

Campus Events

Monday, November 21
10:25 Admin Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Break

Monday, November 28
Women’s Basketball @ 6:00
SMCC vs. Baton Rouge CC

Thursday, December 1
Registration begins for winter and spring terms
Stage Band Christmas Show (4 showings)
Women’s Basketball @ 6:00 @ Co-Lin CC
Men’s Basketball @ 6:00 @ Jones

Saturday, December 3
Men’s Basketball @ 2:00
SMCC vs. East Central CC

Monday, December 5
Women’s Basketball @ 5:30
SMCC @ Holmes CC

Wednesday, December 7
2022 Fall Semester Final Exams

Saturday, December 10
Women’s Basketball @ 2:00
SMCC @ LSU-Eunice
Men’s Basketball @ 2:00
SMCC vs. LSU Eunice

Monday, December 12
Fall Semester Graduation Basketball @ 4:00
SMCC @ Baton Rouge CC

Friday, December 16
Christmas Holiday Break

Thursday, January 5
Men’s Basketball @ 6:00 @ Co-Lin
Women’s Basketball @ 6:00

Monday, January 9
Men’s Basketball @ 6:00 @ East Miss. CC
Women’s Basketball @ 6:00

Tuesday, January 10
Dorms Open for Residents

Wednesday, January 11
Spring Semester Classes Begin



above: Dr. Steve Bishop, Katherine Bishop, “2022 Most Beautiful,” and Joli Spears, “2021 Most Beautiful,” pose for a picture.

photo by Chuck Barnes

Katherine Bishop: Most Beautiful

By Leah Sterling,
Editor

On the third of November, fourteen of SMCC’s most elegant girls competed in the annual Parade of Beauties pageant. For weeks, they practiced and rehearsed to successfully present themselves on this exciting night. To start the evening, Sophomore Joli Spears, 2021 “Most Beautiful,” was introduced and loudly applauded by the crowd. Then, the judges and auditors waved as an introduction to the audience.

Finally, the entertainment began. As a group, the ladies boldly paraded across the stage, giving the audience and judges a sneak peek of each contestant and their beautiful dresses of all colors. The crowd was very pleased with the show, so far. Next, each of the participants individually walked the stage, modeling their gowns. Vice-President Blake Brewer announced the young ladies’ honors and interests. For weeks, they practiced their footwork and walks to present it perfectly to the crowd who came to be included in the exciting event. Each of the girls dazzlingly smiled at the judges seated directly in front of the auditorium stage.

Contestants in the pageant include Kaylee Pigott, Mary Elizabeth Kuntz, Savannah McCullough, Sydney Parker, Sophie Tompkins, Kelsey Jones, Madison Thibodeaux, Katherine Bishop, Hannah McLaughlin, Ali-Anne Long, Ashlyn Parker, Jada Martin, BrookLynn Bateman, and Melanie Parsons.

After the ladies each showed off their modeling walks and beautiful dresses, the judges took the time to decide who was deserving of each title. The audience waited in anticipation to see which of the girls would receive the titles of “Most Beautiful” and “Beauties.” To entertain the spectators, the recently voted 2022 SMCC Who’s Who took the stage to be introduced. Freshman Class Favorites, Sophomore Class Favorites, Campus Beaus and Most Handsome, Campus

Favorites, Mr. and Miss SMCC. Many of the participants had also been Who’s Who candidates, which shows the great student involvement on campus. While still waiting on the judges’ important decisions, Shelby Hess, Claire Busbin, and Carson Ellis performed “Make Me Feel Your Love” by Adele to the spectators. The public was significantly moved by their gifted performance.

Finally, the time had arrived. The judges had come to an agreed conclusion as to which of the contestants was to move on to the next round. The Top Six were announced and enthusiastically entered the stage. Each contestant would have a second opportunity to spark the judges. They would again model their evening gowns to gain needed approval. Confidently walking across the stage, the girls brightly smiled.

Following the walk, Joli Spears did one last model across the stage as the reigning queen. She looked stunning as she walked from each side of the theater stage. The audience clapped wildly for the 2021 “Most Beautiful.”

Another entertainment period took place, with Claire Busbin singing By the Cross by Red Rocks Worship. She was accompanied by Carson Ellis playing the guitar.

At last, the moment that every person in the entire building had been anxiously waiting for had come. The entire crowd sat on the edge of their seats waiting to hear who would be named 2022 “Most Beautiful.” Each of the Top Six ladies took the stage, and lastly came Katherine Bishop. Cheers and exciting yells came from every inch of the room in excitement for the new queen.

All of the contestants in the 2022 Parade of Beauties did an outstanding job modeling and participating in the event. These ladies are all successful and ambitious, which could be known by their impressive talents. Southwest Mississippi Community College was grateful to have the best of the best participate in the annual pageant.



above: Katherine Bishop smiles after being crowned.

by Chuck Barnes



above: Melanie Parsons focuses on the the judges

by Chuck Barnes



above: BrookLynn Bateman walks across the stage.

by Chuck Barnes



above: Top Six: Madison Thibodeaux, Ali-Anne Long, Joli Spears, 2021 “Most Beautiful,” Katherine Bishop, “2022 Most Beautiful,” Kelsey Jones, Kaylee Pigott, and Jada Martin beam.

photo by Chuck Barnes

Harris, Weir earn 2022 Halbrook Awards

In addition to excelling on the pitch for the Lady Bears and Bears, respectively, former Southwest student athletes Renee Harris and Nick Weir were also recognized for their work in the classroom and community as they were awarded the David M. Halbrook Academic Achievement Awards for the 2021-22 academic year. The David M. Halbrook Certificate for Academic Achievement Among Athletes recognizes the efforts of individual student athletes who excel in academics, leadership and service. Each college or university select a male and female student athlete to receive this recognition.

Harris and Weir both excelled academically, each maintaining 4.0 GPAs.

Harris is a native of Poplarville and a graduate of Poplarville High School. Weir is a native of Gautier and a graduate of Gautier High School.

The awards are presented each year at the Mississippi Association of Colleges Conference.

Collins happy to have seven players make All Conference

By Travis Connelley, SID

Following a season where the Bears had to face plenty of adversity, some were recognized for their individual efforts. Recently, seven Bears were honored with All-Conference nods.

For Southwest head coach Cliff Collins, this group holds special meaning to the second-year coach.

“This is my first initial class, the kids that I went out and recruited,” he said. “That is showing people that we recruited the right guys. The record doesn’t always show what we did but we definitely recruited the right guys.”

On offense a total of four players earned awards. Sophomore offensive lineman Izavion Miller and wide receiver Jacoby Bellazar earned First Team All-Conference honors. Fellow offensive lineman, freshman Kendarius Small, was also recognized with Honorable Mention as was another sophomore receiver in Ja’Coby Matthews.

Bellazar has committed to Mississippi State and Miller to Ole Miss. Matthews has also received multiple offers and plans to sign with a four-year school in December.

On the other side of the ball, three defensive linemen were also honored. Sophomore Eric Taylor and freshman Jameer Lewis earned Second Team honors while sophomore Martavius Evans earned Honorable



Index

Editorial.....	2
Sports.....	5
Cartoons.....	7
Ads.....	8

The Pine Burr

Editor.....Leah Sterling
Co-editors..... Larina Anderson, BrookLynn Bateman, Lainey Dunnaway, Sierra Gatz, Keagan Holliday, Tay Srithong
Staff Writers..... Connor Brady, Milloree Brown, Emma Carruth, Ronderrick Faulk, Joshua Faust, Elise Gillissie, J.P.Johnson, Levi Lovett, Sarah Grace Meyn, Brooklyn Timmons, Sophie Tomkins

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.

pineburr@smcc.edu

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



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 2022. An additional email will be sent to your email account at 9:00 AM with your login information. It's basically the same email that was sent on August 2022. 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.

