*Historic

(Continued from page 1.)

before an announced crowd of 23,885 fans in college baseball's Valhalla, Omaha. When Bednar left the game in the seventh inning, seemingly all those fans stood and applauded.

Yes, Bednar said, "It was probably my best ever" performance, "especially on this big a stage."

Had to be. He allowed only one hit, a fourth inning single up the middle. That was one of only four fair balls the Longhorns managed off Bednar. The others were an infield pop up and two routine fly ball outs.

Meanwhile, Texas starter Ty Madden, a sure-fire first-round draft pick, pitched heroically in a losing effort. He went seven innings, allowing only four hits while striking out 10 and walking two. State got to him for two runs — all the Bulldogs would need — in the fourth inning. Kamren James walked to lead off the inning and then took third on Luke Hancock's sharp single to right field. James later scored on Scotty Dubrule's sacrifice fly. And then Hancock scored on Brad Cumbest's wind-blown triple down the right field line.

Texas did not score until the ninth, but that's when things got really hairy for State. Sims had retired all six Longhorns he faced in the seventh and eighth innings — five on strikeouts, one on an infield popup. In other words, he had been dominant. And then up stepped Mike Antico to lead off the ninth and he slammed a Sims fastball well over the fence in right centerfield. After Sims retired the next two batters, Ivan Melendez and Cam Williams both singled, putting runners at first and third. That's when Sims used a slider to get the last out on a grounder to second base. Appropriately, Bednar led the charge out of the State dugout to congratulate Sims.

And so, on their third straight visit to Omaha, the Bulldogs won their CWS opener for the third straight time. That wasn't lost on State centerfielder Rowdey Jordan, who has been a key member of all three of those Bulldog teams.

"That's going to be something we talk about," Jordan said afterward. "We've come up short the other times. So I think you celebrate a little bit, but then you put it behind you and that's what we're going to tell younger guys: look, guys, we've been here, we didn't get it done, so let's keep playing good."

State played Tuesday at 6 p.m. against Virginia, which defeated Tennessee 6-0 earlier Sunday. The winner of that game will be in the driver's seat to advance to the best-two-of-three championship series.

MC Dean's List Announced

Clinton, MS -- The Mississippi College Office of Academic Affairs releases the dean's list after the close of fall and spring semesters each academic year. To be eligible for the Dean's List, a student must maintain a 3.5 grade point average, based on a 4.0 system. The student must take a full course load of at least 12 semester hours of undergraduate credit with all academic courses impacting their grade point average.

Students from Holmes County include: Terrianna Nelson of Lexington; Qwinnetta Stokes of Pickens; and Paige Wynne of Pickens.

Mississippi College, affiliated with the Mississippi Baptist Convention, is a private, co-educational, Christian university of liberal arts and sciences serving more than 5,100 students, from 40 states and more than three dozen countries. Founded in 1826, Mississippi College is the oldest institution of higher learning in Mississippi, the largest private university in the state and America's second oldest Baptist college. Mississippi College is home to 84 areas of undergraduate study, 16 graduate programs, a doctor of jurisprudence, a doctor of education leadership degree and a doctor of professional counseling degree. Mississippi College seeks to be a university recognized for academic excellence and commitment to the cause of Christ.

Southern Miss releases President's and Dean's lists for Spring 2021 semester

The University of Southern Mississippi has released its President's and Dean's Lists for the 2021 spring semester.

The President's List includes full-time students who earned a perfect 4.0 grade point average (all A's). Dean's List scholars are those with at least a 3.5 grade point average, but less than a 4.0.

Students recognized from the local area include the following (see below):

Lexington

Dean's List:

Derrica L Hood, Deniseia Jefferson and Allijahjuan Assantai Wade

Pickens

President's List:

Najah Amya Flowers

Tchula

Dean's List:

Zareya Zamek Jefferson

About The University of Southern Mississippi

The University of Southern Mississippi (USM) is a comprehensive public research institution delivering transformative programs on campuses in Hattiesburg and Long Beach, at teaching and research sites in central and southern Mississippi, as well as online. Founded in 1910, USM is one of only 131 universities in the nation to earn the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education's "R1: Doctoral Universities – Very high research activity" designation, and its robust research enterprise includes experts in ocean science and engineering, polymer science and engineering, and large event venue safety and security, among others. USM is also one of only 37 institutions in the nation accredited in theatre, art and design, dance and music. As an economic driver, USM generates an annual economic impact of more than $600 million across the state. USM welcomes a diverse student body of more than 14,000, representing 71 countries, all 50 states, and every county in Mississippi. USM students have collected four Truman Scholarships and 36 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships, while also leading Mississippi with 24 Goldwater Scholarships, an honor that recognizes the next generation of great research scientists. Home to the Golden Eagles, USM competes in 17 Division I sports sponsored by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). For more information, visit usm.edu.

