

The PINE BURR

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January 27, 2017 Volume 72, No. 4
Serving SMCC Since 1940

Campus Events

Monday, January 30
JAN15: No-shows due
BSU Worship 7:00
Basketball Game Gulf
Coast 5:30/7:15
Summit

Tuesday, January 31
Wesley Foundation
Bible Study 6:30

Wednesday,
February 1
BSU Noon Day
11:15am-12:30pm

Thursday, February 2
Groundhog Day
Basketball Game East
Central 5:30/7:15
Decatur

Monday, February 6
BSU Worship 7:00pm
Spiritual Emphasis
Week
Basketball Game Pearl
River 5:30/7:15
Summit

Tuesday, February 7
Wesley Foundation
Bible Study 6:30
Spiritual Emphasis
Week

Wednesday, Feb. 8
BSU Noon Day
11:15am-12:30pm

Thursday, February 9
Q: 60% date for 1st
Term On Campus
Accelerated Classes
Basketball Game
Meridian 5:30/7:15
Meridian

Friday, February 10
Pine Burr News
Deadline

Monday, Feb. 13
FEB04: Begins &
last day to register
BSU Worship
7:00pm
Basketball Game
Jones 5:30/7:15
Summit

Tuesday, Feb. 14
Valentine's Day
Wesley Foundation
Bible Study 6:30
Cupcakes for a
Cause 6:00pm
Cafeteria

Wednesday, Feb. 15
BSU Noon Day
11:15am-12:30pm

Thursday, February 16
Basketball Game
Copiah-Lincoln
5:30/7:15 Summit

Friday, February 17
Q: Last day to drop
1st Term On-Campus
Accelerated Classes

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Loryn Hollis, Anna Catherine Trantham, and Sami Simmons; second row: Erika Alford, Brooke Wells, Emma Walls, and Clare Clark sing "Santa Claus is coming to town." photo by Chuck Barnes

Welcome to "Christmas in Fabulous Las Vegas"

by Kimi Jeanson
co-editor

Las Vegas was the inspiration for the highly-anticipated annual Christmas stage band show this year. The show has been a must-see since its debut. It authentically displayed the enchanting atmosphere of Christmas. With bright lights flashing and invigorating music reverberating throughout the auditorium, guests could not help but become enamored with the energetic atmosphere.

Emma Walls opened the show with "Man with the Bag." Evan Busbin and Loryn Hollis sang an elegant rendition of Michael Buble's "White Christmas." Captivating the audience, the Redline danced to "Jingle Bell Rock." The ladies' sparkling outfits captured the stage lighting and cast it back out into the audience. The classic song, "O Christmas Tree," was performed by the exceptional Southwest choir. Tate Allen and Erika Alford serenaded the crowd with "Strange Way to Save the World." Sami Simmons, Brooke Wells, Loryn Hollis, and Erika Alford stunned the audience with "Jesu Joy." Brooke Wells and Loryn Hollis led the song, "Four Carats," while the vocalists sang and danced in the chorus. The show was filled with excitement and passion; each student, from the band to the lead singers, put on an exceptional production.

The stage band performed "Winter Wonderland," "Marshmallow World," and "Santa Claus is Coming to Town," Christmas classics that audiences know and love. This year, the Steel Drum band hit the right chord with "Greensleeves" and "Silent Night." Anna Catherine Trantham wowed with her version of "Cool Yule." In the end, everyone came together in harmony with "Jesus, What a Wonderful Child." The show, as many years before, continued to draw people from across the state. Its reputation resonated throughout Pike county and the surrounding counties. Through hard work and perseverance, Southwest's Stage Band show retained its supreme quality and paved the way for future. Faculty and staff working in the Fine Arts department were instrumental in the planning and execution of the momentous event. Clay Whittington, Director of Bands, Joe Elliott, Choir Director, Nathan Wells, Media Systems Director, and many others contributed to the Christmas stage band production. If it was not for their diligent efforts, members of the community would have had to miss out on a beloved tradition. productions.

Speaking of his experience at the show, sophomore Cody Pol mentioned, "The SMCC Christmas stage band show continued to impress. I have attended the show many times over the years, and this one did not disappoint me in the least. I thought everyone involved did an amazing job, and I hope they keep up the great work!"



Erika Alford sings "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas." photo by Chuck Barnes



Loryn Hollis sings "Winter Wonderland." photo by Chuck Barnes



Clare Clark, Tanessa Rowley, Emma Walls, Kayla McKenzie, Brooke Wells, Shakeya Nobles, Loryn Hollis, Sami Simmons, Brianna King, and Jada Brown; second row: Will Fauver, Evan Busbin, Michael Wilson, and Tate Allen dance to "Four Carats." photo by Chuck Barnes

Bear Trackers recruit future students

By Cody Pol,
editor

The Southwest Mississippi Community College Bear Trackers are an elite group of students selected to be ambassadors for the college. Selection is based on a competitive application and interview process through which a panel evaluates each applicant's scholastic achievement, communication and leadership skills, and knowledge and enthusiasm of Southwest. This year, the SMCC Bear Trackers have been busy being the "face of Southwest" at many different events both on and off campus. These events included the Alford-Conerly Men's Residence Hall Dedication and Open House, the SMCC Alumni Reception, the Parade of Beauties Pageant, SMCC's Transfer College Fair, Faculty and Staff Thanksgiving Luncheon, attended high school college fairs to reach out to prospective students, and served as ushers for several on-campus events. The Bear Trackers hosted area high school students during Junior/Senior Night and Punt, Pass, and Kick for Tuition at the SMCC vs. Northeast home football game. They also stay busy throughout the school year for fundraising events such as the Belk Charity Sale, Golden Corral Celebrity Server Night, Southern Kernels Gourmet Popcorn Sale, silent auction during the Christmas Stage Band Show, Jambalaya Plate Lunch Sale, and selling Exam Care Packages. Bear Trackers has also been busy preparing for the 6th Annual SMCC Princess Ball they will host on March 31, 2017, and the 2nd Annual Super Hero Bash they will host on April 1, 2017. In May, they will travel for the 3rd Annual Bear Tracker Beach Therapy Leadership Retreat in Gulf Shores, AL. The SMCC Bear Trackers sponsors are Karinlee Brister, SMCC Recruiter, and Pat Young, SMCC Director of Counseling and Recruitment. Bear Tracker President is Madison Martin. Members are the following: Clare Clark, Loryn Hollis, Kelsi Goudeau, MeOshia Williams, Raney Hewitt, Madison Martin, Brooke Smith, Allyn Rollins, Shelbi Crawford, Jessi Barnes, Haley Hargett, Alexcia Carr, Haley Simmons, Myles Kendrick, Shinah Moore, Olivia Dickerson, Tamara Cowart, Valerie Dixon, Mattie Pigott, Brooke Wells, Desmiuna Gayden, Brittany McGuire, J.C. Gardner, Trey Magee, Michael Wilson, Kohl Rester, Christopher Wells, Andrew Garner, Robert Brown, Boyd Dunnam, Aaron Buckley, Korey Dillon, Brittany Brumfield, and Daley Roberts.

Sponsor Karinlee Brister says, "As a Bear Tracker alumna, it is an honor to now work as a sponsor for this elite group of students. During our training, I emphasize the need for Bear Trackers to be both elite and inclusive. Our team is made up of representatives from student athletics, academic and career-technical majors, other campus honor and service organizations, and the fine arts division. Therefore, we feel that it is our job to represent our entire campus in a positive and exciting way!"

Bear Trackers, Mattie Pigott, states, "With the leadership of Karinlee Brister and Ms. Pat Young, I have figuratively gained two Bear mothers and an extended Bear family. Their undying care for their students and devotion to the organization are evident in the bonds formed between them and the entire Bear Trackers group."

The Pine Burr

Editor..... Cody Pol

Co-Editors.....Jordan Boyd, Kimi Jeanson, Brooke Smith

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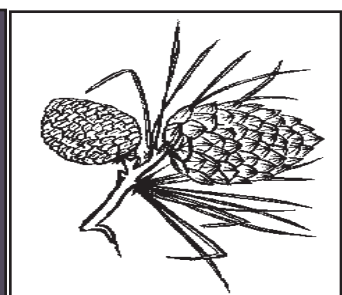
The *Pine Burr* is published monthly during regular academic sessions. Views expressed in the newspaper are not necessarily those of the faculty and administration. Writers express themselves under their by-lines.

Offices are located in Kenna Hall, Room 29; the telephone number is 276-3843. The staff invites readers to submit opinion columns and letters to the editor. Pine Burr, Kenna Hall, Summit, MS 39666.



E-mail: pineburr@smcc.edu

Southwest Mississippi Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, or disability in its programs, activities or employment practices. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries and grievances regarding the non-discrimination policies: Rhonda Gibson, Director of Disability Support Services, 601-276-3885; Dr. Bill Ashley, Vice President of Student Affairs and Title IX Coordinator and Director of Athletics, 601-276-3717, 1156 College Dr., Summit, MS 39666.



Quote of the Month

“Life is a flower of which love is the honey.”
-Victor Hugo



BEAR AWARE

In order to effectively communicate emergency information to SMCC employees and students, SMCC has implemented a rapid alert and notification system developed by SchoolCast. BearAware is a service that allows employees and students of SMCC to receive alerts, news, or other emergency information via text, email, or by phone. Participation in Bear Aware is not mandatory but encouraged. At this time, the only information entered into the SchoolCast database is the student's "smcc.edu" email address.

