

“There’s no better time than right now to be a George County Rebel.”



THE STUDENT PRESS

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“All That Jazz”

Parker receives 2019 DYW title

Alyssa Dean
News Editor

On March 10, eight juniors competed for the title of 2019 George County’s Distinguished Young Woman. DYW was held at the George County Middle School Activities Building and was sponsored by the Lucedale Fine Arts Club. The theme of this year’s program was “All That Jazz.”

Twenty-one “Little Sisters” accompanied the eight participants throughout their journey.

The participants not only competed for the title of DYW, but they also competed for awards in individual categories. These categories include The Jackie Valentine Memorial Interview, Scholastic, Self-Expression, Talent, Fitness and the Be Your Best Self Essay.

MSMS student Mia Parker was awarded the 2019 Distinguished Young Woman title. She also received the Self-Expression, Interview and Scholastic awards. She received a total of \$6,750 in scholarships from various businesses and colleges. She received a total of \$2,750 from the Self-Expression, Interview and Scholastic awards.

First alternate was awarded to Kylan Welford. Along with first al-

ternate she received the Talent and Fitness award. She received a total of \$2,200 in scholarships from various businesses and colleges. She received a total of \$1,550 from the Talent and Fitness awards.

To prepare for the program, Welford attended all of the designated practices to learn the routines.

“I also spent a lot of my time working on interview and my talent,” Welford said.

Second alternate was Courtney Wilkerson. She also received the Be Your Best Self award. She obtained \$1,700 in scholarships from various businesses and colleges. She received a total of \$450 from the Be Your Best Self award.

“Honestly I did not expect myself to do that well, so I was proud of myself and I knew my family was proud too,” Wilkerson said.

The Spirit of Distinguished Young Women award was voted on by the participants. This award was given to Savannah Morgan. She received \$800 for the award.

“To know that my peers who were competing against me voted for me made me feel so honored and appreciative,” Morgan said. “Overall, I am forever grateful.”

Many of the girls feel that the experience of DYW has greatly im-



photo/ Alyssa Dean

‘All That Jazz’- Mia Parker won the 2019 DYW title. Juniors Kylan Welford received first alternate, Courtney Wilkerson received second alternate and Savannah Morgan received the Spirit award.

pacted and changed their lives.

“This experience has been a great eye-opener for me,” Wilkerson said. “I learned more about the world around me as well as more about myself. I have grown more mature, responsible, healthy and motivated.”

The program not only provides participant scholarship money, but also provides valuable lessons.

“More than anything, DYW was a major learning experience for

me,” Welford said. “I learned how to present myself in an interview, how to manage my time better and many more valuable life lessons.”

Although Morgan found the whole experience enjoyable, one part about it stands out.

“What I enjoyed most about DYW was the chance to prove that no matter your standards, beliefs, religion and etc., you can still express your distinguished qualities,” Morgan said.

Prom

Chloe Russell
Sports Editor

The junior class officers and sponsors are holding a masquerade themed prom on April 7.

Students will not be allowed to wear full face masks.

The regulations for prom dresses are no side cutouts, no excessive cutouts and no plunging necklines. Front slits on dresses must be longer than mid thigh and strapless dresses must fit securely. All short dresses must be at least fingertip length.

When it comes to two piece dresses, students must have their navel covered and no more than two inches of their torso can be exposed. Two-piece dresses cannot be strapless and there cannot be a completely bare midriff shown.

Prom will be held at the Battleship Hotel in downtown Mobile from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. There are many activities and restaurants available for students in the Mobile area.

The DJ for the prom is senior Daniel Stringfellow. There will also be a photo booth with many props to choose from offered to the students.

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Dean selected as Mississippi’s JOY

Haley Berry
Features Editor

After three years of hard work and progression as a student journalist, senior Alyssa Dean has been announced Mississippi’s 2018 High School Journalist of the Year.

This award is sponsored by the Mississippi Scholastic Press Association and Journalism Education Association.

With excitement, journalism instructor Leona O’Neal revealed the news to Dean and her senior class at a recent meeting.

“I was so excited to announce that Alyssa was Journalist of the Year,” O’Neal said. “I found out the day before, and it was so hard to keep secret. This is a first for George County High School.”

Upon hearing the news, Dean was overcome with emotion.

“I was very surprised and definitely a little emotional,” Dean said. “I had no idea that I would

actually become Mississippi’s Journalist of the Year and was honored to share this special moment with my senior class. I was overwhelmed with emotions because I felt like all of my hard work for the past three years had paid off.”

Dean recalls the years of preparation that have helped her achieve this award and become the journalist she is today.

“Technically I’ve been preparing for the last three years,” Dean said. “I first entered the journalism class my sophomore year. Since then I have written many stories, taken numerous pictures and gained a lot of experience.”

Dean believes a large part of this achievement became possible because of O’Neal.

“She has mentored me for three years and has helped me become a better journalist and student,” Dean said. “She has also helped me become a better writer and photographer. Most importantly, she has helped me understand what I

want to pursue for the rest of my life. I can never thank her enough.”

Dean feels that her fellow journalists have played a part in this achievement as well, because of their constant support and helpful constructive criticism.

While applying for the state award, Dean created several displays of her work to complete the requirements needed to apply for Mississippi’s Journalist of the Year. She created an extensive website portfolio, which was used to display her journalistic work.

Dean will officially be recognized as the state winner and will collect a \$250 cash award on March 27 at the University of Mississippi for the MSPA Spring Convention.

The next step for Dean was applying for the National High School Journalist of the Year contest. The national winner will receive a \$3,000 scholarship award, and the runner-ups will receive \$850.

