She is married to Ulysses Taylor and they have two children, Corey and Melissa.

Volarvich served the past three years as an assistant coach at Blinn College in Brenham, Texas.

He served as offensive coordinator in 2003 when the Buccaneers broke 15 school, conference, and national records while leading the NJCAA in offense averaging 52.8 points and 558.7 yards per game.

Volarvich was co-offensive coordinator in 2004 when the Buccaneers finished second in the nation, averaging 44.6 points and 469 yards per contest. Blinn completed the 2004 campaign by defeating Jones County Junior College 18-14 in the Golden Isles Bowl Classic in Brunswick, Georgia. Volarvich also coached quarterbacks and wide receivers during his tenure with the Buccaneers.

In addition to serving as offensive coordinator, Volarvich will coach quarterbacks and wide receivers and serve as the team’s academic adviser.

Volarvich is also a former

assistant at Pearl River Community College in Poplarville and served as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at Cabrillo College in Aptos, California. He served as wide receiver coach at PRC in 2001 when the Wildcats led the nation in offense with a 460.5-yard average per contest.

A native of Boulder Creek, California, Volarvich was a standout quarterback at Cabrillo College before transferring to Kentucky State University. While at Kentucky State, Volarvich earned first team All-Conference honors after leading the conference in passing for two consecutive years. He was named most valuable player of the Pioneer Bowl in 1998.

After leaving Kentucky, Volarvich was invited to mini-camp with the Miami Dolphins and trout camp with the San Francisco 49ers in 1999. He has participated in the Arena Football League and the German Football League.

He holds a bachelor’s degree in applied arts and sciences from Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, and an associate in arts degree from Cabrillo College. He has also completed coursework at Kentucky State University and Pearl River Community College.

He is married to the former Lauren Park of Houston, Texas.



