State Basketball Tournament begins Wednesday at Chipola

The top 16 community college basketball teams in Florida will begin arriving in Marianna Tuesday for the Florida Junior College Men’s and Women’s State Basketball Tournament set for March 4-7 in Chipola’s Milton H. Johnson Health Center.

Some 400 basketball players along with coaches, cheerleaders and fans will fill nearly 200 hotel rooms during the tourney. Teams will begin practice Tuesday in the Johnson Center and in local high school gyms. Each team is assigned a local host family to help with any need that may arise during the tournament.

Numerous Division I College coaches and recruiters also are expected to scout the talent in the competition. Tournament officials estimate that more than $250,000 will flow into the area during the tournament from food, lodging, recreation and incidental expenses.

The women’s tournament tips off Wednesday, March 4, at 1 p.m. (CST) as Central Florida takes on Hillsborough. At 3 p.m., Gulf Coast takes on Miami Dade. Chipola plays Santa Fe at 6 p.m.

Indian River and Northwest Florida meet in the 8 p.m. nightcap on Wednesday.

Men’s action begins Thursday, March 5, at 1 p.m. as Polk takes on Santa Fe. At 3 p.m., Gulf Coast meets Miami-Dade. Chipola plays Hillsborough at 6:00 p.m. Central Florida and Broward play in the 8 p.m. nightcap on Thursday.

Men’s and women’s semi-finals are set for Friday, March 6, with women’s games at 1 and 6 p.m. and men’s contests at 3 and 8 p.m. The State Championship title games are set for Saturday.

Ten Chipola basketball players have earned All-Panhandle Conference honors for the 2008-09 regular season. Chipola also boasts the men’s coach of the year and men’s and women’s players of the year.

**Chipola’s Casey Mitchell is the Panhandle Men’s Player of the Year.** He is the state’s third leading scorer averaging more than 21 points per game. Mitchell broke the NJCAA record for most consecutive free throws in a community college basketball game when he made 25 straight in Chipola’s overtime win over Tallahassee on Jan. 24.

Mitchell joins five other Chipola players on the First Team All-Conference list: Gary Flowers, Justin Brownlee, Torye Pelham, Malcolm Armstead and Jeremy Jacob.

One Indian was named Second Team All-Conference: Jon Kreft. Chipola’s Honorable Mention Selections are: Josh Sain, Darius Stowers and Darrell Williams.

Chipola coach Greg Heiar was named Panhandle Conference Coach of the Year after his Indians captured the Conference Championship. The Indians will defend their state title in a first round tournament game with Hillsborough, Thursday, March 5, at 6 p.m., in the Milton H. Johnson Health Center.

**Six Chipola Lady Indians** garnered All-Conference Honors and Latoya Williams was named Panhandle Conference Player of the Year.
Chipola baseball and softball at home this week

The Chipola Indians baseball team hosts a spate of games this week beginning with Grand Rapids, Friday, Feb. 27, at 3 p.m. The Indians host two games Saturday, Feb. 28, St. John’s River at noon and Grand Rapids at 6 p.m. Chipola plays Grand Rapids again Sunday, March 1, at noon. The Indians host Wallace-Dothan at 5 p.m., Tuesday, March 3.

Chipola is (9-7) as of Feb. 23 is ranked fifth in the FCCAA state poll. The Indians are the defending conference and state champions. Miami-Dade is first in the poll. PJC is second and Gulf Coast is fourth.

Chipola’s Austin Wright is this week’s FCCAA Baseball Pitcher of the Week. Wright, a freshman from Hoffman Estates, Ill., made the most of his only appearance on the mound last week. On Feb. 21 against NJCAA No. 26 Middle Georgia, the southpaw tossed an impressive seven-inning no-hitter in the Indians’ 6-0 win. Wright only walked three batters and struck out 11 in the complete-game effort.

For information about Chipola baseball, visit www.chipola.edu

The Chipola Lady Indians improved to 12-5 on the season with a 9-0 win over Aiken Tech on Feb. 22. Rebekah Lewis picked up the win for Chipola in five innings. Kara Gordon was three for three with three homeruns and 8 RBI’s.