Please read the following because our procedures for handling Bear Aware have changed. An email has been sent to all current students, faculty, and staff with their login information for Bear Aware. Students, faculty, and staff no longer need to request this information by emailing bearaware@smcc.edu.

Dear Students,

You should have received an email with your Bear Aware Login Information on August 31, 2016. An additional email will be sent to your email account at 9:00 AM this morning (September 26, 2016) with your login information. It's basically the same email that was sent on August 31, 2016. If you have already logged in and set up your account, no additional action is required on your part. We will be sending more of these login information emails on the 20th of each month this semester to encourage participation in the system.

Again, if you have already set up your account, no action is required on your part. We do recommend logging in to Bear Aware at least once a month and verifying the accuracy of your information.

Please read the login information email in its entirety. It will explain why your password may be represented by asterisks (*) and what to do if you cannot log in or if you forgot your password.

If you have any questions, send them to bearaware@smcc.edu from your SMCC email account. We cannot communicate about Bear Aware accounts from other personal or business email accounts you may have. You do not have to contact bearaware@smcc.edu for your login information unless you don't get a login information email.

Words from the SGA Treasurer

Dear Fellow Students,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a fantastic and restful Christmas break. Student Government Association has been busy at work trying to make Southwest the best it can be. As you all know, the SGA sponsored the installation of bike racks around campus. They are located at high-traffic areas around campus. We are working on having the racks permanently mounted to ensure that your property is as safe as possible. In addition, SGA has been working on having some cosmetic work done on buildings around campus. Coming up are many events, including Cupcakes for a Cause, which has always been a favorite. Come out and decorate a free cupcake and support local people in need! Check your student email and the *Pine Burr* to keep up-to-date on future events the SGA is hosting. Thank you, and as always, "It's a great day to be a Bear!"



Cody Pol

Cody Pol,
SGA Student Body Treasurer

Editorial: Make the most of college



Cody Pol

Editorial
By Cody
Pol,
Editor

I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable Christmas break! I spent a good portion of the break in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, which just so happens to be one of my favorite places to vacation. Thankfully, the majority of the Smoky Mountains National Park

was not burned away by the wildfires, but parts of downtown Gatlinburg were nearly destroyed. The fire stopped just short of burning the strip in Gatlinburg containing the shops and restaurants that tourists are so fond of.

As the spring semester commences, I advise everyone to persevere through the assignments and study in order to ace tests. Membership in the international honor society, Phi Theta Kappa, requires a 3.5 GPA with 15 cumulative hours of non-developmental courses. To remain eligible for

scholarships after joining, one must maintain a 3.25 GPA. Scholarship and leadership opportunities abound with membership in Phi Theta Kappa, and the five-star chapter here at Southwest is eager to have you as a member.

Making the most of your time at Southwest is simple with the numerous high-quality organizations on campus. Tri-Beta is an honor society geared toward science majors, but anyone with the necessary credentials is eligible to join. Phi Beta Lambda and DECA are both organizations

aimed to develop leadership and business savvy in students. Future Educators of America, also known as FEA, caters to those who are aiming to become educators. Both the *Pine Burr* staff and the *Whispering Pines* staff educate students on the field of journalism, and students receive training in copy writing, creating page layouts, proofing articles, and photography. In addition to these outstanding campus organizations, Southwest boasts many other organizations that are sure to stave off boredom!

SMCC releases Honor Rolls

Matt Calhoun, Registrar at SMCC, has released the honor rolls for the Fall 2016 semester.

The President's List, which honors students carrying at least fifteen hours with a 4.0 grade point average. The Dean's List, which honors students carrying at least fifteen hours with a 3.5 grade point average.

Fall 2016 President's List

- LA
- COLUMBIA
Jenna M Duff
- MS
- BAY SAINT LOUIS
Cegan Clark
- BELMONT
Amanda Owens Timbs
- BILOXI
Kennedy Rachael Mount
- BOGUE CHITTO
Matthew Jordan Black
Terrance D Butler
- Larissa Winston
- BROOKHAVEN
Caitlin Elizabeth Smith
- BYRAM
Clarence Sims
- COLUMBIA
Mason Alexander Brady
- CROSBY
John M McDowell
- GLOSTER
Brandi Michelle Easley
- GULFPORT
Kelcey Rose Bremenkamp
- HATTIESBURG
John B Bishop
- JAYESS
William Craig Battle
Macayla Christine Jones
Cheyenne Marie Long
Jameshia S Polk
Lindsey Renee Wallace
- KILN
Alyssa Marie Adam
- KOKOMO
Laken C Nace
- LIBERTY
Kendrick Deshawn Anderson
Kristin S Henderson
Katelyn Rose Hughey
Christopher Oneal Jackson
Jeremy Lane Miller
Chrissy Lynn Morgan
Taylor Stacy
- MADISON
Parker L Robinson
- MAGNOLIA
Crystal Michelle Biggs
Arthur Lorenzo Felder *****
Destyn Charlene Fortenberry
Jonathan Roderick Scott
Sami Elisabeth Simmons
- MCCALL CREEK
Anna Grace Brown
Alyssa Colleen Case
Ashley Brooke Orr
- MCCOMB
Alexcia S Carr
Sherry Ellzey
Jordan Elaine Fitzgerald
Alexander C Fletcher
Mercedes Nicole Holeman
Kimi Mei-Yu Jeanson
John Paul Gravois Price
Haley M Simmons
Trulee Magee Torres
Laklyn E Waters
Tiffany N Westmoreland
Hannah T Wilkinson
Chadwick T Williams
Carr David Young
- MEADVILLE
Zachary W Bedford
Shelby Nicole Stokes
- MONTICELLO

- Brittany Danielle Bullock
- MOSS POINT
Lydia Caryn Byrd
- OCEAN SPRINGS
Mary Ruth Vogle
- OSYKA
Jessi Laine Barnes
Britni D Godbold
Courtnei M Godbold
Whitni L Godbold
Kayla A Sanchez
- PEARL
Bryson Chase McRaney
- RIDGELAND
Guy K Johnson
- RUTH
Ross M Bailey
Erin E McCullough
Monica M Regouffre
- SANDY HOOK
Steven Mitch Fortenberry
- SMITHDALE
Karli Jo Cruise
Brittany Nichole McGuire
Zachary J Watts
- SUMMIT
Emilee Lorin Bain
Gary Allen Busby
Brantley Blake Dunaway
Tina Adams Goldbaum
Madison T Martin
Macy Lillian Newcomb
Phillip Collins Papisan
Cody Tyler Pol
Jenna Elise Van Dan
Morgan Brooke Webb
Lakendrick Keonta Williams
- SUMRALL
Drake Christian Pace
- TERRY
Bryce Jared Baker
- TUPELO
Rebecca Dee Owens
- TYLERTOWN
Brock J Andrus
Hannah Rae Bourgeois
Andrew Walker Boyd
Kaylin Blain Boyd
Laken Hope Brock
Lauren Elizabeth Burch
Victoria E Jenkinson
Marilyn Johnson
Emily Lorraine Landry
Ethan Thomas Martin
Mark M Molaison
Scott Thomas Molaison
Cornelius Lamar Pittman
Sarah Michele Ryals
Kenneth Ryan Satterfield
Meoshia L Williams
- Fall 2016 Dean's List**
- ARGENTINA
Francisco Alisiardi
Ailin Andreina Franzante
- LA
- LORANGER
Julian Alexis Faunce
- LULING
Taylor R Laurent
- SPRINGFIELD
Tyler B Pigott
- MS
- BOGUE CHITTO
Mallory Denise Allen
Aaron J Davis
Joseph A Elliott
Fredrick D Trevillion
- BRANDON
David J Hinton
- Peyton Olivia Papanburg
- BRAXTON
Demario Donte Lindsey
- BROOKHAVEN
Monica Aven Amic
Haley Anne Hargett
Madison Renee Jones
John James Riggs
Patrick Laron Shannon
Parker Keneth Ursrey
Megan Brooke Vanover

- BROOKSVILLE
Terrian Lushannon Dora
- CENTREVILLE
Hunter C Hughes
Joel Norwood
Latonio Davonne Spears
- COLUMBIA
Colton Wayne Yawn
- CROSBY
Ryan Thomas Shaw
- FERNWOOD
Josh T Wicker
- FOREST
Howard Lee Smith
- FOXWORTH
Cameron Shane Broom
Jaran Landon Hollis
Sephra A Pace
Damichael L Payton
- GLOSTER
Corey Jackson Kelton
- HATTIESBURG
Jaime Leigh Lowe
Timmur Ray Ponder
- JACKSON
Joseph Louis Coleman
Parker Dean Prater
- JAYESS
Stewart Perry Evans
Shakeysha K Garner
William L Hightower
John Todd Rutland
- KOKOMO
Brooklyn Rockelle Bryant
- LAKE CORMORANT
Joseph Grant Short
- LIBERTY
Joshua Milton Cardenas
Sonny Patrick Daigle
Micheal C Haygood
Loryn Elizabeth Hollis
Angela Diane Reeves
Darrion Joshune Robinson
- MAGNOLIA
Brittany Michelle Alford
Latyra Nicole Ashley
Taylor Morgan Blanchard
Shaniece Deshea Carmel
Elena D Culpepper
Raeshanell R Grey
Corey Hicks
Matthew Garrett Lee
Harlan Kohl Rester
- MCCOMB
Marquez Andrews
Alyssa Constance Brister
Randon Kenneth Bullock
Ariel Kelia Coney
Antonio Cleonte Cowart
Ruston C Davis
Sean Richard Dormody
Dustin Tyler Dunn
Sanetra A Forbes
Sarah K Goodwin
Chiquita R Handy
Neshun V Holmes
Christopher G Jackson
Kade Jaxon Jenkins
Simarjit Kaur
Cody Randall Lewman
Kymberli L McDowell
Keon Devante McNeil
Christopher Dewayne Miller
Shakeya Latrice Nobles
Olivia Noel Saldana
Haley Shay Smith
Zachary Tate Tillman
Keyerika Williams
Kenneth T Wilson
Revikiah Shamorma Winding
- MEADVILLE
Valerie Catherine Delozier
- WESTMONTICELLO
Benjamin T Fuller
Cheyenne R Powell
- MOSS POINT
Christy Dawn McKinion
- OAK VALE
Cadie Alexis Durr

