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Definitely
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Definitely Different

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DOGGONE GOOD!

Dalmatian dots stood out in the crowd of spirited dogs who came to JCC Homecoming week as Sam, above, and Hallie, left, proved that being a MCCCC dog meant just being yourself. Definitely Different? You bet.

TRIDENT
VOL. XXVI
1997 PHASES

Jackson County Campus
Mississippi Gulf Coast
Community College
P.O. Box 100
Gautier, Miss. 39553
601-497-9602



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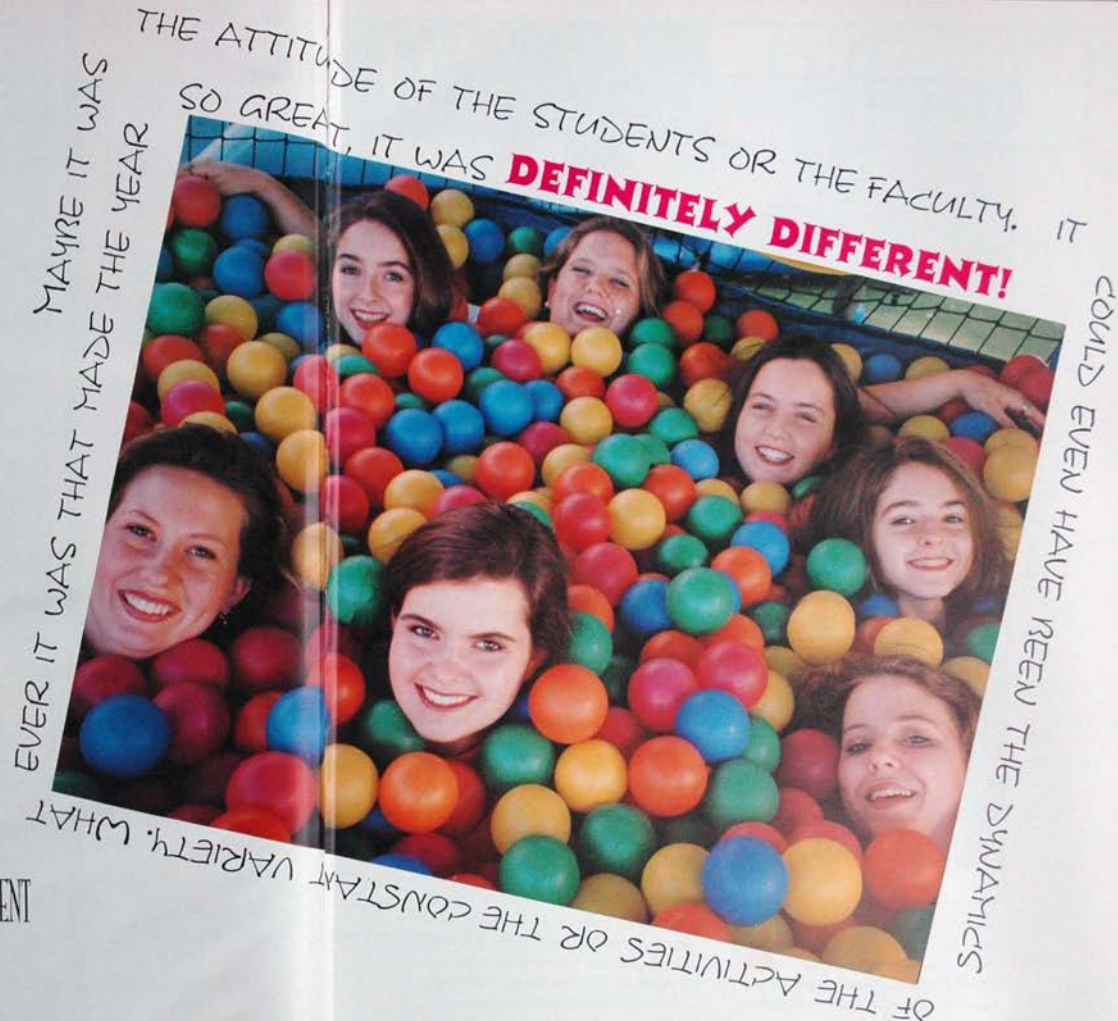
DIFFERENT FACES

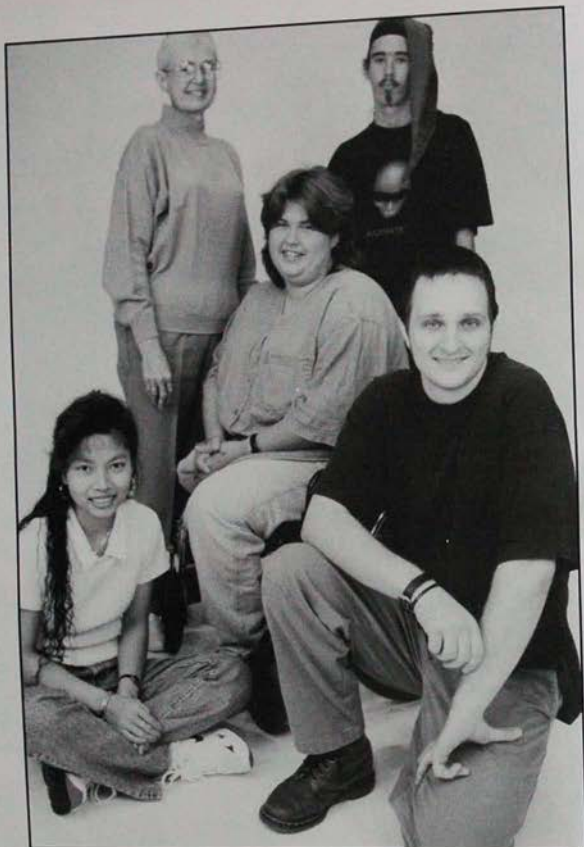
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MGCCC... DEFINITELY DIFFERENT

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Diversity, especially among the student body, was one of Jackson County Campus's strengths. Different high schools. Different cultures. Different ages. Different interests. Different objectives. But for stu-

dents Marty Logan, Brandon Bishop, Margaret Greenwell, Thanh Doan and Kris Gaskey, JCC was a place where everyone belonged, where everyone could aim high, where everyone could achieve goals.

Definitely Different

If you were trying to be cool this year, you could forget it. There were no gauges, no standards to follow to be "in". JCC students tended to go their own ways and do their own things. Self-expression found expression in a multitude of ways, but almost always within the safety of a group with common interests and styles. Students who tended toward alternative, country, prep, non-traditional student or grunge styles had their own choices. The only agreement appeared to be agreeing to disagree on common favorites. For all of its diversity, JCC enjoyed a unique sense of unity with students of all ages, backgrounds and goals who seemed to come together naturally for common causes. From choices of movies to lunch spots, JCC students' ideas were DEFINITELY DIFFERENT.

☐ BEST HANGOUTS:

Break Room II.

Michael's, Master Grill.

Billiards Club. ☐ BEST

PLACES TO GO ON A DATE:

Movie, Beach, Dinner, Casino. ☐

BEST LUNCH SPOT ON SCHOOL

DAYS: Taco Bell, JCC Cafeteria, Pizza

Hut, Chick-fil-A. ☐ CAR OF YOUR

DREAMS: Lexus, GMC Z71 Stepside 4X4.

Porsche, Jeep Wrangler. ☐ BEST LOCAL RESTAURANT: China

Wok, Aunt Jenny's, Salvetti Brothers, Quincy's.

BEST MOVIE: Twister, A Time to Kill, Lion King, Forrest Gump. ☐ BEST TV SHOW: Friends, Relativity,

X-Files, ER, Seinfeld. ☐ FAVORITE SOAP:

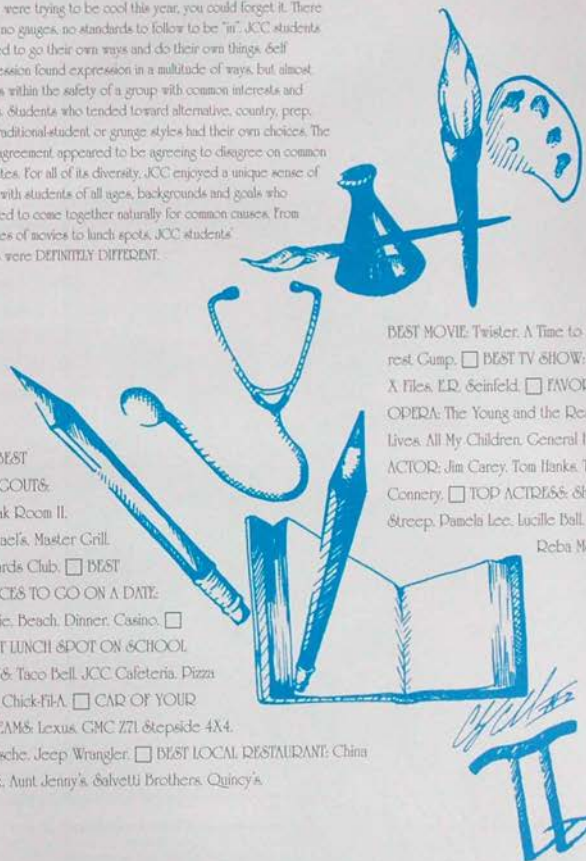
OPERA: The Young and the Restless, Days of Our Lives, All My Children, General Hospital. ☐ TOP

ACTOR: Jim Carey, Tom Hanks, Tom Cruise, Sean

Connery. ☐ TOP ACTRESS: Sharon Stone, Meryl

Streep, Pamela Lee, Lucille Ball, Rosie O'Donnell.

Reba McEntyre.



Definitely Different

Trends at JCC were hard to find this year because style tended to be what anybody made of it.

While everyone agreed that style should include comfort and practicality, dressing according to the event and not according to what others would think was the rule.

Style proved to be more self expression than a trend as clothing ranged from cowboy hats and boots to platform shoes and satin shirts. JCC did tend toward the less formal looks, pairing jeans and t-shirts for the most popular go-to class look—but on a grander scale, styles were DEFINITELY DIFFERENT.



☐ MOST POPULAR STYLE OF MUSIC: Country, Alternative, Rock, Oldies ☐ BEST SONG: Strawberry Wine, Like the Rain, Unchained Melodies, Check Yes or No ☐ TOP MUSIC GROUP: Alabama, Hootie and the Blow Fish, Cranberries, 311 ☐ MOST LISTENED-TO RADIO STATION: WKRN 8.99 FM, 97.9 FM, 104.9 FM, WABD 97.5 FM ☐ FAVORITE CLOTHING: Jeans, T-shirt, Boots, Khakis, Casual Shirt.

☐ FAVORITE JUNK FOOD: M & M's, Snickers, Winterfresh, Coke, Dr. Pepper, Barq's.



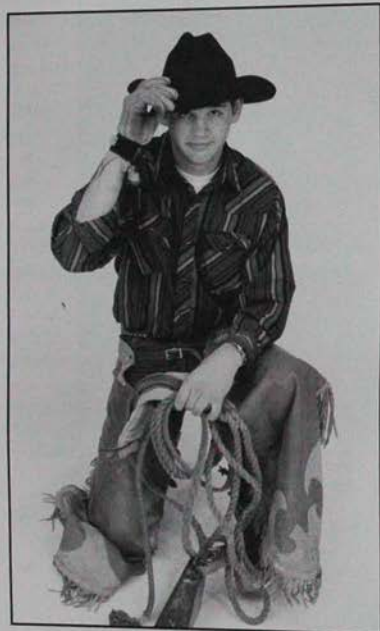
FAVORITE ATHLETIC TEAMS: Dallas Cowboys, Green Bay Packers, Atlanta Braves, ☐ POPULAR ATHLETE: Troy Aikman, Brett Favre, Dominique Dawes



Sporting styles all their own was a mark of the JCC student body. Showing examples of some of the trends were Adrean Henry,

Will King, Stewart Wood, Brooke Wernowsky, Alicia Gray and Nicole Moore.

Art instructor Patt Odom has distinguished herself by guiding promising art students to fulfilling careers and hobbies during the 16 years she has taught at JCC. She has also been the recipient of numerous art awards for her own pieces.



Freshman Robby Amonett, above, set his sights on the professional rodeo circuit as he competed on the MGCCC rodeo team. Victor Burge, Lynn Zimmerman and Willie Showah, right, were outstanding students in technical, academic and vocational areas, respectively.

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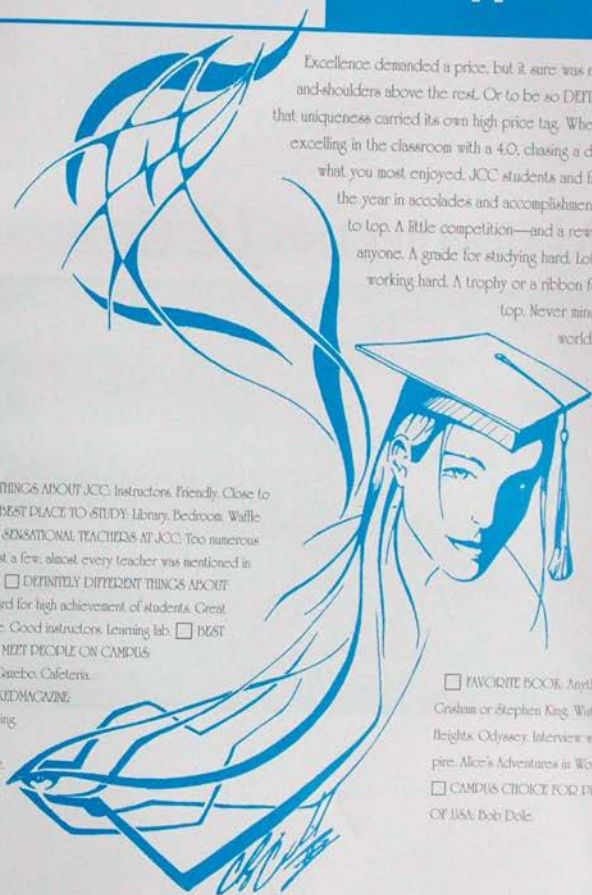


Definitely Different

Excellence demanded a price, but it sure was nice to be head-and-shoulders above the rest. Or to be so DEFINITELY DIFFERENT that uniqueness carried its own high price tag. Whether it was excelling in the classroom with a 4.0, chasing a dream or just doing what you most enjoyed, JCC students and faculty wrapped the year in accolades and accomplishments that were hard to top. A little competition—and a reward—never hurt anyone. A grade for studying hard. Loflon points for working hard. A trophy or a ribbon for coming out on top. Never mind the rest of the world; JCC stood out. We were DEFINITELY DIFFERENT.

- ☐ BEST THINGS ABOUT JCC: Instructors. Friendly. Close to home. ☐ BEST PLACE TO STUDY: Library. Bedroom. Waffle House. ☐ SENSATIONAL TEACHERS AT JCC: Too numerous to name just a few; almost every teacher was mentioned in the survey. ☐ DEFINITELY DIFFERENT THINGS ABOUT JCC: Regard for high achievement of students. Great atmosphere. Good instructors. Learning lab. ☐ BEST PLACE TO MEET PEOPLE ON CAMPUS: Building. Gazebo. Cafeteria. ☐ BEST FRED MAGAZINE: Southern Living. National Geographic. Conception. US.

- ☐ FAVORITE BOOK: Anything by John Grisham or Stephen King. Wuthering Heights. Odyssey. Interview with a Vampire. Alice's Adventures in Wonderland. ☐ CAMPUS CHOICE FOR PRESIDENT OF USA: Bob Dole.



Definitely Different
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DEFINITELY JCC



TO GET THE 3-D PICTURE, HOLD IT CLOSE TO YOUR NOSE. LOOK THROUGH IT TO THE STURDY HOLD
YOUR GLAZE AND MOVE THE GLAZE SLOWLY AWAY. KEEP TRYING! SOLUTION: ROAD TRIP. IN
THE MAGIC EYE INC.

STUDENT LIFE

SOME PEOPLE WATCHED THINGS HAPPEN. SOME PEOPLE WONDERED WHAT HAPPENED. SOME PEOPLE MADE THINGS HAPPEN. THE SKY WAS THE LIMIT FOR STUDENT LIFE AT JCC. FOR A COMMUTER CAMPUS, JCC WAS ON THE HIGH END OF THE SCALE WITH AT LEAST ONE MAJOR EVENT EACH MONTH AND NEW PROGRAMS LIKE THIS YEAR'S INTRAMURALS. ONE OF THE BEST DIMENSIONS OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES WAS THE FOCUS ON GETTING MORE PEOPLE INVOLVED AS PARTICIPANTS. FROM CHEERING AT THE BASH TO COMPETING AT LAGNIAPPE DAY, JCC STUDENTS ALWAYS HAD THE OPTION TO ADD SOMETHING DEFINITELY DIFFERENT TO THEIR DAY.

ENTHUSIASTIC ONLOOKERS

A large crowd of amused spectators including Sharon Robbins, Charlene Brodzias, George Lander, Robert Curtis and Tom Zito enjoyed watching club members perform creative routines to boost school spirit.

MOVE OVER, ELVIS!

Phi Beta Lambda co-sponsor Vanessa Dedecias, bottom, and Learning Lab instructor Jekone Stewart, bottom, were among the stars in the club and faculty cheers at the Bash.



Annual Bash Was Another SMASH!

T'was a Dawg-gone good time

Excitement, elevated spirit and enthusiasm were heightened when students and faculty took a break from classes Sept. 19 to enjoy the weather, cheers and free food of the annual Bulldog Bash.

Held to encourage attendance at the MGCCC Bulldogs game that night hosted by JCC in Ocean Springs, the Bash featured t-shirts, 850 free hamburger plates, door prizes, entertainment by the Zoolu Crackers and club cheers.

Other than the run on the free food, the biggest hits of the day were the club cheer competition—that could only be described as “off the scale”—and the faculty Macarena cheer.

“I enjoyed joining in the school spirit during the Macarena dance,” said Daniel Sanders, Moss Point freshman, who added that the club cheer competition was his favorite part of the Bulldog Bash.

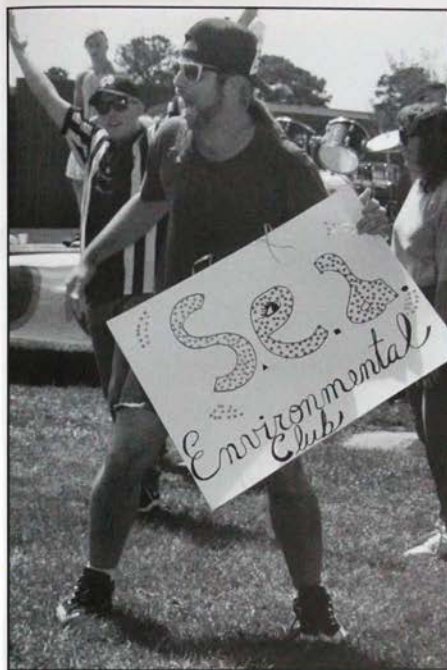
Cheer awards went to Health Occupations

Students of America, first, for their MGCCC Bulldog Crossing cheer done to the music of “Come and Ride the Train”; Phi Beta Lambda took second with their “Trojans Get Back, Bulldogs Attack” and Medical Laboratory Technology took third for their “Hey Bulldogs, Are You There?”

“It was fun being a cheerleader!” said HOSA member Gail Wink of Ocean Springs. “We practiced our cheer so much that we were practicing in our sleep.”

MLT won the stadium banner contest with HOSA taking second and PBL taking third. By the end of the day, HOSA had won the Overall Club Spirit Competition Award with PBL taking second and MLT taking third.

“It was awesome! The food was good and the fellowship was relaxing,” said Escatawpa sophomore Robby Fant of the event sponsored by the Student Council with volunteer workers from most campus clubs.



THAT WAKIN'BREAKIN' SEA CLUB

Harry Stewart, left, got the crowd roaring with his antics during the Students for Environmental Action cheer. HOSA's “Choo! Choo! Ride that Engine Train” took first place, below, with Eka Holloway, Sonnia Culbreath, Sheila Priedl and Lori Chavez leading the way. The faculty's cheer was the Macarena—Building style. Nearly a hundred students and staff joined them at the end, below center. Accepting trophies for their clubs were, bottom, Lori Chavez of HOSA, Tonia Reeves of PBL and Pam Moore of MLT. Presenting trophies were Student Council officers Autumn Furman and Laila Bond.



REALLY KICKIN'

Robby Annett, left, yelped to new heights during the Reflections cheer. Pictured are Nikki Slater, Wendy Smith, Julia Smith, Alicia McMaster, Jennifer Eaves, McAdress Henry and members of the Zoolu Crackers who provided pre-cheer entertainment.



OBVIOUSLY DELIGHTED.
Alicia Dunnaway was excited to be named JCC's queen.



CROWNING MOMENT
JCC vice president Dr. Royce Luke crowned Alicia as Student Council vice president Mary Lisa Palermo looked on.

Definitely Dunnaway Alicia Chosen Queen

Homecoming court spotlighted at halftime

Alicia Dunnaway of Ocean Springs was crowned JCC's queen during nostalgic halftime ceremonies that also honored Prof Jones and former Perkettes and band members.

"I feel flattered to think that the student body selected me to represent Jackson County Campus. It is a tremendous honor and will always be a vivid and wonderful memory in my life," she said.

A second year member of the court, Alicia served as president of the Math Club and College Republicans and vice president of fellowship for Phi Theta Kappa. During her freshman year

she was freshman class president on the Student Council, a member of Reflections and Baptist Student Union and was named a class favorite.

Representing the campus as sophomore maids were Autumn Forsman and Kelly Naquin of Pascagoula and freshman maids Amy Baker and Sarah Milling of Ocean Springs.

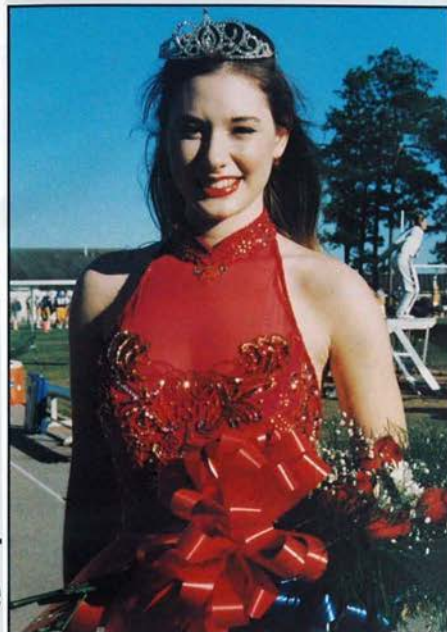
Autumn, a member of Phi Theta Kappa and the Honors Program, served as president of the Student Council and vice president of College Republicans. Her freshman year she was a Student Council representative and named a class favorite.

Kelly, a sophomore representative on the Student Council, was a finalist in the America's National Teenager Contest and lettered in varsity soccer in high school.

Amy, a freshman representative on the Student Council, and Sarah, freshman class president on the Student Council, were both members of Donna Burke's Award Winning Dance Group.

MAIDS HONORED ON COURT

Maids representing their classes were, from top, sophomore Autumn Forsman and escort Stephen Bird, sophomore Kelly Naquin and escort Shannon Crane, freshman Amy Baker and father Byron Baker and freshman Sarah Milling and father Bob Milling.



ROYALTY

Blue skies and crisp temperatures provided the perfect setting for Alicia Dunnaway, JCC's queen, shown at left and with her father, Phil Dunnaway, below.



QUEENS

MGCC campus homecoming queens honored Oct. 19 were, below, from left, Olivia Dellinger of D'Arville, Perkinson Campus; Bernadette Bianchini of Blount, Jefferson Davis Campus; and Alicia Dunnaway of Ocean Springs, Jackson County Campus.



COURT

Members of JCC's homecoming court honored at a reception at the home of MGCC President Dr. Barry Melinger were, from left, freshman Sarah Milling, sophomores Alicia Dunnaway, Kelly Naquin and Autumn Forsman and freshman Amy Baker.





Phi Beta Lambda members, bottom left, Trina Reeves, Daquan Fennell and Melissa Treiborn looked over their float before the parade began.



Homecoming inspired lively competition

Clubs brought home trophies

Jackson County Campus captured two of the three trophies given for participation in the tri-campus Homecoming Parade with the Perkinson and Jefferson Davis Campuses the evening of Oct. 17 in Wiggins.

JCC won for having the most float entries—six—of any MGCCC campus—quite a feat considering that JCC is the farthest campus from Wiggins. JCC's Health Occupations Students of America chapter easily won Best Theme with their Bulldog Express entry with paper mache Bulldog head and realistic train engine made of chicken wire

filled with tissue paper followed by a red caboose. Perk's Student Council won Most Spirited.

