

# ACTION



The Magazine of the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Alumni Association • Fall 2012



*Olympic  
Gold*

MGCCC ALUMNA  
BRITTNEY REESE



# ACTION

## **INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS DEPARTMENT and OFFICE OF ALUMNI/DEVELOPMENT**

Monica Miller Marlowe  
Director of Institutional Relations & Strategic  
Communication/Special Assistant to the President

Brenda Davis  
Coordinator of Institutional Relations

Kathy McAdams  
Public Information Coordinator

Bill Snyder  
Sports Information Director

Michael Sewell  
Coordinator of Multimedia/  
Graphics Project Manager

Jennifer Collier  
Graphic Services Assistant

Kimberly Jones  
Editor/Writer

Richard Kopp  
District Photographer

Russell Young  
Associate Vice President for Development

Jenifer Freridge  
Coordinator of Alumni Relations

### **COMMENTS, NEWS & UPDATES/ CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

jenifer.freridge@mgccc.edu  
601-928-6288  
Alumni Office  
P.O. Box 99  
Perkinston, MS 39573-0099

### **CONTRIBUTORS**

Cheri Brown, DuPont/First Chemical  
The BP Foundation  
Bettor.com  
US Presswire  
Charles L. Sullivan, MGCCC Archivist  
Bettor.com

Action is published three times a year by MGCCC Institutional Relations.  
This issue was published in September 2012.





# FALL 2012 INSIDE

Letter from the President • 4  
 Strategic Plan 2020 • 5  
 Brittney Reese wins Olympic gold • 6  
 Joe Rouse Celebrates 50 Years of Rebel Dip • 8  
 Alumni Wedding Memories:  
 Gerald and Norma Gardner • 9  
 Homecoming 2012 • 10  
 College Happenings • 16  
 Sports • 18  
 Foundation Spotlight • 22  
 In Remembrance • 22  
 Scholarships • 23  
 Alumni News • 24  
 Alumni Socials • 26  
 Alumni Relations/Board Members • 27

## A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

## ALUMNI AND FRIENDS...



On behalf of the MGCCC Alumni/Foundation Office, I am pleased to present the fall 2012 Action magazine. As we embark on a new century of excellence in education, I am excited to share the institutional commitments outlined in Strategic Plan 2020 that will guide the college for the next several years. At the heart of the plan is a continued commitment to instructional excellence and student success. I invite you to view the complete report at [www.mgccc.edu/plan2020](http://www.mgccc.edu/plan2020).

The fall semester brings a sense of excitement as our campuses are bustling with activity and a new group of future alumni begin their college experience. It is also a time when we come back to Gulf Coast to celebrate Homecoming. This edition features our 2012 Athletic and Alumni Hall of Fame honorees, as well as the many events leading up to Homecoming day on October 27, 2012, at the Perkinston Campus. Former Phi Theta Kappa national officers will be recognized during the Chapel Service, and the new Learning Resources Center named in honor of Dr. Willis H. Lott will also be dedicated. A complete schedule of events is included. I hope you will make plans to join us.

One of the things I have enjoyed most this past year in my role as president has been the opportunity to visit with our alumni. Their successes truly bring a great sense of pride to our institution. Several of their stories are featured in this edition, and I hope you enjoy reading about each of them.

Thank you for your continued support of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. Enjoy this fall 2012 issue of Action.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Mary S. Graham". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Mary S. Graham, Ph.D.

MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE.  
MAKING A DIFFERENCE...



# STRATEGIC PLAN 2020



*When Dr. Mary S. Graham took the helm of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, her goal was to continue the momentum and to craft a strategic plan that honored the rich tradition of the institution while keeping step with educational trends and technological advancements. The result has been Strategic Plan 2020, which was launched on August 15 at Fall Convocation.*

Preparation for Strategic Plan 2020 began during fall 2011 with a series of local forums. Community and business leaders were invited to discuss the college's future with Gulf Coast employees, Board of Trustees members and alumni. During the forums, complex issues were discussed that related to the educational levels desired and needed in the four-county district and the economic development of the region, state and nation.

Several areas that offered both challenges and opportunities were identified. These included commitments to teaching and learning and student success, promoting community engagement and partnerships, and fostering a culture of innovation. These goals will be reached in a variety of ways using assessments that promote student satisfaction and opportunities for success. They include using the Survey of Entering Student Engagement (SENSE) early in the fall semester to find out specific information about admissions, registration, placement, orientation and financial aid, and an assessment of student and employee satisfaction through the use of the Noel-Levitz surveys.

Strategic Plan 2020 represents a shared vision among the stakeholders of the college with specific findings from research, best practices from community colleges across the nation, and guiding economic and educational trends. The outcomes and plan measures will provide an extensive impact of the college on the surrounding community and region that will exceed local and national standards of excellence.

A photograph of athlete Brittney Reese in a red USA singlet and shorts, celebrating with her arms raised in a stadium. The word "Gold!" is written in a large, yellow, cursive font across the bottom right of the image.

BRITTNEY REESE

*Gold!*





**L**ong before jumping to Olympic glory last summer, MGCCC alumna Brittney Reese made a name for herself on the basketball court as a Lady Bulldog. The Gulfport native played two seasons under head coach Greg Holmes and helped lead Gulf Coast to the postseason twice. Reese also earned All-MACJC and All Region 23 honors while at Gulf Coast, and in 2006 earned NJCAA Honorable Mention All-American Honors and a spot on the MACJC All-Star team. She went on to become a track-and-field star at Ole Miss and eventually a world-champion long jumper. Reese took home gold medals at the 2009 and 2011 World Championships and at the 2010 and 2012 World Indoor Championships. In fact, her jump of 7.23 meters in Istanbul, Turkey, at the 2012 World Championships set a new world indoor record.

Reese competed in the 2008 Beijing Olympics, but it was in the 2012 London Olympics that she won a gold medal. She claimed one of the three gold medals the U.S. track-and-field team won on August 8 at the London Games, making her the first American woman to win the Olympic long-jump title since Jackie Joyner-Kersey in 1988. She jumped 7.12 meters to earn the gold.

"It's a surreal moment," she said. "I got very emotional - you do when you're representing your country. My mom and aunt were there, so it was a great moment for my family and me."

Three days later, almost 1,000 supporters gathered at Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport to welcome Reese back to the Mississippi Gulf Coast. The admiration was exemplified by the presentations and proclamations and bouquets of roses from city, state and national officials.

Also on hand was Dr. Mary Graham, Gulf Coast president, as well as lots of Bulldog alumni. "We're so proud of you," Graham said at the event. "We were proud of Brittney when she played at Gulf Coast. We were proud of her when she competed in Beijing. We were proud of her when she was inducted into our Athletic Hall of Fame, and we are proud of her now. She's a true inspiration to all of our Gulf Coast students."

Reese then held up her gold medal and told the crowd "I did this for you. This is what all of you won."

When asked what she planned to do now that she's won Olympic gold, Reese replied simply, "To train even harder."

**"I did this for you. This is what all of you won."**

**- Brittney Reese**



# REBEL DIP

Established 1962

## JOE ROUSE CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF SERVING GREAT FOOD.

**W**hen Joe Rouse considered leaving college to go to work, Fannie Cuevas Rouse told him no, that he was going to stay at Perkinston Junior College. He heeded his mother's advice: In 1951, the young man from Success, Mississippi, graduated from Perk, where he played basketball, and headed to The University of Southern Mississippi, where he graduated in 1953 with a secondary teaching license.

It's been a long time since Rouse, 82, hitchhiked on Hwy. 49 (a two-lane road back then) so that he could get to college and back home to his small community six miles east of Saucier. "It's been a good life...I've seen some good times," says Rouse, an active member of the Perksters.

Many of those good times happened on the roadside of Hwy. 49 South – that's where, 50 years ago, the Rebel Dip was born. "When a new business moves in, and they wonder how folks will find them, I tell them to tell folks, 'It's by Rebel Dip.' Then they'll know," says Rouse, whose father, Leslie, a carpenter, built the original Rebel Dip structure, which received a facelift in 1987, on the north part of Rouse's property. (Rouse's home is also on the property, so he can easily walk to work.)

Another constant at the Rebel Dip? The food. A crispy chicken sandwich, some not-too-spicy Cajun fries and a soda hit the spot. If you're really ambitious, order a milkshake instead of a soda, or order both. It's a good meal for a great price.

Maybe such great deals stem from Rouse's humble upbringing. He didn't have much growing up, but he worked hard at home. He milked cows, had one pair of shoes at a time and, for fun, he played lots of basketball. He was the sixth of seven children, and he was surrounded by military men. His father fought in World War I, and three of his brothers fought in WWII. One of them died on the Rhine River in Germany, just 15 days before the war ended. Fannie Rouse didn't want to lose another son to war, so she wanted Rouse to remain in college. Although he was eventually drafted into the Korean War, he came back home to South Mississippi and has never left. And neither have his daughters, Pam Saucier and Kathy Wilson, who have worked at their dad's restaurant since they were teens.

"In 1962, I was teaching seven classes at Harrison Central Junior High, coaching two sports and making \$3,500 a year," Rouse says. "I knew

nothing about owning a restaurant." But he soon learned, because he knew that teaching wasn't going to pay the bills. So, his dad built the structure, and when deliverymen arrived with supplies for the restaurant, they asked for the name of the place. Rouse asked, "You have to have a name?" The men said, "Well...yeah." Back then, Rouse smoked Kool cigarettes, so he named his new business Kool Dip. But the name was too similar to another Mississippi restaurant, so he decided to change it. At the time, he was teaching ninth-grade math. On one of his tests, the last question was, "What should I call my restaurant?" Every single student answered, "Rebel Dip" (The rebel was the school mascot, and still is for Harrison Central High School, which many of his employees attend.)

