Chipola College returns to good standing with SACS

Chipola College president Dr. Gene Prough on Dec. 6 reported that the college has been affirmed in good standing with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), the regional accrediting body which oversees all public community colleges in the southeast. The decision was announced during the Commission on Colleges annual meeting in Atlanta.

“Chipola College is a fine college with an excellent reputation,” said Prough. “I am so proud of the work our employees put forth during this process. We are very glad to move past this challenge as we focus our energy on providing opportunities for our students.”

A Special Committee visited the college in September to evaluate the college’s response to recommendations concerning the college’s bachelor’s degree programs in Secondary Math and Science Education. Gail Hartzog, Associate Dean of Development and Planning, said the visiting committee agreed that Chipola College had responded appropriately to all recommendations. In the exit report, visiting members stated, “Chipola College has a rich history of service as a Level I institution to its service area and enjoys a salutary allegiance from internal constituencies of staff, faculty, and students and from external constituencies of board members and civic/community leaders.” Visiting members expressed appreciation for “effective and thorough preparation on the part of the college, including the informative documents, hospitality and the open and candid exchange experienced in the interviews.”

Chipola College changed its name from Chipola Junior College in 2003 in order to begin offering four-year degrees. SACS granted Chipola permission to change from a Level I community college to a Level II bachelor’s degree-granting institution in June of 2003. In January of 2004, 14 students were admitted to Chipola’s Secondary Education program. Seven have graduated and are currently employed as certified teachers. The college currently has a 100 percent passing rate on the State Teachers’ Exam and 100 percent job placement.

The college was placed on probation by SACS after Chipola officials reported state funding for the Bachelor’s degree program in the amount of $1.2 million, which had been promised during the

Nine athletes commit to four-year colleges

Nine Chipola College athletes have signed early with Division I colleges.

Five Chipola baseball players have committed to Division I colleges. Catcher Tyler Flowers of Marietta, GA, has committed to the University of Miami. First baseman and designated hitter Jason Lewis of Crawfordville, FL, will play at Louisiana State University. Clay Long of Ludowici, GA, has committed to the University of South Carolina at Columbia. Stephen Brock of Suwanee, GA, will join long at the University of South Carolina at Columbia. Chris Kirkland of Knoxville, TN, will play at the University of Memphis.

Three members of the men’s basketball team have committed to four year colleges. Gerard Jackson of Gainesville will play at the University of Louisiana Monroe. Shawn Taylor of Perry, GA, has committed to Louisiana Tech University. Pawel Malesa of Poland will play at Troy University.

Continued on page 2

Women’s basketball player Chinata Nesbit of Washington, D.C., will play at Robert Morris University next season.

Continued on page 3
Chipola hoops squads top state and national polls

The Chipola College men’s and women’s basketball teams maintained their top rankings in the state and national polls this week.

The Indians are ranked first in both the FCCAA Florida poll and the NJCAA national poll for the third consecutive week. The Lady Indians are ranked first in the FCCAA poll and second in the women’s national poll.

The Indians are led by guard Jamarcus Ellis (9.7 ppg, 9.4 rpg), forward Gerard Jackson (10.6 ppg, 5.8 rpg), guard Michael Taylor (12.6 ppg), guard Ryne Hamblet (9.5 ppg), forward Ed Berrio (1.3 apg) and guard Stefhon Hannah (3.2 spg). The Chipola offense is averaging 94.6 ppg, ranking sixth nationally.

The Indians improved to 11-0 with a 98-80 over Florida Community College at Jacksonville on Dec. 6. Guard Stefhon Hannah had 10 assists on the night.

Chipola scored a pair of wins in the Panhandle Classic on Dec. 2-3. The Indians defeated Santa Fe, 82-63, on Dec. 2. Michael Taylor led with 14 points. Chipola scored a big 117-87 win over Middle Georgia on Dec. 3. DeAndre Thomas and Gerard Jackson each scored 18 on the night.

Chipola is the defending Florida Region VIII and Panhandle Conference champion. The team hits the road for the rest of 2005 with games at Daytona Beach, Dec. 16-17, and in Pensacola, Dec. 30-31. The Indians begin the 2006 campaign with three games at Southwest Missouri State in West Plains, MO.

The Chipola Lady Indians are ranked first in the state FCCAA Poll and second in the NJCAA national polls. The 8-1 squad is led by four players in double figures: guard Tatiana Clark (13.3 ppg), forward Chinata Nesbit (12.4 ppg), guard Nacole Stocks (11.4 ppg) and forward C.J. Pace (10.6 ppg). Nesbit leads the team with 7.9 rebounds per game and Stocks is averaging a team-leading 5.4 assists per game. Center Ra’shawana Sippio is another key player, averaging 9.2 points and 7.6 rebounds per game. The Lady Indians’ offense is averaging 73.9 points per game, ranking 31st nationally.