Helping to win the campus trophy were the entries from Student Council, HOSA, Medical Laboratory Technology, Reflections Team, Other winners were Debbie Smith's dog

That day's Dawg Daze event to promote homecoming on campus was the second Most Spirited Dog Contest won by Jennifer Eaves' dog Sam, a dressed-up dalmation, entered by the Reflections Team. Other winners were Debbie Smith's dog Greto and Trina Reeves' dog Hallie, representing Phi Beta Lambda, second; Brandi Nehlig's dog, Biggles, third; Robi Hodjman's dog Eon James, representing HOSA, fourth, and Betty Burr and Julia Smith's dog Molly, representing Student Publications, fifth.

HOWLING SUCCESS

From Most Spirited Dog Contest to the MGCCC Homecoming Parade, excellence brought home trophies. M-LT students Virginia Stewart and Pamela Moore and advisor Sherry Whitmore decorated their entry, top left, while HOSA members enjoyed the parade ride, top right. Favorites in the Dog Contest were, top to bottom, Trina Reeves and her dog Hallie, Biggles, Sam and Debbie Smith and Greto.



PARADING BULLDOG STYLE

JCC's Homecoming spirit ignited as students enjoyed participating in the MGCCC parade. Parade scenes, clockwise from top left: Reflections members Alisha McMaster, Betty Burr, Gregg Braddock, Julia Smith, Taylor Hulse, Robby Aronett and Robert Curtis designed a Halloween theme for their float while Student Council members featured Bulldogs in Paradise. Pictured are, standing, Autumn Forsman, Kelly Nason, Shannon Crane, Sarah Milne, Jake Travers, Amy Baker and Tim Werner; sitting, Angela Walstrom, Mary Lisa Palermo, Lalinda Bond, Amanda Ory and Matthew Egerton. Accepting JCC's trophies were HOSA sponsors Eleanor Douglas and Donna Rushing for their Best Theme float and Student Council Vice President Mary Lisa Palermo for JCC which won Most Participation. JCC students in the MGCCC band were on the front line during the pep rally that followed the parade.

CHECKING.

Health occupations counselor Lane Hoggard and Career Center Director Rebecca Williams, right, worked one of the registration stations.



Students Signed Up for Classes, Clubs

Year began scheduling for semester

As soon as students had made it through registration and were just getting used to their class routines, the Student Council sponsored Club Day '96 to benefit the more-than-20 campus organizations.

This annual event was designed to encourage students to participate in extra-class activities through the varied clubs offered on campus. To entice students to the Gazebo, Student Council served free nachos and drinks with the help of the MGCCC Alumni Association.

Tables filled with information on clubs and give-aways like Health Occupations Students of America's suckers lined the walkways facing the

grassy mall.

"Although membership in Phi Theta Kappa is by invitation only, we told students about the scholastic requirements and encouraged them to join if they were invited," said Amy Lee, PTK president. "It was more of a public relations activity for us."

Other clubs, like Baptist Student Union and Students for Environmental Action, signed up members during Club Day.

"We just wanted all the students to come out and get involved with the clubs," said Mary Lisa Palermo, Student Council Vice President. "We have wonderful clubs on our campus and showing them is one way we could support them."

Registration/Club Day
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RECRUITING STUDENTS.

Health Occupations Students of America gave away candy at its Club Day table, left, while Students for Environmental Action, below, gave pamphlets that described their activities.



NOW WHAT?

X-ray instructor Judy Lewis, above, counseled a student during registration while Kris Hudson and friends, left, discussed which classes to take before they went into a scheduling room.

SCHEDULING.

Lanita Straght, above, checked her schedule between classes.





VOLUNTEERS.

Assistant vocational dean Charlie Neumann, top; sophomores LaLinda Bond, center; and another coed, bottom, were donors during the fall and spring drives.



Two Blood Drives Topped 250 Pints

Drives collected 567 pints

Blood drives at JCC exceeded goal both semesters, making the campus definitely different as it held the region's top college drive. The Sept. 25 drive exceeded the 250 units by 60 pints while the Feb. 19 drive went over the 250 pint goal by eight pints.

"This is our biggest college campus drive on the coast," said Ann Galloway, Red Cross Team Supervisor of Blood Collection. "The JCC blood drive has always run smoothly because of the pre-planning and the team effort between faculty, students and all the donors."

Drive chairs English instructor Julie Besancon, fall, and learning lab instructor Sandy Davis, spring, agreed that the successes were due to the volunteers and clubs who helped by



Lynn Bryant, Teresa Sheppard and Sandy Davis.

recruiting donors, publicity and working at the drives. According to Lynn Bryant, donor recruiter with the Blood Services department of the Red Cross, each JCC blood drive accounted for a whole day's use of blood in area hospitals, making it one of the largest in the region.

Mrs. Davis said that it is usually more difficult to meet goal in the spring, but that this year the involvement of Houshang and Carol Moradmand boosted the number of donors and volunteers because of the interviews they gave to the *Coastliner* campus newspaper and WLOX television. Their son, Greg, received many units of blood before he died as the result of a shooting in 1996. Their story made people realize how important it is to donate.



WORKING TOGETHER.

Julius Atkins, left, talked to a donor during the fall drive. Green Thames, Vicki Hilborn and Jeremy Brown, below, were among those participating in the drive.



ORGANIZATION.

The registration and blood bagging tables were important stations at the drives.

LOOK!

Autumn Foreman and New Horizons member Tanya Bulby below, and an appreciative audience, right, enjoyed the day's events.



Oktoberfest Gave Students a Break

Clubs offered food, games

Oktoberfest proved to be as fun for club members and students as it was successful in raising money.

"We had so many FBL members participating at the booth," said Phi Beta Lambda secretary Melissa Triheim of the group's guessing game booth. "I didn't even get to work the booth."

Participating clubs successful in fundraising on the crisp, sunny fall day included Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) who raised over \$215 with their cake walk and chili pie sales. New Horizons and Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) each raised over \$135.

"We make more this semester than we ever have," said Gretchen Cummings, co-president of the Medical Laboratory Technology Club (MLT) which again offered a frozen bag auction booth.

Sixteen campus clubs participated in this year's Oktoberfest held Oct. 31 in the mall area of the Gauchos. Participating were College Republicans, Phi Sigma, Jackson County Computing Association, Student Nurses Association, Math Club, New Horizons, VICA, Coastline newspaper staff, PTK, Reflections, MLT, LIFE Christian Support group, Volunteer America and HOSA. A bean bag toss, howling, Twister and bubble games and guessing jars were among activities offered by the campus organizations to keep students interested while they ate the food from booths offering chili, salads, burrito sandwiches and snacks.

VICA was successful with their popular fall and entertainment was provided by the bands Lantana and Third World Dictators, the BSU choir and country vocalist Alisha McMaster.

The Phoenix yearbook staff sponsored a free costume contest with

radio station K-99's DJ Gwen Wilson among the judges. "I can't believe I won. Everyone had such great costumes," said Detsy Hall of PangeaGala.

"A lot of work went into Oktoberfest," said Autumn Foreman, president of the Student Council which sponsored the event and started setting up at 8 a.m.

"It took a lot of time to prepare for this," said freshman Amy Baker of Ocean Springs, chairperson of Oktoberfest. "All the clubs helped make the day run smoothly. The event went really well and we had a good time out."

Student Council sold 75 Oktoberfest t-shirts and signed up students for flag football tournaments which began Nov. 15. c Jennifer O'Neil



ALL IN A DAY'S FUN

Alisha McMaster, left, a member of Reflections, entertained with a couple of country solos while HOSA members Lori Chavez and Sheila Pittfield, below left, waited for the costume contest. Sophomore Kelly Nugan, center, tried her hand at limbo while Jake Travis and Greg Breau watched.



GET ME OUT

Costline editor Rita Miller Ekens, left, landed in VICA's jail while PBL's guessing game drew Shelby Adams and Nancy Crawford.

DRESSED.

Greg Breau and HOSA sponsors dressed for the occasion.



TAKING A BREAK

THIS PAGE: Cafeteria manager Betty Hughes, top left, helped judge the costume contest while Phrases editor Julia Smith looked on. Robby Anonett, center left, puckered for the camera. The musical duo Lantana, top right, entertained for most of Oktoberfest. Daquiri Ferrell, bottom right, was one of the costume contest entrants.



PARTICIPATING

OPPOSITE PAGE: Baptist Student Union members Ashley, Marie and Danielle Wells, top, enjoyed praising God when their choir sang at Oktoberfest. Terry Jackson and Dalton Jackson and instructor Julie Brumson, bottom left, were among those trying to win at HOSA's cake walk. New Horizons members got creative with their bodei. Members Trisa Morris, Kathy Weiss and Mari Anne Tusdale, bottom center, waited for customers. Costume contest winners, bottom right, included Judi Thomas, Karen Brody, Betty Burr, Tanya Busby and Shelby Adams with Phrases editor Julia Smith who chaired the event.





Harvest Hay-Daze Decorated Campus

Clubs used imagination, humor

Bales of hay and pumpkins provided the foundation for displays which decorated the campus during November. Harvest Hay-Daze, sponsored by the Student Council, was supported by clubs who used their imagination to design scenes ranging from the sacred to the humorous.

Prize winners were *Coastliner*, Most Humorous; Baptist Student Union, Most Original; Phi Theta Kappa, Most Creative; Health Occupations Students of America, Best Theme; Medical Laborato-

ry Technology, Most Outstanding and Most Traditional.

The BSU display of a man kneeling in prayer before a cross followed a Thanksgiving theme while *Coastliner's* scarecrow which held campus newspapers and a sign that read "I don't bite; I just write" was based on humor.

"I just wanted to do something different," said *Coastliner* editor Rita Elkins. "Our display was fun and goofy."



THANKSGIVING.

The Baptist Student Union's display, left, attracted a lot of attention by the Learning Lab. MLI instructor/adviser Sherry Whitmore, below, was proud of her club's Most Outstanding display. Phi Beta Lambda set up a garden around T building for their entry.



DISPLAYS.

Coastliner editor Rita Elkins, far left, put the finishing touches on the newspaper staff's display under the gazebo. Health Occupations Students of America's display, left, was titled, "Fall into a web of knowledge with HOSA".



WINNERS
Zandra Jamon, Chris Carus and Amy Lee, top, decorated PTK's traditional entry, above.



Kell Took First in Turkey Trot

Over 170 walked/ran, others watched

Freshman Timmy Kell of Gaither led over 170 JCC students, faculty, administration and club members who participated in the 11th annual Turkey Trot. Runners, walkers and cheering spectators gathered around to see who would be the winners and who would even finish the one mile run and half mile walk for charity Nov. 21 at the JCC walking track.

"I go to all the activities to see what it is about, plus it's always fun," said Kell who was first to cross the finish line with a time of 6 min. 40 sec. in the one mile run.

"I didn't expect to win. I did it for the fun," said Kell who got his training at work as a valet for the Grand Casino. "I have to be quick at work, running to valet."

In the mile run category for males, second place winner was

AND THEY'RE OFF!

Among the runners in the one-mile race at the Turkey Trot, top, were Amy LeLourneau, Carol Dufour, Robby Amorette, Seneca Wilson, winner Timmy Kell, Robert Davis and the Turkey played by LaLinda Bond. Participants at left were Mark Pichon, instructor Bill Snell, Julius Atkins and Jason Ragdale. The event was sponsored by the Student Council.

Seneca Wilson and Robert Davis, third, Carol Dufour, Hurley sophomore, took first place for the females in the mile run followed by Amy M. LeLourneau. Social studies instructor William Snell won the faculty trophy for the mile run.

Winners in the half-mile walk for males were Jason Ragdale, first; Julius Atkins, second; Mark Pichon, third. Female walker winners were Delta Reese, first; Karen Doughty, second and Paula Mantz, third. Jason Pugh, physics instructor, and Vanessa M. Dedeaux, business instructor and PBL sponsor, were faculty winners in the walk. English instructor Kay Sims and PE instructor Kay Beville took second and third, respectively. Health Occupations Students of America took first for club participation, followed by Phi Beta Lambda and Medical Laboratory Technology.

Alicia Dunnaway, Ocean Springs sophomore, was the top winner in the Turkey Shoot basketball game sponsored by the Coastliner staff.

Entry fees totaling \$97 and boxes of canned food was given to New Horizon's Thanksgiving project for families. Rounding out the day's events were free hot dog lunches and the sale of Trot t-shirts. • Rita Miller Elkins

WALK WINNERS

Standing: Wilson, Ragdale, Pichon, Doughty, Atkins, Snell, Reese, Pugh; sitting: Dedeaux, Sims and Mantz.



RUNNER WINNERS

Kneeling in center left photo, from left, are William Snell, Carol Dufour, Timmy Kell; standing Amy LeLourneau, Seneca Wilson, Robert Davis.

TROTTER

PE instructor Kay Beville, left, registered students in her class for the annual event. Helping time, below, were Amy Lee, Charles Koski, Alicia Dunnaway and Tim Werner. The Turkey, played by LaLinda Bond, got the walkers off to a fast start.



HERE IT IS.
Kevin Alves and Clinton Wright
discussed a scene in the play
Deathtrap.



Classic Thriller Put Twist on a Mystery

Drama students presented *Deathtrap*

Wonderful audiences and a cast of performers who worked well together characterized the drama department's fall production, *Deathtrap*, a two-act mystery by Ira Levin.

The highly acclaimed play, which was among the best Broadway plays featured in this year's New Orleans' Saenger Theater Season, had wide audience appeal, according to Mrs. Wanda Stewart, JCC speech and drama instructor who directed the production.

"Things are not always what they seem," said Mrs. Stewart who said that the audience was very surprised at the way the direction changed in the play. "The play was a classic thriller, a twist on ordinary mystery plays."

Mrs. Stewart said that the production was an

unusual mix that included comic dialogue as well as serious mystery drama.

"One moment the audience was gasping in horror and the next minute laughing at something the murderer said," she said.

"The cast was outstanding. Mrs. Stewart was superb and the audiences couldn't have been better," said Clinton Wright. "This play generated a lot of interest in our theater group and it was encouraging to receive the overwhelming support of our community."

Appearing in the Nov. 15 and 16 play were Clinton Wright of Helena, Brandee Santini of Pascagoula and Kevin Alves, Jr., Diana Ramos and Matt Lawson, all of Ocean Springs. The production staff included Rebecca Rutz, Ron Leuten, Mark Pichon, Rachel Rutz, Mary Evans Dyle, Joanie Russell, and Bruce Stewart.

Fall Drama
30

ACTING IT OUT

Deathtrap cast members pictured during rehearsal were, Clinton Wright and Brandee Santini, left; Matt Lawson and Diana Ramos, below top; Kevin Alves, Clinton Wright and Diana Ramos, below center.



REHEARSING

Posing for a cast picture were, left, Matt Lawson, Brandee Santini, Clinton Wright, Kevin Alves, Jr., and Diana Ramos. Brandee and Diana, above, were caught during a dramatic scene.



UNAWARE.
Clinton Wright and Brandee Santini were caught in a deep discussion while Kevin Alves, seated, pondered a document.



HOLIDAY FUN.

Over 170 children of JCC students were treated to everything from face painting to an obstacle course at the annual Christmas Party hosted by New Horizons.



Children Entertained at Christmas Party

Gym echoed with lively music, games

Christmas came early for JCC students and their children when New Horizons filled the gym with games, activities and refreshments Dec. 6.

"The party gave parents and children one night together to have fun," said Darla Lyons, New Horizons instructor. "Many JCC students are single parents and they work hard. It is also thought for the children having a parent in college. They could come here for a night—free—and have a blast before the holidays get too hectic."

The smell of popcorn and cotton candy filled the gym as participants enjoyed 24 booths ranging from fishing and cupcake walk to spin art, ring toss and bowling. Phi Theta Kappa contributed the duck pond. Prizes at the booths were donated by local merchants.

"The businesses really came through for us," said New Horizons member Kathy Cates. "Just about anything we asked for, they gave us."

Even Santa came, arriving on a red fire truck provided by the Gaustier Fire Department. Excited and anxious, the chil-

dren waited in line to sit on his lap and receive a present. "All of the New Horizons members contributed," said Ms. Lyons. "Some went above and beyond by getting donations, making calls to businesses and running errands. Ann Davis, Kelly Allen, Fawn Thibodeaux, Dee Robinson, Jamika Steel and Dan Lyons donated many hours."

"We learn every year what works and what doesn't," she said, boasting that there were only two Kool Aid spills with 173 children. "Maybe by the year 2000 we'll be really good at this."

But this year's participants didn't have to wait for 2000 to attend a great event.

"My favorite booth was the Wheel of Fortune because you could win prizes," said Candice Barnes.

"My favorite part is getting the toys," said Travis Durrant.

• Photos and text by Jennifer Onof

FAMILY FUN.

Whether it was trying to make a basket or trying to win a cupcake, the children couldn't get enough of the fun. The cupcake walk was so popular that they continued to play even after all of the cupcakes, made by New Horizons members, had been given away. The popularity of the cotton candy, provided by the Lion's Club, caused a shortage of sticks, while the Christmas cookie decorating booth stayed busy.



ALL TOGETHER NOW!

Krista Brewer and Deena Spolton, right, were a matching pair when HOSA entertained at the Fill the Stocking Party. Club representatives received their groups' trophies for best decorated Christmas doors at the Stocking Party, left. They were Mary Ann Corley, FBL; Amy Lee, PTK; Lori Chavez, HOSA; Julia Smith, Reflections; Pam Moore, MLT; Santa Tim Werner and Torrenye Endinger, MLT.



CONTRIBUTIONS.

Math Club sponsor Angela Sims, above left, presented a \$100 check to Student Council President Autumn Forzani while Santa (Tim Werner) looked on. Terry Cantzner and Adrian Henry, right, performed with the JC Singers.



Fill the Stocking



Stocking Stuffed with Toys, Gifts

Project spread holiday cheer

Stuffing the 12-foot stocking full of toys and painting wooden toy cars for area children has become a tradition at the campus.

Spearheaded by the Student Council and chair Mary Lisa Palermo, the project sought to get students and faculty to bring new or just-like-new toys to fill the giant stocking. All of the toys were given to the Salvation Army to be distributed to area children at Christmas.

Although the stocking didn't bulge as much as it had in previous years, it was filled to overflowing—a testament to the generosity and community spirit found on campus.

In addition, the Math Club donated \$100 from its Fill the Jug fundraiser and Dean of Academic Instruction William Martin donated 150 toy cars which he cut out of wood. The cars were distributed among campus clubs who painted them and brought them in for judging during the Fill the Stocking Party Dec. 10 and 11. The winners got ribbons, all the painters got the satisfaction of adding a personal touch to a holiday gift for a needy child and 150 children got a special surprise Christmas morning.

Special entertainment for the event was provided by saxophonist Dan Zwerg, JCC environmental technology instructor, and campus clubs who performed holiday skits and songs.

ENTERTAINING.
HOSA members Sheryl Wallace, Robin Hodgman, Lori Chavez and Sheila Wallace, left, seemed to enjoy participating in their club's skit, left. Painted toy cars were lined up for judging, below.



TWO STEPPIN'

Robbie Anonnet and Kelly Napper two-stepped around the Christmas tree during a light-hearted moment at the party.

Fill the Stocking

HOLIDAY FUN.

JC Singer Adrian Henry, top left; Alicia McMaster, middle left, accompanied by Amanda Ory, Robby Anonetti and Julia Smith; JC Singer Terry Carzonier, PSU's barking dalmations, top right; Teressa Green, Nancy Crawford, Shelby Atkins, Lisa LeMaster and Terra Taylor.



PARTY WITH A PURPOSE.

Student Council members Tim Werner, Autumn Forsman, LaLinda Bond, Duane Boxler and Matthew Egerton, center, and the boys.

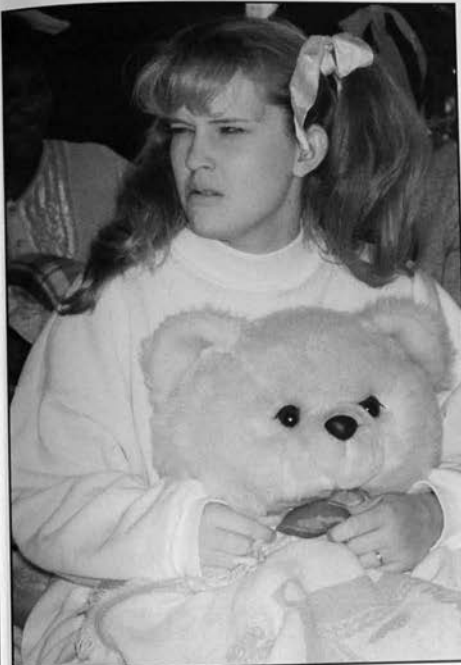


PLAYING THE FAVORITES.

Instructor Dan Zwerg and his sax, above; HOSA members, left, Sheryl Wallace, Krista Brewer, Ken Brown and Marci Davis.

CAUGHT IN THE ACT.

HOSA member Lori Chavez, left, really got into their skit. BSHU members Thomas Marx, Johnny Brown and David Motley, top right, sang about the reason for the season. HOSA members, center right, presenting their skit were Krista Brewer, Johnny Brown, Andrea Bell, Elka Holloway, Sheryl Wallace, Lori Chavez, Robin Hodgmen, Sheila Petfield and Sandra Tyler. Student Council and Reflections members, bottom left, singing a holiday song were, back row, Toni Smith, Kelly Naquan, Angela Waltman, Amanda Ory, Robby Anonetti, Julia Smith; front row, Greg Breaker, LaLinda Bond and Autumn Forsman.



RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE.

Phi Beta Lambda members Toni Gudry and Mary Conley, above, were part of the club's barking dalmations pantomime during the Fill the Stocking Party.

WERE HOOKED!
Fawn Thibodeaux cheered on Cheryl Hulse and Sea Wolves player Chris Schmidt talked to Wes Jernan, La Linda Bond, Andrew Foranman, Sarah Miling, Kelly Naquin, Duane Blaster and Rommel Peters.



January Mania Began Semester

JCC students "hooked on hockey"

Hockey got its start on the Gulf Coast with the inaugural year of the Mississippi Sea Wolves this year. To take advantage of the craze, the theme of the Student Council's first event of spring semester, January Mania, featured the popular sport.

Serving free hot dogs to over 250 students and taking nominations for Spirit Awards for the faculty and staff most supportive of extra-class activities, Student Council hosted the event as a Club Day for representatives of campus organizations who were seeking new members for the new semester. Besides the

free food, another drawing card was the musical duo Lantana who presented entertainment on the cool, damp day.

But the biggest drawing card was the Sea Wolves hockey tickets given as door prizes. Hockey tickets were also awarded as prizes in the hockey game that tested the skills of men and women alike. The game was a scholarship fundraiser.

Sea Wolves player Chris Schmidt from Canada came for the end of the event, signing autographs and talking to students about the up-and-coming sport that had captured the imagination of many JCC students.



TAKING A BREAK

One of the members of Lantana, left, entertained during the event. Below top, Mary Lisa Palermo helped Carissa O'Neal, Jory Howell and Kristy Sapet at the Student Council tent. Todd Sherman and Charles King, below middle, talked with friends. Robbie Arceneux, Amanda Dry and Angela Walman helped serve 250 hot dogs to participants.



READY TO PLAY

Encece Adreain Henry, below, ran onto the set with enthusiasm while the sign-up table was crowded with prospective contestants including Wes Inman, Mary Lisa Palermo, Jake Travis, Duane Baxter, Joshua Platt, Michael Williams and Robbie Amorett.



Students Got "Singled Out"

"I got a date!"

"Singled Out," a dating game sponsored by the Student Council and modeled after MTV's hit show, drew a crowd Feb. 13 in the cafeteria.

Contestants competed to win gift certificates for Valentine dinners at Anubony's Under the Oaks in Ocean Springs and boxes of Valentine candy.

Robbie Amorett of Hurley and Janis Harard of Lucedale were the contestants who asked questions of the dating pools with at least 15 students each. Amorett chose Antonia Pitalo of Ocean Springs and Harard chose Wes Inman of Ocean Springs.

"I got a date," quipped Amorett after the game. The event, hosted by Student Council President Autumn Forsman and Adreain Henry of Moss Point, was considered a success with almost 40 students participating. The cafeteria was filled with

spectators.

"The game was cool," said sophomore Diana Ramos of Ocean Springs, a satisfied contestant.

"I like the attention," said Wayne Skipper of Gautier, who, as a contestant, had to put on lip-stick and send a Valentine's kiss to Janis.

The game consisted of three rounds of play for both guys and girls following the same rules as the television game.

"We were happy the way it turned out and we were glad that so many people came and participated," said Forsman, MTV's Jenny McCarthy's counterpart.

"I was surprised to see how enthusiastic the guys were. They were a lot of fun and I think they had fun too," said sophomore Kelly Naquin, a Pascagoula Student Council member.



YOU AND ME, BABE!

