

Campus Events

Friday, March 31
Last Day to drop a class with grade of W
6th Annual SMCC Princess Ball 6:30-8:30p.m. Student Union
Cheer Tryout Clinic 2:00p.m. Grill Gym

Saturday, April 1
Baseball Game Meridian CC 2:00- Meridian
Softball Game vs. Coahoma

Monday, April 3
BSU Worship 7:00p.m.

Tuesday, April 4
Scheduling for Summer and Fall classes begins
Wesley Foundation Bible Study 6:30
Residence Hall Meeting

Wednesday, April 5
BSU Noon Day 11:15-12:30p.m.
Baseball Game vs. Jones County JC 3:00 Home
Softball Game vs. Gulf Coast

Thursday, April 6-8
Phi Theta Kappa International Convention Nashville, TN

Friday, April 7
Deadline for cap and gown fitting

Softball Game @ Itawamba

Monday, April 10
APR04: Begins & Last day to register
FEA Meeting Noon Room 11, Humanities Building
BSU 7:00p.m.
Pine Burr News Deadline

Tuesday, April 11
QQ: 60% Date for 2nd Term On-Campus Accelerated Classes
Baseball Game vs. Pearl River CC 3:00 Home
Wesley Foundation Bible Study 6:30
Softball @ Hinds

Wednesday, April 12
BSU Noon Day 11:15-12:30p.m.

Thursday, April 13
Residence Halls Close for Easter 4:00p.m.

Friday, April 14
Good Friday-Administrative Offices closed
Baseball Game vs. Itawamba CC 2:00-Home
Softball Game vs. Northwest

Sunday, April 16
Easter
Residence Halls open at 4:00p.m.

Monday, April 17
Spring Fest Week
MAY03: Course requests begin
BSU Worship 7:00p.m.

Tuesday, April 18
Spring Fest Week
2017 Collegiate DECA International Career Development Conference Anaheim, CA
Wesley Foundation Bible Study 6:30

Wednesday, April 19
Spring Fest Week

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Dr. Jennifer McLaughlin, PTK advisor; Cody Pol, MeOshia Williams, and Dr. Steve Bishop, SMCC President, accept the honors on stage at the Jackson Convention Complex.

Pol and Williams receive All-Academic awards

By Cody Pol, editor

Southwest Mississippi Community College Phi Theta Kappa members Cody Pol and MeOshia Williams were honored for being named to the USA/Coca-Cola Community College All-Mississippi Academic Team. Pol was named to First Team Coca Cola Team Silver and MeOshia Williams was named Second Team. They attended the All-Mississippi Recognition Program/Luncheon in Jackson at the Jackson Convention Center, where they were recognized. The Coca-Cola Community College All-Mississippi Academic Team recognizes high-achieving two-year college students who demonstrate academic excellence and intellectual rigor combined with leadership and service that extends their education beyond the classroom to benefit society. SMCC President Dr. Steve Bishop and Phi Theta Kappa advisor Dr. Jennifer McLaughlin attended the event with Pol and Williams.

At the event, Governor Phil Bryant spoke on his upbringing and how he was appreciative of the great quality of education that Mississippi community colleges offer to their students. He narrated to the audience his story of working at a tire shop during the hot summer that drove him to attend community college. Governor Bryant stated that if it were not for community college, he likely would have never become the man he is today. The state community college system was ranked as first in the nation, with Southwest being the number one community college in the state. Student representatives from community colleges across the state, along with faculty advisors and administration, attended the luncheon on behalf of their respective institutions.

Cody Pol was named a 2017 Coca-Cola Community College Academic Team Silver Scholar. The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation sponsors the Coca-Cola Community College Academic Team program by recognizing 50 Gold, 50 Silver, and 50 Bronze Scholars and provides nearly \$200,000 in scholarships annually. Each Silver Scholar receives a \$1,250 scholarship and a special medallion. Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society administers the Coca-Cola Community College Academic Team Program. Student scholars receive local, state, and national recognition at Phi Theta Kappa's annual convention, which is being held April 6-8, in Nashville, TN. High-achieving students are nominated for the award by campus administrators. An independent panel of judges considers academic achievement, leadership, and engagement in college and community service in the selection process.

Phi Theta Kappa officers attended the 2017 Regional Honors Institute at the University of Mississippi in Oxford. Omicron Delta officers accepted awards on behalf of the chapter's success on their Honors in Action and College Projects. President Cody Pol received the Golden Key Award, an accolade that is awarded to chapter members who best demonstrate the four hallmarks of Phi Theta Kappa: leadership, scholarship, fellowship, and service. Incoming officers received leadership training in order to best serve the chapter during the upcoming academic year.



MeOshia Williams and Cody Pol are excited to be honored.



Hannah Matthews, MSU Assistant Director of the Office of Admissions and Scholarships, explains the admission process to Kimi Jeanson at the PTK Induction Ceremony.



Craig Battle, Bradi Conn, Vannesse Travis, Kade Jenkins, Lauren Williams, Myles Kendrick, Claire Clark, Loryn Hollis, Josh Wicker, Mark Molaison Row 2; Korey Dillon, Cheyenne Powell, Brooke Smith, Hannah Bourgeois, Wyatt Brumfield, Kenneth Wilson, Jaran Hollis, Brantley Hughes, Austin Moen, Jenna Jo Lee, Katelynn Futch, Debbie Broom, Macy Newcomb, Bryson McRaney, Tim Ponder Row 3; Kimi Jeanson, Janna Bridgman, Ashley Orr, Olivia Saldana, Neshun Holmes, Andrew Boyd, Alexcia Carr, Karli Jo Cruise, Haley Hargett, Megan Vanover, Maleigha Taylor, Kaylin Boyd, Haley Smith, Alyssa Bristler, Lindsey Wallace Row 4; Namie Lowe, John Riggs, Precious Williams, John Rutland, Jonathan Holifield, Branson Blanton, Jonathan Scott, Kelsi Goudeau and Keon McNeil. Not pictured: Alissa Adam, Monica Amic, Latyra Ashley, Cage Ashley, William Ashmore, Crystal Biggs, Laken Brock, Baylee Bryant, Brittany Bullock, Lydia Byrd, Evan Bussbin, Alyssa Case, Israel Coleman, Ariel Coney, Jenna Duff, Ardelia Faust, Ailian Franzante, Britni Godbold, Courtni Godbold, Whitney Godbold, Michael Haygood, Hunter Hughes, Guy Johnson, Madison Jones, Taylor Laurent, Demario Lindsey, Harold Longmire, III, John McDowell, Rebecca Owens, Parker Prater, Samuel Reed, Angela Reeves, Ashley Robinson, Roderick Sikes, Amber Terrell, Amanda Timbs, Dominique Torrence, Lauren Walker, and Morgan Webb. photo by Joyce Mabry

Southwest Mississippi Community College selected as the number one community college in Mississippi

By Cody Pol, editor

BestColleges.com, a leading provider of higher education information and resources, selected Southwest Mississippi Community College as the Number One Community College in Mississippi for 2017. These rankings reflect the most recent data available from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) and College Navigator, both of which are hosted by the National Center for Education Statistics. Their goal is to objectively assess relative quality based on academic outcomes and affordability. Using these critical elements, *BestColleges.com* provides a complete listing of Mississippi Community College rankings at its website <http://www.bestcolleges.com/features/best-colleges-in-mississippi/#best-community-colleges-in-mississippi>.

"We are extremely pleased and excited about being listed by *BestColleges.com* as the number one community college in the state of Mississippi. Our entire community college system is made up of exceptional institutions that continue to provide quality instruction. This ranking gives merit to what we have always said that Southwest is outstanding in many ways. This recognition and our long-standing reputation for excellence is possible because of our dedicated and superb faculty and staff. We are supported by a strong local Board of Trustees and we continue to be encouraged by the entire community. I am grateful for our top-notch student body that we are able to attract and retain," Dr. Steve Bishop.

