

Central Holmes' Edwards named 'Coach of the Year' times two

By Matthew Breazeale
Coaching in miles is the method Nikki Edwards engages to motivate her runners at Central Holmes Christian School. That method has garnered her the recognition as 'Coach of the Year' for 2017 AA girls cross country division state championship and 2018 AA girls track and field division state championship.

The humble coach was taken by surprise during halftime at the August 24 Trojans football game when

what she thought was a time to recognize student athletes turned into her own awards ceremony

"Well, I didn't have any idea," said Edwards, "I thought I was helping to give out awards for someone else. I knew with MAIS (Mississippi Association of Independent Schools), if you win state, for your class division, that makes you a frontrunner to win," Edwards said.

As success begets attention, Edwards sees the positive in building the cross

country and track and field programs up.

"You win your first one with six or seven girls, the next year you got five more that want to run," said Edwards, "Then the program starts to build."

Edwards' first state championship as coach was in 2014 with track.

"2016 was the first cross country division state championship," Edwards continued, "We had finished third in cross country for the past three years. We came in second one year."

Since 2011 Edwards' track teams have finished no lower (Continued on page 4.)

Deltech to source electricity from Durant after Aug. 29th meeting

By Matthew Breazeale
Durant, county and Deltech company heads reached an agreement during an August 29 executive session meeting for the new industry

to source its electricity from the city of Durant.

"We did meet with (Deltech CEO Robert Elefante) and the meeting didn't take ten minutes," said Durant Mayor Henry Robinson. "We had all come to the decision that they would be coming in to offer jobs and they would be using the city of Durant's electricity."

Deltech will be paying Durant for its use of electricity that is routed through the nearby Durant sub-station. The same electrical connection used by prior tenants would be utilized, according to Robinson.

"We are actually providing security for them until everything is up and running," said Robinson.

A deadline has not been set on the facility's total rehabilitation and repairs.

"We were told they'd get back with us in a few weeks, but that they were moving on (with repairs)," said Robinson. "I do plan on speaking (Continued on page 8.)"

Big Earl from Pearl to headline annual West festival

Staff Report
The town of West will play host once again to the 39th annual Big Black River Festival this Saturday, September 8, downtown West.

The area event will host

entertainment headliner Big Earl from Pearl playing his variety of tunes and musical antics.

The festival will host a \$200 prize give-away in gasoline, a silent auction, bingo games, a bargain boutique, arts, crafts and food.

The Casey Jones Railroad Museum will be open free of charge on festival day for visitors to see the model train displays at the museum.

For more information or to be a vendor call Carol Black at 662-967-2062.



Two-time MAIS Coach of the Year Nikki Edwards (pictured center), of Central Holmes Christian School in Lexington, was surprised during a half-time "awards ceremony" during the Trojans' August 24 game against Deer Creek, after getting on to the football field for what she thought was to award student athletes. Edwards received plaques, presented to her by CHCS Headmaster Tony Banks (at right) and Booster Club President Ellis Harris, for CHCS 2017 cross country state championship and CHCS 2018 track and field state championship. (Photo submitted)

Hard fought win for Jaguars, Trojans to play Benton Sept. 7 away

Trojans fall to Stars, 20-12

Jaguars defeat Dragons, 36-6



The Central Holmes Trojans suffered their first loss of the season at the hands of the Winona Christian Stars on Friday night, August 28. The match-up was a district game for both teams and now share a season record of 2-1. The Trojans are set to play against Benton Academy on Friday, September 7, away. Pictured above, CHCS junior running back, Wykece Johnson (#20) runs though the WCS defense with the help of senior offensive lineman, Addison Ray (#56), while senior quarter/defensive back, Nathan Taylor (#4) looks on.

(Photo by Amy Lindsay)



The Holmes County Central High School Jaguars continue in their season with a 3-0 record after defeating the Madison S. Palmer High School Dragons, 36-6 on Friday, August 31 in Marks. Pictured above, Jaguars senior wide receiver, Ortez Head (#6), dodges the opposition while darting down field. The Jaguars are set to go up against the North Side High School Gators on Friday, September 7 at S.V. Marshall. September 7 is also set as Military Appreciation Night.

(Photo by Avery Rucker)

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| Thursday Thunderstorms 85/70 Precip. Chance 100% | Friday Partly Cloudy 91/71 Precip. Chance 20% | Saturday P.M. Thunderstorms 91/71 Precip. Chance 40% | Sunday Scattered T'Storms 89/70 Precip. Chance 50% | Monday Scattered T'Storms 87/70 Precip. Chance 60% | Tuesday Scattered T'Storms 87/69 Precip. Chance 50% | Wednesday P.M. Thunderstorms 88/68 Precip. Chance 60% |

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