Women’s basketball players sign with major universities

Chipola Athletics on Wednesday hosted a signing ceremony for members of the national champion women’s basketball team.

The following players have signed with these colleges: Evelyn Akhator, Kentucky; Kendra Martin, Fresno State; Jayla Hobza, Texas Tech; Janisha Lindsey, Alabama A & M; Taliah Moore, Alabama A & M; and Sueterrica Key, Ole Miss.

Chipola Head coach Greg Franklin said, “We’re very proud that all of our sophomores are moving on to division 1 colleges. They’ve won championship after championship, but more importantly they’ve played the game the right way with a lot of character. I hate to see this group go, but I know they’re going to some great places.”

Coach Franklin has led Chipola to the national tournament three times in three seasons at Chipola. The Lady Indians (34-1) captured the college’s first ever national title in basketball this season with a 54-46 win over previously unbeaten Hutchinson (Kansas) (36-1) in the championship game of the NJCAA National Tournament.

Evelyn Akhator finished her two years at Chipola as the most honored player in program history. She was an NJCAA All-American First Team member, along with her teammate, sophomore Sueterrica Key, who made the All-American Second Team. Akhator pulled in 14 rebounds in the National Championship game to finish the year with the new NJCAA Single-Season Rebounding Record of 584 rebounds. She also was named National Tournament Most Outstanding Player, FCSAA Player of the Year and Panhandle Conference Player of the Year.

Chipola has a great tradition in athletics and academic success. Most players move on to four year colleges and several sign professional contracts.

Chipola president Jason Hurst says, “We are proud of the championships, but we are even more proud of our record of preparing student-athletes to move on to the next level.”

Chipola honors retiring employees

Chipola honored six of its retirees at the recent end-of-year luncheon.

Joyce Mitchell, Senior Staff Assistant in Enrollment Services, was honored for 19 years of service. Dr. Vickie Stephens, Dean of School of Health Sciences, was honored for 5 years of service. Annie O’Pry, Senior Office Assistant in Financial Aid, was honored for 34 years of service. Sybil Cloud, Director of Financial Aid, was honored for 39 years of service. Annie Graham, Custodian, was honored for 25 years of service. Martin Fowler, Fire Science Program Manager was recognized for 12 years of service.

Retirees were roasted and toasted by their colleagues with lighthearted songs, stories and performances by the Chipola Show Choir. All were presented resolutions from the college board of trustees citing their accomplishments. Each retiree received a Chipola Gold Card which provides lifetime admission to college events. Retirees who were members of the Association of Florida Colleges (AFC) were awarded lifetime memberships in AFC.

The event was sponsored by AFC, the Chipola Faculty Association (CFA) and the Career Employees Association (CEA).
Chipola softball advances in National Tournament

The Chipola Lady Indians beat Shelton State 7-1 in their first round game in the NJCAA National Softball Tournament, May 13 in St. George, Utah.

Chipola advances to play Howard College, Thursday, May 14, at 6 p.m. (CST). The Lady Indians scored three runs in the second inning, two in the third, and one apiece in the fourth and sixth.

Jessica Elliott earned the win for Chipola in five innings. She allowed one earned run, five hits and chalked up eight strikeouts. Illona Andringa pitched the final two innings, giving up just one hit.

Brashante Dareus and Tori McDaniel each had two RBIs for Chipola. Dareus was 2-for-4 with a run and McDaniel was 3-for-3 with two runs. Jenna Reeves went 2-for-4 with a run. Shelby Clark batted 2-for-3.

The tournament continues through Saturday, May 16. Final round games will be broadcast on http://www.ihigh.com/njcaaregion8/.

Chipola captured the school’s first national title in softball in 2007. Chipola won the FCSAA/Region VIII Florida State Championship with a 3-2 win over Miami-Dade in the title game on May 3.

Indians come up short in state baseball tournament

The Indians’ hopes for another state title came to an end with a heartbreaking 8-7 loss to Palm Beach May 11 in the FCSAA State Tournament in Lakeland.

The Indians held a 7-5 lead heading into the bottom of the ninth, but Palm Beach loaded the bases and Kendrick Gutierrez hit a walk-off double to score the winning run for the Panthers.

Culver Lamb started on the mound for Chipola giving up 4 runs on 6 hits. Anthony Burke gave up two runs in two innings. Gunnar McNeill came in with a runner on first and no outs in the ninth. He was charged with the loss in one-third of an inning.

McNeill also was 3 for 6 at the plate, but was left stranded 5 times.

The Indians collected 14 hits on the day, but left 15 runners on base. Jacky Miles, Jr. led the Indians on offense going 3 for 5. Kevin Santa reached base four times including a single in the eighth. Lazaro Rivera had a double.

Chipola lost a 3-1 decision to State College of Florida, May 10. The Indians beat Broward, 8-5, in their first tournament game on May 9. Adonis Hernandez earned the win for the Indians with 5 strikeouts in 6.1 innings. Kevin Santa was 3 for 4. Gunnar McNeill was 2 for 3.

Archived videos of Chipola’s games are available at http://www.psblive.tv/

The Indians finish the season with a 40-12 record. Chipola captured a second straight Panhandle Conference Championship winning 12 of their final 13 league games. Heading into the tournament, the Indians were second in the FCSAA State Poll and seventh in the NJCAA National poll.

Chipola coach Jeff Johnson’s Indians have made the FCSAA State Tournament 14 straight years with seven appearances in the title game. The Indians have finished second in the state four times and among the top four eight times. Chipola has made three trips to the NJCAA National Tournament in the last seven years including a 2007 national title.