PTK induction

By Cody Pol, editor

Phi Theta Kappa, Omicron Delta chapter, inducted members who were eligible to join the international honor society. Phi Theta Kappa is an international community/junior college scholastic society established in 1918 to recognize the outstanding scholastic achievement of community/junior college students. The organization was sponsored by Dr. Jennifer McLaughlin, Susan Hedges, Dr. James Stephens, and Natalie McMahon.

Opening the program with the invocation was MeOshia Williams, Vice-President of Scholarship. Dr. Jennifer McLaughlin, PTK Advisor, welcomed the guests and gave a brief overview of the honor society's objectives. Cody Pol, president of the Omicron Delta chapter, called the induction to order. Haley Simmons, Vice-President of Leadership, welcomed the four-year colleges to campus and the program, thanking them for their support of the organization. Cody Pol then proceeded to induct the new members of Omicron Delta. Eighty-nine students were inducted for the fall 2016/spring 2017 membership campaign. At the conclusion of the induction, transfer recruiters from the various universities throughout the state congratulated students on their success. Students learned about the various transfer scholarships offered by the colleges.

The Pine Burr

Editor..... Cody Pol

Co-Editors.....Jordan Boyd,

Kimi Jeanson, Brooke Smith

Staff Writers..... Spencer Bonds, Caleb Byrd, Devin Chadwick, Cody Gisclair, Garret Graves, Shalisa Hawthorne, Scott Johnson, Hannah Karabelen, Reggie Martin, Emily Phillips, David Russell, Fernando Salgado, Jonathan Scott, Amber Terrell, Michael Wilson

Advisor.....Joyce Mabry

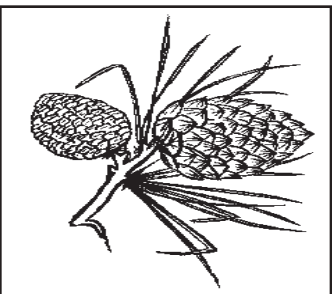
The *Pine Burr* is published monthly during regular academic sessions. Views expressed in the newspaper are not necessarily those of the faculty and administration. Writers express themselves under their by-lines.

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.



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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; 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

“The direction in which education starts a man will determine his future in life.”

- Plato



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,

I hope this time of year finds you ready to push through the exams and finish the remainder of the year strongly! The Student Government Association has been busy preparing for Spring Fest festivities, which include the much-anticipated Bear Necessities Day. Keep in mind that there is a set number of teams required to hold the event and cancel classes for the day. Eight men's teams and eight women's teams are required for the event to go on as scheduled. Contact Ashley Gray in Student Services for more information.

The SGA is sponsoring a Campus Beautification Initiative in order to maintain the natural beauty of the campus. Elections for upcoming student body officers will be held in the beginning of April, so check your student email account for further information.

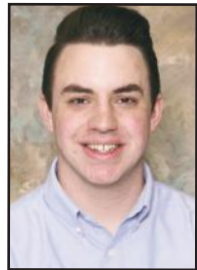
As always, I encourage you all to remain steadfast in your studies in order to achieve the highest GPA possible. Universities look at a combination of academic records and leadership/community service in order to award scholarships, so get involved and keep your grades up!

Cody Pol, SGA Student Body Treasurer



Cody Pol

Editorial: spring welcomes life anew



Editorial By Cody Pol, Editor

I hope you all had an enjoyable and reenergizing Spring Break. I did not do anything outside of Pike County, but I did start on some spring cleaning. Allergies affect a good many of us around this time of year. The dusting, sweeping, and mopping really helped to clear the house of the excess dust that built up. I was extremely surprised when the weather decided to cool down to

temperatures lower than they were over Christmas break! As a lover of cool weather, though, I did not complain at all.

Can you believe that there are only a handful of weeks left until graduation? I cannot believe that this year has passed by with such haste. To those of you who are graduating in May, keep in mind that you need to be fitted for your cap and gown by Friday, April

7th. Graduation practice for academic graduates is set for Monday, May 8th, at 10:15 a.m., and graduation for academic graduates is Wednesday, May 10th, at 3:00 p.m. I encourage you all to attend the graduation ceremony; it is a once-in-a-lifetime experience, and you will likely never have the opportunity to walk across the stage of the Hurst Auditorium again.

Why skipping community college could be a \$20,000 mistake

By Andrew Josuweit, www.forbes.com

When Adam Reres was in high school, he decided to take a different route than many of his peers. Rather than go straight to the four-year school of his dreams, he decided to start his education at a community college.

“My decision to go to community college was mainly based on cost,” said Reres. “Community college was about one-third of the tuition of a four-year school. And with all of the core requirements accounted for, it was my gateway into a four-year program without wasting money on unnecessary credits.”

Community colleges offer an affordable alternative to four-year schools; Reres' approach saved him thousands of dollars. While some people view them as a less glamorous option, there's no doubt that community colleges offer tremendous value – \$20,000 or more in savings for many students.

Cost Of Tuition
A recent study by Student Loan Hero examined the cost of a college credit today. It was found that the average cost per credit at a four-year public school was \$325, while private school credits are a whopping \$1,039 each.

Considering the typical four-year degree is equivalent to 120 credits, students can save an average of \$11,337 by completing the first half at community college. In states where college credits are more expensive, such as New Jersey, that savings can add up to more than \$20,000.

Millions of students are catching onto this, which is part of the reason community college attendance has risen so dramatically.

Between 2000 and 2010, enrollment in community college jumped about 2.5 million, according to U.S. News. And it's still growing today.

Attending a community college can help you in many different ways, depending on your goals. Here are three paths to higher education you can take more inexpensively if you choose community college:

1. Pursue A Vocational Degree
Obtaining a vocational degree can be a smart way to get the skills and credentials needed for a high-paying career. Community colleges offer a wide range of programs, from electrical work to culinary curriculums, that allow you to do this without drowning yourself in debt.

Consider this: A two-year degree in baking and pastry arts from the Culinary Institute of America would cost more than \$66,000. By contrast, a community college offering a two-year degree in pastry arts costs about \$20,500.

And according to Chef Jeff Bacon, executive director of Providence Restaurant and Catering, many of his entry-level cooks from community colleges are his best workers.

“Many of the students who have gone through community college, trade schools, or apprenticeships are usually better prepared to work in a real kitchen [than those who attended niche schools],” said Bacon.

Community college can give you the training you need to launch your career in your chosen vacation without spending a fortune.

2. Earn Your Associate's Degree
When most people think of a

college degree, they immediately jump to a bachelor's. But an associate's degree — or two-year degree — is a valuable degree you can earn in community college that can lead to well-paying work.

By pursuing a two-year degree, you can graduate and start working to make money faster. In fact, Georgetown University's Center on Education and the Workforce released a report that showed 28 percent of associate's degree holders earned more than graduates with a bachelor's degree.

Some fields pay very well and require only an associate's degree. According to PayScale, some of the top-paying fields do not require a four-year degree at all, including computer engineering, economics, dental hygiene, and computer science.

Depending on what you want to do after school, a four-year degree may not be necessary. And if you don't want to spend four years or more in college, earning your associate's degree can be a fast-track to higher paying careers.

3. Use The 2+2 Plan
Many people use community college as a path to a four-year degree. This approach, sometimes called the “2+2 plan,” is where you spend two years in community college and then transfer to a four-year school.

Using the 2+2 plan can save you thousands and you still achieve the same bachelor's degree as your peers. You can complete core requirements and test out courses in your potential major for much less than a course at a four-year school would cost you.

Plus, if your high school grades weren't that great and you could-

n't get into your dream school, going to community college for two years can give you time to bolster your application. By performing well in college, you can improve your academics and increase your chances of a school accepting you later on.

Attending a community college has many benefits, but the potential savings is one of the biggest. With student loan debt reaching crisis levels in the United States, today's students can't afford to ignore the opportunity community colleges present.

