Educating for the Arts

Janice Wyatt
Mississippi Summer Arts Institute
Bologna Performing Arts Center

Actor and Delta native
Morgan Freeman
MONDAY, APRIL 26

HONORS DAY
Speaker: Dr. Aubrey Lucas.................................10:00 a.m.
Fourth President of DSU
Bologna Performing Arts Center

GOLDEN CIRCLE REUNION
AND LUNCHEON ........................................9:15 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Hugh Ellis Walker Alumni/Foundation House

HAMBURGER COOKOUT
WITH ENTERTAINMENT .........................4:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.
Sponsored by Union Program Council and Student
Government Association
The Quadrangle

SAMMY CRANFORD LECTURE ...............7:00 p.m.
Speaker: Dr. David Sansing
"Make Haste Slowly"
Sponsored by History Department
Delta Room of Ewing Hall

TUESDAY, APRIL 27

FACULTY & STAFF BREAKFAST ..........7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.
Sponsored by Staff Council and
Faculty Senate
State Room of H.L. Nowell Union

SCHOOL OF NURSING OPEN HOUSE ..........2:00 p.m.
School of Nursing

PAT HILPERT PHOTOGRAPHY OPENING ........7:00 p.m.
"Exploring the Heartlands: Photos From the Dakotas to the Delta"
The Warehouse, 229 N. Sharpe Ave.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28

CHAPEL SERVICE ..................................7:15 a.m. - 7:45 a.m.
Lena Roberts Sillers Chapel

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS LECTURE SERIES ..........10:00 a.m.
State Board Room of H.L. Nowell Union

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP CELEBRATION RECEPTION
Speaker: Dr. Henry Johnson .......................5:30 p.m.
State Superintendent of Education
Delta Room of Ewing Hall

DELTA BUS TOUR
Viking Range and The Alluvian, Greenwood, MS ..........TBD

THURSDAY, APRIL 29

Delegates’ Breakfast .......................7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.
State Room of H.L. Nowell Union

PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION
Speaker: Governor Haley Barbour ...............10:30 a.m.
Bologna Performing Arts Center

RECEPTION
Immediately Following Inauguration
Kent Wyatt Student Services & Administration Building

MUD-BUG CELEBRATION FOR THE HILPERTS
Sponsored by DSU Bolivar
County Alumni Association ..........6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Hugh Ellis Walker
Alumni/Foundation House

For more information call Dr. Myrtis Tabb at (662) 846-4023 or email mtabb@deltastate.edu
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CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS...

Bolivar County Alumni Chapter Sponsors Crawfish Boil – April 29, 2004 • Serving lines open at 6:00 p.m. Hugh Ellis Walker Alumni House • Call the Alumni House for more information at (662)-846-4705.

If you would like a 1959 Football Cap, please contact Coach Bill Marchant at (662)-846-4565.

1954 Football Team and ’M’ Club Reunion at Homecoming on October 16, 2004. Please make your plans to attend! For more details please contact: Bill Marchant, Box B-2, Cleveland, Mississippi 38733.

Springfest April 15, 2004 • Activities Fair on Quad 2:00-6:00 • Blues Traveler Concert in Coliseum at 7:00. This is a good day to bring prospective students to campus!
Life's twists and turns are frequently unpredictable but always interesting. Last year at this time, my wife and I had no idea that we would be living in Mississippi, yet here we are, happy and comfortable at Delta State. We're excited by new places to explore and new people to enjoy. Best of all there are new challenges that keep us engaged. To say that we are pleased to have this opportunity would be a serious understatement.

Beyond the visual impressions of a beautiful campus and lots of smiling faces, there is real substance to this university that expresses itself as both academic excellence and a determination to serve the people and communities of the Mississippi Delta. This is surely not news to all of you who are alumni and friends of DSU. You know intimately what we are in the process of discovering: namely, that Delta State University is a wonderful institution. And you won't be surprised to learn that the warmth of welcome we have experienced has made us feel a part of the family.

