State Basketball Tournament begins Wednesday

The local motels and restaurants will be filled with some very tall people as Florida’s best junior college teams invade Marianna for the Men’s and Women’s FCCAA/Region VIII state Basketball Tournament which begins Wednesday, March 5, at Chipola’s Johnson Health Center.

The men’s tournament tips off Wednesday at 1 p.m. (CST) with Polk and Broward. At 3 p.m., Okaloosa-Walton plays on Santa Fe. Indian River plays Manatee at 6 p.m. Chipola plays Central Florida in the 8 p.m. nightcap on Wednesday.

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

Men’s and women’s semi-finals are set for Friday, March 7, with women’s games at 3 and 8 p.m. and men’s contests at 1 and 6 p.m. The State Championship title games are set for Saturday, March 8, with the men at 5 p.m., and the women at 7:30 p.m. Champions advance to the NJCAA National Tournaments, in Hutchinson, KS, and Salina, KS.

More than 2,000 visitors are expected to contribute more than $250,000 into the local economy during the four-day event. Chipola’s Karan Davis, who coordinates motel rooms for the tournament, reports that more than 175 rooms will be reserved for teams and game officials.

Waste Management, Inc., long-time corporate sponsor, recently donated $10,000 to sponsor the tournament. The Florida Credit Union League and local credit unions—Community South CU, Jackson County Teachers CU, Tyndall Federal CU, Envision CU, United Solutions—contributed a total of $10,000 in corporate sponsorships.

The Jackson County Tourist Development Council awarded a $10,000 grant to help promote the tournament.

Tournament passes—good for all 14 games—are $25 for adults and $15 for students. Session tickets (two games) are $10 for adults and $6 for students. Tournament passes are the only guarantee for a seat for the championship game.

Championship games will be available to millions of DISH Network 61.5 subscribers on Channel #9418 and on PAEC’s Florida Education Channel on local cable systems. Jackson County Comcast subscribers also will be able to view all evening session games—Wednesday through Saturday—on Chipola College Television. Fans with Internet access, can watch a live video web-cast of all tournament games on www.chipola.edu and www.cybersportsusa.com. Chipola’s games will be broadcast on radio station WJAQ, 100.9 FM.

For information, call Tournament Coordinator Alice Pendergrass at (850) 718-2370, or visit the official website at www.chipola.edu.
Chipola College cheerleader Ashley Duce of Two Egg was crowned 2008 Homecoming Queen and Keith Watford of Graceville was crowned Mr. Chipola on Feb. 23.

Ashley Duce was sponsored by the Chipola Honors Club. She is the daughter of Julie and Danny Duce of Two Egg. She is active in Cheerleading, Phi Theta Kappa, and Baptist Campus Ministries. She plans to transfer to the University of Florida to become a Speech Pathologist.

Keith Watford was sponsored by Show Choir. He is the son of Danny and Carolyn Watford of Graceville. He is active in Show Choir, Black Student Union Dance Team, Theater and Spanish Club. Keith plans to attend Florida State to major in Public Relations and Advertising.

The 2008 Chipola Homecoming Court included: sophomore women: Jessica Lawson, the daughter of Kim Matthews of Malone; Sylvianna Garrett, the daughter of Pat Garrett and Cherolyn Pittman of Greenwood; and homecoming queen Ashley Duce, the daughter of Julie and Danny Duce of Two Egg.

Sophomore men included: Erik Blount, the son of Amy Johnson of Malone; Jantzen Whitehead, the son of Charles and Loretta Whitehead of Cottondale; and Mr. Chipola Keith Watford, the son of Danny and Carolyn Watford of Graceville.

Freshmen women on the court, were: Kara Jumper, the daughter of Robin and Terry Jumper of Graceville and Cassie Mitchell, the daughter of Lonnie and Joyce Mitchell of Sneads.

Freshmen men on the court, were: Kris Sampson, the son of Donald and Jennifer Sampson and Jimmy and Lori Grey of Marianna; and Drew Crutchfield, the son of William and Patty Crutchfield of Graceville.

Last year’s Homecoming Queen Rachel Taylor of Sneads and 2007 Mr. Chipola Lenoris Dixon returned for Homecoming this year.

Homecoming Talent Show winners were: Best Band: Kevin Shores, Nick Melvin and Friends; Best Group: Keith Watford and the BSU Dance Team; Best Solo: Mauntrez Bullock; third place: O.C. Brinkley; second place: Kris Sampson and Cassie Mitchell; first place: Keith Watford and Dianna Glaze.

Winners of the Homecoming Building Decoration Contest are third place Phi Beta Lambda; second, Cheerleaders and first, Science Club.
Chipola players and coach named to All-Conference Team

Nine Chipola basketball players have earned All-Panhandle Conference honors for the 2007-08 regular season. Chipola also boasts the men’s coach of the year and men’s player of the year.

**Chipola’s Mario Little is the Panhandle Men’s Player of the Year.** Little joins three other Chipola players on the First Team All-Conference list: Gary Flowers (Newcomer of the Year), Mario Edwards and Jon Kreft.

Three Indians were named Second Team All-Conference: Brian Mitchell, Clevin Hannah and Malik Alvin. Chipola’s Honorable Mention Selections are: Vernon Teel and Torye Pelham.

**CHIPOLA’S FIRST TEAM ALL-CONFERENCE PICKS—** Chipola College’s First Team All Conference picks are, from left: (top) Mario Little (Panhandle Player of the Year), Gary Flowers (Newcomer of the Year), Mario Edwards and Jon Kreft, (bottom) Coach Greg Heiar (Panhandle Coach of the Year), Latoya Williams (All-State), Lesheria Stevens and Ashley McCray.

Amanda Mullins named Chipola’s Teacher Ed Student of the month

Amanda Mullins has been named Chipola College’s Teacher Education Student of the month.

