

Bautista named Alumnus of the Year

Chipola College alumnus of the year Jose Bautista is major league baseball's homerun leader for the second straight year. The Toronto Blue Jays outfielder finished the 2011 regular season with 43 home runs. After hitting an incredible 54 homers in 2010, Bautista is the first back-to-back home-run champion since Alex Rodriguez in 2002 and 2003.

Bautista played at Chipola before being drafted in the 20th round by Pittsburgh in 2000. He signed his first professional contract in 2001 and led the Indians to a second place finish in the state tournament.

After leading MLB in homeruns in 2010, Bautista signed a five-year contract

worth \$65 million. During his breakout season, Bautista was named to his first NL All-Star team. He repeated as an All-Star in 2011 and led all players in fan voting with 7.4 million votes. During his time in the majors, he also has played for the Pirates, the Orioles and the Royals.

Bautista is quick to credit Chipola baseball coach Jeff Johnson for contributing to his success. "Coach Johnson has and still has a great impact in my life. His contributions to my development have been so great that I consider him the individual that has had the greatest influence on me after my parents," Bautista said.

In 2010, Bautista won



three awards from the Toronto chapter of the Baseball Writers' Association including the club's Player of the Year and Most Improved Player. He also received the John Cerutti Award, given to "a person associated with the day-to-day workings of the Blue Jays who displays goodwill, cooperation

and character." Coach Jeff Johnson, said, "This is a real testament to Jose's quality as a person. Not only is he a great athlete, he's also a great guy who people look up to and enjoy being around."

During the 2011 season, eight alumni represented

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Spring 2012

Smoke Signals

A publication for alumni and friends of Chipola College

Center for the Arts opens September 2012

Check out Chipola at www.chipola.edu
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Dear Alumni:

This September the curtain will rise on an exciting new addition to the Chipola College campus - the Chipola Center for the Arts. This new 45,000 square-foot Center is being called one of the finest

performing, visual and educational arts center in Florida. It features a 655-seat state-of-the-art proscenium theater, a 155-seat experimental theater, an art gallery, a dance studio, scenery and costume shops, plus teaching spaces.

The construction of the facility was fully funded by a \$16 million state appropriation. While this is impressive, we have decided to undertake a multi-phase \$3 million fundraising campaign - Applause! This effort will help to enhance programming, to enrich educational offerings for our students and K-12 schoolchildren throughout the region, and to support facility operations and enhancements. I am extremely pleased that Harold Donaldson and Joan Stadskev have agreed to Chair the campaign.

This issue of the alumni newsletter features the Applause! campaign brochure. It is filled with details about the Center, as well as opportunities for you to become part of

its success and history. As a member of our alumni family, I hope you will join me in supporting the Applause! campaign. By working together we will insure the future of a wonderful new addition to Chipola College - one that will bring great pride to all of us and will serve the cultural and educational needs of this and future generations.

I look forward to your participation in Applause! and to seeing you at many enjoyable Center performances and events.

With best wishes,

Dr. Gene Prough
President

HOMECOMING 2011

Indians celebrate Homecoming

Alexa Sanchez was crowned Chipola College's 2011 Homecoming Queen and Cody Hughes was crowned Mr. Chipola at the homecoming game on Feb. 19, 2011. Members of the court were, from left: Rachel Pelt of Sneads, Zach Gilmore of Marianna, Shonyae Clark of Campbellton, Daunta Bell of Marianna, Alexa Sanchez of Marianna, Cody Hughes of Malone, 2010 Queen Sylvianna Garrett of Greenwood, Piper Williams of Bonifay, Austin Pettis of Vernon, Marcus Gowan of Telogia and Stephanie Calix of Chipley.



Bautista Alumnus of the Year, *continued from page 1*

Chipola in major league baseball including Orioles manager Buck Showalter, Russell Martin (NY Yankees), Adam Loewen (Toronto Blue Jays—now with the Mets), Tyler Flowers (Chicago White Sox), Rene Tosoni

(Minnesota Twins), Mat Gamel (Milwaukee Brewers), Darren Ford (San Francisco Giants) and Steve Clevenger (Chicago Cubs). Chipola retired the jerseys of Bautista and Orioles manager Buck Showalter in 2011.