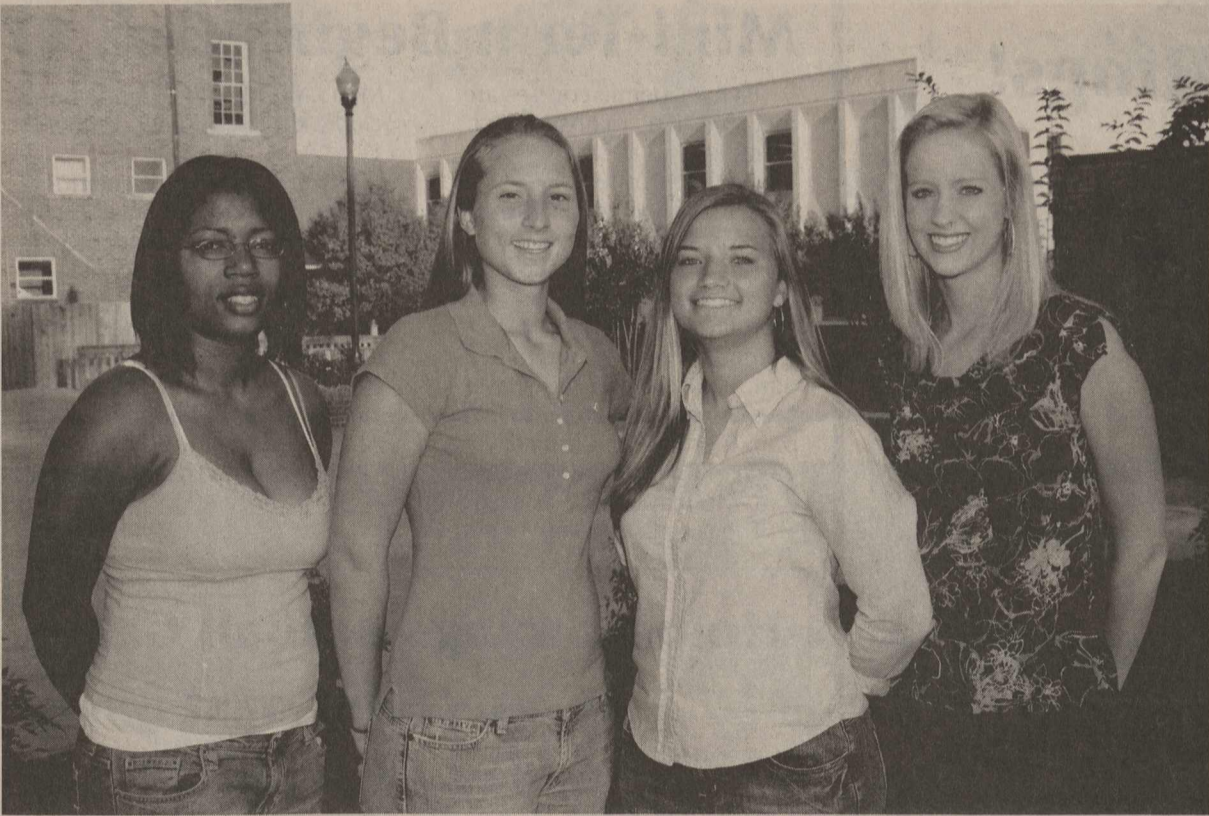
Mike Volarvich



Vivian Taylor

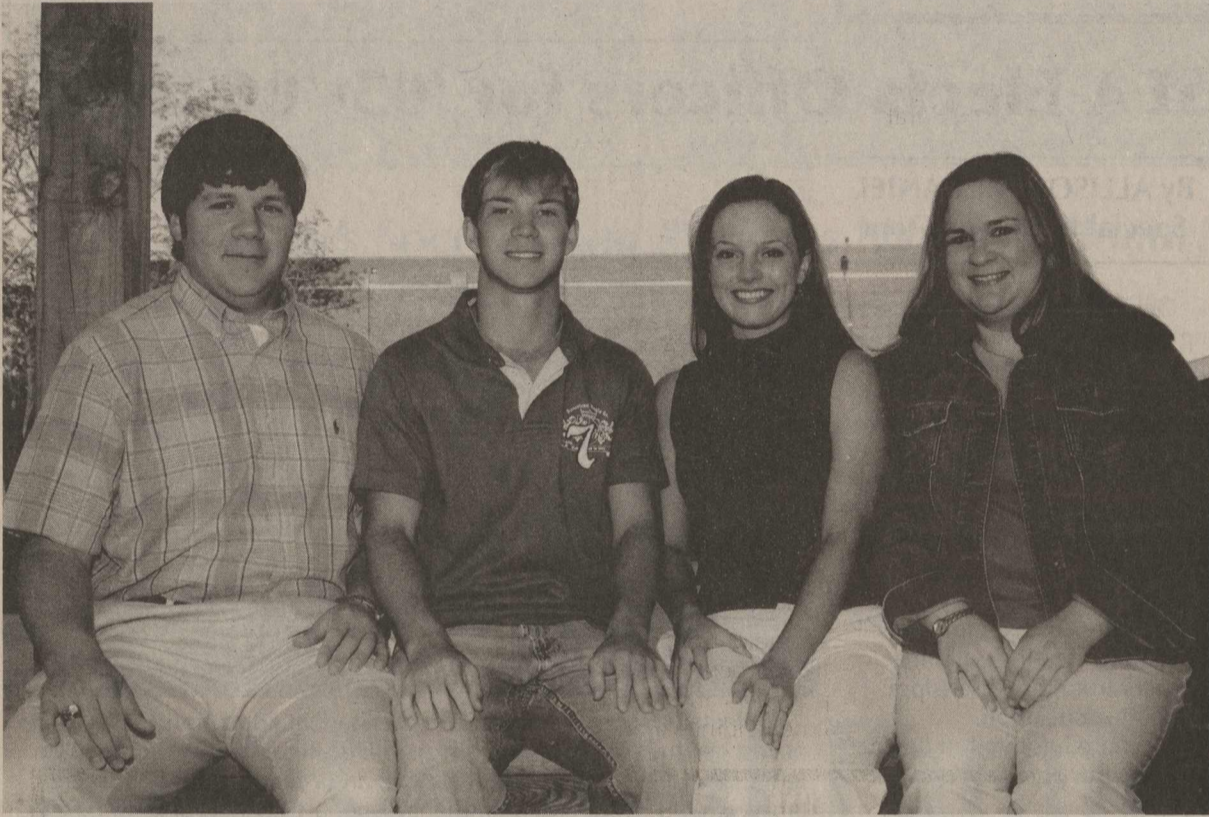
Homecoming T-Shirts On Sale Now!