Dean expresses her gratitude upon receiving this award.

“Being awarded Journalist of the Year gives me the confidence to believe in myself and want to follow my dreams,” Dean said.

In the fall, Dean will be attending San Antonio Community College for two years, and will then transfer to the University of Texas in Austin where she will major in journalism and minor in Spanish.

“I hope to one day become a foreign correspondent and travel the world,” Dean said.

O’Neal has high expectations for Dean and her future in journalism.

“Alyssa has a bright future in journalism,” O’Neal said. “One day we may just see her on the nightly news.”



Leona O’Neal, Alyssa Dean



Students get recognition for high ACT scores

Makayla Steede
Opinions Editor

Walking through the lobby, students might have noticed pictures of their fellow classmates hanging on the wall under a banner.

These pictures are of students who have made a 30 or higher on the ACT; this group of students is called the 30s Club.

Principal Wade Whitney instituted the club after he saw a similar idea being put into action at a school he was visiting.

"We took that idea and made it our own," Whitney said. "Some people do different things, but what we decided to do was to take a picture of every student on our campus who makes a 30 or above and hang those pictures in a prominent area of the student lobby to let everyone know it is a big deal. Hopefully, it will be an incentive for the other students and encourage them to do well on the ACT."

The students currently in the 30s Club are seniors Chase Fairley, Laysen Landrum, Emily Strahan, William Ray, Ally Riser, Ashley

Riser, junior Savan Patel and sophomore Ashley Jenkins.

Jenkins was surprised and grateful at the recognition.

"At first, I was really surprised because I didn't know they were doing it," Jenkins said, "Then I felt really happy and honored. It felt nice to know that my hard work had paid off."

Patel, like Jenkins, appreciated being recognized for his achievement.

"It feels amazing to be a part of the 30 Club and to have a picture of me on the wall in the student lobby," Patel said.



photo/ The Student Press

The 30s Club- The students currently listed are seniors Chase Fairley, Laysen Landrum, Emily Strahan, William Ray, Ally Riser, Ashley Riser, junior Savan Patel and sophomore Ashley Jenkins.



photo courtesy GCHS JROTC

Rebel Battalion passes recent inspection

Anna Persons
Staff Reporter

The Rebel Battalion is finishing second semester with a busy schedule. From having their inspection to competitions, they continue on schedule throughout the year.

In their recent inspection, the cadets were evaluated on their marching skills, leadership and

citizenship. The battalion scored an overall 93 percent.

"We achieved such a high score on our evaluation because of all the practicing, preparation and behind the scenes work that the cadets put in," Sergeant First Class James Williams said.

Because of this high score, the battalion is here to stay until its next inspection.

On March 3, JROTC's physical training team competed at Petal High School and achieved one first place trophy in the tactical team vehicle recovery and two second place trophies in logistical resupply and obstacle course. The battalion earned an overall second place trophy.

On March 10, the team competed in the F.E.A.R. meet at D'Iberville. The cadets had three

first place trophies in the female one and half mile run, sit-ups and tire flip. The team earned an overall third place trophy.

The next competition, King of the Hill, will be held April 14 at Harrison Central High School.

JROTC continues to recruit for the next school year not only at the middle school every quarter but at the high school as well.

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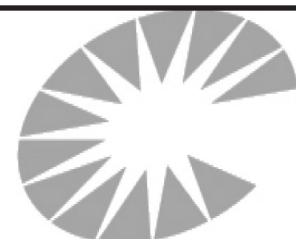
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Students disregard school cleanliness

Staff Editorial

The bell sounds, and all of the students make a rush for the door. A student follows the crowd down the hallway. As she walks, she carefully avoids the water bottle that is being kicked around by shuffling feet.

Across campus, a boy turns in a biology quiz that is littered with holes because the top of the table is covered in craters that students have carved. A girl shudders in disgust as she accidentally touches a piece of gum someone put under the desktop, and a boy walking on the bleachers in the gym steps in a half eaten container of nachos leftover from last night's basketball game.

All of these incidents are results of the careless disregard of cleanliness by students.

This indecency can be seen in the lack of stall doors for the boys' bathroom, the Jell-o that covers the tables in the cafeteria and the gum stuck in the carpet.

Students parade around the school using the hallways as a trash can for their empty chip bags and old tests, and then they complain about how dirty the school is.

The students and faculty can hardly take pride in their school when it is littered in discarded waste.