Through his years of being a restaurateur, parent and grandfather (Pam and Kathy each have two sons), he's also driven a dump truck, sold Compton Encyclopedias and worked with the federally funded Neighborhood Youth Corps Program for Harrison and Hancock counties. In 1980, he was elected state representative for District 121 and served for four years.

So if you're traveling along Hwy. 49 on the Mississippi Coast, stop by the Rebel Dip. And if you can't find it amongst all the new businesses that have sprung up over the last 20 years, stop and ask someone where it is – they'll know.



From left: Kathy Wilson, Joe Rouse and Pam Saucier.



## Alumni Wedding Memories

# GERALD AND NORMA GARDNER



*The Gardners on their wedding day on Aug. 1, 1954, and, left, in 2012.*

When Jerry Gardner arrived at Perkinston Junior College in 1953, students had already been in class for one week. The Navy serviceman had just returned from two years of service in Korea, and now he was at college during freshman initiation week. That's when he met Norma Dease.

"I happened to be walking down the sidewalk, and some girls from Moss Point and Pascagoula who knew me were initiating Norma. She was all decorated up," Jerry recalls. "One of the girls told Norma that she would have to do anything they asked her to do and say what they told her to say. When I walked by, they stopped me, and they told Norma, 'You're going to have to ask Jerry if he would marry you.' She did, and they all giggled and blushed."

That same week, Jerry and Norma attended a campus dance, and they were officially a couple. They married on Aug. 1, 1954, at First Methodist Church in Gulfport and lived in the teachers' dormitory their sophomore year at PJC.

Jerry, a Moss Point High School graduate, says he attended PJC to "play football (under Harold White) and get an education." Norma, a Gulfport High School graduate, was a Perkette and elected football Homecoming queen her sophomore year. They graduated in 1955, and that summer, Jerry attended The University of Southern Mississippi. After USM, he transferred to William Carey, which had a football team at the time. Norma, who had a business degree from PJC, was working with a real estate company in Hattiesburg. Jerry earned his Bachelor of Science degree in science and physical education from William Carey in the summer of 1956.

During the years after college, Jerry coached at Magnolia High School in Pike County, where he was assistant coach under Joe Blaylock, a former backfield coach at PJC, and at Harrison Central where he was head varsity football coach. Norma worked as a secretary in Pike County and on the Coast, but she eventually began a career in civil service, first at the Seabee base in Gulfport and then at Navy Ingalls Shipbuilding, from which she retired in 1993 as a quality assurance specialist for the Navy. Jerry coached for seven years at Harrison Central before joining the Department of Agriculture in 1964. In 1972, he transferred to the Environmental Protection Agency at Stennis. He retired from there in 1996.

These days, the Gardners enjoy working in the yard and gardening at their Biloxi home, in which they have lived since 1980. They are members of the college's Lifelong Learning Institute, Perksters, Bulldog Club and the Alumni Association. They've even managed to squeeze in some travel time. They also enjoy time with their two children, Gayle Sharp, who lives on the Coast and works for Triton Industries, and their son, Jerry Jr., who works at Stennis, and their two grandsons. One grandson, Grayson Sharp, attended the Perkinston Campus.

# Homecoming



**Sandra Gollott Fletcher**

*Jackson County Campus  
Alumni Hall of Fame*

Fletcher attended the Jackson County Campus (1969-1971). She received her Bachelor of Science degree from The University of Southern Mississippi and master's degree in education/English at William Carey University. Since 1974, she has taught and coached at Vancleave High School.

Fletcher, a nationally certified teacher, also coached cheerleaders to state finals and presently coaches the girls' volleyball team, which finished third in the state last year. Fletcher, a Vancleave High School and Jackson County School District Teacher of the Year and a Master Teacher, is a recipient of the Star Teacher Award, the Crystal Apple Award, Golden Apple Award and Who's Who Among American High School Teachers Award.

She is married to Beamon Levy (Sonny) Fletcher Jr., a Gulf Coast alumnus and a member of the Athletic Hall of Fame. The couple has two children, Melissa and Jeremy, and two grandsons. Jeremy is a graduate of Gulf Coast's Electrical Technology program.



**Dennis Burke**

*Jefferson Davis Campus  
Alumni Hall of Fame*

Burke graduated from the Jefferson Davis Campus in 1969. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in business and finance from The University of Southern Mississippi in 1971. He has worked at Peoples Bank since 1992 and is currently the vice president of Business Development.

He was named the 2010 March of Dimes Spotlight to Success honoree, the 2009 "King of the Kitchen" for outstanding service during the Biloxi Seafood Festival, a Top 10 Community Leader in 2007, director emeritus in 2002 of the Biloxi Chamber of Commerce, 1996 recipient of the For God and Youth award from the Diocese of Biloxi and was a 1984 Outstanding Young Man of America. He was also a 1996 Leadership Gulf Coast graduate.

Burke is married to the former Nanette Ardoline. They have two children, Emily Kate and Samuel Joseph, and three grandchildren.



**Dr. Kenny Seay**

*Perkinston Campus  
Alumni Hall of Fame*

After serving in the Marine Corps in World War II, Seay attended Perkinston Junior College on a football scholarship. He served as Student Council vice president and president and was tapped for membership in Phi Theta Kappa his sophomore year.

Recalled to active duty by the Marine Corps, Seay served as a drill instructor at Parris Island in the Korean War era. He earned his bachelor's degree from Mississippi Southern College and his master's and doctoral degrees at The University of Southern Mississippi.

In 40 years of working in Pascagoula schools, he served as a teacher, assistant coach, head coach, assistant principal, principal, assistant superintendent, acting superintendent and superintendent.

Seay is a lifetime member of the MGCCC Alumni Association and a member of the Bulldog Club. He received the 1990 Contribution to Amateur Football Award and the 1991 Award of Merit from the Gulf Coast Chapter of the National Football Hall of Fame.

He is married to the former Glenmary Newsom of Hattiesburg. They have three children (Dr. Frederick N. Seay, Jane Seay Verrett and Jean Seay Dufault) and seven grandchildren.



# 2012 Honorees



**Dr. Willis H. Lott**

*Sam Owen Award*

In August 1998, Dr. Willis H. Lott was named the 11th president of Gulf Coast, marking an unprecedented time of enrollment growth and master planning.

Lott charted the path that the college followed for 13 years with the implementation of Strategic Plan 2000 and Strategic Plan 2010. He also faced one of his and the college's greatest challenges when Hurricane Katrina hit in 2005.

Lott strategically accomplished many goals despite a natural disaster, consecutive reductions in state appropriations, and increases in student tuition and fees four times during his presidency.

The college is recognizing Lott, who also holds the title of president emeritus at Gulf Coast, for his leadership and selfless dedication by awarding him the Sam Owen Award, which has been bestowed since 1956 to an individual who has actively supported the college and its ongoing mission to make a positive difference.

Lott and his wife, Ethel, have two children and five grandchildren.



**Gregory (Buddy) Allen Mills**

*Spirit of Gulf Coast Award*

Mills, a regular spectator at Gulf Coast baseball and football games, was diagnosed with cerebral palsy shortly after birth. He had the first of two brain surgeries at age 6 weeks, and through the years, he has had many surgeries to help his legs, hips and feet. But to him, these are not disabilities, and they have never stopped his love of athletics.

Mills, 46, has lived in Mississippi, since 1973. He attended Harrison County Training Center for Exceptional Children and moved to D'Iberville Middle School in 1979. Hurricane Katrina displaced Mills and his mom, Brenda, causing him to miss his first D'Iberville High School football game since 1979.

"Buddy is the reason that I could never give up because of an adversity," says his sister, Tanya Rae Mills, who played basketball at Gulf Coast.

Buddy lives on the Coast with his mother. His brother, Kenneth, lives in Olive Branch. His father, Raymond, died of cancer in 2002.



**Diane Marie Poulos Sekul**

*Bulldog Hall of Honor*

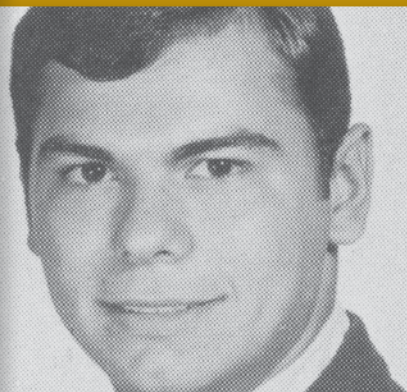
Sekul, 1974-1976 alumna, was the cheerleader sponsor at Gulf Coast (1979-1987). From 1979 to 1983, she sponsored both the football and basketball squads. In the 1983-84 season, she sponsored the football squad only and continued to sponsor the squad through 1987.

Sekul was also the faculty secretary (1979-1988) and secretary to Dr. Clyde Strickland, campus vice president, until 1991. She transferred to the vice president's office at the Jefferson Davis Campus and remained there for two years.

A lifetime member of the Maritime and Seafood Museum, MGCCC Alumni Association, the Bulldog Club and Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art, Sekul remains active in the Coast community. She currently owns real-estate rentals, which she manages.