Bautista and other former Chipola players are scheduled to return to the college on Feb. 10-11, 2012 for the Chipola Baseball Alumni Weekend. Events include a golf outing and social on Feb. 10.

Saturday's events feature an Alumni Homerun Derby and a Professional Baseball Dinner and Auction at 6 p.m. at the Trammell Camp. For information, visit www.chipola.edu or phone 850-718-2237.

Bronze statue to honor memory of legendary coach

The people who knew him best are taking the lead in creating a life-size statue of legendary Chipola College basketball coach Milton H. Johnson. Friends and former players are raising the funds for the bronze likeness of Coach Johnson that will be erected at the entrance to the gymnasium that bears his name on the Chipola campus.

During four decades of coaching basketball at Chipola and Campbellton High School, Johnson's teams won over 800 games. Between 1955 and 1961, his Campbellton teams won three state championships and recorded an incredible 55-game winning streak. His Chipola teams won 628

games from 1961 to 1993 and played in seven national tournaments. He was named Division Coach of the Year nine times, Region VIII Coach of the Year six times and Florida community college Coach of the Year four times.

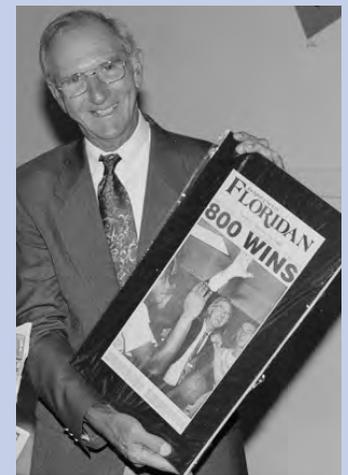
Following Johnson's death in 2009, many of his former players and friends expressed interest in finding an appropriate way to preserve his legacy. Former player Robert Trammell is coordinating the project for the Chipola Appreciation Club. "The statue of Coach Johnson is being funded entirely by private donations," Trammell said. "The donors want to recognize Coach Johnson for the

contributions he made to their lives by establishing a lasting memorial to this great man."

The bronze statue of Johnson is being created by sculptor Bradley Cooley, of Lamont., Florida, who also has molded images of coach Bobby Bowden, entertainers Ray Charles and Otis Redding, and golfer Bobby Jones.

The Johnson statue will be unveiled in a special ceremony at Chipola's Homecoming basketball game on February 25, 2012.

"We're off to a great start raising funds for the statue," Trammell said, "but we still need additional support to complete the project. We are grateful for all con-



tributions, large or small."

Tax-deductible contributions should be mailed to the Chipola Foundation, 3094 Indian Circle, Marianna, FL 32446. For information, contact Julie Fuqua in the Foundation office at 850-718-2478.

Homecoming 2012

Saturday, February 25

Chipola vs. Gulf Coast

Milton Johnson Health Center

Women play 5:30 p.m. • Alumni Reception 6 p.m. • Men play 7:30 p.m.

All times are CST.

ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

Polston brothers return to Chipola

Two of Chipola College's most successful alumni, brothers Ricky and Lamar Polston, recently returned to their alma mater to speak to students in the Chipola Honors program. Ricky Polston is a Justice on the Florida Supreme Court. Lamar Polston is a retired Insurance. Originally from Graceville, the brothers discussed their careers and offered advice to the students. Here, Chipola president Dr. Gene Prough (right) presents college portfolios to Ricky (center) and Lamar (left).



Jumper graduates Ole Miss pharmacy

Chipola Alumnus Kara Jumper recently graduated from the University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy.

Jumper was awarded a Taylor Medal, the highest academic honor bestowed on Ole Miss students, was selected to be marshal of her class and was selected by her peers to serve as president of the pharmacy student body.



Marks completes residency

Dr. Shellie (Davis) Marks, former Chipola cheerleader (2000), recently completed her Dermatology Residency at the University of Alabama at Birmingham where she served as Chief Resident. She recently joined Inverness Dermatology and Laser in Hoover, Alabama, a suburb of Birmingham.