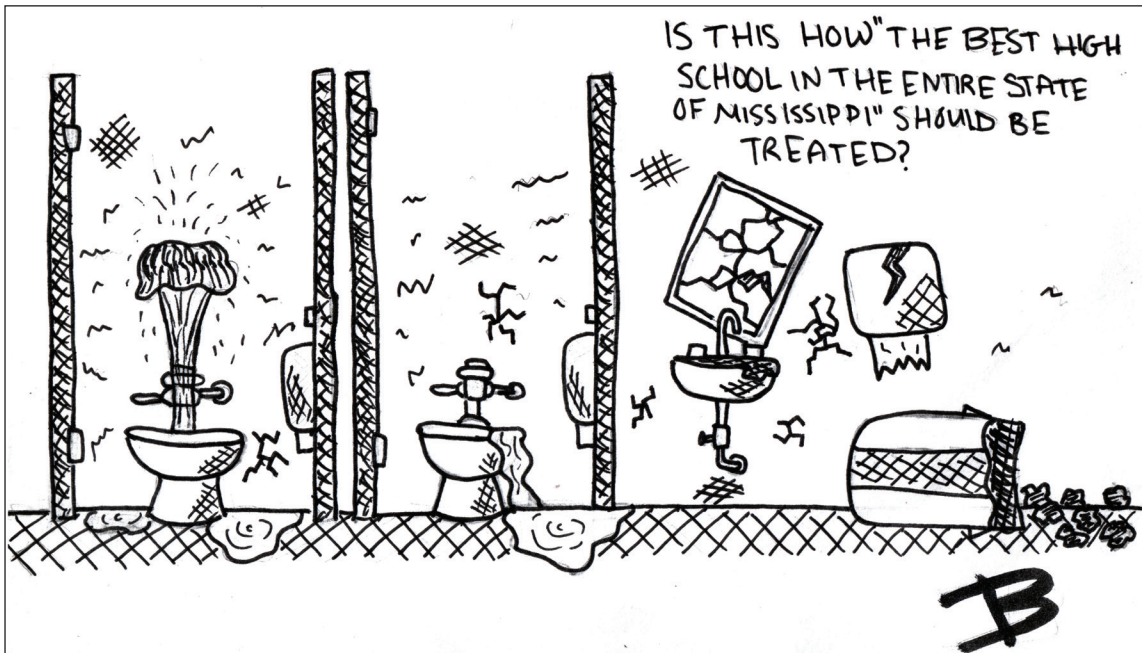
Some students argue that it is the janitors' jobs to clean the school. This may be true, but it should be every student's job to avoid making the janitors' jobs harder for them.

Every student should make an effort to keep the school clean and presentable. All it takes to keep the campus clean is the help of students and teachers picking up stray trash while walking down the hallways.

When people come here to take the ACT, watch a basketball game or attend the talent show, they should not have to worry about getting gum stuck on their shoe.

We cannot take pride in our school if we do not take care of it.

We cannot be the absolute best high school in the state of Mississippi if we do not take care of our campus.



Should teachers be armed?



"No, because you never know what they're capable of mentally."
-Bailey McLeod, 10



"Most definitely because how else are they supposed to defend us from crazy people?"
-Abigail Eubanks, 10



"No, teachers already have a lot of priorities. They shouldn't have to worry about students taking their gun."
-Jacob Mullins, 10

Staff Speaks

Gun control sparks debate

Isaac Burns
Staff Reporter

According to "The Brady Campaign," (a campaign devoted to gun safety) 315 people are shot with a firearm every day: 93 of these people die and 46 of these people include children and teens.

It is only March of 2018, and there have been 12 school shootings. At 12 different schools, thousands of students lives were changed forever due to gun violence.

As the years go by, more and more people are falling victim to gun violence. This issue brings up the argument on controlling who can and cannot buy firearms and also deciding if certain firearms should even be legal to own.

More than 80 percent of mass

shootings involve a semi-automatic firearm. Assault rifles are made for one singular purpose. That purpose is in the name: assault. These rifles are rarely ever used for hunting.

Some people might say that the rifles are just fun to shoot. If he or she wants to shoot this type of rifle, they should try playing video games. Lives are worth more than the pleasure of shooting a weapon capable of mass destruction and terror.

Also, there are illegal attachments that can be purchased under some circumstances such as silencers. If someone needs a silencer attached to his or her gun, then the act he or she is about to commit is probably illegal.

The mythical theatrical sound of a silenced firearm is not as quiet in real life. The sound is still loud enough to run off a deer or other animal. Therefore, the excuse of

using the attachment for hunting purposes cannot be used.

In addition, not only should there be restrictions on the firearms sold, but also restrictions should be set on who is allowed to buy firearms. For instance, more in depth background checks should be put into place especially for high grade military rifles such as assault rifles.

No child should ever be terrified to go to school or wonder if today will be his or her last. Not only children at school, but no one in the United States should have to worry about hearing gunshots.

It is not only the person standing behind the gun aiming down the scope and pulling the trigger that is to blame for all of the gun violence in the world today, but also the government system is allowing him or her to own that firearm.

Stubbornness divides America

Hailey Berry
Features Reporter

America: the greatest nation on earth, but many cannot help but wonder how long this statement will remain true.

There is division in a time when there desperately needs to be unity. Self-pity in a time when there should be love and mercy.

A blazing hatred for one another is dividing and destroying the American people who once stood side by side in the face of adversity.

Citizens constantly take a political side and force it to be the only way to go and believe. The opposing side then hurls stones at those who disagree or speak against a certain idea or opinion.

Our nation began united and should not continue to be torn down by ignorance, violence and immaturity.

We are not a weak or impoverished country; we have the strength and ability it takes to stop this war that rages within. The solution is to find middle ground and stand there without an argument.

Instead of judging and condemn-

ing, we can choose peace and become one people, united.

Peace does not mean that everyone must agree; it simply means working together to remain the greatest nation and solve the problems surrounding us without destroying ourselves from within.

We have a choice. We have a voice. We can change the direction of this division by speaking and acting reasonably. We have more pressing matters to tend to than fighting our own people.

No more sides, no more division. One nation, united.

Adults attempt to silence Parkland shooting survivors

Makayla Steede
Opinions Editor

Every school shooting has displayed a pattern of despair that shifts to anger as people call for change, but this anger fades to nothingness as politicians decide they would rather ignore the problem instead of making difficult decisions.

On Feb. 14, the students of Parkland, Fla. watched as they lost 17 of their classmates, their teachers and their friends.

Instead of following the pattern of silently mourning their fallen classmates and teachers, a group of Parkland teens turned to activism.

