Chipola students win at Skills USA competition

Chipola picked up six awards at the recent SkillsUSA Florida Regional competition in Pensacola.

The Chipola Welding program won three awards. Welding Instructor Curtis Jenkins was named Rookie Advisor of the Year. Welding student James Ledbetter won First Place in Welding Sculpture and Dylan Kirk won Third Place in Welding.

Cosmetology graduate Connor Ward won First Place in Cosmetology. Another graduate, Roneika Williams, won First in Nail Care.

Automotive student Mark Richards won Third place in the Automotive Competition.

The students were accompanied to the competition by Chase Vlieg, Automotive Instructor; Paige Vanderwerf, Cosmetology Instructor; and Curtis Jenkins, Welding Instructor.

SkillsUSA is a partnership of 300,000 students, teachers and industry representatives working to ensure America has a skilled workforce. The organization serves teachers and high school and college students who are preparing for careers in technical, skilled and service occupations. SkillsUSA programs include local, state and national competitions. At the national-level, nearly 6,000 students compete in 99 occupational and leadership areas.

Photos of Cosmetology winners will run in next week’s issue of Chipola This Week.

For information about Chipola’s Workforce programs, visit www.chipolaworkforce.com
Brain Bowl finishes sixth in the Nation

The Brain Bowl Team finished 6th in the nation Feb. 28 at the Community College Championship Tournament (CCCT).

Chipola competed with 24 teams from around the nation for the national championship. The team finished first in the initial bracket of 6 teams, finishing 5-0. In the championship bracket of 8 teams, Chipola went 2-4.

Chipola had wins over Seminole and Valencia B, but losses to Manatee, Valencia A, Broward, and Redlands kept the team from finishing higher. Manatee State College went on to win the championship, beating Valencia A in the final.

Chipola qualified for the CCCT by winning the Northwest FL Sectional in January. Chipola team members are: Brent Patten, Vallen Driggers, Jimmy Brown, and Ben Whiddon.

Brent Patten was the highest Chipola scorer, placing 13th in overall individual scoring.

Chipola will next play at the FCSAA State Tournament March 12-14 at Pasco-Hernando College. Chipola will be trying to defend the state title for the eighth straight year.

Chipola Brain Bowl coaches are Stan Youn, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, and volunteer assistant coach Dr. Robert Dunkle. Stats are available at https://www.naqt.com/stats/tournament-teams.jsp?tournament_id=5703

Lady Indians win first round game in state Tourney

The Chipola Lady Indians (28-1) defeated Miami-Dade, 83-61, on Wednesday, to advance to the semi-finals of the FCSAA/Region VIII State Tournament.

Kendra Martin led Chipola with 23 points and 5 rebounds. Sueterrica Key scored 15 points. Chipola’s top player Evelyn 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.

Chipola coach Greg Franklin said, “I’m very proud of our team. Kendra Martin has played big in some big games. Taliah Moore hit some big threes and free throws in the second half, and showed a lot of confidence.”

Chipola will play Central Florida, Friday, March 6, at noon, in a semi-final game. The championship game of the single-elimination tournament is set for 4 p.m. (CST) Saturday, March 7.

The game will be broadcast live on WJAQ Radio, 100.9 FM. Tournament games are available on the web at http://www.ihigh.com/njcaaregion8/ . Chipola will also broadcast games on Chipola Television, Comcast Channel 4.

The Lady Indians have held on to the top spot in the FCSAA State Poll all season and recently moved up to second in the NJCAA National Poll.
Jazzmatazz tickets on sale

Tickets are now on sale for Jazzmatazz 2015 to be presented by Chipola’s Award-Winning Show Choir, March 12 and 13, at 7 p.m. nightly in the Center for the Arts.

This year’s Jazzmatazz, entitled “It’s Broadway and Anything Goes” will feature high energy, song and dance favorites performed by the Show Choir and special guests under the direction of Angie White and Dr. Josh Martin.

Tickets—$10—are available from Show Choir members, or in the Center for Arts Box Office, or online at www.chipola.edu

For information, call 718-2420.

Pulido Art on display at Chipola

The works of artist Janett Pulido are on display in the gallery of the McLendon Fine Arts building at Chipola College.

The exhibition is an homage to 43 students from the Raúl Isidro Burgos Rural Teachers’ College of Ayotzinapa who went missing in Mexico in September of 2014. According to reports, they traveled to Iguala, Mexico, to hold a protest and have not been seen since.

The exhibit contains 43 pieces to reflect each student and to reference current issues in Mexico. The project refers not only to this incident but also to the desensitization to the plight of oppressed people throughout the world.

For information, visit www.janettpulido.com
Small Business Seminars set at Chipola

Chipola College will offer two small business seminars in March and April. Both will meet on Fridays, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., in Room M-108 of the Chipola Business and Technology building (M).

“Marketing Series, Using Social Media” is Friday, March 13, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Participants will learn social media strategy, new marketing techniques, and unlock the secret of the top social media sites to establish an online presence. Topics include search engine optimization, website effectiveness, mobile-friendly sites, connecting with customers and revitalizing image. Honey Nixon will teach the course. Registration deadline is March 11.

“Steps to Starting a Business” is Friday, April 10, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The course will focus on organizational requirements, licensing for a business, financial assessments, insurance, marketing, loans, defining customers, location and employee requirements. The class will be taught by Johnny Branch CPA, MBA.

Cost of each seminar is $35. Participants may register online at www.northfloridabiz.com, by clicking on Workshops.
The first six Chipola students to sign up will receive free admission. Students should contact Elissa Severson at 718-2441 or sign up in Building M, (108).

For information, call 850-718-2441 or email seversone@chipola.edu

Chipola baseball begins conference play at home

The (17-5) 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 fourth in the FCSAA State Poll.

Chipola softball at home Saturday

The Chipola Lady Indians host Southern Union in a double-header Saturday, March 7, at 1 and 3 p.m. The team hits the road for four games in Niceville, Feb. 13-14.

The Lady Indians open conference play March 18 at Northwest before returning home to host Pensacola, March 21, at 1 and 3 p.m.

Chipola is 22-6 on the season and ranked fifth in the FCSAA Poll.