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"Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love."
I John 4:7-8

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Coach Stowers presents at AFCA Convention in Nashville

By Steve Diffey
HCC Communications
Holmes Community College Offensive Coordinator Tim Stowers was chosen to speak at this year's National AFCA Coaches Convention in Nashville, Tennessee on January 7-11. Coach Stowers lectured on Monday, January 9 at 10 a.m. This lecture was held during the Junior College General Session and the title of the segment is "Chalk War" which features Holmes' option attack vs. the Laney Eagles Defense.

Coach Stowers was set to match wits against Coach Josh Ramos, Defensive Coordinator from Laney Junior College out of California.

Coach Stowers said he's thankful for this opportunity. "I have coached for 35 years and have never felt I was at work," Coach Stowers said. "The opportunity to influence student athletes today in a positive

manner which will have a positive impact on all they come in contact with in the future to me is really what coaching is all about. The opportunity to speak before your peers who adhere to the aforementioned philosophy is a privilege.

"I know Coach Ramos is a highly competitive individual and has done a superior job at Laney College and know he will have a sound and well-researched plan."

Stowers said the format of a head-to-head competition is different and should produce effective results. "Anytime you go to a clinic you try and come away with one to two things that could possibly be incorporated into a program in some shape or form," Stowers said. "However, this unique format could allow for more items to be utilized into a program than the traditional style. This format requires coaches to think outside the box

in a short duration of time in an acute manner. It possibly creates a more game like atmosphere."

He said Holmes had a season to remember. "We feel like we play in the SEC of Junior College Football and Coach Koonz and our staff do the best job in the state of developing players. It was such a pleasure to watch those players developed in the Holmes CC program win the Graphic Edge Bowl Championship on the floor of the UNI Dome and finish ranked #7 nationally by the NJCAA. That being said, I feel the season was a resounding success and provides next year's team a positive building block."

The Bulldog offense finished second in the NJCAA in rushing yards per game with a 304.6 yard per game average. The team also finished first in yards per catch with a 21.7 yards per catch average. D.J. Montgomery had a 27.5 per catch average



COACH TIM STOWERS

to lead the country.

"What an honor for the Holmes Community College Football Program and Coach Stowers and his offensive staff

to represent Holmes CC at the National Convention," Head Coach Jeff Koonz said. "Coach Stowers' speed option offense has been nationally-recognized

as one of the most productive offenses in the country. Coach Ramos is going to have his hands full battling with Coach Stowers."

MDNHA to provide grant workshops with statewide funders

The Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area will hold a series of workshops across the Delta to present information about grants available in 2017 to support local projects and activities that further MDNHA's mission of fostering preservation, perpetuation and celebration of the Delta's heritage through a climate of collaboration and sustainable economic development.

This is the second year the MDNHA has offered the workshops in conjunction with its grant program. Last year, 14 grants were funded, totaling over \$185,000. Up to \$200,000 will be available from MDNHA for grants in 2017. Nonprofits, educational institutions, schools, units of local government and others are eligible for the grants and encouraged to attend one of the three workshops.

In addition to the funding available from the MDNHA grants program, several state agencies will participate in the workshops to discuss their respective grant opportunities. This partnership is part of the mission of the MDNHA, which is not only to create a grants resource itself, but also to help the citizens of the Mississippi Delta connect to as many grants opportunities as possible. Representatives from the MS Arts Commission, MS Humanities Council and MS Department of Archives and History will also be present at each workshop to discuss funding opportunities that may complement the work funded by MDNHA.

The workshops are scheduled

for:

*Jan. 31 – 1-4 p.m.

The Haraway Center, Northwest MS Community College; 4975 Highway 51 North, Senatobia, MS (campus map available at http://www.northwestms.edu/index.php/?page_id=1128).

*Feb. 2 – 1-4 p.m.

The Capps Center, Room 101 (Seminar Room); 920 US Highway 82 West, Indianola, MS.

*Feb. 7 – 1-4 p.m.

MSU Extension Service (Warren County); 1100 C Grove Street, Vicksburg, MS.

