

## of Schools resigns **Press Release**

to impact the lives of the it."

students and families in my Holmes County native son hometown, God has given mes County Consolidated and Superintendent of Edu- me another assignment," cation, Dr. James L. Hen- Henderson said. "I am gratederson has accepted another ful for the opportunity to istrator experience in school assignment as superinten- have served this community dent of schools out of state. and I'm confident that we are trict to achieve consolida-While we purposefully leaving this district in much tion with the Durant Public came home in an attempt better shape than we found Schools, saving the new

Henderson joined the Hol-School District in July 2018. His background and adminleadership enabled the disdistrict \$1.5M in the reorga-



**DR. JAMES HENDERSON** 

nization. Henderson led the newly consolidated school

er, which garnered Miller's passion for the sport.

Miller eventually helped to build the softball field at Winona Christian. Neighbors of Miller helped in that effort.

Miller's efforts caught the attention of school's administration, leading him to a coaching job for four years. Libby had graduated high school at the start of Miller's tenure at Winona Christian.

Miller also coached baseball and softball at Carroll Academy for 15 years, where he and his wife currently reside.

Miller has coached a total of 19 years.

Word of mouth and prayer led to Miller making a call to Central Holmes' Headmaster Tim Burton in May.

Miller and Burton agreed on a commitment to the school softball program, including field maintenance and upkeep.

"(Burton) asked, what do you need? I said conditioner, mound clay, chalk, nets and pads," said Miller.

to measure progress.

During his tenure, the dis- ing Services. trict's schools eliminated corporal punishment and goodbye and acknowledge decreased the number of sus- that for everything there is pensions and out-of-school a season. I was brought to expulsions. The district was Holmes County by divine awarded over \$5M in grants intervention and I'm leavfor Advanced Placement ing by the same means, ef-Physics distance learning, fective July 31, 2020," said after-school programs, tech- Henderson. "I wish my home nology and STEM (Science, community all the best as it Technology, Engineering

Community Oriented Polic-

"It's time for me to say (Continued on page 9.)

## State tax free holiday set July 31 thru Aug. 1

**Staff Reports** 

August 1.

The Mississippi Department of Revenue has announced this year's guidelines on tax free goods across the state and what items are eligible. School supplies were added to the list eligible items last year.

All clothing, footwear and school supplies under \$100 can be purchased minus the combined cost exceeds the 7% state sales tax.

Sen. Chuck Younger coauthored the bill that passed in 2019 that adds school supplies.

School supplies are defined as "items that are commonly used by a student in a course of study," according to MDR. Some items listed to reduce the price of an are backpacks, binders, cray- eligible item to or less than Other issues are being ad- ons, glue, lunch boxes, note- \$100 in order to qualify for dressed to bring the facili- books loose-leaf ruled notebook paper, pencils, rulers, sheet music and textbooks. Under Mississippi Code Section 27-65-111(bb) а sales tax holiday is held in the state, a temporary period when sales taxes are not collected or paid on purchases of specific products and/or services.

Passed by state legislators

in 2009, the seven percent Shoppers and deal hunt- state sales tax is not due on ers will be on the prowl for that sale of articles of clothbargains ahead of this year's ing or footwear if the sales sales tax holiday on Friday, price of a single item is less July 31 through Saturday, than \$100, regardless of how many items total are sold at that time, according to the state guidelines.

> "For example, a customer purchases two shirts at \$50 each, a pair of slacks at \$75 and a pair of shoes at \$110. No sales tax is due on the sale of the two shirts and the pair of slacks at a cost of \$175.00, even though the one hundred dollar (\$100) threshold. However, Sales Tax is due on the entire \$110.00 for the shoes since they exceed the one hundred dollar (\$100) threshold," according to the guidelines.

Retailers may offer store discounts and store coupons the holiday. With the popularity of online shopping on sites such as Amazon and Ebay, "sales of eligible items that were placed or ordered by mail, telephone or the internet are not subject to sales tax if the purchaser orders and pays for the items during the Sales Tax Holiday and the (Continued on page 9.)

## Ninteen-year coaching veteran to lead Lady Trojans softball

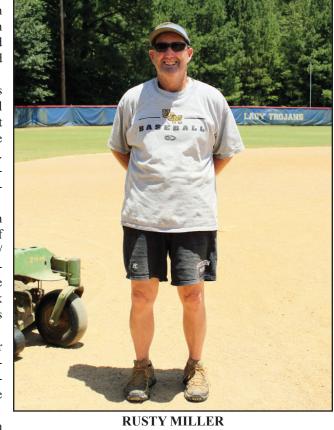
**By Matthew Breazeale** Central Holmes Christian School's new softball coach is Rusty Miller. He's a hard worker. He's self-proclaimed "old school."

Miller was cutting the grass on the Lady Trojans softball field in the mid-day sun just before his interview with the Herald on Monday, July 20. He had time for a quick interview before his girls started to show for practice.

The Woodville/Wilkinson County native is the son of a dentist and homemaker/ teacher. Preacher, missionary and lumberjack are also legacies of hard work in Miller's family that has sculpted him as a person.

In the fall of 1968, Miller began to play the baseball diamond at "Ole Miss." Freshmen teams were separate from varsity at that time.

"I was a long way from (University of Southern Mis- "Actually my dad was the Dr S R Evans



home," said Miller. "My teen years old starting with a Blackhawk, before settling sisters were going to USM local little league team. in Vaiden in 1992 to work for In January of 2005, Miller and his wife Debbie lost their daughter Libby in a car accident. Libby was set to start her senior year at USM. Funeral costs were paid for by Libby's school. Miller said when he called the funeral home to find out the amount of expenses, "None of your business" was the response.

district in establishing mul-Libby was a softball play-

sissippi), so I transferred coach, but I did all of it," Miller laughed. there."

During Miller's second His first after-college job offer was in Watson, Louisiyear at USM, the southern school became the second ana in 1973. Procrastination one in the country to begin led to the offer becoming a coaching program for a a missed opportunity and bachelor's degree. Miller's Miller began his career in reasoning for coaching as a ranching back in Woodville. profession is his experience Fifteen years passed before of coaching since he was six-Miller moved to Utica, then

ties up to Miller's standards, including a new nugget ice machine. The girls are "pitching-in" on that one by helping with fund-raising efforts.

Miller's philosophy on motivating his girls is heavily influenced by Libby's passing.

(Continued on page 4.)