\$10 • See Available in Student Services
Eddie M. Smith Student Union Building



ECCC Student Body Leaders

The Student Body Association at East Central Community College in Decatur is led in 2005-06 by (from left) Keely Morgan, president, of Walnut Grove; Joy Cavanaugh, vice president, of Chunky; Jaimee Jones, secretary, of Louisville; and Clancy Cleveland, treasurer, of Union.



Sophomore Officers

Serving as sophomore class officers for 2005-06 at East Central Community College in Decatur are (from left) Jason Long, president, of Carthage; Kevin Gregory, vice president, of Louisville; Lindsey Walker, secretary, of Little Rock; and Beth Crotwell, treasurer, of Union.

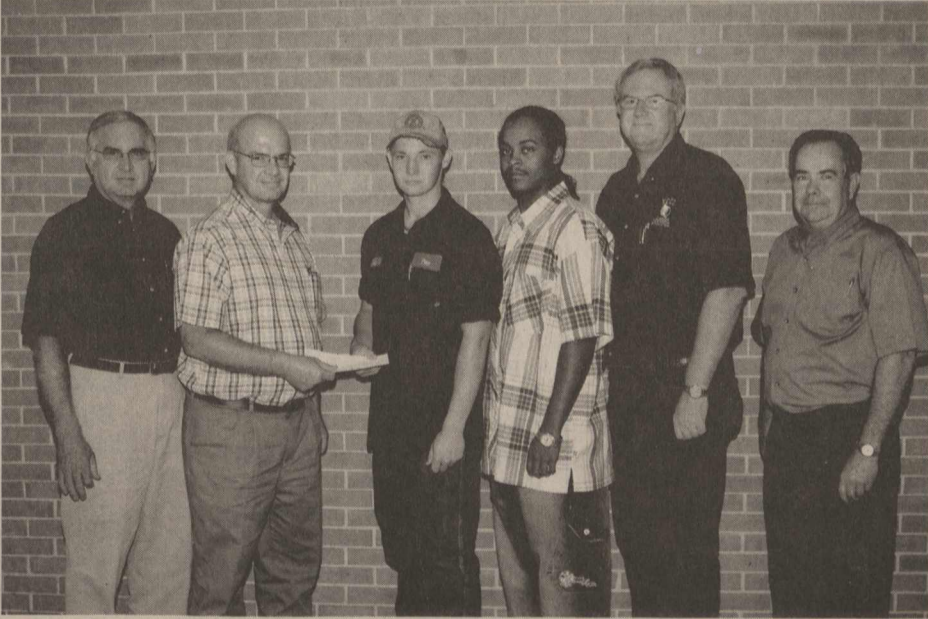


Freshman Class Officers

These students serve as freshman class officers for 2005-06 at East Central Community College in Decatur. From left are Maggie McDill, president, of Decatur; Brittany Harper, vice president, of Meridian; and Kim Cleveland, secretary, and Loren Kennedy, treasurer, both of Union.

Receive Taylor Scholarships at ECCC

A college education is more affordable for two East Central Community College career-technical students thanks to scholarships provided by Taylor Machine Works in Louisville. Joe Dertinger (third from left) of Philadelphia and Deangelo Frazier (fourth from left) of Louisville, each received \$1,500 to continue their education in the machine shop technology and welding programs, respectively. Making the presentation were Taylor representatives Rod Shealy (left) and Bobby Ellis. Also pictured are Danny Gressett (fifth from left) of Decatur, machine shop technology instructor, and Gerald Jordan of Carthage, welding instructor.



Schriner Begins New Life After Receiving GED Diploma at EC

52-Year-Old Grandmother Among Graduates Providing Testimonials

Nancy Schriner of Philadelphia faced an uncertain future last year when the plant where she was employed announced it was closing.

One option the high school dropout considered was to sign up for GED (General Educational Development) classes.

Schriner, who left school at a young age to get married and start a family, was convinced that getting the high school equivalency diploma was her best option after meeting "GED alumnus" Lorene Graham of Conehatta, who teaches Adult Basic Education/GED classes at East Central Community College.