- OCEAN SPRINGS
Janiya Karole Watkins
- OSYKA
Grant Joseph Fereday
Daniel N Fortenberry
Donovon Grubbs
Kristie Lee Sanchez
Lauren Elizabeth Williams
Charles Payton Yawn
- PEARL
Courtney Denee Lewis
Phillip James Mallet
- PICAYUNE
Lauren Elizabeth Walker
- PICKENS
Jeremy Harrell
- PURVIS
Myles Benton Kendrick
- RICHLAND
Morgan Anne Pope
- RIDGELAND
Andrew Jalen Garner
- ROXIE
Dontavious L Felton
- RUTH
Laura Elizabeth Bailey
- SMITHDALE
Dustin L Dickerson
Daniel Wicker
- SUMMIT
Baylee E Bryant
Tatum Clarice Clark
Sean Adrain Foxworth
McRaney Elizabeth Hewitt
William B Hughes
James Aaron McKinley
Carlita Denise Newton
Hunter Paul Rousseau
Brooke Elise Smith
Stephen Austin Smith
Maleigha Sijia Taylor
Abbigale Eve Tidwell
Jared S Wilkinson
Austin Wayne Williams
- TYLERTOWN
Zack Byron Bacot
Jerry Glynn Baughman
William Brandon Bergeron
James Boshart
Maquillie Devontae Bridges
Janna Elizabeth Bridgman
Wyatt Evan Brumfield
Markeria D Butler
Korey Lee Dillon
Labresha Monique Gatlin
Briana K Goudeau
Kevin Dwight Hill
Jacob Louis Landry
Kade Parker Lear-Raymond
Michael Justin Magee
Kimberly D Raiford
Tammy Lakeisha Robertson
Wesley Keith Sherrer
Lanie Michelle Sistrunk
Corey R Tate
Nathan M Wicker
- VANCLEAVE
Austin Wayne Moen
- VICKSBURG
Mario Durae Doyle
- WAVELAND
Kristen Michelle Parnell
- WESSON
Amanda M Greer
Bruce John Vinson
- WOODVILLE
Rodney Chinson Boyd
Myiesha Janay Brister
Laura Elizabeth McKey
Rebecca Suzanne Olive
- SC
- BLYTHEWOOD
Eric Weber
- TX
- NEW LONDON
Branson Maclane Blanton

The National Museum of African American History and Culture

By Spencer Bonds, staff writer

The National Museum of African-American History and Culture (NMAAHC) is the only national museum devoted solely to the documentation of African-American culture, life, and history. It was established in 2003, following years of efforts to promote and highlight the countless contributions of African-Americans. Thanks to institutional support and generous donors, the museum has collected nearly 37,000 historical artifacts, documents, photography, and media. It had been thirteen years in the making, but the NMAAHC finally opened its doors on September 24, 2016, with a dedication ceremony featuring President Barack Obama. The NMAAHC is a museum that seeks to understand American history through the lens of the African-American experience. There are four pillars upon which the NMAAHC Stands: It provides an opportunity for those who are interested in African-American culture to explore and revel in this history through interactive exhibitions; it helps Americans see how their stories, the histories, and their culture are shaped and informed by global influences; it explores what it means to be an American and shares how American values, such as resiliency, optimism, and spirituality are reflected in African-American history and culture; and it serves as a place of collaboration that reaches beyond Washington, D.C., to engage new audiences and work with the myriad of museums and educational institutions that have explored and preserved this important history well before this museum was created.

By touring this museum, you do not have to wait until Black History Month to talk about the contributions of African-Americans. The NMAAHC is located at 1400 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 20560.

Hidden Figures: present and past

By N'dia Thomas, staff writer

Let us discuss *Hidden Figures*. Unfortunately, I am not talking about the invisible math figures; I am talking about the figures we do not acknowledge anymore. The movie, *Hidden Figures*, spotlighted three awesome women who changed the course of science. Stunningly enough, there was not a movie to honor these women in over forty years. However, that does not mean these women were not important, someone just did not realize their significance until now.

Let us speed up time to 2017. Taking the glorious road to earn your diploma is a passage all must travel, but the *Hidden Figures* who guided you to success: were they ever thanked? Think back to that grade school teacher who helped you with directions to the nurse's office or that college professor who handed you a pen when you did not bring your supplies to class. Remember the instructor who scheduled your courses because you were not able to schedule your own or gave you advice when you needed it. Reminisce on the fact that when we were children, we gave our teachers an apple after we left class or maybe even gave him or her a gift every holiday just to show our appreciation. Are we still upholding that thankfulness, or are we still masking our figures?



Bear Trackers 2016-2017: Pat Young, sponsor; Clare Clark, Loryn Hollis, Kelsi Goudeau, McOshia Williams, Raney Hewitt, Madison Martin, Brooke Smith, Allyn Rollins, Shelbi Crawford, Jessi Barnes, Haley Hargett, Alexcia Carr, Haley Simmons, Karinlee Brister, sponsor; second row: Myles Kendrick, Shinah Moore, Olivia Dickerson, Tamara Cowart, Valerie Dixon, Mattie Pigott, Brooke Wells, Desmiuna Gayden, Brittany McGuire, J.C. Gardner, Trey Magee; third row: Michael Wilson, Kohl Rester, Christopher Wells, Andrew Garner, Robert Brown, Boyd Dunnam, Aaron Buckley, Corey Dillon, not pictured: Brittany Brumfield, and Daley Roberts photo by Joyce Mabry



PBL Officers 2016-2017: Kim Tynes, Advisor; Diamond Leggett, Secretary; Liliانا McKnight, Treasurer; Lizzy Cutrer, Historian; Neil Chadala, VicePresident; Mohammad Mohammad, President; Tina Goldbaum, Reporter; Amber Lirette, Advisor photo by Joyce Mabry



ADN Graduates: Paige Alexander, Shanterika Allen, Heather Battolfs, Laura Causey, Kizzy Coney, Joanne Fauver, Shantrell Harris, Jasmine Hart, Victoria Hinshaw, Ashanna Huff, second row: Kim Smith ADN Instructor, Rebekah King, Emily Law, Aubrey Mason, Lana Murrell, Jamie Patterson, Lakeshia Pendleton, Samantha Linson, Daniel Ridder, Melissa Stoezner, Sharly Thompson, Abigail Weeks, Karyn Wallace, Lauren Weeks, Latonya Winters, Suzonne McLean ADN Instructor, Melissa Temple Director of Nursing. SMCC's Associate Degree Nursing program graduates completed the seventy hour program and received their Associate of Applied Science degree. The program helps meet the expanding and ever changing health care needs of the community by providing graduates who are prepared to practice as a professional member of the interdisciplinary health care team providing safe client-centered care with critical thinking, innovation, and adaptability in a variety of health care settings. photo by Amy Gazzo



CNA Class #33: Pictured are the following: Ka'Dedra Bates, Kelli Bickham, Katelyn Hughey; second row: Tabresha Carter, Tiffany Westmoreland The SMCC Nurse Assistant /Health Care Assistant Course completed its thirty-second semester as a regular 16 hour Vocational Technical Course. Five students finished the course this semester under the direction of the instructor for the program, Mrs. Brenda Burch, RN. This is a full semester program with four core courses including Homemaker/Home Health Aide, Basic Health Care Procedures, Body Structure and Function, and Special Care Procedures. These students received their certificates and are qualified to work as Nurse Assistants, Long-Term Care Aides, or Home Health Aides in the Mississippi health care industry. Participants must be 18 years of age and have a high school diploma or GED. The student must now have an ACT score of 14 or above or a TABE score of 10 or above, and the applicants also must complete an application for admission to the Nurse Assistant Program. photo by Amy Gazzo

So far, so good

By David Russell, staff writer

If you are anything like me, you would much rather stay up until 2:00 a.m. and sleep in than actually get up early. Well, so much for that! Say, "Hello, college!" and say goodbye to sleeping in until 10:00 a.m. This whole "getting up before the sun" idea is not really my cup of tea, but I suppose I should be seeing all of this as a good thing and maybe even a blessing. I get to wake up, go to school, work to earn my degree, and finish all of my classes in time to go to work in the afternoons. Yeah, I think this is a good thing!

