



# The Clinton Courier

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## NJCAA softball tournament set for May 20-25 at Traceway

By Katherine R. Dougan

“Play ball!” will resound on the diamonds of Clinton’s Traceway Park the third week of May, when the city hosts the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division II Softball National Championship.

For the seventh year in a row, Clinton has hit a home run as the host for this tournament; this year, Division II community and junior college teams take the fields from May 20-25 in the sixteen-team, double elimination tournament.

The tournament is the biggest event the Department of Parks and Recreation hosts, and it is a huge economic boost for the city, filling hotels and restaurants with those visiting Clinton for the tournament.

“This event and others like it fill up our hotels and generate additional sales in restaurants. It also provides an opportunity for us to showcase our city and all of our assets,” Ward 6 Alderman Mike Cashion said.

“The NJCAA Softball Tournament is the only national championship played in Mississippi,” said Clinton Mayor Phil Fisher. “It is an honor to have the teams from so many states competing in our city. The economic boost represents a \$300,000 increase over the five days they are here. It is a great event, and I hope everyone has a chance to attend.”



Photo by Carrie Chennault

The NJCAA tournament will be hosted by Clinton for the seventh time May 20-25 at Traceway Park.

“I live in Cascades, right across the street from Traceway Park, so I see firsthand every year just how many folks are here for the tournament,” said Bill Hetrick, broker/owner of Hetrick Real Estate. “The crowds are

large, with fans of all the teams setting up their own tents and booster areas around the fields. The parking lots are full, the stands are full, and that translates to healthy business for local hotels, restaurants and gas stations.”

“The event is for a national championship. That really says it all. We have a fabulous facility here in Clinton at Traceway, and it is recognized throughout the nation as a ‘go-to’ location for

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## Groundbreaking set for CHS Career Complex construction

Special to The Clinton Courier

After the overwhelming passage of a \$25 million bond issue in September, the Clinton Public School District is preparing a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Career and Technical Education classes at Clinton High School.

The ceremony will be held at 3 p.m. Monday, May 20, at Clinton High School, and the Clinton community is invited to attend. The groundbreaking will kick off the relocation of the CHS Career Complex from its current location on Lakeview Drive to the main campus of Clinton High School.

“The work at Clinton High School is the biggest component of the bond



Special to The Clinton Courier

Architect rendering of the proposed CHS Career Complex addition at the main campus of Clinton High School

issue,” said Dr. Tim Martin, superintendent of schools. “It will help make CHS a leader in this model of Career and Technical Education.”

At its April meeting, the Clinton School Board voted to award the \$13 million construction bid to

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