Southwest students comment about Southwest Mississippi Community College:

“Southwest is one of the best choices to make as a graduating senior. Achieving an associate's degree at a fraction of the cost of a university or any four year college is better than having to pay off student loans for the rest of my life. Community college is not only cost efficient, but also it is the perfect transition to a four year college. Instead of sitting in a sea of other students struggling to listen to the professor, Southwest's faculty and classes are much more devoted to each individual student. The teachers really care about the students and are always accessible if the need arises. Their goal is to make sure you understand the material and they will work with you if you are struggling.” –Kimi Jeanson

“I chose southwest because of the convenience and the one-on-one class setting. I could work while attending school with no complications.” –David Russell

“I like the teacher/ student ratio and how easy it is to get assistance with coursework. Everyone, including the students, are very nice and helpful.” –Ardelia Faust

Bishop speaks to McComb Exchange Club

by Matt Williamson
Enterprise-Journal
March 24, 2017

Southwest Mississippi Community College President, Dr. Steve Bishop, had plenty of statistics and rankings to brag about when he gave an update to the McComb Exchange Club on Thursday.

Bestcolleges.com recently named the college the best two-year school in the state.

The new Alford-Conerly Hall men's dorm, named after former longmen college trustees Hillis Alford and Jerry Conerly, adds 122 beds on the campus, bringing the total to 548.

Overall enrollment in the fall was 1,950.

A recent student survey showed that Southwest exceeded national rankings in quality of instruction, convenient course schedules, the lack of scheduling conflicts and advising.

But there's one thing he sees happening that he wishes he could change: students finding a job elsewhere after they graduate.

“Many time they move and go to work,” he said. “. . . I wish we could get to the point where we could train our local people and

they might go to Magnolia to work, they might go to Tylertown to work, they might go to Liberty to work.”

Bishop said the fact that many don't is “one of the things that burdens me as the President of Southwest and a lifelong resident of southwest Mississippi.”

There is plenty of opportunity for good students to succeed, and their peers are already proving that, he said.

Southwest has an 88 percent graduation rate in its career-technical program, and 83 percent of those graduates go on to get a job in their field.

Bishop noted that some of those students don't have to go too far in order to get a job, as many companies send headhunter to campus to get a look at the newest crop of students. He noted that Ingalls Shipbuilding is coming to recruit new employees on Monday.

Students who transfer to four-year schools get a good foundation for the rest of their college career, Bishop said.

“Statistics show that community college students, if they are successful at a community college, and they transfer, they are

going to do just as well, and in some cases better than the traditional student who was there from the beginning,” he said. “Those people have proven themselves. They have matured and when they get there they are very focused and they do well.”

Bishop said a lot has changed since he started working at Southwest in 1992.

“Education in and of itself has changed tremendously in those 25 years,” he said, noting that his first office didn't have a computer but a typewriter. “I don't think I'm an old guy at all, but the difference in 1992 and 2017 is tremendous.”

Online learning and a greater offering of courses are just some of those changes.

“If you would have told me then that someone could enroll at Southwest and get a two-year degree and not have to take any classes inside a classroom, I wouldn't have understood what you're talking about,” he said.

Bishop noted that students used to just sign up for classes in the fall and spring, and “if you were really ambitious, you would take summer school classes and maybe a night class here and

there.”
Now there are short-term classes that last four to eight weeks and a nine-day Christmas session that allows students a “very accelerated” chance to earn three semester hours.

The virtual community college program, which allows students to enroll at one community college and take online courses offered at others, also has given students greater flexibility, Bishop said.

He noted improvements in other areas, including the campus police department, which is no longer a band of security guards but a certified law enforcement agency.

“They can carry a weapon, they can use a weapon, and they can arrest people. They are a police force,” Bishop said.

Bishop noted that students come from 44 Mississippi counties, 12 states and three foreign countries.

There are 325 students expected to graduate in May and 140 graduated in December 2016.

“We're proud of our buildings, we're proud of our facilities . . . but we're more excited about the people,” Bishop said.

Movies: look deeper

By Kimi Jeanson, co-editor

Disney movies have become a part of pop culture. Generally, they are known for their family-friendly films and revolutionary animation. Our generation grew up watching movies such as *Tarzan*, *Lion King*, and *The Princess and the Frog*. If you have not seen any of these movies, then I warn you there will be a lot of spoilers. When watching as a child, many nuances slip past our consciousness that were not appropriate at the time. Upon closer inspection, as adults, we notice some of the more mature material, such as violence. Though the movie does not show it, the idea of the horrible violence is utterly disturbing. This is not to say in any shape or form that Disney movies are bad. In fact, I absolutely love Disney movies, regardless of how old I am. There are simply some things that, as children, we did not notice because there were only two sides to the story: the good and the evil. The evil always loses and dies. What we did not think was how horribly they die. Even though the villains were evil, their demise was even more cruel. Take for instance, *Tarzan*. It was a fantastic movie centered around the idea of true family and becoming a man. Nonetheless, while watching as an adult, the ending made me feel slightly uncomfortable. When watching as a kid, the ending to any Disney movie would bring such a warm feeling of catharsis. What I did not notice was the silhouette of Clayton, the blood-thirsty hunter, hanging in the background of one of the shots of *Tarzan*. Clayton was one of the most evil villains, and his own bloodlust became his demise as he ends up accidentally hanging himself with vines. His death was not shown, but the shadow of his corpse swung in the background. This goes undetected by most, but once noticed, the subliminal image becomes haunting.

The Lion King is also a subject for controversy. Its beautiful aesthetics and masterful score earned its spot as one of the best Disney movies in my book. However, behind the beauty lies a couple of eerie scenes. Mufasa's death was gut-wrenching, and even now some people still tear up at the thought of when Simba attempts to wake his father. The sequence of how he dies is pretty dark; he is cast down into a stampede by his own brother, where he is trampled to death while his son watches in horror. Even though these movies are cartoons, they heavily implied the deaths. Another example of violence was after Scar was overthrown; his own minions decided to eat him alive. Their shadows dance against the fiery walls. The imagery was played down a lot, but it was still a horrible death.

The Princess and the Frog was set in New Orleans, Louisiana; therefore, it came as no surprise there were themes of Voodoo and witchcraft. The movie's theme was that there are no shortcuts to the life you want. Tiana and Prince Naveen were essentially held under a contract with the Devil, which was brokered by Doctor Facilier, the local witch doctor, because they were not satisfied. This magic comes at a steep price. When Tiana breaks the necklace and destroys the contract, Facilier is literally dragged to hell by voodoo dolls and demons. The overall feel of the movie is kind of demonic.

Disney movies are wonderful, empowering stories filled with excitement and danger. They were our role models and first crushes growing up. Some are more innocent than the ones I have discussed; however, the themes and nuances continue to exist behind the heroic facade. I will say that Disney has greatly watered down these stories compared to some of their early versions. The animation of *Cinderella*, for example, does not portray the fact that in the Grimm fairytales, the stepsisters actually cut their toes and heels off to fit the tiny slipper. To Disney's credit, they have done an excellent job illustrating adventurous stories without a lot of the grim details. Most, if not all, of the details that were left in the movies flew under our radar when watching them. I will continue to enjoy all the classics and the ones to come, but I will be more aware when I watch them.



ADN students inducted into honor society: Landry Barrileaux, Paytience Pickett, Meagan Burt, and Erica Eakert; second row: Erin McCollun, Kristen Gatlin, Chancie Whittemore, Jennifer Gangi, Nichlaus Brisco, Jessica Suarez, Nanette Stewart, Adam Boyd, Shauna Zeigler, Wendy Emrick, Mendy McKeely, Jamie Ball, Jessica Bignar, and Jennifer Guttuso

Alpha Delta Nu Gamma Rho Chapter Honor Society inducted these fourth semester students who have exemplified excellence. Inductees are required to have at least a "B" average in all their classes including both nursing and required courses. They also must excel in a clinical setting and be recommended by a nursing faculty. Each student cares deeply about improving general health. Their Capstone project this year was "Learn While You Burn," which they presented at the Student

Nurses Organization meeting in March. The project was focused on students taking care of their bodies properly while they undergo nursing school. To execute this task, they measured a mile long route on campus and described the health benefits of even a short walk every day; even the little things such as taking the stairs instead of the elevator improves overall function and emotions.