The teens let their grief fuel their fight to make sure no more students would have to watch their friends die but were faced with outrage and irritation from people who thought they were too immature to make a change.

They asked for gun control and stronger background checks, and adults responded by telling them they did not understand what gun control would entail.

These students were fired at in their own school; they know exactly what they want and exactly what gun control would entail.

People are seeking to quiet them and keep them from expressing

their opinions and suggestions.

Adults tell teens that they are too young, too naive to understand the 'real world.' They will force them into silence and passivity stating that they should not worry about things that do not concern them. Then, they leave them with a broken nation that they corrupted, and will tell them to clean up their mess.

The Parkland teens are tired of paying the consequence for the adults' indifference.

These teens faced a horrible tragedy, and instead of listening to what they have to say, people are blaming them, telling lies about them and telling them that they deserved what happened to them.

Adults need to listen to the Parkland survivors because in the future, they will be the voters, the activists and the policy-makers who will make the changes necessary to ensure that no students and teachers have to walk into school afraid.

The students are not fighting against the right to bear arms; they are fighting for their right to survive a day of school.

All stories on this page are opinion in nature and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Student Press newspaper staff, the adviser or school officials of George County High School or the George County School District.

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photo/ Haley Berry
‘Pay It Forward’- Bryan shows off the “Pay It Forward” Award she received at a recent faculty meeting.

Bryan receives Pay It Forward

Haley Berry
Features Editor

Recently administrators attended a faculty meeting and discussed ways to better recognize teachers more frequently. They left the meeting that day with an idea, the Pay It Forward award.

The award consists of teachers recognizing each other by passing the award on to one another every two weeks.

Principal Wade Whitney tells of the idea originating from the movie “Pay It Forward.” The movie is based on the idea of paying forward random acts of kindness.

The first recipient of the award

was Spanish teacher Jeanine Sosa.

“It just made sense that she get it because she was the teacher of the year,” Whitney said.

Sosa then passed the award to special education teacher Lisa McKean.

“I was honored because it came from Mrs. Sosa,” McKean said. “I think the utmost of her and for her to think that I deserve something she received before me is really an honor.”

McKean tells of the honor she had not only receiving the award, but also passing it on to English teacher David Wachsman.

“Mr. Wachsman is the kind of man that does things people don’t know about,” McKean said. “He doesn’t

do things for recognition. He’s a behind-the-scenes kind of guy and is always so good to his students.”

The most recent recipient of the award was Business Technology teacher Renee Bryan. Bryan will pay the award forward to the teacher of her selection on April 2.

Whitney believes the award is a great way to show teachers appreciation. Knowing that the award is coming from fellow coworkers that work alongside them brings more encouragement to the teachers receiving the award.

“It’s a really good way for teachers to recognize each other and appreciate their colleagues,” Whitney said.

Students, teachers prepare for upcoming state tests

Makayla Steede
Opinions Editor

The countdown for state testing begins in 13 school days, but for teachers of state tested classes, the pressure has been on for weeks.

Students and teachers have been in a constant state of preparation and review for the state tests.

Algebra teacher Emily Chancellor has been using practice state test packets to help her students .

“We are going to go over every topic we have learned, and go over it,” Chancellor said. “We are also doing state test practice questions and worksheets.”

The Algebra 1 Test is a two-part test that will span over two days. The first part is 90 minutes and the second part is 60 minutes. Students will be allowed to use a calculator.

Biology teacher Tracy Wagner has applied the same method of preparation for her students.

The Biology I test is composed of 70 questions and has no time limit.

Wagner advises that any students taking a state test should remember to make sure they answer each question and that if they do not know the answer, they should look for the answer choice that stands out from the other choices.

Shay Howell’s U.S. History students has been preparing for the state test since the day they stepped into the classroom.

“We do state test flashcards, we do usatestprep.com, we take several practice state tests and we do state test questions for bellwork,” Howell said.

“My class is all about the state test.”

The U.S. History Test is 70 questions, but 10 of those questions are pilot questions. Students will be allowed to take their time on this test since there is no time constraint.

The English Test is divided between a writing portion and a multiple choice portion. Students have 148 minutes for the multiple choice test composed of six passages. The writing portion is allotted one hour and 15 minutes.

“This is the first year we have to type the essay,” English teacher

Theresa Eubanks said. “The essay is online this year, and that is new to us. I have been taking students to the computer lab and letting them practice on the state website with the writing and the multiple choice. We have spent a good bit of time on the writing, and they do not have the Word accessories. Since they are so often using Word document that has spell check, grammar check, they are having to think about what they are doing.”

State testing will officially begin around April 18.

Fairley encourages originality

Alyssa Dean
News Editor

“Be yourself because an original copy is worth more than a printed copy. If everyone is the same then there would be no personality. Do what makes you happy and be the best you can be at it. If people say you can’t do something, prove them wrong and show them that you can do whatever you put your heart and soul into. In the end it does not matter what people say. Your actions speak louder than words.”

This piece of advice comes from junior Shaderia Fairley. Fairley was born in Lucedale and has lived in Benndale all of her life. While growing up, there have been many influences in Fairley’s life.

“There have been a few people that have influenced me in life,” Fairley said. “One being my grandmother. She was a phenomenal woman. She was a woman that

would give the shirt off of her back and the last penny in her purse. She has taught me so much in life that I will never forget. She is very active in the community and loves doing things for others. When I get older, I want to be as great as she is.”

Recently, Fairley has learned to get out of her comfort zone and become more social. She believes that her role on the golf team has helped improve her social skills.

