Chipola baseball Alumni Weekend set for Feb. 6-7

Major league baseball players and dozens of other former Chipola baseball players are expected to return to their alma mater for the annual Chipola Baseball Alumni Weekend Feb. 6-7.

The weekend will include live college baseball action, a Homerun Derby, great food and the chance to rub elbows with the pros, including two-time MLB Homerun champ Jose Bautista and his newest Toronto Blue Jays teammate, All-Star catcher Russell Martin.

The Chipola Indians will play Walters State in two games: the first on Friday, Feb. 6, at 10 a.m., and again, Saturday, Feb. 7, at 11 a.m.

Chipola’s MLB stars Bautista and Martin will lead fellow alumni in a Homerun Derby beginning at noon Saturday. Honorary Chipola Alumnus Jeff Mathis will also compete.

The college will officially retire MLB All-Star Patrick Corbins’s Chipola jersey before the Homerun Derby. Corbin played at Chipola in 2009 before being drafted by Anaheim in the second round. Corbin debuted with the Arizona Diamondbacks in 2012, and in 2013 earned a spot on the National League All-Star Roster after posting a 14-8 regular season record.

An MLB Autograph session will follow the Homerun Derby. There is a $10 admission charge to the autograph session. Fans are also invited to purchase fresh Grouper Lunch plates for $10 in advance or at the event.

Chipola alumnus Tom Kotchman, a member of the MLB Scouting Hall of Fame, is scheduled to speak at Chipola Baseball Alumni Dinner and Auction, set for Saturday, Feb. 7, at 6 p.m., at Citizen’s Lodge. Kotchman played at Chipola in the late 70’s. His son Casey Kotchman had a nine-year career in the big leagues playing beginning with Anaheim and ending in Miami in 2013. His daughter Christal played on the Chipola softball team. Visiting big-leaguers have donated thousands in memorabilia to support the Chipola program. Tickets for the Dinner/Auction are $100.

Coach Johnson, says, “We appreciate all the fans and former players who come out to support our program. These guys are so generous with their time and resources. It means a lot to our program.”

Baseball-Reference.Com has a complete list of all former Chipola players selected in the Major League Draft at www.baseball-reference.com/schools/index.cgi?key_school=2d5e45bb

Other alumni-only activities are scheduled throughout the weekend. For information about alumni happenings, email Nathan Marks at nathan@marksinsurancem.com, visit www.chipola.edu or phone Brent Shelton at 850-272-0014.

**THIS WEEK AT CHIPOLA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MONDAY</td>
<td>• SGA Meeting, Bldg. Z rm. 116; 1:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUESDAY</td>
<td>• Student Ambassadors, Bldg. Z rm. 201; 1:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Last Day to Withdraw from a Class for Spring Term B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Community Chorus, CFA Experimental Theatre; 6 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THURSDAY</td>
<td>• FCA Meeting, Staff Dining Room; 7 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY</td>
<td>• Lit/Lang Festival; 8:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Chipola Baseball; 3 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Chipola Softball; 11 a.m., 1 p.m. &amp; 5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SATURDAY</td>
<td>• Chipola Baseball; 12 p.m. &amp; 2 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Chipola Softball; 4 p.m. &amp; 6 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUNDAY</td>
<td>• Chipola Baseball; 1 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Chipola Softball; 11 a.m. &amp; 1 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Throssell Literature/Language Festival Friday**

Chipola will host the 25th Annual Throssell Literature/Language Festival on Friday, Feb. 13.

Currently enrolled juniors or seniors from high schools in the Chipola District will compete in writing, speech, oral interpretation, humanities, grammar, literature, reading and Spanish competitions. Recognition will be given to first, second, third places and two honorable mentions in each competition. A monetary award will be given to the first place winner of the President’s Reading contest.

Festival coordinator Dr. Rachel West says, “We are excited that the Festival has thrived for 25 years. Many students have competed throughout the years.”

The festival will begin at 8:15 a.m. and conclude with the awards ceremony at 12:30 p.m. Lunch, compliments of the college, will be provided to the contestants and their sponsors. Participants also will see a preview of the upcoming Chipola musical Th却r Wizard of Oz.

Dr. Sarah Clemmons says, “We are looking forward to hosting our 25th festival. It is always a pleasure to have area high school students on our campus for a day of academic competition.”
Chipola Lady Indians lead Panhandle Conference

Both Chipola teams host Pensacola Saturday, Feb. 7, in a pair of Panhandle Conference games. The women play at 5:30 p.m., followed by the men at 7:30 p.m. Chipola heads to Gulf Coast Wednesday, Feb. 11, before returning home to host the final home games of the season Feb. 17 against Tallahassee. Both Chipola squads finish out the regular season Feb. 21 at Northwest.

The top-ranked Chipola Lady Indians moved one step closer to a state tournament berth with a 63-48 win over Tallahassee on Feb. 3. Leading scorer for Chipola was Evelyn Akhator with 24 points and 22 rebounds. Sueterrica Key scored 18 points and pulled in 6 rebounds. Rosemarie Julien had 13 points.

Chipola broke a tie for first place in the conference with a big 64-62 win over second place Northwest Florida State on Jan. 31. Key led Chipola with 24 points. Akhator had 20 points and 20 rebounds.

Chipola is 7-1 in the league and 23-1 overall. The Lady Indians’ only blemish on their record was a 67-54 loss to Northwest on Jan. 17. Northwest (6-2) is second in league. TCC (4-4) is third. Gulf Coast is (3-5). Pensacola is 0-8. The top three teams in the Panhandle conference make the state tournament March 4-7 in Ocala.