After just a few weeks, the president's cabinet and I determined that our goal would be simple and straightforward: Delta State will be the best regional university in America. This ambition means that we must couple the educational excellence that is the heritage of the institution with a determination to offer meaningful research and services targeted at the challenges and opportunities of the Delta. Faculty and staff have long understood the mission of serving the region, and today there are more than 100 on-going projects and programs that partner DSU with communities, school districts, local and statewide agencies, and other organizations. We will continue to build on this remarkable base of service.

One of the most obvious and enjoyable roles that Delta State has identified for itself is that of preserving and promoting the unique culture of the Delta. This commitment shows itself in the services of the Capps Archives, the activities of the Delta Center for Culture and Learning, and the daily interactions in the classrooms, performance halls, and labs of the university. It is what gives Delta State University its unique character.

As my wife and I look forward to the Delta State years that stretch before us, we're glad that we will be part of this wonderful institution's future. You can help us share in its past with your anecdotes and recollections. Thank you for making us feel so welcome.

Sincerely,

John M. Hilpert
President
The Ole DSU Grad Gathering
J.P. Coleman State Park, Iuka, MS
A Reunion for alumni from the 1950's, 1960's and 1970's

JOIN US!
AUGUST 5-8, 2004
Come join us at the Park
(Just north of Iuka)

Thursday, August 5, 2004
3:00 p.m. - Check-in &
Registration

Friday, August 6, 2004
Golf, Boat Rides on the
Tennessee River, Tennis,
Swimming, Relaxation

5:30 p.m. - Catfish Dinner
6:30 p.m. - Program
Social Time

Saturday, August 7, 2004
Golf, Boat Rides on the
Tennessee River, Tennis,
Swimming

5:30 p.m. - Barbeque Dinner
6:00 - 11:00 p.m. - Band & Dance

For more information contact:
Wayne Lee, Jr. Missy Pearce
Box B-2 Box 3104
DSU DSU
Cleveland, MS 38733 Cleveland, MS 38733
(662) 846-4560 (662) 846-4705
walee@deltastate.edu mpearce@deltastate.edu

Photos of the 2003 Event
Faculty member speaks at Graduation

Faculty member Dr. Jimmie “Rose” Strahan made the commencement address at the December graduation ceremonies. Strahan is the first faculty member selected to serve in this role.

“I was honored that the ‘University’ chose me to be the first faculty member to give the commencement address,” says Strahan, Chair of the Department of Mathematics. “I talked to the graduates about the ‘book’ that they are writing which will be the story of their lives. It is also important they remember the past and learn from it. I also shared some suggestions for the future, such as setting realistic goals, being willing to take a risk, building relationships with people, and finding joy in life,” she adds.

Strahan received the “S.E. Kossman Outstanding Teacher Award” from Delta State in 1997. In 2000 the yearbook committee selected Strahan as their dedicatee. She has been named to Who’s Who in American Education, and received the Certificate of Commendation from the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics for her work in mathematics education.

Starkey named Dean

Dr. Paul Starkey has been named dean of Graduate & Continuing Studies. Previously, Starkey served as Director of Continuing Education since 2001 and as an associate professor of management since 1986. He served as the chair of the local advisory committee for the 2003 presidential search.

As dean of Graduate & Continuing Studies, he is responsible for all graduate education at DSU as well as educational outreach for the University. Emphasis in graduate education will be given to enhance recruitment and retention of high quality graduate students. In continuing studies he will focus on expanding executive and certificate programs, and increasing the amount of employer specific training done throughout the University.

Starkey received his B.B.A in 1984 from DSU and his M.B.A. in 1985 and Ph.D. in 1998 from the University of Mississippi. He is married to the former Donna Smithers of Cleveland. They have two children, Ellis, 10, and Jake, 7.

Fulcher promoted to Executive Director

Keith Fulcher has been promoted to Executive Director of the Alumni and Foundation. Fulcher, who earned a B.S.E. from Delta State in 1983 and a M.Ed. in 1985, began working at Delta State in 1996 as Director of Development. Fulcher will oversee the offices of Development, Foundation, and Alumni.

While at Delta State Fulcher has worked on two campaigns generating $20 million dollars in private support for the University. Fulcher and his wife Anne have two children, Christian and John.