“My greatest accomplishment has been going out of my comfort zone and trying new hobbies, such as golf,” Fairley said. “I never thought a day in my life I would be playing golf. It turned out to be fun, calming and a good stress reliever. I really enjoy playing it.”

Fairley takes great pride in her accomplishments. Although she has had many accomplishments, she also faces some struggles.

“My biggest struggle has been math,” Fairley said. “I have never

been really good at math, but I have always tried my best in class and got the help I needed. I am currently now in Honors Algebra II with trigonometry. It has been challenging, but I have not given up. I work hard in class and at home to get the grades I deserve.”

For most with struggles comes guilt, but for Fairley struggle only makes her work harder.

“I do not feel guilty about anything,” Fairley said. “I want to leave this earth with no regrets and no guilt. Just live life to the fullest and have fun doing it.”

Fairley’s idea of living life to the fullest is to follow her dreams. One of her dreams is to work in the medical field.

“When I get older I want to be a registered nurse,” Fairley said. “I want to work in the trauma center in the E.R. I have always been interested in crazy trauma shows like Grey’s Anatomy, The Night Shift



Shaderia Fairley

and Bizarre E.R. I would also like to own a plastic surgery office.”

Along with setting goals for the future, Fairley also sets goals for the near future.

“The goals I would like to set for myself this spring is to exercise and stay active not only for the summer but to live a healthy lifestyle,” Fairley said.

Spring is a time of growth and development. Fairley believes that during this

season she has grown in many ways.

“Since last spring, I have grown by coming out of my shyness and becoming more social,” Fairley said. “I am still a little shy, but I feel like that will wear off as time goes by. I have also grown by taking more initiative in everything I do. I feel as though I should pass on what was taught to me by the people who motivate me most in life. I want to be there to encourage and motivate people to do better.”

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Student predict future based on novels

Haley Berry
Features Editor

Today, our society is intrigued with the idea of the potential future and the changes that society will endure. Modern literature and film for the past few years have been focusing on the idea of the future for story-telling.

Publications that include these ideas include: Ernest Cline's novel "Ready Player One" which is set in the year 2045 and tells the story of a world that relies on the "Oasis," a world of virtual reality. "Ready Player One" has become a popular fiction novel among teens and

young adults; the movie will release in theaters on March 23.

Novels such as *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury and *Anthem* by Ayn Rand predict the future.

With the ideas that these recent publications provide, students also cannot help but question the outcome of the future.

Junior Bradyn Doshier shares what he would want to take with him into the future.

"Something I would like to take would be the ability to keep an open mind," Doshier said. "Too many people today, because of the changes, think that it's all bad when in reality they are just scared of the change. I would like to be able to

progress into the future with the ability to keep an open mind about the changes around me."

Doshier believes that the future will not change people, but instead they can change the future with their ideas and beliefs.

"I think something that will always come with us is our beliefs and morals," Doshier said. "Whatever they are and whatever you believe in, no matter how we advance as a species and as we advance with science and technology will always be there. They may alter or change with us be we will always have them."

Junior Allee Gibson sees the future as an exciting time.

"To me, the future is really in-

teresting to think about. Just in my lifetime there's been so many notable advances in how we use technology, our cultures, our moral systems," Gibson said.

Gibson does not agree with the theory that history is always repeating itself but sees it as a constant improvement of history.

"I'd like to think that people will continue advancing and creativity will pursue, but the theory does have some relevance."

Gibson enjoys talking about and studying the philosophy of the future.

"If I were to take something to the future I'd like to take a checklist of people, places, and small things that I would look in on to

see how they've changed over time, or how they have impacted the world," Gibson said.

This is not the only thing Gibson would take with her.

"I would also take current objects that play an important role in daily life like a cell phone that I could compare to the technology in the future, and maybe take a piece of literature or a newspaper to see how their applications have changed," Gibson said.

There are many different ideas of what will happen in the near future and the affects it will have on the next generation. Although teens cannot predict the future, they do have an idea of the possibilities.

What is your favorite thing about spring?



"When the flowers bloom because it feels like a new beginning."
-Daria Bolton, 12



"Spring football. There is no why."
-Matthew Caldwell



"It has pretty colors. It's not freezing."
-Haley Dunnam, 9

Horticulture begins spring planting season

Anna Persons
Staff Reporter

Although the horticulture department is busy all year, spring proves to be their busiest season for it. The students work tirelessly in the green houses and prepare to answer questions about the plants and flowers they are selling all the way to the beginning of June.

"When the last frost has passed, we immediately start another round of planting," horticulture teacher Rick McMullan said.

Along with the department's usual seasonal planting they have their annual spring sale. For sale, horticulture has a flat of 36 flowers for \$12, and four flats for \$40. Handbaskets are \$6, and four hand baskets are \$20. Gallons are \$2.

In one year, the horticulture department sells over 30,000 plants,

and this year, the department is estimated to make \$10,000 toward the program's funding.

Not only does the horticulture department receive funding, the students receive useful skills and develop an awareness of the world around them.

"It's nice to know what we're doing is helping the environment," sophomore Elliot Bradley said.

This impact on the students and development of skills has been seen by McMullan as an instructor.

"Like any CTE course, the students get hands-on learning, and they learn job skills and things they can take to college," McMullan said, "And in the short term, our students see improvement in other classes like their science classes."

McMullan also remarked how the students learned from teaching other people about horticulture as well



photo/ Anna Persons

Spring planting -Freshman Alexis Steede and junior Brianna Harvard help their horticulture class with spring planting. The department has begun their annual spring sale.

seeing the outcome of their labor every year after each season is over.

