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*Definitely*  
**D***ifferent*

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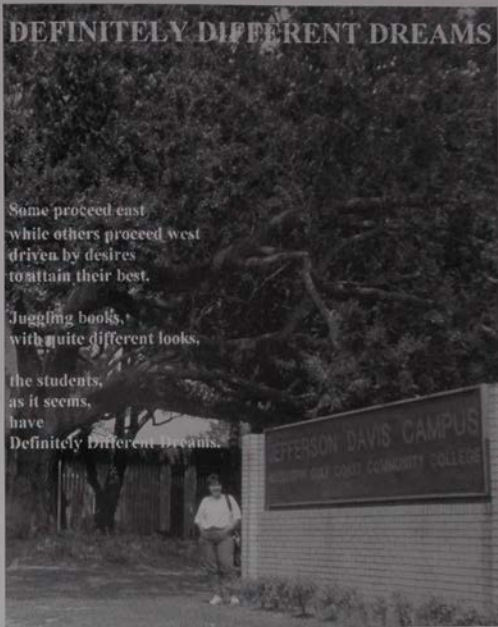
Definitely Different Dreams ... Definitely Different Dreams ... Definitely Different Dreams ...

## DEFINITELY DIFFERENT DREAMS

Some proceed east  
while others proceed west  
driven by desires  
to attain their best.

Juggling books,  
with quite different looks,

the students,  
as it seems,  
have  
Definitely Different Dreams.



# BEAUVOIR 1997

Definitely Different Dreams ... Definitely Different Dreams ... Definitely Different Dreams ...

Definitely Different Dreams ... Definitely Different Dreams ... Definitely Different Dreams ...

Definitely Different Dreams ... Definitely Different Dreams ... Definitely Different Dreams ...

Definitely  
Different  
Lifestyles

Definitely  
Different  
Achievements

Definitely  
Different  
Associations

Definitely  
Different  
Faces

Definitely  
Different  
Fields

Definitely  
Different  
Directions

10  
Student  
Life

36  
Honors  
&  
Awards

52  
Clubs

72  
People &  
Programs

104  
West  
Harrison  
Students

112  
Closing



Happy to be here  
Wandering freshman



Shall we begin?  
Opening the door of the future



## FIRST DAY BLISS

Summer is gone. It is time to sit back in the classroom and start a new fall semester. Some Jefferson Davis students were excited. Others were just surprised to wake up early enough to make it to their first class of the day. Students taking Economics I under Mr. B. got a taste of what the semester would be like by taking a chapter test the first day of class. Mrs. Davidson's art appreciation classes reviewed numerous enriching slides on art history during day one. Other professors went over the ideal class objectives, grading scales, and dismissed class. Those were lucky students. In between classes, students found friends and grabbed a snack. Others spent their time finding the next class. Once the first day of classes was over, students went about their daily schedule. Some felt a bit more confident about what this semester will bring. Others were a bit intimidated. One thing is for sure. School is back in session.



Off to a good start  
In the long run



The student's greatest resource, "Each other"

Destination 2000

Press their way to difference



Noting differences

Tasting the difference



← STUDENT SERVICES



## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

That's Why We Are Here ...

Making a difference in our lives is why we come to Jefferson Davis Campus. To better our lives, our finances, and our memories, we get up every morning and fight Pass Road's traffic to get to class on time. Students here on campus have busy schedules to meet outside of school. They still find time to study for lab exams, mid-terms, and speeches. Why are they stretching themselves to the limits? Different students have different reasons. Some are young students finding their place in the world. Others are older students finding a new and improved place in our society. There are those who have nothing better to do

than sit in class every day and gain knowledge. Lean Weatherly, a Fine Arts major stated, "I am motivated to come to school by the desire to live my own life, and not have to rely on someone else for the rest of my life." Janice Le Leaux, an English major, commented, "By furthering my education, I can secure a higher paying job; because I will be able to compete in the job market being blind." Other students are here for the sake of their children to ensure them a secure future. What ever the reason may be, we are all in this together as MGCCC-BEAUVOIR students and staff members.



Lets stroll to the top

"It's all in my head"



# COLLEGE PROGRESSION

We Are Achieving Our Goals ...

From being a single campus junior college to a tri-campus college, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College has progressed. We have grown at a rapid rate on the Jefferson Davis campus. From the basic academic core classes to the criminal justice specialty course, there is something for everyone at the campus. We have a drama

club that performs a play every semester. Our art gallery displays students' art work once a year in a large gallery show. Also the carpentry student build things for organizations on campus and also for off-campus projects. What ever the major may be, students find their paths here for achieving their goals for the future.



Recruiting the best to serve our country



Art in progress



Clarence LeVelle is building a model home for the VICA organization.

I said "sir."



English Comp. I around the world! Jefferson Davis expansion project

The way to go  
Working off the weight in  
Aerobics



## DEFINITELY DIFFERENT LIFESTYLES

Laughter  
Intelligence  
Freshmen  
Excellence  
Sophmores  
Transitions  
Youthful  
Languages  
Energized  
Sophistication



"TOBACCO"  
FREE  
BUILDING

Breathe easy

Diversity



## LIFESTYLE OF THE ... Soon To Be Rich & Famous ...

"Take time to work. It's the price of success. "Sleep? What is that?" Students at the Jefferson Davis Campus perform delicate high-wire acts as they balance school and other responsibilities. From busy parents to professional models, the students are always involved ... growing and growing with definitely active, definitely diverse, definitely different LIFESTYLES.



Join the club

Cooling Down

## MOMENTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

We all have our moments to shine. The Thursday before our homecoming game, students gathered on the street corners of Wiggins to show their support at the homecoming parade. Students from all three campuses contributed floats and time to the parade festivities. Then faculty, students, and fans gathered on the Perkingston campus to show their spirit at the pep rally. The Perkettes showed some fancy moves, the band played, and the crowds

Definitely ...  
shining bright as  
we bask in the  
light.

were formally introduced to the homecoming maids who represented each campus. "Who will be crowned queen?", seemed to be the popular question among the people. There was no doubt, however, in the students' minds who would be the winning team at the game. At least that's the supporting opinion many gave to our players. For the great American sport of football, we all pitched in.



Now I know who let the dogs out.

Cheryl Baccola shows her school spirit by wearing the school colors.



Stacy Stroud shows spirit and grace.



Farah Mohiuddin shows us the way.



Jefferson Davis Campus Homecoming Maid Maya Avery flashes a smile.



Deanna Hammond proudly represents the Jefferson Davis Campus.







## Just Splendid

As we all gathered on the Perk campus football field to show our support to the players, the homecoming maids from every campus were preparing for the half time festivities. The bands played. The cheerleaders cheered. The crowd watched and cheered our players as the games began.

The half-time huzzar rang. The Band of Gold marched on to the field performing their tribute to the Star Trek sagas. Our alumni band joined the Band of Gold to make tribute to the founder of the Perkettes, Salem Jones. The band parted down the center as our homecoming court made their way down the field. Bernadette Bilanich was crowned queen from the Jefferson Davis campus of 1996. We came, we saw, and we smiled with happiness.

Freshman maid Maya Avery is being escorted by Chevon Reed onto the Perkingston football field. Sophomore maid, Farah Mohiuddin, is being escorted onto the field by her father, Dr. Mohiuddin.

Freshman maid, Derneesa Hammond, is strutting onto the field with Mr. Tammie Crumley. Sophomore maid, Stacy Stroud, is being escorted onto the field by her father, Charles Stroud.



Our Beauvoir Ladies stand proud together. In the meantime, the Perkingston Cheerleaders get the crowd in the spirit of the game. There we all smile while Bernadette Bilanich is crowned queen of the Jefferson Davis campus.



## IN THE SPIRIT

In the spirit of things, students wore their school colors in support of homecoming. People had painted faces and were wearing blue and gold apparel. Mrs. Denise Daniel headed the festivities. During spirit week the winner for the McDonalds Match Student Tuition Game was drawn. Shelly Pruitt won the free tuition. Emotional with tears of joy, she stood with the owner of the Gulfport McDonald's for a photo. "Being a 22 year old single college student not living at home, I'm not eligible for a full pell grant. This tuition enabled me to finish my education. It is truly a blessing for me."



"I'm ready, where's the party?"  
I'm always rushing to class ...



Look what I have!



Students wait patiently for the results of the spirit contest.



Mrs. Denise Daniel announces the winner of the spirit contest.

We Won! We Won! We Won!



# Dream Team

Soon to be the future  
Tennis Stars ...

On our J.D. campus, there is a group of eighteen students and their coach who share one dream in common—to play tennis and to win. With this knowledge and passion, Coach Spence has built a successful tennis program out of one that was actively passive.

The Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College tennis team used to be located at the Perkinston Campus. Three years ago, when Coach Layton had to go, Coach Spence was the best candidate to be in charge of our team. He was already a biology instructor here at J.D. Therefore, the location of the team had to be changed to this campus.

Coach Spence started playing tennis when he was a teenager. He learned the game from his childhood friends in Arkansas, and later on he took classes to improve his skills. Now, besides coaching at J.D., he directs his own adult team. Tennis, he believes, is ageless. "Tennis is not the kind of sport that lim-

its its players in age; you can play tennis even in your 60's."

To be part of this successful team, students must first of all be self-motivated. Only players with plenty of discipline and desire can manage attending College on a full-time basis, maintaining a 2.2 gpa, and practicing three times a week for 2 hrs. each session. This grinding list of requirements does not even include the fact that players must be able to participate in tournaments which currently occur out of the state in different cities. Our players agree that "Once you fall in love with your sport, it becomes an intense exciting pleasure more than an obligation."

J.D.'s team, representing all the campuses, sets one of the best examples of a holistic approach to success. The players combine their personal skills, academic responsibilities, and dedication to give MGCCC the pride of sponsoring a truly outstanding tennis team.



Taking a break between practice.



Back to practice.

Where did the ball go?



# JOIN THE CLUBS

What groups do you associate with? What political party are you in? In what religion do you worship? Are you an honor student? What ever your extra time is spent promoting, there is a club for you at Jefferson Davis Campus. On Club Day, each club had a booth with information about their organization. The BSU put on a wonderful singing of praise presentation. Other

clubs offered snacks and beverages. There was truly something for everyone at Club Day. Our variety of clubs are: Science Association, Student Nurses Association, Newspaper (the J.D. CURRENT), Hotel, Motel and Restaurant Management, Art Dimensions, Baptist Student Union, Delta Epsilon Chi, Phi Beta Lambda, New Horizons, H.O.S.A., College

Republicans, College Democrats, Student Paralegal Association, V.I.C.A., D.E.C.A., Student Council, P.T.K., Debate Team, Criminal Justice Organization, Fine Arts (Theater Organization), Scholar's Bowl, Catholic Student Association, Student Education Association, Yearbook, Science Demonstration Squad and the Court Reporter Organization.



Dr. David Knowles is at the control panel.

The BSU singing group sang songs of praise.



Club representatives relaxed while the crowds thinned out.

College Republicans planned their attack.



The Catholic Student Association spreads the word about their bible discussions.





## The Brit Within Us



Durr Walker explains to the students that most people do not realize just how indebted we are to our British heritage.



Dr. Walker explains the importance of heritage to every person.



Dr. Walker continues his point.



The British flag reminds us of the "Brit Within."

Are the British coming? Maybe they're already here. On October 9, 1990, Dr. Durr Walker from Copiah-Lincoln Community College gave a wonderful presentation to the students of the Jefferson Davis Campus, all about "the Brit within us." Over 100 students crowded in the morning into conference room G-121 to hear what Dr. Walker had to say about the land he calls our "mother country." His presentation was partially sponsored by the Language Arts department.

The major point of Dr. Walker's talk was our continuing curiosity about and identification with Great Britain—regardless of our individual origins. Two cases in point: England's Parliament Square boasts a statue of American president Franklin D. Roosevelt while American poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow is buried in Poet's Corner, a burial place in Westminster Abbey generally reserved for British authors. Even American universities are constructed along British lines—Harvard in Cam-

bridge, Massachusetts and "Ole Miss" in Oxford, Mississippi are just two.

What's the word from Britain? Sometimes we can't be sure! According to Dr. Walker, our common language differs in three ways: pronunciation, spelling, and the use of different words for the same thing. Americans, for instance, will be at the "center" of things, while the British will be at the "centre." An American baby might be supplied with "diapers" but a British infant will get "nappies." British visitors to the United States will be taking the "elevator" rather than the "lift" to get to the top floor. When a British subject drives a "lorry," Americans will be seeing a "truck." And Americans attempting to pronounce such deceptively simple words as "Beauchamp," "Grosvenor," and "Clonovator" will find themselves embarked on an unreamed of linguistic adventure!

Thanks to Dr. Durr Walker for his fascinating facts about "The Brit within Us."



Introductions are made.

The panel begins discussion.



## Timeless Visions

Leadership is all around us, perhaps within us if we pause to search our hearts and minds carefully. In the October segment of the "Visions for Leadership" series, held in the auditorium of the Jefferson Davis Campus, former Mississippi governor William Winter and philosopher and author Will Campbell invited us to do just that.

The two were featured as part of a panel which included MGCCC president Dr. Barry L. Mellinger and New Horizons coordinator Edna Boone. The two vigorously complemented each other. Governor Winter noted the immense social and

political progress Mississippi has made in the recent past and his hopes for future success. Dr. Campbell, with his wit, warmth, and spontaneity, stressed the creative, personal side of leadership, when recognizing the value of compassion and an open mind invites us to recognize unexpected leaders in unexpected places.

