

The PINE BURR

pineburr@smcc.edu

January 31, 2018

Serving SMCC Since 1940

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Campus Events

- Friday, February 2
Ground Hog Day
Softball game
Holmes
Summit, MS
2:00 & 4:00
- Monday, February 5
Spiritual Emphasis week
- Tuesday, February 6
Spiritual Emphasis week
Cupcakes for a Cause
Softball game
Co-Lin
Wesson, MS
3:00 & 5:00
- Saturday, February 10
National ACT testing
Softball game
Mississippi Delta
Moorehead, MS
1:00 & 3:00
Baseball game
Mineral Area
Summit, MS
1:00
- Sunday, February 11
Softball game
Spoon River
Wesson, MS
12:00
- Tuesday, February 13
Mardi Gras
Baseball game
Louisiana College
Pineville, LA
3:00
- Wednesday, February 14
Valentine's Day
Softball game
Hinds
Summit, MS
3:00 & 5:00
- Thursday, February 15
Softball game
Trinity Valley
Summit, MS
12:00 & 2:00
- Friday, February 16
Q: Last day to drop
- Monday, February 19
Presidents' Day
JAN15: Audit
- Wednesday, February 21
Softball game
LSU-Eunice
Eunice, LA
1:00 & 3:00
Baseball game
LSU Alexandria
Summit, MS
3:00
- Thursday, February 22
FEB04: Audit
- Friday, February 23
Softball game
Baton Rouge
Baton Rouge, LA
1:00 & 3:00
- Saturday, February 24
Baseball game
Arkansas Baptist CC
Summit, MS
2:00
- Tuesday, February 27
FEB04: 60% date
Baseball game
Summit, MS
Delgado CC
3:00
- Wednesday, February 28
Softball game
Pear River
Poplarville, MS
3:00 & 5:00
- Friday, March 2
Baseball game
Coastal Alabama CC
Bay Minette, AL
3:00
- Saturday, March 3
Softball game
Mississippi Delta
Summit, MS
1:00 & 3:00

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Richard and Stella Dodd present Southwest Mississippi Community College athletics with a \$125,000 donation: Southwest names its basketball court 'First Bank Court' during Thursday's game. From left are Bill Wallace, SMCC Director of Athletics; Andrew Alford, SMCC Vice-President of Business Affairs; Richard Dodd, First Bank; Curtis Butler, First Bank; Brad Whitaker, First Bank; Reggie Collier, First Bank; John Shapley, First Bank; Stella Dodd, First Bank; and SMCC President Dr. Steve Bishop.

Bears and Lady Bears win big on First Bank court

By Jonathn Scott,
co-editor

For fans and players alike, it has been a great season for Southwest Basketball. Both the men's and women's teams have given their all on the court. The women's current overall record is 12-3, 3-3 in the MACJC South, while the men are 12-3, and 3-3 in the MACJC South. As the Bears continue to propel their way through the season, each victory shows the result of crucial hard work particularly in recent games.

The Bears recently went up against Pearl River in a fantastic match up that left the packed-out gym in awe. The Lady Bears defeated the Lady Wildcats 59-49. The game was a close one by the end, with the teams ending up ties 47-47 in the middle of the final quarter. Jamaya Galloway and Rachel Thompson made a series of scores that gave the Lady Bears a 10-point victory. The most exciting event of the night was the men's stunning comeback victory over the Wildcats. By the end of the first half, the opposing team had gained a strong 34-point lead over the Bears. However, when the teams returned to the court for the second half, the bears re-emerged with a new level of energy and determination, ultimately winning out the extremely close final quarter 75-71.

Another highlight from that night was the generous donation from First Bank to the SMCC athletic department. Richard and Stella Dodd presented the school with a \$125,000 dollar donation on behalf of the bank, and the basketball court was renamed the "First Bank Court" in its honor. Following the fantastic game against Pearl River, Southwest went up against rival school Co-Lin. The game was virtually equal in energy and excitement, regardless of the outcome. Many fans gathered in a once again packed-out gym to witness the game. The women got another win after a close game that went into overtime. The Lady Bears tied with their opponents 62-62 in the last minute of the match. It was anyone's game and the crowd watched in anticipation as Galloway scored the final two points, giving the Lady Bears a 64-62 victory.

The men's basketball team has also had an exciting season. The match began with Bears down 0-5. Aleksa Dobrijevic's layup brings the Bears closer to Pearl River, but Pearl River begins to pull farther ahead in the first half. The second half appeared to repeat the same pattern with the score 60-26. With 16:16 left to play, the Bears suddenly surge with determination to win. Time is running out. Pearl River tried to keep up, but, ultimately, the last five points of the game from Knight III ended them game at 81-74. The Bears proved that, regardless of the seemingly unbeatable odds, it is possible to still succeed.



Anthony Cowart shoots a jump shot for two.

photo by Noah Martin



Kacie Fountain shoots a free throw.

photo by Noah Martin



Danyelle Lewis drives to the goal.

photo by Noah Martin

Southwest Mississippi Community College recognized again to compete for Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence

For the second consecutive year the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program has recognized Southwest Mississippi Community College as one of the nation's top 150 community colleges eligible to compete for the \$1 million Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence. This award is the nation's signature recognition of high achievement and performance among America's community colleges. With a singular focus on student success, the Aspen Prize recognizes institutions with outstanding achievements in four areas: learning; certificate and degree completion; employment and earnings; and high levels of access and success for minority and low-income students.

"We are honored to have received this recognition from the prestigious Aspen Institute," said SMCC President Dr. Steve Bishop. "Our outstanding faculty and staff continue to keep student learning and student experience as top priorities. This recognition is a testament to our top-quality students who attend Southwest."

Southwest Mississippi Community College was selected from a pool of nearly 1,000 public two-year colleges nationwide using publicly available data on student outcomes. The top ten finalists for the 2019 Aspen Prize will be named in May 2018. For a full list of the top 150 eligible institutions this year and information on the selection process, visit www.highered.aspeninstitute.org/aspen-prize.

Exciting times at Southwest: be part of it

By Kimi Jeanson,
Editor

Southwest campus is always bustling with activity. *The Whispering Pines* staff are working diligently finishing the year-book. The Baptist Student Union members are gearing up to take their annual Mission Trip during Spring Break. They are very excited to share the gospel in New York. The Student Government Association is prepping for the Mardi Gras with the Krewe of King Charlie on February, 13th. The Phi Theta Kappa Induction ceremony is held February 28th at 2:30pm at the Workforce Training Center. This program will induct the PTK members who joined in Fall 2017 and Spring 2018 membership drive.

The athletic department is booming. The basketball teams have been doing extremely well this year. Baseball and softball are about to pick up again. Sports are a huge part of the community on campus. Students, faculty, and staff love to attend the games. The stands are always packed with loyal fans who support the team even at away games. Students are excited to be a part of the everyday fun at Southwest; and as always it's a great day to be a bear!

The Pine Burr

Editor.....Kimi Jeanson

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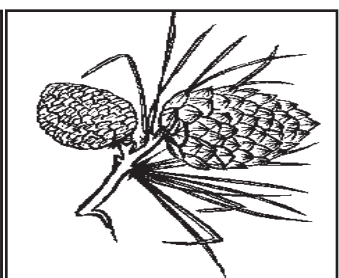
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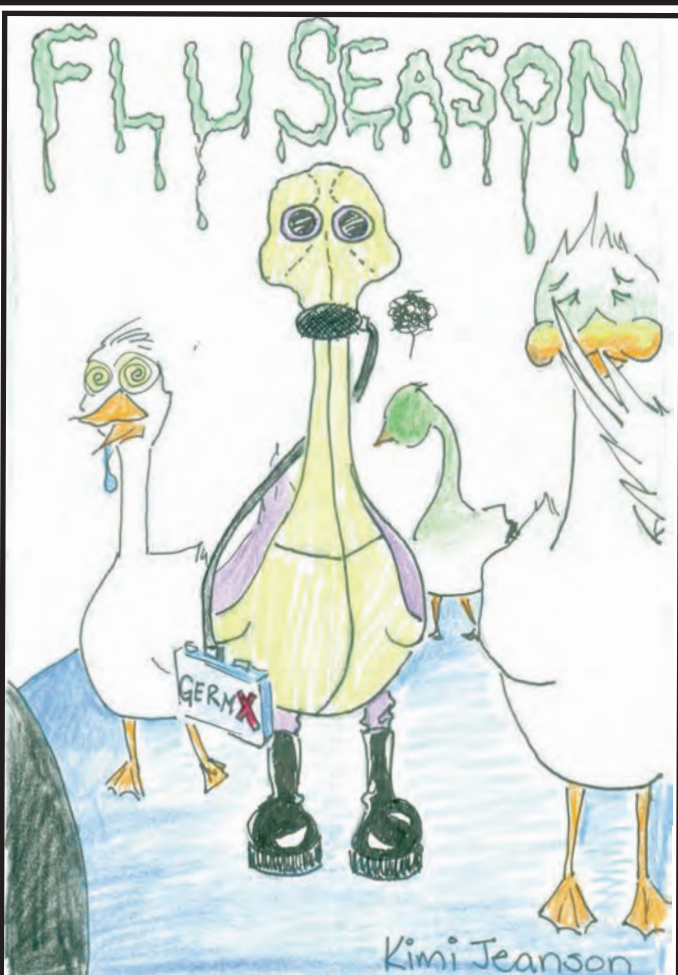
Southwest Mississippi Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, or disability in its programs, activities or employment practices. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries and grievances regarding the non-discrimination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



Quote of the Month

“Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless.”