"It's so relieving seeing our hard work pay off and paying for what we do," Bradley said.

For any further information or questions about the spring sale and further pricing, see McMullan in Room 29, a horticulture student or an FFA member.

After prom activities and places to eat in Mobile



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‘Fortnite’ captivates young audience



photo/ youtube.com

Isaac Burns
Staff Reporter

An epidemic is taking over the lives of teens around the world. This epidemic is not a sickness, but a game: “Fortnite.”

The game can be downloaded for free on the Playstation 4, the Xbox One and on the PC. The game offers two game modes: “Save The World” and “Battle Royale.”

Rather than having a realistic look, “Fortnite” offers a cartoon-like quality. The graphics on this game are superb for the game to be free to play

except for in-game purchases.

During “Save The World,” the player fights his or her way through a post-apocalyptic world where “The Storm” killed 98 percent of the world’s population. The player leads the few remaining “Heroes” on a journey to kill monsters by crafting, building, leveling up and looting.

However, the next game mode is the one taking the world over “Fortnite Battle Royale.” This part of the game is a Massive Multiplayer On-line game (MMO) where players can play with people from around the globe. This part of the game is the most popular because it does

not require any money to play in opposition to “Save The World.”

While playing “Battle Royale,” 100 players are dropped off by “The Battle Bus.” Then, the avatars have the ability to sky dive to any place on the map. Hidden around the map are valuable items.

This game mode is different because it does not focus on getting multiple kills; it focuses on staying alive. Each player is only given one life. There can only be one winner.

This section of the game allows players to play in three different modes: Solo, Duo and Squads. During Solo, the player plays alone.

During Duo, two players can play as a team and during Squads; players can play in groups up to four.

“Fortnite” is highly addictive because it is very competitive and allows friends and strangers to play together. Also, this game is very difficult to win which brings out a competitive side in players like no other game. Also, the world is fully destructible allowing players to mine resources to build “forts” out of wood, bricks, and/or metal hence the name “Fortnite.”

If one wonders where the teens of America have gone, they are probably playing “Fortnite.”

‘A Wrinkle in Time’ sparks imagination

Makayla Steede
Opinions Editor

“A Wrinkle in Time,” based on the book by Madeleine L’Engle, has recently made its cinematic debut.

The movie, directed by Ava DuVernay, features a diverse cast. Storm Reid plays the smart, feisty main character, Meg Murray; Deric McCabe plays Meg’s prodigious

younger brother, Charles Wallace Murray; Levi Miller plays Meg’s and Charles Wallace’s unexpected friend, Calvin O’Keefe.

They are accompanied by three celestial beings who help and guide them. Reese Witherspoon plays Mrs. Whatsit, Mindy Kaling plays Mrs. Who and Oprah Winfrey plays Mrs. Which.

The film follows Meg’s and the others’ quest through time and

space in search of her father.

The movie is filled with vibrant colors and extravagant costumes.

However, the content of the book makes it hard to transfer to screen, and many believe that the movie pales in comparison to the book.

For example, the movie alters the personality of Charles Wallace and Mrs. Whatsit, erases Meg and Charles Wallace’s two brothers and leaves out key moments.

People who have not read the book, however, can find a lot to enjoy in the imaginative plot.


DuVernay uses the movie to broadcast the problems people face and to send the message that only love can defeat hate.

The movie is the perfect film to spark children’s imaginations, but adults and teens watching the film must be willing to extend their suspension of disbelief.



photo/ rottentomatoes.com

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New Releases

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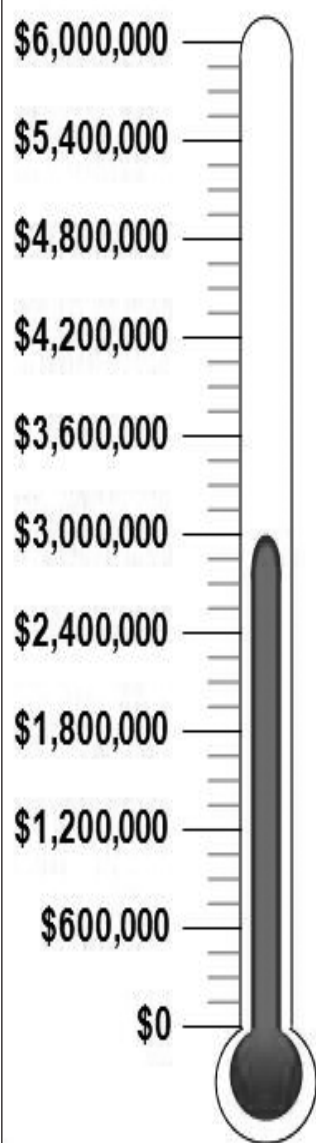
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Scholarship Goal



Clubs plan third semester activities

Haley Berry & Anna Persons
Staff Reporters

Student Council

Student Council held a blood drive Feb. 23 and had a total of 85 people donate. This came to a total of 255 lives saved.

SADD Club

The SADD Club recently wrapped up their Pennies for Patients campaign. Pennies for Patients was conducted for cancer patients in need. They will be working with Law and Public Safety to simulate

a drunk driving accident for Prom Promise. Contact Angie Ring in Tech Lab 2 for more information.

Key Club

The Key Club participated in a Heart Walk supported by the American Heart Association this past Saturday. The club will also be holding its annual talent show April 20. See sponsor Valerie Pierce in Room 44 for further details.

Interact

The Interact Club is hosting their annual Interact Field Day today. This field day is a day filled with fun activities for children from the

local elementary school provided by the Interact Club.