Building dedicated to Odealier Morgan

Last semester the University held a ceremony to name the laundry building after long-time employee Odealier J. Morgan. The historical occasion marked a University first because Morgan is the first African American to have a building named in her honor. She is also the first hourly wage employee to receive this honor. Morgan holds the record for the longest employment at Delta State: 47 years. She began working in the DSU laundry in 1956 and retired last spring. While on staff, Morgan never missed a day of work. She was named Employee of the Month in March 2001.
Brown recognized as Educator of the Year

In recognition of his efforts to promote the understanding of history and culture of the Mississippi Delta and its significance to the rest of the world, Dr. Luther Brown, director of the Delta Center for Culture and Learning received the Humanities Educator of the Year Award from the Mississippi Humanities Council.

“The Delta is a major contributor to American culture, and it is also a really good place to explore what it means to be an American,” says Brown. “I came here specifically because I wanted to live in this important region and learn more about its history and culture, and I’m passionate about helping others do the same.”

Brown is the founding Director of the Delta Center for Culture and Learning. The Center presents classes on the history and culture of the Delta, provides interpretive tours, and is the home of The Blues Highway Association, a group of people who promote heritage tourism, historic preservation, and the interpretation of Delta culture. One important activity of this group is the establishment of a Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area within the National Park Service.

Brown was formally trained as an ecologist and has written two textbooks in the field. He was founding member of the New Century College at George Mason University. This College integrated the disciplines, allowing students to explore the connections among the sciences, arts, and humanities. Brown also directed the Center for Field Studies at George Mason.

For more information about the Delta Center for Culture and Learning call (662) 846-4311.

Nursing students part of an elite group

Nursing students now have access to state of the art medical equipment in the classroom. Two nursing associations and a leading healthcare technology manufacturer recently donated an oxygen-monitoring equipment and other educational tools.

The American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN) and the American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE) collaborated with Nellcor in donating advanced-technology Nellcor pulse oximeters and educational resources to a handful of nursing programs across the United States. The gift to DSU was the only one of its kind given to a Mississippi School of Nursing.

“We are very grateful to the collaborative efforts of these healthcare agencies in providing our skills lab environment with the Nellcor N-395 Pulse Oximeter. This new form of technology will help support us in a more efficient way of educating our future nurses,” says Dr. Maureen Gruich, Dean of the School of Nursing.

A pulse oximeter offers a cost-effective way to measure a patient's heart rate and the amount of oxygen in the blood without piercing the skin. Critical care units utilize the equipment, and other patient care areas are discovering the oximeter's benefits.

This program is a classic demonstration of how professional organizations and industry can work together to create a lasting impact,” comments AONE President Rita Turley, MS, RN. “Nellcor's generous support of education and technology will impact an entire generation of nurses, and the countless patients for whom they care over the course of their careers.”

From left to right, Julie Martin from Grenada, Vicki Bingham from Cleveland, Kendra Georgia from Kilimichael, Jonathan Vaughn from Greenwood and Nora Davis from Renova.
Faculty to utilize technology in education

Six faculty members have been recognized as 2003-04 Technology Champions. The individuals are Dr. Mark Butler, professor of Music; Dr. Scott Hutchens, assistant professor of Psychology; Dr. Garry Jennings, professor of Political Science; Dr. Jerry Kandies, associate professor of Computer Information Systems; Dr. Robert Moore, assistant professor of Criminal Justice and Lisa Oswalt, instructor in Nursing.

“This program was created to encourage technology use on campus and in the classroom,” says Dr. Larry Lambert, director of the Technology Learning Center. “This is our second group of champions. The program was originally funded with one-time money from the College of Education. Response and support was so strong, campus leaders made a commitment to continue funding Technology Champions,” he adds.

Butler plans to transform the upper level orchestration class from a traditional lecture/demonstration format to a digital laboratory experience. Coursework will include modules allowing students to work at their own pace with tutorial class meetings in the lab.

Hutchens will enhance psychology courses by implementing PowerPoint presentations with scanned/digital photographs, digital video clips, and online quizzes. His goal is to offer students a wealth of information at their fingertips.

Jennings will develop web pages and web resources to support courses in social sciences and to provide student access to newspaper sources, web resources and data about the conflicts in Palestine, North Ireland, and race relations in the United States.