--Mother Teresa



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, 2017. An additional email will be sent to your email account at 9:00 AM (September 26, 2017) with your login information. It's basically the same email that was sent on August 31, 2017. 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 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 President

My fellow students,

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a fantastic Christmas break and the winter break that followed! The Student Government Association is getting a head start on planning activities for the semester. Be sure to join us for Cupcakes and Cards in the cafeteria on January 6th at 6 p.m. Students will have the opportunity to eat cupcakes and decorate Valentine's Day cards for patients at Blair E. Batson hospital. Take a break and attend the Thursday, February 8th basketball game against Meridian. It will be this season's pink game, so SGA and the Women's basketball team will be giving out FREE t-shirts.

We'll also celebrate Mardi Gras with the Krewe of King Charlie parade on Tuesday, February 13th. The parade will begin at 12:15 p.m. and roll down College Drive and end in front of SMCC Student Union. Continue checking your student email and the Pine Burr to keep up-to-date on future events that SGA hosts. Best wishes to everyone for a great semester!

Alexcia Carr,
SGA President



Alexcia Carr

Editorial: Enjoy learning



Editorial
By Kimi Jeanson,
Editor

Welcome! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break and an exciting New Years. The start of a new year means the promise of many new year's resolutions. Whether it is a commitment to lose that stubborn muffin top or

simply to have a more positive attitude, it is imperative to set goals in life and hold yourself accountable. Often, we tend to forget or give up on our ambitions because they seem unattainable. However, almost anything can be attainable through hard work and a little planning. Keeping a running list of ideas, thoughts, and aspirations will help put your ideas into action. If you really want to do something or go somewhere, research about it and find out how to make it happen. After researching further, write your plans down so you can keep track of your progress. Writer Orison

Swett Marden said, "Don't wait for extraordinary opportunities. Seize common occasions and make them great. Weak men wait for opportunities; strong men make them."

This semester is the end for some and only the beginning for others. Classes are picking up quickly; daily life in general can become mundane and rushed. Sometimes, it is nice to kick back and relax. Even with a busy schedule, it is possible take time for yourself to rejuvenate and to have a good laugh about life with friends or family. Enjoy your time learning and experiencing col-

lege. Beloved scientist and savior of everyone's grade school science classes, Bill Nye, once said, "The more you find out about the world, the more opportunities there are to laugh at it." If you don't find ways to positively learn, you'll spend the semester sulking through the hallways and dragging yourself to class. As the next fourteen weeks go by, focus on learning and laugh at the little things you discover about yourself and the world every chance you get. You might just find that you develop a more positive outlook and really appreciate the world around you.

Five states in two weeks

By Kimi Jeanson,
Editor

Travelling is a phenomenal experience. Whether you are more of a city or rural person, there are destinations across the U.S. that are hidden treasures. Over the Christmas Break, I had the opportunity to road trip and visit five different states in two weeks with my friend, Kelsi. We stayed in Alabama, North Carolina, Virginia, Georgia, and drove through part of Tennessee. We made a pit stop in Alabama to watch an acapella band called Home Free perform at a local theater. They were the Sing Off Show's Season 4 winners. Their show was absolutely amazing! The next morning, we made the long trek to North Carolina where we stayed at my grandmother's

house for Christmas.

After the holidays, we explored the beautiful Smoky Mountain National Park and toured through the Cherokee reservation. For those of you who love the outdoors, State and National Parks are one of the best and cheapest ways to sleep and sightsee in fantastic areas. We hiked partially down the Appalachian Trail in the icy snow and ran back up to take pictures of the sunset over the mountain range. Since Gatlinburg lies just beyond the Tennessee State line, we decided to drive down the Smokys and to walk amongst the shops and fun recreational activities. Despite the recent fires, the city appeared busy as always. Streets were filled with unique exhibits and delicious candy stores. There was so much to do, however, we sadly

had to return to North Carolina at the end of the night.

On our way back, there was a small collection of cars on the side of the road in the National Park. It is common for sightseers to park alongside random places along the road to see animals or beautiful sights. Curious, we parked and asked what was going on. The passengers of the other car had spotted a bear at the top of the hill poking his head in and out of his cave. The sun was almost down but you could still see the furry mass peeking down at us in the distance. After observing for a few minutes, we resumed our drive. It was getting late and we were trying to stay alert when an elk darted across the road right in front of our car. Startled and amazed, we watched it disappear into the trees. Both animal

encounters were brief but memorable. Outside of a zoo, I have never see either animal in the wild. It was an almost indescribable incident.

The next day we packed and prepared for Virginia. Staying at my aunt and uncle's house, we visited with family and they showed us the cool vintage shops and restaurants around Charlottesville. As our trip came to a close, we made the exhausting trip all the way to Atlanta, Georgia, to stay for the night with family friends; and the next morning, Kelsi made the harrowing drive back to Mississippi while I stayed in Atlanta until the Passion 2018 Conference on New Year's Day. Passion 2018 was an awesome end to an extraordinary trip. It was a refreshing start to a hopefully great new year.

Cooks earns nursing scholarship



Southwest Mississippi Community College Associate Degree Nursing student Rudy S. Cooks of Natchez, second from right, recently received the fall 2017 Mississippi Nurses Foundation's Emma Burdonne Young School of Nursing Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded to a Southwest ADN student who has exhibited leadership, scholarship and community involvement. Also pictured are, from left, Mississippi Nurses Foundation Executive Director Rosalyn Howard, SMCC Director of Nursing Dr. Melissa Temple and SMCC Associate Degree Nursing instructor Cathy Andrews.



Goose likes the view.

photo by Noah Martin

Flurry fashion

By Liza Nettles and Elizabeth Foster, staff writers

Going back to school after Christmas Break is like the first week of classes all over again. The winter weather can impact what you wear when you get back to campus. Finding the balance between fashionable and comfortable can start the semester off better. The cold weather has definitely thrown SMCC for a loop with all of the snow and ice we have had lately. The temperatures do not necessarily mean you have to wear unflattering clothing and ruin your first weeks of classes. Luckily, dressing in layers has become fashionable over the years. According to college fashion.net, dressing in pajamas is a recipe for disaster. You will not stay awake during class, but, with that being said, you do not have to dress uncomfortably just to get through the winter day. So bring out your Uggs and your layers! In college, you can wear the same comfortable, layered outfit for days in a row and no one will judge you, especially not on the loving campus of Southwest. I love pairing vests with flannel or striped shirts during this weather. They have now made multiple colored and patterned jogger pants that you could dress up or dress down to accommodate your style. Layering allows you to adjust to different temperatures in different buildings while still showing your individuality. So, how will you dress during this SMCC "winter storm"?

Kingdom Hearts series

By Nick Muller, staff writer

Kingdom Hearts is a game that combines both Disney and Final Fantasy. It is an action role-playing game that travels from Disney world to Disney world trying to defeat the darkness that is trying to take over and destroy the worlds. Get ready to explore a game where you hack, slash, cast magic, and use abilities in order to keep the balance of light and darkness in check.

The Kingdom Hearts Series is a game that I have always loved ever since I was a young child. In this story, you play as Sora, the main protagonist. Starting at his home of Destiny Island, you are introduced to his two childhood friends, Riku and Kairi. One day, an abnormal storm hits the island and consumes it in darkness. After waking up in another world armed with his only weapon, the Keyblade, the weapon that can vanquish and lock away the darkness, Sora sets off to look for his lost friends.

Throughout the series, the gameplay has some minor and major changes in the way you control the main character. However, while it may change, the basic idea is that the game is designed for you to be able to run around and defeat the main enemy, the Heartless. In order to accomplish this, you may use a large variety of keyblades that you obtain throughout the story to beat them into oblivion. Another way to defeat them is with the magic. Along the story, Sora obtains different spells such as fire, blizzard, thunder, and many more; all of which can be upgraded and made more powerful. This game is one where the player will have to level up in order to gather more strength, health, and magic. And, if you do not level up, the final boss will be much more difficult to beat.

This game has a total number of around nine or ten game in the series, all of which are able to be obtained with the most recent Kingdom Hearts 1.5, 2.5, and 2.8 remakes for the playstation 4. And with the excitement with the newest edition be released this year, people are going out and purchasing the games even as we speak, so why don't you join them?

Bear Trackers lead the way



Bear Trackers 2017-2018: Pat Young, Advisor and SMCC Director of Academic Counseling and Recruitment; Renner Rallos, Kaitlyn McCarlie, Leanne Fuqua, Desmiuna Gayden, Emma Claire Dunaway, Valerie Dixon, Brooke Smith, Kelsi Goudeau, Alexcia Carr-President, Mandy Byrd, Angel Holmes, Taylor Thornton, Staceyona Dillon, Aleigh Flynn, Anna Morgan Smith, Kiara Quinn, Bailey Norman, and Karinlee Brister, Advisor and SMCC Academic Recruiter; second row: Austin Wall, Loryn Hollis, Olivia Dickerson, Zoe Miller, Lauren Wroten, Katherine McDowell, Shinah Moore, Brooke Wells, Anna Aucoin, Anna Klaire Dorr, Shelby Siebert, Rebekah Frank, Ashley Vanegas, and Tyler Penalber; third row: Ryan Ivey, Nicholas Lanehart, Corey Dillon, Michael Wilson, William Kelly, Robert Brown, Edward Howard, Andrew Garner, Myles Kendrick, and Aaron Buckley



Cheerleaders ring bells: Southwest Mississippi Community College Cheerleaders Latreall Smith of Brookhaven, Aleigh Flynn of Harrisville, Alleon Thigpen of Liberty, Mascot- Tanner Coon of Summit get in the holiday spirit ringing the Salvation Army bell with American Legion Commander Ernie Carroll outside of Walmart in McComb.