PBL members win: Neil Chadala, Elizabeth Cutrer, and Mohammad Mohammad.

Phi Beta Lambda representatives, Neil Chadala, Elizabeth Cutrer, and Mohammad Mohammad, were phenomenal at the PBL State Competition in Columbus, MS. Placing second in Mississippi, Cutrer dominated in Desktop Publishing. In Information Management, Mohammad placed second in the competition. He also won third place

in Sports Management and Marketing. Neil Chadala received a Certificate of Participation. Their prestigious titles earned them a spot at Nationals in Anaheim, CA, this summer. Through the hard work and dedication of students, faculty, and staff, SMCC's PBL continues to thrive and grow.



SGA members read: Members of the Student Government Association participated in "Read Across America Day" by reading to students at North Pike Elementary. Pictured are MeOshia Williams, Alexica Carr, Haley Simmons, Rebecca Davis, Brooke Wells and Robert Brown



Tri Beta members share science with North Pike students: Mohammed Mohammed, Meoshia Williams, Star Dillon, Simarjit Kaur, Kaylin Boyd, Ashley Parun; second row: Robin Kuntz, advisor, Shinah Moore, Ariel McDaniel, Mattie Pigott, Brandon Bergeron, Cody Pol, Corey Dillon, Andrew Boyd, Drake Pace, Olivia Dickerson, Ashley Parun, Alexcia Carr, and Alana Gabler, advisor

A letter to my fellow students

By David Russell, staff writer

Fellow students, spring break is behind us now, unfortunately, but we can remain hopeful knowing that the end of the semester is just around the corner. With the end of the semester comes that sweet, sweet time of year we call summer. It is the time of year where we do not have to worry about midterms or finals. Some of us may get summer jobs or just sleep in every day. Others of us will take exotic trips across the world-the beach, the lake, the mountains-the possibilities for the summer are endless. Summer is the time for the late nights that turn into early mornings; it is a time to find new and exciting hobbies to occupy all of the attention that school usually takes up. Truly, summer is the best time of the year for students. All of our friends who have been off at their respective schools will be back home. The only drawback to the summer is that it always seems to fly by so quickly, and before you know it, we will start making our way back to school. Maybe for some of you, this semester is your last one here at Southwest, and this upcoming fall you will either start your next level of education or will enter the job force. Whatever the case, know that you have been prepared by one of the best community colleges in the state. You can go forth proudly knowing that you are and forever will be a Southwest Bear. For the time being, let us continue to focus on these last few weeks of the semester and finish out strongly; study hard and get plenty of rest. Take a break and get out and support the baseball and softball teams as well. Make sure you visit your advisors if you have any questions, as that is what they are there for. They want to see you succeed just as much as you want to succeed yourself. There are only a few more weeks left; we will make it through finals. Remember, summer is just around the corner.

Stay active

By Fernando Salgado, staff writer

At Southwest Mississippi Community College, there are multiple activities one can enjoy, one of those being fishing at the lake that is on campus. The lake provides students with the opportunity to enjoy a relaxing afternoon of freshwater fishing. The lake is stocked with many different fish, such as bass, bream, and catfish. One does not have to go to the lake to fish, he or she can also set up a hammock and nap underneath the pines. If students want a more physical activity, they can play a quick pickup game of hoops. The basketball gym, also known as the "carpet gym," is open to students from 5:00 p.m. through 9:00 p.m. The carpet gym is a great way to let some steam out from a long day. Students can also go to the Grill and get a quick snack, or they can wait to play pool or ping-pong.

Movie Review: The Boy

By Aaron Buckley, staff writer

The Boy is a great horror movie starring Lauren Cohan, from *The Walking Dead*. In this movie, she plays a young American named Greta, who takes a job as a nanny for an eight year-old boy in England. Greta soon realizes that the boy she is babysitting is a life-size doll. The parents of the doll treat it like it is human, which helps them cope with the loss of their son, Brahm. The parents leave Greta a list of rules to follow that she does not follow well, and strange things begin happening in the house, making her believe that the doll is alive.

It's a great day to be a BEAR!

Dream of playing in the NFL

By Michael D. Gunnell
Southwest
Sports Information
Director

Many young men have the dream of playing in the NFL, but, most are not fully equipped for such a lofty goal. However, former Southwest football players Omar Bryant and Zavian Bingham feel they are so equipped.

Both players were a member of the Bears' 2013 and 2014 squads-Bryant was a defensive lineman while Bingham played as a defensive back-before moving on to the next level, Bryant to Western Kentucky University and Bingham to Jackson State University.

While waiting and preparing for next month's NFL draft, the duo stopped by campus recently for a visit and briefly discussed how their time at Southwest and at the four-year level helped them prepare for the possibility of a pro career.

Both said they feel their experience at both collegiate stops have prepared them to play in the NFL. "Yes, I think I'm fully prepared" said Bingham for the life of a professional player. "My game and my life are together. I can run and play with any receiver or anybody in the league." Bryant said simply that he feels he has "the potential to make it (in the pros)."

Bryant said his time at Southwest helped prepare him for the ultimate level of playing football because it "kept me out of trouble. (The coaches) taught us not only the football aspect (of life), but also how to be a man. I grew up a lot at Southwest."

For his part, Bingham said playing for the Bears helped him prepare for the professional life because of having to "wake up at 6:00 in the morning, having meetings, learning techniques and competing with the best."

Bingham said in preparing for the draft he is "training really hard, training on speed, getting stronger (and) improving my ability and technique." Bryant said he is spending time training "at a place called Power Train (Lancaster, PA). They've shown me different forms (and) different techniques" to help him get ready. While both players have teams they would prefer to play for, in the end they say it does not really matter to them where they go. "My favorite team growing up was the New York Jets," said Bryant, "and I hope they draft me." Other than that, Bryant said he would consider any team willing to sign him.

Bingham said he liked the Saints and would like to play for them, but would consider "any team right now during the draft process." What are their expectations as they await the draft? Both players gave brief, to-the-point answers. "I expect to get quicker, faster and stronger," said Bryant while Bingham responded "My expectation is to get drafted in at least the fourth round, or earlier is possible." The NFL draft will take place April 27-29.

April's fool

By Kimi Jeanson, co-editor

The origins of April Fool's Day are unknown. However, as far back as people remember, pulling pranks on this day has been going on for centuries. According to the History Channel website, one theory is that when the French made January 1st the first day of the year on the calendar, a few people were slow to mark the change. While still celebrating the wrong new year at the end of March and first of April, those unlucky few were made fun of and pranked during this time. Townspeople would put paper fish upon their backs and call them April fish; this derogatory title means that they are easily fooled and caught. There were many other theories historians speculate to be the reason for April Fool's Day. Folklore was spread across Europe; therefore, no one can truly pinpoint one simple answer. It was a tradition that was passed down for generations and still is relevant today, so be vigilant, mark your calendars, and whether you are pulling pranks or receiving them, do not get caught.



Pictured above are Taylor Laurent, Coach Bee Casey, and Lydia Byrd

by Michael D. Gunnell
Southwest Sports Information Director

After two years with the Lady Bears soccer team, Lydia Byrd and Taylor Laurent have signed scholarships to continue their collegiate careers-Byrd at the University of Northwestern Ohio and Laurent at William Carey University.

Byrd, a graduate of East Central High School (Hurley, MS) said she chose to go with the Lady Racers because "It's a different location than most schools and the team is very diverse (and) has players from all over the world, which gives me the opportunity to meet new people. Also, the team has been very successful in the past so I feel I can learn a lot."

Byrd said that the skills and techniques she learned with the Lady Bears, as well as the mentality she has developed with the help of her coaches will enable her to be successful at the next level.

For her part, Laurent (Hahnville, LA, High School) said she made her decision to play for the Lady Crusaders because "They were the first school to show an interest in me. When I went to tour the campus and practice with the team it just felt welcoming and the girls were very friendly and I didn't feel like an outcast the one day I trained with them. It just felt like a place I definitely wanted to be at and play."