Sekul and her husband, George, have three daughters – Gia, Kari and Michelle. They have five grandchildren.

# Homecoming

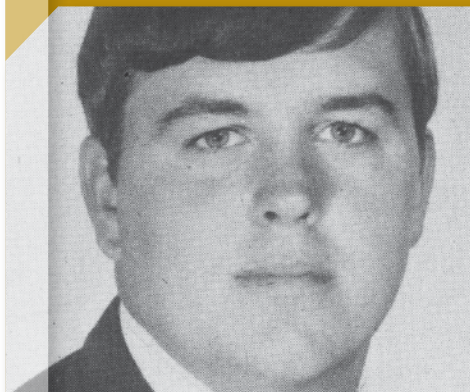


**Jerry Mike Covich III**

*Athletic Hall of Fame  
Baseball*

Covich, of Biloxi, attended the Perkinston Campus of Mississippi Gulf Coast Junior College, September 1967-May 1968, and received his associate degree in education. He was a left-handed pitcher on the 1968 team that won the state championship. Coached by Kenneth Farris, the team had a 16-3 won-lost record and was 9-1 in the conference. Covich had a .465 batting average and a 4-0 record on the mound for the 1968 season.

The assistant golf pro at Shell Landing and a Class A PGA Professional, Covich set a course record at Columbia Country Club by shooting a 62. He has been ranked as one of the top 10 teaching professionals on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and has been a member of the PGA Cup Team since 1986. In 1995 he won the prestigious Bellande Cup. He has been named the Gulf States PGA Senior Player of the Year five times, is a six-time Senior Champion with four runner-up finishes and won the Mississippi Chapter of the PGA Senior Championship four times. In 2010, he was named to the PGA President's Council on Growing the Game.

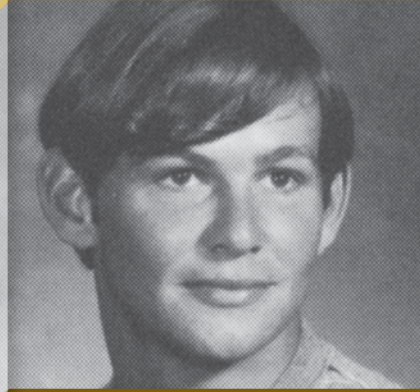


**Jay Fletcher**

*Athletic Hall of Fame  
Football*

Fletcher, a graduate of Moss Point High School, played center on the 1967 Mississippi Gulf Coast Junior College state-champion football team and was selected Honorable Mention All-State that year. He was a letterman in football at Delta State University, where he was the starting center, and graduated from there in 1970 with a degree in biology. He taught at East Central High School in Hurley and was the junior high football coach for two years, an assistant coach at the high school for two years and head coach for four years. He was also the offensive line coach at Pascagoula High School (1978-1982), and he coached girls track. He received his master's degree in education from the University of South Alabama.

Fletcher, who has worked as an agent for Nationwide Insurance in Pascagoula for 30 years, is married to Rebecca (Rodolfich) of Biloxi. Together they have five children and four grandchildren. His daughter, Sydney, is an instructor in the Business Department at the Perkinston Campus.



**Terry Clark Helms**

*Athletic Hall of Fame  
Football*

Helms was the starting center on the 1970 football team and the 1971 national-champion football team. He was inducted into the 1981 Alumni Association Hall of Fame as part of the 1971 team, which, along with the 1971 cheerleaders, was inducted as a group on Homecoming Day, Oct. 31, 1981.

After leaving Gulf Coast, Helms attended The University of Southern Mississippi, where he pursued a degree in therapeutic recreation. He is also a graduate of the University of the South, with a degree in education for ministry. He worked offshore with McDermott Inc. for 15 years before managing Goldin Industries in Gulfport. He is currently president of the Keating Insurance Agency Inc., a position he has held since 1998.

Helms is married to Angel (Keating) Helms, and their three sons—Keating, Kevin and Kennedy—played football at Gulf Coast.



# 2012 Honorees

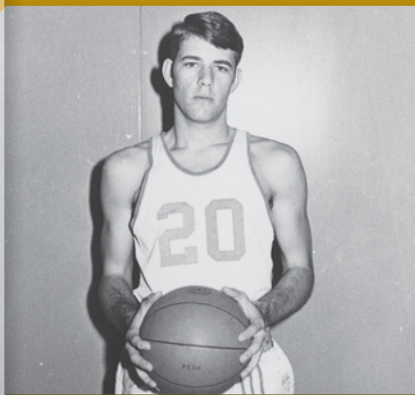


**Jake Kuharich**  
*Athletic Hall of Fame*  
*Golf*

Kuharich attended Gulf Coast from 2004-2006. In golf, he was All-Tournament and honorable mention All-American at the 2006 NJCAA Division II National Championship in Scottsboro, Ala., where he led the Gulf Coast golfers with a 73-73-71-73-290. He was ranked 25th in the nation during fall 2005.

In 2009, he won the Slavic Invitational Golf Tournament in Biloxi. Hosted by the Slavic Benevolent Association of Saint Nikolai, the tournament is known as the "greatest amateur team tournament in Mississippi."

After graduating from Gulf Coast, Kuharich attended The University of Southern Mississippi, earning his bachelor's degree in business administration. Today, he works as the Food and Beverage Outlets manager at Hotel Galvez and Spa in Galveston, Texas.



**Gary Lee Roberts**  
*Athletic Hall of Fame*  
*Basketball*

Roberts played basketball on the 1968 team and the 1969 state-champion team. He was the captain of the team his sophomore year. Both years the team won the South Division championship. He won the Mississippi Gulf Coast Junior College Basketball Award in 1968 and was chosen All-State in both 1968 and 1969.

While at Gulf Coast, Roberts was elected Phi Theta Kappa national president for 1968-1969. He received both an academic and basketball scholarship to the American University in Washington, D.C., and graduated in 1971 with a bachelor's degree in government and public administration. He graduated from The University of Mississippi School of Law in 1974 with a juris doctorate and worked in Australia in a corporate in-house legal capacity for Mars Inc. After moving to Jackson County in 1976, he practiced private law. He served more than 23 years as a municipal judge for the city of Gautier, retiring from that position in 2011.

Roberts, who received the Sam Owen Trophy in 1988, has three children – Haydn, an attorney in Brandon; Winston, 11; and Quincy, 7.



**Debbie S. Triplett**  
*Athletic Hall of Fame*  
*Women's Basketball/Volleyball*

Triplett played basketball during the 1973-74 season when women's sports (except tennis) were played in both the Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIWA) and the Mississippi Association for Junior Colleges (MAJC). The Mississippi Gulf Coast Junior College women's basketball team played for two state championships that year. On February 16, 1974, they won the MAIAW state trophy, and they won the District III AIAW championship on March 9. They won second place in the National AIAW tournament.

Triplett, who helped Coach Sue Ross run basketball clinics during the year and also played volleyball at Gulf Coast, graduated with honors from Delta State University and received her master's degrees in education and in administration, both with honors, from William Carey University. She was the Athletic Director at Bay-Waveland School District for 15 years, junior high basketball coach for 18 years, high school girls basketball coach for 18 years, and was the Coach of the Year for MAC and NFHS in 2003.



# TRADITION MEETS INNOVATION

*Create. Commemorate. Celebrate.*

*Homecoming is a time when we remember the past and celebrate the future. The celebration would not be complete without heralding the opening of a beautiful Learning Resources Center, whose features include wood from the Old Gym (it once stood where the LRC is now located on the Perkinston Campus) and marking the historic significance of Perk's oldest building, Huff Hall. Also, soon the campus will be home to the Community Arts Center. Join us Homecoming Day, as we recognize the creation, commemoration and celebration of structures that make (or will make) a difference in our lives.*

## Willis H. Lott Learning Resources Center

The Willis H. Lott Learning Resources Center on the Perkinston Campus houses the Library, Media Services and Learning Lab, all of which provide instructional support services to enhance the quality of the teaching and learning environment within the college.

The library maintains a large reference and general collection of books, journals, archive issues, bound periodicals and a special Mississippi Collection (featuring books and artwork from authors and artists from throughout the state) to provide world-class resources for student and instructor academic endeavors.

The first floor houses a computer laboratory, Media Center, study rooms, Internet Café, Learning Laboratory and tutorial areas, staff offices, and public spaces/restrooms. The second floor houses the library and book stacks, circulation desk, Mississippi Collection, computer area, study areas, computer teaching room, conference room, display case, staff work area and offices, and public spaces/restrooms.

The new facility was constructed on the site of the Old Gym, which opened for use on September 5, 1927, and was later demolished because of damage sustained from Hurricane Katrina. However, wood planks from the gymnasium floor have been used in the second-floor conference room and the display area.

The Mississippi Collection will feature books and artwork from authors and artists from throughout the state.

"Leading a dynamic institution such as Gulf Coast for 13 years, and working with the Board of Trustees and all of the employees to make a

positive difference in people's lives every day was the highlight of my career," Lott says. "I appreciate the Board for helping to create a legacy for my family and me by naming the Learning Resources Center in my honor."

## Huff Hall

Harrison County Agricultural High School (HCAHS) opened at Perkinston on September 17, 1912, with only one completed building. On the 40th anniversary of the institution, the Board of Trustees christened the original edifice "Huff Hall" in honor of J. A. Huff, the first principal of HCAHS. On the centennial of the institution, Huff Hall was only one of more than 100 structures located on campuses and centers serving four counties under the aegis of an institution known as Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. A special marker will be placed in front of Huff Hall on Homecoming Day, marking the historic significance of this building to the college's history.