The Lady Indians are the defending Florida Region VIII champion. The squad travels to Gulf Coast Dec. 9-10. Chipola plays Central Florida at 5 p.m. on Dec. 9 and Daytona Beach at noon on Dec. 10.

Both Chipola teams open the conference season Jan. 11 at Pensacola. Chipola’s first home conference games are Jan. 14 when they host Gulf Coast.

For the latest scores, call 718-2CJC or visit www.chipola.edu

International pianist to play Chipola theatre

The Chipola Artist Series presents Pianist Nadejda Vlaeva Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2006, in the Chipola College Theater.

Vlaeva was born in Sofia, Bulgaria, and began playing piano at age five. She has performed in concerts internationally, giving solo recitals in Bulgaria, Russia, Slovakia, Hungary, The Netherlands, Spain, England, Canada, Barbados and in the U.S.

She also has appeared as a soloist with the Budapest Symphony, the Calgary Philharmonic, The Capella Istropolitana in Slovakia, the Edinburgh Symphony and with various orchestras in Bulgaria and Holland. Included among her major awards are the First Prize and Gold Medal at the Liszt competition in Lucca, Italy; and the Yamaha Award for the best interpretation of Brahms, in Weimar. Vlaeva gave her New York debut in the Carnegie Weill Recital Hall in the year 2000.

Tickets—$12 for adults and $8 for ages 18 and under—go on sale Jan. 3 in the Chipola Business Office.

The Core Ensemble will present “Tres Vidas” April 3 in the final offering of the 2005-06 Artist Series.

The series is funded through Chipola’s Performing Arts Fund, with grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Southern Arts Federation, the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs, the Chipola Regional Arts Association and corporate donors.

For ticket information, call the Business Office at 718-2220.

SACS, Continued from page 1

regular session of the 2003 Florida Legislature. Because of budget changes during that year’s special session, Chipola’s appropriation was cut significantly. College officials reported the shortfall to SACS immediately, but the response was deemed inadequate and the college was placed on probation for one year.

In December, 2004, SACS issued several recommendations for Chipola officials to address. Dr. Sarah Clemmons, Vice President for Academic and Student Services, spearheaded a task force to act upon the recommendations. Dr. Clemmons said, “I believe Chipola College is a stronger institution after having gone through this process. SACS challenged us to examine the ethical culture of the college, and I believe our employees rose to the challenge.” Clemmons also led a special effort to evaluate the ethical climate of the college. College administrators formulated an Ethics and Compliance Program to guide college employees in decision-making. The committee also established a process for reporting ethical concerns to the college’s Ethics and Compliance Officer.
Continuing Education courses set at Chipola

Chipola College will offer a variety of short courses in the coming weeks.

An Internship course will meet Thursdays, Jan. 5 through April 27 from 6 to 9 p.m. Cost is $171. A Curriculum for Young Children course will meet Mondays, Jan. 9 through April 24 from 6 to 9 p.m. Cost is $171. An Early Care & Education Administrative Overview course will meet Tuesdays, Jan. 10 through April 25 from 6 to 9 p.m. Cost is $171. A 20 Hour Childcare Training course will meet Jan. 14 and 21 from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cost is $76. A 10 Hour Childcare Training (behavioral observation & screening) course will meet Feb. 4 from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cost is $38. A 10-Hour Childcare Training (special needs) course will meet March 11 from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cost is $38. A 10-Hour Childcare Training (developmentally appropriate practices, 3-5 year olds) course will meet May 6 from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cost is $38.

A Cake Decorating I class will meet Thursdays, February 2 through 23 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Cost is $41. A Cake Decorating II class will meet Thursdays, March 2 through 30 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Cost is $41. An Advanced Level Cake Decorating III class will meet Thursdays, April 6 through 27 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Cost is $41.

A Real Estate Sales course will meet Saturdays, Feb. 4 through March 18 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cost is $240.

The Continuing Education Department also offers custom motivational workshops for businesses and organizations.

Gatlin Education Services (GES) offers open enrollment, online courses in: health care, internet graphics/web design, business, law and travel. Register online at www.gatlineducation.com/chipola.

Education To Go offers online programs in: computers, photography, languages, writing, entertainment industry, grant writing, business, sales, accounting, test prep, finance, health, child care, parenting, art, history, psychology, literature, statistics, philosophy, engineering, law and nursing. For more information on any of these, visit www.ed2go.com/chipola.

Chipola cheerleaders to host clinic and extravaganza

The Chipola College Cheerleaders have scheduled a cheerleader clinic and their annual extravaganza.

Chipola will host a cheerleader clinic at Guy’s Gymnastics on Saturday, Dec. 17.