Wes Inman and Janis Harard, left, greeted each other after Janis chose Wes in the game. Seventeen coeds, below, awaited the arrival of Robbie Amorett to start their portion of the game while Wes Inman fixed the microphone. Below center, Kelly Naquin gave Antonia Pitalo a helping hand out of the bucket during the question session while Sacha Creel looked on.



THE NEXT QUESTION IS...

The crowd watched, above, while Robbie Amorett asked a question, coaxed on by Wes Inman and Adreain Henry.

PAIRED UP

Robbie Amorett and Antonia Pitalo, above, took their seat of honor after he chose her from the dating pool.

ALL TOGETHER!

Lip Service winners from HOSA, below, Lori Chavez and Robin Hodgman, entertained along with Duane Barker, Sarah Tringali and Kelly Nazari for Student Council, below center, and Jason Pugh, Tara Langston and Louise Stewart, below bottom. Refreshments were served after the egg hunt, right.



Spring Brought Fling, Egg Hunt

Kiss the Pig, Lip Sync, 1000 eggs

Warmer weather brought everyone outside again as spring events featured something for the big kids and the little kids.

Spring Fling featured the game Lip Service in which groups had to pantomime to rapidly changing music. Although only HOSA and Student Council entered in the club division, the faculty combo of Jason Pugh, Tara Langston and Louise Stewart stole the show.

Pugh was in the spotlight again as he and student activities counselor Mrs. Terry Fountain had to kiss a pig. They got that honor through a Student Council



fundraiser in which the persons with the most money in their jars had to kiss the pig brought by Ocean Springs veterinarian Don Palermo. All proceeds went toward a Student Activities Scholarship. After the event, Council members were still wondering who put the \$100 bill in Mrs. Fountain's jar.

Just before Easter, the Council sponsored an Easter egg hunt for the children of JCC students and faculty which drew over 200 participants between the ages of three and 10 to the campus walking track to look for over 1000 hidden eggs. Prize eggs, refreshments and a visit from the Bunny highlighted the enthusiastic event.



OH MY!

Children were entranced with the Easter Bunny played by Sarah Miling.



OH NO!

Jason Pugh and Terry Fountain had fun with the pig brought by Dr. Don Palermo. Children who found special eggs received prizes, above.

Winners.

Teams who won in campus intramurals were, below: The Beast, first, flag football; The Gamblers, second, flag football; O.S. Players, second, basketball; The Outlaws, first, basketball.



Intramural games provided action

Students initiated program

Intramurals sprang up this year as one of the best programs offered by the Student Council.

Spearheaded by sophomore rep Duane Baxter, chair, and Wes Inman, co-chair, campus sports received a warm welcome as several sports seasons were offered weekday afternoons.

After polling students for interest, flag football was offered fall semester followed by volleyball and basketball in the spring. Because of a lack of time, soccer and softball seasons were cut short and interested students went to the fields for pick-up games.

"Student response was enough to get the football season on the way, but student participation is what kept it going," said Baxter who noted that 85 students on six teams played co-ed football.

The team The Beast won the flag football championship followed by The Gamblers who came in second. Members of The Beast were Baxter, Inman, Antonia Pitalo, Steve Severson, Karen Hebert, Bobbie Meyn, Billy Higdon, Tim Drane,

Josh Platt, Brandon Ponder and Josh Parlin.

"Intramurals gave students something different to do and be more active at J.C.," said Baxter.

"Intramural sports has been a way of releasing my stresses from school," said Inman. "They have given me a better chance to meet other students along with faculty."

The Outlaws won the basketball championship with the O.S. Players coming in second. Members of The Outlaws were Marcus Haynes, Amy Pringle, Damien Sanders, Seneca Wilson, Daniel Sanders, Robert Sumlin, Lonnie Perryman, Tyrest Cumbest, Carly Parker III, Vernitta Thomas, Nikolas Liddell, Raymond Fountain, Thomas Love and Tim Douglas.

Taking first in volleyball was The Spikers with Ace in the Hole taking second. Members of The Spikers were Joey Williams, Stephen Janowski, Daniel Colle, Billy Higdon, Jennifer Tanner, Susan Aycock and Jeffery Bocho.

OUT FOR FUN.

Intramurals attracted students to play Monday through Thursday afternoons on campus. This new student-run program made this year definitely different.



AWAY WE GO!

Sociology instructor Bill Snell, below, gave a good showing in the obstacle course. Carol Moradmand and club representatives, right, got ready to drop ice cream into cones held in the mouths of teammates who were lying beneath the ladders.



Anything Goes Went Great

BSU took first place

Almost Anything Goes proved to be one of the most fun events of the year as club members competed for points, t-shirts and trophies by running, jumping, splashing, spinning and sliding.

Baptist Student Union won the April 17 event for the second year in a row, followed by Coastliner, second, and Phi Theta Kappa and Reflections, tied for third. The annual activity was held by itself for the first time. In the past, it had been held in conjunction with Lagniappe Day.

"This was one of the best events of the year," said Mrs. Terry Fountain, student activities

counselor, "because it gave students and faculty a chance at some friendly competition. People didn't have to participate to have fun. It was a great spectator event, too!"

Sociology instructor Bill Snell, coaxed into representing the faculty team in the obstacle course competition, stole the show as everyone cheered. Other members of the faculty team included Jason Pugh, Carol Moradmand, Kay Bevell, Sarah Tringle, Becky Posey and Carl



Sereneca Wilson splashed for BSU.

Nehlig.

Events included Ice Cream Drop, Musical Ice Buckets, Relay Races and Obstacle Course.



MAKING A SPLASH!

Coastliner's Todd Sherman, left, found a new way to conquer the obstacle course as he did his way to a first place victory. Representing their winning clubs were, from left, Jennifer Eaves, Reflections and Matthew Egerton, PTK, third; Mark Pichon, BSU, first; Jennifer Ornd, Coastliner, second; Thomas Marx, bottom, duck walked the BSU to victory while Jennifer Ornd and Jennifer Eaves fought for an ice bucket.



DRESSED UP

HOSA's Eleanor Douglas, physics instructor Jason Pugh and New Horizons' Darla Lynde, below, were good sports. The race was on, right, as club members dashed to dress faculty in 30 seconds.



Lagniappe Day Served Up Fun

Crawfish, jazz, craziness

Crawfish, jazz, a crazy game and blue skies gave Lagniappe Day more than just a little something extra.

The annual end-of-school picnic took on a new personality this year as The Nocturnes, a jazz band from Gulfport, entertained and over 600 pounds of crawfish with potatoes and corn on the cob and 200 hot dog plates were served April 24 during a two-hour span at the Gazebo.

The music gave the event a relaxed, lingering appeal to students and faculty who ate and hung around in the sunshine.

Student Council members sold the last of their popular Lagniappe Day t-shirts designed by secretary LaLinda Bond and gave away door prizes like a crab print donated by psychology

instructor Carol Moradmand.

Adding a spark of zany fun was a scavenger hunt sponsored by Health Occupations Students of America which attracted seven clubs who dressed faculty members in outlandish clothing they had collected the night before. The quick event produced a lot of laughs and a chance for a lot of people to get involved.

Jason Pugh, dressed by Student Council, won the event and strutted in front of the bandstand, twirling a Gulf Coast umbrella and sporting a black wig.

"This was a good opportunity to relax and enjoy the music and good food before finals week," said Autumn Forsman, president of the Student Council which sponsored the event.



WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

Sociology instructor Bill Snel, left, was still smiling after Coastliner dressed him. Participants Vanessa Dedrau, Jason Pugh, Louise Stewart and Eleanor Douglas took a bow after the game.



WHERE'S THE CRAWFISH?
Can you find the crawfish that got away?

of students

Spirituality Soared

By Todd Sherman

Spirituality was something most JCC students considered to be a part of their lives. "I knew in my head that there was a God. All I wanted Him to do was tell me that He was there," said Gaudier sophomore Kathy Cook as she began the story of her spiritual search.

"On August 10, 1995, I quit doing drugs after my boyfriend's friend overdosed, and I began praying. I prayed for a long time, and nothing happened. Then on May 8 at a

Wednesday night revival while praying the Sinner's Prayer, it happened," she said.

"I had prayed it many times before. On TV, they would say 'Congratulations you're a new person' and I'd say 'I'm not', but that night I was. I was a new person." said Kathy who became a Christian and her life changed. She believes that Jesus Christ is her Savior and that God loves her very much.

"It was kind of like when you finally figure something out that you've been pondering a long time," said Kathy who has found that being a Christian is not easy. "I'm the only Christian in my family. You have to die to your old sin nature, everything that you're familiar with."

According to a random *Phases* survey, a significant majority of JCC students claimed Christianity as their religion. Out of 108 stu-

dents surveyed, 92 (85.2%) said that they believe in the Christian God. Only two students said that they didn't believe in a supreme being. Four didn't know, one is a Taoist, one is a Muslim, two believe in a supreme being but don't know who or what it is, two believe that people are gods, and four believe in a universal force, such as mother nature.

Rev. Billy Williams, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Gautier and instructor of the philosophy class at JCC, has observed a general interest and concern (among students) for the spiritual. He said three reasons for this interest are man's innate desire for God, a growing dissatisfaction with the physical/material world and a trend toward the spiritual in the fact that the year 2000 is approaching.

"Man has this desire for God because he was created by God," said Rev. Williams who added that man is finding that the more problems he tries to solve worldly, the more problems he creates for himself.

What is spirituality, though? Many people have different interpretations.

Patt Odum, JCC art instructor, believes spirituality to be "the physical and emotional conscious awareness of one's spirit and soul as it relates to its creator, and life beyond the illusion he or she lives at the moment."

According to Ms. Odum, creating a work of art can be a form of prayer or worship.

"True art is the same thing as spirituality in the sense that the individual gets in touch with the inward self (viewer), and, in a visual way, expresses the true nature of self which is

a direct connection with the creator," said Ms. Odum who refers to God as the Master Artist.

Fred O'Sullivan, proprietor of Spiral Gallery, an art gallery/coffee establishment in Ocean Springs, said, "Spirituality is how one feels personally about any subject, if it affects them in any way good or evil. Anything that affects you personally—positively or negatively—can be considered spiritual."

Kathy Cook has yet another view. "I don't have a belief in the spirituality of the world," said Kathy. "I believe in the Holy Spirit, and its within me. Jesus is the only way to spirituality. I used to look into New Age spirituality stuff, such as Course on Miracles and Eastern religions and philosophies. They have nothing solid to offer. No proof to their validity. It was kind of like traveling in an endless circle."

According to Rev. Williams, there are two definitions of spirituality. One is a philosophical definition and the other a Biblical. Spirituality, in the first sense, is the awareness that there exists something more than the physical, denoting an attention to inner life. Rev. Williams said that Biblical spirituality is a person's awareness that there exists something more than the physical, but realizes that reality is found in the God of the Bible. Furthermore, the person comes to know this truth

through faith in Jesus Christ, and acknowledges God through a daily communion with Him, therefore following God's will.

"Sometimes this interest (in the spiritual) does not follow traditional paths, such as worship of the God of the Bible and of Jesus Christ. Most students, however, are traditional in their beliefs," said Rev. Williams.

Of the 92 survey responders who said they are Christians, 52 consider themselves religious, and all go to church, the majority of them weekly. Out of that 52, however, 15 said that their faith doesn't really influence how they act, although they try to follow the basis of their belief.

"Many of the students are influenced by their beliefs," Rev. Williams said. "They consider themselves to be religious when they are not involved in the church. However, just as older adults, many of the students who profess faith actually are not influenced by the teachings of the Bible or of the Church."

Nearly one third of the students surveyed said that they have a faith, but think they don't need organized religion. One person, who is a church goer, commented, "I believe you need to be around other Christians in the church, but I don't think it is necessary for salvation."

Another person stated, "Organized religion

has no appeal to me. It's all about ignorance and arrogance."

Two-fifths (43.2%) of the students who said that their faith greatly influences their actions, embraced their faith later than childhood. Rev. Williams explained that early on in life, many people feel that their religion is their parent's and not their own. The survey showed that many students have gone to church because of their parents' wishes.

"These people," he said, "often come through a period of doubt that they have worked through. Then, they realize it's their belief too."

Regardless of when one finds his faith, affirming and living by it often require work and change. Dr. Saeed Mulkana, JCC biology instructor, suggested, "Live by your religion—whatever it is—and you will be at peace with yourself and others. America is going spiritually backwards because many Americans are not living by their faith. This may bring the fall of America."

Kathy said that for her, quitting drugs was an important beginning to finding spirituality. "The answers aren't in them," she said. "I would've kept going in circles. I was looking for something to fit my lifestyle, but that's not what it's about. You have to go looking for the answer, and the answer is God."

Campus groups for those seeking Christian fellowship are the Baptist Student Union and Life Christian Support.

The Baptist Student Union, which met every Tuesday and Thursday, offered students a chance to enhance their Christian walk, according to president Mark Pichon, a sophomore from Pascagoula.

"Our role (as a club)" he said, "is to minister on the campus to those who are searching for spirituality and help them find the right direction."

Pascagoula sophomore David Mobley added, "It gives the Christian student time, outside of class, to come praise and worship God and fellowship."

During the meetings, when not eating a meal or playing ping pong, students and guest speakers gave testimonies about what God has done in their lives. Students do not have to be Baptist to join.

"It's open for anybody. We probably have had more people who don't have a membership with a Baptist church than who do," said

Mark.

Gary Blackwell, a volunteer advisor for the group, noticed an increase in participation this year than in years past. Activities included such things as Bowl-A-Thons, choir, Bible studies, mission activities, fund raisers, fellowship activities with the BSU from Perkinson and Jeff Davis campuses and convention.

"Anytime you get into fellowship with people who are doing what you do, you're going to learn from them, and they're going to learn from you. Anytime you get into fellowship with other Christians you're going to grow," said Thomas Marx, Moss Point sophomore and BSU choir director. "BSU definitely enhanced my fellowship with Christ and other Christians and allowed me to grow spiritually."

LIFE, a non-denominational Christian support group, also provided students a chance to gather with and befriend people who share faith in God. In addition to fellowship, LIFE also provided personal Christian counseling for students. LIFE's meeting times were flexible, but the members usually met Thursdays.

According to the sponsor, JCC psychology instructor Carol Moradmand, LIFE's active membership this year was composed of only females, mostly non-traditional. However, she stressed that anyone, regardless of age or gender, was welcome to join and participate.

LIFE gave students an opportunity to be involved in Christian activities such as canned food drives and fund raisers for the

ill. At the Spring Fling, LIFE sold prints by Mrs. Moradmand to raise money for a person needing a double lung transplant. The group also sold "precious feet" pins which are, according to Mrs. Moradmand, the size of an embryo's feet just 10 weeks after conception.

"This is to show just how developed a person is, even this early," she said of the pins that are a stand against abortion.

"The emphasis is on doing, not meeting," Mrs. Moradmand said, adding that LIFE tries to be involved in positive campus activities.

"When you're physically small, you need food to grow. Your Christian growth is similar to that in that you need food to grow spiritually," said Mrs. Moradmand who noted that LIFE offers some of this food through fellowship and activities with other Christians.



Photo by Claire Wilentz



Non-Traditional Students: Motivation & Mountains

By Rose Seidl

Most of them wouldn't be here if they didn't have a goal in mind. They rearrange work schedules, and they go without sleep. They worry that one day they'll have to give all this up because they won't be able to afford the luxury of learning.

They aren't fresh out of high school. In fact, most are in their late 20's and 30's. But they have one common goal: To make a better life for themselves by obtaining an education.

They are Jackson County Campus's non-traditional students.

The average age for students at JCC is 28 and getting older every year, according to Dean of Student Services Mrs. Linda Switzer. "Over the span of 10 years, this number has gone up considerably," she said.

Enrollment records show that of the 3068 students enrolled spring semester, 26% were women over the age of 26. Of the total enrollment, 52% were classified as non-traditional—students who have been out of high school more than two years and over 24 years old.

At JCC, the non-traditional student has become more of the norm. In fact, they have succeeded in becoming the majority of the current student population.

In a Phases poll of 58 non-traditional students, 79% said that the motivating factor for their return to higher learning was to be able to make a better living and have a good paying job.

Steve Green, 43, a full-time student and full-time

drug and alcohol counselor, said that he was getting his degree in order to get a better paying position at work.

"Better pay. I want to get certified by the state as a counselor; then I'll get paid better," said Green who noted that the hardest part of returning to college has been his work schedule and the full load of classes he's taking at JCC.

But that hasn't stopped him from being an honor student who was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa, the national scholastic honorary for two-year colleges.

According to *Changing Times*, a career-oriented magazine, those entering the job market must be ready to meet the newest demands and while collar jobs are expanding much faster than blue-collar occupations.

Those surveyed reflect this trend towards newer, more effective procedures. Non-traditional students are learning what they never would have in the past, all in an effort to secure the best employment possible.

"I'd never worked with computers before," said graduating sophomore Alice Bessancon, 56, who said that in order to compete in today's job market, she would have to have computer skills. "Now I know how to."

"The instructors were great," said Alice who credits their helpfulness in teaching and in her ability to learn these new concepts.

One of the biggest obstacles for 69% of the non-traditional students polled was finding good, affordable daycare.

"I can't afford a daycare center; I have to depend on my mother," a 28-year-old female wrote on the survey. "I tried to get him into the campus center, but they have a waiting list! I couldn't wait."

JCC human services instructor Tim Boone said that a survey several years ago cited good, affordable daycare as the number one problem these women have in returning to college.

"It increases the dropout rates and the absent days they have," Boone said. "Parents need to know that their children are safe and they can depend on the caregivers to be there when they need them."

A lack of time with family was listed by 44% of those polled as the biggest concern they had about returning to higher education.

Graduating sophomore Chris Freeman, 55, agreed.

"There are certain things you do for your family," said Chris who was laid off after 15 years at Lufthansa.



Shipyard. "I don't have the time like I used to, with homework and studying for tests." Other hurdles faced daily by these non-traditional students aren't always easily recognized by less low classmates. Because medical problems prevent some of the non-traditional students from doing as

work they had done for many years, they came to college to seek skills and retraining to allow them to re-enter the job market.

One such student is 33-year-old Kathy Berberette, the mother of three teenagers. She and her husband, Kevin, are both JCC students.

Kathy was nervous about her first day of classes, saying she didn't know what to expect. Recently diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis, she knew it wouldn't always be easy.

"You do what you gotta do," she said. "I'm not going to let it beat me."

Kevin, recently out of the Navy after six years, found that it was going to be difficult to find a job that would pay enough to support a family of five.

"I needed an education in order to get what I want—a good job," he said.



At 19, Dawn managed her diabetes and carried on her life like any other student. In 1993, experiencing problems with her feet, Dawn's physician prescribed Morin 800, a drug used to control pain and fight inflammation. What Dawn didn't know was that this drug sometimes causes bleeding disorders. The blood vessels in Dawn's eyes hemorrhaged, leaving her totally blind over the course of the next nine months.

"It's called neuropathy, nerve damage," Dawn explained.

But this hasn't stopped Dawn from pursuing a new dream—becoming a psychiatrist and opening a clinic—which started when she was still in rehabilitation. From a wheelchair where she spent nine months recovering from the neuropathy that had caused further damage to her kidneys and feet, Dawn began to think.

"I gave me a lot of time to think about who I was and what I was going to do. There were all these people at rehab that needed special help," said Dawn who found herself counseling from a wheelchair and fighting the disease that had taken her sight and learning how to live as a blind person.

"It wasn't easy," she said. "I was pretty scary at first, but the people at the Addie-McBride School for the Blind in Jackson really helped. They've helped me learn how to cook and I can even sew on a button."

Going back to college had its own drawbacks. "People don't know how to talk to me sometimes," she said. "I make them uncomfortable. I haven't changed the way I talk or my body language. I still look at whoever is talking."

I think they have a hard time sometimes because I don't look blind," Dawn continued. "I don't wear sunglasses. I've been asked to leave out on the survey. 'You want to all and you're willing to let that extra mile in order to get what you came here for the best education you can get.'"

"The instructors make it easier. They're almost like friends. They're so easy to talk to," he said. "You've got to look up to them for what they do for us here."

Kathy, who quit school at 16, got her GED in October, 1996, and quickly set about getting into college.

"We like to do something," she said. "You can't just go out and get a good job without any experience or a college degree these days."

"Their children are proud of their college parents."

"They ask ME now if I've done my homework!" Kathy laughed.

The Berberettes plan to use their degrees in business management to open their own restaurant one day.

"We'll make it. I won't let anything defeat me," Kathy vowed.

Transportation was listed by 29% as another obstacle to attending college.

"When I first started college, I had no car. I depend on friends. I'll beg a ride with anyone," said 43-year-old freshman Ann Burroughs who hopes to work at the Domestic Violence Center in Pascagoula after she graduates.

"I've always wanted to go to college," she said. "Once you've gone this far to get here, you're not willing to settle for second best anymore," she wrote on her survey. "You want to all and you're willing to let that extra mile in order to get what you came here for the best education you can get."

Dawn and Murphy

TEAM WORK!

"I guess you could say that going blind really opened my eyes."

What strikes you is her bravery, that she's taken a disability and learned from it. "I guess you could say that going blind really opened my eyes," said Dawn Poole, a 23-year-old JCC freshman.

Before the illness that robbed Dawn of her sight, she was a typical teenager. "I liked to go to parties and football games," she said. "I wasn't focused at all on what I wanted to do with my life."

At 19, Dawn managed her diabetes and carried on her life like any other student. In 1993, experiencing problems with her feet, Dawn's physician prescribed Morin 800, a drug used to control pain and fight inflammation. What Dawn didn't know was that this drug sometimes causes bleeding disorders. The blood vessels in Dawn's eyes hemorrhaged, leaving her totally blind over the course of the next nine months.

"It's called neuropathy, nerve damage," Dawn explained.

But this hasn't stopped Dawn from pursuing a new dream—becoming a psychiatrist and opening a clinic—which started when she was still in rehabilitation. From a wheelchair where she spent nine months recovering from the neuropathy that had caused further damage to her kidneys and feet, Dawn began to think.

"I gave me a lot of time to think about who I was and what I was going to do. There were all these people at rehab that needed special help," said Dawn who found herself counseling from a wheelchair and fighting the disease that had taken her sight and learning how to live as a blind person.

"It wasn't easy," she said. "I was pretty scary at first, but the people at the Addie-McBride School for the Blind in Jackson really helped. They've helped me learn how to cook and I can even sew on a button."

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of Michigan. The 3-year-old golden retriever became available to Dawn through a grant from the Lions' Club of Ocean Springs. The organization paid Dawn's way to Michigan to train for three weeks with Murphy who has had extensive training to become a guide dog for Dawn.

"He's still a puppy; he likes to play," she said. "But I always try to let people know right away that he's not a pet, he's my guide. You can't talk to him unless I give him the command to sit; then it's okay."

Murphy has helped Dawn to achieve independence.

Dawn said that she gets through the day like everyone else, she just uses more pagers to do it. These pagers are a special scanner attachment for her computer that reads her e-mail, talking words, a talking dictionary and a tape recorder.

"Tape recorders are a problem," she said. "You've got to go through all the garbage that's on it in order to get a few lines of notes sometimes. I'd rather use somebody else's notes and use the scanner."

Carrying a 3.95 average spring semester, Dawn attributes much of her ease at getting into the

swing of college life to those who try to be there when she needs a helping hand.

"I get a lot of help from the people on campus, the learning lab, and Gale (Arney)," Dawn said.

Being diabetic has helped Dawn back from using Braille, the system of raised dots on a hard surface that sight impaired use to read. Having to stick her finger every morning to check her blood sugar has lowered the sensitivity in Dawn's fingertips.

"I learned how to use Braille but I don't use it; it takes about 20 minutes to read a page," she said.

The "little bump-don," as Dawn calls them do come in handy, though.

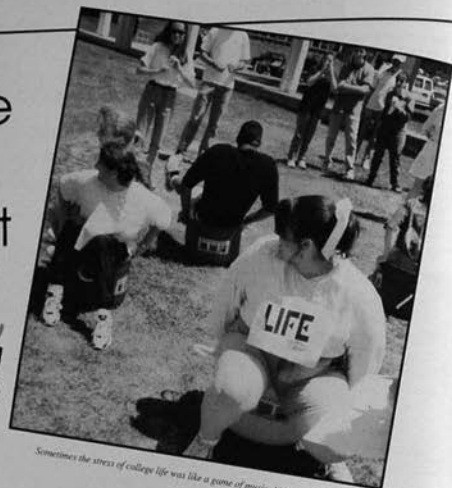
"Everything in the kitchen has these little bump-dot things on them," she explained. "I can tell how far I am from the cup, measure in a measuring cup, use a measuring spoon, and so on, just about anything. The microwave even has them on the timer. It's still wild and crazy."

Dawn will return to JCC in the fall as a sophomore studying psychology.