Editorial: Welcome to Southwest

by Leah Sterling

Hello,

With the holidays quickly approaching, we are getting more and more excited for these lengthy school breaks that are soon to come. This first semester has been so great for me, personally, and I hope the same for you. Campus was full of life these past weeks: homecoming festivities filled campus, inductions began and campus groups started their meetings, and many athletic games took place on the newly completed SMCC turf. I want to highlight some of the very successful events that went on at Southwest Mississippi Community College this past semester. Much thought, preparation, and time took place to make these outings possible for the benefit of us, students.

This past semester, the Bear Trackers organized a College Fair for our Freshmen and Sophomores. This gave the stu-

dents the opportunity to explore their future options when furthering their education. Southwest Mississippi Community College serves as the best first step for pursuing a degree; it is important to decide what to do after graduating SMCC, and the college makes this process very simple. Another successful event that Southwest put on during the Fall Semester is the annual Bear Madness. Both of these celebrations took place during Homecoming Week. Bear Madness attendees do not only consist of SMCC's faculty and students, but also citizens of the surrounding cities. All are welcome to witness a sneak peak at the outstanding Men's and Women's Basketball teams. Bears impressively perform their routines, plays, and skills. Bear Madness always scores as a guaranteed event that gets its viewers excited for the upcoming basket-

ball season.

In addition to these Southwest traditions, the college also hosted a Memorial Walk honoring Dr. Bill Tucker, led by Phi Theta Kappa. Participants walked and ran around the track for two miles, the same distance that Dr. Tucker walked most mornings before school started. This event was the best way to come together not only as a school, but as a community. Over three hundred individuals registered to attend weeks before the event. We all know how much Dr. Tucker meant to Southwest Mississippi Community College, so this event served as the most beautiful gathering to honor his life.

A myriad of activities took place during the fall semester. Now, we have the spring semester quickly approaching. Before you depart for your home to celebrate the holidays, be sure to set up a time with your advisor to create



Leah Sterling
Editor

your spring semester schedule! You want to be sure that you have taken care of this before leaving campus. Also, if you are a resident on campus, we are not allowed to re-enter our dorm rooms after campus has closed. So, grab all the clothes and items you think you may need for the break. Be safe and enjoy quality time with your family..



Woody and Jessie: Michael Kees and McKenna Pearson smile at the BSU costume party.

photo by Sarah Grace Meyn



The Grinch: Jake Reeves, Carson Ellis and Christian Jordan stay in the zone.

photo by Sarah Grace Meyn



All for One: Ezra Patty, Josiah May, Claire Busbin, and Emily Peltier stick together.

photo by Sarah Grace Meyn

Finals

By Larina Anderson,
Co-editor

Finals are ahead and knowing how to create the right preparation to ace tests is important. Being attentive in class can be one of the best ways to start the preparation. Looking into things like study guides, quizzes, tests, or articles in the canvas' modules section can help too. The idea of looking over quizzes and tests is to help familiarize yourself with the classes' main topics, which in many cases will be in the Final. The amount of pressure that can be upon us when the time comes can be overwhelming which is why preparation is key. Not only can we train our minds in repetitive forms on how to memorize certain types of information, but we can also train our minds' reactions to the stress that may come with tests. Emotional preparation is needed to take care of any nerves that may get in the way of memorizing vital information.

Sometimes nerves can create an immense feeling of discouragement causing negative reactions which can be time-consuming. Things to prevent that could be using tactics such as quizzing yourself on a time limit or surrounding yourself in a nosey or chaotic environment. The reason for surrounding yourself in a nosey environment is to help develop a focused mindset because the stress that comes with test-taking can feel chaotic which can throw off one's focus. The tactic of quizzing yourself on a time limit can help you develop an awareness of how long you should take on each question. It can also help with finding out what information you are not extremely familiar with and vice versa. The greatest advantage of studying is that if you know how your mind best retains information, it will be easier to gain loads of information in short periods of time which is why preparation is key.

Faust tours Savannah College of Art and Design

By Larina Anderson,
co-editor

Joshua Faust took an adventurous trip to Savannah, Georgia, where he visited his next potential school as a junior, and after he graduates from Southwest Mississippi Community College. He visited Savannah College of Art and Design that hosted a College Day on November 12th. The tour started with a schedule that depended on one's particular interests. Joshua's interests were things such as Interactive and game development, UXD, UXR, and Sequential Art Illustration. At Savannah College of Art and Design there are also other art specialization options to choose such as interests in jewelry, fashion, and motion pictures. The tour took place in the school's museum called SCAD'S Museum. It is considered as a hub where everyone concentrated on getting information on their specialty.

And from there, color coded buses picked up future students based on their majors. Joshua, of course, got on the color coded bus that accepted Interactive and Game Development majors. While touring the area it provided him with information about the tasks and skills needed in order to succeed in that particular major. Joshua stated, "People that work in the field of Interactive and Game Development are responsible for creating the design and storyboard of a game, or using unity to create the environment of a game itself." Joshua plans to attend the Savannah College of Art and Design.



Nursing Scholarship: Southwest Mississippi Community College's School of Associate Degree Nursing is pleased to announce that Dylan Bergeron has been awarded the \$1000 Mississippi Nurses Foundation School of Nursing Scholarship. The mission of the Mississippi Nurses Foundation (MNF) is to raise, accept, and disperse charitable donations to promote professional nursing and better health in Mississippi. SMCC is proud to partner with MNF and appreciates all that they do for nurses and nursing students across the state. Pictured: Dr. Steve Bishop, SMCC President; Amanda Crawford, Executive Director of the Mississippi Nurses Foundation; Dylan Bergeron, scholarship recipient; Stephanie Greer, RN, MSN, Associate Vice-President for Nursing.

photo by Joyce Mabry



Kick for Tuition: Blake Brewer, Megan Jones, Joshua Faust, Ezra Patty, Conner Putfark, Gabriella Parker, Karinlee Brister, and Ken Jackson celebrate the seniors each winning a two hundred and fifty dollar scholarship.

photo by Chuck Barnes



Men's Basketball Team: Mathew Riley, Assistant Coach; Corey Schmidt, Head Coach; Blake Hart, Dean Brown, T.J. Wiley, Isaiah Morey, Mark Drone, Carson Simmons, Darrius Thames, Assistant Coach, Tyler Howsen; Assistant Coach, Thomas Clement, Assistant Coach; second row: Zay Gill, Manager; Lavontae Anders, Manager; Zach Boyd, Javius Moore, Issac Brice, Corey Lombard, Jahshawne Joseph, Tyler Shannon, Joe Holloway, Adrian Pittman, Manger; Johvoneis Sanders, Manager

photo by Chuck Barnes



Reader's Choice Award: Gus Paulk, Joyce Mabry, Gina Stutzman, Dr. Steve Bishop, Debbie Hodges, Blake Brewer, and Matt Calhoun cheerfully accept the Reader's Choice 2022 Best Place To Work Award.

photo by Travis Connelley



Women's Basketball Team: McKenzie Amos, Veronica Williams, Antonia Bryant, Mia Wheeler, Mookie Lampley, Justice Cox, Lyl Johnson; second row: Bre'Myia Cameron, Manager; A'mya Brown, Manager; Savannah Hailey, JoJo Briggs, Lynn Griffin, Moran Sullivan, Courtney Bradford, Michaela Payton, Nia Hardison, Sharoniq Patterson, Manager; Brittany Sturkey, Manager

photo by Chuck Barnes

The Southwest Experience

By Conner Brady,
staff

In the beginning, I was hesitant to attend Southwest. I wanted to get as far away from Summit as possible. I think almost everyone from the surrounding cities felt the same way I did. Most of us have grown up here and crave the excitement of bigger cities and towns. However, now that I am a student, I can share my personal experiences as to why I am glad that I chose to go to Southwest before attending a university.