"Mrs. Graham was one of the speakers who came to the plant that day to talk about the GED program at East Central," Schriner stated. "When I learned that she had gotten her GED while she was in her 70s, I knew that getting a diploma was my new goal. Mrs. Graham was my inspiration to go back to school and improve my life. I also want to encourage others who did not finish high school for whatever reason to get their GED. I am now enrolled in fall classes at ECCC and look forward to a better future."

Schriner, a 52-year-old with five children and nine grandchildren, made the above comments during one of four testimonials provided at the annual GED Commencement held on the ECCC campus in Decatur.

She is currently taking advantage of the College's Try College Free program- which provides the first course free of charge to those who qualify- and is enrolled at ECCC this fall.

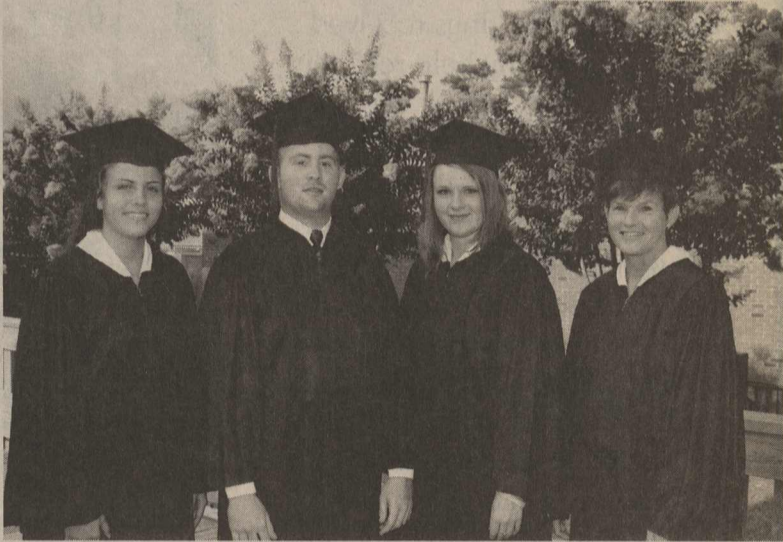
Testimonials were also provided by graduates Cari Tolbert, 17, also of Philadelphia, and Matthew Graham of Sebastopol and Melanie Eaves of Louisville, both 18.

Tolbert, who has been home-schooled since the second grade, admitted to being "a little nervous" about taking GED classes.

"Even though my sister Sunni graduated from the GED program last year, I was unsure of what would be expected of me," Tolbert told the approximately 800 in attendance at the special program. "Once I started, however, I realized that my teachers were here solely to help me and make me feel comfortable in acquiring the knowledge I would need to pass the GED test."

Tolbert continued, "Even though test-taking is not one of my favorite things, the teachers and classes made me feel ready and competent to take the tests. Because of my teachers' diligence, I am able to stand here today - a graduate of 2005- ready to embark on the next phase of my life- college! I will be attending EC this fall majoring in music."

Tolbert is the daughter of Stan-



Providing testimonials during the 2005 GED Commencement at East Central Community College in Decatur were (from left) Cari Tolbert of Philadelphia, Matthew Graham of Sebastopol, Melanie Eaves of Louisville and Nancy Schriner of Philadelphia. They were among the 38 graduates who received high school equivalency diplomas during the annual program.

ley and Sandy Tolbert of Philadelphia.

Graham, nephew of Mrs. Lorene Graham, stated that earning the GED diploma "is by far one of the high points of my life." He further remarked that the process was not easy, "but the sweat and tears paid off because I am now ready to take the next step up the ladder of success."

Graham also plans to enroll in fall classes at EC.

He is son of Mrs. Rebecca Graham of Sebastopol.

After being home-schooled for eight years, Eaves decided it was time to get a degree.

"Last summer I set a goal for myself to begin college classes this fall. So in September I started taking GED classes and took the GED test in March. I passed everything but math, so I went back to class and worked on improving my math skills. I studied math until I saw numbers in my sleep! In May I retook the math section, and thanks to a lot of hard work and assistance from my teachers, I passed the exam! By getting the GED, I accomplished more than I thought I would. I've also set my sights on attending college this fall at East Central, where I plan to study nursing," she stated.