PTK Honors in Action: Southwest Mississippi Community College's Phi Theta Kappa, Omicron Delta Chapter, recently hosted its Honors in Action Project, "Thoughts 2 Art." Phi Theta Kappa's Honors in Action is designed to engage students in informed action that fosters student success and helps to provide college students opportunities to grow as scholars and leaders. SMCC's Omicron Delta Chapter studied the theme Individualism and Collectivism. Through their study, students found that psychologically students enjoy being around other students but enjoy using their creativity individually. PTK students' "Thoughts 2 Art" project incorporated students working collaboratively while individually completing art.



PBL officers 2017-2018: Kasie Boyd, treasurer; Crystal Isaac, secretary; Kwatavia Robertson, parliamentarian; Kassi Dickerson, reporter; Kasey Leggett, president Not pictured is Dr. Kim Henning, advisor

Find your own voice, read

By Decorio Wedig, staff writer

The very first time that my mom's quote "Find your own voice, read!" was introduced to me was when I was attending middle school; I believe I was in 8th grade to be exact. My mom, who was my teacher at the time, said to me, "Find your own voice, read!" but over my head it went! I had no idea what she was implying. The message that my mom tried to convey to me, years ago now, was to understand that true power is knowledge. At that period of my life, I believed that reading, and anything to do with education was a waste of my time, but ironically, I knew that I needed it. Today, I chuckle a bit while shaking my head because of how clear the message was and still is. Also, when I discovered this power on my road to success, once embraced, it will never be taken from me. The process to finding my own voice has not always been easy. I was not able to communicate efficiently after an early age. I soon realized that I had a speech impediment. Often, I would speed through words, make up my own words, and, most times, I just could not complete a simple sentence. I struggled with the English language for as long as I can remember. Honestly, it has taken me years to be comfortable with reading; and I have yet to reach my full potential. I only wish that I could reach the ones who walk a similar path, so that I can convey this message. I would help them to understand that reading can be abstract, almost a sense of freedom, as well as perception. Reading helps to free our self from the prison we often create. I would also include that reading is like any other process that we go through. It is constant

Student spotlight: Aleksa Dobrijevic

By Jonathan Scott, co-editor

Aleksa Dobrijevic is a freshman at Southwest. He majors in Engineering and is also a member of the basketball team. Basketball is an important part of his life and he has played it for eleven years. He started playing the sport at a young age because he always liked basketball and thought that his tall stature would help him be good at it.

Dobrijevic is originally from Belgrade, the capital city of Serbia. According to Dobrijevic, basketball and college are separate in Serbia, and it is difficult to achieve success simultaneously on the court and in the classroom. He moved to Kansas in his senior year of high school so that he could prepare to play basketball on the collegiate level. A former coach of Dobrijevic's knew Thomas Gray, the head coach of Southwest's Basketball team, which ultimately led to him being a member of the team. Being a student at Southwest and playing for the basketball team has had a very positive impact on him, and is an experience he was grateful to have.

"I like the people around here. Everyone is nice to me," Dobrijevic said. "I like to see the gym packed almost every game. I like the basketball program and coaching staff."

A passionate drive for basketball has carried Dobrijevic through his life, and he wants that drive to continue. In the future, he hopes to continue basketball and go on to play professionally in Europe. In addition to basketball, his other hobbies include playing soccer, and watching movies.



Gregory named VP of Student Affairs

By Lakeadra Coffey
Enterprise Journal

Southwest Mississippi Community College's new Vice President for Student Affairs is settling into the job.

Dr. Brent Gregory said he's adjusting well to the environment and, being a self-described country boy, called Southwest a perfect fit for him.

President Dr. Steve Bishop said Gregory is living on campus while his family continues to live in the Mississippi Delta for now.

"I have two children, McKinley and Claire, and we didn't want to move them in the middle of the semester, so we'll be back and forth until the semester ends," he said.

Bishop said Gregory's wife Christie is a teacher at Mississippi Delta Community College and is completing her contract before joining her husband in Summit.

Gregory, who is originally from Nanih Waiya in north Mississippi, is a product of the community college system.

He said that all of his experience prepared him for the job he has now and he looks forward to finishing out his career at Southwest.

Gregory, a graduate of East Central Community College in Decatur, the University of Southern Mississippi and Mississippi State University, worked for East Central for 10 years. "I was the director of student housing, which part of what I do now and I taught economics. I'll teach economics here online," he said. He then spent eight years at Mississippi Delta Community College as the vice president of enrollment management. He said that he's known Bishop for many years and he's honored to be able to work under him. "I look forward to working with each of you," he said.

SMCC training program for ship-building on coast

By Clay Russell
Enterprise Journal

McComb Mayor Whitney Rawlings announced Wednesday a new partnership between Southwest Mississippi Community College and Ingalls Shipbuilding in Pascagoula Promising well-paying jobs on the Coast after only a 12-week training program at Southwest.

Rawlings said and Ingalls representative had visited him and shared the news that Ingalls, with 11,500 employees, seek to expand its work force to 15,000.

Ingalls Shipbuilding is the state's largest industrial employer, producing a variety of vessels for the U.S. Navy and Coast Guard. Rawlings enthusiastically touted the new training program's short length and lucrative compensation and benefits guaranteed upon completion. "They've got a document that says you can go to work at Ingalls the next day at \$17.19 per hour, with a full, complete benefit package, plus a signing bonus to help you get set up in your apartment," he said. "With another six weeks of training you're coming out as a ship fitter, and in 2 1/2 years you can be at \$27 an hour." Rawlings said the Ingalls representative had told him the company has a \$22 billion backlog of government work.

Although the new partnership is designed to lure skilled workers away from Pike County, Rawlings set its desirable in the context of the area's unemployment. "We've got 750 unemployed people here in Pike County, and it's an opportunity for some of them right here," he said. "The training program is in Pike County, so they're going to be happy. They've got a certified instructor ready to go, and it's an incredible package there for young men and women looking for work."

Practical nursing students prepare



Practical Nursing students 2017-2018: Maranda Morgan, Arswanakee Magee, Amber Dunaway, Mariah Butler, Ember Patterson, Audrionna Odell, Deonia' Gibson, Brenda Wilson, Practical Nursing instructor; second row: Kaley Rowell, Caitlin Loftin, LeChaka Jones, Veronica Ross, Gabrielle Thomas, OrQuedia Harper, Shakira McBride, Anna Grace Cupit, Ashley Dunaway, Kelsey Wilkinson, Candace Weathers; third row: Joneshia Johnson, Sheridan Foil, Afton Carter, Amanda Hodges, LaKeisha Smith, Kenisha Coffie, Caitlyn Whatley; fourth row: Joice McGowan, Practical Nursing instructor; LaKisha Williams, Shamelia Smith, Jasmine Chatman, Breanna Woodard, Morgan Windham, Gregniquia Byrd, Kyra McKnight Not pictured are Barbara Olander, Director of Practical Nursing Program; and Stephanie Busbin, adjunct instructor photo by Joyce Mabry



Nurse Assistant and Health Care Students 2017-2018:The SMCC Nurse Assistant /Health Care Assistant Course completed its thirty-fifth semester as a regular 16 hour Career Technical Course. Ten students finished the course this semester under the direction of SMCC instructor Mrs. Tangelia Edwards, RN, BSN. 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, GED, or enrolled in the MI Best program. 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. Front row L to R: Olivia Dillon, Walthall Co.: TaShora Holmes, Walthall Co.: Robbey Greer, Pike Co.: Whitney Howell, Pike Co.: Racheal Moore, Pike Co., SMCC CNA Instructor Mrs. Tangelia Edwards, RN, BSN photo by Amy Gazzo



Cheerleaders ring bells: Southwest Mississippi Community College Cheerleaders Emma Walls of Centreville, Will Fauver of Bogue Chitto, Hannah Owen of Summit, Anna Morgan Smith of Brookhaven, Jay Palen of McComb, and Kelsey Hedgepeth of Jayess get in the holiday spirit ringing the Salvation Army bell outside of Walmart in McComb.



Workforce serves community: Carolina Williams, ABE-GED Director; Loran Gerald, Workforce Training Coordinator; Savina Falvey, Workforce Training Coordinator; Michael Clements, Workforce Industrial Training Coordinator; Dr. Wendy Smith, Workforce Director; Shree Montgomery, ABE Transition Specialist; Janice McKellar, Workforce Training Specialist/Mi-Best Director; Beverly Johnson, Mi-Best College Navigator; Not pictured: Gina Stutzman, Workforce Secretary and Cindy Bennett, Educational Recovery Specialist photo by Joyce Mabry

SMCC's IST program begins work with the United States Air Force

Members of the AETO and the TTOC (education departments of the United States Air Force) met with officials of Southwest's Information Systems Technology Program (Brian Miller, Jeremy Smith and Dr. Addie Boone) to talk about cooperation leading to the upgrade and advancement of the USAF technical education programs and incredible learning opportunities for Career Technical students going into the computer networking fields.

AEThe Air Force TTOC trains approximately 20,000 cadets and Airmen, Navy, Army, Marines and various other entities in computer science and technical studies every day. The TTOC is a hub for technological training while the AETO is the division that brings innovation in training to the Air Force.