"I've become very organized," she said. "I wasn't before."

The College Student & STRESS

By Laura Cook



Sometimes the stress of college life was like a game of musical ice buckets.

Taking tests and fear of academic failure were the two major stress factors for Jackson County Campus students according to a Phases survey.

Statistics from the survey of 41 students showed that the top factor causing stress among college students was tests, with 63%, followed by fear of academic failure, 59%.

According to Pat Hancock, JCC Survival Skills instructor, the power of prayer and thinking ahead can help avoid certain situations that cause stress.

"A few years ago I was so stressed that I laughingly told a friend that the only things holding me together were chicken wire, masking tape and tennis," said Mrs. Hancock.

"I finally realized that some circumstances were just beyond my control. I could allow them to shatter my life or I could learn to adjust my expectations. In other words, what could not be cured must be endured," she said.

"After that revelation, reducing stress became relatively easy by asking myself, 'Can I do anything to change the situation?' If so, do it. If not, learn to live with it." Mrs. Hancock said, adding that when a student is stressed out over a certain situation he should give himself time.

"All things improve with time and sort themselves out," Mrs. Hancock explained. David Callender, a 41-year-old St. Martin freshman, said that after being out of school 23 years, the two biggest stresses for him were keeping up the pace of college life and finding quality time for his family while studying for tests.

"Starting back to school after so many years has put me at a disadvantage because the younger students have been taught more advanced technologies thereby giving them a head start with what we all have to learn," said Callender.

Because he placed high expectations on himself, Callender noted that his study times grew longer in order to make the Dean's List—self-induced stress which took away

his usual quality family time.

"I'm glad I took Mrs. Hancock's Survival and Study Skills course. Learning and putting into practice the methods she teaches for dealing with lectures, studying and test-taking have helped my scores and taught me to take breaks between studying so my mind can relax and I won't find myself cramming for a test the night before," added Callender.

The survey revealed that 46% of those responding said that balancing school and job was the third most stressful aspect of college life followed by 44% who listed meeting deadlines.

Former JCC night student Hope Spicer, 25, of Escatawpa, found that four years of working 40 hour weeks while taking night classes was detrimental to her interaction with co-workers, her appetite and sleep habits.

"I was enrolled in the electronics apprenticeship program conducted by Ingalls Shipyard. I had to attend class two night a week while working at Ingalls 40 hours a week and this was my life for four years. Finding time for homework was a major challenge. I adapted to the stress by finding study partners from class and from work," she said. "Occasionally, I would take a day off specifically designed to treat myself to a special time of rest and recuperation, sleeping late, soaking in the tub and basically relaxing away the

worry and stress. It worked and I would suggest to others to keep their eyes on the finish line, and now and then take a day off from reality," said Ms. Spicer.

"It makes you appreciate your struggle when you reach the finish line. I look back on my time at JCC and I know that mine was a job done well and that, too, is reality," she said.

When 49-year-old Vanceville freshman Sherry O'Neal started school in January, she felt that being a non-traditional student would set her apart from the other students, making her feel stupid and not able to fit in with everyone.

To be 49 and never to have touched a computer was a significant stress factor for Mrs. O'Neal.

"I felt like someone was telling me to take this Boeing 747 and fly it to New York, and while up there perform all these difficult maneuvers," she said.

"I was terrified of tearing up the computer so I began to use all my spare time to play with it and get acquainted and comfortable with it," she said. "I did all the projects and journals in my computer course and Mr. Zito helped me tremendously."

She was also pleasantly surprised to find that everyone she encountered at JCC has been friendly, helpful and welcoming to her.

The sight of students laying in the halls studying is a nice one to me. When you pass them they just smile and say hello. Everything is so relaxed and everyone is so easy-going," she observed.

"The biggest thing that helps me deal with school and its pressure is the existence of God in my life. Without Him I would not be able to handle the demands of college life," she confided.

Two stress issues that were of equal importance to 41% of students surveyed were finances and time management. The next two stressors were balancing school and family, and homework, respectively, with totals of 37% and 34%.

Callender, Ms. Spicer and Mrs. O'Neal agreed that finding time for all the aspects of their lives is impossible and that the key for them was and is getting as much done ahead of time as possible so they won't be caught unprepared.

Dr. John Stoudenmire, Pascagoula psychologist, maintains that the three most stressful aspects of college life are academic stress, being away from home and dealing with new people and unfamiliar surroundings.

"To deal more effectively with academic stress, a student should attempt to structure his classes to his interests and try to stick close to his field of study. One could also seek out emotional counseling from the counselors at his school, get involved in campus activities and remember that cutting the apron strings has to happen at some point in everyone's life," he stated.

Some outward signs of stress that would need to be addressed by a professional, according to Dr. Stoudenmire, are anger, anxiety, depression, drinking, drugs, irritability, loneliness, phobias and social withdrawal. Places at JCC where a student could seek counseling are Student Services and the psychology department, professors and advisors.

"In making wise choices concerning friends, a student can find companions to spend time with that will be there if he needs a shoulder to lean on or a sounding board to get things off his chest," Dr. Stoudenmire said.

BEING GOOD TO YOU

5 60-SECOND TENSION TAMERS

1. **THE ART OF RELAXATION** - The best strategy for avoiding stress is to learn how to relax. Unfortunately, many people try to relax at the same pace that they lead the rest of their lives. For a while, tune out your worries about time, productivity and "doing right." You will find satisfaction in just being, without striving. Find activities that give you pleasure and that are good for your mental and physical well-being. Forget about always winning. Focus on relaxation, enjoyment and health.

2. **YAWN AND SIGH** - Stand and take a big yawn or two, opening the mouth and throat until the automatic yawn takes over. Make a noise as you yawn. (Quiet inhale and the long noisy exhale releases that throat and chest muscles.)

3. **STRETCH** - Stand and stretch—arching your back, stretching arms and fingers out wide. Hold this position five to ten seconds—then let go, allowing your body to go completely limp.

4. **SEDENTARY STRETCH** - Sit up straight, bring your shoulders back as if trying to touch the blades together. Hold that position seven or eight seconds and then release. Curl your shoulders forward as if trying to touch them in front. Hold for seven to eight seconds and release. Repeat two or three times.

5. **TENDER LOVING TOUCH** - Rub your hands briskly together until they are warm, then lightly cup them over your closed eyes with fingertips on the forehead, thumbs along the temple, heel of the hand on the cheeks. Maintain this position for about two minutes, letting go of all the tension in the eyes and face and allowing yourself to slow down.

We Are What We EAT

By Jennifer Oriol



HOVA's Lifestyle of the Fit and Healthy featured free nutritional snacks.

Sitting down to a meal seemed to be a thing of the past as JCC students got their nutrition on-the-run.

A Phases survey revealed that while over 70% of JCC students consider nutrition to be at least somewhat important to them, most didn't practice sound nutritional principles.

"Nutrition is very important to me because I have kids who are still growing. I also want to stay fit and healthy," said Ocean Springs sophomore Tonia Wood.

"I usually go straight to work from school and don't have time to go home," said Samantha Mason of Big Point. "The only thing I have time to do is grab something from a fast food restaurant."

Only seven out of 100 students surveyed said they ate fast food three or more times a week.

"It is so convenient now to order fast food that we do not have to leave our homes," said JCC Nutrition instructor Kay Bevell. "We can have dinner delivered to our door."

The ease and speed of fast food has been improved by technology which also tells the harmful effects of the supersized—have it your way—right away" lifestyle that most students live.

Only 13% of those surveyed said they drink six or more glasses of water per day. Although drinking bottled water has become a trend in the past few years, Mrs. Bevell said that the average person only drinks 3.3 glasses per day while the recommended amount is eight glasses.

"I try to drink as much water as I can, but it is hard to do when I am on campus all day," said Jennifer Huffstatter of Pascagoula who drinks at least six glasses per day. "I usually carry a bottled water with me because the only other thing on campus is a Coke machine."

Water, although a vital part of the diet, is often substituted by carbonated drinks which usually contain nine teaspoons of sugar per 12 oz. can.

Carbonated drinks were consumed daily by over 85% of those surveyed, most of whom drank more than one can or bottle per day. With only carbonated beverage machines on campus—which sold 4650 cans each week—students couldn't buy a bottle of water on campus after the cafeteria closed at 2 p.m.

Busy schedules also led students to skip breakfast. Two-thirds of the males and 51% of the females surveyed don't eat breakfast. Over half of those who said they ate breakfast did it on the run.

That wasn't good news for proper nutrition. According to Mrs. Bevell, it is best to eat several smaller meals instead of "saving up" and eating one large meal at the end of the day.

"Students should sit down and not do anything else while eating," emphasized Mrs. Bevell, adding that they should also put food away as soon as they are finished to prevent overeating.

JCC psychology instructor David Greenwell said that it is not only what you eat but how you eat.

"People do not sit down to eat like they used to," he said, noting that sitting down to eat is important for mental as well as physical health.

Among factors directly affecting a person's diet, according to Bevell and Greenwell, are environment, stress and anxiety, religion, social environments and self image.

"When students are stressed out they usually are not concerned with what they eat," said Mrs. Bevell, adding that this can also lead to a weakness of the immune system and ultimately sickness.

"We usually mark occasions with food, whether it be for the holidays or for a funeral. Food is associated with social gatherings," said Greenwell.

They two agreed that instant gratification is the driving force behind today's students' poor nutrition.

According to Greenwell, today's students are accustomed to getting what they want when they want it as far as food goes. He said that people are never satisfied—the more that is available, the more people want.

This on-the-go lifestyle of many JCC students also has life threatening effects. Heart disease, cancer, diabetes, stroke and other top killers are attributed to poor eating habits. Obesity also results from poor nutrition.

Mrs. Bevell, who warned that "creeping obesity" is a gradual weight gain that many experience around the age of 30, advocated regulating diet and using common sense about nutrition to make a person feel better, look better and enjoy good health.



Former JCC art students Tim Waldrop and Craig Brundage were featured in the gallery in September.

"Art is the awareness of life, the awareness of self. The purpose of art is to engage the viewer in the awareness of emotion," said Patt Odom, who has taught art at Jackson County Campus for 17 years. "Art is what separates man from the beasts."

It appeared that JCC students of all majors and ages were interested in the arts, according to a random survey of 75 JCC students which revealed that 36% have taken some kind of college art, music or drama course, or have taken one in the past.

Gena Schellereff of Gautier changed her major from biology to art after taking a ceramics course for fun last fall. She originally chose a major that she hoped would prove lucrative, but she realized that she enjoyed art far more than science.

"It's fun and if you enjoy something, you can do anything with it," said Schellereff who describes herself as an artist.

Another JCC art student is Norma Seward of Ocean Springs whose paintings are well known locally and in the art community.

"The academic environment provides me the constant nourishment and enrichment I need in order to grow as an artist," said Seward who has an art degree.

"It's important for children to learn about music and art in school," said education major Amber Cooper. "It gives them a time to express themselves and learn in a different way, not just by memorization."

In the survey, 55% of the students said that, as children, they were frequently

exposed to some form of fine arts activity. Nearly all of those students consider themselves either "somewhat" or "very" artistic, musical or dramatic.

"I've always been around the arts," said Anne Kessinger, a respiratory tech major from Ocean Springs. "My mother has had a lot of influence on my life in that area."

Twenty percent said they were infrequently or never exposed to the fine arts as children. Nevertheless, they said they still developed interest and ability in the arts. Of the 52% who said they had attended a fine arts event in the past 12 months, 31% preferred attending plays while art exhibits and musical events each received a 24% share.

"The themes of plays are the themes of life," said drama instructor Wanda Stewart. "In a play, people are telling a story and the audience reacts to the people on the stage. The actors, in turn, react to the audience. It's an experience that's shared, so the enjoyment is enhanced."

"I like the drama," said Timothy Douglas a physical therapy major from Moss Point. "There's more action."

"We've been seeing an increase in the number of students coming to gallery receptions," said Fine Arts chairman Martha Richardson who added that she would like to see more students at the musical programs.

Though most students thought the events were adequately publicized, the majority who did not attend cited no extra time as the reason.

"I enjoy looking at the art on display in F building," said Selina Oliver, an education major from Ocean Springs. "But I can't

Are Students Art SMART?

By Christina Logan

attend anything that goes on in the evening, since I have two little children."

Darlene Washington, a child development major from Pascagoula, said that she is too busy preparing for graduation to do anything except "studying and cramming."

Of the 75 students surveyed, only one stated that lack of interest was a reason for not attending a fine arts event.

"They don't do anything for me," said Derek Strong, a freshman from Moss Point. "The stuff on campus is boring."

"People don't take the time to actually look at art and try to know what it's about," said freshman art student Josh Hayden.

"They see what they see and don't understand why the artist might have done it. If it's not pretty or pleasant it won't appeal to people as much as something that would match the couch or the furniture in their house," he said.

According to Mrs. Stewart, appreciation classes raise students' consciousness about what the arts have to offer.

"The class may plant a seed and cause them to be aware that there's something out there that they should experience," said Mrs. Stewart.

"The arts can be a commentary on things that are happening. Sometimes it can help us to see things that we need to work on as a society," said a student in an allied arts class spring semester.

"Music and art have made me a more rounded person," said Kessinger. "By looking deeply into art, I have learned how to better express myself," she said.

DEFINITELY THE BEST



TO SEE THE FULL PICTURE, HOLD IT CLOSE TO YOUR EYE. NOW LOOK THROUGH IT SO IT'S EVERYWHERE.
YOUR CASE AND MOVE THE IMAGE SLOWLY AWAY. KEEP TRYING! SOLUTION: MILD
TRAUMA ONLY. © 1998 MAGIC EYE INC.

HONORS

MEDALS MARK DISTINCTION. MANY OF THIS YEAR'S MEDAL WINNERS WERE PEER-SELECTED THROUGH ELECTIONS OR WERE CHOSEN BY THE FACULTY WHO TAUGHT THEM. OTHER MEDAL WINNERS WEREN'T ALWAYS SO EASY TO SPOT BECAUSE THEIR SUCCESSSES WERE PERSONAL—LIKE OVERCOMING MATH ANXIETY OR JUGGLING CLASSES, JOB AND FAMILY. FOR SOME, IT WAS A TRIUMPH JUST TO MAKE THE DECISION TO GO TO COLLEGE. FOR OTHERS, IT WAS A VICTORY TO FINALLY DECIDE ON A MAJOR. AND FOR THOSE WHO SOUGHT EXCELLENCE, IT WAS A CHALLENGE TO REACH FOR THE STARS. WHETHER IT WAS PASSING A TOUGH COURSE OR EXCELLING WITH 4.0, JCC'S STUDENTS WERE DEFINITELY THE BEST.

Leah A. Kimble

*Miss Jackson County Campus
1996-1997*

"What has made this year definitely different was learning who I truly am in the Lord and the purpose that He has for me. In spite of my circumstances, I know that everything will work itself out according to God's divine plan. God has truly smiled on me." Pascagoula. Registered Nursing. Baptist Student Union. Baptist Student Union Choir. Choir Secretary. Miss Jackson County Campus 1995. Sunday School Teacher. Praise and Worship Leader. Welcome Committee for Church. Life and Deliverance. Pastor's Personal Secretary. Baptist Student Union Mission Leader.



Mark P. Pichon

*Mr. Jackson County Campus
1996-1997*

"This year is definitely different because God is moving in a mighty way within my life. He has placed me in a position I would never dream of being—President of the Baptist Student Union. God also has mended a friendship that will last a lifetime. To God Be The Glory." Pascagoula. Electrical Engineering. Drama Technical Crew. Baptist Student Union Choir. Baptist Student Union President. Phi Theta Kappa. Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges. Intramural Program. Freshman Class Favorite, 1996. Freshman Student Council Representative, 1995-1996.



Mary Lisa Palermo
Jake Travis
□
William King
Wendy Smith



Autumn Forsman
Duane Baxter



Adreain Henry
Julia Smith

LaLinda Bond
Wes Inman



Favorites

Sophomore Class Favorites 1996-1997

Sophomore Class Favorites were elected by their peers as representatives of the best of their class. They were the campus leaders who took an active role in activities from intramurals to clubs. They gave time, energy, ideas and dedication to the campus. And they found that in giving, they received.

DUANE JUSTIN BAXTER

Ocean Springs, Pre-Physical Therapy, Student Council, Phi Theta Kappa, Intramural Founder and Chairman, Intramural Football Champions: The Beat, Vice President's List, Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges Citizenship award, Most Outstanding Sophomore Representative, "MGCCC-JCC is an excellent stepping stone for a higher education. I enjoyed the intramural program this year."

LALINDA MICHELE BOND

Pascagoula, Art Administration, Student Council Secretary, Freshman Representative, Reflections: Vice President, Art Club, Baptist Student Union, Freshman Class Favorite, Hall of Fame, Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges, "This year for me has not only been different through academics and activity involvement, but also through the many experiences that were involved—from the graduation application to transfer information, cash receipts and drop slips. The experience I obtained in the last semester has made my time at JCC dramatically different!"

AUTUMN FORSMAN

Pascagoula, Psychology, Student Council: President, Freshman Representative, College Republican: Vice President, Phi Theta Kappa, Honors Program, Hall of Fame, Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges, Sophomore Homecoming Maid, Freshman Class Favorite, "This year at JCC has definitely been different. I have been able to make a positive impact on the student body by serving as Student Council President. I have definitely had a wonderful experience at JCC."

ADREAIN MAURICE HENRY

Moss Point, Biological Sciences, Phi Theta Kappa, Student Council, 1996 Treasure, Associate Member, Baptist Student Union, Hall of Fame, Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges, Freshman Class Favorite, President's List, "Being involved with campus activities has made the year definitely different."

WESLEY SCOTT INMAN

Ocean Springs, Student Council, Intramural Sports Program: Co-founder/Co-chairman, Intra-

mural Football Champions, Students for Environmental Action, "The main thing that has definitely changed for me from last year is that I have met a lot more people now that I am involved with the Student Council. I am closer with my fellow classmates and the student body. The Student Council was able to start the Intramural Sports program and, hopefully, it will be carried on for years to come."

WILLIAM KING

Hurley, Business, "Some of the people are definitely different but the campus is cool ..."

MARY LISA PALERMO

Ocean Springs, Religion/Elementary Education, Student Council: Vice President, Freshman Representative, Hall of Fame, Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges, "Being a JCC student is definitely different for many reasons. As a student, one is an individual, not a number. The faculty is ready to help not only with studies, but also with planning a student's career, directions around campus and student activities."

JULIA HAMILTON SMITH

Ocean Springs, Business, Phases: Editor, Reflections, Phi Theta Kappa, Phi Beta Lambda, SEA Club, Math Club, Flag Football, Graduated with Highest Honors, Honors Program, e Sophomore, President's List, Vice President's List, "My year has been definitely different in that I have focused on all of my many ventures, which I could never have accomplished without many people lending their time and energy to me."

WENDY MICHELLE SMITH

Wade, Forensic Science, Reflections: President, Phi Theta Kappa, Honors Program, Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges, Citizenship award, "JC has definitely been different for me this year because of all the new friends and faculty that I have met. Also, my involvement with activities at JC has opened doors that otherwise would not have been there."

JAKE TRAVIS

Ocean Springs, Landscape Architecture, Student Council, Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges, Freshman Class Favorite, "The new intramural program is definitely different."

Joshua Platt
Bobbie Meyn



Damien Sanders
Amy Baker
□
Kenny Fountain
Antonia Pitalo



Taylor Hulsey
Sarah Milling

Crystal Cates
Clay Strickland
Robbie Amoretti



Favorites

Freshman Class Favorites 1996-1997

Freshmen chose 11 classmates whose enthusiasm, leadership and involvement were representative of the best of their class. They came from Biloxi to Big Point and led the way in finding that there was plenty to do and new friends to make at JCC.

ROBBIE AMORETTI.

Hurley. Counselor Staff. Reflections, Phases Staff. Students for Environmental Action. Amateur Bull Rider in Rodeos.

AMY NICOLE BAKER.

Ocean Springs. Occupational Therapy. Student Council. Freshman Representative. Freshman Homecoming Maid. "The one-on-one student-teacher relationships have really made a difference at JCC."

CRYSTAL CATES.

Biloxi. Radiology. Intramural Flag Football Championship Team: The Beast.

KENNY FOUNTAIN, II.

Biloxi. Chemical Engineering.

TAYLOR HULSEY.

Hurley. Engineering. Reflections. Intramural Sports. Flag Football. "Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College is definitely different for many reasons. It has small classes, good instructors and excellent organizations. Also, I have met many people and made many friends here my first semester. One of the best things was playing intramural football."

BOBBIE DARLENE MEYN.

Hurley. Paralegal Studies. Intramural Sports: Football.

SARAH BRYAN MILLING.

Ocean Springs. Physical Therapy. Student Council. Freshman Class President. Freshman Homecoming Maid.

ANTONIA PITALO.

Ocean Springs. Speech Pathology. Honor Student. Intramural Sports: Flag Football. "The opportunity to meet different people from all areas of the Gulf Coast has made JCC different. Also, I've enjoyed the friendly environment JCC offers."

JOSHUA PLATT.

Ocean Springs. Intramural Football Champi-

onship Team: The Beast. Students for Environmental Action. "The thing that has 'definitely' changed for me this past year at JCC is all the wonderful people I have met. I have met so many new people that I now call my good friends."

DAMIEN SANDERS.

Moss Point. Physical Therapy. Baptist Student Union. Intramural Sports: Flag Football/Head Coach of Westside Players. "Since this is my first year in college, I have no means of measuring the difference. I can say JCC is very different from high school. Adjusting to the change from high school to college life is definitely different."

CLAY STRICKLAND.

Big Point. Civil Engineering. Intramural Sports. "What's been definitely different at JCC is that I have been able to participate in extra activities and have met many new friends."

1997 Hall of Fame



Bronwyn Nicole Blackwell
Pasco, Business.
Phases Edition 1995 and 1996, Baptist Student Union, Vice President, Activity Coordinator, Student Council, Associate Member, Class Favorite, Freshman and Sophomore, Hall of Fame, Who's Who Among Students in American Jr. College, National Collegiate Scholars Award, 1995, 1996. "My parents have made a difference in my life. They have always been supportive and encouraging. They have always helped me to do my best and have made me into who I am today."

April Deanna Buchanan

Yankee, Elementary Education.
President's List. "During my experience at JCC, I have developed many lasting friendships. Because of the support and encouragement from the faculty and staff at JCC, I was able to realize that education was for me and nursing was not. Because I have worked in the Business Office as a student worker for two years, I have learned different skills and developed many friendships. JCC has definitely made a difference in my life."



Christopher M. Carus

Ocean Springs, Computer Science.
Phi Theta Kappa, Treasurer, Jackson County Computing Association, College Republican Club, Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges. "JCC has an atmosphere of humor. The teachers are friendly and will go out of their way to help students."



LaLinda Michele Bond
Pasadena, Art Administration.
Student Council, Secretary, Freshman Rep., Reflections Team, Art Guild, Baptist Student Union, Class Favorite, Freshman, Sophomore, Who's Who Among Students in American Jr. Colleges, National Collegiate Student Government Award. "JCC has given me the extra time, great education and caring faculty that I needed. I can see such a change in my perspective and desires. The faculty and administration have definitely made a great difference in my life. Thanks a million."

Sean M. Cooley

Bennedale, Associates Degree Nursing.
Student Nurses Association, President's List, Vice President's List, Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges. "My mother and father have definitely made a difference for being outstanding role models and being very supportive of me while growing up."



Disera Desselles

Ocean Springs, Computer English.
Phi Theta Kappa, Reporter, Science and Technology Club, Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges, Honors Program. "Mrs. Kay Sims has made a big difference in my life. I am a full-time computer systems support representative now for Hancock Bank."

Matthew Joseph Egerton

Ocean Springs, Pre-Medicine.
Phi Theta Kappa, Scholars Bowl Team, Student Council, Associate Member, English Lab Tutor. "Becoming less shy in the most definite difference JCC has made in my life. Both the students and faculty members are very friendly and have helped me become a more outgoing person."



1997 Hall of Fame

Alicia Dunnaeay

Ocean Springs, Elementary Education.
Student Council, Freshman Class President, Reflections, Baptist Student Union, Math Club, President, College Republican Club, President, Phi Theta Kappa, Vice President, Freshman Favorite, Freshman Homecoming Maid, President's, Vice President's Lists, NCSGA, Homecoming Queen. "JCC has changed my outlook. I used to believe that people wouldn't accept me because I live the life of a Christian. JCC has taught me to be myself."



Andrew Douglas Egerton

Ocean Springs, Computer Science.
Phi Theta Kappa, Jackson County Computing Association, Scholars Bowl, Learning Lab Student Worker, Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges, Jackson County Campus of MGCCC has afforded me the opportunity to accelerate in my academic career while providing me with an excellent education and the advantage of living at home."