*Howard Pollock (deceased)*  
National President 1940-41



*Leonard A. Blackwell*  
National President 1960-61  
Gulfport



*Karl C. Mertz*  
National President 1966-67  
Long Beach



*Gary Lee Roberts*  
National President 1968-69  
Pascagoula



*Billy Zane Gordon*  
National President 1970-71  
Philadelphia, Miss.

# Homecoming Breakfast Reception

**Honoring Former MGCCC Phi Theta Kappa Members**

**October 27, 2012 • 8 – 9 a.m.**

**Liaison • Perkinston Campus**

**RSVP: 601-928-6288/jenifer.freridge@mgccc.edu**



**PHI THETA KAPPA**  
HONOR SOCIETY

## 2012 HOMECOMING SCHEDULE MGCCC VS. EAST CENTAL CC

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26

8:30 a.m. • Bulldog Club Golf Tournament, Windance Country Club  
Gulfport, Mississippi

6 p.m. • Induction Ceremony and Reception/Athletic Hall of Fame  
Beau Rivage Resort and Casino, Biloxi, Mississippi

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, PERKINSTON CAMPUS

8-9 a.m. • Phi Theta Kappa Reception, Liaison

8 a.m.-Noon • Registration, Alumni House

8 a.m.-2 p.m. • Archives Open, Heidelberg Hall

8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. • Alumni Art Show, Visual Arts Building

9 a.m. • Chapel Service

9:45 a.m. • Alumni Association Business Meeting, Malone Auditorium

10 a.m. • Induction Ceremony (Alumni Hall of Fame and Sam Owen)  
Malone Auditorium

11 a.m. • Dedication, Willis H. Lott Learning Resources Center

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. • Cookout/Special Reunion Groups/Pep Rally/  
Homecoming Court Introduction, Bell Tower

1:30 p.m. • Pregame Activities (Recognition of Homecoming Honorees)  
A.L. May Memorial Stadium

2 p.m. • Gulf Coast vs. East Central, A.L. May Memorial Stadium

Halftime • Presentation and Crowning of Homecoming Court/  
Performance of Band of Gold and Perkettes, A.L. May Memorial Stadium

*Shuttle Transportation Available*

[WWW.MGCCC.EDU](http://WWW.MGCCC.EDU)

[WWW.MGCCC.EDU](http://WWW.MGCCC.EDU)

# COLLEGE HAPPENINGS

## Board approves FY 2012-13 budget, no tuition increase

Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College's Board of Trustees approved the FY 2012-2013 E&G Budget of more than \$107 million with no increase in student-tuition costs. The E&G Budget for the college is funded by the state Legislature, county taxes, and student tuition and fees.

"As FY 2012 and FY 2013 state appropriations, enrollment and county millage have remained consistent and several cost-saving measures have resulted in a positive financial position, the Board of Trustees was pleased to adopt the new budget with no tuition increase," says David Ford, Board president. "The college has maintained a stable enrollment and looks forward to another successful year in serving the residents of the four-county district."

Gulf Coast president Dr. Mary S. Graham says the college is also expanding career and technical programs. "Research and evaluation of enrollment and economic trends have shown a need for expansion of those programs," she says. "The FY 2013 budget addresses that need with new program offerings, expansions and the reinstatement of several programs."



## Anna Faye Kelley-Winders receives Ingalls Education Leadership Award

Anna Faye Kelley-Winders, vice president of Community Campus, has been awarded the Ingalls Shipbuilding Education Leadership Award.

Irwin F. Edenzon, president of Ingalls Shipbuilding, presented the award to Kelley-Winders during the Apprentice Commencement Exercises on August 11 in Biloxi. The award is given annually to Ingalls employees and community leaders who have made significant educational contributions to the company's employees.

Kelley-Winders was selected for the award because of her leadership in workforce education, including the establishment of educational partnerships with Ingalls Shipbuilding for workforce and continuing-education training like the apprenticeship programs. Gulf Coast plays a vital role in the industry's future by providing training for current and future employees.

## Institutional Relations wins six CPRAM awards

Gulf Coast's Institutional Relations department won six awards at the annual College Public Relations Association of Mississippi (CPRAM) conference held in Gulfport May 21-22. CPRAM promotes excellence in public relations in community colleges and universities in Mississippi.

Awards and award winners included Public Relations Campaign (Centennial Celebration), first place, Anna Faye Kelley-Winders and Institutional Development staff; Sports Photograph (MGCCC vs. Hinds Football), Philip Dixon, first place; Television Program (Bulldog Blitz), Bill Snyder, Rich Kopp and Coach Steve Campbell, first place; Sports Photograph (MGCCC Baseball), Bill Snyder, second place; Sports Media Guide, Anna Faye Kelley-Winders, Brenda Davis, Ladd Taylor, Mike Sewell, and Rich Kopp, second place; and Special Publications (Game Day Football Programs), Anna Faye Kelley-Winders, Brenda Davis, Ladd Taylor, Mike Sewell and Richard Kopp, third place.

## Showah wins MMA Award

Willy Showah, Machine Tool Technology instructor at the Jackson County Campus, has been named winner of the 2012 Mississippi Manufacturers Association (MMA) Award for Excellence in Vocational Education. He was recognized at the MMA 60th annual convention held in Biloxi May 30-June 1. For more than 50 years, the MMA has been an unrelenting advocate in support of measures benefiting manufacturers, offering resources, education and information to the state's manufacturing industry.





# COLLEGE HAPPENINGS



## Governor Phil Bryant selects Dr. Mary S. Graham for GoCoast 2020 advisory board

Dr. Mary S. Graham, MGCCC president, has been named to Governor Phil Bryant's GoCoast 2020 advisory board. She will serve as a workforce adviser on the board, which includes more than 100 business and community leaders and elected officials from the Gulf Coast.

The group will help with the allocation of funds that Mississippi will receive as part of the RESTORE Act. RESTORE ensures that 80 percent of some penalties assessed as a result of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill (expected to be between \$5 billion and \$21 billion) will be directed to the five Gulf states impacted by the spill.

GoCoast includes members in economic development, small business, infrastructure, eco-restoration, seafood, tourism and workforces areas. The group is tasked with charting a 2020 vision for the Gulf Coast and with making important recommendations to the governor for initiatives and projects related to these seven areas.

"I am incredibly pleased to serve with this group, all of whom already play vitally important leadership roles along the Coast and in the state," Graham said. "I believe that this team has a unique opportunity to shape the future of South Mississippi, making our Coast an even more wonderful place to live, work and play."

Through a report, to be produced in January 2012, the group will rely on input from the public to help in the process of integrating existing plans and resources into the effort but will also strive to create an ambitious and comprehensive picture of the future Gulf Coast.

## Service pins presented to Board of Trustees members

The Gulf Coast Board of Trustees recognized several members for their years of service during its regular meeting on August 22 at the Perkinston Campus.

Years of Service pins for five years of service were presented to David Ford and Millie Page, both Harrison County representatives. Ford is currently serving as Board of Trustees chair.

Stone County representative L.D. Stringfellow received a pin for 10 years of service. Pins were also given to Moreno Jones for 15 years of service and Patricia Descher, second vice chair, for 25 years of service. Both Jones and Descher are Jackson County representatives.

The Board of Trustees, comprised of 23 members, determines the current and future direction of the college by allocating resources to accomplish institutional goals. The board represents the college's four-county district of George, Harrison, Jackson and Stone counties.



*FROM LEFT: Gulf Coast president Dr. Mary S. Graham, Patricia Descher, Moreno Jones, Millie Page and David Ford (Board of Trustees chair). Not pictured but receiving a pin: L.D. Stringfellow.*

## Fall enrollment increases 4.6 percent

Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College has continued to experience significant enrollment increases, with a fall semester increase of 4.6 percent.

The George County Center in Lucedale had the largest increase at Gulf Coast, with 20 percent more full-time students currently than fall semester 2011.

"We are proud that students in the community continue to choose Gulf Coast as the first step in their higher-education plans," said Dr. Mary Graham, Gulf Coast president. "The continued increase in student enrollment illustrates the success the college has had in meeting the needs of our community. With our focus always on increasing both job skills and placement, Gulf Coast plays a key role in building a stronger economy in South Mississippi. Our goal is to continue offering our students excellent training for jobs in their chosen career fields so that they have the opportunity to succeed personally and to offer our community the strong workforce that it needs to flourish."



# SPORTS

## Golf team finishes fifth in nation, five players win All-American Team honors

In one of the team's best performances at the national level, the Gulf Coast golf team finished in fifth place at the National Junior College Athletic Association District II Tournament at Swan Lake Golf Club in Plymouth, Indiana. The Bulldogs remained in the top five the entire tournament and were tied for first place after round one.

"The guys competed hard against the best players in the nation at this level. This group has played at a championship level from start to finish this spring," says coach Tommy Snell.