Dr. Brian Davis, Deputy Director, 2 AF/TTOC contacted Mr. Miller and Mr. Smith mid 2017 when the Commander of the TTOC (technical training operational command), Col. John Destazio informed the Deputy Director to get in contact with Southwest's Information Systems Technology representatives to begin discussions leading to the advancement of AF technical programs.

Air Force officials arrived for their first conference in October 2017 and talks began on a range of issues from modern training, rapid learning techniques, hybrid classrooms, millennial learners to innovative instruction, classroom etiquette, instructional philosophies and many others. IST representatives answered questions for the better part of the morning and found USAF officials were interested in many aspects of the IST program and our cooperation with technical partners, especially a program branch of USC's (University of Southern California) Information Sciences Institute that Miller has been working with for several years.

Miller had written a lengthy proposal to several U.S. agencies. USC Cyber Research Division responded. two years earlier. Later that summer Miller and his students were granted access to several large server networks located at USC, Deter lab, UC Berkeley, and UCLA. "We now have access to networks with thousands of servers and various machines with massive computational power," Miller went on to describe the processes to run an "experiment" on these networks which can include normal and malicious network activity. "The data we generate is monitored by researchers and PhD students at the Research Lab. This data is used by researchers to develop new security models and implementations for computer networks, including the internet, with the intent of keeping everyone safer. The project also enables IST students to get hands on access to labs, equipment and participate in real world processes and events.

Miller has also granted permission to the AETO and TTOC to his lab through a dedicated connection in an effort to extend the research platform which includes all of the fore mentioned partner networks.

Students in the IST program at Southwest and students in the Air Force will have some new and incredible opportunities available for learning which will include live joint training exercises on computer networks. Air Force TTOC and AETO officials requested copies of Millers complete IST curriculum, including training tools, teaching formats, instructional philosophies, with the intent of adapting content to their respective programs.



Bears and Lady Bears win with a purpose



By Michael D. Gunnell
Southwest Sports Information Director

November 30, 2017

Playing what head coach Brent Harris called his squad's "best effort on the year, the Lady Bears remained unbeaten Thursday night with a 77-57 home win over the Mississippi Delta Lady Trojans. The win moved the Lady Bears to 6-0.

The Lady Bears took their first lead of the night, 7-6, on Danyelle Lewis' three-pointer with 7:22 left in the first quarter. After falling behind 10-9, the Lady Bears outscored the visitors 7-1 and took their biggest lead of the quarter, 16-11, on a Kacie Fountain basket with 3:12 on the clock.

The Lady Trojans (1-6) then outscored the Lady Bears 8-3 the remainder of the quarter to leave the teams deadlocked 19-19 after the first 10:00 of play.

Tootie Carter nailed a short jumper with 8:42 left in the second quarter to give the Lady Bears a 23-19 lead. After seeing the game tied twice in the next 4:00, the Lady Bears scored 16 of the final 26 points of the period. An Amari Pittman bucket with 0:01 on the clock left the Lady Bears their biggest lead of the half, 43-36, at intermission.

The Lady Bears took control of matters in the third quarter. Outscoring the Lady Trojans 8-3 to open the period, they took a 51-39 lead on Lewis' layup with 5:05 on the clock. A 13-2 run to close the quarter then left the Lady Bears with a 66-46 advantage with one quarter remaining.

Both teams scored 11 points in the fourth quarter, but the Lady Bears managed to take their biggest lead of the night, 73-49, on a Jamaya Galloway jumper with 6:47 to play. They then went on to pick up the win by 20 points.

"Out guard play was outstanding," Harris said. "We had to make several adjustments in the first half with many different lineups. Kaci and Jamaya controlled the pace of the game and Danyelle and Amari continued to be efficient scorers."

Pittman topped the Lady Bears' offense with 13 points. Fountain recorded 12 points while Galloway scored 11 and Lewis 10. Rachel Thompson led the Lady Bears on the boards with eight rebounds while Galloway had nine assists. The Lady Bears made 21 of 27 free throws.

The Lady Trojans were led by Alexis Augustus' 13 points. She and her teammates went 3-10 from the free throw line.

Overcoming perhaps their toughest challenge of the young season, the Bears kept their record unblemished Thursday night with a 70-66 win over the visiting Trojans of Mississippi Delta. The Bears now stand at 8-0.

After falling behind early, the Bears took their first lead of the night, 10-8, on a basket by John Knight III with 16:12 left in the half. Continuing a 13-2 run, the built their lead to 17-10 on a pair of TJ Ben free throws with 15:40 on the clock.

The Trojans (5-4) closed the gap to 21-17 less than a minute later before a pair of Antonio Cowart, Jr., free throws put the Bears back up by eight, 25-17, with 14:36 before the end of the half.

A 9-2 run by the Bears late in the half put them on top 41-30 before they took a 43-32 lead into the break.

The game stayed tight in the second half. The Bears took their largest lead of the night, 45-32, on a Ricardo Lynch jumper with 19:32 to go. But, the Trojans battled back to narrow the score to 51-47 midway through the half.

A Jeremy Harrell bucket made the score 58-51 with just under 10:00 to play in the game. After the Trojans cut the Bears' lead to 67-64, Knight nailed a three pointer with under 1:00 to go to seal the deal.

"It was a really tough game," said Bears head man Thomas Gray. "I though Mississippi Delta did a really good job of trying to challenge us off the dribble."

"Our guys had to play one-on-one on an island a lot tonight," Gray continued. "It caused problems (and) we got in foul trouble.

But, fortunately enough the guys were able to pull through and make the stops we needed to down the stretch (and) make shots down the stretch. I thought John played fantastic and really gave us a spark off the bench. I'm glad the guys were able to pull together and pull this one out."

Knight III led all scorers with 19 points in the game. Cowart, Jr., totaled 16 points while Harrell had 11. Roydell Brown picked up 11 rebounds. The Bears hit 13 of 19 free throws.

December 4, 2017

Game one of MACJC South Division play went the way of the East Central Lady Warriors Monday night in Decatur as they handed the Lady Bears their first defeat of the season, 70-61. The loss dropped the Lady Bears to 6-1 overall while East Central moved to 7-0 overall.

The first quarter featured five ties and three lead changes. The Lady Bears took their biggest lead of the period, 14-11, on an Amari Pittman trey with 3:08 on the clock. East Central then six of the final eight points of the quarter to take a 17-16 lead headed to the second quarter.

Quarter number two was much like the first, with three ties and a pair of lead changes. The Lady Bears went up 20-18 on Danyelle Lewis' jumper with 6:58 on the clock before East Central scored eight of the next nine points to go on top 26-21 with 4:04 before halftime.

After the Lady Bears tied the game at 27-27 on a Kacie Fountain free throw, East Central scored the final five points of the quarter to take a 32-27 lead at intermission.

A Peyton Papenburg basket with 8:46 left in the third quarter cut the Lady Bears' deficit to 32-29. Outscoring the Lady Bears 12-7 over the next 6:02, East Central then increased their lead to 48-36, with 2:44 on the clock, before taking a 54-42 lead into the final quarter.

A Keturah Bingham three pointer with 8:15 left in the game cut the East Central lead to 54-45. East Central then outscored the Lady Bears nine to four to take their largest lead of the night, 63-49, with 4:16 to go.

The Lady Bears made a comeback attempt, going on a 9-2 run capped by a Bingham layup with 1:35 to play and trimming the East Central lead to 65-58. But, that would prove to be as close as they would get as East Central held on for the win.

Lewis scored 12 points in the game to lead the Lady Bears' offense while Bingham was also in double figures with 10 points. Fountain recorded five assists. The Lady Bears went 11-19 from the free throw line.

Diamond Wraggs scored 21 points for East Central to lead all scorers. She and her teammates hit 18 of 30 free throws.

The road was unkind to the Bears Monday night as they opened MACJC South Division play with a 93-67 in Decatur to the East Central Warriors. The loss, their initial one of the season, left the Bears 8-1 overall while East Central moved to 5-3.

The first half gave no indication of what was to come as the game was tied four times while the teams swapped leads five times. Roydell Brown nailed a three pointer to give the Bears an early lead. They took their largest lead of the half, 16-10, on a pair of TJ Ben free throws with 14:06 left on the clock.

A 10-0 run by East Central left them with a 20-16 advantage with 12:24 before the break. A pair of Jeremy Harrell buckets served as bookends for a 10-2 run by the Bears that put them ahead 26-22 with 8:30 showing.

The Bears held a 30-28 lead with 5:39 on the clock. East Central then scored 14 of the final 21 points of the half to take a 42-37 lead into the locker room at the end of the half.

A 9-0 run to open the second half left East Central on top 51-37 with 16:24 left in the game. Devon Benson's jumper with 14:58 to go cut the Bears' deficit to 54-45, but that would be as close as they would get the rest of the way. A 17-5 run midway through the second half put East Central on top 71-50 with 9:52 to go. They took their biggest lead of the game, 90-60, with 3:25 left and went on to record the 26-point victory.

Brown had a double-double, with 20 points and 14 rebounds, to lead the Bears. Harrell was also in double figures with 15 points.

The Bears made 17 of 22 free throws.

January 6, 2018

Shaking off the rust of almost a month off, the Lady Bears started the 2018 portion of their season on a winning note Saturday afternoon with a 61-54 road win over Baton Rouge Community College.

BRCC took a 6-2 lead early in the first quarter. The Lady Bears (8-1) then came back to go on top 7-6 on Danyelle Lewis' three pointer with 3:18 on the clock. Back-to-back buckets from Aliyah Cooper then left the hosts with a 10-7 lead at the end of the quarter.

