Lady Indians win State Championship
(Akhator breaks tournament rebound record)

The Chipola Lady Indians (30-1) defeated Northwest Florida State 70-56 to win their second straight FCSAA/Region VIII State Championship, Saturday, March 7, in Ocala.

Evelyn Akhator led Chipola with 27 points and 29 rebounds. She was named Florida/Region VIII Player of the Year. Akhator, a sophomore from Lagos, Nigeria, scored 62 points and pulled in 63 rebounds in three games in the tournament, breaking records for most rebounds in a tournament and in a single tournament game.

Chipola head coach Greg Franklin was named Florida/Region VIII Coach of the Year. He is 92-11 in three seasons with Chipola. Franklin said, “It’s a great day to be a Chipola Indian. We played together, and it was a great defensive game.” On Akhator breaking the rebounding record, Franklin said, “Evelyn is a joy to coach. She works hard, plays hard and she’s a great team player.” Sueterrica Key also scored 12 in the championship game.

Chipola defeated Central Florida 66-53 in the semi-finals, March 6. Akhator led with 23 points and 23 rebounds. Key scored 18 for Chipola.

Chipola defeated Miami-Dade, 83-61, on March 4, in the first round of the tournament. Kendra Martin led Chipola with 23 points and 5 rebounds. Sueterrica Key scored 15 points. Akhator got into foul trouble early in the second half and did not play during the final 10 minutes. She finished with 13 points and 12 rebounds in 23 minutes of play. Auteaonna Gilmore had 12 points and seven assists.

The Lady Indians head to the NJCAA National Tournament, March 16-21, in Salina, Kansas. Chipola earned a bye in the first round and will play the winner of Coffeyville and Northeastern, Wednesday, March 18, at 1 p.m. (CST). Kansas team Hutchinson Community College is the number one seed. Northwest Florida State, the number nine seed, plays 24 seed Murray State on March 16.

Four wins are needed to capture the national title. The championship game of tournament is set for Saturday, March 21, at 6 p.m. (CST). Chipola finished third in the national tournament in 2014.

Akhator named FCSAA player of the week for seventh time

The accolades keep piling up for Evelyn Akhator, back-to-back MVP of the NJCAA Region 8/ FCSAA Women’s Basketball state tournament.

This week she was named Region 8/FCSAA Women’s Basketball Player of the Week for a seventh time. Akhator, a sophomore from Lagos, Nigeria, averaged 21.0 points, 21.7 rebounds, 2.0 assists, 1.7 steals and 2.3 blocks during the voting period.

She rewrote the FCSAA Tournament record books while leading Chipola to its second straight state championship. Akhator finished with 27 points and a tournament record 29 rebounds against NJCAA No. 3 Northwest Florida in the championship game.

In the two previous games, she recorded 12 rebounds vs. Miami Dade and 24 vs. NJCAA No. 15 Central Florida, finishing with 65 rebounds in the tournament and 101 in six career tournament games, both new record totals.

For the week, she shot 51.1 percent (24-of-47) from the floor, hit her only three-point attempt and made 14-of-27 (51.9 percent) free throw attempts.

She led Chipola to a third place finish in last year’s NJCAA National Tournament.

16 MONDAY
- SGA Meeting, Bldg. Z rm. 116; 1:30 p.m.

17 TUESDAY
- Student Ambassadors, Bldg. Z rm. 201; 1:30 p.m.
- Art Gallery Opening, CFA Art Gallery; 6 p.m.

18 WEDNESDAY
- Night Student Social, Cafeteria; 7 p.m.
- Transfer Day by TRiO

19 THURSDAY
- Last Day to Withdraw From a Class for Spring A
- Last Day for Vertical Transfer for Spring C
- FCA Meeting, Staff Dining Room; 7 p.m.

23-28 Spring Break - College Closed
Meet the Lady Indians at Beefs on Friday

Chipola fans are invited to meet the two-time state champion Lady Indians, Friday, March 13, at noon, Beef O’Brady’s in Marianna.

Chipola Athletic Director Jeff Johnson invites everyone to drop by, meet the team for lunch and make a donation toward the team’s travel expenses to the NJCAA National Basketball Tournament set for March 16-21 in Salina, Kansas.