To begin, the teachers here are extremely helpful and understanding. Because Southwest is smaller than a university, there is a more accommodating environment in the classroom. Teachers have the time to answer your questions and make sure you understood all of the material. They are also very kind and friendly, so I truly enjoy being a student in their classes. If you have transferred from a local high school, you also know most of your classmates. It is always nice to have familiar faces when taking a big step in your life, such as college. I was scared that I would not have fun at Southwest or that I would miss out on the "college experience." Even though there is not much to do around Summit, it is located in the middle of so many other bigger cities.

Personally, I think it is all about putting yourself out there, making new friends, and working with what you have. Mostly everyone at Southwest is kind if you talk to them. If I had not gone to Southwest, there are so many beautiful people whom I would have missed out on getting to know. Also, when considering finances, Southwest will always save money. There are so many scholarships for community college transfers, especially if you are involved in school activities and clubs. I think it is a great way to prepare for a university. The classes are substantially easier compared to university classes because of the benefits we have as a community college, even though they are the same course. As I have mentioned earlier, you do get a more hands-on approach in the classroom setting here. The teachers are very considerate towards students. If you simply communicate with them, they will usually understand and try to figure out a solution to solve whatever issues you are facing.

At the end of the day, I think it is all about one's mindset. Choose to be kind to others and kind to yourself. Choose to work hard and put in effort towards your academic studies. Choose to make the best of every situation. Choose to be yourself and live authentically. I think that is what truly matters in making or breaking your college experience.

Homecoming cookout

By Larina Anderson,
Co-editor

Southwest hosted an amazing homecoming cookout event that many enjoyed. Located in front of the student union were staff members preparing plates for anyone who came. As the event began, many family and friends filled in lines that were organized for different food sections. There were various food options such as cookies, chips, hamburgers, baked beans, potato salad, and pulled pork sandwiches. The food brought warmth to everyone as the cool temperatures immersed them. The various options not only helped cater to picky eaters, but they also catered to the people that preferred to abstain from eating pork. The many students, parents, and staff members that attended the event enjoyed a memorable night.

Everyone greeted each other while enjoying the gracious food provided. The joyous event kicked off homecoming week to a great start. All who came enjoyed themselves as well as the company of others. Some students even created games that many small children and parents joined together to play.

On campus vs. off campus

By Leah Sterling, editor

When enrolling at Southwest Mississippi Community Colleges, students have the option to live on campus or commute every day. This choice is a huge privilege because a lot of community colleges do not have available housing on their campuses. The decision of these young adults determines a completely different Southwest experience. Of course, there are pros and cons of living on campus and commuting. Several students, both residents and commuters, gave their opinions on the choices that they made when enrolling. Hopefully, by reading this article, prospective SMCC students may be able to weigh their options with these helpful remarks.

Several freshmen girls in Suite 204 of the Women’s Dormitory were asked about their personal experiences of living on campus. They had several positive things to say.

The main point mentioned by each girl was the easy ability to make new friends when staying on campus. Along with this, they added that students are more likely to be involved in school activities and events if they live on campus. Also, the girls said that it is much easier and quicker to get to class. One female freshman says that she found it much easier to study at the dorm than at her home. She was less likely to be distracted, she claims.

I interviewed two boys about their thoughts of living on campus, and they both had some interesting things to add. A sophomore says that he enjoys everything about staying in the dorm, except for the cafeteria hours closing too early. A freshman who had also commuted earlier in the year before switching to the dorms said that he really liked the independence that living on campus gave him. He also likes a scheduled meal every day. However, he did have a con that walking to class in bad weather is not enjoyable. On beautiful, sunny days, he loves walking around campus, though.

The commuter students were also questioned about their opinions on driving to school every day. The most common response that I received while interviewing was that the commuters claimed that they save an immense amount of money by not residing on campus. Of course, this is in the context of not living a lengthy drive away from SMCC. They said that they save money on their meals because they have the option of buying lunch from the cafeteria or eating at their homes, instead.

Of course, the commuters also had complaints about driving to and from school each day. If a commuter lives far from the school, they would require an immense amount of gas, a charge that residing students do not have to worry about. One commuter says that she likes commuting, but there is a downside of not having anything to do in between classes, or if she wants to stay for a later event on campus, such as a basketball game. She wishes there were more places to hang out and kill time in between her schedule. Something very common I heard while talking to commuters was that they did not have as much want or energy to drive back to campus to attend gatherings or games. For one commuter, he admits that he is much less likely to come out again to Southwest to attend a game or event.

All in all, Southwest is home to its students, regardless if they live on campus or not.

One student says, “The thing I like most about Southwest is how everyone does their own thing during the day, but we can all come together for events or activities. We are all there for each other when the time is needed, and we can unite for the happy moments, too.”



PTK Induction of New Members: Leslie De Perio, Latoria Robinson, Tyeisha Taft, LaDestiny Magee, Kaylen Simpson, Leighton McCulley, Amy Mabile, Madeline Alford, Presley Gordan, Alexander Mulligan; second row: Christopher Harrell, MaKayla Stepter, Caden Hollis, Aiden Mulligan, Raven Blair Burnette, Daniel Conner Brady, Zander Varaska, Bradley Bellipanni, Jacob Martin; third row: Lorelei Boudreaux, Kefonte Chandler, Trakeyria Sermon, Ryan Turner, Jaden Cowart, Jeremias Conerly, Jackiemeyunna Young, Lexy Egan, Kayla Shaffer, Larina Anderson, Leah Sterling, Sadie Stafford



Tri-Beta: Robin Kuntz, advisor;Cailey Browning, Melanie Parsons, Lauren Bates, Haley Kinabrew, Brookelyn Holeman, Emma Dickerson, Beth Bennett, Dr. Alana Gabler, advisor; second row: Hannah Slump, Emily Peltier, Laney Boyd, Dailyn Ham, Hannah McDaniel, Jurhnae Dawson; third row: Myles Jones, Austin Etheridge, Conner Brady

photo by Joyce Mabry



Steel Drums: Amy Mabile, Aleigha Price, Tessa Smith, Emily Case, Nikki Burt, Morgan Guy, Madeline Alford; second row: Deshan Blount, Nicolas Rollins, Dekiah Youngblood, Amanti Hughes, Dwight Martin Jr., Sabrina Smith, Tamiyia Tobias

photo by Joyce Mabry



BSU Leadership Team: Tyler Phillips, Beth Bennet, Ezra Pattie, Claire Busbin, Trey Hess, BSU Director,Brianna Bennet, Sydney Parker, McKenna Pearson, Michael Kees

photo by Joyce Mabry

SMCC Alumni Association

Memberships Make Great Gifts!!!

ANNUAL INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS \$50

ANNUAL COUPLE MEMBERSHIPS \$75

Lifetime Individual Memberships
\$200

Lifetime Couple Memberships
\$300

League of Legends

Tay Srithong, staff

After the recent finals, the game “League of Legends” is at an all-time high in popularity. Yet, not too many people here know about it, so I wanted to share a part of my culture. Back in the Middle East, League of Legends was always part of the culture. No matter what background you came from, if you were male and went to the schools there, at some point in time, you would have played the game. As well as in Middle Eastern culture, the game is also popular in Asian culture, especially in countries like Korea and China.