After prepared talks, the two opened the floor for a question and answer session from members of the audience. The event proved to be a lively and thoughtful commentary on the nature of leadership and its role in each life as well as the larger society.



An attentive audience

New ways to think about leadership



Students anticipate an increasingly familiar learning experience via video technology.



## Exploring America's Communities

America is a fascinating mix of cultures and identities, and community colleges have a unique opportunity to explore the American experience. Of approximately 1200 community colleges nationwide, the Jefferson Davis campus was selected to participate in the project "Exploring America's Communities." Sponsored by the American Association of Community Colleges, the National Endowment for the Humanities and Phi Theta Kappa, the Jefferson Davis team includes Dr. Henry Black, Dr. Joan Fitch, and Assistant Dean Foster Flint.

In a special video presentation, Dr. Joan Fitch (pictured) discusses the course "Film: the American Experience." Team-taught and interdisciplinary, the course investigates the multifaceted aspects of multiculturalism in the American experience from the late nineteenth century to the present. Students read novels and view approximately 25-30 great American films. History in the making — the old, the new, the current — all come together in this fascinating look at American history and culture.



Faculty interaction with students provides increased awareness among students.



Through multi-media technology, students from other campuses may view Dr. Fitch on screen.



Students contrast the lives of coal miners with those of the more privileged classes.



Sharing comments from students — communicating through video technology.



A challenging lecture invites deep thought.

## The Story of the Bayou Room Mural

A few years ago, when it was decided that the Bayou Room next to the cafeteria would trade its plain walls for a mural design, art student and Art Club president Georgina Nagorka (pictured) was recruited to help implement the plan. Under the guidance of art instructor Mary Davidson, Nagorka and fellow art student Barbara Gwin did some preliminary research and came up with a design that was approved.

When Gwin had to take time out from the project over the summer, art student Georgane Pierson joined the team, working with Georgina Nagorka on what the latter has described as "a monstrous 30 foot by 6 foot blank wall awaiting the magic of brush and paint to awaken it." There were challenges, such as coaxing images from the shiny, high gloss latex wall paints with which the artists worked. There was also their inexperience — neither one had ever painted a mural before! But perseverance and teamwork, including a blending of different painting techniques, saved the day.

Says Georgina Nagorka of the experience: "Georgane, Barbara, and I all hope that you ... all come to see the mural. If you haven't had the opportunity to come and look, check out the critters that will in turn be looking back at you."



## Trish Wood ... All I Wanna Do Is Have Some Fun ...

Art lovers lucky enough to catch an exhibit of Trish Wood's work will indeed have fun as they experience her unique brand of humor and observations on life. A 1991 graduate of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Jefferson Davis Campus, Wood was vice president of the Art Club. She was also active in art production for the Jefferson Davis Players, won first place in the 1990 Literary competition, and was a member of Phi Theta Kappa.

After graduating from Jeff Davis, Wood moved to Scotland where she was in art production and set design for Brechin Little Theater and Edzell Little Theater. In addition to teaching seventh and eighth grades, Wood also instituted an art program for Halzey School in Edzell, Scotland.

After returning to the Gulf Coast in 1994, she resumed her studies at William Carey College and received her Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree.



# Journey to My Dream



Jefferson Davis Campus student Nick Carlos shares his thoughts on his journey from the Philippines to the United States.

My training lasted for two months and I breezed through it due to my determination to succeed in this endeavor to become a good military man. While in training I made up my dream about the Navy — to graduate in basic training, to attend the navy school and finally serve until the day of my discharge. After boot camp the Navy sent me to my first military school. As it turned out, this would be one of several schools I would be attending in my life in the Navy. I graduated my “A” school with flying colors, being number one in a class of sixty sailors and receiving my first award from the Navy. I was promoted and advanced in rank from lowly recruit to petty officer third class, eventually receiving several awards, medals and commendations from various military and civilian officials. My job in the Navy stressed personality development, personal discipline, and integrity as well as leadership. Finally, the crowning glory of my navy career was when I became a chief petty officer, an accomplishment that will be a part of my life until the day I die.

Now, back to civilian life. After serving in the Navy, it was time to pursue my elusive dream for a better future — the dream to have a college degree, an education that will support me and carry me to a better life and bring me home — back where I started this journey. Only then can I say that dreams are for people who want to change their own destiny.

My journey started in a far and distant land. It started in a flight that had taken almost twelve hours; but my real journey to this new land had taken far longer in the pursuit of my dream.

In my early age, my generation was completely exposed to and influenced by Western culture. This influence came to us from several media — the T.V., movies, magazines, and most of all, music.

For me, this culture represented good things and the good life — and, being so young and probably naive led me to believe that the states could be the land dreams are made of.

It was in the year 1974 when I left everything I hold dear behind — the family that I loved, friends that I cherished. All my childhood and my early adult life experiences would be just memories that would be my comfort when life seemed so hard on me.

My flight landed in San Diego, California and within minutes I was on a bus going to my “home” for the next few months — boot camp.

# American Dreams

From vacationer to long-term explorer: Jefferson Davis Campus exchange student Sonia Meili decides to live the American adventure.



I’m an exchange student from Switzerland.

Coming over here has been a dream of mine for a long time. In Switzerland as in most European countries young people talk a lot about the USA. Moreover most movies, music, and, in one word, just everything that is new is coming from the U.S. But I always knew that the movies don’t represent the real life of the American.

Four years ago I came to the United States for vacation. As I am from a very small country, I was fascinated by the American distances. Everything was so huge and it seemed to me that there was nothing that doesn’t exist in this country. But I also felt the wish to live here for a while as an “American” and not only as a tourist.

Therefore I decided to come back as an exchange student. I think living over here for a year and going to

college is a great way to learn something about the “American way of life.”

J.D. helps me a lot to make friends and to improve my English skills. Although I won’t be able to transfer any credit I am convinced that every class I am taking will be helpful for my future life in some way. J.D. offers a wide variety of classes. This allows me to take courses in subjects that are new for me and that are not offered by Swiss schools. Going to college also makes me feel a little bit “American” because I am doing what the Americans do.



## Struggling for My Dreams

My name is Camila Osorio. I am eighteen years old, and I come from Columbia, a country where struggling is the secret to achieve one's dream. I was born at its capital city, called Bogota, which is located in the middle of the mountains and has a 50 degree Fahrenheit temperature most of the time.

My family has always played a major role in my life. They have encouraged me to work in attaining my goals. That is why their lessons have been very helpful since I came to the U.S. in December 1994 to live with my aunt, her husband, and their two little daughters. My uncle, also, is very encouraging. When I begin to lose enthusiasm, he says, Do not back up—even to gain impetus.

Camila caps her thoughts with a quotation from playwright Berthold Brecht:

"There are persons who struggle one day and they are good! There are persons who struggle one year and they are even better! There are persons who struggle for many years and they are fantastic! But there are the ones who struggle all their lives. Those are the indispensables."



## Building A Dream ... Bob Neale

When I began attending the West Harrison County Occupational and Technical Training Center in September of 1994, I was welcomed by a friendly staff that made me feel like part of their family. Many occupations are taught there, from planting a herb garden to learning how to become a paramedic. My horticulture instructor taught me how to care for plants, how to prepare a landscape plan, surveying, and many other skills that have helped care for my three acres of land in Long Beach.

After spending twenty-five years in the U.S. Navy working strictly in an office environment, I was finally able to get "out of the office." After completing two semesters of a two year course, I decided to go back to Jefferson Davis Campus to get my AS degree in carpentry. Having a desire to teach was my driving force. Since there are few jobs for carpentry teachers, I realized that a change in my major would be required. With the change came more classes ... even Algebra. I recently visited classrooms at a local elementary school and was convinced that my efforts would be well worth it.

I have always enjoyed being involved in extra curricular activities and thus joined the Jefferson Davis Singers, the Annual Staff, and was elected President of the Sophomore Class Student Council. With the help of Ms. Gentile's Survival Study Skills Class, I am now a proud member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.



## Now Starring ...

Tylertown Mississippi native Genevieve "Juanita" Newsome is on her way to achieving her latest dream — a college education. A career as a lawyer was an early goal for Newsome, the youngest of eleven children cared for by a sister after the deaths of her parents. But college was not a possibility for her. She married a young man from Naples, Italy and became the mother of five children. When the marriage ended, she returned to the Mississippi Gulf Coast to raise her family.

In 1965 Newsome met Floyd Newsome and the two were married in 1967. His two children raised the family number to seven and once again household duties took center stage. But after work with Youth for Understanding, a foreign exchange program, travel, and a job as a librarian at St. James Elementary School, Juanita Newsome decided the time was right to pursue her dream of a college education. With the full support of her family (including a grandson with whom she shares a class) she enrolled in classes at the Jefferson Davis Campus. She hopes to be an inspiration to young people to strive for an education. Her motto is: "If you can dream, you can do it."



ROPE



## Janice Le Leaux shares "The Gift of Sight"

The year was 1943. The second blind daughter was born, the youngest of seven children. I was that little girl who couldn't see until she was three years old.

My father was a fisherman, and my mother worked long hours in a Biloxi shrimp factory. World War II was raging, and times were hard for my family.

At age five I began to realize I was different from the other kids when I would walk into everything in my way. It took me ten years to get out of the eighth grade, because I was unable to read regular size print. There were no low vision programs when I was growing up, so I quit school. In 1961, I went to work in a neighborhood retail store, work I enjoyed for twenty-three years.

Today, thirty years later, I am enrolled in college. My goal for the future is a career in journalism.



## Definitely Dramatic

### Audiences sit back and spend *A Cheever Evening*

On November 7-9, the Jefferson Davis Players treated audiences to a production of *A Cheever Evening*. Based on seventeen short studies by acclaimed author John Cheever, the episodic drama is set in the Postwar America of the mid 1950's and 1960's. A common thread runs through the episodes — the relationship between husband and wife in this post-war period and their expectations for the future and their attempt to grapple with the present.

Under the direction of Mr. Wayne Catlett, the six cast members play over forty roles. The cast includes John Swink, Brandy Welch, Wayne Freeland, Stacie Horst, Darren Erhard, and Courtney Higginbotham. Technical crews who contributed to the production include Stage Managers Carrie Ferguson-Bellew and Christopher Ramsey, Light and Sound Technicians Andrew Boykin and Kristi Allen and Properties Manager Talia Gunter. The Set Construction crew included David Jones, Stephanie Livermore, and Michael Wilt. House Managers Jamie Walters and Cheryl Larsen round out the roster of those who helped make *A Cheever Evening* possible.

Looks like trouble ahead!



A Bret Favre look-alike?



King me.



A thoughtful moment ...

Some issues that can't wait till morning ...



Nothing like a little cooling off period ...



## Definitely Special Moments

There are some moments that just stand out—a quiet time with some soothing sounds—a Homecoming smile—a talented graduate sharing her experiences with others. These moments reflect the lively spirit of the Jefferson Davis Campus. A single moment, a tiny spot on the canvas is all part of the bigger picture—times in the lives of these Definitely Different Achievers.



Nothing like a little music between classes.

He's mine!



## DEFINITELY DIFFERENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Pride in great achievement  
Recognition of efforts  
Emerging leaders arise.  
Superior qualities observed  
Talents exposed  
Intelligence at its best.  
Grand personalities shine  
Exemplary examples of excellence.



Artist Georgia Nagorka shares her thoughts with the Honors Forum.



"Hmmm ... I hope this is the right answer."



"I told them I would set the world on fire if they gave me a chance!"



"Look at the pretty glass!"



# DEFINITELY OUR CLASS FAVORITES

Left to right: Angel Gary, Jennifer Vogel, Jennifer Ewing, Bob Neale, Larry Guterrez, Farah Mohiuddin, Katrina Griffith, Carol Holley

## 1996-97 WHO'S WHO winners are in the spirit

It's hard to cross the Commons or hurry through the halls without encountering the friendly smiles and spirited conversation of this year's winners. Drawn from the student body, faculty, and staff, they represent the best that the Jefferson Davis Campus has to offer. Versatile and energetic, they challenge us, recharge us, and generally brighten our days. Congratulations to them all, winners always.