Laurent said she knows she is not guaranteed a starting spot on her new team and that means she will have to work hard "just like I did here (at Southwest) to get to a starting position and fight for what I want."

First-year Lady Bears head coach Bee Casey said that she is "very proud of Lydia and Taylor in choosing to play at the four-year level. Both are exceptional leaders in the classroom and on the field."

"This is a historic moment for Southwest," Casey continued. "This is the beginning of many Lady Bears who will continue their journey to play at a four-year college."



Merrielyn Ginn's history students tour the World War II Museum: Cary Barnett, Fred Miller, Paxton King, Merrielyn Ginn, Lakeisha Wells, Ahsaku Wilson ; second row: Fran Fisher, Mary Summerall, Dan Lewman, Casey Cook, Cody Pol, Debbie Miller, Andrew Boyd, Corey Dillon, Scott Johnson, Nick Rivera, Scott Molaison, Maleigha Taylor, Adrian Stinson, Skylar Pigott, Lonny Mackbee, Lexy Ward, Eric Williams, Cody Gisclair, Tim Harper.



Poster Project presented at the MS Academy of Sciences Annual Meeting: Southwest Mississippi Community College's Physics Instructor Dr. James Stephens (pictured right) and SMCC student Brittany McGuire of Smithdale (pictured left) recently presented a poster project at the Mississippi Academy of Sciences Annual Meeting. The project detailed the history, methods of operation, present issues, and potential restoration of SMCC's telescope and observatory on the campus. Each year, the Academy holds an annual meeting to present addresses, symposia, workshops, scientific papers, and exhibits of interest to its members. The annual meeting provides an excellent forum for members to exchange ideas and information about science related topics.



Ryan Luethje, University of Southern Mississippi recruiter, discusses with Brooke Smith USM's admission process at the PTK induction.

photo by Joyce Mabry

Red Bluffs: Grand Canyon of Mississippi

By Kimi Jeanson,
co-editor

Red Bluffs is considered the "Grand Canyon of Mississippi." They are a natural beauty to behold. Located in Morgantown, Mississippi, Red Bluffs provides natural trails and photo-ready scenery for everyone to enjoy. Many locals, especially college and high school students, love to hike up the crimson peaks. Within the rough underbrush, there is also a creek that can be followed to a river where some people swim and hang out. The astonishing likeness to the Grand Canyon's solitude is what intrigues visitors the most.

Seemingly in the middle of nowhere, Red Bluff appears at a dead-end road. High up above are pairs of shoes hanging from a wire; they add to the mystery of the isolated location. The bright blue sky complements the red marble designs that stretch across the plateaus like stripes. Isolation from the city creates an atmosphere unlike any other; wind and the sound of one's own movements are the only sounds that echo into the expanse. When trekking down the hills, one can see where people have carved their insignias on the bluff walls. Some may consider it as disrespectful to nature, but others hold the opinion that an exotic place such as this only becomes more mysterious through the evidence of journeys by others. Every footprint, shoeprint, and name etched in sandstone carry their own story as to who it belonged and why they were there.

Visiting Red Bluffs is a unique experience and may be one of the most beautiful sites Mississippi has to offer. Trails are a little rough, but it is due to the unworn ruggedness of nature. Though a lot has already been discovered, there are still a lot of parts that have not been touched. Every step is a new adventure. Red Bluffs is the perfect place to go for those who are looking for a challenge or simply desire to hike.

Easter: bunnies and eggs

By Dakota Stailey,
staff writer

It is common knowledge that Easter is a Christian celebration of Christ's rising, but this holiday also has pagan origins. Where did the colored eggs, cute little bunnies, baby chicks, the leg of lamb dinner, and lilies come from? They are all symbols of rebirth, and the lamb was a traditional religious sacrifice.

The word Easter comes to us from the Norsemen's Eostur, Eastar, Ostara, and Ostar and the pagan goddess Eostre, all of which involve the season of the growing sun and new birth. The Easter Bunny arose originally as a symbol of fertility, due to the rapid reproduction habits of the hare and rabbit.

Ancient Egyptians, Persians, Phoenicians, and Hindus all believed the world began with an enormous egg, thus the egg as a symbol of new life has been around for eons. The particulars may vary, but most cultures around the world use the egg as a symbol of new life and rebirth. A notation in the household accounts of Edward I of England showed an expenditure of eighteen pence for 450 eggs to be gold-leaved and colored for Easter gifts. The first book to mention Easter eggs by name was written five-hundred years ago. Yet, a North African tribe that had become Christian much earlier in time had a custom of coloring eggs at Easter.



Bears beat LSUA Generals



By Michael D. Gunnell
Southwest Sports Information Director

had a pair of hits in the game. “The kids played hard,” said Bears head coach Ken Jackson. “We’re so young and, because of that, I was worried about how they would respond, but they responded very well and came out and played hard and good things happened for us.”

“We got good pitching today,” Jackson continued. “Both our starters gave us a chance to win. We got into the bullpen and both (Coleman and Nesmith) threw well.”

February 22, 2017
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February 22, 2017
The Bears overcame an early six-run deficit to defeat the visiting LSUA Generals JV squad 9-8 in the first game of their Wednesday evening doubleheader. The Generals came back to earn a split with a 3-2 win in the nightcap. Trailing 6-0, the Bears began their comeback in the bottom of the second inning. The first run came on Zach Thomas’ two-out double. Andrew Beesley doubled with the bases loaded to score three runs (he later added a single) and scored on a Brantley Hughes base hit. Isaiah Davis then singled to drive in another run to knot the game at 6-6.

The Bears took an 8-6 lead in their half of the third when Thomas sent the first pitch he saw over the fence in left centerfield. Also scoring on the play was Crishaun Speight.

A pair of doubles, a single, error and sacrifice fly allowed the Generals to score two runs and tie the game at 8-8 in the top of the sixth. The Bears picked up the winning run in the bottom of the frame when John Marcus McDowell led off with a single and scored on Hughes’ base hit.

Taft Nesmith spent three innings on the mound in relief, allowing two runs on five hits, to get the win for the Bears.

Game two was scoreless until the bottom of the fourth inning when Hughes reached base on an error and later scored on Austin Moen’s single to put the Bears on top 1-0.

The Generals tied the game with a run in the top of the fifth and scored two more in the top of the sixth to take a 3-1 lead.

The Bears drew to within a run in their final at bat when Beesley lead off the frame with a triple and later scored on Payton Yawn’s fly ball out. But, they would be unable to score more runs as the Generals held on for the narrow win.

Cody Miller pitched 1.1 innings, giving up two runs on two hits and a walk, to take the loss for the Bears. T Tez Cole had a pair of hits in the game.

“Offensively, I thought we played pretty well,” said Bears head coach Ken Jackson. “I like the way our kids fought back after

getting behind early (in game one). Even in the second game, we were down by two and came back and had a chance to do some damage.”

“Our kids played hard,” Jackson went on. “We just didn’t pitch really well at times, but at times we did pitch really well. We walked too many people and we left too many people in scoring position during the game to win game two. But, the kids played hard and they’re growing up. We play a lot of freshmen and they have to grow up fast.”

March 22, 2017
The 7th-ranked East Central Warriors made the trip to Summit Wednesday afternoon a left town with a 14-2, 15-5 MACJC doubleheader sweep of the home standing Bears.

The Bears took a 2-0 lead in the opener when Brantley Hughes walked with one out in the bottom of the second inning and scored when T Tez Cole sent a 1-0 pitch over the fence in centerfield.

A single, double and error resulted in a pair of runs for East Central (18-4, 4-0) and a 2-2 score in the top of the second inning.

Using a single, error and two homers, East Central took a 6-2 lead in the top of the fifth inning. The visitors went on to add a solo run in the seventh and seven more in the ninth inning to get the win.

Tyler Pigott took the loss on the mound, giving up seven runs (four earned) on 10 hits. He struck out nine batters. Andrew Beesley had a single and double for the Bears while Ray Hutchinson and John Marcus McDowell also hit safely.

