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THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 2021

ONE SECTION

LEXINGTON, MISSISSIPPI 39095

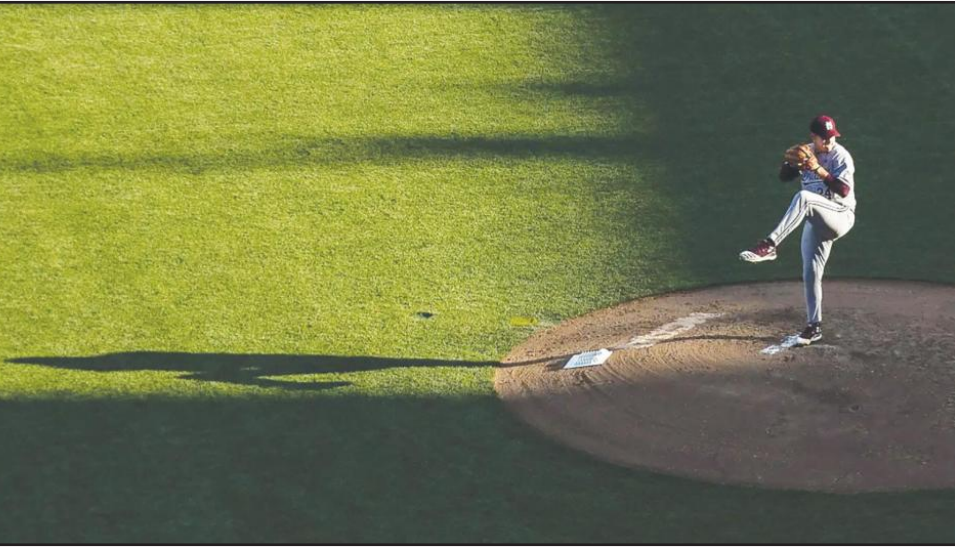
VOLUME 63 - NUMBER 25

Padgett to retire from Holmes
County Extension Service



Pictured: Laura Jane Giaccaglia, Bolivar County Extension Coordinator, and Lurlinda Soignier, Hinds County 4-H Extension Agent and Betsy Padgett.

Historic pitching performance keys
Mississippi State victory over Texas



Mississippi State's Will Bednar starts against Texas during a baseball game in the College World Series, Sunday, June 20, 2021, at TD Ameritrade Park in Omaha, Neb. (Chris Machian/Omaha World-Herald via AP)

Friends, coworkers, former students and family came together to honor retiring Holmes County extension county director Betsy Padgett on Thursday, June 17 at the Alluvian Hotel in Greenwood.

Padgett, whose 22-year tenure with extension comes to a close on June 30, was surprised by the outpouring of love and support from the gathered group. Gifts came from many, including both the Mississippi and Holmes County forestry associations, represented by Tedrick Ratcliff and Russell Fletcher, respectively, as well as Curt Lacy, the Delta regional extension coordinator.

The gathering was sponsored by Julian Watson, a former Mississippi Forestry Association Outstanding Forester of the Year winner and a friend of Padgett, along with Padgett's brother, Bob Kimbrough. Both spoke of Padgett's love of working with youth and expanding the 4-H programs into the Holmes County public school system.

Former exhibitors Walter Roberts and Tyler Branch also paid a visit to Padgett

on this day, with Branch remarking on Padgett's care and guidance through the years, which saw him win an outstanding exhibitor scholarship. Branch currently studies at Mississippi State, pursuing a pre-med track. Also providing his support was David Dillon, head of the Holmes County Cattleman's Association and Padgett's former employer at Peoples Drug Store, and Dr. Walter Roberts, a family friend and longtime veterinarian in Holmes County.

Many friends from Padgett's many years as a volunteer came to support her, including Bill and Lena Davis, Ed and Fran Thurmond, Lydia McLellan, Milton Parrish, Justin Word and others. Also attending were Padgett's niece Libbi Logan and nephews John Robert Kimbrough and Robert Kimbrough and family.

The event included the announcement of a new Kimbrough/Padgett Scholarship Fund, spearheaded by Padgett's children. The new scholarship will be open to any high school senior who participated in 4-H, from livestock to cooking compe-

tion or any other program. Full details on how to apply for the scholarship will come at a later date. Donations to establish the scholarship are being accepted at the following address:

Holmes County 4-H
Attn: Kimbrough/
Padgett Scholarship
299 ½ Yazoo St.
Lexington, MS 39095

Checks should be made to Holmes County 4-H with Kimbrough/Padgett Scholarship noted on the memo line. The fund is established in both the Padgett and Kimbrough names to honor the long legacy of the Kimbrough family with Holmes County 4-H. While Padgett has served the past 22 years in her role, her grandfather, John Kimbrough, served as the second 4-H director in county history in the early 1900s.

While working with the Mississippi State Extension Service, Padgett has also served on many boards of several organizations like Holmes County Soil & Water Conservation, Holmes County Cattleman's Association and Holmes County Forestry (Continued on page 6.)

Mississippi Today
by Rick Cleveland

Mississippi State's 2021 College World Series experience began Sunday night with a pitching performance for the ages in a thrilling 2-1 victory over Texas. First Will Bednar and then Landon Sims mowed down Texas batters as if the Longhorns were swinging with holes in their bats.

It was astonishing. That's what it was. Astonishing.

Bednar threw 108 pitches but plate umpire Steve Mattingly might be the guy who wakes up Monday morning with a sore right arm from punching out Texas batters with his animated "strike three" calls. Bednar struck out 15 of the 18 batters he retired, and then Sims came on

to fan six of nine. That's 21 total strikeouts, a record for a nine-inning CWS game.

Making the stellar pitching all the more amazing was the fact that the wind was blowing straight out to center field at Ameritrade Park. Of course you have to hit the ball for the wind to become a factor, and Texas so rarely touched either Bednar or Sims.

Bednar's stuff was nothing short of electric. He utilized a 95 mph fastball that he located on both sides of the plate and up and down in the strike zone. His slider was evil, breaking sharply and downward. A fourth inning slider broke all the way across the plate and actually hit a Texas batter Eric Kennedy, a left-handed batter, on

his left leg. It was as if Bednar was throwing a Wiffle ball.

If a Longhorn batter tried to key on Bednar's fastball, he was helpless against Bednar's slider. If the Longhorn looked for slider, he was tardy on the fastball. Bednar, 21-year-old draft-eligible sophomore, surely made himself some money this night. He dominated Texas, a red-hot team, and he did it (Continued on page 3.)

CORRECTION:

In the June 17, 2021 edition of the *Herald*, Clementene Jackson Cooper's name was inadvertently omitted as the winner of the Lexington Alderman-At Large race, with 462 votes. We apologize for this oversight.

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Thursday
AM Thunderstorms
92/73
Precip. Chance
37%

Friday
Partly Cloudy
90/72
Precip. Chance
24%

Saturday
Partly Cloudy
91/72
Precip. Chance
24%

Sunday
PM Thunderstorms
89/72
Precip. Chance
35%

Monday
Scattered T-Storms
86/72
Precip. Chance
45%

Tuesday
Scattered T-Storms
85/71
Precip. Chance
40%

Wednesday
Scattered T-Storms
86/71
Precip. Chance
39%

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