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ONE SECTION

LEXINGTON, MISSISSIPPI 39095

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# Candidates start qualifying for 2019 Mississippi elections

**Associated Press**  
Candidates are starting to file for statewide and regional offices and legislative seats in Mississippi. Wednesday was the first day to submit qualifying papers. The deadline to enter races is March 1. Party primaries are in August and the general election is in November. Five of the eight statewide offices will not have incumbents running, which means 2019 will be the biggest turnover year for Mississippi's top political offices in at least a generation. Voters elected two new statewide officials in 1999, three in 2003, and four in both 2007 and 2011. Then, in 2015, all eight statewide incumbents were re-elected. Gov. Phil Bryant and Lt. Gov. Tate Reeves are both hitting their maximum time of two terms — the only offices with term limits set by law. Bryant is not seeking another office this year, and fellow Republican Reeves is expected to run for governor. Fourth-term Democratic Attorney General Jim Hood announced in October that he is running for governor. Third-term Republican Secretary of State Delbert Hosemann said months ago that he would seek another office. He said Wednesday that he will announce his plans later this month, and he would not answer questions about expectations that he will run for lieutenant governor. Second-term Republican state Treasurer Lynn Fitch has said she's running for attorney general. The only current statewide official who filed qualifying papers Wednesday was Agriculture Commissioner Andy Gipson, who was appointed to the job by Bryant last spring after second-term commissioner Cindy Hyde-Smith, a fellow Republican, resigned to become a U.S. senator. Bryant in 2018 also appointed Republican Shad White to become state auditor when Republican Stacey Pickering, who was in his third term as auditor, resigned to lead the state Veterans Affairs board. White has said he's seeking a full term. Republican Mike Chaney has said he is seeking a fourth term as insurance commissioner. Other candidates who have announced for governor are state Rep. Robert Foster of Hernando and Petal Mayor Hal Marx, who are Republicans; and retired Jackson State University employee Velesha P. Williams, who is a Democrat. State Rep. Jay Hughes of Oxford announced several months ago that he is running for lieutenant governor, and he said he filed qualifying papers Wednesday.

# Lady Trojans continue to roll, boys stun Oak Hill

**Staff Reports**  
The Central Holmes Lady Trojans returned to action following the Christmas break and have continued to dominate. On November 3, the Lady Trojans played rival Manchester, in Yazoo City, and who had beaten them earlier this season. After getting down 15-2 early, the Lady Trojans stormed from behind dominating the remaining three (3) quarters while winning 54-48. The next night, the Lady Trojans traveled to West Point to play Oak Hill Academy. This match-up was their second conference game of the year. While Oak Hill kept it close, the Lady Trojans steadily pulled away winning 62-44. The Lady Trojans have now won eight straight. The Trojan boys played Manchester and Oak Hill just as the girls this week. The boys lost a nip and tuck (Continued on page 9.)

## Mississippi adding 'In God We Trust' on new license plate

**Associated Press**  
Mississippi has a new standard license plate that includes the state seal with the phrase, "In God We Trust." The new design is being phased in during 2019, replacing one featured the guitar of blues legend B.B. King. The standard Mississippi license plate is redesigned every few years, partly as a way of catching people who fail to pay the annual renewal fees. Drivers receive the new plate when their old one expires and they pay the fees. For extra fees, the state also sells a variety of specialty car tags. Some critics say the new license plate design is unbalanced, with three letters on the left, then the off-center state seal, then four numbers on the right.



# Holmes Central Jaguars up against Canton High School Tigers on Friday, January 11



Pictured above, Holmes Central Jaguars senior J. Greer, #5, makes a dunk during the December 20 game against the Leake Central Gators. The Jaguars won 70-57, and are set to face off against Canton High School Tigers on Friday, January 11 in Canton. (Photo by Avery Rucker)

# Lady Jaguars beat Leake Central Gators, 49-40, set to face Canton on Friday, Jan. 11



Pictured above, Holmes Central Jaguars freshman Carleigh Andrews, #11, attempts a goal against the Leake Central Gators during the game on Thursday, December 20, 2018 The Jaguars won, 49-40, and are set to face off against the Canton High School Tigers on Friday, January 11 in Canton. (Photo by Avery Rucker)

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**Thursday**  
Partly Cloudy  
48/33  
Precip. Chance 0%

**Friday**  
Cloudy  
48/42  
Precip. Chance 20%

**Saturday**  
Rain  
54/41  
Precip. Chance 90%

**Sunday**  
Cloudy  
49/36  
Precip. Chance 10%

**Monday**  
Mostly Sunny  
51/36  
Precip. Chance 10%

**Tuesday**  
Mostly Sunny  
55/43  
Precip. Chance 10%

**Wednesday**  
Showers  
56/50  
Precip. Chance 40%

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