The Bears (11-8, 0-4) trailed 1-0 after the top of the first in game two. They knotted the game at 1-1 in the bottom of the frame when Scooter Ginn doubled up to centerfield with two outs, the first of his two hits in the game, and scored on the first of Cole’s two hits.

The Bears narrowed their deficit to 11-4 in the bottom of the fifth innings. Crishaun homered to leftfield to start the inning for the Bears. Then, with two outs, Hughes walked and scored when Ginn reached base on an error. Ginn then scored on a passed ball.

The Bears picked up what proved to be their final run of the game, and made the score 14-5, in their half of the sixth. Chance Groue reached base on a one-out single and later scored on a passed ball.

Kyle Coleman took the loss on the mound for the Bears, giving up four runs on seven hits in just over two innings of work. He struck out three batters. McDowell and Fidel Bello both had a single in the game.

March 24, 2017
The host Mississippi Delta

Trojans swept a MACJC doubleheader from the Bears Friday afternoon, taking game one 15-7 before winning the finale 9-3.

The Bears trailed 3-0 in the opener before Crishaun Speight, on base after being hit by a pitch, scored on an Andrew Beesley ground out in the top of the third to make the score 3-1.

In the top of the fourth, T Tez Cole walked to lead off the frame. He then scored on Ray Hutchinson’s one-out double to right field, cutting the Bears’ deficit to 3-2. Hutchinson also had a single in the game.

Down 9-2, in the top of the fifth, the Bears made it 9-3 when Beesley reached base on a leadoff walk and later score on a Brantley Hughes triple.

The Trojans (16-6, 3-1) added three runs in their half of the fifth and another in the sixth to increase their lead to 12-3.

The Bears trimmed the hosts lead to 12-5 in the top of the seventh when, with one out, John Marcus McDowell walked and Beesley doubled to centerfield, and both scored on Hughes’ single. Beesley and Hughes both had another single the game.

Down 14-5, the Bears made it 14-6 in the top of the eighth when a McDowell sacrifice fly allowed Alex Smith to cross the plate.

The Trojans scored their final run of the game, moving out to a 15-6 lead, with a run in the bottom of the eighth. The Bears picked up their final run in the top of the ninth when Scooter Ginn, on base via a walk, scored when Fidel Bello flew out.

Carr Young took the loss on the mound for the Bears (11-10, 0-6), giving up nine runs (three earned) on eight hits. He struck out three batters. McDowell had a double in the game while Blake Dunaway also hit safely.

Things seemed to have turned in the Bears’ favor in game two when they took a 3-0 lead in the top of the first. Hughes, on base after being hit by a pitch, moved to second on a wild pitch and scored on Ginn’s base hit. Ginn later scored on a bases-loaded walk to Smith. The final run came when Cole, on base with a single, scored when Bello grounded out.

The Trojans got on the board with a single run in their half of the second. Four runs in the bottom of the fourth put them on top 5-3. They then added three more runs in the fifth and a solo run in the sixth to get the win.

Ray Hutchison went four innings, allowing five runs (three earned) on five hits. He struck out four. Beesley, Smith and Speight all had one single.

March 28, 2017
Crishaun Speight scored from third on a fielder’s choice in the top of the eighth inning to give the Bears a 7-6 win in game two,



Carr Young winds up for the pitch. photo by Chuck Barnes

and a split, of their MACJC doubleheader with arch-rival Co-Lin in Wesson Tuesday night. Co-Lin won the opener 17-10.

With the split, the Bears took the season series over Co-Lin, two games to one, and captured the Coca-Cola Baseball Challenge presented by Powerade and returned the Challenge trophy to Summit after a four-year absence.

The Bears (12-11, 1-7) took a 2-0, first-inning lead in the nightcap when Brantley Hughes, on base via a walk, scored from third when Ray Hutchinson was hit by a pitch. The next batter, Alex Smith, grounded into a fielder’s choice, allowing Scooter Ginn, on base after being hit by a pitch, to cross the plate.

Co-Lin (9-14, 4-4) used a double and triple in the bottom of the first to make the score 2-1.

The score went to 3-1 in the top of the second when courtesy runner Kyle Coleman scored on Ginn’s two-out base hit up the middle.

The Bears made it 6-1, without benefit of a hit, in the top of the fourth. Back-to-back bases-loaded walks to T Tez Cole and Hutchinson scored two runs and Ginn raced home on a wild pitch.

A walk and home run in the bottom of the fourth allowed Co-Lin to cut the Bears’ lead to 6-3. A walk and double in the home half of the sixth then made the score 6-4. Co-Lin forced the extra inning when they sent seven men to the plate in the bottom of the seventh and knotted the game at 6-6. Speight led off the Bears’ eighth with a walk and scored what proved to be the winning run four batters later when Hughes grounded into the fielder’s choice.

The Bears then retired Co-Lin in order in the bottom of the frame to preserve the win.

Josh Merchant pitched two innings of relief, giving up a pair of runs on one hit and two walks while striking out one, to get the

win for the Bears. Starter Tyler Pigott went six innings, giving up four runs on six hits and two walks. He struck out seven batters.

Cole, Hutchinson and John Marcus McDowell each had a single for the Bears.

The Bears took a 1-0 lead in the second inning of game one when Hutchinson tripled to centerfield with one out and scored on Austin Moen’s line-drive single up the middle.

Co-Lin sent eight men to the plate in the bottom of the third to take a 3-1 lead. Co-Lin then added four more in their half of the fourth to increase their lead to 7-1.

The Bears cut their deficit to 7-4 in the top of the fifth when, with the bases loaded, Cole was hit by a pitch to score Speight, Hutchinson walked to force Andrew Beesley home and Moen singled to send Ginn across the plate.

Co-Lin then responded with four runs in the bottom of the fifth and two more in the sixth to push out to a 13-4 advantage.

The Bears sent 11 batters to the plate in the top of the seventh to trim the Co-Lin lead to 13-10. Cole’s second hit of the game scored two, Hutchinson’s double to left, the second of his three hits, scored one and Smith’s base hit scored another. Beesley and McDowell both grounded into a fielder’s choice to account for the other two runs. Unfortunately, that proved to be the last runs in the game for the Bears. Co-Lin would go on to score a single run in the bottom of the seventh and three more in the eighth to secure the win.

Coleman took the loss on the mound for the Bears. He surrendered six runs (four earned) on six hits and two walks while striking out three.

Speight went 4-4 at the plate for the Bears while Beesley and McDowell both singled twice.

Lady Bears beat Pearl River

February 22, 2017
The Lady Bears split the home-opening doubleheader with Baton Rouge Community College Wednesday evening, winning the nightcap 7-3 after falling in game one, 3-2.

Miranda Magee’s leadoff homer to centerfield gave the Lady Bears a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the first in the finale. Jordan Fitzgerald’s two-RBI double later in the inning made the score 3-0.

The Lady Bears’ lead increased to 5-0 in their half of the second inning when Morgan Webb led off with a hit and Magee followed with her second homer of the day. Magee would later add a single in the game.

Fitzgerald began the Lady Bears’ third inning with a single and later scored on Webb’s sacrifice fly. Kayla Sanchez, on base via a walk, later scored when Magee reached on an error to push the Lady Bears’ lead to 7-0.

A leadoff homer, error, fielder’s choice, walk and double allowed BRCC to score three times in the top of the seventh, but the Lady Bears’ defense held firm and the home team left the field with the win.

Rebecca Davis went the distance in the circle to get the win for the Lady Bears (1-8). She surrendered her own BRCC (9-15) runs, one earned, on seven hits while striking out three and walking one. Jenna Duff singled twice in the game.

Kymerli McDowell’s one-out solo homer to centerfield put the Lady Bears up 1-0 in the bottom

of the fifth in game one. Three hits, a hit batter and an error then allowed the visitors to go up 3-1 in the top of the sixth.

The Lady Bears trimmed their deficit to 3-2 in the bottom of the sixth when a BRCC error allowed Baylee Bryant to cross the plate. That, however, would prove to be the final run of the game for the Lady Bears as BRCC held on for the win.