Chipola also scored a big 9-1 win over Truett-McConnell on Feb. 22. Alison Kirkland earned the win for Chipola. Amanda Vickers was 2-3 in the game.

The Lady Indians host Darton College, Tuesday, March 3, in a 3 p.m. doubleheader. Chipola hosts Grand Rapids in a doubleheader, Thursday, March 5, at 2 p.m.

The Lady Indians travel to Louisiana for games on March 6-7 before returning home to host Hibbing CC, Monday, March 9 at 2 p.m. and Hartland College, Tuesday, March 10, at 2 p.m.

Chipola is ranked fifth in the FCCAA state poll and 26th in the NJCAA national poll.

For information about Chipola softball, visit www.chipola.edu

Coley scholarship fund grows

Friends of the late David Coley recently added $61,000 to the David Coley Scholarship Fund at Chipola College. Pictured from left, are: David’s son Vance, David’s daughter Kristin, David’s wife Rep. Marti Coley, Chipola president Dr. Gene Prough, Kris Money of the Florida Republican Party, Chipola board member Gary Clark and event host Robert Trammell.

All Conference, continued from page 1

Year. Williams is among the top 10 scorers in the state, averaging more than 14 points per game. Chipola’s First Team selections are Latoya Williams, Ashlie Billingslea and Sequoyah Griffin.

Second Team All-Conference picks from Chipola are Jamia Akins, Lenita Sanford and Marnesha Hall.

The Lady Indians ended the season ranked second in the FCCAA state poll, and second in the Panhandle Conference race.

State tournament, continued from page 1

March 7, with the women at 5 p.m., and the men at 7:30 p.m. Champions advance to the NJCAA National Tournaments, in Hutchinson, KS, and Salina, KS.

The Jackson County Tourist Development Council awarded a $10,000 grant to help promote and operate the tournament. Waste Management is official host sponsor for the event. Other sponsors include: the Florida Lottery, Florida Credit Union League, Community South Credit Union, Focus Credit Union, Jackson County Teachers Credit Union and Tyndall Federal Credit Union.

Tournament passes—$25 for adults and $15 for students—will get fans into all 14 exciting tournament games. Single session tickets—two games—are $10 each.

For ticket information, call 718-2220, or visit the official tourney web site at: www.chipola.edu
Chipola’s “Back to the 80’s”
tickets on sale March 4

Tickets go on sale March 4 for Chipola Theater’s totally awesome musical, “Back to the 80’s,” which opens a five-day run March 18.

“Back to the 80’s,” is straight from the era that brought the world The Rubik’s Cube, Max Headroom and The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. Join the graduating class of William Ocean High School as they live through their final senior year - as they experience the fun, the heartbreak, the loves and the loneliness of growing up all set to the biggest hits of the 80’s.

Chipola Theater director Charles Sirmon says the musical is rated “PG” as some material may not be suitable for younger audiences.

Sirmon cast local actors in the following roles: Keith Watford as Corey Palmer (Senior), Garrett Brolund as Corey Palmer (Junior), Austin Pettis as Alf Bueller, Jonathan Keeman as Kirk Keaton, Kyndall Covington as Tiffany Houston, Madison Wester as Cyndi Gibson, Brenna Kneiss as Mel Easton, Kylee Shores as Kim Easton, Ben Grande as Michael Keaton, Kris Sampson as Lionel Astley, Quintin Beechum as Huey Jackson, Aven Pitts as Feargal McFerrin, Grace Bailey as Eileen Reagan, Courtney Corbin as Laura Wilde, Emily Harrison as Debbie Fox, Christina Lopez as Ms. Sheena Brannigan and Aaron Moore as Mr. Stevie Cocker. Classmates are: Haley Barfield, Sarah Lovins, Danielle Richardson, Jacob Beasley and Clint Touchton. The crew includes Angela Wiley, David Reeves Forrester and Brenton Jones.

The show was written by Neil Gooding with additional material by Stuart Smith. Revised orchestrations and arrangements were composed by Brett Foster with original musical adaptation by Scott Copeman.

Tickets will be available in the college Business Office located in the Student Services beginning March 4. Phone credit card orders begin March 5. For ticket information, call 850-718-2220.