The teams traded baskets through most of the second quarter. A Jamaya Galloway layup left the Lady Bears with a 10-9 lead with 9:46 before the half. Lewis' jumper with 5:28 on the clock gave the Lady Bears their largest lead of the half, 16-12.

On the strength of free throws from Tremeeka Spikes and Celica Sterling put BRCC in the lead, 26-23, with time winding down in the half. A long-range jumper from Kacie Fountain, with 0:01 on the clock, sent the teams into their respective locker rooms tied at 26-all at intermission.

With the score tied at 30-30 early in third quarter, BRCC (2-10) scored six straight to go up 36-30 with 5:27 on the clock. The hosts took their largest lead of the game, 46-38, with 1:31 before the end of the quarter and they carried a 46-40 advantage into the final quarter.

The final quarter belonged to the Lady Bears. Trailing 48-40, with 8:03 remaining in the game, the Lady Bears outscored BRCC 15-6 over the next 6:45 and took the lead for good, 55-54, on Nia Henderson's layup with 1:18 to go. Galloway and Lewis combined to go 6-1 from the free throw line down the stretch to seal the win.

Galloway topped the Lady Bears with 16 points. Lewis was also in double figures, with 15 points, as was Fountain, with 12. The Lady Bears made 16 of 24 free throws.

BRCC's Kayla Watson led all scorers with 20 points. She and her teammates went 8-1 from the free throw line.

January 8, 2018

With four players scoring in double figures, the Lady Bears ran their record to 9-1 Monday night as they defeated the host Mississippi Delta Lady Trojans 71-59 in Moorhead.

Things looked bleak for the Lady Bears in the early going as the Lady Trojans raced out to a 14-5 lead with 3:43 left in the first quarter. The Lady Bears then scored six of the final nine points of the quarter to reduce their deficit to 19-11 at the end of the quarter.

With the Lady Bears trailing 26-16, a pair of Rachel Thompson buckets served as bookends to a 13-2 run by the Lady Bears that saw them take their first lead of the night, 29-28, with 4:38 to play in the second quarter.

After seeing the Lady Trojans (1-7) regain the lead at 35-30, the Lady Bears scored eight straight, knotting the game at 35-35 on a Nia Henderson layup with 1:01 on the clock. A long-range jumper by Amari Pittman with 0:10 on the clock then sent the Lady Bears into the locker room with a 38-35 halftime advantage.

After falling behind 40-38 early in the third quarter, the Lady Bears outscored the Lady Trojans 5-2 and took the lead for good, 43-42, on a pair of Henderson free throws with 5:10 on the clock. Thompson then nailed two charity shots with 0:08 showing to leave the Lady Bears with a 54-47 lead with one quarter left to play.

The Lady Bears scored the first 10 points of the fourth quarter. Henderson's layup with 3:11 still to play gave the Lady Bears their biggest lead of the night, 66-50.

After the Lady Trojans cut the Lady Bears' lead to 66-57 with 1:16 to go, Danyelle Lewis drilled a jumper to put the Lady Bears' lead back to double figures, 68-57, with 0:53 to go. They then went on to claim the 12-point win.

Thompson led all scorers with 18 points in leading the Lady Bears to the win while Lewis ended the night with 13 points. Henderson netted 11 points in the game while Pittman finished with 10. The Lady Bears made 24 of 35 free throws.

Alexis Augustus scored 12 points to lead the Lady Trojans.

She and her teammates were 7-13 from the free throw line.

Roydell Brown's layup with 0:25 on the clock proved to be the difference Monday night as the Bears squeaked by the Mississippi Delta Trojans, 61-60, in Moorhead to open the 2018 portion of their schedule. With the win, the Bears moved to 9-1 on the season.

The Trojans raced out to a 9-2 lead early in the contest. Sparked by an Alex Dobrijevic three pointer, the Bears then went on a 10-0 run to take a 12-9 lead with 12:36 left in the first half. A Howard Smith trey, with 10:52 on the clock, then extended the Bears' advantage to 19-13.

Outscoring the Bears 9-3 over the next 5:46, the Trojans knotted the score at 22-all with 7:06 left before the half. The Trojans then went on a 9-1 run over the final 4:29 of the half to take a 36-29 lead at intermission.

Starting with a Roydell Brown free throw and ending with a Brown jumper, the Bears opened the second half on a 14-3 run to move out to a 43-39 lead with 12:10 remaining in the game. After seeing the Trojans (5-6) tie the game at 43-43, the Bears outscored their hosts 13-4 and went up 56-47 on an old-fashioned three-point play by John Knight III with 6:43 on the clock.

Unwilling to go quietly into the night, the Trojans then went on a run of their own, 11-2, to tie the game at 58-58 with 3:32 to go. They then took a 60-59 lead, with 1:08 to go, before Brown found the bottom of the net to give the Bears the close victory.

Brown ended the night with 24 points and 13 rebounds, his third double-double of the season while Knight III was also in double figures with 10 points. The Bears made 11 of 18 free throws.

January 11, 2018

The Lady Bears picked up an important MACJC South Division win Thursday night as they defeated the visiting Pearl River Lady Wildcats 59-49 before a capacity home crowd.

With the win, the Lady Bears moved to 10-1 overall and 1-1 in the South. Pearl River dropped to 4-3, 0-2.

The Lady Bears took an early 4-0 lead before seeing the Lady Wildcats come back to take a 9-7 lead with 4:02 left in the opening quarter. Jamaya Galloway then nailed a three pointer with 3:10 on the clock to put the Lady Bears up 10-9; they carried that same lead into the second quarter.

The teams traded baskets in the early going of the second quarter before the Lady Wildcats went up 17-16 with 3:43 left before the half. Led by a Rachel Thompson layup, the Lady Bears then went on a 12-4 run to close the half and took a 28-21 advantage into the locker room at intermission.

A long-range bucket from Kacie Fountain gave the Lady Bears their largest lead of the night, 35-24, with 4:56 remaining in the third quarter. But, the Lady Wildcats showed they still had some fight left as they went on an 11-2 run to end the third quarter and narrow the Lady Bears' lead to 37-35 with one quarter still to play.

The teams again traded baskets to open the final quarter and, with 5:49 on the clock, found themselves deadlocked at 47-47. The Lady Bears then caught their second wind as a pair of Thompson jumper served as bookends to a 10-2 run to close out the game and give the Lady Bears the 10-point victory.

"First of all, thank you to our fans for providing a great atmosphere," said Lady Bears head coach Brent Harris after the game. "That was a tough division win. Pearl River is very talented and athletic."

"We grew up a little bit tonight," Harris continued. "Rachel Thompson was so good tonight in every category."

Thompson went 5-8 from the field and 9-11 from the free throw line to lead all scorers in the game with 19 points. She also pulled down eight rebounds. Fountain registered 10 assists. The Lady Bears combined to make 13 of 19 free throws.

The Lady Wildcats were led by Tyasia Willis' 16 points. She and her teammates made four of six free throws.

Leaving the standing room only crowd of fans and foes alike in disbelief, the Bears staged a comeback of epic proportions Thursday night as they overcame a 34-point deficit, with 16:16 to

play in the game, to stun the visiting Pearl River Wildcats 81-74 in MACJC South Division action.

The win moved the Bears to 10-1 overall and 1-1 in the South. Pearl River fell to 9-1 and 1-1.

The first half belonged to the visitors as they took an early 5-0 lead. An Aleksa Dobrijevic layup with 15:18 closed the gap to 9-8. Pearl River then took over all phases of the game, outscoring the Bears 37-11 the rest of the half to take a 46-19 lead at the end of the half.

Little seemed to have changed as the second half got underway as Pearl River outscored the Bears 14-7 to extend their lead to 60-26 with 16:16 left to play.

It was then that "something" happened. Starting with a free throw from Antonio Cowart, Jr., and ending with a Dobrijevic trey, the Bears scored eight straight to close to within 60-35 with 14:28 to play.

After a Pearl River free throw, the Bears began to roar in major fashion. Starting with an old-fashioned three-point play by Roydell Brown and ending with a Cowart, Jr., three-point field goal, the Bears went on a 19-0 tear to pull to within seven points, 61-54, with 11:13 on the clock.

Pearl River then scored the next four points to move extend their lead to 65-54 with 8:18 to go.

Three field goals from Brown and a John Knight III jumper then narrowed the Bears' deficit to 65-62 with 5:45.

Pearl River then scored six of the next eight points to take a 71-64 lead with 4:09 still to play.

It was then the Bears' momentum kicked into overdrive. A Jeremy Harrell started the home team on a 12-0 run. Back-to-back baskets from Cowart, Jr., gave the Bears a 73-71 lead with 3:18 left and he added another, with 1:17 to go, to make the score 75-71.

A Jerrod Rigby three pointer pulled Pearl River to within a pair, 76-74, with 0:58 on the clock. But, the Bears would not be denied with Knight III scoring the final five points of the game to give the Bears the unbelievable seven-point victory.

Immediately after the game, Bears head coach Thomas Gray said he was "at a loss for words." But, finding the words, he said, "I believe through the game of basketball tonight, we learned that no matter what you're up against in life that God has a plan."

"This was bigger than basketball tonight, I'll be honest," Gray continued. "Everybody's saying it's one of the most amazing things they've seen in sports and it was. But, there was obviously an architect behind it."