This is my first semester here at Southwest Mississippi Community College, and so far, it could not be any better! I have earned a full-tuition scholarship; I have great instructors in all of my classes, and the food is not half bad, either. Everyone here has been very helpful and understanding with me as I attempt to navigate this thing called college. Sure, getting up before the sun is not ideal, but you do what you have to do. There is a quote by Marva Collins that says, "Success doesn't come to you; you go to it." Well, I am doing my best to find success. I guess part of that is this whole "getting up before the sun" thing. Yes, I know that is like the fourth time I have mentioned getting up early, and it probably will not be the last. Who can blame me for liking my sleep?

I look forward to learning what adventures await me throughout the rest of this semester, and I pray that I find the time to enjoy them all. There will be rough patches to go along with all the good times, this I know, but I pray the good far outweighs the bad, as they have thus far. Due to classes, work, and the shreds of a social life I have, I do not have much spare time for all the on-campus activities, but I am not going to let that stop me from finding as much time as I can to enjoy it all. I have not been able to make it to a basketball game as of yet, but trust me, I will get to one, maybe even a couple baseball or softball games, too.

I am doing my best, but sometimes I feel like my best is just not cutting it. What am I supposed to do at times like those? I have been blessed with the best set of parents I could ask for. If there is anything I need help with, I know I can always go to them. I was lucky to be assigned an exceptional advisor. She went above and beyond with helping me make sure I was ready for my first day of class. Southwest, I was not sure you were the one, but you have not disappointed me. I feel like I am where I am supposed to be; does that not say something about Southwest? It is a great place to be. Whether you are staying on- or off-campus, it does not matter where you are staying, you are a Bear now. We are all Bears now. We are all in this together for the long haul, so stay strong, study hard, and Bear down. We can do this; we will do this.

Movie Review: Central Intelligence

By Aaron Buckley, staff writer

Central Intelligence, starring Dwayne Johnson and Kevin Hart is one of the best movies of the year. In this laugh-out-loud comedy, Johnson plays Bob Stone, a once-bullied geek in high school who is now a CIA agent. Kevin Hart plays an old classmate of Stone's named Calvin Joyner. As their high school reunion approaches, Calvin gets into a heap of trouble when Bob Stone is on the run from the CIA, and he needs help in order to find out who has betrayed the CIA and is trying to destroy the world. This action-packed comedy will leave you on your feet and make you laugh your socks off.



Support the BEARS!

Soft skills: adaptability unites

By Cody Pol
editor

Soft skills are defined as, "personal attributes that enable someone to interact effectively and harmoniously with other people." Two examples of soft skills that are crucial to the workplace are problem solving and critical observation. Exhibiting these two desirable characteristics is beneficial in job interviews, as employers search for employees who are able to think critically and solve problems on their own.

Mindlessly collecting data and turning it into a spreadsheet is not enough in modern workplace settings. One must be able to analyze and interpret data in order to make an educated conclusion about what the information means. The ability to compile large quantities of data and organize the information into a meaningful format distinguishes one from the crowd.

Common interview questions now inquire as to what one's problem solving experience entails. Interviewers want to know what part one played in solving a problem. Measurable outcomes and one's personal approach are requested of interviewees.

Valentine's Day

By Amber Terrell,
staff writer

"Farewell to Love"
Charles, Duke of Orléans 1415

I am already sick of love,
My very gentle Valentine,
Since for me you were born too soon,
And I for you was born too late.
God forgives him who has estranged
Me from you for the whole year.
I am already sick of love,
My very gentle Valentine.
Well might I have suspected
That such a destiny,
Thus would have happened this day,
How much that Love would have commanded.
I am already sick of love,
My very gentle Valentine.

Valentine's Day has not always been about flowers, stuffed animals, candy, and romance. The true meaning is still unknown to this day, but there are a few hunches as to what it could be. Some say that the celebrations of this day began around the 3rd century and had a lot to do with both Christian and ancient Roman tradition. Experts say that the holiday began as a Pagan fertility festival known as Lupercalia, where women would be gently slapped with strips of goat hide that had been soaked in sacrificial blood. The women believed that it would make them more fertile in the upcoming year. Then, all of the bachelors would choose names out of a pot, and that was the woman he would be paired with for the entire year.

Another idea as to how Valentine's Day originated is that in France and England, February 14th was the start of mating season for birds. Bird mating is thought to be the main reason behind all the romance Valentine's Day brings. The oldest handwritten Valentine is a poem by Charles, Duke of Orléans, that he wrote to his wife while he was imprisoned. His letter is thought to be the reason behind Valentine's Day cards. In today's world, close to one billion "valentines" are sent each year. No one knows the true meaning of this tradition, but it is celebrated all over the world and is all thanks to St. Valentine himself.



ADN Scholarship: pictured are the following: Rosalyn Howard, Timothy Foster, Erica Myers, Dr. Melissa Temple. Southwest Mississippi Community College's Associate Degree Nursing student Timothy Foster of Meadville was the recipient of the 2017 MS Nurses' Foundation School Nursing Scholarship. Dr. Melissa Temple, SMCC Director of Nursing, along with Rosalyn Howard, Executive Director of MS Nurses Foundation, and Erica Myers, Associate Degree Nursing instructor, present Timothy Foster with the Mississippi Nurses Foundation Emma Burdette Young School of Nursing Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded to a third semester SMCC ADN student who has exhibited leadership, scholarship, and community involvement. photo by Joyce Mabry

Carpentry students construct shelter



Carpentry Class: pictured standing in front of the shelter are the following: TJ Sutton, Delkwan Patterson, Marcus Jones, Joe Cornacchione, instructor; second row Devante Conerly, Cory White, Dutch Pittman, Michael Young and Bruce Vinson. The carpentry students laid the 130- block wall before construction of shelter for maintenance vehicles which was totally assembled by the 2016 Fall Carpentry class. photo by Joyce Mabry



Dr. Bill Ashley, Vice-President for Student Affairs/Athletic Director; Ashley Gray, Director of Student Activities and Housing/SGA Sponsor; MeOshia Williams, SGA Secretary; Haley Simmons, SGA President; Cody Pol, SGA Treasurer; Loryn Hollis, Anna Catherine Trantham, Gary Busby, Israel Coleman, Kendyl Adam, SGA Vice-President; and Clay Whittington, Director of Bands, attend the MACJC Luncheon.

By Cody Pol, editor

Members of the Student Government Association and Southwest choir attended the MACJC luncheon as representatives of the college. Hosted by community colleges from throughout the state, Mississippi legislators were treated to a lunch catered by the colleges' culinary arts programs. Haley Simmons, Kendyl Adam, MeOshia Williams, and Cody Pol, SGA officers, greeted state legislators as they arrived,

extending the utmost degree of hospitality. An ensemble arranged by Clay Whittington, Director of Bands, consisting of Loryn Hollis, Anna Catherine Trantham, Gary Busby, and Israel Coleman performed at the luncheon. MACJC luncheons were created to display the profound effect community colleges have on our young adults and communities. The ultimate goal of the event was to raise awareness of the importance of continuing to fund community colleges.

Perks of being single on Valentine's Day

By Kimi Jeanson,
co-editor

On Valentine's Day, two types of single people who walk into stores are interesting. The first is the person who points out all the things they would want if they had someone to buy something for them. The second type groans at the mention of Valentine's Day. Which one are you? Though it can seem lonely at times, being single does have many perks even on Valentine's Day. While couples are scrambling to find a present to give to each other, a single person does not have to worry about doing anything. Stress levels skyrocket due to the pressure of being in a relationship. Studies have shown that many relationship statuses on Facebook and social media change to single right after Valentine's Day. This is not to say relationships are bad in any way or that they are doomed to end; there is simply a freedom of not being pressured to spend money and time that we college students do not have.

When you are single, you do not need to buy chocolates and flowers or dress to impress anyone except yourself. You can be spontaneous and go out on a date with a friend or binge watch your favorite show. There are so many things you can do to break the stereotype of a typical Valentine's Day. You can eat whatever you want and still look amazing in sweatpants and an oversized t-shirt. Nonetheless, there is nothing wrong with dressing up if you feel like looking fancy. Instead of staying in, you can go out with some of your friends, play games, and watch Redbox movies. Moreover, you can reconnect with an old friend and spend time catching up, or you can treat yourself to your favorite guilty pleasure food of which you are not obligated to share with anyone.

If all else fails, you can always look forward to the candy sales the next day. Realistically, Valentine's Day is just a day, and it will end. Society portrays Valentine's Day as the day you have to either be in love or find it to enjoy the holiday, but what really is important is learning to love yourself. If you are not happy with yourself, it can be incredibly difficult to be happy with someone else. Sometimes, it is good to be free of expectations and discover something new about yourself.

Mathematics: numbers for living

By Kimi Jeanson,
co-editor

Mathematics is a necessary tool to earn a degree at Southwest. Despite mathematics' reputation of difficulty among students, they learn to sincerely appreciate the study's practical applications. Pupils are adamant about excelling in their studies and persevered through the challenges the courses presented. Instructors helped students learn and understand everything they needed to have successful careers. Students who were seeking a degree in fields such as mathematics, engineering, computer science, and pharmacy were offered several advanced classes such as Trigonometry, Calculus, Differential Equations, Statistics, Quantitative Reasoning, and College Algebra. They were required to take classes for their selected major, but they were also offered several math classes that they could enjoy as electives.

In numerous career paths, mathematics is necessary for understanding complex operations. Tasks such as dosing medications and performing chemical reactions require advanced mathematics courses. In addition, seemingly mundane tasks such as paying for a fast-food meal employed simple algebra. Mathematics is an important part of daily life, and the instructors at Southwest ensured that students left with an understanding of the subject's principles.