Kandies plans to improve instruction in coursework dealing with computer systems analysis and design through the purchase and implementation of LANSchool which teaches the strategies and techniques of analyzing and designing real-world information systems through the use of computer assisted software engineering (CASE), and prototyping tools.

Moore will create an online Master’s Degree in Criminal Justice. Through digital recording and streaming video, students will be able to hear and see the professor’s explanation for materials and gain insight into legal systems by attending (virtually) arguments provided by the State of Mississippi and other court systems through live webcasts of oral arguments (between prosecution and defense) as well as Mississippi Supreme Court arguments.

Oswalt intends to provide students at all levels with computer learning modules on campus Pipeline for access at any time to material on test preparation, test taking strategies, time management and organization, and writing proficiency for higher education. The modules will provide a writing tutorial designed to aid students in creating an outline, reviewing material for relevant content and writing a college level paper. Test preparation, test design, and test-taking strategies will define differences in college testing and provide opportunities to improve test scores.

Faculty members initiate proposed projects with support from the individual’s respective chair and dean. Projects may be developed with technology applications in traditional classroom and distance learning using WebCT, videoconferencing, the internet, digital photography and video. Individuals participate in professional development through attending conferences and workshops and making presentations. Technology Champions also promote technology among peers and become campus advocates.
Simpson selected

Melanie Suzanne Simpson, a student from Tuscaloosa, Alabama, left the Delta in January for Washington, D.C. She was selected as this year’s Congressional Fellow and will receive college credit while interning in Senator Thad Cochran’s office. Delta Council, Senator Cochran’s office, and Delta State are sponsors of the program which was established three years ago.

“My main objective is to learn. This is an opportunity of a lifetime to learn about anything and everything they throw in front of me,” says Simpson. “This is a chance to learn from the inside instead of memorizing book facts. I have a chance to be involved with several upcoming decisions affecting the Delta. This is a wonderful way to learn about this area from a national perspective,” she adds.

Simpson’s interest in politics is relatively new. Transferring to Delta State in 2001, she initially planned on completing a degree in music. “I discovered my passion by working in the Madison Center,” she says. The Madison Center is one of the University’s Centers of Excellence that focuses on political and community engagement.

“We are pleased to be a part of sustaining the necessary support to continue this Fellowship in Senator Cochran’s office. We know that the young adults chosen to participate in this Fellowship each year will return to the Delta with a real appreciation for the values which all of us place on good public policy,” states Dan Branton, President of Delta Council.

The Congressional Fellow spends approximately 15 weeks as a paid intern, learning firsthand about the inner workings of Congress and the Government. While in D.C. Simpson will receive a monthly stipend provided by Delta Council. Delta State awards a special scholarship and provides transportation.

Mr. & Miss DSU elected

The student body elected Jeffrey Farris and Sayward Ely as Mr. and Miss DSU. Jeffrey is a senior Education major from Brandon and Sayward is a senior English major from Memphis, Tenn. The Student Government Association sponsors the elections.

Precision Flight Team soars

Delta State University’s Precision Flight Team finished first in three categories at the 2003 Regional IV Safety and Flight Evaluation Conference (SAFECON) in Monroe, Louisiana. The team claimed first place overall and placed first in flight and ground events. The victory earns DSU an invitation to the 2004 National SAFECON in Murfreesboro, TN. Other collegiate aviation teams participating were from Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and Texas.

RV Parking Available

Looking for a location to park your RV when you come back to campus? For more information or to make reservations, please call the Physical Plant at 662-846-4740.
Noonan receives award

At a ceremony held last summer at Fort Myer, Virginia, overlooking Arlington Cemetery and the Pentagon, Diane Lindsey Noonan, a 1967 graduate, was presented the “Distinguished Civilian Service Award” by the Chief of Staff of the Army. She received the award “for distinguished civilian service to the United States Army.” The award was established by directive of the Secretary of the Army in May 1956 and is awarded to civilians who provide distinguished service that makes a substantial contribution to the accomplishment of the Army. The award consists of a gold medal, a lapel button and a certificate. Diane is the wife of Lt. General Bob Noonan, who recently retired as Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence for the Army.

For 35 years, Diane contributed significantly to both the Army and the nation not only through her work on behalf of soldiers and their families, but also through her representation of the Army and the United States in the foreign liaison community, both at home and abroad.