Autumn Dawn Forsman

Pasadena, Psychology.
Student Council, President, Freshman Rep., College Republican Club, Vice President, Phi Theta Kappa, Honors Program, Class Favorite, Freshman and Sophomore, Sophomore Homecoming Maid, President's List, Vice President's List. "JCC has made a difference in my life in the way of having to take on more responsibility. It has also helped me to develop my time management skills more efficiently."



1997 Hall of Fame



Adrean Maurice Henry
Mass Point, Biological Sciences.
 Baptist Student Union, Student Council, Assistant Member, 1996 Treasurer, Flag Football, JC Singers, Freshman and Sophomore Students in American Junior Colleges. "Jesus Christ has definitely made a difference in my life. I plan to become an optometrist and give back to the community, establish a scholarship fund and become a celebrity, if it is the Lord's will."

Amy LeTourneau
Ocean Springs, Business.
 Phi Theta Kappa, Vice President, French and French Tutor, Honors Program, President's List, 4.0, Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges. "My family has definitely made a difference in my life because of their love and encouragement. I am pursuing a degree in business and eventually will start my own business."



Mary Lisa Palermo
Ocean Springs, Religion and Elementary Education.
 Student Council, Vice President, Freshman Rep., Sophomore Class Favorite, Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges. "Sometimes people are unaware of their influence and impact. Arthur Catledge is such a man. He gave me the confidence to say, 'I can do this; of course I can'. He asked me what my major was and then I told him what I really wanted—to be a missionary. His parents were missionaries. He told me some of his experiences and that I can do the same."



Amy Renee Lee
Pasadena, Business.
 Phi Theta Kappa, President, Financial Aid Student Worker, Honors Program, Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges. "JCC is different in that you, as a student, are made to feel like a person and not a number. It makes you feel good when teachers who taught you during your first semester can still call you by your first name."

Shirley Paul
Gautier.
Associate Degree Nursing.
 Student Nursing Association, Phi Theta Kappa, Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges, President's List. "I never felt too old once I got on campus. The instructors were always helpful and encouraging. It has been a sacrifice to my family, but has added much to enriching my life and pursuing future goals."



Trina H. Reeves
Ocean Springs, Accounting.
 Phi Beta Lambda, President 1996, Vice President 1995, Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges 1995 and 1996. "Since I have attended JCC, I have found out things about myself that I never knew before. One of the most interesting things I found out about myself is that I enjoy being around people and being involved in campus activities."

Elizabeth Linda Svord
Pasadena.
Associate Degree Nursing.
 Student Nurse Association, Vice President, Phi Theta Kappa, President's List, Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges. "I have been able to return to school because of the convenient location and affordable tuition plus grants and I am looking forward to a rewarding future."



1997 Hall of Fame

Teresa Sheppard
Gautier, Human Services.
 Human Services Club, President, Phi Theta Kappa, Honors Program, President's List, Dean's List, Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges. "My husband has made the biggest difference in my life. His help and support have enabled me to fulfill my educational goals here at JCC. He is a wonderful father to our three children and always encourages us to do our best."



Shirley Watson
Shumake
Gautier, Nursing.
 Baptist Student Union, JCCA, Reflections, Phi Theta Kappa, Sophomore Class Favorite, Psychology Award, President's List, Dean's List, Faculty Scholarship, All American Scholar, Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges 1994, 1996, Hall of Fame 1994, 1996. "The staff and faculty have gone that extra mile. Because of their loving and caring attitude, I have striven harder to do my best. They have set an example—lovingness and success comes with hard work and loving your fellow man."

Jason Grant Temple
Pasadena, Medical Laboratory Technology.
 MLT Club, Phi Theta Kappa, Scholars Bowl, Internship at Mississippi Gulf Coast Research Lab, Honors Biology Internship Award, Speaker's Forum. "My experience at JCC cannot be summed into one person or event. From the Good Mornings of the custodial staff to the dedication of the instructors and administration, JCC comes to life. I will miss JCC; for the first few steps I have taken into the future were taken here."



Not Pictured:
Mark
Phom
Ocean Springs
Mark
Pichon
Pasadena
Electrical
Engineering



• Theresa Dendles, Virginia Stewart, Wendy Smith, Sarah Newell, Jason Temple.

Mark Pichon, Brynwyn Blackwell, Alicia Damm, Jany Clayton Wright, Adrian Henry.



HO'S WHO Among Students in American Junior Colleges

• **Angela Marie Baxter**, Pascagoula, Hattiesburg Learning Lab Student Worker: "My husband, Casey, has made a difference in my life. He convinced me to go to college, gives me all the encouragement I need and encourages me to be my own person, to do what's right for me."

• **Duane Justin Baxter**, Ocean Springs, Pre-Physical Therapy, Student Council-Sophomore Representative, Intramural Chairman, Phi Theta Kappa, Sophomore Class Favorite, Vice-President and President's List. "JCC has provided an excellent opportunity for an education with quality resources. JCC is a great landmark for higher education."

• **Robert S. Blumford**, Ocean Springs, Mechanical Engineering, Phi Theta Kappa, Baptist Student Union, Physics Tutor, Honors Graduate. "The faculty's care and concern have motivated me, especially the science department who guided me through my hardest major days and helped me discover my true talents. A very special thanks to Mr. Pegh, Mr. Tanner and Ms. Gibson—"The Best."

• **Sacha Greel**, Ocean Springs, Pre-Occupational Therapy, Phi Theta Kappa Vice-President, Historian, Reflections, Vice-President, Tutor, Chessman Scholarship, King's Daughters Scholarship, Honors Program, Vice-President's List. All Mississippi Ac-

ademic Team. "My community college experience has been definitely different because I made the decision to become involved in campus activities such as Reflections and Phi Theta Kappa."

• **Anthony D. Eaker**, Pascagoula, Associate Degree Nursing, Singing River Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship. "JCC has made a difference by providing a quality education that was also affordable. If it were not for the qualities that JCC possesses, it would have been necessary for me to delay educational plans."

• **Amelia Jane Eblen**, Ocean Springs, Radiologic Technology, Phi Theta Kappa, Student X-Ray Club, Treasurer, President's List, Vice-President's List. "The support and encouragement of my loving husband made my dream of continued education a reality, and the voices of my adult children shouting 'Go Mom' made it go."

• **Judy P. Ellis**, Ocean Springs, American Studies, Emphasis in English. "JCC has opened up opportunities and broadened my world-view. I realized how little I know and in striving to learn, new knowledge has changed my life as well as those around me."

• **Taneana Michele Harrison**, Biloxi, Business Administration, Phi Theta Kappa Vice-President, Club Club Treasurer, Mrs. Kay Sims and Mr. Taz Langstaff have made a difference in my life. JCC

has provided an excellent educational background, opportunity for one-on-one with the instructors and a variety of curriculum. I am more knowledgeable and more organized."

• **Cathy S. Lacy**, Ocean Springs, Biological Sciences, Phi Theta Kappa, President's List, Vice-President's List. "The education I have received here is excellent. Many of our instructors hold PhD's. My education has a firm foundation because of my instructors' care, interest and pride in what they do."

• **Ullan H. Lambert**, Pascagoula, Computer Science. "My wife has made the most difference in my life. I probably would still be at Ingalls as a shipfitter apprentice if my wife would not have encouraged me to go back to school."

• **Sarah Elizabeth Newell**, Pascagoula, Linguistics, Phi Theta Kappa, Scholar's Bowl, An Club, Honors Program, Biology Internship Achievement Award, Achievement Award for Zoology, President's List. "To point to an achievement is to acknowledge the friends, teachers and parents who supported, encouraged and persevered to make a dream become reality. I'll be pointing to JCC as faculty, staff and friends who opened a window of opportunity and made all the difference for me."

• **Mark P. Pichon**, Pascagoula, Electrical Engi-

neering, Baptist Student Union, President, Drama: Light Technician, Phi Theta Kappa, Student Council: Freshman Rep. Mr. JCC, Freshman Class Favorite. "The one person who has made a definite difference in my life is Jesus. He paid a price He didn't even own so that you and I may have Eternal Life. The love He has for us is endless."

• **Nora K. Prince**, Ocean Springs, Interior Design. "My family and my true friends have made an enormous difference in my life by loving me, accepting me and supporting me in whatever I do."

• **Wendy Michelle Smith**, Wade, Reflections President, Phi Theta Kappa, Honors Program, Sophomore Class Favorite. "My experience at JCC has been enjoyable and has prepared me for the real world—from the friends I have made to the faculty that has helped me grow."

• **Janet Leigh Spiers**, Perkinston, Associate Degree Nursing, Student Nursing Association: Class Representative, Nurse Extern Program, Student Mentor Program, Vice-President's List, Davis-Moore Foundation Scholarship. "From the strictness and demanding performance of nursing procedures from Mr. Lott to the kindness and caring of Mrs. Owsie, I have learned many valuable lessons that will make me an effective and caring nurse. I thank my husband, family and friends for their support and encouragement."

• **Virginia Ruth Stewart**, Lucedale, Medical Laboratory Technology, Reflections. "JCC is different because of the caring attitudes of the faculty and staff. They are always willing to help students perform tasks to the best of their abilities."

• **Jody Ann Strong**, Ocean Springs, Associate Degree Nursing. "I chose JCC because it had an LPN transition course. Each instructor was an influence to me, but I especially enjoyed my psychology and clinical and Mrs. Brenden and Mrs. Hill."

• **Jake Travis**, Ocean Springs, Landscape Architecture, Student Council: Sophomore Representative, Class Favorite, Freshman and Sophomore. "My parents have made a difference in my life giving me direction, attention and friendship."

• **Ryan A. Wade**, Ocean Springs, Mechanical Engineering. "JCC has allowed me to earn credits toward my degree and made it possible for me to move on to a university."

• **Sheila Knott Williams**, Pascagoula, Associate Degree Nursing. "God and my family have definitely made a difference in my life. Without their support and love, I would have never made it this far."

• **April Wilson**, Biloxi, Chemical Engineering.



April Wilson, Jake Travis, Amy Lee, Taneana Harrison, April Buchanan.

Allan Lambert, Teresa Sheppard, Christopher Carr, Amy LeTourneau, Amelia Eblen, Robert Blandford.



HO'S WHO Among Students in American Junior Colleges

Phi Theta Kappa, Intramural Flag Football, Social Studies Achievement Award. "My parents have definitely made a difference—they have always encouraged me to do my best and supported me in all my decisions."

• **Debra Wilson**, Hurley, Associate Degree Nursing, Student Nurses Association, Student Mentor Program. "Mr. Lott has been a positive influence in my education and how I perceive nursing with his positive feedback. He encouraged me to do my best and to reflect on what I have learned. My family and classmates have been a constant source of support."

• **Clinton Wright**, Helena, Criminal Justice, Phi Theta Kappa, Delta Psi Omega, Drama Club, President's List. "I plan on achieving a bachelor's degree in criminal justice, then go to law school."

• **William L. Zender**, Jr., Pascagoula, Electrical Engineering. "JCC is a great place for people who are ready for college, but not ready to leave home."

• Information on Who's Who students also named to Hall of Fame in whom on the previous four pages.



• Mary Lisa Palermo, John Grant, Autumn Furumson, La India Bond, Marlene Egerton.

Angela Baxter, Nora Prince, Anthony Eblen, Ryan Wade.



Trina Reeves, Debra Wilson, William Zender, Shirley Paul, Janet Spier.



Andrew Egerton, Shirley Shumake, (inset) Jody Strong.



Judy Ellis, Duane Baxter, Linda Seward, Sean Conley, Sheila Knott Williams.





• Berry Hughes
and Cafeteria Staff



• Terri Ormes



• Jason Pugh

• Maintenance
Staff



SPIRIT AWARD

SPIRIT AWARDS were presented to persons who were instrumental in making things happen outside the classroom. For the first time, the Student Council made the selections from the nominations of faculty, administrators or staff made by students. The awards were based on participation in and support of extra-class activities from club sponsorship to entertaining at events to helping set up for events. Those chosen represented the best of the best on campus and were honored at a luncheon in April to thank them for their support of students.

•**ELEANOR DOUGLAS** and **LOUISE STEWART** were known for their excitement in participating in campus events. Remember them dressed like train engineers on the HOSA homecoming float or dressed like pumpkins at Oktoberfest? They were the driving force

behind HOSA and inspired members to use and discover their creativity and talents. They taught their students that they can accomplish anything if they put their hearts to it. The evidence? HOSA won the Lofton Award after a year of enthusiastic, creative participation.

•**TERRY FOUNTAIN** gave more than just her time to students. As journalism instructor and sponsor of the Student Council and yearbook and newspaper staffs, she brought out the best in people and showed students how to lead, expand their ideas and to look at situations in a positive light. Under her encouragement, Coastliner published eight issues and Student Council initiated new projects. She was not only an instructor and counselor, she was a friend.

•**BETTY HUGHES** and the **CAFETERIA STAFF** not only kept the cafeteria clean and a nice place to eat—but they opened their doors and encouraged groups to host events in the cafeteria. Without their support, students wouldn't have been able to pull off the majority of their special events, most of which included food. Hard work and good party food weren't the only things that got them a Spirit Award—it was also their friendliness and enthusiastic cooperation.

•**MAINTENANCE STAFF** might have been behind the scenes, but their presence was always noticed. From buildings with spotless floors to manicured beds with beautiful flowers, members of the maintenance staff made JCC's environment clean, tidy and

attractive. Few campus events could happen without their efforts which ranged from setting up tables and chairs to hauling food to cleaning up when it was all over. And to top it all off, they did it all with smiles!

•**TERRI ORMES** was dedicated, caring and busy, but never too busy to have time for students and the Reflections Team. She never encouraged them to do anything she wouldn't do herself and was always a great help in participating in activities—no matter how embarrassing it might be. She was a lady who received respect—and the Reflections Team won third place in the Lofton Award under her watchful eye.

•**JASON PUGH** was a man who wasn't afraid to dress like a woman (Lagniappe Day scavenger hunt game),

singing in public, (Lip Sync at Spring Fling), kiss a pig (Spring Fling), get ice cream dropped in his face (Almost Anything Goes) or inspire his students to bring in canned goods (because of him and Van Stringfellow, the Science Dept. collected three-fourths of the 4500 items in the Reflections Wellness Project to benefit The Lord is My Help.) If there was an event on campus, Jason Pugh was there—and participating.

•**JEANETTE THOMAS** and **VANESSA DEDEAUX** were described by phrases like "going the extra mile to help students", "always eager to help" and "wonderful, cares about students". They led their club to a second place finish for the Lofton Award, making sure their students were not only aware of campus events, but participants as well.

•**SECURITY** not only provided protection for persons and property, they were ever-willing to go the extra mile to help, whether it was keeping watch when students had to meet late or to unlock the door to the student activity room when Student Council members needed supplies. Chief Milton Smith was instrumental in helping the Student Council establish the Very Important Bulldog parking spaces given as door prizes at campus events.

•**DAN ZWERG** was an active sponsor of the Students for Environmental Action club and a willing entertainer at campus events such as Fill the Stocking and Celebrate JC when he played his saxophone. A man of diversified talents, he performed a ventriloquist act at last year's Easter Egg hunt.



• Eleanor Douglas
and Louise Stewart



• Dan Zwerg

Security Officers •
Milton Smith
and Draymond
Moodland



• Terry Fountain



• Spirit Awards

• Vanessa Dedeaux
and Jeanette
Thomas



Student/Faculty Honors



Citizenship Award

Duane Baxter and Wendy Smith

Citizenship Awards, the campus's highest recognition given at Awards Day by the faculty, were presented to Duane Baxter of Ocean Springs and Wendy Smith of Hurley for the 1996-97 academic year for campus leadership and involvement, character, citizenship and academic standing.

Baxter, a pre-physical therapy major, was the Student Council's Most Outstanding Sophomore

Representative and organizer and manager of the intramural program. Smith, president of the Reflections Team and named its Outstanding Member, participated in the Honors Program. She is a forensic science major. Both were members of Phi Theta Kappa scholastic honorary, named to Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges and elected sophomore class favorites.



1996 Instructor of the Year

Biology Instructor Rusty Brown

"To be a part of an institution that touches so many lives, and is so well thought of, is an honor in itself," said Kimberly "Rusty" Lynne Brown, JCC's Instructor of the Year for 1996.

"As a student, I had both good and bad experiences with instructors, and I have tried to draw upon those experiences. How would I feel if I were one of my students? is a question that I always

keep in mind, whether instructing or scheduling tests," said the JCC and USM graduate who teaches biology I and II. "I know it is my job to 'turn students on' to science, not to discourage or intimidate them."

She was chair of the 1994 fall blood drive and served on the College Council and Staff Development and ADA Advisory Committees.

All Academic

Lynn Zimmerman and Sacha Creel

All-State Academic Team members Sacha Creel and Lynn Zimmerman, both from Ocean Springs, represented JCC March 18 on the 1997 All-State Academic Team with nominees from around the state in a program sponsored by *USA Today*. The *Clown Judges*, the American Association of Community Colleges and Phi Theta Kappa to honor those who have not only excelled in the classroom, but have gone beyond the books to develop their talents as leaders and community activists. Sacha R. Creel, 19, maintained a GPA of 3.84 and will major in occupational therapy. She was named to the Honorable Mention Team. Lynn Zimmerman, 32, maintained a 4.0 GPA and is majoring in elementary education. She was named to the All Mississippi Team. They are pictured with Phi Theta Kappa sponsor Kay Sims.



Student/Faculty Honors

USA Academic

Lynn Zimmerman

Lynn Zimmerman was one of 20 community college students in the nation named to the All-USA Academic Team by *USA Today* and Phi Theta Kappa. She graduated from JCC in May, 1996, with a 4.0, and attended JCC again in the fall. Chosen on academics, activities and an essay, she was featured in *USA Today* April 14 and was honored by the American Association of Community Colleges in Anaheim, Calif. She is shown with *USA Today* president and publisher Tom Curley, left, and MGCCC President Dr. Barry Mellinger, right.



Lamplighter Award

Brenda Helms and Mary Trichell

Lamplighter Award recipients for 1996 were math instructor Brenda Helms and radiologic technology program director/instructor Mary Trichell.

The award, given by the Mississippi Public and Community College Academic Deans Association for excellence in teaching, honored 64 academic and technical instructors from across the state at a conference in Natchez.

"Every time I hear a student express excitement at having mastered a new math skill, my pride in being a teacher is renewed," said Mrs. Helms.

"I am constantly enriched and encouraged by my students; it's not a 'one way' thing," said Mrs. Trichell.

"They are outstanding instructors," said William Martin, Academic Dean.

H.E.A.D.W.A.E. Instructor

Communications Instructor Rebecca Moreton

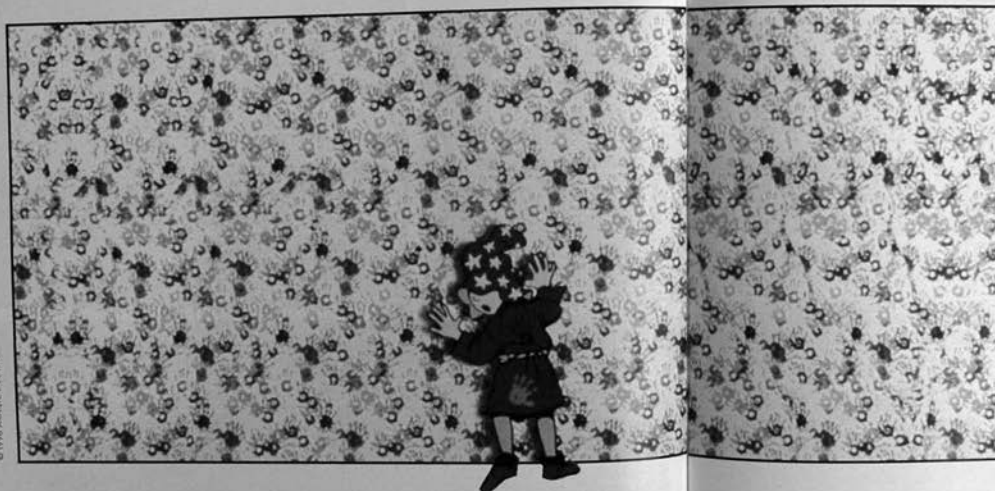
Rebecca Moreton, communications instructor, was chosen to represent MGCCC's three campuses as its outstanding instructor at Higher Education Awareness Day-Working for Academic Excellence (H.E.A.D.W.A.E.), sponsored annually by the Mississippi legislature and the corporate community to recognize exceptional teachers and students from every college in the state.

She said she was delighted that the legislature recognized teachers, "the people in the trenches", but she was shocked at being placed in the spotlight.

"What we say and how we say it can start fires or put them out," she said. "Teaching people to express themselves gives them the power to make a difference."



DEFINITELY INVOLVED



TO SEE THE ARTIST'S INSIDE OF CLIFF TOPPER, A MORE, LOOK THROUGH IT TO ITS VERY, MORE. TO SEE THE ARTIST'S INSIDE OF CLIFF TOPPER, A MORE, LOOK THROUGH IT TO ITS VERY, MORE. TO SEE THE ARTIST'S INSIDE OF CLIFF TOPPER, A MORE, LOOK THROUGH IT TO ITS VERY, MORE. © 1999 MASCOT INC.

ORGANIZATIONS

HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE DEFINITELY MADE THE DIFFERENCE FOR THE HUNDREDS OF STUDENTS WHO GOT INVOLVED ON CAMPUS. ON THE ONE HAND, IT TOOK STUDENTS WILLING TO SACRIFICE SOME OF THEIR SCARCE FREE TIME AND DEDICATE THEMSELVES TO SOMETHING BIGGER THAN THEMSELVES. ON THE OTHER HAND, IT TOOK FACULTY MEMBERS WILLING TO GIVE THE TIME AND EXTRA EFFORT NEEDED TO SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE TEAMWORK. IT TOOK BOTH "HANDS" FOR JCC'S CLUBS TO WORK—AND WORK THEY DID. JCC'S CLUBS DESERVED A ROUND OF APPLAUSE BECAUSE THEY WERE DEFINITELY INVOLVED WITH COMMUNITY SERVICE, STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND CLUB PROJECTS.

see you in BSU

Mark Pichon and Jackie Chateau asked people to join BSU at Club Day.



steerike!

June Russum, academic counselor, tries to bowl a strike at the Coastliner bowling booth at Oktoberfest.

Fellowshipping Growing in faith Creating

ART GUILD

PURPOSE: To promote public awareness and student involvement in the arts. **ACTIVITIES:** Printed shirts, made Christmas ornaments, paper making workshops, field trips to University of West Florida and gallery hopping to New Orleans Museum of Art.

DEFINITELY DIFFERENT: "We are more organized and have endeavored to have more exciting projects. **QUOTE:** "The art club enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time." TM

BAPTIST STUDENT UNION

PURPOSE: A Mississippi Baptist ministry to college students designed to win non-Christians to faith in Christ, to facilitate and enrich spiritual growth, to encourage individual and group Bible study, to magnify church membership and loyalty, and to learn about and be involved in local, state, national and foreign mission projects. BSU seeks to provide a wholesome Christian fellowship through which students can involve themselves in ministry and personal growth activities. Individual counseling is available as needed. **ACTIVITIES:** College Student Conference in Jackson, State BSU Retreat in Clinton, leadership training conference in Pass Christian, BSU choir sang in

area churches and NASA Space Center for Black History Month program, Tuesday luncheon, Thursday prayer and worship, Monday night Bible study. **QUOTES:** "BSU has been a great experience for me and has helped me in spiritual growth." Nicholas Stephens, freshman from Moss Point. "It is a blessing to see so many students from all walks of life and of many different religious backgrounds fellowship and reaching out for the love of God! I believe no matter who you are or what church you belong to, you are a part of the BSU family." Mark Pichon, sophomore from Pascagoula. **DEFINITELY DIFFERENT:** "The unity that we have developed as a club."

LIFE CHRISTIAN SUPPORT GROUP

PURPOSE: A non-denominational Christian support group that strives to meet the needs of students of all ages, especially the adult student, through regular group meetings, Bible study and special events such as concerts. **ACTIVITIES:** Weekly meetings, special programs, participation in events to help people, sale of "Precious Feet Pin" as a stand against abortion, canned food drives and fund raisers for the ill, sold prints by sponsor Mrs. Carol Moradmand to raise money for a person

needing a double lung transplant. **QUOTE:** "The emphasis is on doing, not meeting." Mrs. Moradmand said, adding that LIFE tries to be involved in positive campus activities. "When you're physically small, you need food to grow. Your Christian growth is similar to that in that you need food to grow spiritually," said Mrs. Moradmand who noted that LIFE offers some of this food through fellowship and activities with other Christians.

how it's done

Top: Otis Clark demonstrated pottery techniques. Bottom: Cindy Smith checked out LIFE at Club Day.



singing at Oktoberfest

BSU members Cumbest, Marx, Mobley, Wilson, Pichon, Nelson and Sanders.