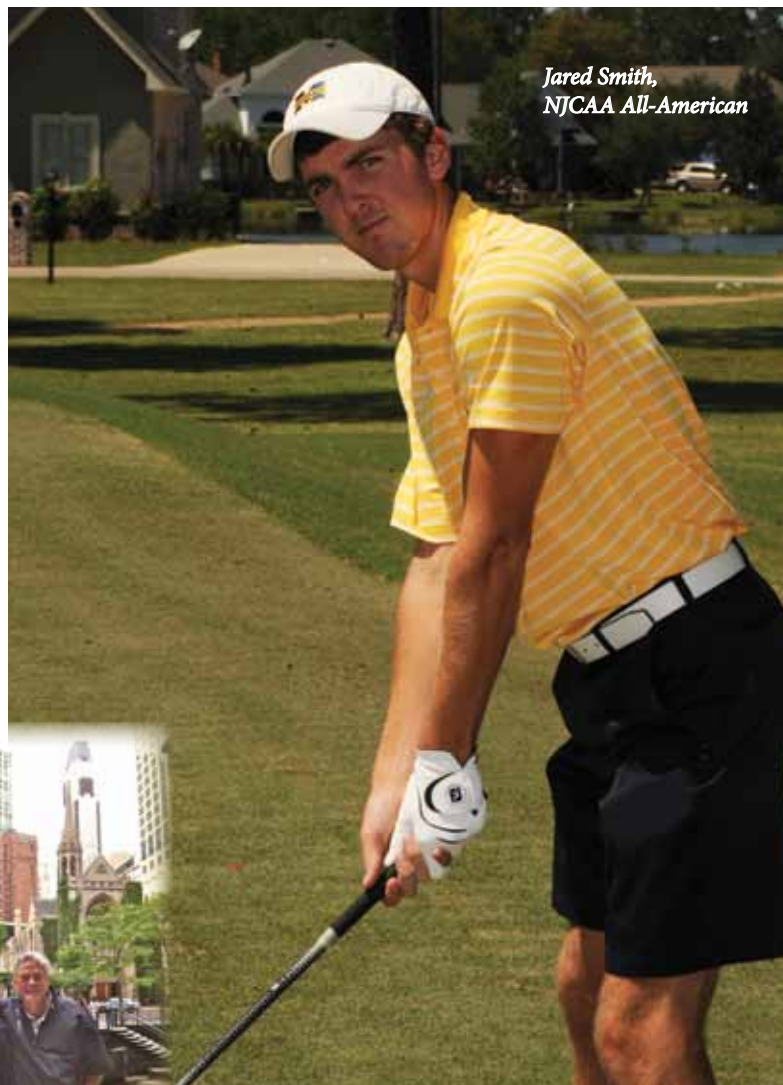
Jared Smith, Brad Thornton, Marcus Fox, Jack Sargent and Drew Seals won All-American honors following tournament.

Smith, a 2012 graduate who finished fourth individually, earned NJCAA All-American Honors, a spot on the All-Tournament team, the Ping All-American First Team squad and the Ping D-II Central Region All-American squad. He has committed to play golf at The University of Southern Mississippi.

Thornton, a freshman, was 18th and also took home NJCAA Honorable Mention All-American honors. Sophomores Fox and Sargent both tied for 32nd. Fox earned Ping All-American Second Team honors, while Fox, Seals and Sargent were named to the Ping D-II Central Region All-American squad.

Fox has accepted a scholarship and will continue his golf career at Nicholls State in Louisiana. Seals will play for William Carey University, and Sargent signed to play with Delta State University. Other members of the team who will play golf at the university level include Rory Nelson and Michael Maley, who have signed with William Carey University, and Delton Pounds, who signed with Blue Mountain College.

In 2012, Gulf Coast won its fifth-straight Region 23 title and third straight MACJC championship and swept every MACJC regular-season event.



Jared Smith,  
NJCAA All-American

LEFT: Ladd Taylor, left, college dean of Athletics, and Tommy Snell, Gulf Coast golf coach, in Chicago during the NJCAA Tournament.

## Gulf Coast athletes and teams receive NJCCA Academic honors

Ten Gulf Coast athletes have been selected for the National Junior College Athletic Association Athletes of Distinction List for 2011-12. They include Jordan Papas (women's soccer/3.95 GPA), Kelsi Weaver (women's soccer/3.90 GPA), Steven Campbell (football/3.87 GPA), Kris Albritton (softball/3.84 GPA), Will Scott (football/3.81 GPA), Ramsey Sellers (football/3.78 GPA), Marty Stringfellow (Baseball/3.76 GPA), Jessica Ladner (women's soccer/3.73 GPA), Kristie Ladner (women's soccer/3.73 GPA) and Grant Bell (tennis/3.64 GPA).

Women's soccer, golf, men's tennis and softball teams have been named to the National Junior College Athletic Association list of All-Academic teams for 2011-2012. The Lady Bulldog softball team notched a 3.20 GPA, while the men's tennis squad served up a 3.31 GPA. The Lady Bulldog soccer team scored a 3.16 team GPA, and the golf team had a 3.00 GPA.

More than 1,680 NJCAA student-athletes met the requirements for individual academic honors. Nearly 60,000 student-athletes competed in the NJCAA for the 2011-2012 academic year on more than 3,500 teams in 28 different sports. The 2011-2012 season marks the 29th year the NJCAA has recognized the success of its student-athletes in the classroom. The NJCAA Academic Student-Athlete Awards were previously known as NJCAA Academic All-American honors. The NJCAA has renamed its academic awards program to the following: NJCAA Pinnacle Award for Academic Excellence (4.00 GPA on a 4.00 scale), NJCAA Award for Superior Academic Achievement (3.80 to 3.99 on a 4.00 scale), and NJCAA Award for Exemplary Academic Achievement (3.60 to 3.79 on a 4.00 scale).





## MEN'S TENNIS TEAM GOES NATIONAL

The men's tennis team arrived in Plano, Texas, in May full of optimism knowing the challenge of the NJCAA Tournament would be great.

The team's first match of the tournament featured Alexander Puyol's three-set loss to Tom Greer-Smith of Temple College 2-6, 6-1, 6-2.

"It was a tough opening day, but we knew we would do well in the back draw," says Gary Bourgeois, Gulf Coast tennis coach. "Our tournament really started on day two as Puyol and Nick Georgian made a run to the finals in the No. 1 and No. 4 single flights."

Puyol defeated Alex Fioavante of Marion Military Institute 6-4, (retired), in the quarters then won a hard fought match against Joe Owen of Pima College 6-3, 4-6, 10-8 in a third-set tiebreaker. In the

finals, Puyol lost to No. 3 seed Zack Evenden of Cowley College 6-1, 6-1.

In the No. 4 flight, Georgian advanced to the finals by beating Tanner Hatch in a close match 7-6, 3-6, 10-4 in the third-set tiebreaker.

Georgian then dispatched Patrick Ballard of Itawamba Community College 6-3, 6-1. In the finals, Georgian played Justin Delgado from Temple College and took the match to a three-set tiebreaker before retiring due to an injury.

"I was really proud of the way our team fought in every match," Bourgeois says. "We were never out-hustled. This is a very young team and going to nationals was a great experience for them."

*ABOVE, from left: Nick Georgian, Cameron Wolfe, Grant Bell, Coach Gary Bourgeois, Travis Burdick, Lachlan Puyol and Alexander Puyol.*

### Gulf Coast sweeps Hinds in fall tennis action

The Gulf Coast tennis teams served notice that they will be very competitive this spring after sweeping Hinds in a fall match on September 11 at the Biloxi Tennis Center.

The men's team notched a 9-0 victory led by sophomore Alex Puyol and freshman Sean Robinson. In No. 1 singles, Puyol defeated Yen Horbin 6-3, 6-4 while in No. 2 singles, Robinson defeated Max Gunbin 6-2, 6-0. Also winning in singles for Gulf Coast was Travis Burdick, who defeated Esnard Fountain 6-0, 6-4, and Nick Georgian, who cruised by Gary Blissard 6-1, 6-2. Gulf Coast's Grant Bell defeated Devante Thomas 6-1, 6-2, and freshman Josh Johnson made it through a second-set tiebreaker and defeated Pat Adams 6-4, 7-6 (8). In No. 2

doubles, the team of Burdick/Georgian defeated Blizzar/Fountain 8-1, while in No. 3 doubles Bell/Johnson handled Adams/Thomas 8-4.

The women's team was led by freshmen Kit Chowdhary and Brittany Burkner. In No 1 singles, Burkner shut down Latoya Whitney 6-0, 6-1, while in No. 2 singles, Chowdhary blew past Anissa Johnson 6-0, 6-2. Also playing well for Gulf Coast were freshmen Aliesha Barlow and Sarah Soares, who both won in straight sets. Barlow handled Carla Fox 6-0, 6-1, and Soares defeated Octavias Pendleton 7-6, 7-6. Winning in doubles for Gulf Coast were Chowdhary/Burkner, who topped Whitney/Johnson 8-5 and sophomores Diamond Short and Mary King, who shut out Fox/Pendleton 8-0.

### Golf team places fifth in Meridian Invitational

The golf team continued its slate of fall matches by finishing fifth at the Meridian Invitational September 24-25. Central Alabama (870) took first place, followed by Wallace St. (890), Meridian (904), Faulkner St. (912) and Gulf Coast (921). Gulf Coast freshman Hayes Weathersby shot 73-70-75 to finish in third place individually, while Gulf Coast's Brad Thornton was 11th. Gulf Coast plays again October 29-30 at the MGCCC Fall Invitational at Windance Country Club in Gulfport.