The MDNHA is a cultural heritage partnership between the people of the Mississippi Delta and the National Park Service. Led by Dr. Rolando Herts, director of The Delta Center for Culture and Learning at Delta State University, the MDNHA includes 18 counties that contain land located in the alluvial floodplain of the Mississippi Delta: Bolivar, Carroll, Coahoma, DeSoto, Holmes, Humphreys, Issaquena, Leflore, Panola, Quitman, Sharkey, Sunflower, Tallahatchie, Tate, Tunica, Warren, Washington and Yazoo.

The MDNHA was designated by U.S. Congress in 2009 and is governed by a board of directors representing agencies and organizations defined in the congressional legislation. More information about the MDNHA, including the complete approved management plan, is available at www.msdelataheritage.com. Information about the grants program is also available at this website.

For more information, contact The Delta Center for Culture and Learning at 662-846-4311, or email hmiller@deltastate.edu or grants@ms-deltaheritage.com.

MDWFP set for youth art contest

Students across Mississippi are invited to get outdoors and participate in the 2017 North Mississippi Fish Hatchery Youth Art Contest. Each student must submit a portfolio including entry form and artwork to the Visitor Education Center (VEC) by May 10, 2017.

The contest is sponsored by the Foundation for Mississippi Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks. Winners in four age categories will have their work published in the Mississippi Outdoors magazine and will receive a complimentary copy of the magazine displaying their work. Winners will also receive gift cards and have their work posted at www.mdwfp.com.

For more information on entry forms and rules please visit www.mdwfp.com or call the VEC at (662) 563 - 8068.

The VEC is part of MDWFP's North Mississippi Fish Hatchery and is located at Exit 233 east off I-55.

For more information regarding fishing in Mississippi, visit our website at www.mdwfp.com/fishing-boating or call us at (601) 432-2400. Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/mdwfp or on Twitter at www.twitter.com/MDWFPonline.

Westbrooks to hold investiture ceremony February 1

New Court of Appeals Judge Latrice Westbrooks took the oath of office on Tuesday, January 3, in Jackson.

"I look forward to working with each of you on the Court of Appeals and the appellate system to make everything better for all Mississippians," Judge Westbrooks told fellow judges, staff and friends.

"Welcome on board," Chief Judge Joseph Lee said after administering the oath to Judge Westbrooks. Westbrooks will hold a formal investiture ceremony February 1 at 3 p.m. at the Gartin Justice Building in Jackson. Westbrooks, 44, of Lexington, was elected November 8

to Court of Appeals District 2, Position 2.

Westbrooks was born in Memphis. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tenn.

She earned a law degree from the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law in 1997.

She became an assistant district attorney in the Second Circuit District of Harrison, Hancock and Stone counties in October 1997.

She was the first African American woman assistant district attorney in the Second Circuit District. She joined the Jackson law firm of Byrd and

Associates in 2000, then opened her own law practice in 2001. She served as prosecutor for the city of Durant and as city attorney for the town of Isola.

For almost 10 years, she served as a public defender in Holmes County.

In 2013, she became interim communications director for Jackson Mayor Chokwe Lumumba, then joined the Jackson City Attorney's office as legal counsel for the Jackson Police Department.

She returned to private law practice in 2014. She served as Municipal Judge for the city of Lexington before she was elected to the Court of Appeals.



Court of Appeals Judge Latrice Westbrooks, at right, talks to Supreme Court Justice Jim Kitchens, at left, and Court of Appeals Judges Eugene Fair, Jack Wilson and Tyree Irving after Judge Westbrooks took the oath of office on January 3 in Jackson. (Photo submitted)

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Holmes County 7-Day Forecast for January 12 - 18 as reported on THE WEATHER CHANNEL						
Thursday Mostly Cloudy 75/60 Precip. Chance 20%	Friday A.M. Showers 71/55 Precip. Chance 30%	Saturday Partly Cloudy 73/53 Precip. Chance 10%	Sunday Partly Cloudy 72/57 Precip. Chance 10%	Monday Mostly Cloudy 73/56 Precip. Chance 20%	Tuesday Showers 67/56 Precip. Chance 60%	Wednesday A.M. Showers 65/51 Precip. Chance 60%

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