GOTCHA!



ART GUILD

Front row—Treasurer Gena Schilleroff, sponsor Kevin Turner; back row—Sponsor Malloy, Michael Wabner and President Aaron Dale.



BAPTIST STUDENT UNION

Johnny Brown, Leah Kemble, Roscoe Francis, Thomas Marx, Barry Wilson, David Mobley, Mark Pichon, Gary Blackwell, David Jones, Edith Skinner, Jackie Chateau, April, Ashley Dickson, Danielle Wells, Alicia Gray. Not pictured, Serene Woods.



LIFE CHRISTIAN GROUP

Sara Schultz, Corrie Green, Sandra Blusby and sponsor Carol Moradmand.

Learning Voting Participating

COLLEGE REPUBLICANS

PURPOSE: To make people aware of political viewpoints concerning different platforms and the duty to promote and encourage voting. **QUOTE:** "It feels good to make a difference on campus as well as overall in the community

concerning the importance of voter awareness and platform awareness." Alicia Dunaway. **DEFINITELY DIFFERENT:** This is the first year to have College Republicans on campus.

HEALTH OCCUPATIONS STUDENTS

PURPOSE: Developing character and leadership among members while encouraging participation in many student activity programs is vitally important. Members enjoy being able to adjust to duties as a citizen at MGCCC as well as a member in the health field. **ACTIVITIES:** 1997 Lofton Award Winner, Bulldog Bash winner, Homecoming Parade winner, Blood Drive, Oktoberfest, Fall Leadership Conference, Fill the Stocking, Wellness Activity, National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, Calif., as well as participating in every campus event. **QUOTE:**

"HOSA allows members to use their creative abilities and a diversion from the regular grind of school work." Sheryl Wallace. "Being a member of HOSA is like being a member of a large family; teamwork and support are essential elements. As a HOSA member I have learned to use the talents I have, and to use my time wisely." Krista Brewer. **DEFINITELY DIFFERENT:** HOSA has channeled all to their efforts of participation to show school loyalty, spirit, and good sportsmanship. HOSA set 1996-97 in motion to portray JCC as a great place to be.

HEALTH UNIT COORDINATORS

PURPOSE: To promote individual, campus, and community services through members participating in activities that develop leadership, character and human relation skills.

ACTIVITIES: Blood drive and bake sale. **QUOTES:** "New friends!" "Enriching and rewarding experience!" "Dedication! Teamwork!"

top cheer

HOSA members were excited after they took first at the Bulldog Bash for their innovative Come on Ride That Train cheer.



fit and healthy

Above: HOSA members did aerobics to promote health at their wellness project. Lifestyles of the Fit and Healthy. Right: HOSA President, Kim Brown set the stage for the HOSA cheer at Bulldog Bash.



recruiting members at Club Day

HOSA members encouraged students to sign up for their organization during Club Day.

cheerin' MGCCC

HOSA cheerleaders showed their school spirit at the Bulldog Bash.

GOTCHA!



H.O.S.A.

Top: Mari Davis, Denna Sprague, Denna Gordon, Sandra Tyler, Denna Davis, Gail Wink, Krista Brewer, Andrea Bell, Eliza Holloway, Sheryl Wallace, Jimmy Ballthrop, and Kim Brown. Bottom: Sponsor Estelore Douglas, Lori Chavetz, Vicki Bates, Shelia Pithed, Lynn Furey, Robin Hodgkinson, and sponsor Louise Stewart.



COLLEGE REPUBLICANS

Front: Jon Russell, Alicia Dunaway, Ashanti Fortson, and Amy Lee. Back: Sponsor Marilyn Moss, Bill Vest, and Timothy Kierker.



HEALTH UNIT COORD.

Seated: Kimberly Wells, Regina DeFlandin; Standing: Amanda Brower, Kim Lee, Tara White, Kenna Majors, and sponsor Gale Collins, R.N.

free food at Bash

MLT's Tommye Enfinger worked with Wes Inman and Jason Temple to serve Josh Tilley at the Bulldog Bash.



Getting involved Raising money Entertaining

JC SINGERS

PURPOSE: To perform music for on-and-off campus activities, to learn and demonstrate a variety of choral repertoire and to represent MGCCC. **ACTIVITIES:** Participated in fall and spring concerts for students and friends, entertained at Fill the Stocking Party, provided concerts for churches and community functions.

MATH CLUB

PURPOSE: To be an inspiration and social club at JCC. Surprise! No math is involved or required. **ACTIVITIES:** The Math Club sponsored a successful Penny Drive to raise \$100 for the Fill the Stocking project. **QUOTE:** "The Math Club has given me an opportunity to meet many great people and improve campus life." Alicia

Dunaway from Ocean Springs. **DEFINITELY DIFFERENT:** The Math Club is very excited about the ability to help change lives of children by donations of small change. The donations were given to the Salvation Army to purchase Christmas toys for children.

MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGY

PURPOSE: To inform students about a major in medical Laboratory Technology. Graduates perform tests to determine the absence, presence, extent and cause of diseases. **ACTIVITIES:** MLT won third place for fall semester for the Lofton Award and won awards for its active participation in Bulldog Bash Cheer, 3rd place; Bulldog Bash Banner, 1st place; Harvest Hay Day, First for the most outstanding and most traditional display. MLT did an outstanding job working at the campus blood drives where they

screened blood donors. **QUOTES:** "Working together as a team to reach a common goal." Sophomore Tommye Enfinger. "I have learned to enjoy the friends I made, the work I'm doing, and the goals I have established for myself. And last, but not least - Beating HOSA!" Sophomore Jason Temple. **DEFINITELY DIFFERENT:** MLT definitely made a difference by our club actively participating in school functions and encouraging other clubs, as well as students, to get involved in campus activities.



hey, hey, Macarena!

Math Club sponsor Angela Simms, center, did the Macarena at the Bulldog Bash along with English instructor Kevin Jenner and physical education instructor Kay Bevil.



winning ways

Top: MLT members Pam Moore, Virginia Stewart and Kim Poole, with their club's trophy at Bulldog Bash. Above: Anyone for Jamaica? JC Singers performed at the Fall the Stocking Party in December.

mlt sponsor

Right: MLT sponsor Sherry White signed in at Bulldog Bash. She retired this year after many years of enthusiastic sponsorship of MLT.

GOTCHA!



JC SINGERS

Dacia Ramus, Selenia Crews, Terry Canzonieri, Adrian Henry, and Beth Gargity.



MEDICAL LAB TECH

Front: Kim Poole, Tommy Enfinger, Mariana Drexler, Middle: President Patricia Moore, Jennifer Williams, Secretary Vanessa Virginia Stewart, Chantel Hayes, Kim Forsberg, above our Gretchen Cunningham. Back: Lisa Miller, Jason Temple, Ester Robert, Amy Lancaster, Lisa Egan.



MATH CLUB

Front: Brian Weindel and Kelly Tuck. Back: Jennifer Parks, Alicia Dunaway, sponsor Angela Simms and Gina Long.

Recording memories Organizing Meeting challenges

NEW HORIZONS

PURPOSE: To provide fellowship and support for non-traditional students at JCC, to encourage New Horizons to be an outlet for the members. **ACTIVITIES:** Host for the largest Christmas Festival for children of JCC students and faculty, observed Women's History Month. **QUOTES:** "I enjoyed meeting

new people, and being given a new and more positive attitude." Sandra Shepherd of Pascagoula. "New doors were opened and the information and educational preparation has been wonderful. Finally, I am not alone and my future looks much brighter." Freshman Norma Bolden of Pascagoula.

PHASES, YEARBOOK STAFF

PURPOSE: To present Phases in a Different way. The yearbook took on a new and exciting look. **ACTIVITIES:** Every event and working long hours to portray an accurate picture of the year; sponsored costume contest at Oktoberfest. Won third in the state for the 1996 volume. **DEFINITELY DIFFERENT:** Magic Eye pictures on division pages. **QUOTES:** "Being a

part of the yearbook staff has been a new and rewarding experience." Malynda Wheat. "Being on the staff has given us the beginning experience we need for successful careers as journalists." Freshmen Cecilia and Cynthia Dobbs of Ocean Springs. "It is exciting to know that the words I use when I write a story or caption for yearbook are forever!" Freshman Rita Elkins of Helena.

PHI BETA LAMBDA

PURPOSE: To develop strong, aggressive leadership and in turn our members will be more effective in the workforce. **ACTIVITIES:** Hosted two po-boy sales and a candy stick sale, baskets and gifts at Thanksgiving and Christmas for needy families. Active during all Student Council events. Won second place for the Lefton

Award for the year and both semesters. **QUOTE:** "To be involved in Phi Beta Lambda has meant a great deal to me; I have been active for two years and made new friends that I will cherish for many years to come." Sophomore Trina Reeves of Ocean Springs.



participants



Right: Phases editor Julia Smith just clowning around at Oktoberfest. Above: Sophomores A.J. LeGrone and Kelly Haugen got information about Phi Beta Lambda at Club Day. Top: New Horizons member Debbie Smith's dog was a winner in the Moist Spirited Dog Contest.



relaxing

Left, yearbook staffer Greg Breau, looked like he had eaten too much candy when he relaxed at the Phases table at Oktoberfest.

involved

Below: Phi Beta Lambda members supported the club's cheerleaders at the Bulldog Bash. Bottom: New Horizons members Leslie Mueller, Jesse Millward and Felicia Ashley at their Club Day table.



GOTCHA!



PHASES: YEARBOOK

Standing: Rita Miller-Elkins, Cynthia Dobbs, Cecilia Dobbs. Sitting: Robbie Amoretti, Shaw Weston, full photographer Maggie Clark, editor Julia Smith, Greg Breau.



PHI BETA LAMBDA

Sitting: Trina Reeves, Tony Gaudy, Susan Johnson. Standing: Lisa LeGrone, Clementine Peltzer, Teresa Green, Trina Taylor, Melissa Tober, Dianna Fennell, Gabriela Smith, Becky Cockshaw, Shelby Atkins, Mary Conly, Paula Martz and Sherry Starnes.



NEW HORIZONS

Seated: Fawn Thibodeaux, Cathy Caher, Belinda Seaton, Cheryl Butler, Chantasia Rivers, copious Carly Lunn, Tina Morris, Janika Steele. Second row: Ann Davis, Mary Hara, Sandra Shepherd, Norma Bolden, Claudia Barnett, Debra Rennie, Candace Bennett, Teresa Curdson, Third row: Billy Johnson, Maude Hagler, Debbie Smith, Maria Segal, Stacie Burns. Back row: Connie Ball, Dee Robinson.

Breathing room Educating Recruiting

PHI THETA KAPPA

PURPOSE: To reward scholarship and promote growth of a well-rounded student, to provide a scholarly fellowship of like-minded individuals. **ACTIVITIES:** Began two \$100 scholarships on campus, adopted a family at Thanksgiving and Christmas, tutored Boys and Girls Club members and New Horizons, worked blood drive, Toys for Tots, fellow-

ship at Christmas Party, Graduation Party, attended national convention in Dallas. **DEFINITELY DIFFERENT:** Received Five Star Chapter Rating! **QUOTE:** "PTK has been a great club to be a part of. I have enjoyed the travel, friendships and new experiences PTK has given me." Sophomore Malinda Wheat of Ocean Springs.

REFLECTIONS TEAM

PURPOSE: To promote MGCCC and JCC through both recruiting and hospitality functions on and off campus that are sponsored by MGCCC. **ACTIVITIES:** Third place in Lofton Award competition, participated in most campus activities, sponsored campus-wide food drive that collected 4500 items for the Lord is My Help, worked at such functions as DECA Competition, Welcome Committee for USS Yorktown, GED graduation, Explosion of Excellence Scholarship, tours of campus, JC Preview Day, Regional Science Fair. **QUOTES:**

"A member of the Reflections has helped me overcome being shy and to become more involved with the school," Freshman Jennifer Eaves Pascagoula. "Reflections has made a difference in my life by allowing me to meet new people. It has shown me that no matter how big the task, a team can accomplish it." Freshman Joshua Tilley of Hurley. "Reflections has made a difference in my life by allowing me to be involved with school activities and offering me the opportunity to meet new people." Malinda Cumberland of St. Martin.

RESPIRATORY THERAPY

PURPOSE: To promote and support the education and involvement of respiratory therapists. **ACTIVITIES:** Food drive for the

needy. **QUOTE:** "In our clubs we build our communication skills with others on and off campus."



go Bulldogs!

Robbie Amonette showed Reflections spirit at Bulldog Bash.

final touches

Alicia McMaster and Greg Brexau prepared the Reflections' "homecoming" float.



at the exhibit

Karly Mansfield, Alicia Dunnaway, Jennifer Parker, Jackie Dumond, Sacha Creel, and Malinda Wheat were among the Phi Theta Kappa members who attended the Fabergé exhibit in New Orleans.

at Oktoberfest

Phi Theta Kappa members Amy LeFournieu, Chris Carus and Tawana Harrison worked at the PTK booth during Oktoberfest.



at a meeting

Amy Lee, Phi Theta Kappa president, discussed upcoming business with members including Sacha Creel, Matthew Egerton, Andrew Egerton and Alicia Dunnaway.



GOTCHA!



RESPIRATORY THERAPY

Front: Dale Hughes, Julia Newbaker, Mary Ann Smith, Karen Sauter, Karen Hawkins. Middle: Tracy Simmons, Elizabeth Gregory, Amy Aweil, Andrea Powell, Ellen Gierlach, Dana Hollister, Kristie Sapich, Tracy Coloma, David Murry, Jory Howell, Thomas Owens, Marquise Jones, Jeff Jasso, LeRoy Bennett. Not pic: Karen, Angie Hale.



REFLECTIONS TEAM

Jenny Stewart, Jennifer Eaves, Anthony George, Wendy Smith, Alicia McMaster, Sacha Creel, sponsor: Terri Ormes, Robert Curtis, Lulinda Bood, Blandy Parish, Toni Smith, Krystal Holt, Jassu Adams, Josh Tilley, Robbie Amonette, Greg Brexau, Julia Smith.



PHI THETA KAPPA

Front: Sponsor Kay Sims, Stacy Picole, Dorene Drivelles, Melissa Moody, Amy Lee, Sheri Gilmore, Wendy Smith, sponsor Tara Langdon. Back row: Caleb Clark, Duane Baxter, Jackie Dumond, Tawana Harrison, Jennifer Parker, Calista Smith, Julia Smith, Martin Jani Caraway, Sacha Creel, Cher Wright, Matthew Egerton.

GOTCHA!



STUDENT NURSES

Front: President Penny Davis and Laura Parkratz. Middle: Beth Jack, vice president Linda Seward, Wanda Smith, Lori Galt. Back: Catherine Carbert, Catherine Houghston, James Ritchie, Melissa Turner, Melissa McHenry, Treasurer Ann Houston, Vice Secretary Peggy Church.



ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

Bottom: Sponsor Anni Colley, Cindy Palotti, Mary Kay Mason, sponsor Dan Zwarg, Rick Harry Stewart, McMa Stephens, Marlene Hutchinson, Chris Morahan, Carter Ellis, Tom Hammond and Cathy Chapel.



STUDENT COUNCIL

Bottom: Duane Blaser, Second row: Autumn Forsman, Mary Lisa Palermo, LaLinda Bond, Angela Waltham, Amanda Dry, Kelly Naquin, Sara Milling, Shannon Crave. Third row: Sponsor Terry Fountain, Terri Worner, Back: Amy Baker, Wren Jones, Bethany Georgia, LaRose Knipper and Jake Travis.



the 'dogs went that-a-way

Left: Students for Environmental Action member Harry Stewart struck a pose during his group's cheer at the Bulldog Bash.



hard at work

Far left: Student Council officers LaLinda Bond, secretary and Autumn Forsman, president, right, worked on some of the many posters advertising campus events during fall registration. Left: Antonia Pitalo and Jake Travis, Student Council representatives, scooped the side for the Almost Anything Goes obstacle course.

hard at play

Bottom: Student Council members Amy Baker, Sarah Milling, Autumn Forsman, Kelly Naquin, Nolan West, Angela Waltham, LaLinda Bond, LaRose Knipper and Bethany Georgia hampered it up at Bulldog Bash.



Healing Leading Cleaning Up

STUDENT COUNCIL

PURPOSE: To be the voice of the students in helping determine the success of the college; to plan and promote college wide extra-class activities for all students, to encourage student discussion of campus concerns, to present helpful recommendations to the faculty and administration, to exercise general supervision of campus organizations. **ACTIVITIES:** Sponsored a year full of events including Club Day, Bulldog Bash, Oktoberfest, Homecoming events, Harvest HayDaze, Turkey Trot, Christmas Door Decorating Contest, Fill the Stocking, January Mania, Spring Fling, Children's

Easter Egg Hunt, Almost Anything Goes, Lagniappe Day; oversaw all campus elections; sponsored the Lofton Award competition for campus clubs. **DEFINITELY DIFFERENT:** Sponsored intramurals for the first time in years, giving students an opportunity to play flag football, volleyball, basketball, soccer and softball; instituted V.I.B. (Very Important Bulldog) Parking spaces as door prizes at events; had a jazz band play for Lagniappe Day; raised \$400 for an activities scholarship to be given to a returning sophomore.

STUDENTS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

PURPOSE: To bring awareness of environmental issues to the public and students of MGCCC. The SEA Club goals are to bring industry, business and the community together to work towards environmental responsibility. **ACTIVITIES:** Clean ups of hazardous material, beaches and tires,

participated in campus activities sponsored by Student Council. **QUOTE:** "As neighbors of the environment we must all work together to promote practical solutions to real environmental problems." Sophomores John Sherman, Billy Wince, Kevin Ryan, and Tom Hammond.

STUDENT NURSE ASSOCIATION

PURPOSE: To orient students to their role in the community and professional nursing associations. **ACTIVITIES:** Participated in all state and national SNA conventions, Blood Drive, Coat and Blanket Drive, Santa for Senior Citizens, Toy Drive for the Children's

Shelters. **DEFINITELY DIFFERENT:** The SNA club had a record number in attendance at the state convention in Biloxi. In the past, JCC had two or three students in attendance. This year almost 70 students represented MGCCC!

Beating Reporting the Buzzer Computing

JC COMPUTING ASSOCIATION

PURPOSE: To promote the use and understanding of computers and computer science technology, both on campus and within the community, to provide services to students, faculty and staff and to serve as a source of social and educational affiliation for mem-

bers, associations and guests. **ACTIVITIES:** Sponsored the Mississippi Educational Computing Association state-wide competition April 11. **DEFINITELY DIFFERENT:** Won third place in the MECA state computing competition.

SCHOLARS BOWL TEAM

PURPOSE: To provide students with an opportunity to participate in a quiz-bowl situation in which teams receive points for giving the correct answers the fastest to questions on subjects including humanities, history, science, fine arts and mathematics. **ACTIVITIES:** Met twice a week to practice for competitions and represented JCC in the South Mississippi Scholars Bowl and

Ole Miss Ken Wooten Scholars Bowl competitions. **DEFINITELY DIFFERENT:** Placed third in the South Mississippi Scholars Bowl Competition. Miho Horshok was the Ken Wooten Scholars Bowl second highest individual scorer. **QUOTE:** "I felt very good about their performance," said team co-sponsor Rebecca Moreton. "They did an excellent job."

COASTLINER NEWSPAPER STAFF

PURPOSE: To publish a campus newspaper containing stories and opinions written by students in the journalism class. **ACTIVITIES:** Published four tabloid newspapers each semester under the editorships of Rita Miller-Elkins and Jennifer Ornel. **DEFINITELY DIFFERENT:** Awarded first place by the Mississippi

Junior/Community College Press Association for news stories for a spring 1996 piece on a controversial campus art show by reporters Crystal Rhodes and Raines Rushin; won first place award for Most Humorous in the Harvest HayDaze decorating contest; won second place in the Almost Anything Goes competition.



surveys

Left: Coastliner staffers Rommel Peters, April Landry and Jennifer Ornel distributed interest surveys on the campus newspaper during January Mania, spring semester's Club Day.



staff unity

Below: Coastliner team members who took second place in the Almost Anything Goes games were Wesley Venus, Rose Seid, Brandon Hardesty, Jennifer Ornel and Todd Sherman.



paper paste-up

Left: Spring Coastliner staffers pasting up a newspaper were Rommel Peters, Laura Cook, Jennifer Ornel, Wesley Venus, Brandon Hardesty and Christian Logan.

brain teasers

Above: Scholars Bowl sponsor Rebecca Moreton, left, and team members Alicia Dunaway and Matthew Egerton, right, during a practice session.



SCHOLARS BOWL TEAM

Cosponsor Amy Chutagier, sponsor Rebecca Moreton, Matthew Egerton, alternate Alicia Dunaway, Clinton Wright, Sarah Newell, Andrew Egerton, Miho Horshok.



JC COMPUTING ASSOC.

State MECA third place team from JCC, composed of Bill Herndon, Joe Parni, sponsor Tim Zito, M. Saad Anwar and Andrew Egerton.



COASTLINER STAFFS

Fall Semester staff, top: Standing, sponsor Terry Fountain, Darwin Hunt, Robbie Amosette and Martha Gable; sitting, editor Rita Miller-Elkins, Jennifer Ornel, Felix Quier and Barry Barr. Spring semester staff, bottom: sitting, editor Jennifer Ornel, Todd Sherman, Wesley Venus, Brandon Hardesty; standing, Veritika Thomas, Rose Seid, Christian Logan and Laura Cook.

And the winners are Doors Club competition

Clubs supported the annual Christmas door decorating contest sponsored by the Student Council by giving the campus a touch of holiday cheer. Winners included Retail Management Class; most creative, most humorous, most original and most outstanding; Phi Theta Kappa; most traditional and best theme; Phi Beta Lambda; most humorous; Learning Lab; most creative; M.L.T.; best theme and most original; Reflections; most outstanding; HOSA; most traditional.

the winners are ...

Christmas door decorating entrants were first row: New Horizons, Cheryl Ruffe, Corrie Ball, Alie Duley and Maria Seals; Phi Beta Lambda, sponsor Winesa Dedeaat. Second row: HOSA, Robin Hodgman, Sheryl Wallace, Ken Brown and Lori Chavez; M.L.T., Pam Moore and Tommy Enfinger; Fashion/Marketing, Wing Cher. Third row: Phi Theta Kappa, Jennifer Parker, Amy Lee, Celeste Smith; Students for Environmental Action; Reflections.



And the winners are Lofton Award Club competition

Health Occupations Students of America won the Lofton Award after a year of vigorous, enthusiastic and creative participation in campus events. Competition for the Lofton Award not only brought honor to student organizations. It brought energy to campus events.

The award, given annually by the Student Council to the most outstanding clubs, honors excellence in campus participation through a point system.

Sixteen clubs received certificates of participation in addition to the top winners of the year who included HOSA, first; Phi Beta Lambda, second; Reflections Team, third. Taking top honors for fall participation were HOSA, first; PBL, second; Medical Laboratory Technology, third. Spring semester winners were HOSA, first; PBL, second; Reflections,

third.

HOSA led the way with a tri-campus win for Best Theme for their chu-chu float in the MGCCC homecoming parade, a clever Christmas skit for Fill the Stocking, a first place cheer win at Bulldog Bash and first place wins in Harvest HayDaze and Christmas displays. In addition, the club sponsored Lifestyles of the Fit and Healthy, a wellness project designed to promote low-fat eating and exercise.

Reflections and New Horizons were the only clubs to sponsor a wellness project. Through departmental cooperation Reflections collected 4,500 items of food to give to The Lord is My Help. Over three-fourths of the items were collected through the science department. New Horizons sponsored a children's Christmas party.

hosa's HARD WORK pays off



lofton award winner

Autumn Forsman, Student Council President, presented winners of the Lofton Award with plaques honoring them for their outstanding service to the campus for 1996-97. Accepting on behalf of their clubs were presidents Ken Brown of Health Occupations Students of America, first place; Theresa Reeves of Phi Beta Lambda, second place; and Wendy Smith of Reflections, third place.



first place winners!

Members of HOSA with their first place Lofton Award for the best campus student organization were, back: Vicki Bates, Sheryl Wallace, Andrea Bell, Siandra Tyler, Johnny Bathrop, Matt Davis, Krista Brewer, Corrie Jordan; middle: co-president Louise Stewart, Lori Chavez, Gail Wink, Shelia Pritchard, Lyni Furey, sponsor Eleanor Douglas; front: Eliza Holloway, Ken Brown, Robin Hodgman.

top three winners

The top three finishers for the Lofton Award caught in action during the year were top, Reflections; above left, PBL; above right, HOSA.

DIFFERENT FACES



TO GET THE PICTURE, WE HAD TO GO THROUGH THE BLIND, HIDE YOUR FACE, AND ABOUT THE IMAGE, WE WERE AWAY. KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN, AND YOU'LL SEE THE DIFFERENCE.