*Gulf Coast's Whitney Richardson (44) and Dawson Wells (8) sack Holmes quarterback Dennis Robertson on Sept. 6 in Goodman.*

# ALL IN!

## Bulldogs kick off season with consecutive victories

Calling the 2012 Gulf Coast football team “speedy” is a bit of an understatement. The Bulldogs, made up of mostly freshmen, along with 16 sophomores, have used an abundance of team speed to race out to a 3-1 record early in the season and a No. 1 ranking in the NJCAA.

Gulf Coast was supposed to open the season on August 30, but torrential rains from Hurricane Isaac pushed the contest at Coahoma back to September 1. The Bulldogs used their own offensive deluge to open a 50-7 lead on the Tigers and eventually win 64-14. Five days later, Gulf Coast traveled to Goodman and defeated Holmes 42-16. The team's MACJC South Division and home opener against Hinds featured the Bulldogs winning 34-0 at halftime and then holding onto a 41-28 win over the No. 6-ranked Eagles. After jumping to the No. 1 ranking in the NJCAA poll, the Bulldogs dropped a 35-28 decision at Jones, which puts them at 3-1 overall and 1-1 in the South Division.

Four games into the season, sophomore quarterback Clint Hatten was brutally efficient, going 57/88 for 990 yards, 10 touchdowns and two interceptions. His favorite receivers include freshman Dhaquille Williams (23 catches, 507 yards, five touchdowns) and freshman Tyrone Williams (11 catches, 198 yards, two touchdowns).

As always, the Gulf Coast running game is among the NJCAA'S best, with sophomores Byron Nettles (285 yards, five touchdowns), Anton Thornton (270 yards, four touchdowns) and JoJo Snell (201 yards, three touchdowns).

The Bulldog defense has forced 11 turnovers, including a 40-yard touchdown by freshman Cavellis Luckett against Coahoma and a game-clinching interception by freshman Josh Keys against Hinds on September 13.

The Bulldogs have a home date with Northeast on September 27, a battle with archrival Pearl River at home on October 3, road trips to Southwest (October 13) and Co-Lin (October 20), and Homecoming against East Central on October 27 in Perkinston.



**VISIT US ON FACEBOOK AT BULLDOGLIVE OR JOIN US ON TWITTER AT [HTTPS://WWW.TWITTER.COM/PERKSID](https://www.twitter.com/perksid) OR [HTTPS://TWITTER.COM/BULLDOGAD](https://twitter.com/bulldogad).**

BulldogLIVE is the place to go on Facebook to check out the latest news on Gulf Coast athletic teams, coaches and players. We'll also be posting information on upcoming LIVE streaming video feeds of Gulf Coast athletic events.





## Chris Handy named head coach for men's and women's soccer teams

He has played, competed and coached at the championship level. Now, Chris Handy brings enthusiasm, discipline and championship experience to the table as the new head coach of Gulf Coast's men's and women's soccer teams.

"I am very excited about the opportunity at Gulf Coast," Handy says. "The men's and women's programs are already established in the state

and region, and the college has a strong administration with a commitment to success on and off the field."

Handy comes to Gulf Coast from Tyler Junior College (Texas), where he spent five years as an assistant coach. During that time, the Tyler men compiled a 89-9-6 record, won back-to-back NJCAA titles

(2009-10) and finished third in 2011. Before his time at Tyler, Handy was a player and intern at Florida International University.

"I learned a lot at Tyler, and I feel my time there has shaped me into who I am today," he says. "I learned just how important it is to work hard and have a winning mentality. You also have to make sure that your athletes are motivated on the field and in the classroom, and everything you do must be first class."

Handy, a native of Austin, Texas, inherits two teams coming off MACJC and Region 23 titles in 2011. He takes over for Bary Thrash, who recently retired after building the Bulldog soccer program from its inception in 1998 into a perennial winner.

"I think coaching both men and women will be a new challenge. However, I'm looking forward to the challenge," Handy says "I love to coach and compete. Gulf Coast fans can expect to see teams that will work hard and show up to play every day."



## Ladd Taylor named an NJCAA director of Women's Athletics

Ladd Taylor, college dean of Athletics at Gulf Coast, has been named the National Junior College Athletic Association's (NJCAA) Region 23 director for Women's Athletics. He will assume his two-year term on August 1.

A large portion of Taylor's duties in the position will be conducting tournaments and playoffs to determine regional representatives for the national tournament, ensuring those

representatives are eligible to attend the national tournament and hosting regional meetings.

Taylor, a member of the Bulldog football team in 1993-94, has held several different positions while at Gulf Coast, including director of Admissions and Records at the Perkinston Campus. He was named athletic director in 2008 and college dean of Athletics in 2011.

## Gulf Coast soccer looking for mid-season spark

This season has been a journey of growth for both Gulf Coast soccer teams as the halfway point in the season draws near.

The men are 4-3-1 overall and 3-1 in the MACJC South Division. After a tough road loss at Pearl River, Gulf Coast rebounded with a three-game winning streak, defeating Jones, Southwest and Co-Lin.

The Lady Bulldogs (4-3, 2-2) rebounded from two division losses with wins over Southwest and Co-Lin in September.

First-year head coach Chris Handy and assistants Neil Scott and Patrick Harrison are now steering both teams through the stretch run, which includes six of the team's final eight regular-season games on the road.

## Bulldog alumni sign with NFL teams

For the third straight year, an NFL team has drafted a former Bulldog, while other Bulldog alumni are finding spots on NFL rosters.

On day three of the 2012 NFL draft, the Indianapolis Colts selected former Bulldog running back Vick Ballard in the fifth round. Ballard, a Pascagoula native who was an NJCAA All-American at Gulf Coast before also starring at Mississippi State University.

"This is a dream come true," Ballard said in January while at the Senior Bowl. "The journey's been fun, especially the time at Gulf Coast. At Perk, I learned that nothing comes easy. Ever since then, I've remembered the value of hard work."

Former Bulldogs James Carmon (OL/Mississippi

State), Sammy Brown (LB/The University of Houston), Alanzo Lawrence (DB/Detroit Lions) and Kelvin Bolden (WR/The University of Southern Mississippi) signed rookie free-agent deals with NFL teams. Carmon, a nose guard turned offensive lineman, signed with the Baltimore Ravens. Brown, a Wiggins native who led the NCAA last season in tackles for loss, has inked with the St. Louis Rams. Bolden, an Ocean Springs native and 2009 NJCAA All-American, has signed with the Washington Redskins.

This new crop of former Gulf Coast standouts joins Terrence Cody (Ravens), Chris White (Bills) and Tremaine Brock (49ers) in the NFL.



*Bulldog alumnus Vick Ballard, left, with Russell Young, associate vice president for Development, at Ballard's NFL draft party.*

# FOUNDATION SPOTLIGHT

## BP Foundation awards \$125,000 to MGCCC Foundation

The BP Foundation Incorporated awarded a \$125,000 grant to the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Foundation for the purpose of supporting the college's educational and economic development programs.

The Foundation's proposal outlined the awarding of scholarships based upon an annual rate of return of 3 percent on the endowment. Therefore, two scholarships of \$750 would be awarded each year to students majoring in math, science and technology and two scholarships for students majoring in hospitality or tourism management.

Assuming the same rate of return, \$750 per year would be available to partially fund certification or specialized training or professional

conferences for faculty development. Criteria for scholarships will be established in accordance with other academic and career-technical scholarships, with the first scholarships available for the 2012 fall semester. Faculty development awards will be requested from the MGCCC Foundation by campus vice presidents upon faculty justification of the proposed training/conference to improve teaching methodology.

The MGCCC Foundation will award additional student scholarships and faculty development funds as the rate of return increases in the future.



The BP Foundation

**Specifically, the BP Foundation funds are to be used to establish a scholarship endowment for students and faculty with allocations as follows:**

- **Scholarships for students majoring in math, science and technology (\$50,000)**
- **Scholarships for students majoring in Hotel Restaurant Management and Tourism Management programs (\$50,000)**
  - **Faculty Development (\$25,000)**

## *In Remembrance*

**Earle Richard Taylor** (PJC '39) died on May 4, 2012, in Ocean Springs. He was the owner of the Gulf Kist Poultry Farm and a junior-high science teacher for the Ocean Springs and Moss Point school systems.

**Earline Allen Johnson** of Pascagoula died on May 11, 2012. She and her late husband, Hardy, founded Johnson Brothers Jewelry Company in Pascagoula. Donations in her memory

can be made to the MGCCC Foundation's Johnson Brothers Jewelry Scholarship, a longstanding endowed scholarship fund established by Johnson for Jackson County students.

**Regina Lee Diaz Taylor** (JDC '99) of Gulfport passed away on July 20, 2012.

**Philip I. "Phil" Harvey** (PJC) died on Aug. 19, 2012, in Ocean Springs.

If you have a loved one who has passed away, and he or she was an alum of Gulf Coast, we will happily publish the information in In Remembrance. Be sure to include date of death, year of attendance or graduation from Gulf Coast, and the Gulf Coast location that the loved one attended. You can email information and photos to [jenifer.freridge@mgccc.edu](mailto:jenifer.freridge@mgccc.edu), or drop them in the mail: Alumni Office, P.O. Box 99, Perkinston, MS 39573-0099. If you scan your photos, use a resolution of 300 dpi. Questions? Call 601-928-6288.



# SCHOLARSHIPS

## First Chemical awards \$8,000 in grants to MGCCC Foundation

DuPont's First Chemical subsidiary awarded \$49,000 in scholarships and grants to local high school students and nonprofit groups at their annual Community Awards Banquet in May. Awards recipients received checks ranging in value from \$500 to \$11,000. In addition to scholarships, 13 local nonprofit groups were awarded grants to fund educational, social and community growth projects.

Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College received two scholarships totaling \$8,000. A \$5,000 scholarship was awarded for Chemistry Camp, an annual summer camps co-sponsored by First Chemical and held at the Jackson County Campus, and a \$3,000 scholarship for the annual math tournament held at the campus.

## Bulldog baseball players receive Curtis Lee Davis Sr. scholarship



Stuart Holmes and Zac Haarala, Gulf Coast students and Vancleave residents, have been awarded scholarships through a memorial fund established in honor of the late Curtis Lee Davis Sr.

Holmes and Haarala, sophomore players on the Bulldog baseball team, are the first recipients of the scholarship established by the Davis family through the MGCCC Foundation.

Jimmy Davis said the family established the memorial scholarship to help athletes from Jackson County attend Gulf Coast. "My dad was so devoted to the college, especially the athletic programs, so we felt like this was the best way to honor him. He was a 41-year veteran of Gulf Coast and retired in 1991 as vice president of the Jackson County Campus. He attended college at the Perkinston Campus and played tennis while in college there."

Davis said he remembers traveling to Gulf Coast games with his father. "Dad was a very strong supporter of athletics. He hauled us all over the state going to games. He actually knew the two students receiving the scholarships this year. We felt that was appropriate."

Davis Sr., who died on March 23, 2012, was a member of Gulf Coast's Athletic Hall of Fame, the NJCAA

Athletic Hall of Fame, and the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges Sports Hall of Fame. At the 1994 Homecoming, he was awarded the prestigious Sam Owen Trophy, the institution's highest honor for distinguished service. In 2005, the Health and Physical Education Building at the Jackson County Campus was named in his honor.

The scholarship fund continues to grow, and Davis said they hope to give more each year. "We are adding to the fund all the time and encourage people in our community to help as well," he said. "My dad was so well known in the community and was a strong supporter of Vancleave and Jackson County as a whole. We'd like to see this scholarship grow and help as many of our young people as possible."

The scholarship is open to any athlete in any sport who will be attending Gulf Coast. He said preference is given to Jackson County students. Eligibility is also open to out-of-state athletes.

For information about donating to the Curtis Lee Davis Sr. Memorial Scholarship Fund, contact the Foundation Office at 601-928-6205 or visit [http://www.mgccc.edu/alumni/MGCCC\\_foundation.php](http://www.mgccc.edu/alumni/MGCCC_foundation.php).



## MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY IN A STUDENT'S LIFE TOMORROW.

For more information about Foundation and Alumni scholarships, visit [www.mgccc.edu](http://www.mgccc.edu), or contact Russell Young, associate vice president for Development, at 601-928-6205, [russell.young@mgccc.edu](mailto:russell.young@mgccc.edu).

# ALUMNI NEWS



**LEFT:** Patrick Ramsay (JCC '12), second from left, and Richard O'Berry (JDC '12), far right, are winners of the 2011

Grainger Tools for Tomorrow Scholarship. They received customized Westward tool kits during a ceremony in Mobile on June 5. Ramsay, a U.S. Navy veteran, graduated from the Precision Manufacturing and Machine Tool program at the Jackson County Campus, and O'Berry, an Army veteran, graduated from the Heating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration program at the Jefferson Davis Campus. One-half of the Tools for Tomorrow scholarships are designated for military veterans. The Grainger Tools for Tomorrow scholarship program awards financial assistance for tuition and books to outstanding students earning an associate degree or certificate in career or technical programs. The toolkits given to scholarship recipients upon graduation include specialized professional tools for the graduating students' skilled trade area of expertise. Also pictured above is Willy Showah, far left, Machine Tool Technology instructor at the Jackson County Campus, and Chris Crocker, third from left, HVAC instructor at the Jefferson Davis Campus.



**LEFT: Allen Hamilton** (JCC '12), left, has been admitted to the Trent Lott Leadership Institute at The University of Mississippi in Public Policy. He also received Luckyday and Academic Excellence scholarships.

**Kathy Griggs** (JCC '12) graduated with Special Honors from the Logistics Technology program in May a year after her daughter, Natasha Gilbert, graduated from the program. Griggs received the 2012 Outstanding Logistician Award

presented by the International Society of Logistics Engineering Organization (S.O.L.E.). Gilbert, who also has an associate degree in Automated Manufacturing Technology and is an adjunct Logistics Technology instructor at the Jackson County Campus, was the 2011 Logistics Student of the Year. Both Griggs and Gilbert work as logisticians in companies providing support to the U.S. Navy in Jackson County. They plan to continue their academic careers at The University of Southern Mississippi.

**Katie Day** (JCC '12) has been awarded a Lyceum Scholar Award from The University of Mississippi for her junior and senior years at the university. The Lyceum scholarships, limited to 10 Mississippi community college students annually, are for transfer students who have an exemplary record of leadership and service.



**LEFT, from left: Brittany Wittman Barton** (PC '07) and husband Justin welcomed their first child, daughter Henley Elizabeth, on May 24, 2012. Brittany, who lives in Gulfport and is a realtor for Gardner Realtors in Biloxi, is a 2009 graduate of The University of Southern Mississippi.



**LEFT: Rebecca Ford LaNasa** (PC '62) was recently crowned Ms. Florida Senior America. LaNasa, who was head Perkette during her time at Perkinston Junior College, has been a resident of Florida for more than 20 years. She is retired from a successful and award-winning 25-year career in sales and service of corporate life and health insurance.

**Brent and Wyvena Bond Hatten** celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in August. Mrs. Hatten is a 1962 high school graduate of Perkinston Agricultural High School and Junior College. The Hattens are lifetime members of the Alumni Association.



**LEFT, from left: Kayla Croy** (PC '09) and **Erica Croy Stephens** (PC) were featured in the August 8, 2012, edition of Stone County Enterprise as the owners of South Elite Cheer in Wiggins. The sisters were cheerleaders at Gulf Coast, and both have degrees from William Carey College.

What's happening in *your* life?

You can email your information and photos to [jenifer.freridge@mgccc.edu](mailto:jenifer.freridge@mgccc.edu), or drop them in the mail:

Alumni Office

P.O. Box 99

Perkinston, MS 39573-0099

If you scan your photos, use a resolution of 300 dpi.

Questions? Call 601-928-6288.

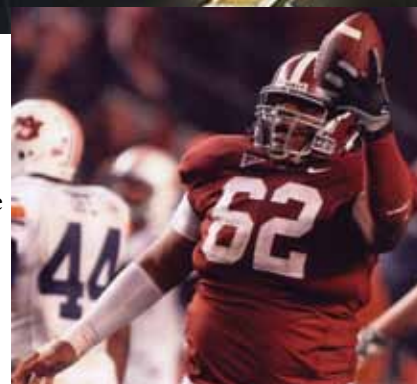


# ALUMNI NEWS

## Terrence Cody named to NJCAA Football Coaches Hall of Fame!



The NJCAA Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame will induct three new members into its fraternity this season. The 2012 class includes former Gulf Coast defensive lineman **Terrence Cody**, Alfred State head coach Mick Caba and the 1983 Coffeyville Community College national championship team. There have been few defensive linemen that have had as big of an impact on a game as former Cody. Towering over offensive fronts at 6 feet 4 inches and more than 340 pounds, T.C. (as he was known at Gulf Coast) powered the Bulldogs drive to a 12-0 record in 2007 and the title of NJCAA co-national champions. He was an NJCAA All-American in 2007, and at Gulf Coast, he was also used as a running back in the team's "jumbo" package, even scoring a few touchdowns. Cody continued his collegiate career at The University of Alabama, where he anchored the Crimson Tide's roll to an NCAA national championship in 2010. Drafted in the second round of the 2010 NFL Draft, Cody is in his third season in the NFL with the Baltimore Ravens.



## THE PRIVILEGES OF ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

- Subscription to Action, the alumni magazine
- Alumni Association membership card and window decal
- Campus library privileges
- Use of campus tennis courts and walking trails at designated times
- Discounted rate for admission to athletic and fine arts events
- Receive information about special events
- Gregory War Memorial Chapel privileges (by reservation)
- Alumni Networking Events