4.0 Overall GPA Graduate: Southwest Mississippi Community College honored its 4.0 GPA. Associate of Arts graduate Jenna Van Dan at its commencement ceremony held Tuesday, December 13, 2016, in the Hurst Auditorium. Jenna maintained a 4.0 GPA every semester of attendance at Southwest Mississippi Community College. Jenna is the daughter of Raymond and Jill Van Dan of Summit. She is majoring in Business Administration with an emphasis in accounting and plans to transfer to University of Southern Mississippi in Spring 2017.



Lady Bears beat Lady Eagles



By Michael D. Gunnell
Southwest Sports Information Director

January 5, 2017

With five players scoring in double figures, the Lady Bears moved to 9-0 Wednesday afternoon with an 89-62 road win over the Louisiana College JV.

Danyelle Lewis' three-pointer, along with baskets from Alissa Adam and Keturah Bingham, helped the Lady Bears race out to an early 9-0 lead. They went on to hold a 17-5 lead at the end of the first quarter.

The Lady Bears' lead ballooned to 30-10 on a short-range jumper from Peyton Papenburg with 4:36 left in the second quarter. The lead then went to 39-14 after a Rachel Thompson layup with 2:36 on the clock. The Lady Bears then took a 42-26 advantage into the locker room at intermission.

The second half was more of the same. After leading 65-39 at the end of the third quarter, the Lady Bears took their biggest lead of the game, 74-42, on Bingham's layup with 7:57 left in the game. They then went on to record the 27-point victory.

"I think we played fairly well," said Lady Bears' head coach Brent Harris, "considering we had roughly a month off. We didn't shoot the ball well from the free throw line, something we need to work on. Overall, we were very pleased."

Bingham, Lewis and Papenburg each had 14 points to lead the Lady Bears' offense. Thompson netted 13 points and Adam recorded 11. The Lady Bears made good on 12 of 24 free throws.

Lakedra Franklin and Kourtney Kling both scored 10 points to pace Louisiana College. The hosts made six of 10 free throws.

January 10, 2017

Bouncing back from a tough loss at Baton Rouge, the Bears returned to the win column Monday night with a 97-54 win road win over the Spring Hill College JV in Mobile.

The Bears (7-3) took an early 3-0 lead on a Rodrick Sikes three pointer. A Mike Parks, Jr., jumper then had the Bears on top 11-2 with 16:29 left in the opening half.

After Spring Hill outscored the Bears 10-5 to pull back to within four points, 16-12, the Bears scored 14 of the next 22 points and took a 30-20 lead on Emanuel Thompson's bucket with 8:37 on the clock.

Joseph Clayton's trey cut the Spring Hill deficit to 30-23, before a 25-7 run, capped by Mario Doyle's three pointer, left the Bears on top 55-30 at the end of the first half.

The second half was anticlimactic as the Bears outscored their hosts 42-24 to pick up the win.

"I was proud of the guys and how they responded (after) a tough game on Saturday," said third-year Bears head coach Thomas Gray. "I thought we made improvements on protecting the basketball and our attention to detail on the defensive end."

Sikes scored 24 points, his 10th game in double figures, to lead all scorers. Thompson recorded 19 points while Parks, Jr., and Doyle were also in double figures with 16 and 12 points, respectively. The Bears hit 18 of 30 free throws.

Clayton topped the Spring Hill offense with 13 points. The home team went 3-10 from the free throw line.

January 13, 2017

The Lady Bears saw their winning streak come to an end Thursday night in Poplarville as they fell to the home standing Pearl River Lady Wildcats 74-60. With the loss, the Lady Bears dropped to 10-1 overall and 1-1 in the MACJC South Division. Pearl River moved to 8-1 and 1-1.

After falling behind early, 3-0, the Lady Bears went on an 11-4 run, with three pointers from Alissa Adam and Danyelle Lewis, to take an 11-7 lead with 7:06 to play in the first quarter. Three ties and three lead changes later, the hosts held onto a 20-18 advantage at the end of the quarter.

An 11-3 run to open the second quarter helped the Lady Wildcats extend their lead to 31-21 with

4:40 left in the half. The Lady Bears then outscored their hosts and drew back to within four, 33-29, on a Keturah Bingham jumper with 0:53 on the clock before the Lady Wildcats took a 35-29 lead into the locker room.

Lewis scored the first seven points of the third quarter to put the Lady Bears back on top, 38-35, with 6:25 on the clock. However, the Lady Wildcats answered with a 12-3 run to go on top 47-41 and they led 48-44 headed to the final quarter.

The Lady Bears twice cut their deficit to two points in the fourth quarter, but a 16-3 run helped the Lady Wildcats put the game out of reach, 70-55, with 1:23 left to play. Lewis nailed her fourth three pointer, with 0:01 on the clock, to reach the final score.

"I was very proud of our resolve fight back in the second half," said Lady Bears head coach Brent Harris. "We have to make physical plays on the road and we have to play with emotion without getting emotional."

Lewis led all scorers in the game with 23 points while Adam was also in double figures with 10. Bingham topped everyone on the boards with 13 rebounds while Adam recorded six assists. The Lady Bears made 13 of 22 free throws.

Rehema Franklin topped the Lady Wildcats with 18 points. She and her teammates combined to make 20 of 35 free throws.

An important MACJC South Division matchup went the way of the Bears Thursday night as they picked up a huge road win, 60-47, over the Pearl River Wildcats in Poplarville.

With the win, their second consecutive, the Bears moved to 8-3 overall and 2-0 in the MACJC's South Division. The Wildcats dropped to 9-2 and 1-1.

The game was tight in the early going with seven lead changes in the first 7:40. A Rodrick Sikes three pointer gave the Bears an early 3-2 lead.

Trailing 8-7, Sikes' back-to-back treys put the Bears up 13-8, with 12:11 left in the half and they would not trail the rest of the night.

A 13-4 run, capped by a James Hawthorne layup with 8:15 before the half, gave the Bears their biggest lead to that point, 20-12.

The Wildcats cut the Bears' lead to 23-21 with 2:56 before the break, but Hawthorne scored the final three points of the half to send the Bears into the locker room with a 26-21 advantage.

After the Wildcats trimmed the Bears' lead to 30-25, the Bears outscored their hosts 11-6 and took their first double-digit lead, 41-31, on Emanuel Thompson's three pointer with 12:57 left in the game. The Wildcats would not come any closer the remainder of the game.

A pair of Thompson free throws gave the Bears their largest lead of the night, 59-41, with 2:10 on the clock and they went on to record the 13-point victory.

"I'm really excited for our team to be able to go into a great basketball environment and pull out a victory," said Bears head man Thomas Gray. "I thought (assistant) Coach (Andy) Farrell put together a great defensive game plan together and our guys had a great deal of energy and determination going into the game."

"Sean Smith stepped up in a major way tonight with 11 rebounds and eight blocks and really gave us a spark every minute he was in the game."

Sikes led all scorers in the game with 20 points, his 11th straight game in double figures. Hawthorne had 11 points with four assists while Hawthorne also scored 11 points and blocked three shots. The Bears hit 12 of 19 free throws.

Rodney Mallet led the Wildcats with 15 points. As a team, the Wildcats made four of 12 free throws.

January 18, 2017

Rebounding from a tough loss at Pearl River, the Lady Bears held off a second-half charge by the visiting Lady Eagles of Meridian to pick up a 79-70 win Tuesday night.

With the win, the Lady Bears moved to 11-1 on the season (2-1 in the MACJC South) while the Lady Eagles dropped to 7-5 and 1-2.

The Lady Bears held a 17-10 lead after the first quarter. They started the game on a 7-0 run before the visitors closed the gap to 10-8. Back-to-back buckets by

Peyton Papenburg then left the Lady Bears with their seven-point lead headed to the second quarter.

Opening the second quarter on an 11-1 run, the Lady Bears took a 28-11 advantage on Danyelle Lewis' three pointer with 6:47 on the clock. After seeing their lead drop to 32-20, the Lady Bears scored 13 of the final 20 points of the half. A Rachel Thompson jumper left the home team on top 45-27 at the break.

The Lady Eagles began their comeback attempt in the third quarter, outscoring the Lady Bears 28-18, to narrow their deficit to 63-55 with one quarter to play.

The Lady Eagles seemed intent on getting the win in the fourth quarter as they closed to within five points, 67-62, with 5:36 still to play. But, the Lady Bears had other ideas as they scored seven of the next eight points to move out to a 74-63 lead with 3:27 to go and they went on to record the win.

"I was extremely proud of our preparation for this game," said Lady Bears head coach Brent Harris. "We had to share the basketball tonight and work together to have success. We shot the ball very well from the three, but the entire team had to work to get those open looks."

Papenburg led all scorers in the game with 20 points. Thompson recorded 19 points while Lewis had 16. A'Keyia McDyess led the Lady Bears on the boards with 10 rebounds while Alissa Adam chipped in 10 assists. The Lady Bears made 13 of 27 free throws.

Mary Maxwell scored 18 points to pace the Lady Eagles' offense. The visitors made 10 of 20 free throws.

Withstanding a second-half comeback attempt by the visiting Meridian Eagles, the Bears moved to 9-3 and 3-0 in the MACJC South, with an 84-74 win Tuesday night.

The first half belonged to the Bears. Behind nine points from Mike Parks, Jr., the home team took a 12-4 lead with 15:02 left in the first half. An Emanuel Thompson bucket with 9:47 on the clock then pushed the lead up to 27-13.