PEOPLE

FACE IT: WHILE THE CAMERA CAPTURED THE MOST IMPORTANT EVENTS OF THE YEAR ON FILM, THE MOST IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN THOSE PICTURES WAS THE FACES THAT MADE JCC DEFINITELY DIFFERENT. FACES OF STUDENTS WHO MADE UP AN INCREASING NON-TRADITIONAL ENROLLMENT AND WHO BLENDED IN EASILY WITH TRADITIONAL STUDENTS. FACES OF STUDENTS IN ACADEMIC, VOCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL STUDIES WHO ALL FOUND A HOME HERE. FACES OF A DIVERSE STUDENT BODY DRAWN TO CAMPUS BY THE CORE CURRICULUM OR PROGRAMS LIKE THE INSTITUTE FOR LEARNING IN RETIREMENT. THE YEAR'S BIG PICTURE WAS REALLY MADE UP OF ALL THE LITTLE PICTURES CAPTURING THE DIFFERENT FACES OF JCC.

Definitely The Top

Continued expansion of the campus's facilities, offerings and services would not have been possible without the support and determination of administrators.

Led by Jackson County Campus Vice President Dr. Royce Luke, who will retire the end of June, administrators were involved in "The Big Picture" as well as overseeing day-to-day details of running a campus as large as JCC, one of the largest employers in the county.

Campus administrators included Dean of Academic Instruction William Martin, Dean of Business Services Dr. Houshang Moradmand, Dean of Vocational-Technical Instruction Jerold Shepherd and Dean of Student Services Mrs. Linda Switzer. Assistant Deans were Dr. Alex Carter, Learning Resource Center; Charlie Neumann, Vocational Instruction; Mrs. Bennie VanCourt, Vocational Instruction.

"Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College is a dynamic institution with employees—faculty, staff and administrators—dedicated to achieving its mission. The heart of that mission is the quality of experience a student or a community has with the college," said MGCCC President Dr. Barry Mellinger.

"Our employees possess the creativity, strength and vision to ensure that we are successful in the pursuit of our mission. George S. Patton said, 'Never tell people how to do things. Tell them what to do, and they will surprise you with their ingenuity.' Mississippi Gulf Coast

Community College has that type of ingenuity," he said.

This year the college worked to break down all barriers to bring quality education to a diversified district population. Because a rush of changing needs had developed in the district's communities, which are preparing for a new century, the college adopted the concept of a "Community Campus" which has no definite location, but operates on a district-wide basis.

One tool used to expand services was the 34-foot Mobile Training Unit used to provide on-site training. The \$120,000 learning lab on wheels with 15 computer stations allows not only computer application training, but employee skills assessments.

Other programs under the Community Campus umbrella were Workforce Development, which provided everything from basic skills instruction to customized training to employees of area businesses; Institute for Learning in Retirement, a program for retirees over 50 interested in continuous learning; Literacy and Adult Basic Education, which included GED preparation and English as a Second Language; One-Stop Career Centers, which addressed career planning and placement; and Community College Network, which expanded classroom walls across campuses as well as the state. As part of this emphasis, a new Educational Services building was under construction this year. When complete, it will house all counselors, the Career Center, New Horizons and Student Services.

Pictured this page: Dr. Royce B. Luke, Vice President, Jackson County Campus.



WILLIAM MARTIN
Dean, Academic Instruction



DR. HOUSHANG MORADMAND
Dean, Business Services



JEROLD SHEPHERD
Dean, Vocational-Technical



MRS. LINDA SWITZER
Dean, Student Services



DR. ALEX CARTER
Assistant Dean, LRIC



CHARLIE NEUMANN
Assistant Dean, Vocational



MRS. BENNIE VAN COURT
Assistant Dean, Vocational

Definitely Supportive

Frankly, faculty support was crucial to the success of campus events. Without it, sponsor of events had an up-hill climb.

Fortunately—for the students—Jackson County Campus was definitely different because a large percentage of the faculty walked the talk of support by attending and participating in campus events in addition to making classroom announcements.

Club participation, unusually high for a commuter campus, enjoyed leadership from faculty advisers who provided stability and consistency.

"It gives the students the opportunity to see that faculty members are human beings," said Reflections sponsor Terri Ormes. "They get the opportunity to learn we have other interests besides homework and tests."

In addition, there was a large pool of interested instructors who volunteered to sit at election polls, serve food at events or help chaperone.

But those who actually participated in events helped make memories for JCC students. Who could forget watching the all-female faculty squad perform a number to the Macarena at the Bulldog Bash? Or what

about MLT's Sherry Whitmore who cheered with her club at the Bash? And then there were HOSA's sponsor Eleanor Douglas and Louise Stewart who dressed like pumpkins for Oktoberfest and like train engineers for their club's homecoming float. Remember Jason Pugh and Terry Fountain kissing the pig and Bill Snell making it through the obstacle course?

"Our participation allows the student to get an insight into the principle that extracurricular activities enhance the learning process and it gives the student the opportunity to perceive the personable side of the instructors," said Mrs. Douglas.

Of course, the most important function of instructors was in the classroom where they taught, encouraged, tested, graded, challenged and inspired. Some, like physics instructor Jason Pugh, went the extra mile to make sure their students had opportunities to relate what they learned in the classroom to real world situations. Pugh engineered a fall NASA tour for 83 chemistry and physics students taught by him, Van Stringfellow and Debra Jackson. Highlights were a firing of a space shuttle main engine, tours and a briefing by an electrical engineer.



• HAVING FUN at the Bulldog Bash were Sherry Whitmore, left, and Kay Bevil, Kevin Jenner, Sandy Davis, Debra Jackson, Julie Besancon, Joanne Stewart, Angela Sims, Rusty Brown and Tara Langston, right. Counselor Julie Rasmussen, top, bowled a strike at Coastline's Oktoberfest booth.



Acker, Ellen • Bookstore
Allison, Stephanie • Developmental Studies
Adkins, Julius • Security
Ray, Wendy • Library
Baumann, Marla • Bookstore
Belew, Laura • Student Services

Besancon, Julie • Student Services
Bevil, Kay • Physical Education
Blakely, Barbara • Business Services
Bouvette, Lisa • New Horizons Counselor
Briggs, Sandra • Library
Broome, Cynthia • Language Arts

Brown, Dean • Workforce Development SBDC
Brown, Rusty • Science Instructor
Casey, Jo Ann • Environmental Tech
Chatagnier, Amy • Business Instructor
Christine, James • Technical Instructor
Clark, Evelyn • Writing Lab Instructor

Clark, Kathy • English Instructor
Collins, Gale • HUC Instructor
Davis, Janice • Academic Secretary
Sandy, • Learning Lab Instructor
Deavours, Lee • Economics Instructor
Dedeaux, Vanessa • Business Instructor

Douglas, Eleanor • LPN Instructor
Dyle, Mary • Media Services/LRC
Egerton, Charles • Biology Instructor
Fountain, Terry • Student Activities
Frisbie, Cecilia • Vo/Tech Instructor
Hancock, Pat • Developmental Studies

Harris, Annie • Learning Lab Secretary
Harris, William • Welding Instructor
Haygood, Barbara • Developmental Studies
Helms, Brenda • Developmental Studies
Hinton, Cheryl • Circulation Librarian
Hoggard, Lane • Health Occ. Counselor

Jackson, Debra • Science Instructor
Jenner, Kevin • Language Arts Instructor
Jones, Faye • Sociology Instructor
Koski, Charles • Director of Admissions
Lander, Georgi • Financial Aid
Langston, Tara • Language Arts

Mc Cool, Jean • New Horizons Coordinator
Mc Donald, Rick • Automotive Technology Instructor
Mc Gruff, Susan • Academic Secretary
Mc Millan, Shirley • Custodian
Milton, Dr. L. Hollis • Science Instructor
Moffatt, Bess • Science Instructor

Moradmand, Carol • Psychology Instructor
Moss, Marilyn • Language Arts Instructor
Mullins, Shirley • Records Clerk
Nehlig, Carl • Technical Instructor
Odom, Pat • Fine Arts Instructor
Omies, Terie • Recruitment/Placement Counselor

Overstreet, Kim • Student Services
Palmer, Mary • Library Director
Pierce, Carol • Learning Lab Instructor
Posay, Becky • Psychology Instructor
Pugh, Jason • Science Instructor
Richards, Martha • Music Instructor

Richerson, Barbara • Business Services Secretary
Robertson, June • Admissions Secretary
Rogers, Becky • Secretary, Student Services
Rutz, Rebecca • Business Instructor
Shannon, Sandra • Bookstore
Shaw, Dean • Social Studies Chair

Shaw, Edna • Language Arts Chair
Sims, Angela • Developmental Studies
Sims, Kay • Language Arts Instructor
Snell, William • Sociology Instructor
Stewart, Wanda • Fine Arts Instructor
Trichell, Mary • Radiologic Technology Instructor

Tringle, Sarah • Learning Lab Instructor
Tucker, Andrew • Marine Engine Mechanics Instructor
Turner, Kevin • Fine Arts Instructor
West, Pat • Fine Arts Instructor
Whitmore, Sherry • Medical Laboratory Technology

Williams, Rebecca • Cancer Center Director
Woods, Nancy • Language Arts Instructor
Woodward, Gerry • Vocational Resource Educator
Yarber, Jan • Academic Dean Secretary



Faculty Staff
100



Definitely Together

Couples who worked on campus rarely saw each other unless they drove together or ate lunch together because most of them worked in different areas of campus.

Among the multiple couples were a pair of department chairs—the Shaws—who have taught at JCC since the mid-to-late 60's. Dean heads the social studies department while Edna began her position over language arts this year.

Other couples were Houshang (Dean of Business Services) and Carol (psychology) Moradmand, Charlie (computer science) and Sherry (medical laboratory technology) Whitmore, Ralph (math) and Faye (sociology) Jones, Bill (sociology) and Doris (CCN room monitor) Snell, Lee (business) and Judy (Americorps) Deavours, and Mike (security) and Vicky (evening receptionist) Gante.

While different work schedules and

responsibilities tended to cause the couples to keep their home and work lives separate, they did share the same work environment and co-workers.

Growth of the campus was the number one change they had all experienced.

"When I started working here in 1966, A, B and C buildings were the only ones here," said Ralph Jones.

Dr. Moradmand recalled when the faculty met in L.I. of the current learning lab for faculty meetings—a far cry from having to meet in the cafeteria or auditorium this year.

They have also witnessed changes in student behavior.

"The students' behavior in the hallways have improved, but they have accelerated at cursing and vulgar language," said Mrs. Moradmand.

The instructors noted that increased technology has also impacted the campus, as have new programs and courses.

• Cecilia Dobbs and Cynthia Dobbs



• FACULTY COUPLES included Faye and Ralph Jones, Houshang and Carol Moradmand, Dean and Edna Shaw and Sherry and Charlie Whitmore, above. Pictured at top are Judy and Lee Deavours and Bill and Doris Snell.

Faculty Staff
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Definitely Broadcasting

Bad luck was nowhere to be found when Apollo 13's astronaut Fred Haise visited JCC Friday, Sept. 13, to make a commercial for MOCCC in the campus television studios.

Haise, a 1952 graduate of the Perkinson Campus, believes in the importance of a solid education. He supports MOCCC because it offered him the opportunity to go to school.

"My family couldn't afford a senior college. Perkinson gave me a start that was affordable and was indeed adequate for preparing me for a senior college," said the lunar module pilot for the ill-fated Apollo 13 mission in April 1970 which was headed for the moon when, 87 hours from earth and 200,000 nautical miles out in space, an explosion ripped open one panel of the space module. The nation waited, watched and prayed as the three-man crew and NASA worked to bring the space craft home safely.

Haise believes his life has been successful in education, work and family because he has chosen what he enjoys.

"Try to find a career where you are really happy going to work," he said. "If you enjoy your work to the extent that you feel like you are cheating someone for getting paid for it, you are successful!"

Haise was the first person to be inducted into the MOCCC Alumni Hall of Fame in 1970, soon after the Apollo 13 mission, and received the American Association of Community College's Outstanding Alumni Award in April 1996.



• Inset photo: Fred Haise



• ALL IN A DAY'S WORK. TV studio director Doug Mansfield taped a MOCCC commercial with Apollo 13 astronaut Fred Haise, above.



Mansfield skilfully edited and spot-boutage for projects such as documentaries and commercials.

"After seeing the movie Apollo 13 and associating the real face of Fred Haise with the character and learning what he went through in his life, I felt honored to meet him," said sophomore Mark Pichon, electrical engineering major from Pascagoula and one of several JCC students who participated in the taping of the commercial.

"Mr. Haise has been so gracious with his time and support of the college," said Colleen Hartfield, Director of Institutional Relations. "He is an outstanding example of the contributions made by Gulf Coast alumni to many professions."

Taping the commercial was just one of the products of JCC's television studio. With over \$1.5 million in equipment such as television cameras, editing systems, audio mixing and a complete control room, the studio was used to produce the first documentary by a Mississippi post-secondary school to air on ETV. All of the editing for MOCCC commercials is done in the studio, in addition to work for speech and marketing classes. The studio's director, Doug Mansfield, is proud of such documentaries as "Beauvoir: Memorial to a Lost Cause" which depicts the history of Beauvoir. It is shown at least eight times a day at Beauvoir and at least 35,000 tourists see it each year.

—Rita Miller Elkins and Patsy Burr



Jamie Amoneit • Fr. • Moss Point
Robby Amoneit • Fr. • Moss Point
Leroy Armstrong • Fr. • Pascagoula
Cherie Armstrong • Wilson • Fr. • Pascagoula
Elizabeth Arney • Soph. • Ocean Springs
Julius Atkins • Soph. • Gautier

Scott Bailey • Fr. • Pascagoula
Johnny Balthrop • Soph. • Moss Point
Joelle Bamba • Fr. • Biloxi
Debbie Barton • Soph. • Lucedale
Duane Baxter • Soph. • Ocean Springs
Linwood Bauman • Fr. • Biloxi

Andrea Bell • Soph. • Moss Point
Matthew Bernardo • Fr. • Lucedale
Carolyn Benward • Fr. • Pascagoula
Mary Besancon • Soph. • Ocean Springs
Christie Bilbo • Soph. • Pascagoula
Brandon Bishop • Fr. • Hurley

Erik Black • Fr. • Escatawpa
Brad Blackman • Fr. • Vancleave
Henry Blanchard • Fr. • Ocean Springs
LaLinda Bond • Soph. • Pascagoula
Shannon Boykin • Fr. • Ocean Springs
Shantennette Bradley • Fr. • Lucedale

Kenneth Brewer • Soph. • Pascagoula
Krista Brewer • Soph. • Ocean Springs
Jerry Bridges • Fr. • Moss Point
Charleen Broadus • Fr. • Pascagoula
Ken Brown • Soph. • Ocean Springs
Kathy Browning • Fr. • Pascagoula

Betsy Burr • Soph. • Ocean Springs
Amber Burtt • Soph. • Gautier
Debra Burwell • Fr. • Pascagoula
Lindy Bush • Soph. • Pascagoula
Laura Cales • Soph. • Pascagoula
Holly Cannette • Soph. • D'Iberville

Marisa Caraway • Soph. • Biloxi
Tracey Carroll • Fr. • Ocean Springs
Jammie Catchot • Soph. • Pascagoula
Lisa Catron • Soph. • Grand Bay
Kathy Chavez • Fr. • Pascagoula
Lori Chavez • Fr. • Ocean Springs

Micah Chisholm • Fr. • Lucedale
Patricia Clardy • Soph. • Gautier
Jeffery Clark • Soph. • Pascagoula
Mary Clark • Fr. • Pascagoula
Terrie Clark • Fr. • Gautier
Wanda Clark • Fr. • Pascagoula

Frankie Cobb • Fr. • Ocean Springs
Shane Cockerham • Soph. • Ocean Springs
Carolyn Coleman • Fr. • Gautier
Marilyn Coleman • Soph. • Ocean Springs
Tonya Coleman • Soph. • Ocean Springs
Deborah Combs • Fr. • Ocean Springs

Mary Ann Conley • Soph. • Lucedale
Tiffany Cowan • Fr. • Moss Point
D. Richmond Coward, Jr. • Fr. • Ocean Springs
Harvey Crandall • Soph. • Gautier
Shannon Crane • Soph. • Gautier
Elvira Creath • Fr. • Gautier

Sacha Creel • Soph. • Ocean Springs
Theo Cross • Soph. • Ocean Springs
Yolanda Cruz • Fr. • Pascagoula
Becky Cubbage • Soph. • Pascagoula
Donna Culbreath • Soph. • Moss Point
Robert Curtis • Soph. • Moss Point

Michael Daniels • Fr. • Biloxi
Billie Dantzer • Fr. • Pascagoula
James David • Soph. • Vancleave
Marti Davis • Soph.
Rachel Davis • Fr. • Lucedale
Theresa DeSpain • Fr. • Vancleave

Ashley Dickson • Fr. • Lucedale
Thanh-Thao Doan • Fr. • Pascagoula
Cecilia Dobbs • Fr. • Ocean Springs
Cynthia Dobbs • Fr. • Ocean Springs
Karen Dowdy • Soph. • Pascagoula
Shaelandra Dread • Soph. • Pascagoula

Carol DuFour • Soph. • Pascagoula
Alicia Dunnaway • Soph. • Ocean Springs
Darlene Durapau • Soph. • Ocean Springs
Heather Eason • Fr. • Ocean Springs
Jennifer Eaves • Fr. • Pascagoula
Tommie Eckert • Fr. • Escatawpa

Lisa Edelen • Soph. • Gulfport
Pamela Edwards-Moore • Soph. • Biloxi
Andrew Egerton • Soph. • Ocean Springs
Matthew Egerton • Soph. • Ocean Springs
Amelia Eblen • Soph. • Ocean Springs
Teresa Eldridge • Soph. • Pascagoula

Rita Elkins • Fr. • Pascagoula
Matthew Ely • Fr. • Hurley
Thomas Enfinger • Soph. • Grand Bay
Angie Eriksen • Fr. • Gautier
Lakesha Evans • Soph. • Moss Point
Doris Everett • Fr. • Moss Point



Definitely Resourceful

More stack space, more seating, more user friendly. When the library renovation was finally ready for student use Oct. 9, its 7,000 additional square feet met with instant approval.

A larger circulation area and a new periodical room for students' use containing Academic Abstracts and Infotrac made research easier because the databased computers made the search for information faster and more efficient and allowed students to make copies of articles found in the most widely circulated periodicals. All formats of periodicals—current and back issues, microfiche and CD ROM data bases—were brought together in one room with complete student access.

"We think the expanded space helps us be more user-friendly for our patrons," said

Mary Ann Palmer, head librarian. She added that the Library of Congress classification system, now a year old at JCC, makes the whole system easier to work with.

"I love the new, spacious library and I much prefer the Library of Congress method over the Dewey Decimal system," said Samantha Williams.

"The access to the materials through the computer system and periodicals room is now more beneficial and faster for me," said Bill Vest.

Bridgette Sullivan agreed. "I enjoy having the library facilities because it is a nice place to study and the materials are now more readily available," she said. Steven Shoemaker found the library a good place to study.

"It's a good place to do your homework," he said.



• CHECKING OUT the expanded library facilities, above left, were Bill Vest, Gautier freshman, and Amy Lee, Pascagoula sophomore.



while Biloxi sophomore Kelli Reed and Ocean Springs sophomore Toni Cleaves worked on an assignment for business law.

Definitely Expressive

Fine arts flourished on campus. The number of students taking art classes increased so much that the department had to look for adjunct faculty to handle the class loads. Fine arts offerings increased. A 3-D department with ceramics and sculpture was established. Interest ran high for gallery exhibits. And 1996 student art sales at Christmas were double those of 1995.

Classes in drawing, design, painting and sculpting attracted art majors as well as those who wanted personal enrichment. Sculpting, offered this year for the first time in many years, had so many stu-

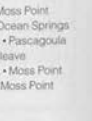
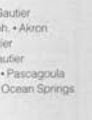
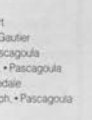
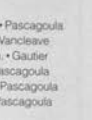
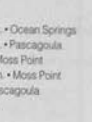
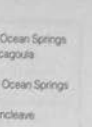
dents spring semester that the room couldn't hold them all.

Of special note were gallery exhibits featuring the works of Craig Brumfield of Ocean Springs and Tim Waldorf of Biloxi, Mary Hardy of Ocean Springs, Hinds Community College faculty, Obie Clark, Art Wave Membership, Susie Rananger and Marty Kuki.

"The first thing I would ask someone who was considering art as their major is: 'Are you serious?'" said Kevin Turner who joined the art department faculty in the fall. "It is a very difficult field; it is very hard to become successful. You must be very dedicated to your work."



• **WORKS OF ART** by students Jacquelin McIntyre, Lionel Clark, David Nobles, Jennifer Hutchinson, Phyllis Consentino, Linda Ishee, Linda Hill, Michael Walker, Marcy Schrepp and Dennis St. Pierre were featured in a Christmas show and sale.



Barbara Holt • Soph. • Pascagoula
Jesse Hooker • Fr. • Vancleave
Kimberly Howard • Fr. • Lucedale
Amanda Hudson • Fr. • Lucedale
Donna Hudson • Fr. • Ocean Springs
Taylor Hulseley • Fr. • Pascagoula

Heather Hungerford • Fr. • Ocean Springs
Jason Hunt • Soph. • Moss Point
Marlene Hutcherson • Soph. • Pascagoula
Charity Hyatt • Fr. • Pascagoula
Crystal Ivey • Fr. • Pascagoula
Chris Jackson • Fr. • Biloxi

Tarjilyn Jackson • Fr. • Pascagoula
Zandra Jarmon • Soph. • Gautier
Terry Jett • Fr. • Gautier
Alex Joe • Fr. • Pascagoula
Donald Johnson • Soph. • Moss Point
Charles Jones • Soph. • Gautier

Kimberly Keys • Fr. • Escatawpa
Thelma Killian • Soph. • Lucedale
Walter Kimbrough • Fr. • Pascagoula
Chris King • Fr. • Ocean Springs
Susan Kitchens • Fr. • Lucedale
Melissa Kizer • Fr. • Latimer

Jason Krebs • Fr. • Pascagoula
Allan Lambert • Soph. • Pascagoula
Heather Lambert • Fr. • Pascagoula
Diedrel Laster • Soph. • Gautier
Tara Lawson • Soph. • Hurley
Amy Lee • Soph. • Pascagoula

Carmen Lee • Soph. • Moss Point
Kimberly Lee • Fr. • Moss Point
Benjamin Lillis • Soph. • Pascagoula
Misty Linder • Soph. • Pascagoula
Joel Lofton • Soph. • Gautier
Christina Logan • Fr. • Ocean Springs

Keena Magee • Soph. • Gautier
Shannon Malloy • Soph. • Gautier
Karyl Mansfield • Fr. • Pascagoula
Eileen Martin • Soph. • Pascagoula
Thomas Marx • Soph. • Moss Point
Tammy Mathieu • Fr. • Pascagoula

Ivy McCall • Fr. • Pascagoula
Darron McCarty • Fr. • Moss Point
Craig McGuire • Soph. • Moss Point
Tracy McKnight • Soph. • Pascagoula
Sara Melin • Fr. • Biloxi
Lee Miller • Soph. • Ocean Springs



Definitely On The Edge

Exploring new technologies without having old penalties looming overhead opened new doors for students who took the Science and Technology course's nine-module curriculum.

Exposure to advanced computer applications, applied physics, biotechnology, electrical/electronics, introduction to automation, microcomputer assembly and operating systems, multimedia, laser and fiber optics and telecommunications gave direction to some who were looking for majors and gave others an introduction to high tech skills.

"Success is sweeter when a person chooses a career, instead of a career choosing a person," said instructor Tom Forrester. "The excitement on faces as tasks are accomplished successfully and the thought of helping a student find a career direction is truly rewarding."

Testimonies of students who took the course told the story:

"This course has helped me to better understand the different technologies in the world today. My major is electronics, and for me personally, some of the modules helped me understand my major better. This course even helped me in tests taken in other classes. I know other students who decided on their majors after taking the course. The learning environment was student centered. In my opinion, that type of environment is a better learning experience." — Lisa McDaniel

"I got good exposure to modern computer applications in a wide range of occupational fields, especially the Internet. You learn some amazing concepts pertaining to the boundless world of technology." — Victor Burge

"Not only was the class informative and fun, but I also found it to be an eye-opener on many aspects of computer applications that I didn't even know existed. It should be a mandatory class for students just coming out of high school." — Harry Stewart



• LEARNING BY DOING — were sophomores Angelic Baxter, Stephanie Nettles and Esther Waddington of Pascagoula, above left; freshmen Sherry Quize of Latimer and Chris Stratham of

Ocean Springs, above right; and sophomore Will King of Hurley with instructor Tom Forrester, top.