The Lady Bears’ loss came despite the play of Kassie Shipley in the circle. In her 5.1 innings of work, she surrendered three runs, two earned, on four hits while striking out six and walking a pair. Duff doubled twice in the game while Kelcey Bremenkamp had a double and single.

“I thought the girls played really well,” said second-year Lady Bears head coach Shea Johnson. “I thought we played well enough to win in game one, we just left some runners on base and left some opportunities out there. We had great effort defensively in both games. Offensively, we’ve got to keep the pounding. We scored seven runs early (in game two), could have got out of here in five innings.”

“The girls hung in there and kept battling,” Johnson continued. “We’ve just got to continue that. Certainly I think we’re a lot better than our record shows. But, we can play good against anybody if we come to play. We’ve just got to get it worked out and we are working it out.”

The Lady Bears return to action Friday at 3:00 when they face Illinois Central in the Jones

County tournament. They then face host Jones County at 5:00.

February 25, 2017
The Lady Bears dropped a pair of games Friday night in the Jones County tournament, falling to the Illinois Central Lady Cougars 5-3 and 12-2, in five innings, to the host Lady Bobcats. Jones County is ranked #3 in the latest NJCAA poll.

Against Illinois Central, Jordan Fitzgerald’s homer over the left-field fence gave the Lady Bears a 1-0 lead in the top of the second inning. The Lady Cougars then used a walk, error and double to take a 2-1 lead in the bottom of the third.

Trailing 5-1, the Lady Bears closed the gap to 5-3 in their half of the seventh on a two-RBI single from Madison Parker. That would be as close as the Lady Bears would get, however, as the Lady Cougars held on for the close win.

Jenna Duff had a double and two singles for the Lady Bears while Kristie Sanchez had a pair of singles. Kayla Sanchez and Lauren Walker both singled.

Kassie Shipley pitched 3.1 innings, giving up three runs (one earned) on three hits and a pair of walks. She struck out two batters.

Versus Jones County, the Lady Bears trailed 8-0 before getting on the board in the top of the fourth inning. Duff reached base on a one-out single before Parker sent an 0-2 pitch over the fence in leftfield to make the score 8-2.

seven hits and a walk in two innings. Kayla Sanchez had a single in the game.

March 21, 2017
The Lady Bears split an MACJC doubleheader at Pearl River Wednesday afternoon, winning game two 3-0 after falling 7-4 in the opener.

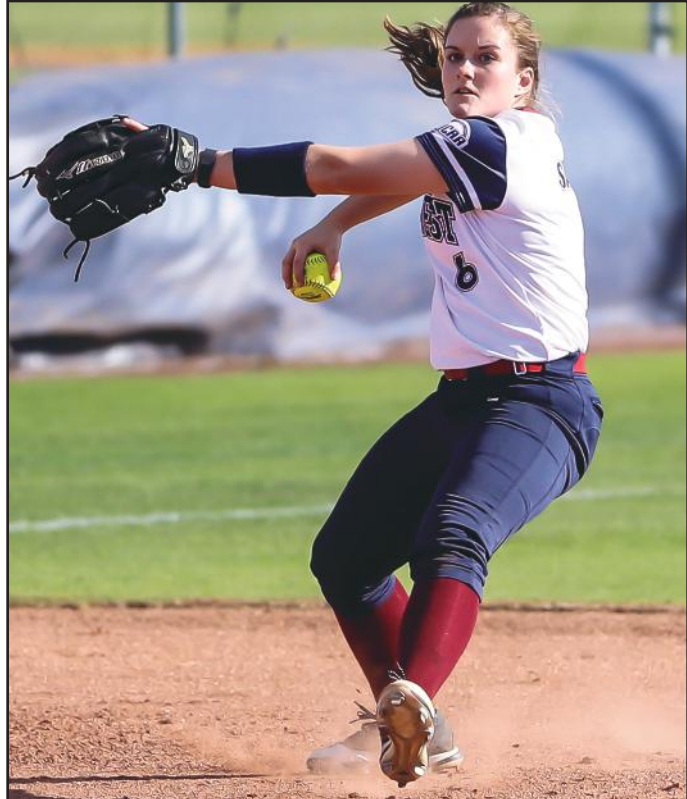
The Lady Bears (12-15, 8-4) got all the runs they would need, and took a 1-0 lead, in the finale when Miranda Magee doubled to lead off the top of the first and scored two batters later on a Jenna Duff sacrifice fly.

The final runs of the game came in the top of the fifth when Madison Parker’s sacrifice fly allowed Baylee Bryant to cross the plate and Rebecca Davis’ base hit score Gianca Holmes. Rebecca Davis picked up the win in the circle, scattering five hits over seven innings while striking out three batters and walking two. Holmes had a triple in the game.

In the opener, Jeney Hudson walked to lead off the Lady Bears’ second inning. Jordan Fitzgerald followed with a double to left field, the first of her three hits in the game, sending Hudson racing home and giving the Lady Bears a 1-0 advantage. Three errors and a sacrifice bunt allowed Pearl River (11-13, 3-9) make the score 1-1 in their half of the third inning. The Lady Bears took a 4-1 lead in the top of the sixth. A one-out solo homer by Hudson got the ball rolling. Kristie Sanchez drove Kelcey Bremenkamp home with a double to centerfield and Parker’s base hit scored Sanchez.



Jordan Fitzgerald throws to home. photo by Chuck Barnes



Kristie Sanchez fires ball to first. photo by Chuck Barnes

MI-BEST Program: success story

By Alyssa Hughes, staff writer

Attention: Have you heard about one of the best programs Southwest Mississippi Community College offers? SMCC has a program called MI-BEST: Mississippi Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training. MI-BEST is offered to qualified students that meet financial and academic criteria; it is not an entitlement program. The program combines academic skill development, career advising, career-readiness training, and workforce training through Adult Basic Education (ABE), Workforce Training, and Career-Technical Education courses. This allows qualified students to train in high-demand careers, secure a better job with better wages, be job ready in as little as 6-12 months, earn national certifications quickly, and earn college credits that lead to a degree in the future.

I am able to share with you just how beneficial this program is since I am currently in the program myself. The MI-BEST program has been a tremendous part of my success thus far at Southwest because of the support I have received and the accountability expected from me to remain qualified for the program. It is because of the MI-BEST team that I have the knowledge of the resources offered, so I may continuously move toward becoming successful. They keep me motivated to pursue all of my goals by holding me accountable for attending class and keeping track of my attendance. Also, they help with any obstacles that may come up along the way by offering additional counseling and tutoring to their students.

Because of all their motivation and support, I achieved a 4.0 GPA my first semester at Southwest, despite the fact that I suffer from different learning disabilities and have been out of school since graduating in 2006.

I encourage anyone who feels they may qualify to contact the MI-BEST College Navigator, Amy Beard, at (601)-276-3802 or the MI-BEST Project Coordinator, Janice McKellar, at (601)-276-3842 to see if you are eligible. Who knows, this may just be the answer you need to help you become successful and make all your dreams come true; I know it has been for me.

Video game review: Battlefield 1

By Reggie Martin, staff writer

Battlefield 1 is hands-down the best first-person shooter of 2016. It may even be the best shooter in over a decade. While the Battlefield franchise sparked a lot of controversy on its return to World War I, it certainly proved all the nay-sayers wrong. Battlefield 1 tells a story from the perspective of five different soldiers about their experience of war. The stories are told so well that it is like watching a mini-series. The characters are superbly voice-acted and believable, with amazing visuals to add on to the brilliantly thought-out story. Battlefield 1 also does a fantastic job of immersing you in the horrors of the Great War. You see bodies laid out across the burnt landscape of "no man's land," hear soldiers screaming in agony, and witness your fellow members getting blown away by tanks. You can also see small details such as rats running around the trenches and mud on your gun when you dive to the ground. The game does have a few problems, such as over-representing automatic guns when mostly bolt action weapons were used at the time. Sometimes, the pause menu loads up very slowly, but it is nothing game-breaking. As for the multiplayer mode, this is quite simply the best it has ever been. Battlefield has always been known for its large-scale warfare, yet something about being placed in 1918 makes it even more fun.