Beta Club

The Beta Club has been working on senior scholarships and cords for club members. See Kelly Kramer for further information.

Math Club

At the club's most recent competition at the Mississippi College Feb. 8, sophomore Samantha Holland scored in the top 10 percent in math. Seniors Shelby Jones, Ally Riser and Ashley Riser and junior Savan Patel scored in the top 20 percent at competition.

P7

P7 meets on most Tuesday mornings at 7:20 unless cancelled beforehand. All events will be finalized before the end of the year.

Bible Club

The Bible Club meets every Thursday at 3 p.m. in Room 27. See John Glass for any further details or questions.

Scholarship Update

The senior class has approximately \$3,000,000 in scholarships. Seniors can turn in their scholarship information and awards to counselor Debbie West-Terry.

Librarian creates Teen Advisory Board

Chloe Russell
Sports Editor

Every day students walk past the library and give it no mind, but librarian Kim Ray is working to change the opinions of students.

Ray has implemented a new program to help improve participation in the school library. The Teen Advisory Board will give suggestions

and recommendations on books suitable for young adults.

The formation of the board is a state department of education requirement to better the education and reading skills of students across the state of Mississippi.

The students on the board were recommended by teachers, and they will attend meetings once a month to update the library's selection.

"Our main job is to promote the

library and provide suggestions on what books to order," senior board member Makayla Steede said.

Ray hopes the board will encourage more student involvement, and will fill the library with current young adult literature.

"I hope that the wider selection of books will give students a sense of ownership and will be able to relate to the books more," Ray said.

According to Ray, the goal of the

teen board is to improve student's reading levels and enjoy reading as much as she does.

"The idea of getting students involved with reading is the motivation behind our meetings," senior board member Haven Atkinson said. "As a whole, students have become relatively uninterested in reading. I hope this program is a way for students to become eager to pick up a book."

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Baseball earns state ranking



photo/ Chloe Russell

‘Backwards K’- Junior Logan Tanner pitches the ball, in hopes of striking out his opponent. The Rebels have improved their overall record to 11-1, and their district record to 1-1. The Rebels will play Oak Grove away on March 23 at 7 p.m.

Chloe Russell
Sports Editor

The Rebel’s overall record so far this season is 11-1, and their district record is 1-1. As of now the Rebels are 4th in the state.

With their record, the team has hopes for a state championship according to senior Cameron Cotten.

The Rebels had a big victory over Tupelo Christian Prep on March 13 with a score of 8-7. Senior Jarett Anders helped the Rebels achieve this win with a walk-off double in the bottom of the eighth inning.

“It showed me that we have the talent and ability to score runs no matter what the situation is,” Anders said. “We just need to execute as a team no matter what inning we

are in or the score of the game.”

Cotten and sophomore Jonathan Havard lead the team with a batting average of .667. Cotten is also leading the team with 21 RBIs this season. Cotten and Havard also led the team at the game Tuesday with two hits against the Tupelo Christian Prep Eagles.

This win against the Eagles encouraged the players to continue to do their best, but there are many other games that have impacted the players deeply.

“The game against Hattiesburg impacted us the most because we beat a high-ranked team,” Cotten said. “It gave us the confidence to think we can beat anybody.”

Cotten chose a game that displayed the team’s strengths and abilities but Havard chose a game

that showed the team what they needed to work on to become the Mississippi state champions.

“We start out games strong and we end them strong but somewhere in the middle of the games we fall flat,” Cotten said. “We need to play a complete game.”

While Havard agrees with Cotten about the middle innings of the game are their weakness, Havard believes the Rebels will stand out because of pitching and their ability to score early in the game.

“I know we have the ability, we just need to increase our consistency,” Anders said.

The Rebels took on Oak Grove at home on March 20 and the results were not available at press time. The Rebels will play the Warriors away at 7:00 on Friday, March, 23.

Softball prepares for district

Isaac Burns
Staff Reporter

“Right now we’re trying to get over that hump and go compete for a championship,” assistant coach Brad Thornton said.

The Lady Rebels’ fast pitch softball team has an overall record this season of 6-3. The results from the game last Thursday were not available at press time.

Senior Brooklyn King is also confident that the team has a very good chance of going to the state

championship, if they work hard.

“It’s kind of like an underdog season for us because not a lot of people expect us to go through with it,” King said.

Junior Raegan Havard leads the team in batting averages with .560. Behind Havard is senior Hannah Rasberry with .545. Followed by Rasberry is sophomore Brooklyn Tanner with an average of .500.

Leading the team in RBIs is sophomore Tori Havens with 15. sophomore Susie LeBert with 13.

The third highest RBI average is

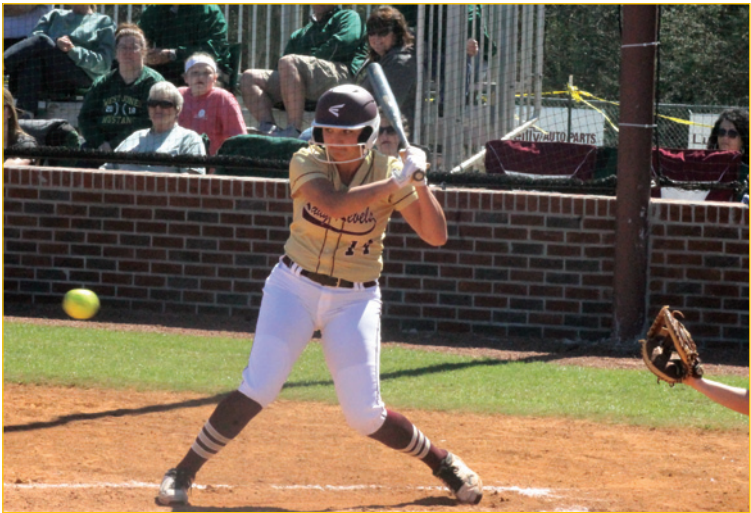
senior Kalee Radcliff with an average of 12 per game.