Eaves is the daughter of Doug and Carlene Eaves of Louisville.

The four speakers were among the 38 graduates of the Class of 2005 who received diplomas from ECCC President Dr. Phi A. Sutphin. Also participating in the commencement program were Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, vice president for instruction; Gene Davis, dean of adult and continuing education; and Jimmy Dempsey, GED examiner.

Special music was provided by graduate Nikki Shoemaker, soloist, of Pelahatchie, and Gayle Harrell, pianist, of Leesburg. Harrell is a 1984 ECCC graduate and

is recognized as the first married woman to be inducted into the College's Hall of Fame.

Members of the GED Class of 2005 and their respective hometowns include Terry Atwood, Newton; Deroiscio Bogan, Hickory; Crystal Braddy, Jason Dearing and Dusty Russell, all of Union; Linda Brown, Decatur; Sha'Toya Burnside, Shalane Creighton, Rickie Ellingburg, Juan Garcia, Judy Pettey, Jennifer Phillips, Nancy Schriner, Cyngela Scruggs and Cari Tolbert, all of Philadelphia; Rebekah Crocker, Melanie Eaves, Jenilee Hunt and Christopher Sullivan, all of Louisville; Matthew Graham, Sebastopol; Crystal Harris and John McKay, both of Morton; Ashley Holland, Ethel; Dexter Hunt, Forest; Mark Latham, Erin McCurdy, and Pamela Pettigrew, all of Lena; Jarad Munn, Kosciusko; Rebecca Perkins and Bryson Wilder, both of Carthage; Catherine Pickle, Sallis; Jerry Porter, Conehatta; Nikki Shoemaker, Pelahatchie; Jonathan Shumaker, Starkville; and Jason Way, Little Rock.

GED instructors are Barbara Booker, June Fulton and Jane Jackson, all of Philadelphia; Leanne Burris, Carol Greer, Teresa Lovett and Elizabeth Nutt, all of Morton; Bryan Burt and Mary Burt, both of Newton; Flo Chambers, Hillsboro; Daphne Donald, Susan Hisaw, Jean Landers and Kay Ward, all of Louisville; Glynn Edwards, Nancy Edwards, Cynthia Gross and Beth Wooten, all of Carthage; Lorene Graham, Conehatta; Janice Green, McCool; Ed McGowan, Lawrence; and Mary Townsend, Forest.

For more information about the College's ABE/GED Program, contact the Office of Adult and Continuing Education, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 278/279.

Celebrating Native American Day

By JAMAICA HERNANDEZ
Special to The Tom-Tom

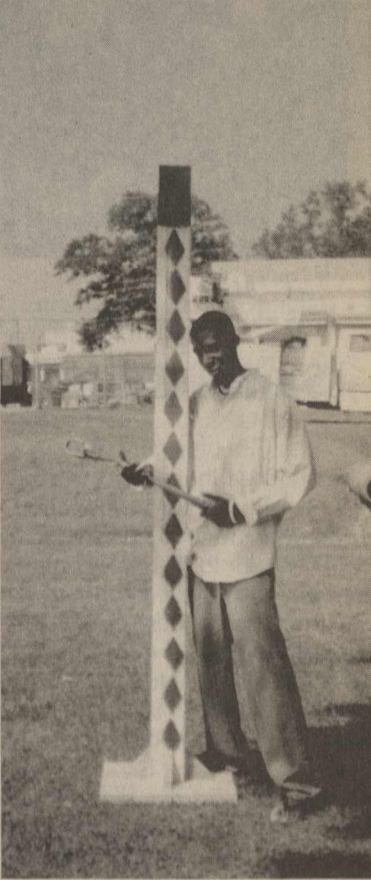
The Native American Club celebrated Native American Day recently by demonstrating the proper handling of the Choctaw Stickball sticks.

Stickball has been a part of Choctaw life for hundreds of years. Opposing teams use handcrafted sticks, known as kabocca, and a woven leather ball, called a towa.

Each team tries to advance the ball down the field to the other team's goalpost. They may only use the sticks to move the ball and must never touch or throw the ball with their hands.