Mr. Jefferson Davis—Darrin Flynn  
Most Attractive Male—Larry Guterrez  
Most Intellectual Male—Wade Howk  
Most Likely to Succeed Male—  
Darrin Flynn  
Most Diverse Male—Bob Neale  
Wittiest Male—Bob Neale  
Most Congenial Male—Greg Moore  
Most Inspiring Instructor—Carol Holley

Miss Jefferson Davis—  
Bernadette Bilancich  
Most Attractive Female—Angel Gary  
Most Intellectual Female—  
Katrina Griffith  
Most Likely to Succeed Female—  
Farah Mohiuddin  
Most Diverse Female—Angela Blackwell  
Wittiest Female—Jennifer Vogel  
Most Congenial Female—Jennifer Ewing  
Most Interactive Staff Member—  
Mike Gentile



Darrin Flynn: Mr. Jefferson Davis and Most Likely to Succeed Male



Mike Gentile (pictured with colleague R.L. Stafford), Most Interactive Staff

Bernadette Bilancich—Miss Jefferson Davis



Language Arts instructor and department chairperson Carol Holley, Most Inspiring Instructor

## SINGULAR STANDOUTS

Below left: Angela Blackwell—Most Diverse Female; bottom left: Katrina Griffiths—Most Intellectual Female; Top right: Angel Gary—Most Attractive Female; Middle right: Jennifer Ewing—Most Congenial Female; Bottom right: Carol Holley—Most Inspiring Instructor



Top left: Greg Moore—Most Congenial Male; Bottom left: Bob Neale—Wittiest Male and Most Diverse Male; Top right: Larry Gutierrez—Most Attractive Male; Bottom right: Wade Hawk—Most Intellectual Male



# TWO BY TWO



Most Likely to Succeed Male—Darrin Flynn  
Most Likely to Succeed Female—Farah Mohiuddin



Wittiest Male—Bob Neale  
Wittiest Female—Jennifer Vogel



Mr. Jefferson Davis—Darrin Flynn  
Miss Jefferson Davis—Bernadette Bilancich

Seeing double? Not surprising, since some of our  
standing campus presences.

class favorites are doing "double duty" as out-



Most Attractive Female—Angel Gary  
Most Attractive Male—Larry Guterrez



Standing with an Angel—Angel Gary and Most Inspiring Instructor Mrs.  
Carol Holley

# From Dream to the Achievement:

Faculty and Students prove to be outstanding in the 1996-97 Academic Year

This year's award winners are prime examples of the dedication, commitment, and creativity that mark the Jefferson Davis Campus. Among faculty members honored are Mrs. Dorothy Knight (pictured at right), Language Arts instructor and recipient of the 1996 Lamp-lighter Award, a Celebration of Teaching Excellence.

Another winner is science instructor Ron Marcy, selected as a National Aeronautics and Space Administration-American Society of Engineering Education Fellow for the summer of 1997. The fellowships are designed to further the professional knowledge of qualified engineering and science faculty and to stimulate an exchange of ideas between teaching participants and employees of NASA. About 150 first-year fellowships to NASA sites throughout the United States were awarded by NASA-ASEE. Marcy's area of fellowship study will be science education at the John C. Stennis Space Center in Hancock County. His goal will be to develop laboratory exercises and other curriculum support material that involved the incorporation of images acquired by earth-observing satellites into college-level (freshman and sophomore) science courses.

Congratulations to Mrs. Dorothy Knight and Mr. Ron Marcy, two of the many outstanding and dedicated faculty members whose generosity and talents enrich the Jefferson Davis Campus.



Perkinson Campus Language Arts instructor Duke Sutherland congratulates a winner of the Fifth Annual Writing Awards contest.



Kathleen McCall, Creative Writing instructor and the Jefferson Davis Campus, congratulates Paul Snyder. Snyder is the Second Place winner in the Short Story category of the Fifth Annual Writing Awards Contest at the Jefferson Davis Campus.

In addition to outstanding faculty, the Jefferson Davis Campus boasts students who have achieved creative and academic distinction as they follow their dreams. Take, for instance, participants in the Eighth Annual Competitive Art Exhibition, sponsored by the Mississippi Community Junior College Art Instructors Association and hosted this year by Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College's Perkinson Campus. Jefferson Davis Campus students Tim Corwin placed first and received an honorable mention in Drawing; Jason Cadner took second place in Ceramics; Julie Petalo and Kathryn Schroeder each earned an honorable mention in the category of Prints while Binh T. Nguyen received honorable mention in Painting.

Student writers have also been busy honing their craft, as evidenced by the results of the Fifth Annual Writing Awards Contest, sponsored by the Language Arts Department and open to all Jefferson Davis Campus students. Proceeds generated by the event will benefit the North Gulfport Good Deeds Association. Winners include Angela Blackwell and Margaret Williamson, who captured First, Second, and Third Place, respectively, in the Haiku category; Andrew Coleman, First Place in Poetry; Audrey C. Mechanic, Second Place in Poetry; Ella M. Riddle, Third Place in Poetry; Andrew Coleman and Paul Snyder, First and Second Places, respectively, in the Short Story category; Lisa Catzone Bishop, First Place in the Informal Essay division; Patti McAdory, Second Place in the Informal Essay division; Teresa Hixon, Third Place winner in the Informal Essay; Theresa Miles, First Place winner in the Critical Essay.

This past February, Jefferson Davis Campus Scholars Bowl team members Farah Mohiuddin, John Helmer, Kevin Ozburn, and Andrew Coleman took their skills to the Ken Wooden Scholars Bowl Tournament at the University of Mississippi. The team won for the second year in a row. Team captain Farah Mohiuddin, along with fellow Phi Theta Kappa member Katrina Griffith, scored another victory by being named an honorary member of Mississippi All State Academic Team for Community and Junior Colleges. The competition is sponsored by the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society, the Clarion Ledger, Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges and the Mississippi State Board for Community and Junior Colleges. "Selected from among the more than 75,000 students enrolled in Mississippi's community and junior colleges this year, these students—through their academic and leadership accomplishments—restore one's faith in the future of our state and country," said Dr. Barry Mellinger, president of the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges, as well as president of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College.

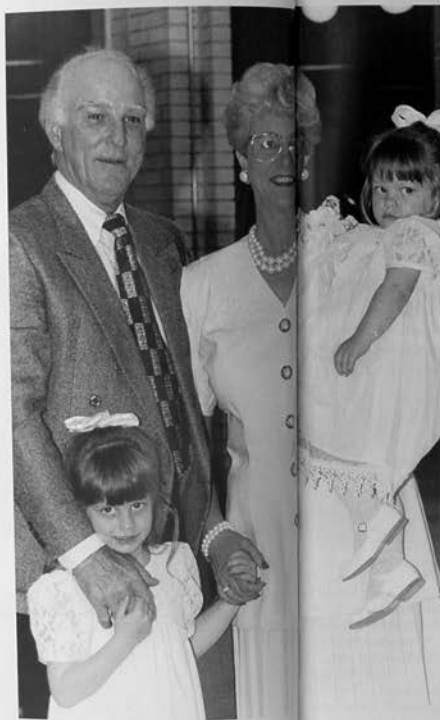
Congratulations to these students and others whose energy and accomplishments grace the Jefferson Davis Campus.

## Mrs. June Jefferson: 1996 Jefferson Davis Campus Teacher of the Year



Teacher Assistant Program instructor June Jefferson

Mrs. Jefferson shares a proud moment with husband Raymond and granddaughters Lindsay (standing) and Lisa.



June Jefferson shares some of the insights and dedication to the educational process that earned her top honors as Teacher of the Year:

My philosophy of education is to give students the necessary skills to successfully complete their vocational program and enter the work force or continue their education. As a teacher I strive to give my students the developmental courses and study techniques they need to complete school. I also try to encourage a positive attitude and the self confidence necessary to effectively work in an elementary school setting.

One of the most rewarding experiences is the fact that I have eight former students enrolled in an Elementary Education Associate Degree program. I stay in contact with all of them to check on their progress, and I most definitely plan on attending their graduation in the near future. My goal is to motivate my students to strive for and achieve their fullest potential. I do this by being innovative and dynamic in the classroom. I try to instill in all students an appetite for the joy of learning. When this appetite for learning is sparked within a student, I try to open every door and help make it possible for them to continue their education.



# Hall of Fame

Cheryl F. Buccola  
Joseph S. Cook  
Kenneth B. Eychner  
Brooke E. Ellzey  
Darrin M. Flynn  
Elizabeth A. Frisaneho  
Angel R. Gary  
Angela L. Haire  
Darryl D. Jackson  
Jayme L. Kelly  
Lisa J. Ladner  
Stephanie L. Livermore  
Robin C. Lowery  
Michelle M. Martin  
Farah Mohiuddin  
Sue A. Neidig  
Robert J. Neale  
Debra A. Olney  
James H. Ryan  
Jennifer P. Vogel

Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges

Lisa L. Blaus  
Cheryl F. Buccola  
Victoria L. Buckheiser  
Joseph S. Cook  
Kenneth Eychner  
Brooke E. Ellzey  
Jeanette L. Ferreira  
Darrin M. Flynn  
Elizabeth A. Frisaneho  
Angel R. Gary  
Angela L. Haire  
Darryl D. Jackson  
Jayme L. Kelly  
Kelly A. Krynsinski  
Lisa J. Ladner  
Sabrina D. Lewis  
Stephanie L. Livermore  
Robin C. Lowery  
Michelle M. Martin  
Farah Mohiuddin  
Sue A. Neidig  
Robert J. Neale  
Debra A. Olney  
James H. Ryan  
Jennifer P. Vogel  
Stephen E. Warner  
Sean O. Wilkerson  
Beverly S. Wyatt



Top right: In the winners' circle; Middle: Instructor and Debate Team sponsor Janie Walters makes a presentation; Bottom: Cheryl Buccola with fellow winner Bob Neale.

# More Winners Ahead ...

Honors Scholars Program Winner: Tracy M. Alspaugh  
VICA Competition Winner—1st Place VICA Quiz Bowl: Ann Ashbaugh  
VICA Competition Winner—1st Place VICA Quiz Bowl: George E. Ashbaugh  
Criminal Justice Award: Gary Aucoin, Jr.  
Criminal Justice Award: Christina M. Bell  
Geography Award: Gloria Benedict  
Faculty Association Academic Scholarship Award: Bernadette Bilancich  
VICA Competition Winner—1st place VICA Quiz Bowl: Bernard D. Bodmer, Jr.  
HOSA State Competition Winner—2nd place VICA Quiz Bowl: Jesse E. Bolin  
Geography Award: Sharon A. Bolton  
VICA Competition Winner—2nd Place Job Interview: Erica Y. Boudreaux  
Honors Scholars Program: Benjamin E. Bourcy  
Paralegal Award: Marilyn K. Braun  
Electronic Technology Award: Michael L. Brooks  
Walgreen's Pharmacist Technician Student of the Year: Michael T. Camagong  
Art Award: Timothy S. Corwin  
VICA Competition Winner—1st Place VICA Quiz Bowl: Rose M. Cuevas  
PBL Award: Leadonsia Q. Davis  
Geography Award: Rebecca E. Deschamp  
Faculty Association Vocational Scholarship Award: Ann M. Dighans  
French Award: Michael Dixon  
History Award: Lesha Donauant  
Theatre Award: Darren J. Erhard  
Associate Degree Nursing Award (May Graduate): Christine Day Ewing  
College Publications Award: Darrin Flynn  
Honors Scholars Program: Kim M. Fountain  
PBL Award: Gina L. Frierson  
Angel Gary: Honors Scholars Program  
Mississippi Association of Educators Scholarship: Linda M. Gibson  
Health, Physical Education, and Recreation Award: Jerry B. Hall  
Mississippi Pharmacist Association Award, Faculty Association Technical Scholarship Award: Amy M. Hanna  
Developmental English/Survival Study Skills Award: Darlene M. Holland  
Honors Scholars Program: Wade Howk

Sociology Award: Jimmy D. Hurley  
Honors Scholars Program: Linda K. Jermyn  
Science Award: Cherie Jewell  
Honors Scholars Program: Heather G. Kirksey  
Business—Transfer, Honors Scholar's Program: Krystal L. Kulesza  
Art Award: Jason S. Ladner  
Honors Scholars Program: Joseph Ladner-Cain  
Mississippi Association of Educators Scholarship: Lisa Ladner  
Faculty Association Nursing Scholarship Award: Hayley C. Lamberski  
New Horizons Program: Annie R. Lane  
VICA Competition Winner—2nd Place Job Skills A: George P. Lee  
Carpentry Award: Clarence G. Levell  
Honors Scholars Program: Robin C. Lowery  
Spanish Award: Patricia M. Mansfield  
College Publications Award: Michelle M. Martin  
Developmental Math Award: Shon A. Mastin  
Music Award: Jesse S. McCann  
College Publications Award: Farah Mohiuddin  
Mathematics Award: Marco A. Moreno  
College Publications Award/Teacher Assistant Award: Sue Neidig  
History Award: Alessandra Nichols  
PBL Award: Jennifer G. Ohmart  
Health, Physical Education and Recreation Award: Dianne M. Patterson  
Criminal Justice Award: Melinda G. Rayford  
PBL Award: David E. Renn  
Paralegal/PBL Award: Lynda M. Rivers  
Carpentry Award: Gary Robinson  
Debate Award: Jason J. Ruiz  
VICA Competition Winner—1st Place Promotional Bulletin Board  
Associate Degree Nursing Award (December Graduate): Cindy Lee Saucier  
Sociology Award: Mary Lynn Scaturro  
VICA Competition Winner—1st Place Job Skills B: Eva M. Schlenkert  
English Award: Nedra Schmidt  
Practical Nursing Award: Kimberly A. Sigmom  
Computer Science Award: Joshua D. Sumrall  
Criminal Justice Award: Robert G. Thibert  
VICA Competition Winner—1st Place VICA Quiz Bowl Mary J. Thomas—PBL Award/Poetry, Literary Magazine Award  
VICA Competition Winner—1st Place—Heating and Air Conditioning: Glen R. Vivian  
Q. A. Long Biology Award: Jennifer Vogel  
Physics Award: Brenda Walker  
Criminal Justice Award: Rebecca D. Werner  
VICA Competition Winner—1st Place Promotional Bulletin Board: Tyree O. White  
Sartin's Discount Drug Community Pharmacy Award: Dawn P. Wigginton  
PBL Award: Sean O. Wilkerson  
Medical Unit Manager Award: Ola M. Wilson

## A Lesson on Justice

Senior Circuit Judge Vlahos visited the Jefferson Davis Campus on October 22, 1996 as a guest speaker. Taking as his topic "Misconceptions of the Judicial System," the judge traced the roots of these misconceptions from early times. For example, he mentioned how a slave could be tried in court, receiving a harsh punishment even on a trivial matter. He also pointed out other mis-

conceptions concerning the law that still persist, but are not the norm.