**Individual lifetime membership: \$50**

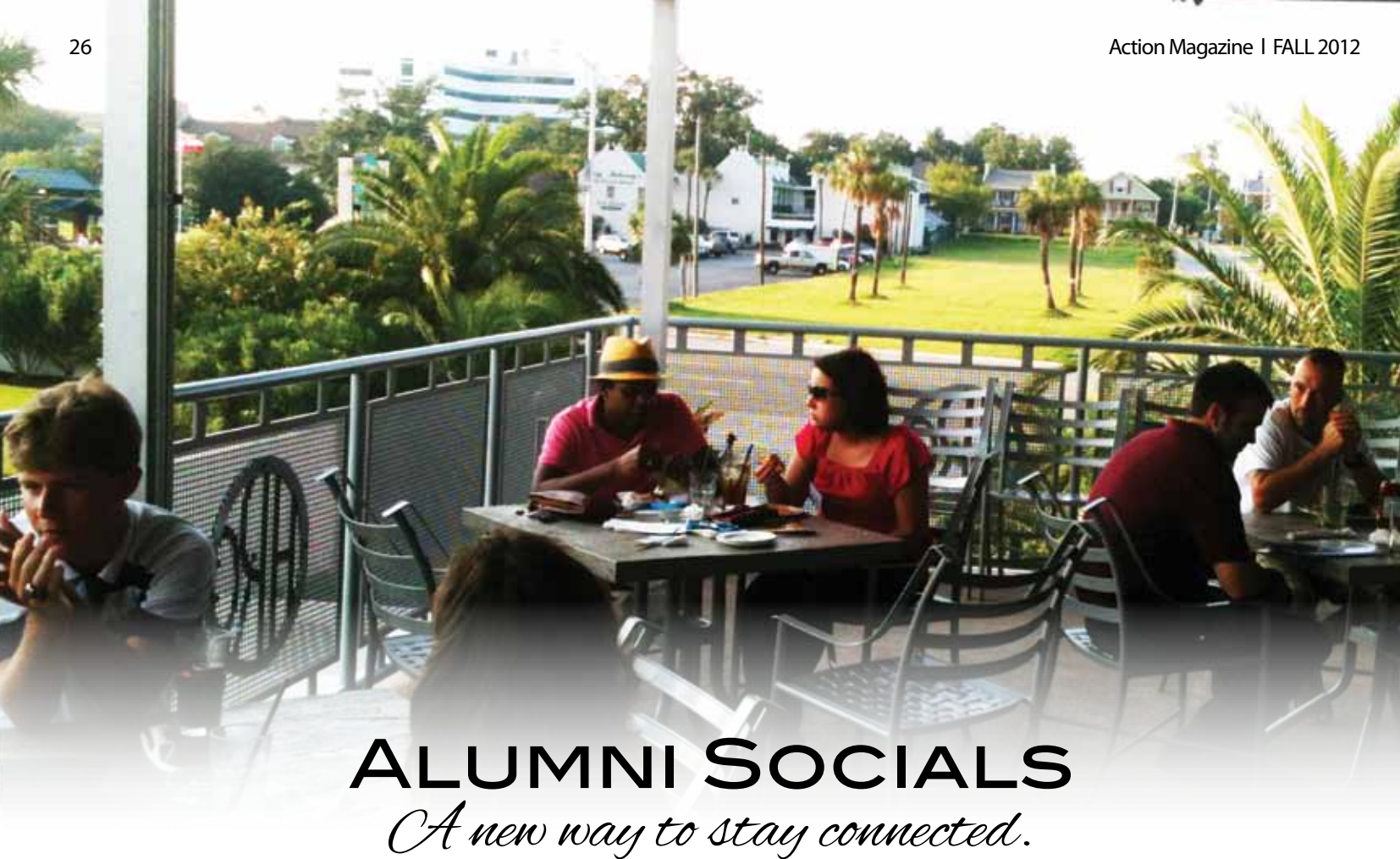
**Couple's lifetime membership: \$75**

**Annual Membership: \$10**



Find us on Facebook: MGCCC Alumni/Foundation





## ALUMNI SOCIALS

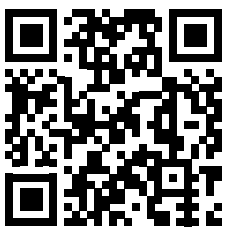
*A new way to stay connected.*

There's always a new and better way to do things, and the Alumni Socials held in Jackson, Mobile and on the Mississippi Gulf Coast were just that - an innovative way to increase alumni engagement in Harrison County and among the Mobile Chapter.

"Members were able to reconnect with old friends and with alumni representatives from the college," says Jenifer Freridge, Alumni Relations coordinator. Russell Young, associate vice president for Development, says, "We wanted to show that we appreciate our alumni and value their ties to the college."

For future alumni events, please visit [www.mgccc.edu/alumni/](http://www.mgccc.edu/alumni/). For more information on how to join the Alumni Association, call 601-928-6288 or email [jenifer.freridge@mgccc.edu](mailto:jenifer.freridge@mgccc.edu).

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR LIFE?



Recently married? New baby? New job? Got that promotion? We want to know...and so do your college classmates!

You can email your information and photos to [jenifer.freridge@mgccc.edu](mailto:jenifer.freridge@mgccc.edu), or drop them in the mail:

Alumni Office  
P.O. Box 99  
Perkinston, MS 39573-0099

If you scan your photos, use a resolution of 300 dpi. Questions? Call 601-928-6288.





*Jenifer Freridge*  
Coordinator of Alumni Relations

## ALUMNI RELATIONS

It's a great time to be a Gulf Coast student or alumni. Gulf Coast remains nationally recognized community colleges, and our athletic teams are pursuing yet another year of championship titles.

With this in mind, it is more important than ever to stay connected to Gulf Coast. Please encourage fellow classmates, friends and co-workers to join the Alumni Association. Your involvement in alumni fund raisers, community events and campus activities can make a difference to the institution and to future students.

Homecoming 2012 is rapidly approaching, and this year we are planning to honor all former Phi Theta Kappa members. I personally invite each of you to join us on the Perkinston Campus on October 27 for a fun-filled day of reunions and celebration. Enjoy reliving cherished memories and seeing all that is new on campus. When you arrive, stop by the Alumni House to register and say hello. We'll be looking for you!

### A SPECIAL THANK YOU...

The MGCCC Foundation would like to thank the following for sponsoring the 2012 Centennial Scholarship Gala: A Roast of Bobby Mahoney.

- Gold and Title Sponsor: M & M Bank (\$10,000)
- Silver Sponsors: Hancock Bank and IP Casino Resort Spa (\$5,000)
- Bronze Sponsors: AT & T, First Federal, Keesler Federal Credit Union, Machado Patano PLLC

### ALUMNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### DISTRICT

President: Reed Allison  
1st Vice President: Jay Huffstatler  
2nd Vice President: Danny Moore  
Secretary: Marleen Moore  
Immediate Past President: Jim Patton

#### GEORGE COUNTY

President: Paula Hinton  
Vice President: Skip Holland  
Secretary: Paul Morgan  
Scholarship Chair: Tiffany Holland

#### HARRISON COUNTY

President: Larry Strohm  
Vice President: Rory Rafferty

Secretary: Tracie Bruni  
Scholarship Chair: Dona Richmond

#### JACKSON COUNTY

President: Lance H. McCarty  
1st Vice President: Janis Langston  
2nd Vice President: Nebo Carter  
Secretary: Wellington Hall  
Scholarship Chair: Mary Elsie Hubley  
Membership Chair: VACANT  
Communications Chair: VACANT  
Immediate Past President: Jenifer Doby-Freridge

#### STONE COUNTY

President: Lydia Berry  
1st Vice President: Rick Randall

2nd Vice President: Mim Hatten

Secretary: Christie Ruff  
Scholarship Chair: Elaine Brockmeyer  
Membership Chair: Charles Williams  
Communications Chair: Dr. Marie Heim

#### CAPITAL AREA

President: Forrest Stringfellow  
1st Vice President: Betty Reaves  
2nd Vice President: Gene Ingram  
Secretary: Vicki Hardy Rundlett

#### MOBILE-BAY AREA

President: Kenneth DeAngelo  
Vice President: June Hale  
Scholarship Chair: Josh Wells

### FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Jay Allen  
Reed Allison, Honorary  
Dr. Ottis Ball  
Dr. Mary S. Graham, Executive Secretary  
Randy Haarala  
Terry Lynn Hamm, Secretary/Treasurer  
Alfreda Horne  
Clare S. Hornsby

Sam LaRosa Jr.  
Connie Mackay  
Dr. Presley Mallett  
Nell Murray  
Bruce Nourse  
Millie Page  
Jim Patton, Chair  
Dr. Susan Scaggs

George Sekul  
L.D. Stringfellow  
Stephanie Barnes Taylor, Vice Chair  
Todd Trenchard

*Hermes Hague, Emeritus*  
*Louise Roberts, Emeritus*

### MGCCC BOARD OF TRUSTEES

David Ford, Chair  
Samuel Albritton Jr.  
Brenton Alexander, Treasurer  
Michael Andrews  
Geraldine Barnes  
Wilburn Bolen, Secretary  
Patricia Descher, Second Vice Chair  
Jim Epting

Jimmy Estes  
Jay Fletcher  
Mary Ann Goff  
Susan D. Hunt, First Vice Chair  
Moreno Jones  
Don Massengale Jr.  
Millie Page  
Harry Roberts Jr.

Bobby Spayde  
L. D. Stringfellow  
Delores P. Sumrall  
Dr. Michael Tatum  
Wilbur G. Ward  
Robert Watters Jr.  
James Whittington



Alumni Office  
P.O. Box 99 1 Perkinson, MS 39573-0099  
Change service requested

Non-Profit  
Organization  
US Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 1  
Perkinson, MS 39573

"In compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972 of the Higher Education Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and other applicable Federal and State Acts, the Board of Trustees of the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College hereby adopts a policy assuring that no one shall, on the grounds of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age or qualified disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination in any program or activity of the College. The Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College is an Equal Opportunity Employer and welcomes students and employees without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age or qualified disability."

Compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Title II of the Age Discrimination Act and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is coordinated by Dr. Billy Stewart, Vice-President for Administration and Finance, Perkinson Campus, P.O. Box 609, Perkinson, Mississippi 39573, telephone number 601-928-5211, email address billy.stewart@mgccc.edu.

CELEBRATE THE HISTORY  
AND SUCCESS OF *your*  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

JOIN US FOR  
*Homecoming!*

OCTOBER 27, 2012  
PERKINSON CAMPUS