Brown scored 26 points for the Bears to top all scorers. Cowart, Jr., followed with 21 points while Knight III netted 16. The Bears hit 14 of 23 free throws.

January 22, 2018

Before the largest home crowd of the season, the Lady Bears made sure everyone got their money's worth and more as they defeated their arch-rivals, Co-Lin, 64-62 in overtime.

With the win, the Lady Bears moved to 11-3 overall and 2-3 in the MACJC South. Co-Lin dropped to 12-2 and 3-2.

The first quarter was a back and forth affair with four lead changes and one tie. The Lady Bears took their biggest lead of the half, 8-3, on a Rachel Thompson bucket with 7:00 on the clock. Co-Lin then scored seven of the next eight points to go up 10-9 with 3:42 on the clock and they held a 15-13 advantage at the end of the quarter.

Trailing 19-15 early in the second quarter, Kacie Fountain and Nia Henderson combined to score eight straight for the Lady Bears to give them a 23-19 lead with 6:31 before the half. Co-Lin then went on an 11-2 run to take their largest lead of the half, 30-25, with 2:13 on the clock.

The Lady Bears then used jumpers from Thompson and Danyelle Lewis to pull to within a point, 30-29, at the end of the half.

Outscoring Co-Lin 10-0 to open the third quarter, the Lady Bears went up 42-31 with 5:04 on the clock. With the home fans roaring with excitement, the Lady Bears then took their largest lead of the night, 56-38, on an Amari Pittman layup, with 0:20 on the showing, and carried that lead into the fourth quarter.

Co-Lin rallied in the fourth quarter, outscoring the Lady Bears 20-2, to tie the game at 58-58 to force the extra play.

After Co-Lin scored the first two points of the extra frame, the Lady Bears used a Thompson free throw and Jamaya Galloway jumper to take a 62-60 lead with 1:16 on the clock.

Co-Lin knotted the game at 62-62 with 1:02 remaining. With 0:14 on the clock, Galloway laid the ball in the net to give the Lady Bears their two-point lead. A missed Co-Lin shot at the buzzer then sealed the deal for the Lady Bears.

"I was really proud of our effort tonight," said Lady Bears head coach Brent Harris, "and our focus in some very intense situations."

"Kacie had a great night distributing the basketball," Harris continued. "Rachel's energy was incredible, Danyelle hit some clutch shots and Jamaya hit a big shot at the end."

Lewis had 18 points to lead all scorers in the game. Thompson recorded a double-double, with 14 points and 11 rebounds. Fountain registered 10 assists. The Lady Bears went 6-11 from the free throw line.

January 25, 2018

An Amari Pittman three pointer tied the game with 0:19 on the clock and a subsequent layup and free throws by Danyelle Lewis helped the Lady Bears get their second straight one-point MACJC South Division victory as they defeated the host Hinds Lady Bulldogs 61-60 Thursday night in Utica.

With the win, the Lady Bears moved to 12-3 on the season and 3-3 in the South. Hinds dropped to 11-4, 2-4.

The Lady Bears took an early 2-0 lead in the game before Hinds came back to lead 9-4 with 4:14 on the clock. The first of Pittman's five treys in the game, and a Mylicia Harness free throw, then pulled the Lady Bears to within 9-8 at the end of the quarter.

A 10-2 run to open the second quarter extended the Hinds lead to 19-10 with 5:53 left before the half. The Lady Bears then scored 15 of the final 22 points of the quarter and pulled to within 26-25 at intermission.

A Keturah Bingham three, with 7:51 left in the third quarter, put the Lady Bears on top for the second time in the game, 32-30. Hinds then scored eight straight to regain the lead, 40-34, with 5:22 on the clock. The teams traded baskets the rest of the quarter before Rachel Thompson's jumper late in the quarter cut the Lady Bears' deficit to 47-43 with one quarter remaining.

Hinds led for most of the fourth quarter. The Lady Bears trailed by three with time running out before Pittman nailed her final long-range jumper to knot the game at 57-57. Lewis then laid the ball in the basket with 0:07 on the clock and added a pair of free throws following a Hinds technical foul to put the Lady Bears up 61-57. A last-second three pointer by Hinds left the Lady Bears with their margin of victory.

"Amari made some shots, and it's obvious she made a big one at the end," said Lady Bears head coach Brent Harris. "But, it's our toughness, our willingness to communicate of defense that's made us better lately. So, I'm proud of that."

"We played a ton of different defenses (tonight)," Harris continued, "and each time we changed we made it work for us. So, hopefully we're getting better. But, it would be nice to have a little cushion and win one by more than one or two points."

Thompson led the Lady Bears to the win with 17 points. Pittman went 5-7 from three-point range to finish with 15 points while Lewis recorded 11 points. Bingham led the Lady Bears on the boards with nine rebounds while Kacie Fountain had six assists. The Lady Bears made 13 of 19 free throws.

It was another tough night for the Bears as they dropped their second game, this time 97-91 on the road to the Hinds Bulldogs in MACJC South Division action.

The Bears led the entire first half. An Antonio Cowart, Jr., layup, with 14:50 on the clock, left them on top 18-12 and a Roydell Brown trey with 13:12 before the half left put them on top 25-17. Jeremy Harrell's layup started the Bears (12-3, 3-3) on an 8-0 run late in the half that resulted in their biggest lead of the first half, 46-34, with 3:41 showing. Hinds scored eight of the final 10 points of the half to pull to within 48-42.

Welcome new Pine Burr members

Terrion Bell is a sophomore at Southwest Mississippi Community College, where he majors in Physical Education. He is nineteen-year-old son of Shanae Cooley. He enjoys to pass time by playing basketball. He wished he could have continued to play basketball in college. However, it did not turn out how he had planned. After his high school closed his junior year, he attended a high school in Columbia where he was not really known and everything changed. He never gave up on sports because he did not want to let his mother down. He plans to graduate in May 2018. He plans to transfer to Southeastern where he will finish his degree in physical education to be a coach.

Noah Martin is an eighteen-year-old sophomore at Southwest Mississippi Community College from Wesson, Mississippi. He attended K-12 at Wesson Attendance Center and graduated there in 2017. From an early age, Noah was interested in various art forms and was particularly intrigued by music, developing a taste for artists like Eric Clapton and Elvis Presley. In fifth grade, Noah began teaching himself to play the guitar, and by seventh grade, he had fallen in love with music production. From seventh grade throughout high school, Noah learned everything he could about music production software, music theory, and the art of recording and mixing music. In tenth grade, Noah began taking piano lessons and excelled very quickly. In his junior and year, he began playing numerous gigs with numerous groups of musicians. When he began attending Southwest, he started to become more interested in visual arts, especially photography, and for the past five months, he has been grasping at each learning opportunity that has presented itself. Now beginning his second semester, Noah is focusing both on sharpening his piano skills and on becoming a better photographer. He has started taking photos for the school and is also part of the SMCC Band Production Crew. Noah plans to attend USM next year in order to obtain a bachelor's degree in Entertainment Industry Studies with an emphasis in Audio Engineering and a minor in business.

Charlie-Anne Steen is the daughter of Gary and Sheila Steen. She is eighteen years old. She graduated from Jubilee Performing Arts Center in May of 2017, and is now a freshman at Southwest. When she is not busy, she volunteers for a local day-care. She is also a volunteer firefighter for the Liberty Volunteer Fire Department. At Southwest, she plays in the band and majors in general studies.

Voting information

Jackson, Miss.—In-state voters casting notarized absentee ballots by mail will no longer be subject to a notary fee, according to a new regulation.

Mississippi law deems some registered voters eligible to vote by mailed absentee ballot because of age, disability, the hospitalization of a family member, or temporary residence outside of county of residence (for example, college students). Miss. Code §§ 23-15-715. These categories of absentee voters, however, with the exception of those who are disabled, are required to have their absentee ballot application and envelope notarized by a person "authorized to administer oaths." Miss. Code §§ 23-15-631, 715.

The new regulation requires Mississippi notaries to waive any fee for notarizing absentee ballot applications or envelopes. Many Mississippi notaries already waive the fee. The regulation does not apply to notaries outside the State. More than 35,000 notaries are currently licensed in Mississippi. For more voter information, visit Y'all Vote, the State's online voter information center, at www.yallvote.sos.ms.gov.