Chipola is third in the NJCAA National Poll after sitting at the top spot for two months. Hutchinson is first. Trinity Valley is second, and Northwest is fourth in the national poll.

The Indians fell to 1-7 in league play following an 87-58 loss at Tallahassee on Feb. 3.

Chipola suffered a 91-71 loss to Northwest on Jan. 31. Junior Saintel led Chipola with 16 points. Greg King had 10 points and 10 rebounds.

Chipola scored their only league win Jan. 7 in a 56-53 victory at Gulf Coast. Saintel led Chipola with 19. King scored 14 and made big shot block late in the game.

In the men’s Panhandle Conference race, Northwest (7-1) leads the league. Gulf Coast (5-3) is second. Pensacola (4-4) is third. Tallahassee is (3-5) and Chipola is (1-7).

Janisha Lindsay (#4) drives into the lane in the Lady Indians’ Jan. 31 win over Northwest.

Chipola employees attended an Open House for the college’s new Wellness Center on Feb. 4. The event included healthy snacks, door prizes and free Health Screenings by the Chipola Student Nurses Association. Bill Martin of Sofitco was on hand to demonstrate the equipment.

First Commerce Credit Union will host a free cookout for fans at the Chipola Baseball and Softball games on Friday, Feb. 13, from 3 to 6 p.m.

Softball Games
Chipola vs. Gordon State, 11 a.m.
Chipola vs. Central Alabama, 1 p.m.
Chipola vs. Meridian, 5 p.m.

Baseball Games
Chipola vs. St. Pete 4 p.m.
Chipola Homecoming Queen and Mr. Chipola— Sara Kaye Compton of Chipley and Trey White of Marianna were crowned Chipola Homecoming Queen and Mr. Chipola at the Homecoming game on Jan. 31. Pictured from left, are: Madison Harrell of Marianna; Samona Chavers of Marianna; Mr. Chipola 2014, Micah Ruiz of Bascom; Homecoming Queen 2014, Tatum Skipper of Malone; 2015 Homecoming Queen, Sara Kaye Compton of Chipley; Mr. Chipola 2015, Trey White of Marianna; Adiyah Raines of Sneads; Demontray Edwards of Greenwood; Will Gover of Greenwood, Shawna Donofro of Marianna; Andrew Shouse of Marianna and Shelbie Johnson of Marianna.

Chipola Presidents return for Homecoming—Chipola College celebrated Homecoming on Jan. 31. Chipola president Dr. Jason Hurst invited the four living Chipola presidents and their Executive Assistant Joyce Traynom as his special guests. Pictured from left, are: Dr. Jason Hurst, Dr. Robert Richburg, Dr. Gene Prough, Joyce Traynom, Dr. Dale O’Daniel and Dr. Jerry Kandzer. Portraits of all ten Chipola presidents were recently restored on canvas and will hang in a place of prominence on campus.

GROVE ADDRESSES CHIPOLA FACULTY

Jennifer Grove, Gulf Power workforce development coordinator, was the recent guest speaker for the Chipola College faculty meeting. Pictured from left, are: Dr. Sarah Clemmons, Chipola Senior Vice President; Jennifer Grove and Darwin Gilmore, Chipola Dean of Workforce and Economic Development.

Black History program set for Feb. 20

Chipola will host a Black History Month Program, Friday, Feb. 20, at 6:30 p.m., in the Continuing Education Center. Dinner will be served. The theme for the program is “It’s a Family Affair.” For information about the event, contact Dr. Willie Spires at 718-2232.
Chipola honors Ronnie Myers at Homecoming

Chipola and Appreciation Club officials honored Ronnie Myers for outstanding service by dedicating the Ronnie Myers Appreciation Club Room in the Milton H. Johnson Center. The ceremony was held at the Homecoming game on Jan. 31.

Myers graduated from Chipola in 1962 where he starred on the basketball team coached by Milton Johnson. He led the Indians to numerous wins from 1960 to 1962. His Chipola team also won the first State Championship in 1962.

Chipola President Dr. Jason Hurst says, “Ronnie has been a continuous supporter of Chipola Athletics for 43 years. This is a fitting honor for his dedicated service.”

Myers has served as Appreciation Club President in different terms totaling 10 years. He has led ticket sales, membership drives, and hosted many coaches and players in his home.

Myers played a key role in bringing the State Basketball Tournament to Marianna and served as a Tournament Director for 18 years. He helped organize numerous events to fund Athletic Scholarships and was inducted into the Florida College System Activities Association Hall of Fame.

During the ceremony, Myers’ lifelong friend Robert Trammell announced that the college and the Appreciation Club are joining together to establish a scholarship in Myers’ name.

Padgett Re-Appointed to Chipola Board

Governor Rick Scott on Feb. 4 announced the re-appointment of John Padgett to the Chipola College District Board of Trustees.

Padgett is a retired businessman, a U.S. Army veteran and a former Jackson County Commissioner.

Nine trustees represent Chipola’s five-county district on the board. Other trustees include: Jan Page of Chipley, CEO of Community South Credit Union; Gary Clark of Chipley, vice president of West Florida Electric Cooperative; Gina Stuart of Marianna, a Realtor; Tommy Lassmann of Marianna, a commercial banker with Cadence Bank; Kyle Hudson of Bonifay, the Holmes County Clerk of the Circuit Court; Hannah Sumner Causseaux of Bristol, the former director of appointments in the Executive Office of the Governor; and board chair Daniel Ryals, III, of Blountstown, a real estate broker.

All appointments are subject to confirmation by the Florida Senate.