Later, a three pointer from Rodrick Sikes followed by a Parks, Jr., layup extended the Bears' lead to 37-15. After the Eagles pulled to within 15, 37-22, the Bears went on a 15-5 run to take their biggest lead of the half, 52-27, on Thompson's three pointer with 0:54 before the break.

The Eagles (2-8, 0-3) then scored the final four points of the half to leave the Bears on top 52-31 at the end of the half.

The Eagles outscored the Bears 14-7 to open the second half and narrowed their deficit to 59-45 with 13:33 left in the game. After a Sikes jumper put the Bears on top 65-45, the Eagles went on a 15-3 tear and closed to within 68-60 with 6:41 remaining.

That would prove to be as close as the Eagles would get the remainder of the night. An 11-2 run, capped by another Sikes bucket, left the Bears on top 79-62 with 3:50 to play. The Eagles closed the game on a 12-5 run, but it was not enough as the Bears held on for the victory.

"I thought we came out with great intensity on the defensive end to start the game and that translated to a great focus offensively," said Bears' head coach Thomas Gray.

"Meridian is a tough-minded team, and really well coached, that came out strong in the second half and played a great game," Gray continued. "We are extremely fortunate to win a game that I thought was well played by both teams."

Parks, Jr., topped the Bears' offense with a season-high 21 points. Sikes followed with 16 points, his 12th straight game in double figures, while Thompson scored 15 points. The Bears made good on 23 of 33 free throws.

The Eagles' Ashton Pierce led all scorers with 30 points. He and his teammates combined to hit 27 of 31 free throws.

January 20, 2017

Falling for only the second time this season, the Lady Bears were defeated by the 25th-ranked Jones County Lady Bobcats 82-40 Thursday night in Ellisville.

The loss dropped the Lady Bears to 11-2 overall and 2-2 in the MACJC's South Division. Jones County climbed to 12-1, 3-1.

A'Keyia McDyess put the Lady Bears up 2-0 early in the first quarter. That would prove to be

their only lead of the night as the hosts quickly raced out in front 20-2. Alissa Adam then scored the final five points of the quarter to leave the Lady Bears with a 20-7 deficit after the first 10:00 of play.

A pair of Adam free throws brought the Lady Bears back to within 30-18 with 4:29 to play in the second quarter. However, Jones County closed out the quarter on an 18-4 run to lead 48-22 at the end of the half.

Unfortunately, the second half was more of the same for the Lady Bears. After trailing 68-33 at the end of the third quarter, they saw Jones County take their biggest lead of the night, 81-33, with 7:04 left in the game and go on to record the win.

"We (were) very disappointed in our showing tonight," said Lady Bears head coach Brent Harris. "Jones is extremely talented and well coached. We have to learn how to get through negative plays on the road."

Adam topped the Lady Bears' offense with 16 points. She and her teammates combined to make 17 of 24 free throws.

Jones County's K. K. Tassin led all scorers with 18 points. The home team went 14-23 from the free throw line.

Riding the 38-point performance of sophomore Rodrick Sikes, the Bears shot the lights out Thursday night in Ellisville as they upset the 9th-ranked Jones County Bobcats 97-92 in MACJC South Division action.

The Bears went 34-50 from the field (68%), including 11 of 20 (55%) from three-point range, and hit 18 of 25 free throws (72%) to remain undefeated in the South, at 4-0, and 10-3 overall. The Bobcats fell to 12-1 and 3-1.

Sikes had the Bears up 5-0 early with a layup and the first of his seven three pointers. Minutes later, the Bears took their biggest lead of the night, 19-10, on a Mike Parks, Jr., jumper with 13:40 left in the half.

Going on a 10-2 run, the Bobcats closed the gap to 21-20 before Emanuel Thompson's trey made it 24-20 with 10:05 left in the half.

Later in the half, six straight points from the Bobcats left them on top 30-26 with 7:45 before the break. They then took their biggest lead of the half, 41-34, with 5:16 showing on the clock.

After a Sikes three pointer brought the Bears to within 46-45, the Bobcats scored seven of the final nine points of the half to take a 53-47 lead into the break.

The Bobcats extended their lead to 57-47 early in the second half, their biggest lead of the night.

After a Guy Johnson short-range jumper left the Bears down 64-60, the Bobcats quickly went back up by nine, 69-60, with 13:01 to go.

Showing they still had plenty of fight left, the Bears went on a 14-3 run and took a 74-72 lead on Sikes' jumper with 9:31 to play.

Moving to the 3:58 mark, the Bobcats got a four-play play from David Davis to take a 90-85 lead. Not to be undone, Sikes returned the favor with his own four-point play to cut the Bears' deficit to 90-89 with 3:47 left.

Trailing 92-89, the Bears cut the Bobcats' lead to 92-91 on a pair of Sikes free throws and took a 93-92 lead on Sean Smith's layup with 1:11 left. Sikes' then nailed a jumper to make the score 95-92 with 0:33 on the clock.

After an errant three point shot by the Bobcats and a rebound by Smith, James Hawthorne found the ball in his hands. Fouled by the home team, Hawthorne calmly stepped to the free throw line and hit both free throws to seal the deal for the Bears.

"What a game," Bears head coach Thomas Gray said later. "We are extremely fortunate to walk away with a win against a great team like Jones."

Praising his squad Gray said, "I can't say enough about the fight our team had on the road, being down 10 at one point, and our guys continually giving their best effort for all 40 minutes. These guys really laid it on the line for each other tonight and I couldn't be more proud of them."

Sikes went 12 of 16 from the field, including 7-11 from behind the three-point arc, and his all seven of his free throws in recording his Southwest career high, and his second 30 plus performance of the season.

Hawthorne and Johnson both scored 12 points for the Bears while Thompson scored 11 and Parks, Jr., had 10.



Shalisa Hawthorne fights for ball control.



Rodrick Sikes shoots for two.

Stevens topped the Bobcats' offense with 29 points. The Bobcats went 14-15 from the free throw line.

January 23, 2017

Despite showing marked improvement over their last game, the Lady Bears were still unable to quite put it all together as they suffered their second straight defeat with a 65-49 loss at Co-Lin Monday night.

The loss dropped the Lady Bears to 11-3 overall and 2-3 in the MACJC South Division. Co-Lin climbed to 12-1, 5-0.

A layup from Shalisa Hawthorne gave the Lady Bears a quick 2-0 lead Monday night. After an A'Keyia McDyess jumper from close range left the Lady Bears on top 4-2, Co-Lin quickly took the 5-4 lead on an Alexus Holt three pointer. The home team then went on to lead 12-8 after the first quarter.

Outscoring the Lady Bears 13-6 in the first 6:20 of the second quarter, Co-Lin took their biggest lead of the half, 25-14. The Lady Bears fought back, outscoring Co-Lin 8-3 the rest of the half. A pair of Alissa Adam free throws with 0:22 on the clock sent the Lady Bears into the locker room at the half with a 28-22 deficit.

The Lady Bears kept the game close most of the third quarter. Hawthorne's bucket with 6:03 on the clock drew them to within 31-29 and Rachel Thompson's free throw made it 36-35 with 1:29 showing. Co-Lin then reeled off nine straight points to end the quarter and took a 45-35 lead with 10:00 to play.

The fourth quarter belonged to Co-Lin as they took their biggest lead of the night, 64-44, with 2:30 left and went on to record the 16-point victory.

"We had a bad stretch at the end of the third and start of the fourth (quarters)," said Lady Bears head coach Brent Harris. "We didn't get back and match up in transition defense and it cost us. Other than that stretch we played pretty well."

"Now, we've got to take care of (our) home court," Harris concluded. "That's what's important now."

Hawthorne topped the Lady Bears' offense with 11 points. She and her teammates combined to hit 11 of 20 free throws.

Co-Lin was led by Tenazia Hinkson's 20 points. Co-Lin made 11 of 20 free throws. A valiant late-game rally fell just short for the Bears Monday night as they suffered a heart-breaking 73-72 defeat in Wesson at the hands of their arch-rivals, the Co-Lin Wolves.

The loss dropped the Bears into a three-way tie for first place in the MACJC South at 4-1; they're now 10-4 overall. Co-Lin moved to 8-6 and 2-3.

The game featured five lead changes in the first 3:39. Co-Lin took its biggest lead of the half, 12-7, on a LaMarcus Lee free throw with 15:05 on the clock. Later, an Emanuel Thompson

three pointer and Rodrick Sikes' layup put the Bears on top 22-21.

A 9-2 run late in the half, capped by Jeremy Harrell's three pointer left the Bears with their biggest lead of the night, 35-28, with 1:24 on the clock. They then took a 35-30 lead into the intermission.

Co-Lin came out firing on all cylinders to start the second half, outscoring the Bears 11-0 to take a 44-37 lead with 14:57 left in the game. The Bears fought back, going on an 8-0 run and pulling to within 45-44 on a Bryce Baker trey with 13:14 remaining.

Outscoring the Bears 13-5 over a period of 5:13, Co-Lin seemed to have matters firmly in hand as they moved out to a 65-55 lead with 2:02 left in the game.

But, the Bears were not quite ready to give up. Going on a 16-7 tear, including seven points in a span of 0:35, they pulled to within in a point, 72-71, on Thompson's jumper with 0:07 to play.