After clarifying some of the misconceptions of the law, the judge concluded with a question and answer session. The talk was a stimulating eye-opener, allowing listeners to understand the inner working and the fallacies of the judicial system.



Judge Vlahos speaks to rapt listeners.  
Expanding a point.



The judge continues  
Listeners appear thoughtful.

"Stop by! It's for a good cause!"



Back to basics: the Student Education Association

Coming full circle: Where you start, where you end



## DEFINITELY DIFFERENT ASSOCIATIONS

Taking care of business  
Gathering the brains

Keeping records straight  
Healing others' pains

Exploring new technology  
Arguing their cause

Creating new waves  
Incriminating outlaws

Sharing their faith  
Spreading the news

Defending their case  
Singing the blues

Politics in action  
Providing comfort and food

Experience new horizons  
Join in the mood.

### SERVICES



College and Food: Two things that go together!

## Definitely Making Things Happen

Sometimes the play's the thing ... Sometimes it's as simple as the spirit of giving ... Sometimes it's the pleasure of enjoying a good meal for a good cause. Whatever the event or activity, student life is always humming on the Jefferson Davis Campus. Take a look at these definitely dynamic, definitely different associations!



Proud initiates: PTK



Performers shine



A delicious club fund-raiser.

A clothing drive for those in need

# Definitely ... On the Move

There's nothing like the Jefferson Davis Campus "Meet the Clubs Day" to introduce the freshmen to campus life ... and it's not a bad way to renew old friendships and revitalize interests. Each year, early in the fall semester, club members and their sponsors hold court in the Commons Area to recruit new faces and reunite familiar ones. There's food and fun, booths and banners. There are songs from the college chorus, Coastal Vibrations.

After the fun, however, comes the business of each individual organization. There is more than fun involved. Many campus

groups are active in community service, reaching out to the area beyond the campus and their own particular interests. Others work to add vitality and diversity to campus life. Many belong to several organizations. So listen to the voices raised in song or in support of a favored political candidate; come and watch the Science Demonstration Squad as they show children how wonderful science can be; taste the popcorn and baked goods from the many fundraising efforts at hand. Sample the definitely diverse organizations of the Jefferson Davis Campus.



The sign says it all!

## Organizations and Sponsors:

Science Association — Dr. Shelia Brown

Student Nurses Association — Ms. Betty Ashe

*The J. D. Current* — Ms. Dianne Hurlbert

Art Dimensions — Mrs. Mary Davidson

Baptist Student Union — Ms. Jackie Ball

Delta Epsilon Chi — Mrs. Marilyn Van Court and Mr. Ronnie Lee

Phi Beta Lambda — Ms. Beverly Parker, Ms. Donna Parker, Mrs. Jennifer Leimer

New Horizons — Mrs. Edna Boone

H.O.S.A. (Health Occupations) — Mrs. Mary King

College Republicans — Mr. Gerald Bourgeois

College Democrats — Mr. David Dedeaux, Dr. Elizabeth Waldorf, Mr. Charles Davis

Student Paralegal Association 4 — Ms. Paula Sinopoli

V.I.C.A. (Vocational Industrial Clubs of America) — Ms. Diane Holleman

The Student Council — Mrs. Denise Daniel

Phi Beta Kappa — Miss June Bailey

The Debate Team — Mrs. Janie Walters

Criminal Justice Association — Mrs. Karla Pope

The Jefferson Davis Players — Mr. Wayne Catlett

The Scholar's Bow — Mr. Scott Davis and Mr. John Carter

The Catholic Student Association — Mr. Dick Henderson and Mrs. Dianne Hurlbert

The Student Education Association — Mrs. Kay Bankston and Mrs. Linda Lightsey

*The Beauvoir* — Ms. Elvira Anne Mitchell

The Science Demonstration Squad — Ms. Janet Young

S.C.R.A.M. (Court Reporters Association) — Mrs. Kay Cook

Coastal Vibrations — Dr. David Knowles

The Tennis Team — Mr. Charles Spence





## Sights and Sounds



Come see what we're all about!



Food for the body — food for thought





A member of P.T.K. (Phi Theta Kappa)



Smiles from the Baptist Student Union



May you have good health and New Horizons!





## The Student Council

Comprised of officers and representatives from freshman and sophomore classes and presided over by an executive committee of sophomore officers, the student council plans recreational and social activities for the students, encourages student discussions of campus concerns, presents helpful recommendations for the faculty and administration, and acts for the students in an advisory capacity. In short, the Student Council acts as a liaison among the administration, faculty and staff.



Above right: Student Council members and sponsor Denise Daniel in a planning session; below left: Some members smile for the camera.

**Sponsor:** Denise Daniel  
**Officers:** Executive President: Bob Neale; Executive Vice-President: Farah Mohiuddin; Executive Secretary/Treasurer: Sheelah Saucier.

**Members:**  
 Darrin Flynn  
 Chris Williams  
 Wendy Nichols  
 Shelly Pruitt  
 Jerome McGee  
 Susan Neidig  
 Maya Avery  
 Huong Nguyen  
 Andrea Durden  
 Kevin Flynn



## The Scholars Bowl



The Scholars Bowl team promotes academic excellence through teamwork and competition as members vie with other teams for top honors. Participants must exhibit solid general knowledge and quick response time. Recent recognition includes second place in the South Mississippi Scholars Team Competition held at MGCCC's Perkinston Campus on January 17, 1996. Advisors John Carter and Scott Davis and team captain Farah Mohiuddin lead the team to victory.



Team captain Farah Mohiuddin (center) team members Kevin Ozborn (left) and Andrew Coleman (right) are poised and ready.  
 Advisors: John Carter  
 Scott Davis

**Members:**  
 Farah Mohiuddin  
 John Helmert  
 Andrew Coleman  
 Mike Brown  
**Alternates:**  
 Kevin Ozborn  
 Anne McCallister  
 Pictured in group photo at top:  
 John Carter; John Helmert;  
 Andrew Coleman; Farah Mohiuddin; Kevin Ozborn, Scott Davis



## The Debate Team



It's debatable: Debate team members with sponsor Janie Walters

They've done it again: The MGCCC Jefferson Davis Campus Debate Team were quarterfinalists and received trophies in the parliamentary competition of a tournament at Northeast Louisiana University during the fall semester.

Team members also competed in extemporaneous speaking, poetry interpretation, informative speaking, impromptu speaking and dramatic interpretation.

Team members include Matt Carr, Stacie Horst, Jason Ruiz, Katri Simpkins and Farah Mohiuddin.

## The Science Demonstration Squad



Members of the "Demo Squad" wow a young audience.

A suspicious-looking character wearing dark sunglasses and a white lab coat enters the room. Four other similarly dressed visitors walk through the crowd of 28th Street Elementary students, scanning the room looking for any suspected of — believe it or not — not liking science. Under the watchful eye of sponsor Janet Young, the Science Demonstration Squad of the Jefferson Davis Campus is currently touring elementary and junior high schools with their presentation. Their goal? To encourage youngsters to get interested in science by showing them how exciting it can be. Two grants totaling \$2,000 issued by the Gulf Coast Community Foundation from the Pat Santucci Education Endowment Fund and by Grand Casinos Inc. have helped buy supplies and pay for equipment used in each demonstration this year. Each 30 minute performance by the group includes six basic experiments using the physical sciences.

Members include: Jennifer Ewing, Darrin Flynn, Kevin Flynn, Michael Gilmore, Angela Hollins, Brandi Hounsell, Jerome McGee, Farah Mohiuddin, Robert Monroe, Wendy Nichols, Camila Osorio, Sheila Saucier, Jevette Thompson, Jennifer Vogel, Brenda Walker.

## Phi Theta Kappa

At left: Sponsor June Bailey



On the Jefferson Davis Campus, it's a rare day that doesn't find Phi Theta Kappa sponsor June Bailey and "PTK" members engaged in community service or intellectual challenges. The goal of the organization is to recognize and encourage scholarship and to promote leadership among two-year college students. To this end, PTK sponsors many charitable events and special events involving issues important to the college, the community, and the larger world.

Commitment to excellence is a Phi Theta Kappa tradition: Sponsor June Bailey has been named East Central Community College Alumnae of the Year and 1992 Outstanding PTK Regional Coordinator. At the regional conference in February, the Jefferson Davis Campus chapter of Phi Theta Kappa was honored along with the Jackson County Campus in receiving Five-Star Level Awards, the highest that a chapter can receive. Katrina Griffith was nominated for the Order of the Gold Key and received a medalion for the honor.

Officers of the large and busy organization are President Farah Mohiuddin, Vice-President Katrina Griffith, Secretary Jennifer Vogel, Reporter Ruth Harbaugh and Historian Angela Blackwell.



Many charitable fund-raisers are also great fun: here Miss Bailey and Phi Theta Kappa Vice-President Katrina Griffith prepare for a Halloween candy drive. Below right: proud PTK members.



## The Tennis Team



Top left: Ellen Madden and Kim Blakeslee take a break; Bottom left: Frances Dominguez waits for a serve; Bottom right: a moment alone on the court.

Under the guidance of sponsor and science instructor Charles Spence, the men and women's teams continue their winning tradition. In the Hinds Invitation Tournament held March 21 and 22, the men's team, now with an 8-1 overall record, took all three wins, defeating Copiah-Lincoln by 7-2; Northwest Community College by 9-0; and Hinds Community College by 8-1. The women's team, with an overall record of 4-2, defeated Northwest's team by 9-0.

### Members:

#### Women's Roster:

Kim Blakeslee  
Maria Davis  
Frances Dominguez  
Sada Garcia  
Ellen Madden  
Fabianne Tasselin  
Amy Wilson

#### Men's Roster:

Ryan Hinton  
John Pittman  
Jose Antonio Rodriguez  
Juan Paldo Silva  
Drew Spradley  
David Tatanto  
Joshua Weaver  
William Weaver  
Shae Sullivan  
Felipe Monsalve



## The Student Education Association



Field trips to elementary schools, such as the one pictured above, help students absorb the classroom atmosphere; Below left: Teacher Appreciation Day, sponsored by the SEA; Bottom right: Sponsors Kay Bankston and Linda Lightsey make plans with members.

The Student Education Association (SEA) works toward interesting young men and women in teaching as a career by providing those students preparing to teach with practical experience in working together, promoting the status of professional educators and awareness of educational issues and trends. The organization also encourages networking between the public schools and Jefferson Davis Community College students, informs education majors of curriculum changes and encourages study groups for course work and for the National Teacher's Examination (NTE).

Sponsors: Kay Bankston and Linda Lightsey

Officers: President: Deli Hundley; Vice President: Vickie Gooch; Secretary: Debbie Wilson

Members: Trish Harper, Theresa Poston, Dianne Lafontaine, Tammy Ladner, Bob Neale, Kim Morton, Yvonne Jones, Juanita Newsome, Dathan Lambeth, Jennifer Miller, Robert Monroe, Kenny Triplett, Tracey Thompson, Robin Craft, Katrina Griffith, Mike Comeau.



## Student Court Reporters Association—Paralegal Association Phi Beta Lambda



The Student Court Reporters Association promotes accurate understanding of court reporting and its role in the judicial system. At top left, some members are shown with sponsor Kay Cook.

Phi Beta Lambda aims to bring business and education together in a positive working relationship by creating a forum in which students and business leaders learn about one another. Sponsors are Jennifer Leimer, Beverly Parker, Donna Parker, and Paula Sinopoli. Officers (some pictured middle left) include: President: Gloria Santana; Vice-President: Mary Thomas; Secretary: Jennifer Ohmart; Reporters: Ernie Renn and Rachel Simpson; Parliamentarian: Sam Bryan. Members include: Joey Boggan; John Casey; Jodi Curet; Leadonsia Davis, Skyla Duncan; Melinda Gerhart; Patrick Herrington; Susan Hohimer; Bobbi Martin; Marcia Mercado; Nicole Metcalf; Lynne Rivers; Lakeisha Roberson; Delvin Seawright; Sean Wilkerson. The group continued its tradition of excellence as members were recognized at the state leadership conference in Jackson, Mississippi.

The Student Paralegal Association, under the sponsorship of Paula Sinopoli, promotes fellowship, increased knowledge in the legal fields and other related areas as well as efforts to make law firms and other businesses aware of the various practical uses of paralegals. At top right, some members relax in a beautiful campus setting; At bottom left, sponsor Paula Sinopoli and members pause in front of the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. Members include: Regina Beeson; Hank Jackson; Kathleen Gish; Gloria Santana; Kimberly Ladner; Constance Werner; Robin Walters; Skyla Duncan; Lynne Rivers; Patrick Herrington; Selena Tarpley; Kaye Brown; DeAngela Baldwin; Kristi Belle; Jennifer Brown; Patrick Peake; Kathleen Tarter; Raquel Welch; Greg Merrell; Lori Chaney; Ann Ladner.