There are high-stake tournaments all the time held. They are not everyday gaming tournaments. Millions in currency are involved, and teams dedicate themselves for years to building rosters and strategies to win each tournament. The experience is amazing because companies invest millions into making the Esport accessible, huge stadiums are rented out and filled, and online streaming services, such as Twitch, hold thousands of viewers at a time. The teams which play are extremely valid, for example, one of the most popular league teams, T1 who is sponsored by Nike, Samsung, BMW etc... The competition has been and will always be rough because each year multiple new stars arise. Considered one of the greatest League of Legends players, 3-time world winner, Faker, has often been called the “LeBron James of League” because of his enduring popularity and undisputed greatness. If we compare Esports to a sport, League of Legends would be the game to represent.

The premise of the game has not changed in 12 years and it has remained king within the community. I do not doubt that the viewership increases within this decade. This year in the Finals, Lil Nas X wrote a song dedicated to the intensity of the game, and that had been implemented as the theme song for the event throughout. League of Legends is bigger than gaming.

BSU Missions

By Leah Sterling, editor

Trey Hess and his wife, Shelby, lead this group of young men and women determined to change the world through the Hope of the One True King. During Spring Break, twenty-five passionate students gave up their vacation time off of school to instead travel to Austin, Texas to share the Word of God.

Brianna Bennet had the opportunity of attending the summer mission trip. When asked about the mission, her face lit up as she said, “The first day we went to a nearby park and I saw a birthday party going on under a gazebo. I was a little nervous at first, but I went and started talking to some of the women. One of the young girls had just recently given her life to Christ, and it was so great to talk to her all about it. Her story was inspiring and moved me. I am still in touch with her to this day.” Beth Bennet also loved her time on the mission trip.

She said, “We went to an apartment and knocked on several doors to ask the residents if they needed prayers. Surprisingly, the tenants showed lots of interest to speak with us. After we had visited and prayed with several individuals, they took it upon themselves and created a bible study group to continue to learn about our God.” Days stayed filled giving time to the Lord and serving His people.

The BSU serves as an organization where joy lives abundantly. These young men and women strive to share God’s Word; their great mission has just begun.



Bears score late to win over East Central



By Travis Connelley, Sports Information Director

September 29, 2022

In recent meetings on the grid-iron between Southwest and East Central, it has been the Warriors that have had the Bears' number.

That was until Thursday night.

The Bears finished with 364 yards of total offense including 164 on the ground, a combined nine sacks and scored 14-unanswered points in the fourth quarter to walk away with a 24-20 road win over the Warriors.

"This is a big win for the team, it is a turning point for our season," Southwest head coach Cliff Collins said. "It is the first road win of the season, the second win of the season and first conference win. I am just proud of the guys and I challenged them last week and they rose to it."

The Bears (2-3, 1-2) struck first with a 24-yard field goal by Tres Ladner at the 5:19 mark in the first quarter. The score came on Southwest's second drive as the Bears switched to a run-heavy look led by Damuriyon Montgomery.

Early in the second quarter, the Warriors got their offense going as well moving the ball down the field before tying the game at 3 following a 29-yard field goal by Brandon Gilliam.

After the Bears were unable to answer, they found themselves trailing for the first time after East Central got a second field goal from Gilliam, this time from 38 yards out, making the score 6-3 Warriors with 8:49 to go until half.

Southwest's offense once again could not get into rhythm during the ensuing drive. East Central attempted to increase its lead with a third field goal, however it was missed, keeping the Bears within striking distance.

Late in the quarter, the Bears got their offense going with the passing game. Starting quarterback Cameron Davis spread the ball around and hooked up with Jacoby Bellazar on a pair of big plays setting up a field goal attempt by Ladner.

The kick was blocked before the ball was scooped up by Michael Coats Jr. and returned 85 yards for a touchdown on the final play of the first half, making the score 13-3 East Central and swinging the momentum back to the home sideline.

Southwest's defense stepped up early in the third quarter as Buddy Felder snagged an interception on a tipped pass, stopping the East Central momentum.

With the ball at the Warrior 49, Davis led a nine-play drive that wrapped with a 16-yard touchdown pass to Ty Moore. After the Tres Ladner extra point, the Bears pulled within three at 13-10.

Late in the third quarter, a Davis pass was picked-off by Jaylin Thompson before being returned 56 yards for a touchdown.

Early in the fourth, it was the Bears' turn to take advantage of a Warrior mistake. With East Central backed up deep in its own territory, a fumble caused by Martavius Evans was recovered by Kharel Coney before being returned 20 yards for a touchdown. With Ladner's extra point, the Bears once-again pulled within three at 20-17.

Evans finished the night with a

team-high 13 tackles and four of the Bears' nine sacks on the night. He said after the game that the team made the right preparations all week.

"It started at practice, we focused hard at practice all week and did what we were supposed to do and we came out and won," said Evans

Later in the quarter, East Central drove down within field goal range, however, the Southwest defense stepped up forcing a long attempt which sailed wide right.

Trailing only by three, Davis and the Bears once again put together a strong drive, resulting in more points.

A heavy dose of Cadynce Johnson at running back — who took the majority of the handoffs in the second half after Montgomery left with an injury — helped push the ball down the field.

Johnson had three rushes of more than 10 yards on the drive and his success coupled with a couple of key passes from Davis, the latter of which was a 20-yard touchdown to Drekevion Anderson gave the Bears the lead for the first time since early in the second quarter.

The pass to Anderson was a variation of a wide receiver screen, a play that Southwest ran multiple times to success on the evening."I got back and dropped it over the top of him and my line — they are pretty fast — got there blocking and he (Anderson) scored," said Davis who finished with 200 passing yards and two scores.

Johnson also shined on offense for Southwest finishing with 108 yards on 27 carries. Afterward, Johnson gave praise to his guys up front for blocking.

"They helped me out, they were the reason that we won," he said. "Shout out to the **O-Line!**"

October 6, 2022

After a dismal first half in Thursday's home contest against the Hinds Eagles, the Bears had a furious comeback in the second but couldn't quite close the deal in the end, falling 30-24.

"This is the second-straight week where we came out and didn't start out fast," Southwest head coach Cliff Collins said. "In the first part of the season we started out good. In the locker room, I told them that I was proud of them and we came close. I didn't feel like I lost tonight. And when you feel like that, the tide is turning."

The Bears (2-4, 1-3 MACCC) were immediately caught off-guard as the Eagles used a no-huddle offense to move the ball down the field efficiently. Hinds struck first with a 23-yard touchdown run by Jeffrey Pittman and with the Ben Duncan extra point, Southwest trailed 7-0.

The Bear offense tried to respond but a penalty immediately put them behind the 8-ball and they could not recover.

After getting the ball back via punt, the Eagles increased the Bear deficit to 14-0 following an 18-yard touchdown pass from Ranson Oakes to Michael Lott.

Southwest managed a first down the following possession as the Bear offense tried to find that spark, however, it was unable to.

The next two Eagle drives ended with successful field goals as the Bears still lacked efficiency on offense.

They went into the locker room trailing 23-3 after Tres Ladner connected on a 22-yard field goal as time expired.

After both teams traded two punts each to open play in the second half, the Bears found that

consistency missing on offense. A big 11-yard run by Chris Roberson resulted in first down at the Eagle 33 yard line and two plays later, the Bear quarterback showed off his skills as a passer, finding Jacoby Bellazar from 34 yards out for a score. Ladner connected on the extra point and the Bears made it a two-score game at 23-10.

Despite the score, the Eagles were able to answer right back with a nine-play drive wrapping with a six-yard touchdown run by Jamarian Samuels making the score 30-10 with 4:11 to go in the third quarter.

Even though the Bears were down by 20, they showed tremendous fight. Southwest marched down the field, fueled by a 35-yard catch by Bellazar and a 21-yard scramble by Roberson. On the ninth play of the drive, Roberson recorded his second touchdown pass of the night with a 15-yard strike to Ty Moore. The celebration was short-lived however as Moore was injured on the play and did not return.