Throughout her many years of association with numerous Army units, Diane’s efforts on behalf of soldiers and their families contributed significantly to the well-being of Army families. Through her participation in Army family support programs, she acted as a proponent for the family and its welfare in the army community.

While stationed with her husband in Hawaii, she was actively involved in a prayer ministry where she visited and prayed with injured and terminally ill patients at the Army Medical Center. Immediately after the 9/11 terrorist attack on the Pentagon, she and her daughter, Whitney, volunteered countless hours on the phones at the Fort Myer Family Center (adjacent to the Pentagon) to answer inquiries and assist families and friends of those affected by the attack. In the following months, they visited wounded soldiers from both the Afghanistan and Iraq wars at Walter Reed Hospital and hosted some in her home.

As an unofficial ambassador to the Foreign Attache community she worked tirelessly on behalf of the Army and the nation. Diane opened her home and hosted numerous senior foreign military and civilian officials for dinners and receptions. She also acted as hostess for the Army’s most important annual social events for the Washington Corps of Military Attaches.

Diane and Bob have a daughter, Whitney Casstevens, of New York City and a son Bo, of Boston.

Elizabeth Smith named Miss DSU

Elizabeth Smith, of Grenada, was chosen Miss Delta State University following pageant competition held February 5th. First Alternate was Brandy Watkins (left), of Cleveland, and Second Alternate was Devin Presley (right), of Madison. Smith will represent DSU in the Miss Mississippi Pageant this summer.
Hursch & Eppenberger, LLC, a nationally ranked law firm, proudly has named Holly N. Knight as a member of the firm in the Nashville, Tennessee office. Knight’s practice includes regional representation of banks, financial institutions and secured lenders. She is also involved in complex bankruptcy litigation, including preference actions, dischargeability actions, claims litigations, and litigation involving asset recovery and disposition. She has been involved in numerous workouts and reorganizations of businesses of different sizes and different industries, and has represented the interests of both creditors and debtors in such matters. Knight’s practice areas also include general civil and commercial litigation.

She is a member of the American Bar Association, the Tennessee Bar Association, the Nashville Bar Association, and the National Association of Chapter Thirteen Trustees.

Knight earned her J.D. from the University of Memphis School of law in 1996. While pursuing her law degree, she was the Regional Champion of the 1996 American College of Trial Lawyers National Mock Trial Competition, and Student President of the Association of Women Attorneys. She graduated with honors with a B.S. degree from Delta State in 1991.

Jobe Hall renovations

Groundbreaking ceremonies for the renovations to E.R. Jobe Hall were held in November. The $3.9 million project is expected to be completed during the Fall 2004 semester. Specifications for the renovations include adding four classrooms and updating the auditorium, which is housed within the building.

“The auditorium will be completely reworked with wider rows, new seats, lighting, and new ‘behind-the-scenes’ stage equipment,” says Mr. William Morehead, vice president for finance at Delta State. “Faculty offices will be enlarged and the overall number increased,” he adds. Jobe Hall was originally built in 1969. This is the building’s first major renovation.

The Jobe Hall renovation is one of many Delta State construction projects being initiated or completed during the current fiscal year. Others include Kent Wyatt Student Services Building, Dorgan Center, Chadwick-Dickson, Coahoma County Higher Education Center and Cutrer House.
A fairy tale that came true

The fairy tale begins back in the fall of 1977, when Regina Byrd and Donnie Ruis first met after a football game. At that time Donnie was playing quarterback and Regina was involved with Delta Playhouse. Donnie and Regina became very close and even discussed marriage at the innocent and naive age of 18. However, the fairy tale was interrupted as a result of Coach Robert McGraw leaving Delta State to go to East Tennessee State University and convincing Donnie’s parents, and Donnie, reluctantly, that it would be the best situation for Donnie to go with him to East Tennessee State, a much bigger school. At that time Donnie had mixed emotions about leaving Regina and Delta State, especially in light of the fact that he had won the starting quarterback position for the Statesmen. The fact that Donnie could not explain to Regina that he was leaving and where he was going because it would have been an NCAA violation also complicated the situation.