## Delta Psi Omega—Catholic Student Association—Choir and Coastal Vibrations



An honorary theatre fraternity to which membership is earned through exemplary work in the theatre, Delta Psi Omega has the following members, pictured at top left with sponsors Wayne Catlett and Denise Weatherly-Green. In the front row, from left to right are Talia Gunter; Stacie Horst; Carrie Bellow; Brandy Welch. In the back row, from left to right are Wayne Catlett; Christopher Ramsey; John Swink; President of Delta Psi Omega Wayne Freeland; Darren Erhard; Denise Weatherly-Green.

Members of the Catholic Student Association, under the sponsorship of Dick Henderson and Dianne Hurlbert, promote the Catholic spirit on the Jefferson Davis Campus. Members include Rose Almerico; Leah Harper; Yvonne Jones; Amy Hanna; Jerry Hoda; Shelly Morrow; Carl Kotsakos; Antonia Dandeneau.



At concerts and on special occasions, the Jefferson Davis Campus Choir and the smaller singing group known as Coastal Vibrations provide students and faculty alike with beautiful melodies and harmony. Members include: Sopranos Elizabeth Bartley; Katie Boyd; Candice Geiser; Brenda Glover; Renne Gray; Angela Hollins; Sheri Hough; Rebecca Mathews; Faculty Member Gigi Reeks; Katherine Simmons; Monica Speights. Altos are Kia August; Talia Gunter; Teresa Hixon; Karleen Lawrence; Cynthia Mullinax; Maureen Norris; Alto Tillman; Tavia Weaver; Donna Webb. The Tenors are Mike Alexander; Jeffrey Clyburn; Eric Duplessie; Roderick Ellis; Jeffrey Jasper; Len Weatherly. Providing the Bass sound are Michael Collins; Adam Dugger; Jason English; Todd Lyon; Patrick Tague; Michael Turner.

Making up Coastal Vibrations are Katie Boyd, Gigi Reeks, Monica Speights, Talia Gunter, Tavia Weaver, Mike Alexander, Adam Dugger, and Todd Lyons.

Dr. David Knowles is director and choir accompanist is Jeanine Bush.





## College Democrats



The College Democrats work to promote increasing awareness of Democratic party goals and accomplishments, encourage political participation through voting and promote the ideals of the Democratic party. At left, a member of the College Democrats promotes Democratic candidates.

## College Republicans



The goal of the College Republicans is to foster a deeper understanding of Republican ideals through education and support. Among its goals and aspirations: to support campaigns by Republicans in whatever fashion possible; to actively recruit citizens who are not registered to vote by encouraging them to register; to encourage all registered voters on any given election day; to provide a forum for both debate and fellowship.

Sponsor: Gerald Bourgeois

Officers: President—Constance Werner; Vice-President: John Hilmert; Secretary-Treasurer: Stephanie Wells; Public Relations—Evan Catlett; Sergeant-At-Arms: Sada Garcia  
Members: Lainie Rowell, Jerry Hoda, Jesse Bolin, Yvonne Jones, Juanita Newsome

## The Student Nurse Organization



Top: Members of the Student Nurse Organization; Middle and right: Scenes from the Annual Blood Drive, held on April 11, 1997

The Student Nurse Organization is a large and active organization. Its members sponsor numerous events, from fund raisers to events that promote greater awareness of public health issues, such as the Annual Blood Drive.

Pictured at top, from left to right, members include: First row: Jeri Higginbotham; Melinda Gibson; Betty Ashe (SNO Advisor — 3); Linda Mohseni (SNO Advisor — 1); Betty Stafford (SNO Advisor — 4).

Second Row: Elaine Schmidting (SNO Advisor — 2); Susan Strandridge; Belinda McNair; Jeri Cuave (Secretary); Pam Frye; Marcy Geary (President).

Third Row: Tawnya Laubmeier; Diana Munford; Sheila Clayton (Parliamentarian); Christina Barnes; Cindy Saucier; Lorain Morgan-Quandt (President-Elect); Cindy Gregory; Paul Kettering.

Fourth Row: Cynthia Huff; Richard Spratley; Linda Palmer (Treasurer); Pam Nightengale; Anne O'Brian; Dianne Heberlein; Ginger McCullough (Membership VP); Sherwin Augustine; Hayley Lamberski.



## The J. D. Current



## The Beauvoir



Top left: Darrin Flynn and Farah Mohiuddin of the *J.D. Current*. Bottom left: Miss Mitchell and *Beauvoir* staff members at a meeting.

Sponsored by Dianne Hurlbert, the Jefferson Davis Campus newspaper, the *J.D. Current*, strives to keep abreast of all the news and current events at the Jefferson Davis Campus. Staff members include Farah Mohiuddin and Darrin Flynn; Rachel Kornman; Trisha Vickery; Chris Melton; Sybil Baronich-Dies; Vicki Musgrave; Chris Boucher; Bobby Lollis.

The Jefferson Davis Campus yearbook, the *Beauvoir*, aims to capture the yearly spirit and events of a varied and versatile campus. The sponsor is Elvira Anne Mitchell. Among staff members for the 1996-1997 year are the following: Michelle Martin (Editor-in-chief/Photo editor, Fall 1996 semester); Cheryl Buccola (Editor, spring 1997 semester); Sue Neidig (Photo editor, Spring 1997 semester); Gail Tomson; Aaron Barnes; Lisa Blaus; Andrew Boykin; Nick Carlos; Lisa Dickerson; Mary Hernandez; Amy Holland; Cleopatra Jones; Janice Leleaux; Sonja Meili; Kim Mitchell; Robert Monroe; Huong Nguyen; Camila Osorio; Andrea Durden; Kevin Ozburn; Amy Smith; Kia Crosby-August; Marilyn Seafidi; Robert Neale; Paul Cousins.

## The Baptist Student Union



Members of the Baptist Student Union give a warm smile.

## The Criminal Justice Association



Members of the Criminal Justice Association pose for the camera.

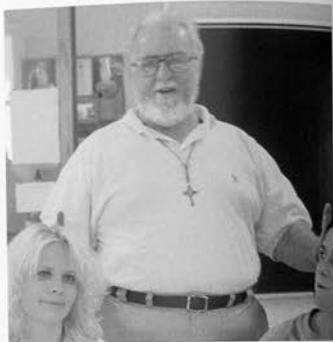
The Jefferson Davis Campus, with its diverse student body and energetic pace, boasts a wide variety of organizations who are active in numerous campus and community efforts. For instance, the Commons Area is always alive with fellowship and luncheon invitations from the Baptist Student Union and fragrant with the odor of the VICA popcorn sales. New Horizons, with its support and inspirational programs, helps single parents and others stay on their feet and in the educational mainstream. Catching up with everyone proves to be quite a challenge; nevertheless, here are some other organizations that help to keep alive the traditions and spirit of the Jefferson Davis Campus.

HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) is a national organization for secondary and postsecondary vocational students. Its purpose is to develop leadership and technical HOSA skill competencies through a program of motivation, awareness, and recognition. The sponsor is Judith Ball. Officers are Kuna Monroe (President); Tran Nuong (Vice-President); Jennifer Duncan (Reporter); Alethia Hallien (Secretary); Bonnie Mosley McClean (Treasurer); Monique Davis (Parliamentarian); Alisha Fluker (Historian). Members include: Vicki Alexander; Sarah Breland; Reuben Cabrera; Pamela Crosby; Dorothy Cvitanovich; Monique Davis; Debra Denning; Jennifer Duncan; Charlotte Ellis; Sandra Ellis; Michael Faggert; Tammy Fiedler; Alisha Fluker; Alethia Gallien; Angela Gragg; Nancy Johnson; Sandra Loper; Beverly Matthews; Kuna Monroe; Bernice Mosley-McClean; Gerylynn Ogdin; Roxann Parker; Danielle Santo; Ruth Schillinger; Kristi Scott; Kimberly Sigmon; Kaliahya Stubbs; Huong Tran; Terry Woodland.

VICA (Vocational Industrial Clubs of America), sponsored by Sandra Weinberg, aims to unite in a common bond all students enrolled in trade, industrial, and technical education. VICA promotes high standards in trade ethics and workmanship and assists students in establishing realistic vocational goals. There are approximately ninety to one hundred members. Officers are Benard Bodner (President); Lisa Thomas (Vice-President); Cindie Aiken (Secretary); Wesley Patterson (Treasurer); Wayne Creel (Sergeant-At-Arms).

Delta Epsilon Chi (DEX), sponsored by Ronnie Lee and Marilyn Van Court, is a marketing organization open to Fashion, Marketing and Marketing Management, Hospitality and Tourism Majors. It promotes leadership and promotes the qualities that create a path for students to make a smooth transition from school to career. Officers are Chelsey Hayes (President); Brennan Purvis (Vice President); Jenny Carter (Secretary-Treasurer). Members include: Elizabeth Frisancho; Margaret Blackwell; Heather Northrop; Brandi Fayard; Lisa McCarthy; Jenny Carter; Jan Harde; Chelsey Hayes; Sheelah Saucier; Brennan Purvis.

## Definitely Different Faces



Some familiar faculty and staff. Clockwise, this page: Science Department chairperson Dr. Shelia Brown shares some thoughts with a student; Science instructor John Carter pauses during a busy moment; Learning Lab director Tom Taylor checks some information; Interpreter Training instructor Becky Gatain shares her thoughts. Next page: Top left, Troy Guider, Business and Economics instructor, at the boards; Top right, Business instructor Judy Owensby enjoys Faculty Appreciation Day; Bottom center: Dr. Joan Fitch and Dr. Henry Black take time out for lunch.



Back in the saddle: eventually



Careful! That's powerful stuff.



Just a few rough edges ....

## Chemistry, anyone?



Just horsin' around!



## It Really Is Academic

Academic life on the Jefferson Davis Campus is varied and challenging, offering students an opportunity to discover their talents and find their direction on the path to life. They hone their aesthetic sense as well as their practical spirit under the direction of faculty members who are themselves continuous learners as well as teachers. From chemistry to criminal justice, from math to psychology, the Jefferson Davis Campus is definitely academic!



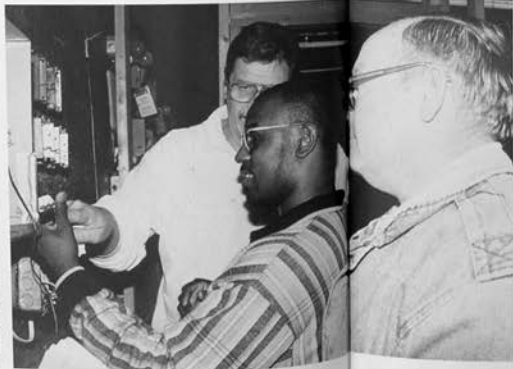
## Fitness first!

All I want is music!



## Definitely Durable

We've all heard about how important it is to get the proper foundation in life. That's literally true when it comes to vocational training. The Jefferson Davis Campus helps to train that fine group of people who keep our lights bright, our cars purring, our houses cozy, and our lives just plain comfortable. Here are some glimpses of those who give us our good foundations.



Let there be light—and I installed it!

I know it works ... somehow!



**Zinn!** Keeping things current!

— Pipin' hot!





Students share a quiet study space.



Time to take notes!



Interpreter Training instructor  
Becky Gatian with her students



Interpreter Training Instructor Becky Gatain

## Helping Hands

The importance of vocational and technical education has no better example than the Interpreter Training Program, one of the newest on the Jefferson Davis Campus. One of only three programs in Mississippi, its goal is to prepare students to become professional interpreters for the deaf. Students complete a course of study that includes disciplines such as English Composition 1, Oral Communications and Sociology as well as specialized courses such as Expressive/Receptive Fingerspelling and American Sign Language 1 and 2. Although the college does not offer certification, the individual student may seek it. After completing the program, the student may apply for evaluation by the National Registry of Interpreters of the Deaf or the Mississippi Quality Assurance Screening.

gram serves a vital need, says instructor Becky Gatain, active in the deaf community since 1980. While estimates show that approximately 23,000 South Mississippi residents are in need of interpreters, only ten are currently available. By training students to work as interpreters in the deaf community, Becky Gatain is helping to reduce that gap. She is proud and happy to be a part of that mission.

The Interpreter Training pro-



The computer lightens the load.

A student in the Interpreter Training program shares a thought.



### Students hard at work



### Sharing thoughts and dreams

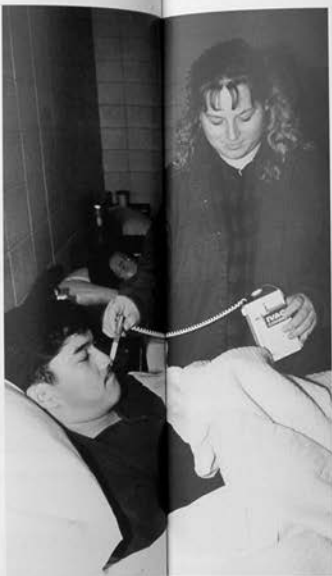


## Definitely Working Toward A Healthier Future

Good health makes so much else in life possible. Those students in the health occupations are working to enhance the delivery of quality health care to all Americans. Their goal is to promote physical, mental and social wellbeing. Here are some glimpses into the lives of those who will be dedicated to helping us all toward a healthier future.



Take good care of her, girls!



98.6! Perfect!



Just making sure ...



She's not that heavy!



Do you have some milk with that?



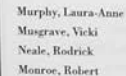
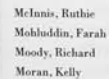
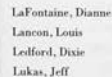
### Three Musketeers







Hey, look at me.





