Nurses score well on national boards

Chipola College nursing students performed well on the latest National Council Licensure Exam NCLEX exam.

Chipola’s fourth quarter NCLEX-RN passing rate is 87.5 percent and the NCLEX-PN passing rate is 100 percent. The year-to-date passing rate is 84.44 percent for NCLEX-RN and 92.86 percent for NCLEX-PN.

Kathy Wheeler, ARNP, MSN, Director of Chipola’s Health Science programs, says a major change in Chipola’s curriculum helped improve passing rates on the national exams. Nursing students are required to maintain a 75 percent average in each course in order to take the final exam for the particular course.

Wheeler says, “This measure was put in place to prevent students from investing two years in the program and then failing to gain licensure. We found that students who could not maintain a 75 percent average were not successful on the state exam.” Wheeler says other nursing schools have similar or more stringent grading policies.

The Chipola Nursing program trains some 80 nurses a year for promising careers in the health care field. The program is approved by the Florida Department of Education and the Florida Board of Nursing through 2010. All of Chipola’s educational programs are accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.

The Florida Board of Nursing oversees Chipola’s nursing curriculum which is approved to accept 80 students per year. Students may begin in either the Fall or Spring semesters. The Spring application deadline was Sept. 15; however, students may continue to apply until all seats have been filled by qualified applicants.

Chipola’s Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) program is a 1+1 LPN to RN curriculum. After completing the first year of coursework, students are eligible to take the LPN state licensure exam. Students are eligible to take the RN exam after completing the second year of the program. Major pre-requisites for acceptance include: psychology, intermediate or college algebra, English 1101, Biology and orientation.

Chipola’s LPN to RN transition program accepts current LPN’s into the third semester of the ADN program during the Summer terms. Chipola also offers Emergency Medical Technician, Paramedic and Certified Nursing Assistant programs.

College officials also have made application to offer a Bachelor’s of Science degree in nursing (BSN).

For information about Chipola’s Health Science programs, call Kathy Wheeler at 850-718-2278, or visit www.chipola.edu

Early Spring Semester registration for current students is Nov. 5-8

Students will not receive individual appointments, but should report to their adviser or Room A156 in the Student Services to register for classes or register online.

Registration dates are determined by the number of hours pursued: 45+ hours, Nov. 5; 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.; 30+ hours, Nov. 6, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; 15+ hours, Nov. 7, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.; 1+ hours, Nov. 8, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Current students may register online at www.chipola.edu/student-records/online_help.htm on the appropriate day. To be eligible for Web Registration students must have at least a 2.0 GPA in a minimum of 12 credit hours at Chipola; must have a declared major; must not have changed their major; have no registration holds; not be enrolled in remedial courses; not dual enrolled or early admit. State Employee Fee Waiver students are not eligible for web registration.

Fees for early registration at due by 3 p.m., Dec. 6. Students must visit the Business Office to declare how fees will be paid (grant, scholarships, Bright Futures, dual enrollment, etc.).
Chipola to host Milton Johnson Classic

Chipola hosts the annual Milton H. Johnson Basketball Classic, Nov. 2-3.

Coach Milton H. Johnson is among the best to ever coach in community college basketball. From 1961 to 1993, Johnson won 628 games and led the Indians seven national tournaments, finishing second in 1974. His career coaching record includes more than 800 wins.

The Chipola gymnasium bears the name: Milton H. Johnson Health Center, and shortly after his retirement in 1993, coaches from the league named the Panhandle Conference trophy in his honor.

Both Chipola teams play Friday, with the Chipola Lady Indians vs. Kirkwood (Iowa), at 5 p.m., and the Chipola Indians vs. IMG Academy, at 7 p.m.

Friday afternoon games feature the Gulf Coast Lady Commodores vs. Motlow State (TN) at 1 p.m. and the Red Clay men’s teams vs. Motlow State (TN) at 3 p.m.

The Chipola women’s squad takes on Motlow State, Saturday at 5 p.m., followed by the Indians and Motlow State at 7 p.m. Early Saturday games include: the Gulf Coast Lady Commodores and Kirkwood (IA) at 1 p.m., and the IMG Academy men and Red Clay College at 3 p.m.

The Chipola men’s squad enters the 2007-08 season with a No. 1 ranking in both the NJCAA National Poll and the FCCAA State Poll.