Points are scored when a player hits the opposing team's goalpost with the ball.

Pictured are participants Christy Savell (left) and Marcus Wise, who scored on their first try!



GOSPEL CHOIR PRACTICE
Every Wednesday at 6 p.m.
Vickers Fine Arts Center

Display ECCC Championship Rings!

These graduating sophomore members of the 2005 Region 23, Division 1 championship East Central Community College baseball team display rings received during a ceremony held recently on the Decatur campus. From left are southpaw hurler Josh Miller of Elysian Fields, Texas; outfielder Van Wilson of West Lauderdale; right-handed pitcher Cody Savell of Newton; catcher/first baseman Corey Coward of Noxapater; infielder Joseph Cavanaugh of Newton County; and right-handed pitcher/outfielder Andre Coleman of Louisville. Head coach Jake Yaborough and assistant Dusty Hillman presented rings, team photos and other memorabilia to squad members during the special program. The Diamond Warriors, who advanced to the NJCAA Super Regional after winning the Region 23 Division 1 title, finished the season with a 29-23 record. Yaborough received Coach of the Year honors following the successful campaign.



Jones Recovering From Spinal Cord Injury

East Central Community College sophomore cheerleader Megan Jones (center) of Enterprise made a surprise visit to the ECCC-Co-Lin football game last Saturday after spending several weeks in the Methodist Rehabilitation Center in Jackson. Jones suffered a fall at cheerleader practice that resulted in a badly bruised spinal cord injury, which caused temporary paralysis in her legs and feet. She returned to campus this week attending classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays while she continues to receive physical therapy at Anderson Hospital in Meridian on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Pictured with Jones are ECCC cheerleaders (front row, from left) Tavarius Walker of Morton, Neal Hall of Neshoba Central, Brittany Barfield of Carthage, Kyle Jones of Nanih Waiya and Christopher Boose of Newotn County; (second row, from left) Kristina Moore of Enterprise, Susanna Pace of Neshoba Central, Kristin Bufkin of Newton County, Jones, Marlo Hollingsworth of Newton County Academy, Maggie McDill of Newton County and Loren Kennedy of Union; and (back row, from left) Josh Pigg of Edinburg, Zach Kilpatrick of Neshoba Central, Dustin Evans of Collins and Stephen Parker of Nanih Waiya. Coco Boone serves as cheerleader coach.

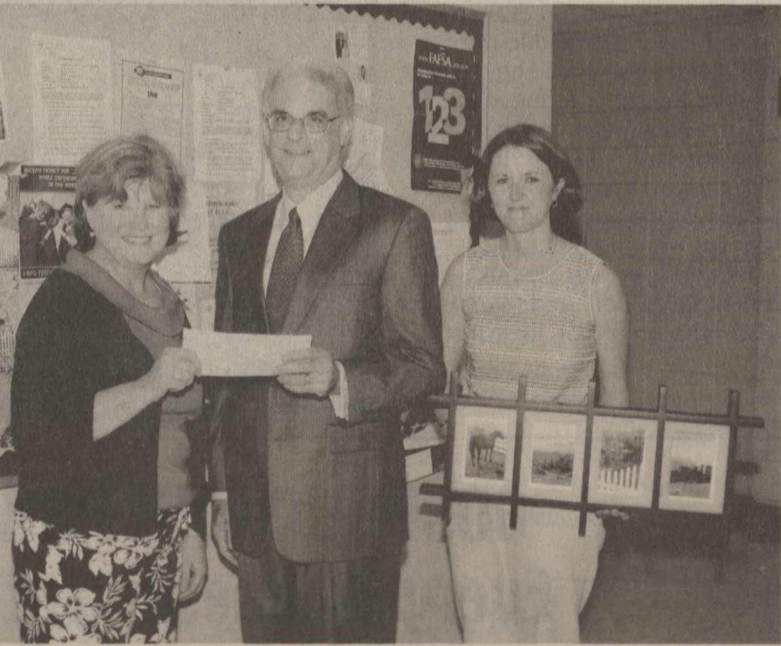
Receive National Phi Beta Lambda Honors



The Phi Beta Lambda chapter at East Central Community College received various honors at the National PBL Conference held in Orlando, Fla. Theta Chi was one of two Mississippi chapters selected to receive the prestigious Gold Seal award and co-advisor Brenda Johnson (seated from left) of Philadelphia was named the state PBL association's Advisor of the Year. Johnson, who teaches computer technology courses, was also recognized for 20 years service to the organization. Also pictured are advisor Christy Ferguson of Philadelphia, business technology instructor, and (standing, from left) club members Jeffery Davis of Louisville, Brad Walton of Decatur and Joseph Lathem of Walnut Grove. Phi Beta Lambda is an organization for business students.