Ladner connected on the extra point narrowing the Eagle lead to 13 at 30-17.

After the Eagles punted yet again, Roberson and the Bears went back to work. Passes to Bellazar and Tyler Daniels of 40 and 29 yards, respectively, highlighted the drive. In an act of déjà vu the drive's ninth play once again consisted of a 15-yard Roberson touchdown pass, this time to former McComb Tiger teammate Jeremiah Ratliff.

With Ladner's extra point, Southwest was one score away from erasing once-sizable Hinds lead.

Having the momentum on the home side, the Bear defense looked to make one final stand giving the offense another shot to pull closer. A pass interference call on the Bears, which Coach Collins did not agree with, on top of a personal foul call — also against Southwest — resulted in 30-yards worth of penalties giving Hinds new life.

The Southwest defense eventually prevented any further scoring from Hinds but the Bear offense had less than a minute to work with. The offense was unable to move the ball as time ran out giving the visitors the win.

"I told the guys, let's come back on Monday and get ready to go," Collins said. "We are going to keep closing that gap and it is going to happen."

October 13, 2022

All season long, the Bears have faced adversity. Perhaps none more than Thursday night at Jones as the Bears were down several players. And even though the short-handed Bears battled hard, they couldn't get over a slow first quarter of play, falling 48-3.

After the game, Southwest head coach Cliff Collins said that it was a tough week of preparation as many on the team dealt with illness, using a different 'A' letter word to describe the situation.

"I told the guys that I don't call it adversity, I call it advantage," he said. "In life, adversity is going to hit some people harder than others. It is an advantage for us to grow. I am using it in a positive way. If you use it in a negative way, it is going to be bad. I just want to keep the positive vibes so that's why I am changing it to advantage."

The Bears (2-5, 1-4) fell behind early and could not recover. The Bobcats scored touchdowns on their first two possessions and after the Bears forced a

punt, the Jones defense stepped up, taking advantage of a Southwest mistake returning an interception 31 yards for a score putting the visitors on the short end of a 20-0 score.

Despite the deficit, the Bears continued to battle, however the Bobcat offense flexed it muscle again with another touchdown before adding to the lead with the defense recording another pick-6 during the next Southwest possession making it a 31-0 deficit for the Bears.

The Southwest defense began to find some success in the second quarter, limiting Jones to no scoring in the period, but the Bear offense couldn't follow suit as it had difficulty finding consistency.

After what appeared to be a promising drive to open the second half of play, moving the ball down to the Bobcat 40-yard-line, the Bears couldn't capitalize and came away with no points on the drive.

The Southwest defense, however, stepped up during the ensuing possession. Eric Taylor forced a fumble which was recovered by Buddy Felder.

Set up with a golden opportunity to put points on the board, Southwest was unable to move inside the Jones 10-yard line but came away with a successful 32-yard field goal by Tres Ladner.

Unfortunately for Southwest, that would be its lone score on the evening as Jones added two more touchdowns, both through the air, before sealing the win.

In addition to Taylor's forced fumble, the Bears also got ones from Ethan Williams and Jourdan Cooley. And like Felder, both Martavius Evans and Dredarius Robinson also came up with fumble recoveries. Evans also had three tackles on the evening to go along with a sack. The leading tackler for the Bears was Hunter Lee who had nine. Offensively Tyrese Keyes caught six balls for 36 yards.

October 22, 2022

In the final regular season home game of the season, it was a combination of penalties and missed opportunities that cost the Bears in the end as they fell 31-21 to the Pearl River Wildcats on Homecoming and Sophomore Day.

"It was self-inflicted wounds and you can't win football games like that," Southwest head coach Cliff Collins said. "I told the guys you need to go in and re-evaluate yourself. The penalties hurt us."

The Bears (2-6, 1-5) committed 14 penalties on the night for 158 yards. In addition they had difficulty slowing down the Wildcat rushing attack, who racked-up 169 yards on the ground.

Southwest was unable to make the early statement on defense as the Wildcats scored on the first possession of the game. Marquis McCoy hauled in a 13-yard touchdown pass from Lawson Pratt and with the Michael Owens extra point Southwest trailed 7-0.

The deficit did not last long, however, as the Bears answered right back. Jacoby Bellazar took the kickoff down to the Pearl River 40 yard line setting the Bears up with great field position. From there, a 5-play drive culminated with a five-yard touchdown run by Damuriyon Montgomery. Tres Ladner connected on the extra point tying the game at 7.

With the momentum on their sides, the Bear defense used it to their advantage, getting a turnover as Demarcus McGilberry pounced on a Pratt fumble, giving the hosts the ball back at midfield.

The Bear defense stepped up once again in the second quarter, as this time it was Martavius Evans ripping the ball away from Wildcat rusher Nick Milsap, halting a threat by the visitors who moved the ball down into the red zone. The momentum didn't last long as the Bears once again were unable to capitalize following the turnover and was forced to punt.

Just two plays into the ensuing drive a third fumble was caused by the Bear defense as Javier Simmons knocked the ball from the grasp of Shadamen Williamson before Buddy Felder pounced on it giving possession back to the Bears.

Following another Southwest punt, Pearl River marched down the field before breaking the 7-7 tie as Pratt tossed his second touchdown of the night, this time to Antonio Gayden from 14 yards out putting the Bears down 14-7 late in the first half.

After both teams traded punts to open the third quarter, the Bears pulled even once again, and in dramatic fashion. Cameron Davis — who entered the game at quarterback for and injured Chris Roberson — tossed a 59-yard touchdown to Bellazar on the first play of the drive. Ladner added the extra point making it a 14-14 game.

The Bears regained possession following a Wildcat punt and put together a promising drive. Davis led the Bears down to the Pearl River 31 yard line but Southwest came up just short on a 4th-and-short giving the ball back to the visitors.

Pearl River responded with a 14-play drive before taking a 17-14 lead following a 26-yard Michael Owens field goal.

During the drive, there was a scary scene as Simmons suffered what Coach Collins later said was a broken tibia. Simmons remained down for several minutes while being tended to by trainers before being stretchered off the field.

"I hate to see any young man who goes off on a stretcher and he was hurt," Collins said. "He is a guy who does everything that I ask him to do and shows up to work each and every day."

Both teams once again traded punts before the Bears took their first lead of the game on a 43-yard touchdown pass from Davis to Jeremiah Ratliff followed by a successful extra point by Ladner.

With Southwest up 21-17 with just over 8:00 to go, the Bears were hoping to use the momentum built to maintain that lead but multiple penalties on the ensuing drive hurt Southwest as Pearl River took advantage before scoring on a 3-yard run by Milsap. With the extra point, the Bears trailed 24-21 with 3:17 to go.

Hoping for one last push to re-take the lead, the Bears fell behind further after a pick-6 made the score the eventual final.

Davis finished with 191 yards, two touchdowns and one interception. On the ground, Montgomery had 69 yards and a score while Bellazar hauled-in three passes for 110 yards and a touchdown. Ratliff had three catches for 77 yards and a score.

Defensively, Hunter Lee led the way with 12 tackles. James Gardner and Jameer Lewis both had two tackles and sack apiece.

October 28, 2022

Aiming to finish the 2022 campaign with one more win than last season, the Bears went into Thursday afternoon's contest at Holmes trying to play spoiler to the Bulldogs during their homecoming. But mistakes and inconsistent play haunted the Bears as they fell 40-10.

"We have to grow up," Southwest head coach Cliff Collins said. "We have to grow up and have a great offseason. There are some positives from this game. A lot of young guys played well. But we have to take the positives and go into the offseason and do some evaluations of everybody."

For the majority of the contest the Southwest (3-6, 1-5 MACCC) defense had difficulty slowing down the fast-paced offense of Holmes.