We exercise our minds and bodies to make a whole person.

## Kicking back between knowledge



Let's take  
a break  
from  
learning.

### A piece of the future

Aerobics takes brains as well as brawn.

Shugart, Andrea  
Shugart, Stephanie  
Smith, Marquinita  
Spradley, Drew



Steele, Bobby  
Stubbs, Kaliahya  
Tellier, Tania  
Terrell, Joyce



Williams, Christopher



When will the Professor get here?

### A step towards success



Wood, Shannon  
Woodard, Nella  
Woods, Jenny

Studying in groups is best of all.  
Studying with others makes life easier.

Out in the open with art



Friends together to the end



Studying is sometimes tough to handle.  
Music helps you think better.

## STUDYING IS A MUST

How do you concentrate best? Some people study best in groups. Others enjoy a more social aspect. Still others work outdoors in the fresh air. Some people think so hard, it makes their head itch. Sometimes it's hard to do this alone. So it's nice to have friends to study with. But the best way to study, and the best time of all, is when you are done.



At the end, the way is clear.



Dr. David Drye, Dean of Student Services, Jefferson Davis Campus



Mr. Foster Flint, Dean of Media Services, Jefferson Davis Campus

## Administrative Leadership

When asked to describe their "Outlook 2000", or possible departmental goals for the next millennium, members of the Developmental Studies department had this to say: "... the most appropriate goal for the department, its faculty and its students in the next millennium is a commitment to open-mindedness, flexibility, and continuing education." Under the leadership of administrators on the Jefferson Davis Campus and centers, the college is attempting to refine and broaden this continuing commitment to excellence. Among some of the other projections, hopes and observations as we face the future are those of Don Christensen, Dean of West Harrison Occupational Technology Center. He is



Mr. Wendell Thornton, Dean of Vocational Services

optimistic about an increased enrollment over the past two years in both secondary and post secondary students, updating and purchase of new equipment, and the enthusiasm of instructors in implementing workshops and activities that go beyond their basic training. Other departments look to new advances in technology and facilities to reach out to more diverse and ever larger numbers of students.

Setting goals in a world where so many things change and yet remain the same is never easy. But the administrators of the Jefferson Davis Campus and centers rise to the challenge as they lead faculty, staff and students into the future.



Dr. Clifton D. Taylor, Vice-President of the Jefferson Davis Campus



Mr. Glynn, A. McDaniel, Assistant Dean of Vocational Instruction, Jefferson Davis Campus



Mr. Howard Geiselman, Associate Dean of the Evening College, Jefferson Davis Campus



Mrs. Ouida White, Dean of Academic and General Instruction, Jefferson Davis Campus

You caught me  
between classes.



Catlett, Wayne



Kelner, Debbie



Effinger, Helen H.



Miller, Dorothy D.  
Drennen, K.  
Barnes, Jenny  
Waldorf, D.



"Alright, but ask me after class."



Pigott, Walton



Jefferson, J.



Berry, Vicki



Lightsey, Linda  
Davis, E.  
Mosheni, L.  
VanCourt, Marilyn



Johnson, Sandra T.  
Holloway, Patti  
Nelson, Melanie  
Holley, Carol



Bailey, Mary  
Gates, Bernice  
Towles, Roxanne

Bailey, June  
Davis, Scott  
Richmond, Libby

## Faculty and Staff ... definitely dedicated

Is everyone ready for that critical analysis?

Another great speaker for the New Horizons Program

Getting those grades finished ...



Ms. Ferrill is ready for aerobics! Is anyone else?



Helping with career decisions



Some of our science department demonstrating Leonardo's study of human proportions

## Faculty and Staff Shine at the Jefferson Davis Campus



Faculty and staff showcase their talents, skills, and creativity as well as their commitment to excellence in a supportive learning environment. Sometimes it involves showing a future teacher how to put a sparkle in the eyes of a young child ... Sometimes it involves admiring and encouraging the growth of an artist ... Sometimes it involves being "a cut above the rest." Or maybe that "doggie in the window" is a specialist, a "top dog" in the field of police work! Whatever the challenge, the faculty and staff on campus tackle it with ease and style!



Service with a smile!





## INSIDE WEST HARRISON

The West Harrison Training Center serves 600 students in a variety of courses designed to help those who are in today's job market so they can keep up with the latest changes in today's technology. Other students also attending classes are just starting out on the career field. Students learn in an open-entry/open-exit, self-paced program geared to their individual needs. Classes are taught in a hands-on atmosphere where students not only learn skills, but are able to put those skills to work. The landscaping department is responsible for a great deal of campus beautification, completing projects ranging from planting shrubbery to building covers over the picnic area. West Harrison is presently offering: Auto Body Technology, Auto Mechanics, The Culinary Arts (Food Preparation and Management), Industrial Drafting, Industrial Electricity and Electronics, Landscape Construction and Design, Machine Tool Operation/Metal Trades, Office and Computer Technology, and Aquaculture. Upon completion of any of these courses with a quality point average of at least 2.0, students may receive a Certificate of Completion. Then they can take the necessary academic courses needed to receive their Associates of Applied Science in Occupational Education degree. The diploma requirements are outlined in the MGCCC handbook. All of this is possible under the administration of Dean Don Christensen and Assistant Dean Mr. Tommye Skinner, whose doors are always open to assist with a student's needs and help with their pursuit of a career selection.



"Okay Mr. Joiner, is this a personal call or business?"

What a difference daylight savings time makes between classes.



"Come get it! VICA's fixed a specialty for everyone."



"This appears to be a definite difference to me, Mr. Cook."

The phrase "two's company, three's a crowd" definitely doesn't apply here.

## A LITTLE TRAINING MAKES A CAR WORTH DRIVING

The Auto Body Repair Technology program at MGCCC-West Harrison campus is designed to teach students the skills they need to enter a career in the field of auto body repair. However, under the guidance of instructor John McCaffrey, the program has gone several steps further. It has been revised to include all phases of body repair, including repair of S.M.C. plastic panels, unibody and space frame construction, and high strength steels.

Progress of the students is quite evident in their success at state VICA leadership conferences, as well as having an article written about one of the students in a national auto magazine. This resulted in the young man attaining the status of "Best of the Class." This was quite an achievement for the student, who undertook the task of transforming his once "part of a salvage pool vehicle" into the showpiece it is today. Completed, he tells us that he has receipts for just over \$4,000.00 worth of work, and credits the low cost to performing much of the work himself.

This is just part of what can be accomplished in the Auto Body Repair Technology program at the West Harrison campus. It also provides the students with an in-depth educational experience in the field of auto body repair and auto body refinishing. It is not only designed for those who want to start a career in auto body repair, but for those already in the field who want to increase their skills. Instructor John McCaffrey stated that students can achieve their dreams and goals through this program. They just need to put in the time and effort



The car is finally ready to paint. When it dries, it will be a finished product.



"Yes! Len does know what he is doing. Just watch carefully, and you could learn a trick or two about the trade."



An Auto Mechanics student is elbow deep in engine parts and grease for a good grade.



This looks really difficult, but the students are trained to handle these types of problems. They work it out on paper, and then put it into a working project.



These two professors are trying to figure out a complex problem that has arisen. All of the professors help the students out when the students run up against the same problems.

# AQUATIC DIMENSIONS

## A Look At Marine Technology

There is an exciting new career opportunity for students at MGCCC-West Harrison. It is the field of Aquaculture. The course is taught under the instruction of Mr. Greg Crochet and is designed to give students an introduction into the world of fish biology, management, identification, types of aquatic farming, and marketing of the fisheries products. Classroom and lab activities give the students an actual hands-on experience in caring for and farming aquatic species.

The new facility includes three ponds and a wetland filter pond, six 1,000-gallon tanks, a free-flowing artesian well and two 20-foot race-ways, and advanced biological and mechanical filtration systems. The facility also has two labs with an Internet link, a library, and tropical fish aquariums.

Students learn to use all equipment typically found on a traditional fish farm, and they are experimenting with the aquaculture technology. They have harvested a wide variety of aquatic species which include catfish, freshwater shrimp, balt minnows, and crayfish. The program also provides a link between aquaculture and horticulture by the use of water gardens and ornamental ponds.

Under the guidance of instructor Greg Crochet, students are taught not only academics, but also the procedures involved in the marine life marketing. Students are taught to appreciate our precious marine life.



Two Aquaculture students are working together on the online system to gather information for a homework assignment.

Students make sure that the fish and other marine species raised for this program are fed daily. They enjoy watching the activities of the fish.

This is a very good overview of one of the ponds built to support the Aquaculture marine life on the West Harrison campus.



Aquaculture students are testing the cleanliness of the water to ensure the safety of the marine species they are raising.



Drafting students are trying to figure out a complex problem on how a better marine tank should be built.

The fish seem to be growing well and very active thanks to the care of the students.

Students were having trouble with a physics problem, so they are resorting to the internet to get help from other Aquaculture students across the nation at other colleges.



## The West Harrison Connection

It's definitely undeniable; Just ask Cheryl Buccola: I entered MGCCC at the age of forty-seven, first attending the West Harrison Campus as a student in the Business/Computer Technology program. This is a dream I have had for years because I entered college after enduring the hardships of being a single parent with four children and conquering an ongoing battle with cancer. I believe that MGCCC has helped me to achieve my dream by teaching me structured leadership and a more complete understanding of business enterprise. My participation in class, school and club activities (two offices in Phi Beta Lambda, participation in leadership conference activities and wins in the Impromptu speaking category) has helped me to set and meet the professional goals necessary to become a responsible business leader of tomorrow.



## Faculty • Faculty • Faculty • Faculty • Faculty • Faculty •

Anderson, Kevin  
Bates, Rebecca  
Charlton, Anna  
Conley, John  
Cole, Judith



Cole, Ron  
Eason, Marla  
Hill, Charlie  
Jobe, Lil  
Joiner, Larry



Kately, Fred  
Mauffray, Stacy  
McCrory, Audrey  
Serpente, Charles  
Stever, Jessie



Stopson, Sarah  
Stopson, Tom  
Thacker, Vaughn  
Towles, Betty  
Wenzel, John



## Freshmen • Freshmen • Freshmen • Freshmen • Freshmen •

## Sophomore • Sophomore • Sophomore • Sophomore •



Blackwell, Patrick  
Braden, Glenn  
Bruce, Melissa  
Bryant, Ausmer  
Coomer, Alexander



Darby, Crutcher  
Dunn, Betty Jean  
Ellis, Troy  
Fox, Derricle  
Garrett, Reggie



Hood, Gerri  
Jenkins, Len  
Mayer, Debra  
McCrory, Vikki  
Morgan, Steve



Newman, Joellen  
Patenotte, Renee  
Polk, Henry  
Ramirez, Primo  
Randle, Karen



Ray, Joseph  
Smith, Robert  
Schmidt, Michael  
Sims, Carl  
Spence, Joseph



Sullivan, Carolyn  
Townsend, Gregory  
Wathan, Butler  
Watkins, Marlin  
Williams, Christopher

## Definitely Reaching for Excellence

Some of the proudest moments for Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College are the milestones — those moments when new commitments are made and traditions are honored. Keeping the faith and creating continuity — great moments for Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College.



The flag flying high  
Dr. Mellinger honors an alumnus.



## DEFINITELY DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS

Reaching the world  
from my camera's view,  
I watch us strive  
for the future through and through.

The exams we take and  
distances we go  
are all for the future  
in which we control.

We join clubs and  
win awards.  
We achieve dreams and  
friends we adore.

Here in school,  
we are the exceptions.  
Making a difference in  
Definitely Different Directions.



New beginnings — Phi Theta Kappa initiates



Proud marchers and a new building

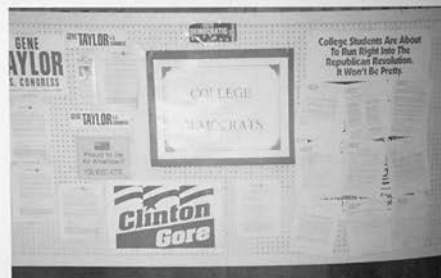
Reach for the stars!



## Definitely Signs of Things to Come

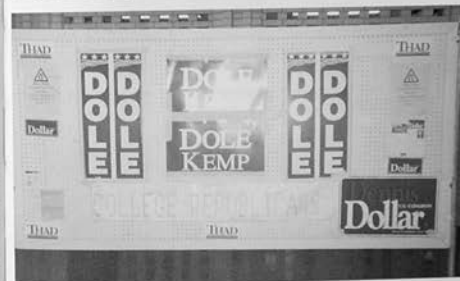
And signs of things already here! Come one, come all and see the signs of life on the Jefferson Davis Campus. From the handmade posters to the ready made pamphlets, the arrangement of signs and displays on the campus reflect the creativity and spirit of the students, faculty and staff.

PTK might invite passersby to remember the needy during the Christmas season by participating in a clothing drive; the College Democrats remind us of our political responsibilities; the Army beckons potential recruits; Paramedics remind us of important procedures for saving a life. See the signs, catch the spirit!



## Definitely ... Stay Tuned

More signs and signals to catch the eye and engage the mind: There is the intrigue (and occasional frustration) with the world of modern machines. The College Republicans make their choice for national leadership very clear. The Air National Guard, Navy, and the Marines are among those who invite students to answer the call. And don't forget to check the bulletins provided by the Student Services Department. Don't miss those important dates and events!