Fall 2017 Graduates

Fall 2017 GRADUATES
AL
MONTGOMERY
John Hines
FL
ORANGE PARK
Chase Mitchell
LA
AMITE
Kayla Marie Stevenson
BATON ROUGE
Megan D Carter
BREAUX BRIDGE
Korey Louis
FRANKLINTON
Summer N Knight
Sara Carpenter Luper
HAMMOND
Jocelyn Tycer Robinson
KENTWOOD
Terry Bruce Oliver II
Trenton Lance Warren
KILLONA
Deishaun Gauthier
LORANGER
Whitney Lewis
Emily Millet
NEW ORLEANS
Kristin Ashley Jackson
TICKFAW
Kristi Lynn Bickham
VILLE PLATTE
Vondarius M Freeman
MS
BAY SPRINGS
Jamari Allen Riptoe
BOGUE CHITTO
Jacqueline Chantel Carter
Takhia L Flintroy
Brooklyn Elizabeth Lampton
Precious Jerricka M Williams
Precious Johnaya R Williams
BROOKHAVEN

Wanya Demond Morris
Samuel Paul Pittman
Eron Elizabeth Stewart
Quinterious Rayshun Tyler
BYRAM
Kewanza R Young
ELLISVILLE
Shane Diontae Jenkins-Barnes
FOXWORTH
Lavorciay M Gaddis
Joleda Jane Johnson
Patrick Landall Slocum II
GLOSTER
Jacob A Arnold
Kelli Dann Dawson
Kevan Lee Williams
HAZLEHURST
Jeranesia Chantel Haynes
Lechris Juanpaul Hood
Anfernee X Jordan
JACKSON
Christien M McIntosh
JAYESS
Bradi Danielle Conn
Demi Lee Duncan
John Todd Rutland
LAUREL
Tobias D Jones
Colby I Moffett
LIBERTY
Kendrick Deshawn Anderson
Patricia Lee Hatch
Shanrika Shantel Hughes
James Adam Shows
Tyler Wayne Wall
MAGNOLIA
Brittany Michelle Alford
Latyra Nicole Ashley
Taylor Morgan Blanchard
Tamia Shandrea Brumfield
Eddie Joseph Coney III
Kenneth Chad Irvin
Jessica R Pounds

Sarah Shanti Walker
Harleigh Miranda Ward
MCCALL CREEK
Lisa Nicole Strickland
Emilee Tristin Wallace
MCCOMB
Juwana Adams
Spencer Bonds
Rufus Edward Breeden
Jeremiah M Brown
Randon Kenneth Bullock
Deamonta Conerly
Demetria Desha Conerly
Sherry Ellzey
Robbey Greer
Whitney Paige Howell
Jason Jamal Isaac
Tyraeshann C L Jenkins
Jack R Kelly
Regan Street Lewis
Arswanakee T Magee
Maneka Danielle Marsalis
Daniel Lamar Montgomery
Racheal Rea Moore
Jwan D Reed Jr
Olivia Noel Saldana
Alicia Chauntae Shows
Debeshiyee A Shropshire
Lamaya M Stepter
Amelia Joy Taylor
Donnie C Thibodeaux
Christina F Travis
Karen Rae Wall
Irvin Emanuel Washington
Lakerria Washington
Kenneth T Wilson
Revikiah Shamorma Winding
MEADVILLE
Mary Blake Brown
Leah C Chambers
Timothy Allen Sturdivant
MONTICELLO
Brittany Danielle Bullock

Ashleigh Khailyn Littleton
Jamie Lavelle Manning
OSYKA
Aaron Douglas McKay
Kleat Lynwood Schmidt
PICAYUNE
Lauren Elizabeth Walker
RUTH
Jennifer L Boyd
SILVER CREEK
Maygan McCloud Martin
SONTAG
James D Herrington
SUMMIT
Mariae Chzuetta Chandler
Victoria Ashley Gill
Anna Marie Harvey
Adam Matthew Miller
Cole J Myers
Christa Rose
Caitlyn Elizabeth Smith
Rebecca Lynn Storey
Nakia Trotter Jr
Tarnisha Kiara Washington
Derry Carnell Wells Jr
Kadin Landon Woodall
TYLERTOWN
Desiree Marie Boyd
Lucy Puder Brown
Creyon Nakedra Dillon
Olivia James Dillon
Rashunna Tykelia Dillon
Tashora L Holmes
Javian Jackson
Sabrea Ayana James
Lucas Byran Martin
Allison Kay Netto
Cody J Stogner
Amber Olivia Terrell
Heather Renee Thornhill
VICKSBURG
Lee Hampton Middleton
TX

Bear trackers: ambassadors

By Kaitlyn McCarlie, co-editor

Bear Trackers are outstanding students who are selected to serve the Southwest campus and surrounding community. Only a few make it through the rigorous application and interview process. Bear Trackers permeated each campus event. Members assist with the College Transfer Fair and fundraising for the group, members of the organization are well-known faces around Southwest. The students comprising Bear Trackers serve as ambassadors, reaching out to local high school students and spreading the word about the excellent experience that Southwest offers.

Karinlee Brister, the Southwest Recruiter, and Pat Young, Director of Counseling and Recruitment, are the driving force behind the Bear Trackers. The annual Punt, Pass, and Kick for Tuition event is a hit with local high school students competing to receive a free semester of tuition. Staying busy fundraising, events such as the Belk Charity Sale, the Golden Corral Student Server Night, Jambalaya Plate Lunch Sale, the Bear Trackers work diligently to offset the cost of their annual Beach Therapy Leadership Retreat in Gulf Shores, Alabama. The popular Princess Ball and Superhero Ball is a huge success as it creates a night packed full of memories cherished by many families of local citizens. Alexcia Carr serves as the Bear Trackers president, works diligently to make each event at Southwest or in the community a success.

Soccer honors

by Michael D. Gunnell, Southwest Sports Information

For their part in helping their team to a second straight playoff appearance, Bears soccer players PJ Irwin, Conner Smothers and Cameron Stanovich were among those receiving post-season honors from the NJCAA and MACJC at the recent meeting of the head coaches.

Irwin, a graduate of Ocean Springs High School, was selected All-Region. A freshman midfielder, Irwin finished the 2017 season with six goals, three assists and 15 points. His goal and point totals were good for second on the team.

Bears head coach Zach Mills said Irwin "scored some big goals from the defensive midfielder position and worked hard all over the field. I'm not surprised to see him stand out."

Smothers, a freshman goalkeeper from Bay High School, was named All-State. He recorded four shutouts in goal for the Bears and set a program record with a goals against average of 1.26.

"I'm excited to have Conner do so well in his first year," said Mills, "and look forward to seeing him break his own record next year."

Stanovich, a sophomore defender from Biloxi High School, was also named to the All-State team.

Stanovich started every game during his two years with the Bears and "played every second of every game in 2016," said Mills. "He was part of the defense that helped Conner set the goals-against average record and as a freshman helped (former keeper) Kade Jenkins tie the team shutout record (five). I believe his getting All-State is a well-deserved honor."



Fall 2017 President's List

Fall 2017 President's List
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BOGUE CHITTO
Caleb L Crosby
Aaron J Davis
Shayla Blaine McGuffee
Mariam Terrah Nelson
Rebecca Olivia Wilson
BRANDON
Carlee Deana Evans
Kyle David Singleton
BRAXTON
Demario Donte Lindsey
BROOKHAVEN
Tia Muntanna Bussey
Brigitte Kately Ciocan
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Madison Renee Jones
Bron Caleb Owens
Makenna A Redd
John James Riggs
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Caitlin Elizabeth Smith
Cameron Temple
Lesley Leigh Walker
CANTON
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Melanie Shea Crum

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Destyn Skylar Mann
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FLORENCE
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GLOSTER
Victoria Y Johnson
Corey Jackson Kelton
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Keven Cecilio Florian
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Jeranesia Chantel Haynes
JAYESS
Olivia Claire Dickerson
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Lisa Nicole Strickland
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George D Chadwick
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Sherry Ellzey
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Jonathan Paul Holifield
Neshun V Holmes
Whitney Paige Howell
Kimi Mei-Yu Jeanson
Jack R Kelly
Denzel Demonte Lewis
Zoe Elizabeth Miller
Daniel Lamar Montgomery
Sha'Ronda G Pew
Renner Francis Jasmin Rallos
Olivia Jasmine Robinson
Daren Elijah Smith
Hope Elizabeth Smith
Paul Gaven Starrett
Trulee Magee Torres
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Revikiah Shamorma Winding
MEADVILLE
Alexandra Megan Ward
MONTICELLO
Chasity L King
OSYKA
Destiney Leanetrice Gordon
Charles Payton Yawn
PICAYUNE
Lauren Elizabeth Walker
PURVIS
Myles Benton Kendrick
RAYMOND
John Gunar Robinson
RIDGELAND
Andrew Jalen Garner
SANDY HOOK
Anna Grace Thomas
SMITHDALE

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SUMMIT
Steven Dewayne Alexander
Madison Klaire Bates
Benjamin David Coney
Maximiliano Andres Gigli
Melea Maddeline Stewart Harvey
Ryan Patrick Ivey
Kaitlin Kelly Lee
Morgan Lee Leonard
Kaitlyn Elizabeth McCarlie
Adam Matthew Miller
Macy Lillian Newcomb
Phillip Collins Papisan
Laurie Michelle Richard
Amber Denise Smith
Alexia Taplin
Brooke Alise Wells
TYLERTOWN
Andrew Walker Boyd
Desiree Marie Boyd
Janna Elizabeth Bridgman
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Vickie Rose Heully
Kacey Leigh Leggett
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Walter B Pigott
Martin Blair Quinn
Courtney Monique Ratliff
Rachel Lauren Ryals
Tate Dillon Williamson
WAYNESBORO
Rashondra Nyeshia Rankin
WOODVILLE
Jarid Davis Sturgeon

Fall 2017 Dean's List

Fall 2017 Dean's List
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Auset Ifetayo Gibbs
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FRANKLINTON
Karlissa Makenna Turnage
KENTWOOD
Aaron Michael Buckley
Brady James Johnson
Marissa Ann Reames
LIVINGSTON
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LORANGER
Rhean Elizabeth Sharkey
WALKER
Kassandra Lynn Fountain
WYNNSBORO
Kassie Brooke Shipley
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Jamaya D'Asia Galloway
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Caderius James Lee
BILOXI
Cameron Louis Stanovich
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Kacy Linh Bui
Caroline Alana Lambert
Erin Olivia Rushing
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FERNWOOD
Henry McDonald