Early on, however, the Bear defense came up with a big take away as Fred Lewis snagged an interception on a tipped ball. But Southwest was unable to capitalize and the Bulldogs took the ball right back a few plays later with an interception of their own.

The hosts' takeaway resulted in points as they marched down the field and scored on a three-yard run, taking a 7-0 lead.

The Bears tried to answer with a lengthy drive of their own but the nine-play possession ended with a punt.

Later in the second quarter, Southwest had the opportunity to cut into the Holmes lead but a long field goal by Tres Ladner was missed keeping the deficit at 7.

With just under 2:00 to go until halftime, a costly giveaway hurt the Bears as a fumble gave the Bulldogs a short field and on the ensuing play, a 21-yard touchdown pass and extra point made it a 14-0 deficit for the visitors.

The Bears were unable to get any points on their ensuing drive and after giving the ball back to the Bulldogs via a punt, Holmes completed three of five pass attempts on the drive, the third of which was a 42-yard touchdown with no time left on the clock.

Southwest entered the locker room at the half, down 21-0.

Another mistake on the first drive of the second half proved costly for Southwest as a fumble was scooped up by Holmes and returned 25 yards for a touchdown. The extra point was missed but the Bears found themselves now in a 27-0 hole. Later in the quarter, Jaydon Clements came up with his first collegiate interception and it proved to be a big help for the Bears who desperately sought points. The takeaway provided momentum as the Bears maneuvered closer to the end zone. Despite not getting in the end zone, they were able to put three on the board following a 43-yard field goal by Ladner making it a 27-3 game.

But the Bulldogs answered right back with another successful drive, ending in a 23-yard touchdown run making the score 33-3.

After getting bailed out on a roughing the kicker call early in the fourth quarter, the Bears tried to inch closer with another field goal attempt by Ladner but it was blocked, shutting the door on a promising 15-play, 55-yard drive.

They he missed opportunity hurt even more a short time later as Holmes added to its lead with another touchdown pass, this time from 13 yards out. Following a made extra point, Southwest trailed 40-3. The Bears managed to score a touchdown on the ensuing drive when quarterback Chris Roberson found Tyler Daniels from 45 yards out and with the Ladner extra point, the score became the eventual final.

Roberson finished 23-of-41 for 219 yards, one touchdown and one interception. Damuriyon Montgomery had 83 yards on 22 carries while Jeremiah Ratliff led the Bear receivers with seven catches for 61 yards.

Resilient Lady Bears pick up win over Hinds in double overtime

October 19, 2022

Heading into Tuesday's road match against the Hinds Lady Eagles, the Lady Bears were looking for a boost. Coming off of two tough losses to Top-10 ranked teams, they needed a shot of momentum as they enter the home stretch of the regular season.

They got just what they needed after showing their resilience, picking up a 1-0 double-overtime win.

"It was so cool and we just believed the whole time but we just couldn't figure out how to get it going. We had chances," Southwest head coach Zach Mills said. "Hinds put up a good fight."

The Lady Bears (5-8, 3-5) battled hard throughout regulation, but could not get over the hump and put points on the board.

On the other side, the defense found success shutting down the Lady Eagle attack. Starting goalkeeper Breaunna McDonald went the distance for Southwest finishing with nine saves.

Following the first 10 minutes of extra time, the Lady Bears made the correct adjustments and it payed off. Elle Wood got a precise pass from Emily Sturdivant before sending the ball into the net, giving the Lady Bears the win.

Mills said that what made the night even more special was the fact that Wood's parent flew in from England to watch the match and got to witness their daughter score the game winner.

Entering Tuesday's road match at Hinds, the Bears had been on a roll as of late, winners of their last two, both of which shutouts. And

even though they got off to a solid start against the Eagles, in the end the Bears lost steam late, falling 5-2.

"The reason that the score opened up in the end is because we were down by one and we had to go forward so we just had to push players forward. We wanted to see if we could go for the tie," Southwest head coach Zach Mills said.

The scoreboard lit up early on, unfortunately for Southwest (6-6, 3-5), it was Hinds who struck first with a goal seven minutes in. Just 22 minutes later, it was the Bears' turn to put its offensive attack on display. Caleb Trisdale provided a scoring opportunity for Joshua Thomas and the sophomore delivered with a score, tying the match at 1.

With about a minute to go until

the half, the hosts regained the upper hand with a goal, jumping ahead 2-1.

About 14:00 into the second half of play, the match was tied once again as Jordan Jones sent the ball into the Hinds goal making the score 2-2.

From there, however, the Bears couldn't keep the momentum going, losing the lead a short time later before the Eagles rallied to score two more goals to seal the win.

Cooper Odum played all 90 minutes in goal for the Bears finishing with 18 saves.

October 26, 2022

Closing the regular season on a high note was the goal of the Lady Bears during Tuesday's finale at Mississippi Gulf Coast. And despite grabbing an early lead, Southwest was unable to

hang on in the end, getting edged 2-1.

The Lady Bears (5-10, 3-7) fell behind in the 38th minute as the Lady Bulldogs rallied to put the first point of the match on the board.

Just three minutes later, it was Southwest's turn. Aoife Saunders provided a nice setup for Alexandra Shimasaki on a goal, pulling Southwest even with Gulf Coast at 1-1.

In the 60th minute, however, the Lady Bulldogs scored their second goal to jump ahead, once again.

Southwest tried to scratch and claw its way back into the contest but time ran out sealing the win for Gulf Coast.

Knowing that they would not be able to make the playoffs, the Bears still entered Tuesday's sea-

son finale at Gulf Coast hoping to pick up a win, capping off the year on a high note. But the Bulldogs had other ideas, getting ito rhythm before handing the Bears a 6-0 loss.

Things quickly got out of hand for the Bears (6-8, 3-7) as the Bulldogs found their groove offensively while catching Southwest off-guard.

The Bear defense had difficulty slowing down the Bulldog attack who went on an early rally to take a 3-0 lead.

Despite the deficit, Southwest continued to battle, trying to find some magic of its own to try and pull even. The Bears were unable to respond as the Bulldogs kept pouring it on with two additional goals prior to the intermission before adding another in the second half.

Benefits of caffeine for students

By Milloree Brown, staff

If you are a student, chances are you have had your fair share of caffeine in some form. Some people prefer it in the form of coffee, tea, or a soft drink. Personally, I prefer both tea and (very strong) coffee! However, did you know that caffeine has many benefits for students? Some of these include improved focus, a boost in energy and mood, and improved memory.

As we all know, being a student is tough, and it requires much focus and dedication. Caffeine can improve focus by boosting the production of dopamine, thereby increasing student concentration. As students, sometimes we need an extra push to do work or complete tasks. Caffeine gives you a little nudge to start your day off right, while also boosting energy levels.

As for rising mood levels, caffeine can be attributed to that, as well. Being a student can be stressful, and it is common to feel anxious when a deadline or a test is approaching. This can have a big impact on your studies, but caffeine can help. It has been shown to improve mood, which could greatly increase your chances of acing that test and beating the deadline.

Its capabilities do not stop there, either. Last but definitely not least, caffeine can positively affect memory. It will give an energy boost that can help you stay up for longer to do a few extra minutes, or even hours, of studying to prepare you for tests and quizzes. There have also been studies that show an improvement on short-term memory, therefore allowing you to memorize what you need faster. All in all, caffeine is a great way to get motivated to start your day of college work.

Evans earns Defensive Player of the Week honor

Following his big performance in Thursday's 24-20 road win over East Central, Bear football defensive end Martavius Evans was named the MACCC Defensive Player of the Week.

Evans was all over the field for the Bears, finishing with a game-high 14 tackles, four sacks (totaling 18 yards) and four tackles for loss (totaling nine yards) in his first start of the season.