Chipola earned a bye in the first round and will play the winner of Coffeyville and Northeastern, Wednesday, March 18, at 1 p.m. (CST).

Kansas team Hutchinson Community College is the number one seed. Northwest Florida State, which finished second to Chipola in the state tournament, is the number nine seed. They play 24 seed Murray State on March 16.

Chipola softball opens league play; Elliot is top pitcher

The Lady Indians play four games in a pre-conference tournament in Niceville, March 13-14. Chipola opens conference play March 18 at Northwest before returning home to host Pensacola, Saturday, March 21, at 1 and 3 p.m. and Tallahassee, Friday, March 27, at 4 and 6 p.m.

Chipola is 24-6 on the season and moved to fourth in the FCSAA State Poll.

Chipola’s Jessica Elliott is this week's NJCAA Region 8/ FCSAA Softball Pitcher of the Week.

Elliott, a sophomore from Orlando, was 2-0 with a 0.00 ERA in two appearances during the voting period. She tossed a pair of complete-game shutouts – a two-hitter with 12 strikeouts vs. Darton State on March 3 and a one-hitter with 11 strikeouts against nationally-ranked Southern Union four days later. In 13 total innings, Elliott allowed only three hits and six walks while striking out 23.

Corrections class now forming

The Chipola College Criminal Justice Training Center will offer a daytime Corrections beginning this month. Classes will meet weekdays Monday through Thursday, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Completion of this program prepares candidates to take the State Board Examination and become certified by the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission upon becoming employed with a Correctional agency. The program is 420 hours long and takes about three months to complete. Starting salary is $30,000 and up.

Prior to admission, all candidates must earn a passing score on the Criminal Justice Basic Abilities Test (CJBAT) offered at the Public Service Building every Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. Cost of the test is $45. Application deadline is March 3.

Applicants must have a standard high school diploma or its equivalent and must undergo a medical physical examination, background check and drug screening.

For information, contact Jamie McAllister, Corrections Coordinator, at 718-2212.

Chipola baseball begins conference

The (23-5) Chipola Indians begin their defense of the Panhandle Conference baseball title, Friday, March 13, when they host Northwest Florida in a 5 p.m. game.

The Indians travel to Northwest March 14, before returning home to host the Raiders again, Monday, March 16, at 5 p.m. Chipola hosts Pensacola Wednesday, March 18, at 5 p.m.

Chipola plays a similar three-game series with the four other conference teams each week through April 24.

The Indians are ranked 4th in the FCSAA State Poll.

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Good Luck in Kansas!
Dr. Stephens presents at international nursing conference

Dr. Vickie Stephens, Dean of the Chipola College School of Health Sciences, recently presented a plenary session at the 15th Annual Community College Baccalaureate Association in Boston, Massachusetts. The conference was attended by international members from Australia, China, Denmark, Sweden and numerous states in the U.S.

Dr. Stephens’ presentation, entitled, “Southern GRIT(s): A Recipe for BSN Program Success,” highlighted the accomplishments of Chipola’s Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program, including the history and ingredients for success.

Dr. Stephens says, “The attainment of the BSN degree is a bridge to higher education, advances in employment, clinical teaching opportunities, and advancement of the professional nursing practice. Florida is known as a trend-setter in academic circles for making bachelor’s degrees accessible and affordable while many states continue to struggle legislatively with the idea of community colleges offering baccalaureate degrees.”

Chipola’s first three BSN graduates completed the program in 2009. In 2014, there were 27 graduates. Many Chipola alumni have advanced their careers as Nurse Practitioners, Nurse Anesthetists and Nurse Educators. Enrollment has grown by 50% since 2012.

Chipola accepts RN-BSN students each semester with the opportunity to complete the online nursing courses in one year. Students also may choose to individualize and flex their educational plans to fit their schedules. The Chipola RN-BSN program is now nationally accredited by (ACEN) Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing.

For information, visit www.chipola.edu or phone 850-718-2278 or 850-718-2316 to discuss enrollment.