Speights is Employee of the Month

Agnes Speights (right) accepts the March Career Employee of the Month award from Chipola president Dr. Gene Prough. Speights has worked in the college Physical Plant since 2005.

Ashmore is Employee of the Month

Mathematics instructor Joy Ree Ashmore (right) was chosen as the Chipola College Faculty/Administrator of the month for February. Here, she accepts the award from Dr. Rose Cavin, director of Mathematics and Natural Sciences.
**FCCAA State Tournament Brackets**

### Women's Tournament Brackets

- **Gulf Coast**
  - Panhandle Champion
    - Game #2
    - Wednesday, March 4
    - 3:00 p.m.
  - Southern Second Place

- **Miami Dade**
  - Central Florida
    - Mid Florida Runner-up
      - Game #1
      - Wednesday, March 4
      - 1:00 p.m.
  - Southern Runner-up

- **Hillsborough**

- **Santa Fe**
  - Mid Florida Champion
    - Game #3
    - Wednesday, March 4
    - 6:00 p.m.
  - Panhandle Runner-up

- **Chipola**

- **Indian River**
  - Southern Champion
    - Game #4
    - Wednesday, March 4
    - 8:00 p.m.
  - Panhandle Third Place

- **Northwest Florida**

### Men's Tournament Brackets

- **Polk**
  - Sandestin Champion
    - Game #1
    - Thursday, March 5
    - 1 p.m.
  - Mid Florida Runner-up

- **Miami Dade**
  - Southern Champions
    - Game #2
    - Thursday, March 5
    - 3 p.m.
  - Panhandle Runner-up

- **Gulf Coast**

- **Chipola**

- **Panhandle Champion**
  - Game #3
    - Thursday, March 5
    - 6 p.m.
  - Sandestin Runner-up

- **Hillsborough**

- **Central Florida**
  - Mid Florida Champion
    - Game #4
    - Thursday, March 5
    - 8 p.m.
  - Southern Runner-up

### UGOTT SCHOLARSHIP

The Northwest Florida Gator Club is offering scholarships to entering juniors at the University of Florida's West Florida Research Education Center in Milton, FL. Applicants must have applied, been accepted, and plan to attend the University of Florida at WFREC during the 2009-2010 academic year.

Applications are available in Student Services. They must be completed and mailed directly to the Northwest Florida Gator Club and must be received no later than Monday, April 6, 2009.

The University of Florida Center in Milton offers degrees in Golf and Sports Turf Management, Natural Resource Conservation, and Landscape and Nursery Horticulture (formerly known as Environmental Horticulture). For information, see an advisor in Student Services.

### FCA MEETS

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes Huddle meets Thursday nights at 7 p.m. in H-108. Come enjoy food, fun, and fellowship. All students are welcome.

### BCM INVITES

Baptist Campus Ministries (BCM) will sponsor a Bible Study on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. in A-156. They will hold a Prayer Meeting on Tuesdays at 8:15 a.m. in the Dorm Lobby. Everyone is invited.

### UGOTT WEEKLY EVENTS

- **MARCH**
  - 14 CAAP Exam
  - 17 District Board of Trustees
  - 18 Caricaturist Steve Gipson
  - 18-22 "Back to the Eighties..."
  - 20 Last Day To Withdraw from a Class
  - 23 Deadline to Apply for McLendon Scholarship for Summer 2009
  - 23 Auditions for Children's Show
  - 24 Artist Series: Christine Yoshikawa
  - 25 Night Students Social
  - 26 Music and Theatre Scholarship Auditions for 2009-10
  - 30-31 SPRING BREAK

- **APRIL**
  - 1-3 SPRING BREAK

### LOCATOR

A- Student Services/ Administration
B- Library
C- Social Science
D- Fink Natural Science
E- Physical Plant Office
F- Residence Hall
G- Math Annex
H- McLendon Fine Arts
I- Arts Center
J- Theater
K- Cafeteria, Bookstore
L- ACE Lab
M- Business/Cosmetology
N- Workforce Devel Labs
O- Workforce Devel / Electronics
P- Automotive Tech
Q- Health Science
R- Johnson Health Center
S- Continuing Ed/Conf Ctr
T- Pool
U- Foundation
Y- Public Service
Z- Literature/Language
BC/SC - Baseball/Softball Complex