The Indians are the defending Florida FCCAA champions of Region 8. Chipola advanced to the 2007 NJCAA Division I Basketball title game, falling to Midland College (Texas). They head into battle with Mario Little (6-6, 210) a second-team all-conference performer last season averaging 8.9 points and 6.1 rebounds a game. He was selected as a First-Team Pre-Season All-American.

The Lady Indians are the defending FCCAA State champions, ranked number one in the FCCAA poll and fourth in the NJCAA Pre-Season National Poll.

The Lady Indians finished fifth in the 2007 NJCAA National Tournament Chipola finished the season with a 30-7 record.

The Lady Indians are be led by Lesheria Stevens who averaged 11.3 points, 6.5 rebounds, 3.0 assists and 2.3 steals per game last season. Crystal Campbell averaged 10.6 pints, 4.6 reboudns, 2.7 assists and 1.6 steals per game last season, earning second-team all-conference honors.

For information, call the Chipola Hotline at 718-2CJC, or visit the website at www.chipola.edu

Third annual Holiday Inn Express/Alzheimer’s Classic slated for Nov. 9-11
The field is set for the Third Annual Holiday Inn-Express/Alzheimer’s Classic at Chipola College on Nov. 9-11.

This year’s lineup is the most impressive in the classic’s three-year history with seven ranked teams, and six in the top 15. The match-ups will once again pit the Panhandle Conference of Florida against the best from the rest of the nation.

The Classic kicks off Friday, Nov. 9, with several highly-ranked teams doing battle. At 4 p.m., number 27 Tallahassee Community College will take on number seven Southeastern Illinois College. Eighth-ranked Gulf Coast Community College and number two Trinity Valley Community College (TX) meet at 6 p.m., in a contest that is guaranteed to be fast-paced. Other Friday games include Okaloosa-Walton vs. number 15 Monroe Community College (NY) at noon. At 2 p.m. Pensacola will take on number 12 Georgia Perimeter, and at 8 p.m. number four Chipola will take on Three Rivers College (MO).

Saturday, Nov. 10 features several marquee matchups. At noon, number 27 Tallahassee will take on number 12 Georgia Perimeter. The 6 p.m. game will pit number eight Gulf Coast against number 15 Monroe (NY). The final game of the day will be another top-ten battle as fourth-ranked Chipola College takes on number seven Southeastern Illinois College. Other Saturday contests include Pensacola and Three Rivers at 2 p.m., followed by Okaloosa-Walton and second ranked Trinity Valley (TX) at 4 p.m.

Two big games are set for Sunday, Nov. 11. At 1 p.m., second-ranked Trinity Valley (TX) will take on number 12 Georgia Perimeter. Fourth-ranked Chipola College will face number 15 Monroe CC (NY) at 3 p.m.

Proceeds from the tournament will help the Alzheimer’s Resource Center of Dothan, Alabama. The Center provides support and education for victims of Alzheimer’s and their families. Over the past two year’s the Classic has raised $2,300 for the Resource Center.

Chipola Lady Indians Head Coach David Lane, says, “Mark your calendars and come out the Chipola College to see some quality women’s basketball and support a great cause.”

For information on the Classic, call 718-2234

Area youth invited to join Chipola Little Indians
The Chipola College men’s basketball team invites boys and girls ages 6-12 to join the Little Indians.

The first practice is Tuesday, Nov. 13, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. A second practice is scheduled for Dec. 3. Little Indians will perform during halftime of the men’s games on Nov. 19 and Dec. 6.

The $25 membership fee includes: free admission to Chipola games, Little Indians t-shirt, and instruction from Chipola players and coaches. For information, call Marty Richter at (850)718-2378.
Chipola honors students place in Peanut Festival pageant

Three freshmen co-eds from the Chipola College Honors program placed among the 10 in the National Peanut Festival pageant on Oct. 20.

Miss Bonifay Jordan Belser was the first place winner in portfolio, verbal communication, and written communication categories and placed in the top five in portfolio and interview.

Miss Graceville Kara Jumper made it to the top five overall and became the 2nd runner-up to Miss National Peanut Festival. She also placed in the top five in portfolio, evening gown, and interview categories.

Miss Jackson County Cassie Mitchell placed in the top five in portfolio and verbal categories.

Madison Wester, winner of the 2007 Miss National Peanut Festival, has taken dual-enrollment courses at Chipola and plans to enroll after graduating from Marianna High.