King believes that the greatest strength the team has is their ability to hit the ball.

“There is no weaknesses on the lineup,” King said. “You have confidence that every girl is going to do her job and get on base.”

However, Thornton believes that the strength is in the girls’ hearts as well as their physical abilities.

“Athleticism. Leadership. There is really just a good team chemistry overall,” Thornton said.



photo/ Camron Stegall

‘Hit it and score’- Senior Kaitlyn Passeur prepares to swing at the pitch that has been thrown to her. The Lady Rebels have an overall record of 6-3 and will soon start their district games.

Rebel Spotlight



Kaya Ludgood, 10

Currently first in the state for shot put

Personal Records

Shot put:
49’7”

Discus:
115’4”

Track athletes lead individual events

Anna Persons
Staff Reporter

On March 17, track competed at a meet at Oceans Springs High School. Overall the girls placed ninth, and the boys placed tenth.

In the girls 400 meter dash, sophomore Quintysa Smith placed seventh, and freshman Lori Turnage placed tenth. In the girls 1600 meter run, sophomore Dana Tanner placed eighth overall.

Senior Zoe Olson placed fourth in the girls 100 meter hurdles and fifth in the 300 meter hurdles. A team consisting of junior Keron-

nah Anderson, Fairley and sophomores Abigail Eubanks and Tessa Rice placed 10th in the girls 4x100 meter relay at the meet.

For the girls 4x200 meter relay, a team consisting of junior Amber Goldman, sophomore Endeya Gardner, Smith and Turnage placed sixth. In the girls high jump, Smith placed third, and Turnage placed sixth overall.

Junior Dylan Lawrence placed third in the boys 200 meter dash. In the boys 400 meter dash, freshman Clayton Fleming placed fourth out of 23 participants.

Freshman Kevin Cooley placed

seventh in the boys 1600 meter run. Lawrence placed eighth in the boys high jump. In the boys pole vault, senior Tyler Stansberry placed first overall.

On March 9, track competed at the Gaston Hewes Relays at the Gulfport High School Track. The boys placed fifth overall.

Fairley placed tenth in the girls 100 meter dash and eighth in the 200 meter dash. In the 400 meter dash, Olson placed fifth, and in the girls discus throw, junior Grace Williams finished tenth.

In the boys 100 meter dash, freshman Johnheim Nix placed

10th. Junior Dylan Lawrence placed third in the boy’s 200 meter dash. Freshman Kevin Cooley finished fifth in the 1600 meter run and seventh in the 800 meter run.

Junior Dontrez Galloway placed fourth in high jump and in boys long jump, Lawrence placed first.

In pole vault, Tyler Stansberry placed first. In the boys discus throw and shot put, Sophomore Kaya Ludgood earned first. The boy’s relay team placed fifth in the 4x200 meter relay with a team consisting of junior Ja’Vion Riley, Lawrence, Galloway and freshman Trevonte Coleman.

Sports Briefs

Alyssa Dean
News Editor

Tryouts

Cheerleading tryouts were held Feb. 9. Varsity cheerleaders include upcoming freshmen Jacie Bounds, Ashleigh Havard, Katie Beth Holmes and Sadie Pierce. Current freshmen include Kamdyn Fairley, Laurel Fortenberry, Laney Kate Hulbert and Anna Leigh O’Brien. Current sophomores include Madison Hultz, Madison Landry, Carly

Pope, Olivia Ray, Kayla Sistrunk and Stephanie Staton. Current juniors include Kasidy Gray, Autumn Mallette, Karli Pilkington, Shelby Strange and Kylan Welford.

Colorguard tryouts were held Feb. 23. The upcoming freshmen include Abigail Fairley and Lexi McKissick. Current freshmen include Kyra Bradshaw, Haley Dunnam, Lillian Hyde and Angel Smith. The current sophomores include Karissa Havard, DeAnna Holliman, Caitlin McKissick, Lexie Pierce, Maggie Smith, May-

cie Strickland, Carlee Turner and Brianna Wilkerson. The captain is Caitlin McKissick and the co-captain is DeAnna Holliman.

Spring Training

Football spring training will begin for freshmen players on April 2 and for varsity players on April 23. Throughout this training, they will have a total of 15 practices and one game. Training also determines what skills and abilities the younger players have.

The jamboree will be held at Pascagoula High School on May 17.

Tennis

The tennis season has officially begun. Tennis is currently 5-3 for the season and they are preparing for their district meets

The overall goal for the team is to qualify for state playoffs and to send as many individuals to the state tournament as possible.

Their district tournament meets will be held at Tatum Park in Hattiesburg on April 11.

Golf

On March 16, the boys golf team placed first out of sixteen teams.

Sophomore Cy Smith shot 73 at the tournament and was the tournament’s low medalist. Senior River Maskew shot 81, juniors Noah Maskew shot 83, Taylor Warden shot a 96, and Ethan Mason added a score of 98 to the team.

The boys’ golf team last major will be held on March 20 at the Great Southern Golf Club.

The girl’s golf team placed third in the last tournament they participated in. Their next tournament will be on Thursday, March 22 at Whispering Pines golf course.