## Night Students ... Definitely Dynamic

When the clock strikes six, the campus gets moving. No sleepy-heads here! Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College has an active evening student body.

Many who have worked hard all day come to the campus at night for study and

self-improvement. Some combine day and evening classes, taking advantage of the flexibility to juggle hectic schedules. Here is a look at life for night students.



Evening classes definitely have advantages — peace and quiet to study.

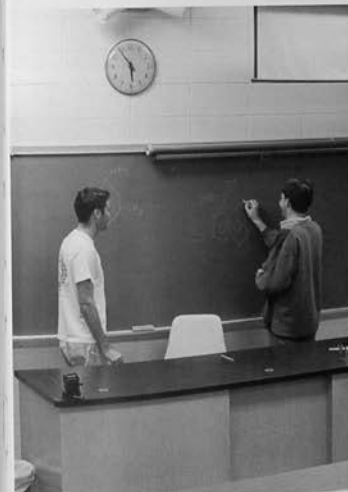
Where's everybody else?



Are we sure that we know what we're doing here?



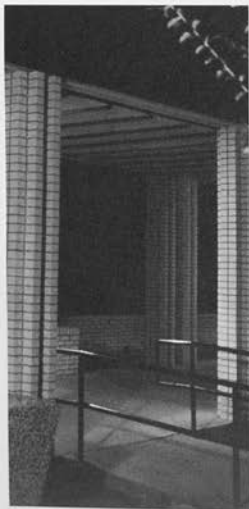
The parking lot is full in the evening, too.



Working together definitely helps.



Walking tall and proud.



I guess it really is time to get in line.

I must remember my lines ... I must remember my lines!



I'm a Bulldog fan!

Time for some serious study!



## What Made Us Unique

Maybe it was the way we knew how to ride out the storm ... Maybe it was the way we knew how to blow our own horns! Maybe it was the way we were ready with a smile and a helping hand. Maybe it was the way we dreamed our dreams and galloped toward our goals! Whatever the reason the Jefferson Davis Campus offered a unique opportunity for learning and laughter, forward-marching and friendship.



# CENTRAL



# OFFICE



## COMMUNITY CAMPUS

### Delivering educational opportunities and meeting community needs.

**G**ulf Coast's Community Campus brings together the college's workforce training, adult and continuing education, distance learning, small business development, and the Institute for Learning in Retirement.

This internal reorganization at Gulf Coast, which was approved by the Board of Trustees in the summer of 1996, has created a conceptual campus, not a place. Operating on a district-wide basis, the Community Campus supports the college's transfer, vocational and technical programs, while also providing a direct link between the campuses across the district, which includes Stone, Harrison, Jackson and George counties.

According to Gulf Coast President Dr. Barry Mellinger, the Community Campus formalizes a strategy for delivering non-traditional offerings that are not tied to a campus or center, or offered on a semester basis.

Since the passage of the Work-

force Education Act of 1994, the demand for Gulf Coast to deliver programs and services that are outside the realm of traditional college programs has increased.

The Community Campus is enabling the college to expand the number and type of classes or courses it offers in a variety of settings.

Besides offering courses at its three physical campuses and four centers, Gulf Coast is also providing, through the Community Campus, local residents more continuing education offerings at community facilities, business and industry sites, local schools and mobile training labs, as well as through television and computer modems.

The continuing education of local residents, including workforce development, is an important part of the college's mission. The Community Campus is intensifying the college's efforts in this area, and Gulf Coast intends to set the standard for a model community education program.



Workforce development and basic skills instruction fall under the Community Campus umbrella.



**TOP RIGHT:** Joyce Calcutt, Mobile Unit coordinator/instructor, demonstrates a computer program to a Community Campus student.



**ABOVE:** The Mobile Training Unit, taking learning on the road for Gulf Coast.

## ACADEMICS



From left, Dr. Barry Mellinger, Gulf Coast president; Parah Mohiuddin, Jefferson Davis Campus speech/hearing instructor and teacher; and Rebecca Morrison, Jackson County Campus speech/hearing instructor and teacher. Above, at the HEADWAE (Higher Education Appreciation Day — Working for Academic Excellence) program held in February in Jackson. The 10th annual event was sponsored by the Mississippi Legislature.



For the second year in a row, the Jefferson Davis Campus scholars bowl team won the annual Ken Wooten Scholars Bowl Tournament at The University of Mississippi. Each team member will receive a \$5,000 scholarship from Ole Miss and a plaque.



Mississippi State Treasurer Marshall Bennett speaks to a crowd of adults and first graders at a press conference announcing MPACT (the Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition Program), which allows parents and grandparents to prepay their children's college tuition at today's rates. A flexible program, MPACT should save parents the burden of rising tuition costs, plus it's tax deductible for state income tax purposes. To inform South Mississippi residents and college personnel about MPACT, Gulf Coast held MPACT and financial aid seminars at each campus, plus a training session was held for college personnel.

**G**ulf Coast has a plan, a plan worth \$8.6 million. It's called the Technology Plan, and it involves everything from the Internet to multimedia training.

In 1995, library automation, multimedia work stations and an engineering study kicked off the beginning of the plan's implementation. The next year brought a new telephone system for the entire college, a system which includes voice mail and the installation of fiber optics.

This year, several projects are in the works: interior data cabling, network electronics, administrative hardware/software, an optical storage system, frame relay-Wide Area Network, a Community College Network (CCN) site at the George County

### Technology Plan, Web debut make headlines at Gulf Coast

Center, and collegewide Internet access.

Coming up in 1998 will be equipment modernization, which will include PCs, network interface cards and kiosks, and a voice response system, which will lead to phone registration and information requests.

Another advancement in technology was the debut of the Gulf Coast homepage on the World Wide Web. The site went on line on July 31, 1996, and has made it easier for prospective, current and past students to stay in touch with the college. Webmaster Kimberly Jones, along with Melissa Laddner (marketing assistant for Institutional Relations) and Dr. Joseph Clifton (administrative assistant for Institutional Research and Planning), developed the site, which is user-friendly and even includes the college's Application for Admission and collegewide job openings.

Colleen Hartfield, administrative assistant for Institutional Relations, says, "Our site is a 'new access road' for the community. In the information age, a homepage is an effective marketing tool for businesses, including community colleges. And with our site on line, people of all ages and backgrounds can find out what Gulf Coast has to offer, from academic courses to special community services."

Other happenings in the technological area at Gulf Coast is multimedia training. Professional Development coordinators at each Gulf Coast campus offer workshops on programs such as Compel and PowerPoint.

"Multimedia offers more variety and a more personalized presentation than the classroom," says Edna Shaw, English instructor and Compel workshop leader at the Jackson County Campus. Compared to using video and logging library books to the classroom for presentations, she says multimedia is a "real beauty."

She adds that the students are fascinated by technology. "And if they're not, they pick it up," she says. "They just can't say no."



Edna Shaw, left, JC instructor and leader of Compel workshops, says students are fascinated by technology. "They just can't say no to it," she says.

Find us on the Web.  
<http://www.mgc.cc.ms.us>

At right, Ed Evans, a 1950 alumnus of Perkinson Junior College, accepts the Sam Owen Trophy award, an honor given for the past 44 years for distinguished service to the college.

Sam "Prof" Jones, leader of the MOCOC band and Perkettes from 1952-78, sits with today's Perkettes during halftime activities at the Gulf Coast homecoming football game. Prof was honored at homecoming, along with band members and Perkettes dance team members from the band leader's years at Gulf Coast.



## Homecoming 1996 One to remember

Even after homecoming was over, people kept saying what a great day it turned to be. With Sam "Prof" Jones and his band and Perkettes; the 1971 national championship football team; Alumni Hall of fame honoree Rita Baker Sheffield Hester; and Sam Owen Trophy award winner Ed Evans all sharing the same spotlight, homecoming day was, well, a blast.

The homecoming luncheon, which honored all the folks mentioned above, had a record turnout of about 600. And the bleachers were filled with Bulldog fans as Gulf Coast met the East Central Warriors at A.L. May Memorial Stadium. The Bulldogs almost snagged a victory, but lost 28-23 to the Warriors.

During the game's halftime, Sam "Prof" Jones was recognized, as were band members and Perkettes who played and danced under his leadership from 1952-78. Rita Hester, a Wiggins native, was one of those Perkettes. In 1965, she became one of the first freshman Perkettes to head the dance team. Thirty years after leaving Perk, she lives in Sherman Oaks, Calif., where she's a successful pro-

ducer and director.

From her performing days at the University of Southern Mississippi to stints on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and in the Big Apple to her success with "Roundhouse," a kind of "Saturday Night Live" for kids on Nickelodeon, Hester has built a résumé that includes such prestigious awards as the American Center for Children's Television's Ollie Award for Excellence in Television Programming for America's Children.

Ed Evans is a star in his own right, and that's why he received the 44-year-old Sam Owen Trophy award, given annually to someone for his or her distinguished service to the college. Evans worked at Gulf Coast for 34 years. His last job title at Gulf Coast before his 1990 retirement was administrative assistant for Vocational-Technical Education.

Other notable homecoming personalities were 1996 homecoming queens Olivia Dellinger, Perk; Bernadette Bilanch, Jefferson Davis; and Alicia Dunnaway, Jackson County.



Johnette Dees, standing, and her mother, Margaret Rose Dees, participate in the Dedication of the Garden of the Oaks in front of Perk's Dees Hall. The garden was dedicated in memory of the Dees family and its loyal support of the college. Funds to landscape and furnish the area were donated by Margaret Rose. Johnette is dean of Business Services for the Perkinson Campus.



Rita Baker Sheffield Hester, 1996 Hall of Famer for Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College and student at Perkinson Junior College in 1965-66.

Below, Fred Turner, band member from 1955-57, practices for the reunion band/Perkettes homecoming performance. Turner played under the direction of Sam "Prof" Jones.



At left, Rita Hester with longtime friend Kathryn Lewis, fine arts chair at the Perkinson Campus.

Crowned homecoming queens for Gulf Coast campuses were, from left, Olivia Dellinger, Perkinson; Bernadette Bilanch, Jefferson Davis; and Alicia Dunnaway, Jackson County.

# A year to remember

At right: Dorothy Gilmer, left, scholarship chair for the Jackson County Chapter of the Alumni Association, accepts a plaque recognizing that chapter as gaining the most members during 1996. The presentation was made during 1996 homecoming festivities.

Below: Pat Descher, left, and MGCCC President Dr. Barry Mellinger at the 1996 Showcase Golf Tournament. The annual tournament raised \$13,000 for student scholarships to Gulf Coast.



At far right: William and Etta Franzen. In 1996, Mr. Franzen, or "Ship," made the single largest donation ever given to the college's Foundation — 172 acres of timberland in Stone County with an estimated value of \$675,000.

At right: With Neil Murray (second from left), executive assistant for Development for Gulf Coast, are new donor members to the Foundation. From left are Dr. J.J. Hayden Jr., Etta Switzer, Louise Roberts, Delores Mauldin, Mary Williams and Stewart Ramsay. Not pictured is Bessie Peacock.



Dr. Barry Mellinger, third from left, with Showcase 1996 winners, from left, Mike McCabe, Mercer Miller, Jeff Dahl and Ted Roberts.



Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College's Building On Our Heritage Campaign wrapped up in the summer of 1996 with a bountiful harvest.

The Foundation's goal of \$1.5 million was surpassed by the generous contributions of caring alumni, community members, businesses, groups and individuals. More than \$2 million was raised during the campaign.

The single largest donation ever given to the Foundation was the gift of 172 acres of timberland in Stone County. With an estimated value of \$675,000, the land was signed over to the college in March.

The land, which is never to be sold or clear cut, was donated by William A. Franzen of Mobile, Ala., who in the 1920s attended Perkinston Junior College, where he met his late wife, Etta Clayton, also a student.

"The biggest winners in the campaign are the students," said Gulf Coast President Dr. Barry Mellinger. "Of the money raised, more than \$650,000 was designated by donors for student scholarships and leadership development."

During the 1995-96 school, 120 scholarships totalling \$168,953 were awarded.

The Thomas S. Leatherbury Student Lead-

ership Fund was established to help students develop their leadership skills. A \$15,000 endowment announced by Merchants and Marine Bank in Pascagoula, the Leatherbury Fund will be used to enhance leadership experiences for students at all campuses of the college.

Leatherbury, who died in October 1995, was retired president and chairman of the board of Merchants and Marine Bank. He served on Gulf Coast's Foundation Board from 1977 until his death.

The Foundation funds also helped sponsor the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Moving Wall visit for one week in April at the Perkinston Campus. Designed to heal the wounds of war, the 250-foot replica of the memorial in Washington, D.C., attracted about 8,000 people of the community to the campus.

The Foundation also supports summer camps for kids in performing arts, math and science at both the Perkinston and Jackson County campuses, and staff development for multimedia computer applications.

Through the Foundation, the college continues to touch the lives of alumni, friends and the communities it serves.

At right: About 8,000 visitors came to the Perkinston Campus to see the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Moving Wall last April. The wall, brought to Perk thanks to Foundation funds, called the campus home for a week.

Below: People of all ages visited the Wall during its week-long stay on the campus. The structure is a 250-foot replica of the memorial in Washington, D.C.