He also recorded a forced fumble which was scooped up by Kharel Coney and returned 20 yards for a touchdown. The take-away and score came at a pivotal point in the game as it kicked off a run of 14-unanswered points helping the Bears come back and pick up the win.



Keith Guy, Nakeya Cortez and Barry McNabb: Hall of Fame

Alumnus of the Year

Joe Keith Guy was born February 20, 1952, to Reece Porter Guy and Berteel Dunaway Guy in McComb, Mississippi. He was welcomed by a brother, Devon Guy, and a sister, Patsy Guy Nelson. Raised as a country boy in the Felder's Campground Community in Pike County, he enjoyed romping through the woods, swimming in the Topisaw Creek, fishing, and hunting. Even as a little boy, Keith was always motivated and determined to excel in whatever he was doing. He would diligently work toward the goals he set for himself, one such goal being to completely read through the World Book Encyclopedia. As a perfectionist, he would work on a school assignment and throw away a trash can full of papers until it reached perfection. Having been brought up in the church, Keith learned about Jesus at an early age and was baptized at Shady Grove Baptist Church. As a young man, he sang in the choir and was elected to be a deacon in his home church. His faith has always been a very important part of his life. He, now, continues to faithfully serve in the choir and as a deacon and in any capacity he may be called on at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Lincoln County. Keith began his education at Carter's Creek School in 1958. When Carter's Creek consolidated with Johnson Station in 1961, he attended the remaining years of elementary school at Jones Elementary School. He moved on to junior high and high school at North Pike High School. Always self-motivated, he maintained high academic grades and graduated in 1970 as Valedictorian of his senior class. He was very involved in all activities of the school including basketball, editor of the school paper, and Beta Club. In his senior year, he was elected to Who's Who as the "Most Likely to Succeed," an honor he has certainly fulfilled. After high school, Keith attended Southwest Mississippi Community College where he continued to excel academically having the highest scholastic average in his graduating class of 1972. The student body elected him "Most Intellectual" in his freshman and sophomore years. At SMCC he was involved in activities such as being the basketball manager, Lab Assistant to Mr. W.S. Bryan, President of Phi Theta Kappa, Assistant Editor of the Pine Burr, and President of the sophomore class. Continuing his education at the University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy, Keith graduated Summa Cum Laude in 1975 with a pharmacy degree.

At Ole Miss, he received awards including the Rho Chi Award for the highest general average in all courses of the entire curriculum, the School of Pharmacy Hall of Fame, the high-scholastic award for required

courses through the fourth year of the academic program, Ellis Bagwell Professional Leadership Award as the graduating pharmacy student who demonstrated outstanding leadership in professional activities, Phi Delta Chi Award, Kappa Psi Award, President of his pharmacy class for 2 years. Keith started his pharmacy career in 1975 at a pharmacy in Brookhaven, but within a few months, he purchased the Howard Brothers pharmacy in McComb. Within the next 5 years, he purchased the Causey-Sanders pharmacy and incorporated the two to form Southwest Discount Drugs. In 1992, he bought Medical Center Pharmacy, across from SWRMC, later relocating to its current site in a new building he designed and built on Marion Avenue and renamed Guy's Medical Center Pharmacy. His first love is compounding medicine, so he created Guy's Innovative Pharmacy which shares the Medical Center Pharmacy building and where he spends most of his time. In 2013, Keith opened Guy's Ole Brook Pharmacy in Brookhaven and since then has opened a pharmacy in Crystal Springs, Tylertown, and built the new Guy's Pharmacy in Summit.

Keith has received many accolades during his pharmacy career such as being named Innovative Pharmacist of the Year by Mississippi Pharmacists Association; President of Mississippi Pharmacists Association; Southwest Mississippi Community College Distinguished Alumnus Award; Pike County Chamber of Commerce small business person of the year; Professional Compounding Centers of America Pharmacist of the month for May; Pike County Citizen of the Year; Fellow of the American College of Apothecaries; Fellow of the Academy for Pharmacy Compounding, and lastly Preceptor for University of MS School of Pharmacy for 29 years. Not only is Keith a very busy and successful pharmacist, but he is also very active in his church, Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, where he serves as a deacon. He sings and plays the mandolin in the Dogwood Cross Bluegrass Gospel Band. Raised in the country, he loves the country life, raising chickens, curing his own ham, making cane syrup from cane he grew himself. Even more, his passion for learning is still evident as he continues to research new medical ideas and often takes online courses. Even with all these accomplishments, Keith's greatest pride is his family. In 1973, he married his high school sweetheart, Sharon Williams. They have three children, Laura Thompson (Mark), Anthony Guy (Rachel), and Stuart Guy (Alex), and 9 grandchildren, Logan, Emma, Greyson Thompson, Rory, Dauen, Hayes, Reese, Allyn, and Brynne Guy.

Keith's success could be attributed to his drive and motivation to reach his goals, but in his heart, he knows that, although he had the desire, his success comes from his faith and trust in God every step of the way.

Sports Hall of Fame

Nakeya Downing Cortez was born April 2, 1983, in Hammond Louisiana. She attended Amite High School in Amite, LA, and afterward, Southwest Mississippi Community College, in Summit. It was there where she became one of the best athletes the school has ever had. Through her work ethic and passion for basketball, she became a two-time NJAA All American. Nakeya achieved an astounding 22.5 points per game career average and 15.3 rebounds per game career average in her short tenure playing for Southwest. She played under the guidance of Mark Swindle in the 2002 fall season as well as the 2003 spring season.

Her achievements did not end after Southwest. Nakeya strived for further greatness when she signed on to play basketball for Southeastern Louisiana University in the 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 season. These were the seasons in which current Southwest's own Women's Basketball Head Coach, Brent Harris, served as assistant to the Women's Basketball program at Southeastern. Nakeya instantly became one of the top athletes in her division. In her first year, she garnered prestigious accolades including: Southland Conference Newcomer of the Year, Louisiana Newcomer of the Year, led the conference with 15 double doubles, 3rd in NCAA in rebounding average of 11.8 rebounds per game, and 14th career high in rebounding average in SELA history. She led her team and they became 3rd Team All Southland Conference in 2003-2004, 3rd Team All Louisiana in 2003-2004, 1st Team All Southland in 2004-2005 and 2nd Team All Louisiana in 2004-2005.

Nakeya currently works as the customer service department supervisor at Home Depot where she has been employed for two years. She began as a cashier and was later promoted to department supervisor of the hardware department. Nakeya's husband's name is Nicholas Cortez and they have been married seven years. Nakeya has three sons: NiQuez Woods, nineteen years old, Brandon Cortez, nine years old, and Braxton Cortez, eight years old, and he has autism! Nakeya is proud to say she is an autism mom.

Sports Hall of Fame

Barry McNabb was born on January 30, 1954, in Greensburg, LA. In 1974, he married Helen Ballard McNabb. Together they have three daughters, Bridgette McNabb Hughes, Beth McNabb Day, and Brooke McNabb

Hughes, and a special niece Ishalyn Ballard. They also have three son-in-laws J.D. Hughes, Jeff Day and Lee Hughes as well as six grandchildren Parker Hughes, Annabel Hughes, Preston Day, Hadley Monroe Day, Ashton Broussard and Annsley Broussard. All throughout high school, McNabb had several spotlight experiences. He attended Greensburg High School where he lived the game of football. While playing his dream sport, he was selected as Most Valuable Lineman, All-District, and All-State as a Lineman and a Kicking Specialist. McNabb made sure to be active in other organizations besides football, including the FFA, where he served as President during his 10th- 12th -grade years. He also was elected Class President in his 9th- 12th -grade years at Greensburg High School.