Stars in their crowns

The staff of Riverside Elementary would like to salute the Chipola faculty, administration and student body for their involvement in the Riverside Elementary School’s New Friends Program. For the past 20 years, many Chipola students have volunteered to be a “New Friend” for a Riverside student for one hour each week for a semester. This relationship has promoted an improvement in the self-esteem and often the grades of the Riverside students participating in the program.

Dr. Willie Spires has championed the New Friends Program from its very beginning. Until the very last few years, the Chipola College students participating have attended only Dr. Spires’ psychology classes. More recently, the students participating have attended the classes of the department in which he directs. The various faculty members that have participated include: Dr. Spires, Mrs. McClendon, Ms. Andreu, Mr. Shook, Mrs. Milton, Ms. Naftel, Ms. McAllister, Ms. Stadsklev, Ms. White, Mrs. Gambill and Mrs. Greene.

Several other Chipola staff members have been instrumental in promoting the New Friends Program. Ms. Elisa Cruz, Dr. Spires’ assistant has been very helpful in co-coordinating the program. Mr. Craven and Mr. Reagan have assisted in publicizing the New Friends Program. Ms. Ward produced a PowerPoint presentation for the teachers to use in the classroom to orient the college students to the program.

Through the flexibility and participation of the Chipola faculty, administration and students, coupled with the Riverside staff and administration, thousands of Riverside students have had a positive change in their lives. The staff of Riverside would like to say “Thank You!” to the faculty, administration and students of Chipola College for participating in the New Friends Program. Through your time, efforts and commitment you have made a difference in many, many, lives!

FYI: Did you know that the very first college students from Chipola participating in the New Friends Program included Mr. Pender, Principal at Sneads High, Ms. Glover 3rd grade teacher at Riverside Elementary, and Mr. Foster, owner of The Gazebo Restaurant.

Caribbean Sound Steel Band to perform at Chipola

The Caribbean Sound Steel Band will perform Tuesday, Nov. 13, at 7 p.m., as part of the Chipola College Artist Series.

A limited number of tickets—$12 for adults and $8 for ages 18 and under—go on sale Oct. 30 in the Chipola Business Office.

Caribbean Sound will present their exciting “American Carnival” show, an exhilarating evening of music, entertainment and fun. The show presents an exciting look at the development of “pan” music, a unique innovation of the 20th Century, mixing the sound and culture of the Caribbean through Calypso, Soca, and Latin Music with Classical, American pop and original compositions.

Since 1986 Caribbean Sound has performed traditional Calypso, Contemporary Classics, original compositions for the steel pan and World Music striking new territory with an incredible sound. The music of Caribbean Sound is grounded in classical and Jazz traditions combined with years of cultural research of Caribbean Rhythms. The one-of-a-kind ensemble provides presents the amazing influences from around the world that came together to create the steel pan.


The Artist 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 information call the Chipola business office at 718-2204.
Ebel and Delameter place in local triathlon

Two members of the Chipola community recently placed third in her age group in the Triathlon and Language professor Dr. Mark Ebel placed first in his age group in the Aquabike. The Triathlon consists of a 1/3 mile swim in the Gulf of Mexico, a 15 mile bike leg, and a 3 mile run. Delameter’s time for the triathlon was 1 hour, 30 minutes.

The Aquabike event is the swim and bike only. Dr. Ebel’s time for the Aquabike was 1 hour, 20 minutes. Both Ebel and Delameter train at the Chipola pool. Delameter rides on local roads and with a club in Dothan. Ebel rides a 22 mile route from his home in Panama City Beach to the Panama City Beach Aquatic Center, where he trains on weekends.


New Beginnings to offer computer course

The New Beginnings group at Chipola will offer a three-clock-hour basic computer operations course Friday, Nov. 16, from 9 a.m. to noon, in the Continuing Education Building “S.”

Glenda Bethel is instructor for the course which will cover basic word processing including: creation of text and Word 2007 files and creation of folders for file management. Internet search engines and browsers, and surfing also will be discussed.

Fees will be covered for those who qualify. New Beginnings is a Displaced Homemaker Program for Chipola students which assists individuals with work skills needed to re-enter the workforce.

For information, contact Rose Parramore at (850) 718-2208.

Gulf Power CEO speaks at Chipola

Susan Story, President and CEO of Gulf Power, was the recent guest speaker for the Chipola Lecture Series sponsored by the Chipola Honors program. Here, Honors students present Story with a Chipola golf shirt. Pictured from left, are: Alicia Hatcher, Cassie Mitchell, Ashton Lee, Susan Story, Heather Gibson and Catherine Lipford.