Sam's Club Donates to 'Fences Exhibit' at ECCC

Susie Broadhead (left), benefits coordinator for Sam's Club of Meridian, recently presented a \$1,000 check to the East Central Community College Foundation for the "Between Fences" exhibit currently on display in the College's Associate Degree Nursing Building. ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin is shown receiving the contribution. At left is Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for the ECCC Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations which sponsors the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition. "Between Fences" is a cultural history of fences and land use. It examines how neighbors and nations divide and protect, offend and defend through the boundaries they build. The exhibit is part of Museum on Main Street, a collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution and the Federation of State Humanities councils.



Mini-Term Begins Oct. 17

Five academic courses are included in a "mini-semester" being offered at East Central Community College. Courses include English Composition 1 (from 4 to 6:45 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays), College Algebra (6:50 to 9:35 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays), Oral Communication (noon to 2:45 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays), Music Appreciation (1 to 3:45 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays) and General Psychology (5 to 7:45 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays). The "mini-semester" begins Monday, October 17 and concludes the week of December 12. The deadline to register for classes is Friday, October 21. Tuition is non-refundable after the initial class meeting. For more information or to register for classes contact the Office of Admissions, Records and Research, East Central Community College, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 206. The email address is dluke@eccc.edu.

Homecoming Football Game EC vs. Gulf Coast Saturday, October 15 Newton County High School Field 2:30 p.m. Kickoff