Upon receiving his high school diploma, McNabb enrolled as a student here at SMCC. Not to mention, his extraordinary gift at the game of football gave him an opportunity at the college. As a freshman and sophomore, Barry McNabb was a starting Offensive Tackle and Punter. In simple terms, McNabb thrived at his sport. He served as a Team Captain and also led the Bears into an extremely successful season, earning Honorable Mention All-State his freshman year, while being named 1st Team All-State and an All-Star his sophomore year.

After receiving his Associates Degree at SMCC, he went on to work as a Welding Instructor for Northshore Technical Community in Greensburg, LA. Barry took his position gratefully and seriously. He had a great hand in growing the Welding program at the Florida Parishes Campus from ten to forty day students, and he also started to offer four night classes, making these courses available to many more people. His genuine goodness was noticed by his work peers, earning him the coveted Master Instructor, and was recognized as the Northshore Technical Community College Outstanding Instructor of the Year. Barry was always looking for prospective students to teach his skills to; his positive and heartwarming spirit caused him to be viewed as a highly respected man. After working for years, McNabb officially retired in 2016. His colleagues all had uplifting remarks about him, one of which being Susan Hornsby, Retired Campus Dean, who said, "He served as Lead Welding Instructor who left a lasting impact upon his students during his teaching tenure." Barry McNabb is an individual deserving of this award in the eyes of many. He is an honest, good man, who started his journey here at Southwest Mississippi Community College. Sports led him here, but he left campus with much more.



In the Zone.....

photo by Chuck Barnes

Flu season

By Keagan Holliday, staff

The leaves are falling and the weather is getting colder. This season is known as fall and winter, but also flu season. This year, the disease is spreading like wildfire between kids, students, and families. The flu can be picked up from schools, jobs, daycares, and even when you walk into the grocery store. You start the week off hoping for a good week, then suddenly you get this sick feeling. Your body starts aching, the headaches start, your body starts getting hot, which means you are running a fever, and then your throat starts hurting. You're at the doctor's office, getting tested for the flu, and the test comes back positive. After the test comes back positive, your house is where you will be for the next week or so.

The CDC informs the public of the ways that you can stop the spread of the flu. Staying home away from people and taking the necessary medicine are ways to stop the spread. Also, making sure to wash your hands, staying home when you do not feel well, and avoiding the touch of your eyes, nose, and mouth can also be ways to not get sick. Therefore, next time you go out and you think you are sick and do not feel good, go to the doctor and make sure you do not have something that is very contagious and could possibly harm other people.

For me, getting the flu did not only mean I did not feel good, but also it meant that I was missing classes too. I stay in the dorms here at SMCC with five other girls, and three of us got the flu the same week. The three of us went home while the remaining girls disinfected the dorm as much as they could to try not to get sick. Unfortunately, I had the flu and strep at the same time. It took me about two days to even have the energy to do anything and almost five days to feel bad to normal all the way. Disinfecting the dorm, washing their hands, and staying safe prevented the other three girls from getting sick. The next week we were all able to come back healthy and ready to get back to classes and work.

Intramurals

By Larina Anderson and Lainey Dunaway, staff

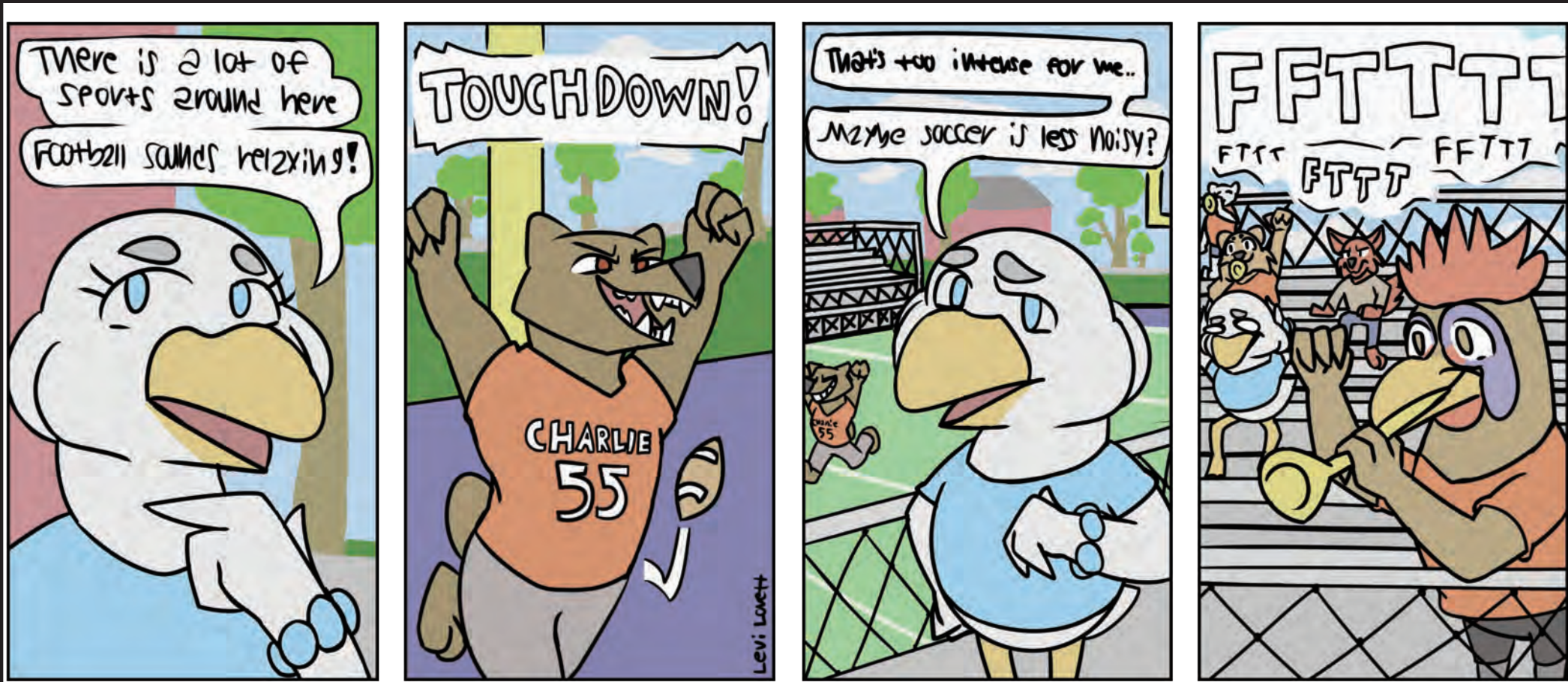
It is a great time for Intramural sports. This semester we have already had several intramural flag football games. Some of these include basketball, kickball, and whiffle ball. These games take place once a week, if possible. Intramural sports are a great way to get active in college. It can give you and your friends something different to do than how you would usually occupy your time on a weekday. Also, you might make new friends during an intramural game.

Intramurals also give you a chance to show your competitiveness. It is a great way to stay active and exercise while on campus. Keep checking your student email to get updated on the days and times of the intramural games. Next semester will hold games such as dodgeball, basketball, and whiffle ball. Those games will be held on Mondays or Tuesdays at 6:00 depending on the weather or school events that may intervene. Extra information about these future games will be sent by email from Coach Ken Jackson, SMCC's Assistant Athletic Director.



Academic Feather

by Levi Lovett



ADS

In the Zone for the PTK Dr. Bill Tucker Memorial Walk.....



SMCC Alumni Association

Memberships Make Great Gifts!!!

ANNUAL INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS \$50

ANNUAL COUPLE MEMBERSHIPS \$75

Lifetime Individual Memberships
\$200

Lifetime Couple Memberships
\$300

WWW.SMCC.EDU/ALUMNI