Definitely Job-Wise

With over 2,500 persons using the campus Career Development Center fall semester alone, the facility proved to be one of the most beneficial to students and community members alike.

According to Career Center Director Rebecca Williams, the most frequent requests, in addition to off-campus job placement, were for career information such as what people do on their jobs, how much money different careers bring and educational requirements for careers.

Because JCC has had an active career center for many years, when it was expanded through the Workforce Development provisions, the JCC center became a model or pilot program for other community colleges who were just getting their centers started.

Workforce Development funds allowed the JCC center to expand and acquire up-to-date computer technology and software which helped students find everything from career information to scholarship sources.

"It is a pleasure to work in an area that offers services that really benefit students and community members," said Mrs. Williams.

Science instructor Dr. L. Hollis Melton, one of the Center's best advocates, stresses career education:

"Career education has always been important to me because of the effect that it has had on my students—present and past. I usually introduce my career education project by stressing to the students

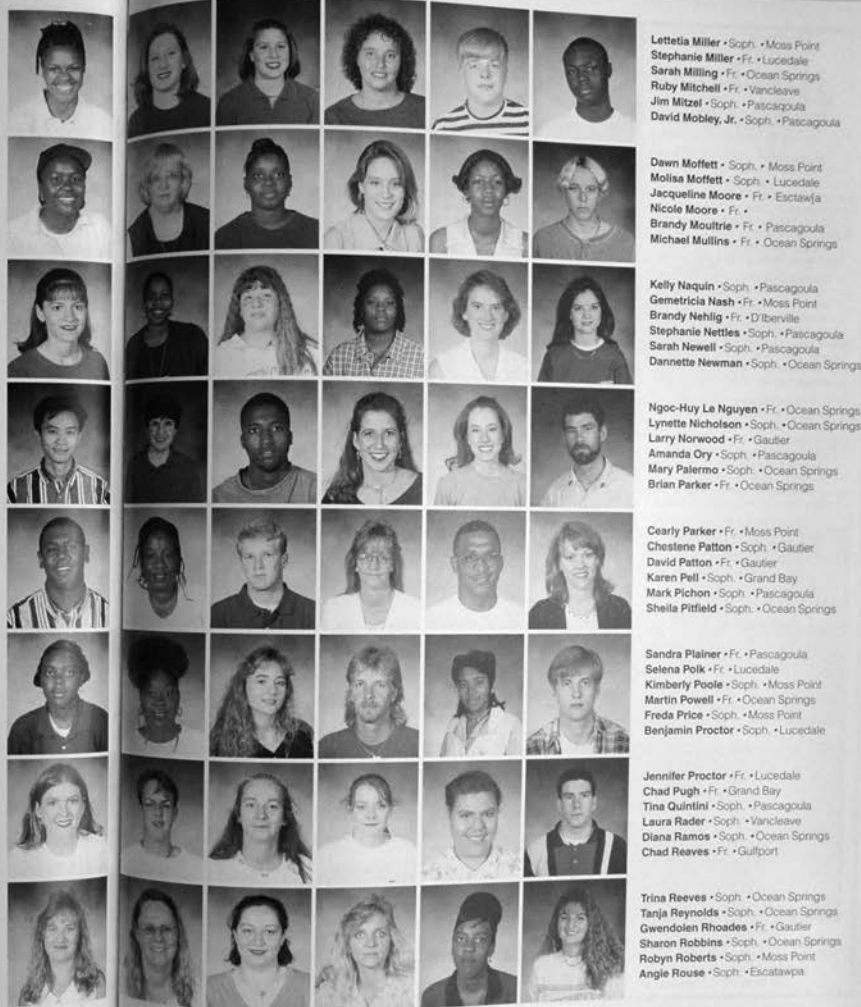
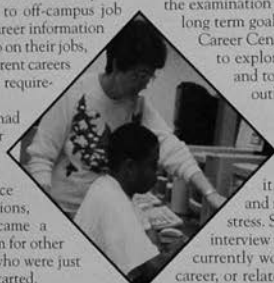
that I want them to pause and think about their studies and why they are here. If they can see the means to the end through current activities, the means to get there can be much more pleasant.

"With this in mind, I take every class to the Career Center wherein they are able to interface with our wonderful career counselor Mrs. Williams who guides them in the examination of their short term and long term goals for their lives. In the Career Center they are challenged to explore their career options and to determine their future outlook.

"I stress that if they can find an occupation that they enjoy and can get paid to do it, they will have a long and rich life with very little stress. Students are required to interview two individuals who are currently working in their chosen career, or related area. Here they get the guts of the career—positive and negative—and they can ask and receive information that can be further researched in the Career Center.

"Some students have learned that the career that they had planned on was not the one that they really wanted and so they were able to make career changes. One student learned that by taking six months of additional training, she could increase her beginning salary by \$5,000.

"I cannot praise Rebecca Williams and her friendliness, warmth and encouragement that she has given to my students over the years enough. As long as I am here—spring, summer and fall—my students will have an assignment in the Career Center."



Edna Rouse • Soph. • Lucedale
 Esther Rupert • Fr. • Moss Point
 Joanie Russell • Fr. • Gautier
 Damien Sanders • Fr. • Moss Point
 Daniel Sanders • Fr. • Ocean Springs
 Angela Santos • Fr. • Ocean Springs
 Jimmy Taylor • Fr. • Ocean Springs
 Kimberly Self • Fr. • Pascagoula
 Tommy Sessum • Fr. • Vancleave



Debbie Sewell • Soph. • Moss Point
 Vickie Shelton • Fr. • Moss Point
 Teresa Sheppard • Soph. • Gautier
 Brandon Sherwood • Fr. • Ocean Springs
 Jason Sherwood • Soph. • Ocean Springs
 Beth Simpson • Soph. • Moss Point
 Kipsey Siquefield • Fr. • Ocean Springs
 Edith Skinner • Fr. • Pascagoula
 Adrienne Smith • Fr. • Ocean Springs



Celeste Smith • Fr. • Ocean Springs
 Debbie Smith • Ocean Springs
 Julia Smith • Soph. • Ocean Springs
 Wendy Smith • Soph. • Pascagoula
 Carla Spivory • Fr. • Pascagoula
 Deena Sprague • Soph. • Ocean Springs
 Karen Stallworth • Soph. • Moss Point
 Anthony Stewart • Fr. • Moss Point
 Latoya Stewart • Soph. • Pascagoula



Tracy Stewart • Soph. • Gautier
 Virginia Stewart • Soph. • Lucedale
 Alice Stokley • Fr. • Lucedale
 Carol Stork • Soph. • Pascagoula
 Clay Strickland • Fr. • Pascagoula
 Shellie Sumralls • Fr. • Pascagoula
 Julia Taylor • Fr. • Ocean Springs
 Lisa Taylor • Soph. • Pascagoula
 Mary Taylor • Soph. • Ocean Springs



Robert Taylor • Fr. • Pascagoula
 Jason Temple • Soph. • Pascagoula
 Gwen Thames • Soph. • Vancleave
 William Toche • Fr. • Vancleave
 Rebecca Toler • Fr. • Moss Point
 Jake Travis • Soph. • Ocean Springs
 Melissa Trehern • Soph. • Pascagoula
 Sandra Tyler • Soph. • Gulfport
 James Upton • Fr. • Pascagoula



Jeannette Venable • Soph. • Gautier
 Bill Vest • Fr. • Gautier
 Sheryl Wallace • Fr. • Gulfport
 Allen Walley • Fr. • Lucedale
 Mary Walley • Soph. • Pascagoula
 Mary Ward • Fr. • Gautier
 Melissa Warner • Fr. • Ocean Springs
 Lavale Watson • Fr. • Ocean Springs
 Jennifer Webb • Soph.



Brian Weindel • Fr. • Ocean Springs
 Kathy Werner • Soph. • Gautier
 Timothy Werner • Soph. • Gautier
 Brooke Wernowsky • Fr. • Pascagoula
 Jennifer West • Fr. • Pascagoula
 Malynda Wheat • Fr. • Ocean Springs
 Tera White • Soph. • Gautier
 Aaron Williams • Fr. • Ocean Springs
 Anthony Williams • Fr. • Ocean



Barbara Williams • Soph. • Pascagoula
 Michael Williams • Soph. • Vancleave
 Teleisha Williams • Fr. • Moss Point
 Ann Wilson • Fr. • Vancleave
 Barry Wilson • Soph. • Pascagoula
 Jeneca Wilson • Fr. • Pascagoula
 Vanessa Wilson • Fr. • Pascagoula
 Gail Wink • Fr. • Ocean Springs



Definitely Designing

Renovations to C building covered over 8,000 square feet and turned the facility which formerly housed the cafeteria, bookstore and student activities rooms into a new home for the drafting and environmental technology programs, Student Council and Baptist Student Union. The drafting department—located on the entire second floor of the building—was finally under one roof, allowing the students to integrate between Black and white floors and a checked staircase led to expanded facilities for one of the most successful programs on campus. Included were a manual lab, drawing lab and a CAD lab. Program instructors Mike LeBarard, Tom Eason and Amanda Magee prepared students to translate engineering ideas in the drafting and design phase of the industrial world into lines and dimensions on paper for use by the craftsman in making an idea a reality. —Cecilia and Cynthia Debbis



• DRAFTING STUDENTS Jeremy Albert, Jan Monano, Joy Austin and Sam Huber enjoyed the new facilities. With Huber is instructor Mike LeBarard.

Dr. Royce B. Luke FAREWELL

By Rita Miller-Elkins



Dr. Royce B. Luke, after completing five years as Vice-President at the Jackson County Campus, retired in June with over 25 years of service to the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College.

Returning to MGCCC in January, 1992, after working with Trent Lott as a field representative, Dr. Luke took the JCC position—which was previously held by his friend and former co-worker, Curtis Davis.

"I felt a spiritual calling to return to JCC and to stay until two specific improvements were made," said Dr. Luke who took this position with a decrease in salary, but an increase in faith.

During Dr. Luke's time in office, JCC has seen a large capital investment with the renovation of facilities and new buildings. The second improvement is the increase in salaries across the board for JCC's faculty and staff.

"He has done an outstanding job in the expansion and beautification of our campus, as well as worked consistently to upgrade salaries for all campus personnel," said Kathy Clark, English instructor and president of the campus Mississippi Faculty Association (MFA).

With these accomplishments, JCC is now a bigger and better place to work and study. Many of the personnel at JCC feel that Dr. Luke's leadership in meeting these needs was his most significant contribution during his tenure as vice president.

According to William Martin, Dean of

Instruction, Dr. Luke has a "friendly political personality". Dean Martin said that because Dr. Luke was a politician at one time, he has an advantage in knowing how to meet and work with people.

"Dr. Luke had the foresight to plan for the future based on a foundation established over 30 years with the opening of the college in 1965," said Faye Jones, sociology instructor. "He has served in various capacities which has given him a unique perspective on the college and the community it serves."

"He brought to this job his perspective as a former business instructor/administrator on this campus, legislator, businessman, family man and long-term resident of this area," said his secretary Kathleen Lott, in agreement. "As an active member of this community, he knew the needs of the area and how to meet those needs."

Dr. Luke felt it was very important for him to be a liaison between the campus and his superiors in MGCCC's Central Office.

"I have found Dr. Luke to be our number one supporter. He has worked closely with us in our drive for increased salaries—mid point—as well as solved many of our problems, such as faculty parking," said Kathy Clark.

Mid point is the drive by the MFA to reach a salary for community college instructors that is midway between high school and senior institution instructors.

Jerold Shepherd, Dean of Vocational and Technical programs, put it plainly when he described Dr. Luke as a "profes-

sional, dedicated supporter of the institution".

"Dr. Luke sees the overall needs of the institution by giving his support of faculty, staff, administrators and students," said Linda Switzer, Dean of Student Services. "His door is always open to students."

"Dr. Luke has always been extremely supportive of the Student Council and the projects they have wanted to do for the student body," said Terry Fountain, Student Activities Counselor.

Dr. Luke's most memorable experience during his tenure as Vice-President was the opening of the new cafeteria. This is not surprising since the cafeteria (whether old or new) was the setting for the memories others hold of the kind of support shown by JCC's humble Vice-President.

It is doubtful that Dr. Luke knew of the lives he touched or the eyes that were watching him as he interacted with students.

An incident Mrs. Fountain recalls when Dr. Luke was first named to his position set the stage for his vice presidency.

"When he ate lunch in the cafeteria, which was then in C building, he would walk up to a table of the students and ask him if he could join them," she remembered. "That impressed me. Here was the top official of campus taking the initiative to meet students and listen to them."

"I've seen him pick out the student sitting all alone and join him for lunch," recalls Faye Jones, adding that she also remembers another shy young girl Dr. Luke made feel comfortable at JCC during

registration one year.

Dr. Luke gave that timid 17-year-old her first student worker job. Now, years later, Kathleen Lott considers Dr. Luke to be a loyal friend as well as her boss because she has served as his secretary since he was named to the office.

Perhaps the description used most about Dr. Luke is "a friend".

"We've worked together a long time and I consider him to be a friend," said Dean Shaw, social studies department chairman/instructor. Knowing Dr. Luke since 1965, Dean Shaw said their friendship has meant the most because it goes beyond the job.

"He thinks of this faculty and student body as family, so when they hurt, he hurts," said Jerold Shepherd.

Four years ago Dr. Luke was the friend who gave Kathy Clark the "needed push" to speak up at a southern district meeting of state legislators and the Community College Presidents Association.

"Dr. Luke has been a good friend as well as a good administrator," said Kathy Clark. Dr. Luke may leave JCC, but he will

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- He and his wife Rose Marie have two children, Melanie and Royce, Jr., and three grandsons.
- Worked his way through college as a janitor, cafeteria worker, driver, gardener, and laundry/dry cleaners employee.
- Graduate of East Central Junior College, USM (BS and MA) and MSU (PhD)
- Work places: Hattiesburg High School, Perkinston Junior College, Mississippi State University, Pascagoula Schools, Jackson County Campus, Field Representative for Larkin Smith and Trent Lott.
- Elected to the State House of Representatives.
- Selected Teacher of the Year at JCC.



MGCCC President Dr. Barry Mellinger with JCC's Vice President Dr. Royce B. Luke.

always have a place in the hearts of its faculty, administration and student body because he has spent his time wisely by helping and encouraging those he has met through the years.

"Dr. Luke stands tall among the leaders of this community, yet he continues to sit among the most common of us," said a JCC freshman. "He is truly Christ-like,

which is something I strive for daily."

"Always a gentleman, Dr. Luke is a man who cares deeply," said Terry Fountain. "I am sure that the hardships and circumstances of others, as well as the everyday duties of his position, have been the subject of much prayer because he is a man of faith."

"He is a scholarly Southern gentleman because he possesses the unique ability to balance a brilliant mind with compassion and gracious manners," said Mrs. Jones who believes

the inscription seen in Ronald Reagan's office describes the meekness of Dr. Luke: "What one can achieve is limitless if no one minds who receives the credit".



Dr. Luke surrounded by JCC Student Council members at the spring picnic. Top: Luke, Terrell, Michael Williams, Duane Baxter, Amanda Gray and Anthony Foreman. Middle: Wes Jensen and Bethany George. Bottom: Mary Lisa Palermo, Dr. Luke, LaDine Bond.

Visions Celebrate JC! for Leadership

Looking back. Looking ahead. Jackson County Campus turned 30 this year, and with the birthday came celebrations and visions. The campus hosted Visions for Leadership, a public lecture series, featuring historians Dr. Ray Skates and Dr. Stephen Ambrose, above, Feb. 27. The following day, alumni from the past 30 years came to campus to "Celebrate JC!" with tours, special reunions and a big party to look back.



Definitely DIFFERENT

Being editor of this year's Phases has afforded me the opportunity to meet and to work with a wonderful group of people who have so willingly given me their expertise. Their unselfishness is deeply appreciated. Thank you to Mrs.

Terry Fountain for her help and guidance with Phases and to the many dedicated faculty members who have given to me so generously of their time and knowledge. I am filled with gratitude, not only for the wonderful educational experience but also for the many life lessons I received at MCCCC. It is comforting to know that this institution continues to expand and make a vital contribution to this community. On each page, with each activity, we have tried to catch the true spirit of JCC. In years to come, we hope that as you flip through these pages, you will be reminded of your experiences this year. It was challenging; it was fun; it was educational; it was DEFINITELY DIFFERENT! • Julia Hamilton Smith (with photographer Maggie Clark, left)

COLOPHON

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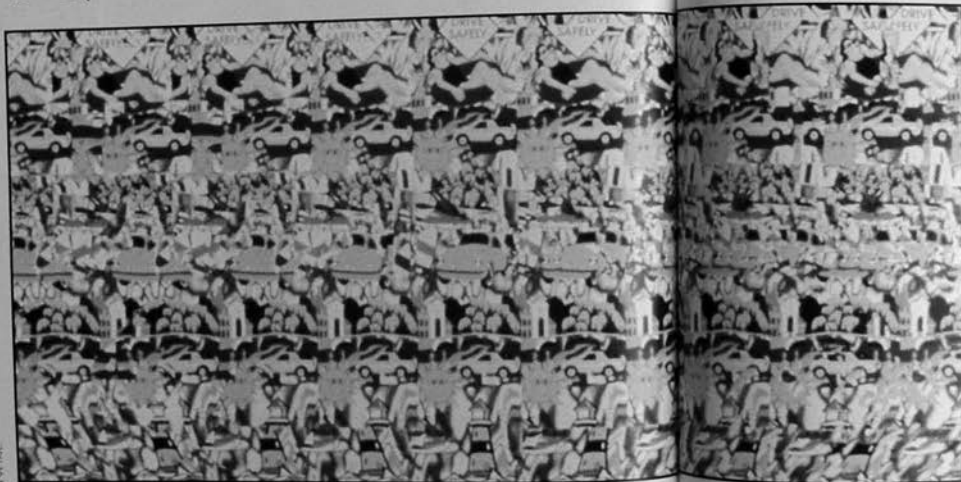
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MGCCC: DEFINITELY DIFFERENT

CENTRAL OFFICE

TO SEE THE 3-D EFFECT, HOLD IT CLOSE TO YOUR EYE. LOOK THROUGH IT TO THE OTHER SIDE AND WATCH THE IMAGES LEAP AWAY. KAT REYNOLDS ILLUSTRATION, 1995. © 1995 MGCCC BY INC.



TAKING ON THE YEAR WAS LIKE TAKING A ROAD TRIP. FIGURE OUT THE DESTINATION, LOAD UP THE LUGGAGE, PILE IN THE CAR, STEP ON THE GAS AND ENJOY THE SCENERY! BUT NO MATTER HOW MANY PEOPLE WERE IN THE CAR, ONLY ONE COULD BE THE DRIVER. FOR MGCCC, THE CENTRAL OFFICE UNDER THE DIRECTION OF DR. BARRY MELLINGER WAS IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT AS THEY PURSUED CHANGES TO EQUIP THE COLLEGE TO BETTER SERVE ITS COMMUNITIES WITH DEFINITELY DIFFERENT PROGRAMS, TECHNOLOGIES, SERVICES AND OPTIONS. "MISSION POSSIBLE" WASN'T JUST THE DESTINATION—IT WAS THE THEME OF THE JOURNEY, TOO, AS MGCCC SOUGHT TO MAKE A DEFINITE DIFFERENCE.

COMMUNITY CAMPUS

Delivering educational opportunities and meeting community needs.

Gulf 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; Farah Mohiuddin, Jefferson Davis Campus sophomore and student honor; and Rebecca Moreton, Jackson County Campus speech/hearing instructor and teacher honor, at the H&A/AAE 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.

Gulf 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 Ladner (marketing assistant for Institutional Relations) and Dr. Joseph Cihurn (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 Harfield, 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 offers workshops on programs such as Compel and PowerPoint.

"Multimedia offers more variety and a more personalized presentation in 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 MCCC 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 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 "Saturday Night Live" for kids on Nickelodeon, Hester has built a resumé 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 Bilanich, 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 Bilanich, Jefferson Davis; and Alicia Dunnaway, Jackson County.

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 Showcases Golf Tournament. The annual tournament raised \$13,000 for student scholarships to Gulf Coast.



At far right: William and Etta Frantzen. In 1996, Mr. Frantzen, 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., Eula 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.



Alumni/Foundation A year to remember

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. Frantzen 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.



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, were each honored at the Alumni 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.

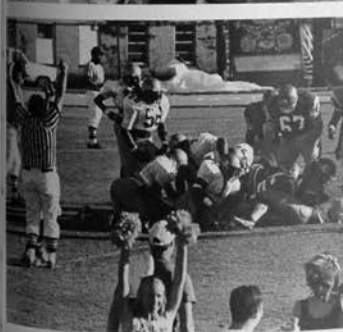


TOP RIGHT: June Jefferson, JD Campus Instructor of the Year, with family.

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



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



The Total Picture

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 "Curly" Harris**, retired head baseball coach; and **Bob Walthers**, head men's basketball coach for 36 years.



Pictured at this year's Family and Media Day on the Mississippi Beaches are Gulf Coast cheerleaders, from left, **Kelly Ryan**, **Kargan Winland**, **Jennifer Hoffacker** and **Juanita Weinberg**. This year's squad won superior ribbons, two trophies for final competition, a second place finish in the Cheer category competition and a third place finish in the Slateline competition at the Universal Cheerleading Association's annual summer camp in Tuscaloosa. Other squad members include **Robin Rusk**, **Dallas Crosby**, **Jeremy Conner**, **Patricia Taylor**, **Joel Moore**, **Dax Frayer**, **Greg Loose**, **Jeremy Lomas**, **Matt Thomas**, **David Robb**, **Jeremy Tostle**, **Lader Austin**, and **Jenny Pitts**.



The Gulf Coast baseball team opened the 1997 season with two high-powered wins (12-0 and 6-0) in a doubleheader against East Mississippi on Feb. 15 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 **Natisha Crosby**, right, meets a Jones Lady Bobcat. 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

Gulf 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 88-80 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 **Natisha 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 Hinton**, **Josh Weyer**, **William Weaver**, **David Taranto**, **Jose Rodriguez**, **Shae Sullivan**, **Felipe Monrealte** and **Juan Silva**.



Former building 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, 12-3) and second in total strikeouts (104 innings pitched, 129 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. **Kevin 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



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Annette Anderson, benefits clerk
Mike Anderson, printer
Sherice Arkwright, sec. to admin. asst., Inst. Relations
Marilyn Beckham, sec. to admin. asst., Vo-Tech Instruction



Dean Bellon, coordinator, Tech Prep
Betty Bennett, sec., Computer Center
Dr. Judith Bonematti, coordinator, Health Occupations
Charles Blankney, telephone/office machine tech.
Louis P. Boudreaux, senior program-interpreter



Margaret Boush, Personnel/Purchasing clerk
Gloria Briland, secretary, President's Office
Carolyn Brooks, sec., admin. asst. to Academic/Care. Inst./Stud. Serv.
Gennie Hall-Brown, publications manager
Louise Brown, Accounting Manager — Special Project



Jerry Bryan, admin. asst., Accounting
Lori Bulman, photographer
Joyce Calcutt, Mobile Training Unit coord./Instructor
Julia Cates, sec. to admin. asst., Inst. Research & Planning
Dr. Joseph Cliburn, admin. asst., Inst. Research & Planning



Randy Conell, asst. repair technician
Dr. Larry Crane, admin. asst., Voc.-Tech. Instruction
Sue Dean, secretary, President's Office
Brenda Donabue, coordinator, Recruitment/Marketing
Vonda Ford, secretary, President's Office



Joe Furr, program/interpreter
Joyce Galloway, Central Stores
April Grace, Alumni/Foundations officer
Colleen Hartfield, admin. asst., Institutional Relations
Tracy Higgins, staff writer/reporter

Hal Higdon, adm. asst., Human Resources
Zola Huffman, adm. asst., Acad. & Gen. Inst. & Student Serv.
Kimberly Jones, publicity staff specialist
Melissa Lachner, marketing assistant
Pamela Lachner, Technical Services librarian



Nancy Lee, secretary, VP, Adm. & Finance
Vivian Lewis, housekeeping
Marcia Lynn, accountant
Dorothy Lyons, sec. bookkeeper
Special Vics. Projects
Chuck McMurphy, Central Printing



Karen McQueen, sec. to VP, Instructional Affairs
Sharon Miller, Central Printing
Gary Moore, driver/operator
Marion Moore, Accounts Payable
Hilene Murray, coordinator, Cooperative Education



Gary Newhall, driver/operator
Sharon Parker, secretary, Industrial Services
Chris Pierce, Accounts Payable
Diane Raborn, 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 Turner, 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 MCTC.



Gertrude Allen, Harrison 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 Perketee.

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.

