

GCHS confers diplomas to 120 Wildcats at Class of 2022 Graduation

May 27th event marks the end of one chapter for graduates, and the commencement of a new one

By RUSSELL TURNER
— Herald Editor —

Outdoor ceremonies tend to keep school officials on edge as they keep an eye on the weather. The week leading up to graduation at Greene County High School was no different as heavy rains throughout the week raised concerns.

But, in the end, it would be hard to imagine more perfect conditions for the Class of 2022's Commencement last Friday (May 27) at Wildcat Stadium. Graduates, along with the large group of family and friends that filled the bleachers on both sides of Johnny Ainsworth Field, were greeted with clear skies, cooler than normal temperatures and a nice breeze, creating quite the picturesque scene as the school sent the group of 120 Wildcats into the world with their diplomas.

Smiles were abundant as the commencement program began with students making their way to their appointed seats to the traditional tune of "Pomp and Circumstance". Once graduates were in place, Keaton Hollinghead, Brooke Bryd and Sadè Woullard made their way to the podium

um. Hollinghead, a member of the U.S. Army National Guard spoke to the audience about the symbolism of the American Flag and what it represents to citizens. Byrd then led classmates and attendees in reciting the "Pledge of Allegiance", which was followed by a lovely performance of "The National Anthem" by Madison McMillan.

Class President Frederick 'Day Day' Johnson approached the podium to welcome those in attendance. Johnson thanked family members and friends, school faculty and staff, as well as Supt. of Education Charles Breland and members of the board of education for helping make the graduation milestone achievable for he and his classmates.

"Without you, none of this would have been possible," Johnson said, acknowledging the impact those gathered had on the graduates' ability to achieve their goals and follow their dreams.

"Over the past four years, we have forged friendships that will last some of us the rest of our lives. We have grown together as a class and are each one leaving this place a better person for the experiences we have had. We have made our mark at Greene County High School, and it is now time for us to make our mark on the world. Once again, welcome to this celebration and thank you for your attendance..."

As Johnson returned to his seat, Ailee Byrd, Jaycie Tungett and Cameron Dunnam gathered at the

podium to share a brief devotion and kick the event off with prayer.

"Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him," said Byrd, as she read from the Book of James, Chapter 1, Verse 12. "James says 'blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial,' and as we stand here tonight, getting ready to start the next chapter of our lives, we have so much to look forward to. We have so much joy and excitement that will come our way. However, we also know, as James tells us here, that in this life there will also be trials."

Tungett followed up on that idea, telling her classmates and guests their futures will not be defined by their ups and downs or the trials the face throughout their lives, but instead, how they respond to those challenges.

"As we enter into this next chapter of life, let us remember that it is the crown of life that we are after... not the crown of this temporary life that is full of ups and downs, but the crown of eternal life with Christ that is full of joy," she said. "Let me encourage us all to keep God, and our relationship with Him, at the forefront of our lives."

After the devotion, Dunnam



Photo by RUSSELL TURNER / Herald Editor

Greene County High School graduates Frederica Silas and Sha'Lekia Silas are shown taking a quick peek at their diplomas, while Ethan Roberts, Sylvester Robinson and Thomas Rushing react to seeing another classmate receive their diploma during the Class of 2022's Commencement at Wildcat Stadium / Johnny Ainsowrth Field on May 27.

Congratulations
Class of
2022

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to our Graduates!

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Photo by RUSSELL TURNER / Herald Editor

GCHS graduate Cameron Dunnam is shown bumping fists with classmate Keaton Hollinghead after receiving his diploma this past Friday at the school's graduation ceremonies.

Congratulations
Taylor

We are so proud of you and all the goals you have achieved!

Continue to keep GOD FIRST
and let him direct your paths in life!

We Love You So Much!
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Jami, Justin, Gracelynn, Lauryn and Kennedie Woods
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