Prichard and Alderman named Academic All-Americans

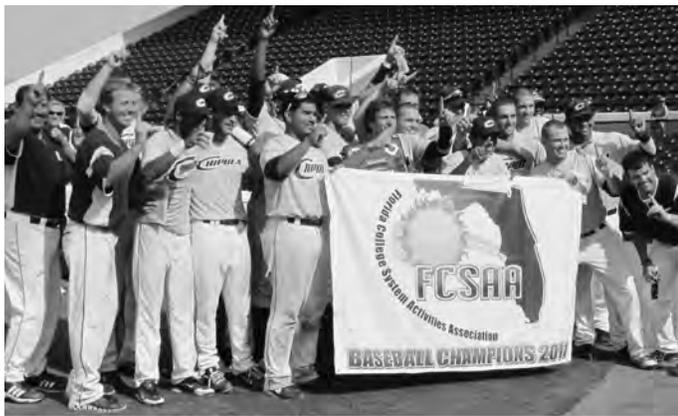
Chipola 2011 graduates Caitlyn Prichard and MaryBeth Alderman were featured in USA Today for their nominations to the 2011 All-USA Community College Academic Team. Portraits of the students were unveiled at the press conference and will be added to Chipola's Academic Wall of Honor. Prichard is attending the University of Florida where she plans to attend law school and become an advocate for the agriculture industry. Alderman is attending UF majoring in Food Science and Human Nutrition. She plans to attend medical school to specialize in pediatrics.



Ivey wins Kirkland Award

Chipola history professor Robert Ivey was chosen by his peers to receive the Kirkland Award for Excellence in Teaching. Ivey has been teaching history classes at Chipola since 1993 and has been an educator for over 30 years. In addition to teaching history and social science courses, he serves as an adviser to the Chipola's Honors Program. As a member of the Ivey Brothers band, Robert performs at an annual dance to raise funds for the Honors program. The Kirkland Award was established by brothers, J.R. Kirkland and David Kirkland (pictured right), in honor of their parents, Carolyn (pictured center) and the late Willis Kirkland of Marianna. The award provides \$1,000 to the annual recipient.





Chipola wins state baseball tourney

The Chipola College Indians defeated the Northwest Florida State Raiders 6-5 in the championship game of the FSCAA State Baseball Tournament on May 11, 2011.

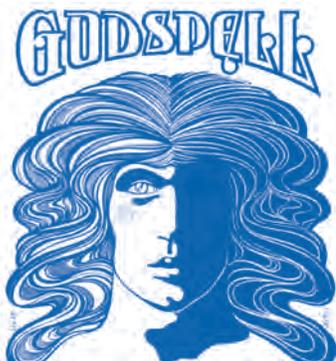
Chipola and Northwest were neck-and-neck all season and it came down to the final out in an 11-inning battle between the conference rivals. Robby Coles earned the win for Chipola pitching 7 innings and giving up only one run with four strikeouts. It was Coles' second win in the tournament. James Boddicker was 3 for 6 for Chipola. Sasha LaGarde was 2 for 5.

The Indians finished the season with a 39-20 record. Chipola and Northwest finished the league race with identical 16-8 records to share the Panhandle Conference title.

The Indians finished fifth in the NJCAA National Baseball Tournament on June 1 in Grand Junction, Co.

In 15 seasons at the helm, Chipola coach Jeff Johnson has lead the Indians to the state tournament 12 times with seven appearances in the title game. Chipola won the state title in 2011, 2008 and 2007 and captured the school's first-ever national tourney in 2007. The Indians finished second in the state tournament in 2009, 2005, 2002 and 2001, third in 1998, and among the top four in 2006.

Chipola College Theatre presents
one of the biggest Broadway successes of all time...



Feb. 29, Mar. 1-3, 2012 7 p.m.

Mar. 4, 2012 2 p.m.

Chipola Theatre

Book by John Michael Tebelak

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz

Based on The Gospel According to St. Matthew



MARCH 7-10, 2012

**MILTON H. JOHNSON HEALTH CENTER
 CHIPOLA COLLEGE
 MARIANNA, FL**

March Madness returns to Marianna!

Send Us Your Alumni Story

New job, a promotion, marriage, kids, awards?

Be sure to include the who, what, when, where, why and how.

Name: _____

Graduation Year from Chipola: _____

Degree/Certificate: _____

Street Address _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: (____) _____

What's new? _____

If you need additional room please attach news of your accomplishments.
 Information is published on a space-available basis at the discretion of the editor.

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 Marianna, FL 32446 or send email to warde@chipola.edu