Krewe of King Charlie rolls



Krewe of Charlie rolls on Mardi Gras: Rebecca Davis, Brandon Moak, Lexi Herndon, King Daniel Herndon, Karen Herndon, and Grey Herndon, Hunter Temple, Karinee Brister and Addie Boone; second row: Kendyl Adam, Rhonda Nevels, Danelle Dunaway, Leigh Ann Gibson, Leeanne Rutland, Queen Sharron Pickett, Pat Young, Regina Carraway, and Kim Dickens, Brooke Wells, and Jaime Lowe



Choir Concert: Brittnay McGuire, Emily Kemp, Jada Brown, Cecily Forrest, Michael Wilson, Hannah Malone, Bradi Conn, Shelby Stokes, and Destyn Lilly; second row: Anna Grace Thomas, Clare Clark, Amber Legg, Loryn Hollis, Kashawn Jones, Tate Allen, Evan Busbin, Charles Coleman, Laken Brock, Mariha Beadle, Taylor Bland, Janice Spicuzza, and Brooke Wells; third row: Britni Goldbold, Whitney Goldbold, Brianna King, Courtini Goldbold, Charayana Johnson, Sami Simmons, Neshun Holmes, Trevor Davis, J.C. Gardner, Jacob Landry, Branson Blanton, Joshua Williams, Samuel Reed, and Robert Brown

Ole Miss vs. MSU: did you know?

By Hannah Karabelen, staff writer

Many of you will be going to a four-year college next semester, and maybe it will be a Mississippi college. If you decide to go to Mississippi State or Ole Miss, keep the history of them in mind.

The University of Mississippi, also called Ole Miss, was established in 1844; it is the largest university in Mississippi. When the college first opened in 1848, it started out with eighty students. It soon grew over a period of 168 years to almost 25,000 students. Through the 168 years of the campus's existence, it has been through many hardships, including the Civil War, where a majority of the students ended up leaving to join the Confederate army. Also during this time, the Lyceum was being used as a hospital for the wounded, and the campus was being used as a burial ground for the dead. During the 1930s, World War II came. Ole Miss, as well as many other colleges at the time, allowed students to train for the Navy through a program called the V-12 Navy College Training Program. Approximately thirty years later, on October 1, 1962, the college was desegregated when a United States Air Force veteran named James Meredith was the first African-American to be enrolled at Ole Miss. As of 2008, the college held their first presidential debate between Senators John S. McCain and Barack Obama, an event that also happened to be the first presidential debate held in Mississippi. Two years later, Colonel Reb, the college's mascot, retired with Rebel, the black bear, taking his place.

Mississippi State University, or simply State, was established thirty-four years after the University of Mississippi. The college started out as a college of agriculture and mechanics, entitled The Agricultural and Mechanical College of the State of Mississippi. In 1932, the institution was renamed Mississippi State University. Desegregation began in July of 1965 when a Mississippian named Richard E. Holmes became the first African-American to enroll at State, and in 1977, State admitted its first class into their newly-built Veterinarian Medical Center, which happens to be the nation's largest Veterinary School that exists under a single roof.

The history of both colleges intrigued me. Ole Miss's history of war and the fact that Mississippi State does not have much of a history was a stark contrast. Hopefully this article enlightened you on the history of both institutions, and maybe the information presented can be a deciding factor on where you attend university.

Choir

By Dakota Stailey, staff writer

Southwest had plenty of talented students with dreams of singing, and many of them aspired to join the Southwest Mississippi Community College choir. Regardless of musical background or interest, the students who came together brought music to others around them by singing beautifully in harmony. Joe Elliott, choir director, led students through practices until they perfected their pieces. The choir rang in the spring season with a piece from the "Tshotsholoza (Go Forward)" by Dr. Jeffery Ames. Four talented soloists performed pieces they had worked on all semester. Loryn Hollis performed "Much More" by Harvey Schmidt and "Summertime" by George Gershwin. Michael Wilson performed "Per la Gloria d'adorarvi" by Giovanni Bononcini and "Sebben, Crudele" by Antonio Caldara. Tate Allen sang "Amarilli, mia bella" by Giulio Caccini. Joshua Williams performed "Lord, I Want to be a Christian" by Arr. John Payne and "Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God" (Psalms 51:10-13) by Carl Mueller. Every section of the choir, all the way from the sopranos and down to the basses, contributed to the choir's success.

20TH ANNUAL SOUTHWEST FOOTBALL COCA-COLA GOLF CLASSIC

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2017
QUAIL HOLLOW GOLF COURSE-
PERCY QUIN STATE PARK

MAY 17

FOOD
DRINKS
PRIZES

4 MAN SCRAMBLE
\$60 PER PERSON
INCLUDES: GREEN FEE / CART / GIFTS
RANGE BALLS / LUNCH BEFORE CLASSIC
12:00 NOON REGISTRATION BEGINS
1:00 SHOTGUN START

SOUTHWEST BEARS FOOTBALL

CONTACT:
COACH TUCKER PEAVEY
601-276-3892
FAX: 601-276-3888
E-MAIL: tpeavey@smcc.edu

Southwest Miss. Comm. 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: Mrs. Rhonda Gibson, ADA and OCR Coordinator (601) 276-3885; Dr. Bill Ashley, Vice-President of Student Affairs and Title IX Coordinator (601) 276-3717; 1156 College Drive, Summit, MS 39666



FAIR FOOD!

SMCC-PBL FUNDRAISER

Chicken on a Stick \$7.00
Funnel Cakes \$5.00
Homemade Lemonade \$3.00

Purchase your ticket early! Funnel Cake for breakfast or afternoon snack?
Not a problem! We will be set up from 10:00 to 2:00!! We will also have FRIED OREGOS!!!

Tuesday, April 11th @ Front of Career Technical Building

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: Mrs. Rhonda Gibson, Director of Disability Support Services (601) 276-3888; Dr. Bill Ashley, Vice-President of Student Affairs, Title IX Coordinator and Director of Athletics (601) 276-3717; 1156 College Drive, Summit, MS 39666

Krewe of King Charlie rolls for Mardi Gras fun



Brooke Wells, Robert Brown, and Haley Simmons shower the parade attendees with beads and rubber ducks. photo by Kimi Jeanson



Daniel Herndon, King of Southwest's Mardi Gras; and Sharon Pickett, Queen of Southwest's Mardi Gras, reign. photo by Joyce Mabry



Leeane Rutland and Cade Boone cruise down College Drive with Leigh Ann Gibson and Addie Boone. photo by Kimi Jeanson



Jaime Lowe and Danelle Dunaway pass out beads and rubber ducks. photo by Kimi Jeanson

Cartoons.....



Ads.....

SOUTHWEST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Redline

Redline auditions will be held Friday, April 21 at 4:00 p.m. in the SMCC Bear Basketball Center.
The clinic dates are Monday, April 17 and Thursday, April 20 at 4:00 p.m. in the SMCC Bear Basketball Center. Clinic fee is \$20.00
Please contact Ashley Gray at 601-276-3732, or agray@smcc.edu if you have any questions.

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SPRING FEST



Thursday, April 20th

Bear Necessities Day 10:00 a.m. at the football practice field

Assembly Schedule:

8:00-8:50 A period

9:00– 9:50 B period

10:00 Bear Necessities Day

11:30 a.m. Cookout

Sign up your Bear Necessities Day team in Student Services by Tuesday, April 18th by 4:30 p.m.

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Southwest Mississippi Community College

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Individual Membership - \$100 annually

Corporate Membership - \$500 annually



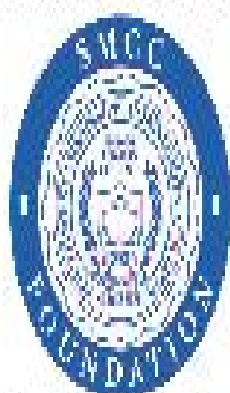
ATTENTION: SOUTHWEST BEARS

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 _____

Email Address _____

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

Clip and send to:



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City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____

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

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