Donnie did leave Delta State and went to ETSU, where he quickly became disenchanted with the school and, consequently, found himself reminiscing of Delta State and the girl he loved and began to realize the magnitude of the mistake he had made. Over the years, Donnie continued to daydream of his short period of time at Delta State, which centered on Regina.

Twenty-four years after Donnie left Delta State, and after thirteen arduous years of practicing law, Donnie conjured up the nerve to locate Regina. Donnie gave Regina a call, and explained the events that occurred back in 1977, which at that time he was not able to disclose. After the initial contact, Donnie and Regina talked continuously literally six to eight hours a day. On the third phone call, Donnie asked Regina if she would marry him and move to Tennessee. Regina accepted after careful consideration, which lasted about a millisecond, and Donnie got busy searching for the perfect ring and car for her wedding present. On June 6, 2003, Donnie returned to Delta State and picked up Regina. They immediately went to the football dorm (Hugh White) where Donnie proposed because this was the place where they had parted 24 years earlier. Donnie took Regina back to Tennessee and they were married on June 9, 2003.

Kyle delivers again

As an advocate of the importance of the arts education in the life of every person, Jack Kyle, a 1972 graduate, and Delta State’s 2000 Outstanding Alumnus of the Year, once again brings a high profile exhibition to the United States. Kyle serves as Executive Director of the Mississippi Commission for International Cultural Exchange (MCICE).

The Glory of Baroque Dresden will be the fourth international exhibition presented by the Commission and follows the 1996 Palaces of St. Petersburg, the 1998 Splendors of Versailles, and the 2001 The Majesty of Spain.

The Glory of Baroque Dresden exhibition will be the first major exhibition from Dresden, Germany, to be presented in North America since the reunification of East and West Germany into the Federal Republic of Germany. The exhibition is open from March 1 - September 6, 2004 at the Mississippi Arts Pavilion in downtown Jackson.

For additional information visit the exhibition website at www.gloryofdresden.com.

Letter to the Editor...

I enjoy the magazine even though there are a few names and faces that I don’t know. I wish you would dig in the files and find information on people in my years. I grew up in Cleveland but have lost touch with old friends after being in Crenshaw for fifty years. I moved here to be near one of my daughters. Life is great!

Thanks,
Harriet Bachman Rutledge, Class of 1933
No longer do young aspiring artists need to travel far away to begin or continue their pursuit in the arts. The Janice Wyatt Mississippi Summer Arts Institute (MSAI) at the University’s Bologna Performing Arts Center provides an opportunity for young artists to realize their dreams and discover and explore their talents.

MSAI was established in 1998 as a summer program for the purpose of establishing a regional model of excellence in arts education. MSAI offers opportunities for exposure and training in dance, theater, music, visual, and literary arts. Young artists work first hand with a distinguished body of accomplished faculty who have international recognition. In addition to superior instruction, the participants have access to one of the premier houses for art and entertainment in the Southeast, the Bologna Performing Arts Center.

Participants for the summer program must be 12-18 years of age, and are selected from auditions held in the Spring at various places in the state. While at MSAI, the young artists will live on-campus in dormitory housing where they have the opportunity to get to know fellow participants and make lasting relationships.

There are 3 series in which a young artist can participate: the Broadway Theater Series, the Creative Artists’ Theater Series, and the Core Arts Series. The young artists who participate in the Broadway Theater Series experience what it is like to be a Broadway performer for three and a half weeks. Creative and innovative rehearsals and a respectful and considerate environment are components that make renditions like Cole Porter’s “Anything Goes” come to life on the stage of the Delta and Pineland Theater of the Bologna Performing Arts Center. The summer of 2004 will be bringing to the stage a production of the ever popular Grease.

The Creative Artists’ Theater Series presents young artists with the opportunity to experience a high-energy, multi-faceted arts based production. During this series the experiences range from multi-media opera to film, dance, and music. Young artists work hard and fast, and are required to learn dance, movement, and theater all in one week.

As Core Arts participants, young artists receive diverse and intensive instruction in dance-music, and the visual and literary arts. The Core Arts Series creates a supportive and entertaining environment wherein the young artists collaborate with an artistic faculty composed of painters, musicians, poets, actors, dancers, and sculptors. The Core Arts Series is the pentacle of artistic creativity for those young people who are searching for an outlet to express their artistic beliefs.