With the score 73-71, Sikes stepped to the line for a pair of free throws with 0:03 on the clock. Sinking the first shot to close the gap to 73-72, Sikes saw the second shot bounce off the rim and into the hands of the defense, leaving the Bears on the short end of the score.

"We put ourselves in a hole, coming out flat (to start) the second half," said Bears head coach Thomas Gray. "We need to improve on executing our offense and being patient to look for high percentage shots."

"I was proud of the way we never stopped playing," Gray went on, "and through that we put ourselves in position to win the game late. There are many areas we will improve on, but also there are many positive things we will take from tonight."

Sikes led all scorers in the game with 28 points while Thompson was also in double figures with 18 points. The Bears made 18 of 25 free throws.

Darrian Wilson led Co-Lin's offense with 17 points. The hosts were good on 11 of 22 free throws.



Sikes named MACJC men's basketball player of the week

By Michael Gunnell, Director of Sports Information

For the second time this season, Southwest sophomore guard Rodrick Sikes has been named the MACJC men's basketball Player of the Week.

Sikes, a graduate of St. Martin High School, received the honor after scoring 26 points in the Bears' close loss at Baton Rouge on January 7. He went 8-14 from the field (6-11 from three-point range) and 4-6 from the free throw line.

Southwest head coach Thomas Gray said, "I'm very excited for Rodrick for receiving this award for the second time this year. I think it's a testament to how consistent he's been playing and how well he's been playing."

"I really am happy for how he's developed in different areas of his game," Gray went on, "not only offensively, but also defensively. He's a guy who's used his athleticism for so many good things and we're just looking forward to him continuing his sophomore campaign and how he's leading this team"

Sikes received his first Player of the Week recognition in early December. For winning this award, he will now automatically be nominated for the same honor from the NJCAA.

Adidas spring releases

By Fernando Salgado, staff writer

Whether you have a sneaker collection or just like sneakers, over the past year you probably found a pair of Adidas tennis shoes that you liked. Adidas has currently been trending and even out-selling its competitor, Nike. Adidas has always been up-to-date with shoe styles, such as the classic "Superstars." They recently collaborated with Kanye West and created a shoe called "Yeezys" that first released in 2015 and kept releasing different color options in 2016. Also in 2016, Adidas created a cool and modern shoe named NMD. As soon as the shoes hit the shelves, they were an instant success.

Now, these two new Adidas collections are returning for the spring of 2017 with more color choices and new designs. The Yeezys are returning with a simple and clean "triple white" color that is due to release on March 17, 2017. These shoes are perfect for a fresh start to the spring of 2017. On January 14, 2017, the NMDs are re-releasing the NMD R1 PK OG color. These new styles of sneakers are comfortable and stylish to bring into the new year.

SMCC Fall graduates

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Samuel Nohea Richard
CENTREVILLE
Shanterika Shanta Allen
Myron Ordell Caston
Hunter C Hughes
Ambreieya F Wilbourn
COLUMBIA
Shanna Shantel Magee
Jami Kay Patterson
Demonte Montrell Smith
Melissa Ann Stoetzner
CROSBY
Justin Campbell
CRYSTAL SPGS

Adrienne Ramonda Lomax-Rh
GLOSTER
Keitherick Green
Samantha A Jackson
Marilyn M Taylor
Jatasha Lanae Walker
GRENADA
Phillip Jarred Fouche
HATTIESBURG
Mikel S Anderson
Anthony Malik Eashmond
HAZLEHURST
Samantha Kaye Linson
Lakisha Michelle Pendleto
JAYESS
Milton Bradley Dunaway
Stewart Perry Evans
Alisha Monochel May
James M Polk
Emily Kristin Smith
LAUREL
Christian Jordan Jones
LIBERTY
Princess K Anderson
Kamrie Copeland Baggett
Freida J Dardar
Micheal C Haygood
Kendral Demond Horton
Ashanna Degenae Huff
Katelyn Rose Hughey
Christopher Oneal Jackson
Javonta L Robinson
MAGNOLIA
Sophia Paige Alexander
Kiasha N Barnes
Kadendra Bates
Tabresha Monique Carter
Spencer J Gros
Marlasha Charmelle Hall
Rakeshia Danielle Hines
Rodrieka Trevon Johnson
Rebekah Michelle King
Emily Elaine Law
Kanissa K Walker
Karyn Alexis Wallace
MAGNOLIA MS

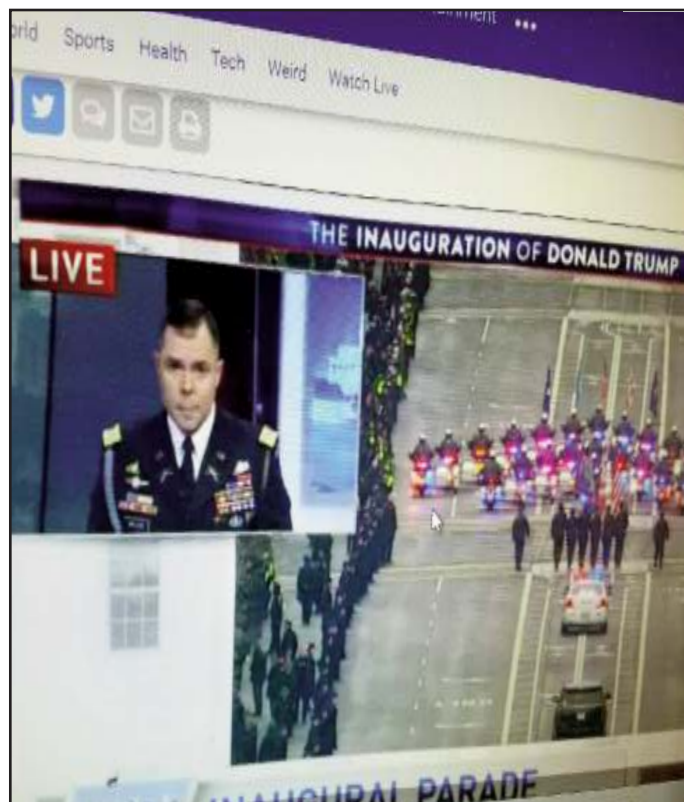
Toby L Clemmons
MCCOMB
Tiffany N Carter
Beth Alison Clements
Kizzy Renee Coney
Shantrell Denise Harris
Jasmine A Hart
Helen Elizabeth Henderson
Lamonica L Magee
Laderek McCray
Christopher Dewayne Mille
Rene D Olivares
Brandy A Powell
Daniel Blake Ridder
Stephanie L Rimes
Breona Danielle Robinson
David J Rowell
Demetri Meyea Smith
Jamiyah L Sorapuru
Katina D Thompson
Sharly D Thompson
Briana Latrice Tobias
Angela Marie Van Buren
Quintin J Walker
Laklyn E Waters
Tiffany N Westmoreland
MCCOMB MS 39648
Krystal Acondria Robertso
MONTICELLO
James Tanner Boutwell
Benjamin T Fuller
NATCHEZ
Julian Trent Coleman
OAK VALE
Cadie Alexis Durr
OSYKA
Kelli M Bickham
Georgia E McCray
PELAHATCHIE
John E Jolley
RICHLAND
Morgan Anne Pope
ROXIE
Deuneise Niquel Wilson
RUTH
Jasmine Michelle Martin

Ronnie Glynn Thornhill Jr
SMITHDALE
Dustin L Dickerson
SMTHDALE
Mathieu Lane Berryhill
SUMMIT
Mariah S Butler
Laura Michelle Causey
Austin Brady Duncan
William B East
Sean Adrain Foxworth
Lakeria Hayes
Meaghan P Johnson
Plaura Rovelya King
Aubrey Cowart Mason
Stacy Diante Miller
Jeremy Leander Pittman
Jenna Elise Van Dan
Nell Marie Walker
Amanda L Wicker
Lakendrick Keonta William
TAYLORSVILLE
Daniel Cornelius McLaurin
TYLERTOWN
Danielle Lakita Anthony
Jerry Glynn Baughman Jr
James Boshart Jr
Krisshawn Raymont Carr
Swayze Mack-Weston Hobgwo
Kadarius Laran Holmes
Marilyn Johnson
Dabresha Magee
Laquana S Magee
Janet Marie May
Lana Elizabeth Murrell
Cornelius Lamar Pittman
Ashley C D Tillery
Patricia M Trusso
Abigail R Weeks
Natisha Darese Yarborough
VICKSBURG
Michael C Ware
WOODVILLE
Hannah Michelle Lanehart

Alumni participate in inauguration



LT. Colonel Spencer Wallace, SMCC Class of 1997, of Vienna, VA, was an "On Air Live" commentator for NBC Washington, D.C., Channel 4 for the Presidential Inaugural Parade. He is pictured with his wife, Karen O'Quin Wallace, SMCC Class of 1996, at the parade.