Governor Tate Reeves Announces Timeline to Draw Down National Guard Troops to End COVID Mission

State of Emergency to End Once Mission is Complete

JACKSON, Miss. — After months of planning with Dr. Dobbs, General Boyles, Director McCraney and other key leaders of the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, the timeline for withdrawal of National Guard troops has been finalized. The State of Mississippi will be ceasing all operations with the Mississippi National Guard on July 15, 2021.

Governor Reeves also announced today that the termination of the COVID-19 State of Emergency will take effect on August 15, 2021 at 11:59 p.m.

"I want to thank all Mississippians for their sacrifices over the past 15 months. Your actions resulted in a significant decline of COVID-19 cases and allowed our state to effectively manage the impacts of the virus. I'm also extremely proud of the way our Mississippi National Guard, MS Department of Health, MEMA, and other state agencies have capably handled this pandemic. With their help, we've administered nearly 2 million COVID-19 vaccinations," Governor Tate Reeves said. "While a State of Emergency should no longer be necessary after August 15, all Mississippians should remain vigilant, get vaccinated, and follow public health guidance"

"Mississippi is winning the battle against COVID-19! Mississippi National Guard Soldiers and Airmen have served with honor and dedication supporting the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force since March 2020," Adjutant General of the Mississippi National Guard, Maj. Gen. Janson D. Boyles said. "The Governor's timeline to lift Mississippi's State of Emergency declaration on August 15, 2021, ensures our over 1,500 service members complete all necessary out-processing requirements and receive the benefits and entitlements they have earned during their dedicated service to our state."

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2020 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
Town of Pickens
PWS#: 0260013
June 2021

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is from wells drawing from the Meridian Upper Wilcox Aquifer.

The source water assessment has been completed for our public water system to determine the overall susceptibility of its drinking water supply to identify potential sources of contamination. A report containing detailed information on how the susceptibility determinations were made has been furnished to our public water system and is available for viewing upon request. The wells for the Town of Pickens have received a moderate susceptibility ranking to contamination.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please William Primer, Jr. at 662.468.2171. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall @ 163 N. Second Street.

We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the period of January 1st to December 31st , 2020. In cases where monitoring wasn't required in 2020, the table reflects the most recent results. As water travels over the surface of land or underground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive materials and can pick up substances or contaminants from the presence of animals or from human activity; microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm-water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm-water runoff, and residential uses; organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations and septic systems; radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Treatment Technique (TT) - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - The "Goal"(MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) – The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary to control microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) – The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk of health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

PWS # 260013 TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date Collected	Level Detected	Range of Detects or # of Samples Exceeding MCL/ACL	Unit Measure-ment	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants								
1. Total Coliform Bacteria including E. Coli	Y	March	Monitoring	0	NA	0	presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	Naturally present in the environment E Coli comes from human and animal fecal waste
Inorganic Contaminants								
10. Barium	N	2020	.0083	No Range	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
13. Chromium	N	2020	1.8	No Range	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
14. Copper	N	2018/20	0	0	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
16. Fluoride**	N	2020	1.33	No Range	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
17. Lead	N	2018/20	1	0	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	N	2019*	83000	79000 - 83000	ppb	0	0	Road Salt, Water Treatment Chemicals, Water Softeners and Sewage Effluents.
Disinfection By-Products								
81. HAA5	N	2020	16	No Range	ppb	0	60	By-Product of drinking water disinfection.
82. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	N	2020	38.2	No Range	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Chlorine	N	2020	1.5	.24 – 3.5	ppm	0	MDRL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes

** Most recent sample. No sample required for 2020.*
*** Fluoride level is routinely adjusted to the MS State Dept of Health's recommended level of 0.6 - 1.2 mg/l.*
Microbiological Contaminants:
(1) Total Coliform/E Coli. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system.
Disinfection By-Products:
Chlorine. Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a monthly basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During March 2020, we did not complete all monitoring or testing for bacteriological and Chlorine contaminants and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time. We were required to take 2 samples and took none. We have since taken the required sample that showed we are meeting drinking water standards.

To comply with the "Regulation Governing Fluoridation of Community Water Supplies", our system is required to report certain results pertaining to fluoridation of our water system. The number of months in the previous calendar year that average fluoride sample results were within the optimal range of 0.6-1.2 ppm was 8. The percentage of fluoride samples collected in the previous calendar year that was within the optimal range of 0.6-1.2 ppm was 68%.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Our water system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead. The Mississippi State Department of Health Public Health Laboratory offers lead testing. Please contact 601.576.7582 if you wish to have your water tested.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1.800.426.4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1.800.426.4791.

The Town of Pickens works around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

You are cordially invited to attend
Mayor Robin McCrory's
Appreciation and Victory
Celebration Reception

Monday, June 28th, 6 p.m.
Multi-Purpose Complex
22521 Depot Street
Lexington, MS

The newly elected Mayor and
Board of Aldermen will take their
oath of office with the Honorable
Judge Robert Clark, III officiating

Retiring Aldermen Ella Edwards
Benson and David Rule will be
recognized for their years of
service to the City of Lexington

Live music provided by:
Gerald Richardson Band and Show
Memphis, TN