Two, three-hour sessions are scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Registration fee for each session is $25 or $45 for both sessions. Lunch will be provided for those who register for both sessions.

Cheerleader coach Geraldine DeFelix says, “This will be a great opportunity for moms to have a free day for Christmas shopping while their daughters have fun learning to cheer.”

Chipola’s annual Cheerleading Extravaganza is scheduled for Feb. 4, 2006.

The event begins at 9 a.m. at the Milton Johnson Health Center, with participating squads coming at 8:30 a.m. for the warm-up session prior to the competition.

Two new competition divisions have been added this year: Straight Cheer and Straight Dance (no tumbling or stunts).

Complete rules and information can be accessed at the Chipola website: www.chipola.edu by clicking on “Athletics” then “Cheerleaders.”

For more information, call 718-2322, or 482-1333.

Signings, continued from page 1

Chipola consistently ranks among the top colleges in the nation for the percentage of athletes who advance to four-year colleges or to the professional ranks.

Chipola athletic director Dr. Dale O’Daniel said, “We are committed to helping student-athletes move on to the next level.”

Chipola’s men’s and women’s basketball teams both are the reigning Florida Region VIII champions. Chipola’s baseball team is the reigning Panhandle Conference champion.

Chipola Show Choir Jazzmatazz is Jan. 12-14

Chipola College’s award-winning Show Choir will present Jazzmatazz 2006: Design of the Decades in the Chipola Theatre, Jan. 12, 13, and 14, 2006, at 7 p.m. nightly.

The high energy show will feature musical highlights from the 50’s to the present. Jazzmatazz tickets make great stocking stuffers if you hurry. The college is closed for the holidays Dec. 16 through Jan. 2.

Tickets for this annual show are available from Show Choir members beginning Dec. 1. Tickets also are available at 718-2277 or 718-2301.
Prepare now for Spring Registration

Registration for the Spring Semester at Chipola College is Jan. 3 for returning students and Jan. 4 for new students. Classes begin Jan. 5.

Chipola’s open-door policy allows any student with a high school diploma to enroll after completing an application and providing high school or college transcripts.

Chipola offers college credit courses during the day and evening, and also online and through independent study. The college awards the Associate in Arts (AA) degree which guarantees acceptance to Florida’s public universities. Chipola also offers Bachelor’s degree programs in Secondary Education with majors in Mathematics or Science. Chipola also offers several Associate in Science (AS) programs, as well as a number of Workforce Development programs which provide training for high wage jobs.

Chipola’s University Center provides opportunities for students to pursue a number of bachelor’s and graduate degrees from FSU, UWF and Troy on the Chipola campus.

For more information, call the Chipola Registration Office at 718-2211, or visit Chipola on the web at www.chipola.edu

SOFTBALL RAFFLE. The Chipola Softball team is selling raffle tickets to help fund their trip to the Arizona tournament this year. Tickets are $10 and can be purchased from any softball player or by calling Coach Hendrix at 718-2358. Prizes include two passes to the Talladega race, grill and smoker, autographed baseball items, camouflage clothing, and more.

NEW ID CARDS. Beginning Spring Semester 2006, students must acquire new Chipola ID cards. The ID card has been redesigned to eliminate the bar code and the use of the social security number. The new card is already being used; after December, the old card will no longer be valid. In the future, new ID cards will be required each academic year.

BOOKSTORE HOURS: Monday - Thursday 7 a.m. - 4 p.m. Friday 7 a.m. - 1 p.m.

LIBRARY HOURS: The Library will be open Monday, Dec. 12 from 7:30 a.m. - 9 p.m. Beginning Tuesday, the library will be open 7:30 - 4 p.m. through the rest of the semester.

TECH CENTER HOURS: The Tech Center will be open Dec. 12-13 from 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. when it will close for the holidays. The center will reopen on Jan. 9 at 8 a.m.

OPEN AUDITIONS. Open auditions will be held for the spring musical production, GREASE on Jan. 9 & 10 at 5:30 p.m. in the theatre. Audition packets may be picked up in Fine Arts.

SHIMMEL TAPPED. Dr. Stephen Shimmel is Chipola’s Faculty/Administrator of the month. He has taught natural science and math courses at the college since 1985.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK. 12/12 Chastity Duke 12/13 Rob Williams 12/14 Helen Rhynes 12/23 Nancy Burns 12/24 Royce Reagan 12/25 June Mays 12/29 Doris Williams 12/30 Janet Wise

CONDOLENCES. The Chipola family is saddened by the loss of James Bailey, Sr., father of Electronics Instructor James Bailey. Please keep this family in your thoughts and prayers.

BAKER IS EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH—Lucinda Baker accepts the December Chipola College Career Employee of the Month award from college president Dr. Gene Prough. Baker has worked in the college’s Physical Plant since 1987.