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Dalton Craig Culpepper
GLOSTER
Brooke Marie Havard
Cimerial D Patterson
HARRISVILLE
Aleigh Nicole Flynn
HATTIESBURG
Hayden Reid Havard
Jaime Leigh Lowe
Jacob McKlean Sahuque
HEIDELBERG
Austin Shane Grant
JACKSON
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Brooklyn Rockelle Bryant
MADISON
Thadd Michael Buck
MAGNOLIA
Crystal Michelle Biggs
Taylor Morgan Blanchard
Tamia Shandrea Brumfield
Tiffany Alexis Laurich
Matthew Garrett Lee
Lakerionte Kavasia Lewis
Leanna Gabrielle Ross
Charlisha Stepter
Hudson Grant Touchstone
MCCOMB
Juwana Adams
Casey William Anders
Jaylan Trevon Brumfield
Randon Kenneth Bullock

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Kelsi R Cace
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Israel Coleman
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Morgan Leigh Fortenberry
Jeremiah Israel Gardner
Desmiuna Lakerria Gayden
Garrett Cole Graves
Scott Patrick Harvey
Stephen C Holifield
Angel Nicole Holmes
Myesha Landrews
Delexus Aubrielle Lewis
Arswanakee T Magee
Kymberli L McDowell
Jay Douglas Palen
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MONTICELLO
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Rebecca Lee Middleton
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Nicholas Hunter Gartman
OSYKA
Tiffany Nicole Hughes
Nelson Tate Ott
Lauren Elizabeth Williams
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Nora La Zebert
PICAYUNE
Payton Kyle Dillard
PURVIS
Conner Cook
RANDOLPH
Nevin Renae Holley

RUTH
Laura Elizabeth Bailey
Corey S Moore
SANDY HOOK
Amanda Blake Domine
SMITHDALE
Nathanael L Addison
Payton L Wilson
SUMMIT
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Baylee E Bryant
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D'Marion Tyrese Jones
Mark James Litman
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Brooke Elise Smith
Shelby Christina Spears
Derrick Weatherspoon
Morgan Brooke Webb
Brandon Kyle Wilkinson
Michael Wayne Young
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TUPELO
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TYLERTOWN
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Hannah Rae Bourgeois
Elizabeth Adele Cutral
Briana K Goudeau
Taylor M Henderson
Sabrea Ayana James
Joshua Deonte Magee
Kelsie Brent McCullough
Mark M Molaison
Lawrence P Ordoyne
Levi Thumper Scott
Laporsha Ragene Smith
VANCELAVE
Karon Allison Sherman
WESSON
Pamela Darlene Bates
Noah Garrett Martin
WOODVILLE
Denzel Keymaundre Washington
OH
MIDDLE POINT
Hunter Alexis Bugh
TX
NEW LONDON

Intramurals: dodgeball champions

Bill Wallace, Director of Athletics and Director of Intramurals



Dodgeball winners: Elizabeth Smith; second row: Caleb Poole, Kentrell Harris, Brady Anderson, Hogan Nelson, Jaleel Davis, Chase Hughes, and Casey Griffith



Dodgeball runner-up: Edward Howard, Leigha Martin; second row: Alleon Thigpen, Marcus Kees, Jarrett Green, Key'varrius Lucas, and La'Treall Smith

Poets' Posts

by Sarah Polk and Olivia Robinson

She Doesn't See by Sarah Polk

She doesn't see the twinkling stars that hung in her eyes,
And how they are much brighter than the sun can shine.
She doesn't see the roses that dust across her cheeks,
Or how her voice alone makes every boy weak.
She doesn't see the contagious joy in her smile,
Or the string of hope that follows her every mile.
She doesn't see the beauty that runs through her so deep.
Forgive her for being so naïve,
For she just doesn't see.

Delete by Olivia Robinson

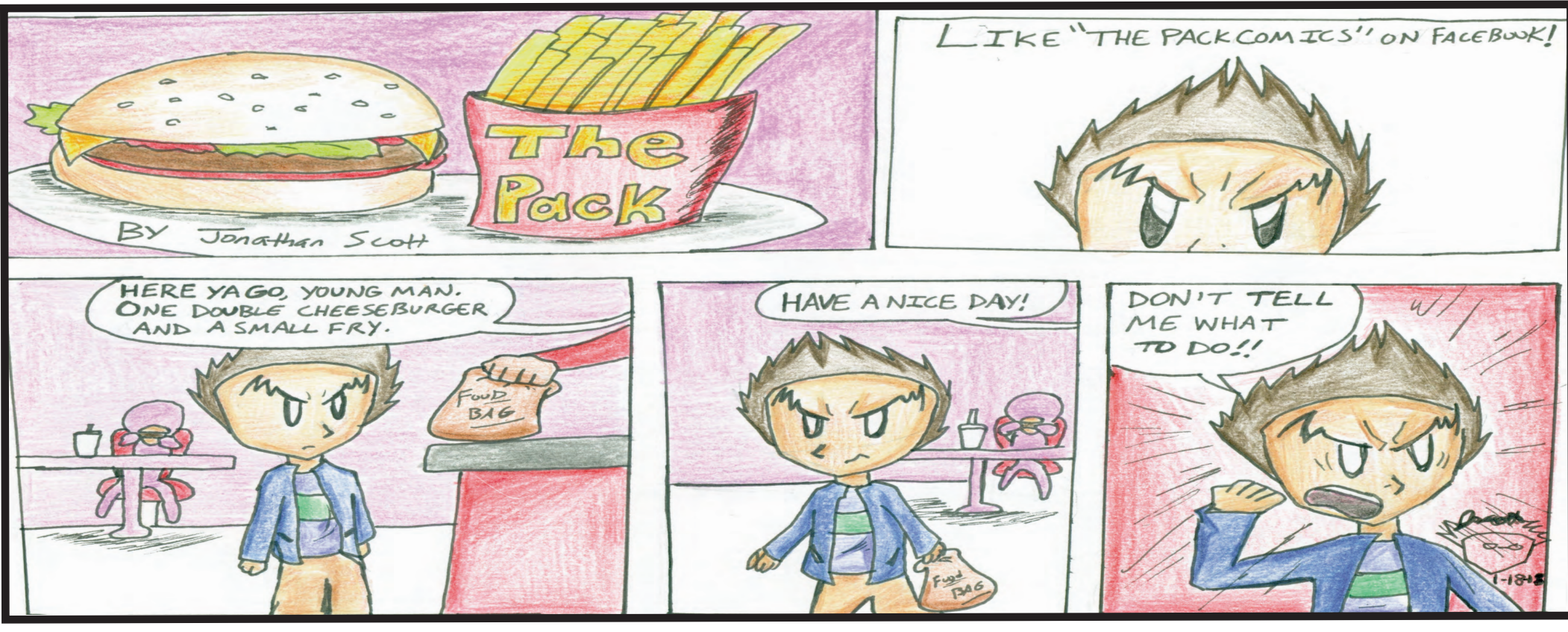
Click clack goes my heart for an article that's incomplete,
A word hidden on my tongue ready to be transferred into words,
A constant stream of noise for a word that will never come.
I am disappointed, so I delete and start again.
Click clack goes the noise of the world around me,
A bustle of people all talking at once,
Loud and impudent their opinions doesn't bother me,
I find them frustrating so I delete and start again.
Click clack goes my keyboard,
A game is on the screen,
My friends are talking to me through comms,
We all laugh and joke about how to win,
A load of fun we are having.
This is a moment I never want to delete.

Campus scenes: bonfire

by Garrett Graves



Cartoons....



Announcements...

PHI THETA KAPPA
HONOR SOCIETY

SMCC Phi Theta Kappa Omicron Delta Fundraiser

Order from Schwan's and support our chapter.
Easy as 1, 2, 3!

1. Visit www.schwans-cares.com
2. Click Find A Campaign -Enter "SMCC Phi Theta Kappa" or "35292"
3. Click Shop Now— Search Schwan's food choices & buy.

Part of this will benefit our group.
Thanks for your support.

SMCC Student Success Center...

We are located in the William C. and Lula B. Ford Library, Room 109
We are here to help you succeed. We offer tutoring and other services. Let us know how we can further help you.

Office Hours	8:15am- 5:30pm Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
	8:15am- 6:30pm Tuesday
Math Tutoring:	Tuesday-Thursday 9:00am-4:00pm Lunch Break from 11:00am-12:00pm
Chemistry Tutoring:	Mondays 10:00am-12:00pm Thursdays 12:00pm-3:00pm
English Tutor	Mondays 1:00pm-4:00pm Thursdays 1:00pm-3:00pm

English, Study Skills and General Academic Coaching available:
Monday-Thursday 8:30am-5:30pm
Lunch Break from 1:45pm-2:45pm

For more information please contact
Cindy Henderson at (601) 276-4813

Chemistry
Tutoring Available for Fall 2017
NOW at the
SMCC Student Success Center

We are located in the William C. and Lula B. Ford Library, Room 109

Hours: Mondays 10:00am-12:30pm
Thursdays 12:00pm-3:00pm

For more information please contact Cindy Henderson at (601) 276-4813

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, 601-276-3855, Dr. Bill Ashley, Vice President of Student Affairs and Title IX Coordinator, 601-276-3717, 1156 College Dr., Summit, MS 39666

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or Call Rhonda Gibson
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FAFSA

FRIDAYS

Need help renewing your FAFSA?
The Financial Aid Office is available to help!

Friday's 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Financial Aid Lab
Britte Hughey Administration Building

For more information call your assigned counselor
listed below (by last name):

A-G
Tammy Cain
601-276-3707

H-M
Stacey Hodges
601-276-4805

N-Z
Surbrina Cameron
601-276-4804



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