Chipola math honorary inducts members—

The Chipola College chapter of Mu Alpha Theta, a national honorary mathematics club, recently held an initiation for new members. Pictured are officers, new members and sponsors, from left (front) Chelsea Kuhajda of Marianna, Madison Carter of Chipley, Olivia Saunders of Chipley, Hannah Jackson of Marianna, Alle Christmas of Marianna, Christen Ferguson of Sneads. (back) Mu Alpha Theta sponsor JoyRee Ashmore, David Horton of Graceville, Koleton Forehand of Bonifay, Hayden Hurst of Marianna, John Lane of Marianna and Maggie Braxton of Cottondale. Mu Alpha Theta is an international mathematics society for high school and two-year colleges. The purpose of Mu Alpha Theta is to stimulate a deeper and more effective interest in mathematics.

Officers from across the U.S. at Chipola this week—

Law Enforcement officers from across the U.S. were on the campus of Chipola College this week hoping to become certified officers in the state of Florida. Here, in the foreground, Chipola Corrections Coordinator Jamie McAllister (right), demonstrates a defensive tactic on Officer Scott Asmann of Harnett County, NC. Chipola offers one of only a few Out-of-State Equivalency programs in Florida. The 40-hour refresher gives officers from other states the opportunity to take the same exam officers must pass to work in Florida. For information, contact Steve Anderson at 850-718-2479, or email: andersons@chipola.edu.
Business and Technology hosts STEM students

The Chipola School of Business and Technology recently hosted two STEM meetings for area high school students.

Chipola faculty and students led STEM participants in Geocaching, Virtual Reality, and Computer Information Technology activities.

The event was organized by the FloridaLearns STEM Scholars Project, in collaboration with the Panhandle Area Educational Consortium (PAEC). STEM targets gifted and talented students in grades 9-12. The STEM campaign encourages students in Florida’s rural schools to consider a career in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

STEM students also toured the Chipola School of Business and Technology which offers a variety of programs ranging from the Bachelor of Science Degree in Business to Associate in Science and Associate in Arts Degrees in Computer Information Technology, Network Systems Technology and Computer Science.

Technology programs are focused on industry certifications including: CompTIA A+; Network+; Security+; Certified Ethical Hacker; Linux+; MCSA; Help Desk; Project+; S.P.A.C.E.; Help Desk Support Technician; IT Support Specialist; Geographic Information Systems; Network/CyberSecurity; Network Support Technician and Digital Forensics.

Financial aid and grant funds are available for most programs. The department offers engaging courses and experiences with small classes, interactive lab sessions, computer simulations and field experiences at area businesses. For information, call 850-718-2441 or email seversone@chipola.edu

Broadway veteran to perform Titanic show for artist series

The Chipola Artist Series finishes the season with Broadway veteran, Deborah Jean Templin in Unsinkable Women: Stories and Songs from the Titanic, Thursday, April 2, in the CFA.

Templin began writing Unsinkable Women while touring with the stage hit Titanic: A New Musical. Wondering what it was like when survivors finally came home, the show stimulated her investigation into the tragedy which saw 1,500 people perish on April 15, 1912.

Based on actual diaries, letters and interviews, Templin brings to life nine famous figures including Madeleine Astor, the beautiful teenage bride of John Jacob Astor, one of the wealthiest men in America, and Margaret Tobin Brown - the “Unsinkable Molly Brown” - whose account of the Titanic’s final moments brings the evening to its dramatic climax.

Drawing wigs, costume and props from an authentic wardrobe truck while on stage, Templin transforms herself, shifting from character to character in full view of the audience. Internationally-acclaimed as a remarkable tour-de-force, Unsinkable Women has been called “the most affecting and truthful version of the Titanic story today.

Tickets are $18 for adults, $10 for children under 18, with special pricing for Chipola students and employees.

Online tickets are available now at www.chipola.edu/boxoffice. Tickets may be printed at home, or with an order confirmation, will-call tickets will be available at the box office the night of the show. Tickets also are available for purchase at the Center for the Arts Box Office with hours Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Friday, from 9 a.m. to noon.

“Marketing Series, Using Social Media”
Small Business Seminar
Friday, March 13, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.