

Bonds reduced for Lexington murder suspects

By Matthew Breazeale

A preliminary hearing was held on Monday, April 9 in Holmes County Justice Court for two murder suspects in the slaying of a Lexington Alderwoman's son.

Calvin Gibson, Jr. and Dwone Brown appeared before Judge Marcus Fisher on capital murder charges in the killing of Brandon Cooper, 29, the son of current Lexington Alderwoman-at-Large Clementene Cooper.

Bond initially was set at \$800,000 for the pair but was reduced by Fisher to \$100,000 during the hearing.

Cooper was reportedly found unresponsive by first responders at his home at 111 Old Tchula Road in Lexington in the early morning hours of February 14, Valentine's Day.

During the hearing, Mississippi Bureau of Investigations Officer Mark Steed, who investigated the case, said Cooper was shot through his arm with the "projectile" ending up lodged in his abdomen.

Steed revealed on the witness stand that robbery was the motive for the incident even though that word was never used by the suspects during interrogations. Steed said street language was used to describe "something going down."

Steed described a .38-caliber gun was recovered as evidence. Testing was not complete to match the "projectile" recovered from Cooper's body and



CALVIN GIBSON, JR.



DWRONE BROWN

the gun recovered.

Steed also said there was an alleged drug deal between Cooper and Grant Genous, Jr., the nephew of Holmes County Sheriff's Deputy Lenwood Genous. Steed said his investigation and interviews of the suspects led him to believe Grant Genous, Jr. was the intended victim.

Lexington Police Investigator John Newton initially reported earlier in the morning of February 14, police responded to the Old Tchula Road area after a report of gunshots around 12:30. However, no disturbance was found at that time.

The official autopsy report has not been completed on Cooper.

Holmes County April/May Circuit Court terms set

Staff Reports

The April and May 2018 terms of Holmes County Circuit Court will open on Monday, April 23 with Impanel Jury and Criminal Motions.

On Wednesday, April 25, cases to be heard are: case #2013-0301, Anita Eubanks vs. Monica Griffin-Mosley; case #2017-0088, Shannon B. Fort, et al vs. Annette Haymer and Safetyway Insurance Company; case #15-0002, Victor Anderson, armed robbery; case #12-0002, Isiah Jones, Jr., grand larceny (bw); case #12-0053, Percy L. Murphy, felony bad check (bw)

(2 cts.)

On Thursday, April 26, cases to be heard are: case #15-0049, Harry Sly, Cts. I and II aggravated assault, Ct. III first degree murder; case #17-0092, Christopher Mungon, possession of a firearm by convicted felon; case #17-0053, Aavon Coffey, burglary - breaking and entering of occupied dwelling; case #17-0048, Kemechie Coffey, burglary - breaking and entering of occupied dwelling; case #17-0045, Antwon M. Hogan, auto burglary.

On Monday, April 30, cases (Continued on page 4.)

Local students receive top nods at chamber banquet



The Lady Trojans Cross Country Team was presented the Holmes County Chamber of Commerce Athletic Award of Excellence at the 29th annual awards banquet on Thursday, April 5, at the cafeteria on the Holmes Community College campus in Goodman. The team brought home the 2017 MAIS Class AA Cross County State Championship. The team's point total was 27 against the closest competing team at a score of 59. Four girls finished the season in the top ten in the state, Breann Bell finished 1st, Hayley Haffey finished 5th, Aubrey Carr finished 8th, and Cameron Martin finished 9th. The team also won the championship in 2016. Pictured above are (from left): former Holmes County Chamber of Commerce President Robin McCrory, Livi Howell, Aubrey Carr, Delaney Smith, Mary Grace Allen, Paige Wynne, Taylor Spell, Makalah Sumner, Cameron Martin, Breann Bell, Hayley Haffey, Head Coach Nikki Edwards and Holmes County Chamber President Charlie Joiner. See more photos from the chamber banquet in next week's edition. (Photo by Matthew Breazeale)



Holmes County High School senior Cordarius Dorsey (pictured second from left) was presented the Holmes County Chamber of Commerce Youth Leadership Award at the 29th annual awards banquet on Thursday, April 5, at the cafeteria on the Holmes Community College campus in Goodman. Dorsey was awarded for being named Mississippi's Youth of the Year in March at the Boys and Girls Clubs of America's Youth of the Year Competition in Jackson. Dorsey is a member of the Lexington Unit Boys and Girls Club of the Mississippi Delta and plans to attend Mississippi State University majoring in Biology. Dorsey works as a junior staffer with younger children at the club and is an honor roll student at Holmes County Central High School. He is the son of Cornesica and Ivory Dorsey of Lexington. Pictured above are (from left): Holmes County Chamber of Commerce President Charlie Joiner, award recipient Cordarius Dorsey, Lexington Unit Director Kwanna Horton, Cornesica Dorsey, Boys and Girls Club Executive Director David Dallas, and Boys and Girls Club Board Member Leroy Riley. (Photo by Matthew Breazeale)

50¢ Single Copy



Thursday
Partly Cloudy
79/57
Precip. Chance
10%



Friday
Partly Cloudy
81/66
Precip. Chance
10%



Saturday
Thunderstorms
72/44
Precip. Chance
80%



Sunday
Mostly Sunny
58/39
Precip. Chance
0%



Monday
Sunny
63/41
Precip. Chance
10%



Tuesday
Sunny
75/54
Precip. Chance
10%



Wednesday
Mostly Cloudy
76/53
Precip. Chance
20%

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