JAMES MATTHEWS IN CONCERT AT CHIPOLA—Chipola alumnus and pianist James Matthews will be in concert at the Chipola Center for the Arts, Saturday, May 16, at 7 p.m. General admission tickets are $10. Matthews will present a show entitled, “From Chipola to Carnegie Hall.” Matthews has played Carnegie Hall and appeared on the Ellen DeGeneres show. For information, contact the Center for the Arts Box Office at 850-718-2420.
Rotary donates to Take Stock in Children
The Calhoun County Rotary Club recently donated $4,000 to the Calhoun County Take Stock in Children program.

Rotary’s generous donation will sponsor one student in Calhoun County through the Take Stock program. Students apply for the program during their eighth grade year. If selected, they begin their ninth grade year with the promise of a two-year scholarship to Chipola College once they graduate high school.

TSIC participants are also matched with a volunteer mentor who meets with them regularly at school. Parents and students sign a contract agreeing to maintain above a 2.0 GPA, attend school regularly, and remain drug and crime free.

Take Stock in Children is grass-roots program that depends on volunteers and private donations to provide scholarships, mentors, and hope for deserving low-income students.

For information on how to help, call 718-2428 or visit Take Stock on facebook at www.facebook.com/tsicchipola

Roberts Scholarship Available

The Community Foundation of Sarasota County, Inc., from the Edward K. Roberts Community College Fund established a scholarship at Chipola College for Fall 2015.

The scholarship fund was created with a $40,000 donation from the Community Foundation of Sarasota County with funds from the estate of the late Edward K. Roberts.

The scholarships will be available for the Fall 2015 semester and the application deadline is June 4.

Preference will be given to part-time students who may not qualify for other financial aid. Applicants must maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA each semester at Chipola, must have a minimum 2.0 high school GPA, and must follow standard college requirements. A description of the scholarship and application are available online at www.chipola.edu/foundation

To contact the Chipola Foundation, call 850-718-2445.

Cummings is Top Employee—
Jan Cummings is Chipola College’s Career Employee for May. Cummings serves as a Department Associate to the Senior Vice President of Instruction and has worked at the college more than 26 years. Pictured from left, are: Chipola president Dr. Jason Hurst, Jan Cummings and Dr. Sarah Clemmons, Senior Vice President.

Corrections Classes now forming

The Criminal Justice Training Center will offer a daytime Corrections class. Classes will meet Monday through Thursday from 7:30 – 4:30 P.M. The new Corrections class will start Tuesday June 9, 2015. Dateline for application will be June 4, 2015.

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.

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. 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 regarding the application process, contact Jamie McAllister, Corrections Coordinator, at 718-2212.

Cliff Ellis delivers commencement address—Cliff Ellis, head basketball coach at Coastal Carolina University, delivered the commencement address at the Chipola College graduation ceremony on May 7. Ellis, a Chipola alumnus, played on the Chipola golf team in the 1960’s. Pictured from left, are: Chipola president Dr. Jason Hurst, Coach Cliff Ellis and Danny Ryals, Chair of the Chipola Board of Trustees.
CHIPOLA TEACHER EDUCATION CLASS OF 2015 GRADUATES

Bachelor of Science Degrees
Alford—Jarrett Segers, Daniel Ward, II.
Blountstown—Ashley Whitfield.
Bonifay—Allison Brock, Chelsea Henderson, Elizabeth Uhrick.
Campbellton—Sanathani Matthews.
Chipley—Chelsea Bush, Taylor Collins, Krisa Gaussoin, Lindsey Short.
Pensacola—David Baxley, Victoria Burch.
Franklin County—Josie Meekins.
Floral City—Joe Kasky.
Gonzales—Katelyn Massey, Shawna Oxendine.
Hobgood—Katelyn Flatt, Alphonso Harrell, William Pate.
Humphreys—Atara DeBiase.
Jasper—Owen elephants.
Land O’ Lakes—Taylor Thomas.
Lauderdale County—Cory Frazier.
Lauderdale County—Matthew Weisenhale.
McIntosh—Vanessa Wynn.
Nabors—Caleb Alexander, Jordan Davenport.
Navarre—Kaitlin Baxley, Josh Callahan.
Niceville—Brian Back, Kyle Rasheed.
Panama City—Matthew Bascom—Lindsey Casey, Olivia Wales.
Pensacola—Samantha Martinez.
Pensacola—Joyce Robinson, Carlee Oldham, Danielle Yoder.
Pensacola—DeeAnna Grimes, Cassidy Gurliaccio, Digsby, Kelly Dunn, Carson Flowers.
Pensacola—Cayla Davis, Matthew Blountstown.
Pensacola—Tara Sorey, Kiana Walker.
Southport—Mary Auger, Carla McCormick.
Tallahassee—Nathalie Esellem, Tallahassee—Jansenius and Sara Wade.
Tallahassee—Kimberly McWilliams, Jacksonville.
Tallahassee—Jeffrey Alachua.
Pensacola—Chelsea Back, Olivia Wales.
Pensacola—Chelsea Back.
Tallahassee—Stephanie Green, Kristen Reynolds, Brooke Vickery.
Westville—Victoria Barxley, Victoria Crawford, Makia Hicks, Kristin Peak.
Westville—Victoria Barxley.
Westville—Kasey Ivey.
Westville—Gracei Cerrit, Frances Hawkins, Robert Hawkins, Frances Martin, Kevin Potts.
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