# The Total Picture

## Instructors of the Year Making a difference

Last April, three Gulf Coast instructors were honored for doing what they do best — teach. David Dueitt, Perk; June Jefferson, JD; and Rusty Brown, JC, Association's annual Spring Banquet as Instructors of the Year.

David Dueitt, music instructor and Band of Gold director, says his desire as a teacher is to create an environment where musicians can reach their true potential. "My goal is to give all my students a desire to keep music in their lives, regardless of their field of study," he said.

Since coming to Gulf Coast from the University of Alabama, where he was a graduate assistant, Dueitt has seen the band membership grow from under 100 members to more than 150.

June Jefferson, Teacher Assistant program instructor, was awestruck when she got the call

about her selection as an Instructor of the Year.

For four years, Jefferson has worked at the JD Campus. In her program, students get the development skills and study techniques to enter the workforce or continue their education.

A Perkinson Junior College alumnae, Jefferson says one of the most rewarding experiences in her career was when five former students enrolled in the elementary education associate degree program.

Rusty Brown, biology instructor at the JC Campus, says it's her job to turn students on to biology. She does this by frequently asking herself, "How would I feel if I were one of my students?"

"As a student, I had both good and bad experiences with instructors, and I have tried to draw upon those experiences as a teacher," says Brown, who attended the JC Campus.



TOP RIGHT: June Jefferson, JD Campus Instructor of the Year, with family.



ABOVE: David Dueitt, Perk Campus Instructor of the Year.



BELOW RIGHT: Rusty Brown, Jackson County Campus Instructor of the Year.



Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College wrapped up its 1996 football season on Nov. 9 with a disappointing 38-28 loss to Hinds Community College.

"Our guys played their hearts out," said Steve Wright, head coach. "We were in there blow-for-blow against Hinds, but we weren't able to get to their quarterback and backfield very well."

Anyone who jumps to quick decisions after looking at Gulf Coast's 3-7 record isn't seeing the total picture.

Of the 10 games Gulf Coast played, four were lost by a touchdown or less, and seven were determined with two minutes or less in the game.

At least three new school records were set in passing/rushing yards, passing yards and rushing yards.

### All Star game features Gulf Coast coaches, players

Gulf Coast football players and their coaching staff made an honorable showing at the annual Mississippi Junior College Athletic Association All Star game held in Booneville on Dec. 7, 1996.

Steve Wright, defensive coordinator Robert Cloud, offensive line coach Kelvin Lyon and student assistant Brandon Walker led the South team, which lost 21-11 to the North team. Seven Bulldog players contributed to the game.

Gulf Coast runningback Reginald Carter of Moss Point had 97 rushing yards during the game and was named the South's Offensive Player of the Game, while Jose Gonzales, a Bulldog defensive back, took the South's Defensive Player of the Game title, with two interceptions and 18 tackles.

Other Bulldogs appearing in the game were Michael Funches, offensive lineman; Lee Morris, offensive lineman; Greg Rudolph, kicker; Jacco Cooper, defensive lineman; and O'Neal Carter, runningback.



Hard-hitting football is on Steve Wright's agenda.



Former and present-day Gulf Coast coaches were named to the National Junior College Athletic Association's Hall of Fame during 1996. From left are Hall of Famers Charles Cooper, retired golf coach; George Sekul, retired head football coach; Ken "Carly" Farris, retired head baseball coach; and Bob Weathers, head men's basketball coach for 36 years.



Pictured at this year's Family and Media Day on the Mississippi Beach are Gulf Coast cheerleaders. From left, Kelly Ryan, Raegan Windland, Jennifer Huffstader and Juanita Weinberg. This year's squad won superior ribbons, two trophies for final competitions, a second place finish in the Cheer category competition and a third place finish in the Sideline competition at the Universal Cheerleading Association's annual summer camp in Tuscaloosa. Other squad members include Robin Rusk, Dalas Crosby, Jeremy Conner, Patricia Taylor, Joel Moore, Dax Frayer, Greg Loose, Jeremy Lomax, Matt Thomas, David Bohn, Jeremy Toole, Lader Austin, and Jenny Pitts.



The Gulf Coast baseball team opened the 1997 season with two high powered wins (12-0 and 10-0) in a doubleheader against East Mississippi on Feb. 13 in Perkinston. (Other details on the 1997 season were unavailable at press time.) Last year's season was a hard-fought one, with the Bulldogs making it to the finals of the regional tournament before losing to nationally-ranked Meridian. Gulf Coast finished last season 39-19.



**TOP RIGHT:** Gulf Coast's **Natasha Crosby**, right, meets a Jones Lady Holcat. The Lady Bulldogs won South State this year, creating a great deal of excitement around South Mississippi. The team, which was 13-12 overall and 5-7 in the division last year, went on to regional competition in March. Co-Lin defeated Gulf Coast 76-55 in the final round, giving the Lady Bulldogs a season-ending record of 21-11.

**ABOVE:** Lady Bulldog **Keisha Nelson** gets excited about Gulf Coast's 86-80, double-overtime win over Co-Lin's Lady Wolves. The win clinched the South Division championship for Gulf Coast.

## Lady Bulldogs win division title, men's tennis goes national

**G**ulf Coast's Lady Bulldogs clinched the South Division title in a double-overtime battle against nationally ranked Copiah-Lincoln on Feb. 20 in Wesson. In the National Junior College Athletic Association Region 23 competition held March 4-6 at Mississippi College in Clinton, Gulf Coast fell in the final round, losing to Co-Lin 76-55.

Gulf Coast went into the South State tournament as third seed and earned an 86-80 victory over Co-Lin, the top women's team in the South Division that finished regular season with a 12-0 record and a No. 17 national ranking.

After winning the South State title, Gulf Coast went on to the state tournament, held Feb. 24-25 at Pearl River Community College. Despite a game-high 38 points scored by Gulf Coast's Stacie Davis in the first round, the Lady Bulldogs were knocked out by North-east Mississippi Community College in

an 88-74 loss.

Davis of Mobile, Ala., and teammate Natasha Crosby of Gulfport were named to the 1997 Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges All-State Basketball Team.

### Sweet victory

After tasting sweet victory over arch rival Hinds Community College in regular and state championship competition, the 1996 Gulf Coast men's tennis team went on to make its mark in the nation.

Gulf Coast had its first win against the dominating Hinds team in March 1996. But beating Hinds out of the state title by one point was even sweeter for Spence, who made it a goal to defeat the arch rival since he began coaching the team four years ago.

In their appearance at the national tennis tournament held in May 1996 at Corpus Christi, Texas, the Bulldogs made a fair showing, earning 4 points (one for each match won).

The women's team evened out 1996 with a 4-4 record.



Gulf Coast's men's tennis team made it to national competition in 1996. From left are team members **Charles Spence** (coach), **Drew Spradley**, **Ryan Hunter**, **Josh Weaver**, **William Weaver**, **David Taranto**, **Jose Rodriguez**, **Shae Sullivan**, **Felipe Monsalve** and **Juan Silva**.



Former Bulldog baseball player and 1996 Perkinston Campus graduate **Doug Thompson** was named to the 1995-96 David Rowlands Male Student Athlete of the Year by the National Junior College Athletic Association. At Gulf Coast, Thompson earned the top rank in the nation for earned run average (.78, 12-5) and second in total strikeouts (104 innings pitched, 127 strikeouts). Thompson now plays with Louisiana State University.



A highlight of the 1996 track season was when Gulf Coast's pole vaulter **Cedric Smith** of Moss Point cleared the bar at 15 feet, 1 inch, setting a new state record. Kelvin Lyon coaches the track team. In other spring sports, the golf team wrapped up the season by placing seventh in the state tournament held in Piquette.



Taking a break from playing on the sidelines during a Gulf Coast football game are Bulldog fan **Taylor Thrash** and **Killer**, Gulf Coast's new mascot. Killer is owned by **Johnette Dees**, dean of Business Services at the Perkinston Campus.



Gulf Coast forward **Leonard Osborne** goes for a shot. The Bulldogs ended the season 10-15 overall and 4-8 in the South Division.

# Band of Gold keeps growing and growing and growing

The Band of Gold has performed in and around the community for more than half a century, and like the communities it serves, it has seen a growing spell. Band director David Dueitt says since he came to Gulf Coast, membership in the band has grown from under 100 to more than 150 last year.

The Band of Gold has participated in many band exhibitions, including the Deep South Marching Festival in Mobile, Ala. and marching exhibitions in Theodore, Ala., and Gulfport, Miss.

A major part of the band is the Perkettes Dance Team. Directed by Kathy Braun, the group has broken the mold of the old-fashioned drill team style. Their sleek look and high-energy routines complement the band and perk up football games, parades and other events.

To assist members in performing the eye-catching choreography, all Perkettes are required to take a modern, tap, jazz or ballet dance class.

In addition, the band and Perkettes practice eight hours a week throughout the school year. Both groups also attend the annual two-week, 12-hour-a-day band camp held in August at the Perkinston Campus.



Above, the Perkettes cheer on the Bulldogs and rev up the crowd.

At inside right, drum major Anna Simpson leads the Band of Gold off the field after its homecoming halftime show.

At far right, the Band of Gold performs at the 1996 Media and Family Day on the Mississippi Beach. The special day introduced the football team to the community, and to local papers, radio stations and newspapers.



## Central Office



Hal Higdon, adm. asst., Human Resources  
Zosia Huffman, adm. asst., Acad. & Gen. Inv. & Student Serv.  
Kamberly Jones, publicity staff specialist  
Melissa Lachner, marketing assistant  
Pamela Lachner, Technical Services Librarian



Nancy Lee, secretary, V.P., Adm. & Finance  
Vivian Lewis, bookkeeping  
Marcia Lyon, accountant  
Dorothy Lyons, sec./bookkeeper,  
Special Voc. Projects  
Chuck McMurphy, Central Printing



Karen McQueen, sec. to V.P., Instructional Affairs  
Sharon Miller, Central Printing  
Gary Moore, driver/operator  
Marlene Moore, Accounts Payable  
Hilary Murray, coordinator, Cooperative Education



Gary Newbill, driver/operator  
Sharon Parker, secretary, Industrial Services  
Chris Pierce, Accounts Payable  
Diane Ralston, sec., Purchasing  
Debbie Rogers, finance clerk



Alan Saucier, programmer/operator  
Ronnie Sims, mechanic/driver  
Robert Smith, special asst. to the Pres. for Info. Tech.  
Frank Spring, director, Central Printing  
Karen Tanner, secretary, Tech Prep Education



Johnny Tynes, coordinator, Industrial Services  
Helen Vernon, senior bookkeeper  
Tommy Wells, driver/operator  
James Willis, supervisor, transportation/special projects



# Board of Trustees



From left, Delores Sumrall, Jean Peden and Gertrude Allen at the Association of Community College Trustees national meeting in Miami Beach, Fla. Peden, first vice chair of the MGCCC board, was re-elected Southern Region director for ACCT.



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Geraldine Barnes, Jackson County  
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## Leading with students in mind

Executive Council members are team leaders. They lead the college in many aspects, from budget planning to day-to-day operations. Yet, they make all their decisions with over 20,000 people in mind — our students.

The council, led by President Dr. Barry Mellinger, includes Dr. Willis Lott, Perkinson Campus vice president; Dr. Donnie Taylor, Jefferson Davis Campus vice president; Dr. Royce Luke, Jackson County Campus vice president; Nell Murray, executive assistant for Development; Dr. Rick Christmas, vice president for

Instructional Affairs; and Everett Compston, vice president for Administration and Finance.

Council members help direct the efforts of a large complex institution that will serve over 20,000 in the upcoming year. They're aggressive in their support of innovations which will better serve the local community. And with every idea that's suggested and every decision that's made, the Executive Council keeps one question in mind: How will this benefit the students of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College? For these team leaders, that's the bottom line.



Gulf Coast's Executive Council includes, front, from left, Everett Compston, Nell Murray, Dr. Willis Lott, and back, from left, Dr. Barry Mellinger, Dr. Royce Luke, Dr. Donnie Taylor and Dr. Rick Christmas.

Dr. Rick Christmas, Gulf Coast's new vice president for Instructional Affairs, touches familiar ground at his family's place in McHenry.



## Rick Christmas comes home to South Mississippi.

Dr. Rick Christmas knows South Mississippi, and he's happy to be back home.

In August 1996, Christmas returned to these parts to become Gulf Coast's new vice president for Instructional Affairs. Before coming home, he was assistant campus dean for Colorado Mountain College's Timberline Campus in Leadville.

"It's a really exciting opportunity to come back home," he said. "After all, my mother went to school here."

Since joining Gulf Coast, Christmas has visited old family home sites, including where his mother, the former Elva Downing, grew up and the grammar school in Wiggins he attended. In 1957, his father started working on the Coast, so the Christmas family moved to Ocean Springs.

Christmas had made the artsy city his home again, along with his wife, Nancy Napier, a 1964 graduate and former Perketie.

Since leaving the Mississippi Gulf Coast, Christmas has made several moves, from an Army tour beginning in the late 60s to a position with the Department of Defense in Europe from 1975 to 1978. He's traveled in more than 30 countries, as well as all of the United States.

At Colorado Mountain College, Christmas held several positions before moving up to assistant campus dean, including vocational guidance and placement specialist and interim supervisor of community education and director of special programs/conferences. In 1991, he was a visiting professor at Clemson University's Recreation Travel and Tourism Institute.

Today, however, this graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi and the University of Northern Colorado is back home. And home, he said, is where you go back to.