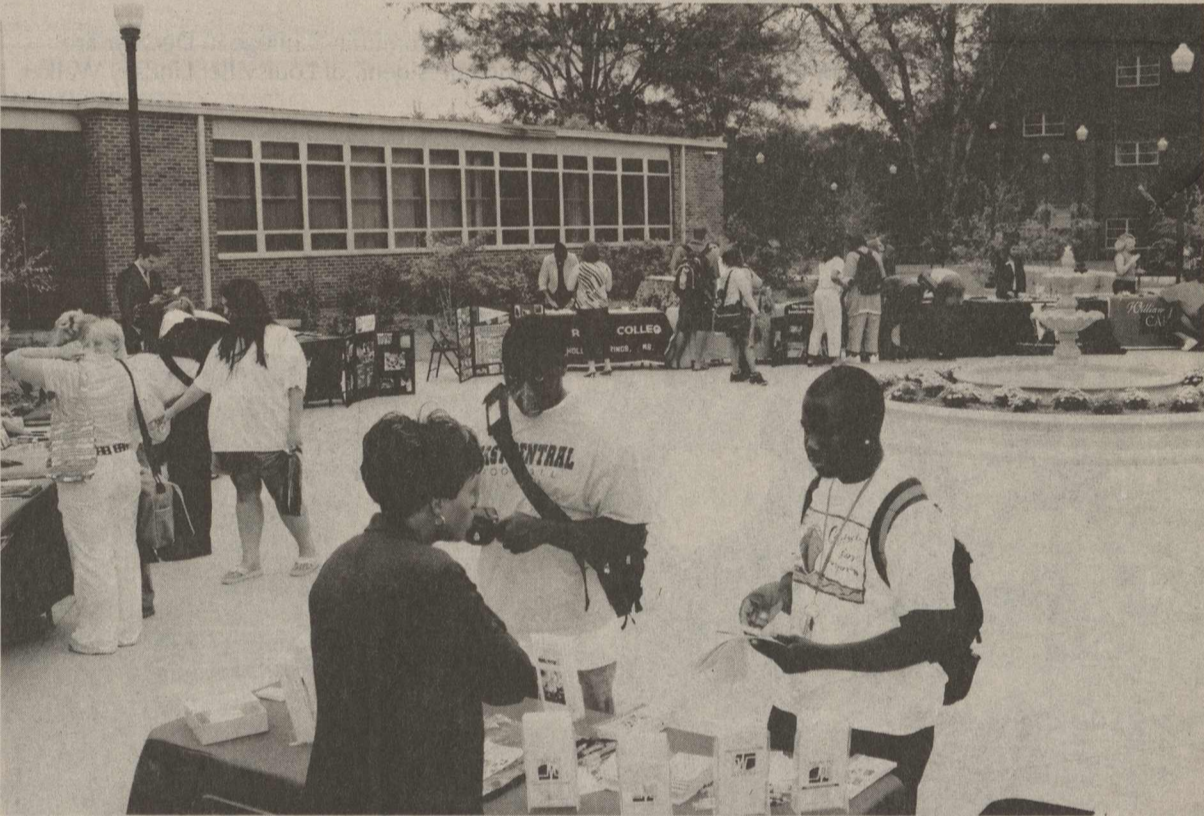
SEA Elects Officers for '05-'06 term

By ALLISON MCDANIEL
Special to The Tom-Tom

October 4 was the first meeting of the East Central Community College Student Education Association. Officers were elected and yearbook pictures were also made. The next SEA meeting be held on November 1 in Room 90 of Newton Hall. All education majors are encouraged to attend. The guest speaker for the November meeting will be a recruiter from the Mississippi Teachers Association. For more infomration contact club sponsor Lucille Wood.



Selected to serve as officers for the Student Education Association at East Central Community College in Decatur for 2005-06 are (from left) Clancy Cleveland, vice president, and Allison McDaniel, secretary, both of Union; and Beth Richardson, president, of Preston. ECCC faculty member Lucille Wood serves as adviser.



Learning Career Options

East Central Community College freshmen Desmond Graham (left) of Noxapater and Allen Greer of Neshoba Central talk with Rosalyn Smith-Howard, a recruiter for the Health Careers Center in Madison, during the Senior College Fair held recently on the Decatur campus. Smith-Howard said she discussed the various careers that are available in the health-related area. The Health Careers Center is a division of the Mississippi Hospital Association. Representatives from the state's four-year colleges and universities also attended the annual event, which was held on the recently-renovated East Mall area.

Fall Fine Arts Calendar

October 13
ECCC Alumni Art Show
Featuring Eric Adcock
and Chris Kemp
Reception from 7 to 9 p.m.
Vickers Fine Arts Lobby
October 18
Barber Shop Quartet
7:30 p.m.
Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium
October 27-29
Fall Dinner Theater
"The Mousetrap"
7 p.m.
Mabry Memorial Cafeteria
November 14
Collegians Concert
8 p.m.
Huff Auditorium
November 17
Fall Fine Arts Festival
7 p.m.-Choral Concert
8 p.m.-Art Show Opening
Vickers Fine Arts Ceter
December 8
Ac'cents Concert
7 p.m.
Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium

ECCC Club News

By DONALD BELL
Tom-Tom Staff

SkillsUSA
Sponsors: Sherri Cliburn and Lynn Selman
Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 11, Activity Period.
Group photos will be taken on October 18 outside the library.

Baptist Student Union
Sponsor: Scott Vaughn
Everyone invited to all functions, regardless of denomination.
Monday Nights: 8:31-BSU Worship Service
Wednesday Noon: Lunch Encounter-Will move to 1 p.m. during the spring semester.
Fall Project: Operation Christ-

mas Child.
Currently accepting applications for the 2006 Summer Collegiate Missionary program.

Native American Club
Sponsors: Gail Wood and Gloria Johnson.
Currently selling chances for fundraising event. Call ext. 219 for more details.

Students Against Destructive Decisions
Sponsors: Tanya Boler, Kevin Ryals and Sherri Cliburn.
This group meets the first Tuesday of each month in Newton Hall, Room 60.
They will participate in Red Ribbon Week and will work with the campus Partnership during National Smoke Out Month.

Homecoming T-Shirts On Sale
\$10 • Student Services
Eddie M. Smith Student Union