Baseball team focuses on game



Baseball Team 2016-2017: Kyle Coleman, Brantley Hughes, Blake Dunaway, Gerald Groue, Tyler Pigott, Taft Nesmith, Scooter Ginn, Quartez Brown, Alex Smith, Zach Thomas; second row: Mitchell Foreman, Isaiah Davis, T Tez Cole, Cody Ross, Bryson McRaney, Chance Groue, Fidel Bello, Josh Merchant, Andrew Beesley, Payton Yawn, Crishaun Speight; third row: Carr Young, Sy Odom, Cody Miller, Ray Hutchinson, Darian Tunstall, Aaron Jefferson, John Marcus McDowell, John David Maxwell, Austin Moen, Jarid Sturgeon

Softball team readies for action



Softball Team 2016-2017: Rebecca Davis, Gianca Holmes, Baylee Bryant, Lauren Walker, Mary Vogle, Kassie Shipley; second row: Kelcey Breemenkamp, Kayla Sanchez, Madison Parker, Morgan Webb, Kristie Sanchez, Kymberli McDowell; third row: Jeney Hudson, Jordan Harp, Miranda Magee, Mikaela Smith, Jordan Fitzgerald, Jenna Duff, Emily Tuminello, Amy Bonvillian

Video game review: No Man's Sky

By Reggie Martin, staff writer

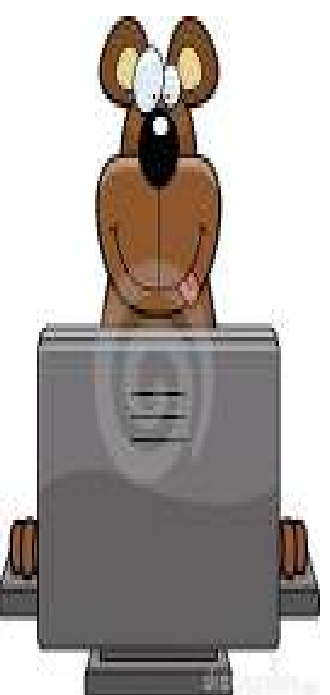
The opening hours of *No Man's Sky* were fantastic. They sent you to an infinite universe to do as you wished. You were exploring new planets, gathering resources, and discovering new lifeforms. That was until you finally realized that it was the same thing over and over again! After exploring the first dozen planets, all the magic and mystery that was felt when you first played the game began to fade away. All of the planets you found felt the same. Gathering began to feel like a chore because managing the inventory was so frustrating and tedious. There were supposed to be factions, spaceship wars, different ships, and so much more, but they were all stripped completely from the game. The worst of all was what you found at the center of galaxy, which was the "Promised Land" that you were ultimately trying to reach. After all your hard work, there was nothing. When you clicked the option to go to the center of the galaxy, the game decided to pull you away from the center while playing some ominous music in the background as if it was the best thing that you ever witnessed. No, in the end, *No Man's Sky* was nothing more than broken promises and disappointments. The best way to describe the experience is that it was "as wide as an ocean, but as deep as a puddle."

Science: information for life

By Cody Pol, editor

Science courses enriched students' understanding of the world around them. Lessons taught from the atomic level all the way to the macroscale biological organizations of the world influenced the way students interpreted the functions of their bodies and nature. In chemistry, students studied how the atom affects nearly every aspect of their lives. Subjects such as bond characteristics and behavior, intermolecular forces, and reaction types enhanced students' knowledge of many biological and chemical systems. Biology courses consisted of detailed studies of the processes that affect living organisms and the taxonomy of those organisms. Learning about the photosynthetic cycles of different categories of plants and the characteristics of fungi classifications amazed biology students. In Anatomy and Physiology, human body systems were discussed in detail, illustrating the complexities of human structure and function. Physics classes involved in-depth discussions of the physical forces that govern nature. Students learned about the concepts of gravity and both kinetic and potential energy.

Lab accompanied the science classes, and students put their knowledge from lecture to the test. Organic chemistry students practiced the intricate processes of distillation and recrystallization. In General Chemistry, titrations were a challenge; even an extra drop of the titrant would cause an imbalance in pH. Authentic human bones and replicas assisted Anatomy and Physiology students in learning the many parts of the skeletal system. As test time drew near, Wilma the skeleton was there to help them out. Knowledgeable and caring instructors were always ready to assist students with any problem they had. Upon departure from Southwest, students had a solid background in the sciences that sustained them wherever they went.



Study!!

Intramurals: Basketball power

Bill Wallace, Director of Intramurals



Mohammad Mohammad dribbles toward the goal.

photo by Kimi Jeanson



William Hightower focuses on the ball.

photo by Kimi Jeanson



Trey Fleming defends the ball.

photo by Kimi Jeanson



Gabriell Beasley fights his way to the goal.

photo by Kimi Jeanson

Cartoons.....



Ads.....

Southwest Mississippi Community College
 Bear Trackers
 Present

The 6th Annual
Princess Ball
 at SMCC
 2017

Come enjoy refreshments, music, and dancing with your princess!

Friday, March 31, 2017
 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.
 (Pictures will begin at 5:30 p.m. Doors to the ball will open at 6:30 p.m.)
 at the SMCC Horace C. Holmes Student Union


For princesses ages 4 through 12
 Tickets are \$20 per person.

Princesses **MUST** be accompanied by an adult.
 Tickets are limited and **MUST** be purchased in advance at the SMCC Academic Counseling Center located in Kenna Hall Room 112. No tickets will be sold the day of the event or at the door the night of the event.

For more information contact:
 Pat Young at 601.276.3844 or Karinlee Brister at 601.276.3849

Southwest Mississippi Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, or disability in its programs, activities or employment practices. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries and grievances regarding discrimination policies: Ms. Rhonda G. Eason, Director of Disability Support Services, SMCC, 601.276.3889, Kenna Hall 1212; Dr. Brian P. H. Van Pelt, President/Student Affairs, Title IX Coordinator, and Director of Athletics, 601.276.3717, SMCC, 1156 College Drive, Sumner, MS 39666.

Southwest Mississippi Community College
 Bear Trackers
 Present

THE 2ND ANNUAL

SUPER HERO BASH

Come enjoy refreshments, music, and dancing with your super hero!

Saturday, April 1, 2017
 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.
 (Doors will open at 6:15 p.m.)
 at the SMCC Horace C. Holmes Student Union
 for super heroes ages 3 through 10
 Tickets are \$20 per person.

This is a night for supermoms and their sons!
 Superheroes **MUST** be accompanied by an adult.
 Costumes are encouraged but not required!

Tickets are limited and can only be purchased in advance at the SMCC Academic Counseling Center located in Kenna Hall Room 112. No tickets will be sold the day of the event.

For more information contact:
 Pat Young at 601.276.3844 or Karinlee Brister at 601.276.3849

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Tornado Awareness AWR-326



This is an awareness level course for a wide audience. Tornadoes can strike anywhere within the United States, consequently every community needs to be ready for hazards associated with them. This course will fulfill the goals of the "whole community" approach to emergency management, with participants consisting of members from all sectors of the community. Multiple core capabilities will be addressed, with particular emphasis on "public information and warning" and "threats and hazard identification." Participants who represent different sectors such as mass care services, health and social services, operational communications, critical transportation, and planning would further expand the reach of this course to other corresponding core capabilities.

WHO SHOULD TAKE THIS COURSE

This course is targeted for a broad cross section of professionals involved in emergency management, fire services, local and/ or state government officials, planners, developers, business and education.

MODULES

- ✓ Governmental administrative
- ✓ Emergency management
- ✓ Law enforcement
- ✓ Fire Services
- ✓ Planners/developers
- ✓ Small businesses
- ✓ Community organizations
- ✓ At risk households
- ✓ Education

February 2, 2017
8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Summit, MS



LOCATION AND DETAILS:
SMCC Regional Workforce Training Center
1146 Horace Holmes Drive
Summit, MS 39666

REGISTER AT:
<https://ndptc.hawaii.edu/training/delivery/1739>

FOR REGISTRATION ASSISTANCE:
 Amanda Bates • batesa@hawaii.edu • 808.725.5236

HOST CONTACT:
 Beverly Johnson • bjohnson@smcc.edu • 601.276.3836



**NATIONAL DISASTER
 PREPAREDNESS
 TRAINING CENTER**
 at the UNIVERSITY of HAWAII

MAIN OFFICE:
 828 Fort Street Mall - Suite 320 -
 Honolulu, HI 96813
 PHONE: 808.556.0600
 FAX: 808.536.9110

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ndptc.hawaii.edu
COURSE DELIVERY OPERATIONS:
 NOAA Inouye Regional Center
 1845 Wasp Blvd Building 176
 Honolulu, HI 96818
 PHONE: 808.725.5220 • FAX: 808.725.5230



As a member of the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium, the NDPTC is a DHS/ FEMA training partner dedicated to providing critical all-hazards training throughout the United States and its territories with an emphasis on natural hazards and island and coastal communities.



FEMA

Southwest Mississippi Community College

WE WANT... YOU!

**MAKE A DONATION
 TO THE FOUNDATION.**

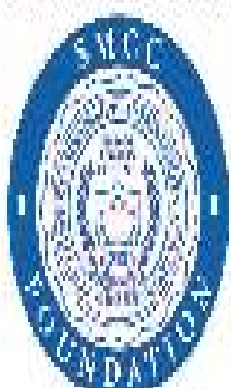
Join the SMCC Foundation!
 Individual Membership - \$100 annually
 Corporate Membership - \$500 annually



**ATTENTION:
 SOUTHWEST BEARS**

**Join the SMCC
 Alumni Association Today!**
 Annual Membership - \$25
 Lifetime Membership - \$100

Please Mail to: SMCC Foundation, 1156 College Drive, Summit, MS 39666 • at 601-276-3711



Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

For More Information,
 Contact Lee Touchstone at
 601-276-4809.

Email Address _____

Clip and send to:



Name _____

Address _____

1156 College Drive
 Summit, MS 39666
 or Call Rhonda Gibson
 at 601-276-3885

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____

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