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**HOLMES COUNTY**

# HERALD



THURSDAY, JULY 2, 2020

ONE SECTION

LEXINGTON, MISSISSIPPI 39095

VOLUME 62 - NUMBER 27

## Central Holmes holds graduation ceremony after COVID reschedule

### Staff Report

In May seniors decided to postpone their graduation services until the end of June in hopes of having a somewhat traditional service.

On June 26, students got their wish. Central Holmes Christian School held its commencement exercises in the gymnasium. The ceremony was modified to comply with the social distancing and other guidances.

Guests were met at the front door with a temperature check. Most attendees also wore masks. Each student's family had a row of seats separated by six feet.

The graduates sat together on the stage. The invocation was given by Allison Ragan Brown. After the blessing, Jasmine Windom, salutatorian, and Hannah Malone, valedictorian, delivered their retrospective and inspiring speeches.

The benediction was given by Samuel Pacey Thompson. Neil Marshall, school board president, declared all the students eligible for graduation. The awards and scholarships were presented by Christi Morgan, school counselor, and Tony Banks, former CHCS headmaster.

Award recipients include:  
**Student Service Awards** - Henley Hester (Student

Council President) and Hannah Malone (Honor Society President); **Holmes County Herald Science Award** - Ragan Brown; **The Woodson Earle Mathematics Award** - Hannah Malone; **Holmes County Bank** recognizes the valedictorian and salutatorian each year by presenting scholarship awards - Hannah Malone (valedictorian) and Jasmine Windom (salutatorian); **The Clara Watson History Award** - Hannah Malone; **The Bank Plus Award** - Wykece Johnson; **The Eagle Scout Award** - Pearce Edwards; **The Kim Hathcock Callahan Character Award** - Christyn Allen and Nicole Winstead; **The Dawn Ellison Allen Award for Academic and Athletic Achievement** - Morgan Bigbee; **The Outstanding Student Achievement Award** - Henley Hester; **The Jesse "Dan" Edwards Award** - Pearce Edwards; **The Lexington Masonic Lodge** recognizes the highest average in four years of English - Jasmine Windom; **The Lexington Masonic Lodge** recognizes the highest average in four years in business courses - Hannah Malone; **The J.E. "Bubba" Cunningham Scholarship** - Pearce Edwards; **Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.** awards a scholarship for outstanding participation in its Annual Debutante Scholarship Pageant - Jasmine Windom; **The Payton Netherland Memorial Scholarship** - Pearce Edwards; **The Katelyn Breeze Winstead Memorial Award** - Christyn Allen and Nicole Winstead; **The Lexington Rotary Code of Ethics Award** - Henley Hester.

**Graduate list inside**  
 (Continued on page 3.)

## 'To Serve and Protect' against viruses



The Goodman Police Department stopped by Monica's Learning Center on Thursday, June 18, to provide the students and staff with masks, sanitizer and nutritious treats in an effort to keep the community safe and healthy during the COVID-19 crisis. Chief Willie Mack (pictured back row right) and Officer John Teague (pictured back row left) visited with students from Monica's Learning Center. Pictured above are students from Monica's Learning Center (from left): Karson McGee, Hylan Hodges, Marylann Nelson, Karmen Young, Londyn Williams, Harmony Flags, Mason Redmond, Hasyn Hodges, Quran Woodard and Dylan Johnson. (Photo Submitted)

## Look away, Dixie: Mississippi to lose rebel emblem from flag

### Associated Press

Mississippi lawmakers voted Sunday to surrender the Confederate battle emblem from the state flag, more than a century after white supremacist legislators adopted the design a generation after the South lost the Civil War.

Spectators cheered and applauded after the historic votes in the House and Senate.

Each chamber had broad bipartisan support for the landmark decision. Republican Gov. Tate Reeves said he will sign the bill, and the state flag will lose its official status as soon as he acts. That could happen "in coming days," said his spokes-

woman, Renae Eze.

Mississippi has a 38% black population — and the last state flag with the emblem that's widely seen as racist. The state faced mounting pressure to change its flag as weeks of international protests against racial injustice in the United States have led to the toppling or removal of Confederate statues and monuments.

After an emotional day Sunday, legislators hugged each other — even those on opposing sides.

Democratic Rep. Robert Johnson of Natchez choked back tears as he told reporters that he has seen white colleagues develop more empathy about how the Con-



Rep. Jason White, R-West, introduces a bill to remove the Confederate battle emblem from the Mississippi flag, Sunday, June 28, 2020, at the Capitol in Jackson, Miss. The bill passed and heads to the Senate. (AP Photo/Rogelio V. Solis)

federate symbol is painful to him and other African Americans.

"They began to understand

and feel the same thing that I've been feeling for 61 years of my life," Johnson said.

(Continued on page 20.)

50¢ Single Copy



**Thursday**  
 Scattered T'Storms  
 90/74  
 Precip. Chance  
 50%



**Friday**  
 Partly Cloudy  
 94/72  
 Precip. Chance  
 20%



**Saturday**  
 Mostly Sunny  
 92/72  
 Precip. Chance  
 20%



**Sunday**  
 Isolated T'Storms  
 91/73  
 Precip. Chance  
 30%



**Monday**  
 Scattered T'Storms  
 89/72  
 Precip. Chance  
 50%



**Tuesday**  
 Scattered T'Storms  
 85/71  
 Precip. Chance  
 60%



**Wednesday**  
 Thunderstorms  
 84/71  
 Precip. Chance  
 80%

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