The Marianna High and Chipola graduate enrolled in Chipola’s Secondary Math Education program in 2006, and is currently a second semester senior interning at Chipley High.

Mullins is the first president of the Future Educators Club which has 20 members. She helped to establish the Teacher Education Commons.

She recently led FEC members in hosting the group’s first annual workshop for local teachers and teacher candidates. Mullins and other teacher candidates also presented at the Florida Conference of Teachers of Mathematics in October.

Mullins works in Chipola’s Mathematics, Science and Education Department as the Educator Preparation Institute liaison and serves as a tutor for an 8th grader at Marianna Middle.

Of her experience at Chipola, Mullins says, “I have had the best training available. I have received support, encouragement, and constructive criticism. Because I learned from the best, I have been given the tools and knowledge to be the best. Most importantly, I have a relationship with the Chipola faculty. I know that after I graduate, I can call on any of my instructors for help and guidance. I would encourage anyone considering a career in education to take a close look at this wonderful campus and its amazing faculty.”

When asked what kind of teacher she hopes to be, Mullins offered Chipola teachers as examples. “I want the heart of Cherry Ward, the sense of direction and organization of Dr. Cavin and the sheer drive, diligence, and untiring love of her craft of Dr. Lou Cleveland. I’d also like to thank Dr. Kitty Myers and tell her that she changed my life,” Mullins said.

Dr. Lou Cleveland, Director of Teacher Education, said, “I am sure that Amanda struggled with the decision to leave the work force to return to school. However, all her instructors agree that she has a special gift for teaching and learning. As a teacher candidate, she has set a standard of excellence in and out of the classroom. As a graduate of Chipola’s teacher education program, she will positively impact the mathematical preparedness as well as the lives of many students.”

Mullins will graduate in May with a BS in Math Education.
How to Succeed . . . Tickets on sale

SELLING WICKETS--The big boss, J.B. Biggly (Garrett Brolund) thinks about Finch’s (Kevin Russell) crazy ideas for “How To Succeed In Business Without Really Trying.” Tickets for the Chipola production of the Pulitzer Prize-winning musical are on sale in the Chipola Business office. Performance dates are March 12-15 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, March 16 at 2 p.m. Call 850-718-2220, or visit www.chipola.edu and click arts.

Chipola baseball and softball at home

Chipola baseball hosts St. Petersburg, in a four-game set, beginning with a single game Friday, Feb. 29, at 6 p.m., a double-header, Saturday, March 1, at noon, and a single game Sunday, March 2, at noon.

The Indians’ home-stand continues Tuesday, March 4, with a 2 p.m. double-header with Grand Rapids.

Chipola hosts Meridian College in back-to-back doubleheaders, Friday, March 7, at 3 p.m., and Saturday, March 8, at noon.

The Indians’ host Wallace-Dothan at 5 p.m., Tuesday, March 11, in the final pre-conference game before opening league play, Friday, March 14 at Tallahassee at 4 p.m.

The Lady Indians softball team hosts Pitt Community College in a double-header, Saturday, March 1, at 1 p.m., and Columbia State CC, Tuesday, March 4, in a 2 p.m. double-header.

Chipola plays four in Panama City, March 7-9, before returning home to host Hartland at 4 p.m., March 11.

The Lady Indians begin their defense of the Panhandle title when they host North Florida, Tuesday, March 18, at 4 p.m.

DEBATE IT--Students interested in joining a Debate/Oral Interpretation group are encouraged to contact Erin Witt at 547-5065 or email eronoslookfar@yahoo.com or Carol Saunders at 526-2761, Ext. 3280. The group plans to meet at 2 p.m. on Wednesday afternoons in Z206.

FREE TAX HELP. Chipola business instructor Lee Shook and student volunteers are providing free tax preparation and free electronic filing. The free service—for individual tax returns only—is available from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., on Fridays, through April 11. The free service usually takes no longer than 30 minutes. Call (850) 718 2368.

SGA BLOOD DRIVE--SGA will sponsor a blood drive Wednesday, March 12, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Southeastern Community Blood Mobile will be parked on Indian Circle in front of the Literature/Language Building - Z. All of the blood donated will stay in this region. You need a picture ID to donate. Please donate!

CALLING CHARACTERS--Caricaturist Steve Gipson will be on campus Wednesday, March 19 in the Lobby of Building D from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Everyone is invited to stop by and have a free picture drawn. This event is sponsored by SGA.

THEY’RE HERE! The 2007 Chipola College Yearbooks are here and are on sale in the College Bookstore. Get yours today for only $20.

NEW BABY--Kristin Bennett and husband Byron welcome new daughter Camden Reese Bennett on Feb. 28. She weighed in at 10 pounds, four ounces, and 21 inches long.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**MARCH**

12-16 Spring Theatre Production
12 SGA Blood Drive
15 CAAP Exam for all AA graduates
18 Last Day to Withdraw from a Class
18 District Board of Trustees
19 Caricaturist Steve Gipson
20 2008-09 Music and Theatre Scholarship Auditions
24-25 Auditions for Children’s Production, Once Upon A Time...
25 Artist Series: Proteus 7
26 Night Student Social
27-29 FCCAA State Brain Bowl Tourney
28 Deadline to Apply for McLendon Scholarship for Summer I
31 Spring Break Holidays - APRIL

1-4 Spring Break Holidays
8 Last Day to Resign From All Classes for Spring Term
9 Spring Frolics — Classes Dismissed

**THIS WEEK**

“Chipola This Week” is a weekly publication of the Chipola PR Office.

Deadline for the next issue is 8 a.m., Wednesday, March 5. Articles will be printed as space permits. E-mail Evelyn Ward at warde@chipola.edu.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

7-Mar Matt White

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