For more information about the Janice Wyatt Mississippi Summer Arts Institute contact the Bologna Performing Arts Center at (662) 846-4844.
The 1956 Delta State Men's Basketball team won the N.A.I.A. District 19 Championship by beating Mississippi Southern of Hattiesburg. The team was scheduled to play in the National N.A.I.A. Tournament in Kansas City, Missouri, but was denied the chance to win the national title.

Mississippi Governor, J.P. Coleman, and the Mississippi State Legislature prevented the team from making the trip to Kansas City because the team was scheduled to play Southern Illinois University or Texas Southern, which had African American players on their teams.

The Delta State team was scheduled to leave Cleveland via a bus to Memphis and then fly to Kansas City for the National Tournament. The team made a team picture just a few days before they were to depart to Memphis. On the day the team was scheduled to leave for Memphis Delta State Coach John Ray Ricks called the team together to inform them they could not make the trip to Kansas City and the National Tournament. The office of the Governor and representatives of the 1956 legislature had called President William M. Kethley to inform Dr. Kethley that the team could not make the trip to the National Tournament.

It was Coach John Ray Ricks' unhappy task to inform the team that they were to be denied the chance for the title. This was sad news for the team, especially for those who had never been farther north of Memphis.

Recently ten members of the 1956 team reunited at Delta State and posed for a picture as they did 48 years ago. In addition, the players participated in a reunion that featured a weekend of activities and being recognized during a recent basketball game at Walter Sillers Coliseum.
The 1955-56 DSU team members are (L to R) Tony Pantini, Roman “Boo” Heleniak, Don Smith, Wayne Lee, Jr., Parker Bryant, Dick Rogaisis, Joseph Crespino (Deceased), George Hamner, Kent Wyatt, Ronnie Junker (Deceased), and Coach John Ray Ricks (Deceased).

This team had 15 wins and 7 losses during the 1955-56 season at Delta State. The team beat Southern Mississippi, now U.S.M. of Hattiesburg for the NAIA District 19 Championship and the right to play in the National Tournament in Kansas City/Hutchinson, Kansas.

Mississippi Governor J.P. Coleman, the Mississippi State Legislature, and the State Board of Trustees denied the 1955-56 Statesmen a chance to play in the 1956 National Tournament.

Delta State College president, William M. Kethley, bowed to State government pressure and informed Coach John Ray Hicks the team COULD NOT play in the national tournament because DSU was not to play integrated teams.
**DELTA STATE PHILANTHROPY**

**Alumnus makes gift of Life Insurance**

In 1985 Daniel "Jabo" O'Rourke, Jr., a 1951 graduate, purchased a $20,000 life insurance policy and named Delta State as the sole beneficiary. Dan's life ended on December 2, 2003, but his love for his alma mater lives on in the form of an endowment in his name. Dan attended Homecoming each year and enjoyed reminiscing with his former football and baseball teammates.

Thanks to the plans Dan made with his life insurance, additional students will be able to enjoy a Delta State education through the Daniel O'Rourke Memorial Scholarship Fund.

"For many, life insurance has been a great investment, providing financial peace of mind. But now the children are grown, the mortgage is paid and other assets have become the safety net," states Peter Jernberg, President, Delta State University Foundation.

"Donating life insurance is a way Dan fulfilled his desire to support the University," Jernberg says. "I encourage more alumni to follow Dan's example, which will make a difference in the lives of our students."

Another option may be to create a new policy with Delta State as the charitable beneficiary. Perhaps you make annual gifts and would like to make an additional gift to pay an insurance premium, which would increase the size of your ultimate gift.

You can also donate life insurance as part of another gift. For example, if you donate appreciated assets, such as securities or real estate, then Delta State—with your permission—can sell the assets tax free and purchase an insurance policy. You'll receive a current tax deduction on the donated assets and increase the size of your gift.

As you might expect, the tax implications of gifts of life insurance can be complicated, so consult a financial advisor before proceeding.

"Donating life insurance is a way Dan fulfilled his desire to support the University." —Peter Jernberg

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**TO MAKE A GIFT TO DELTA STATE...**

Call Keith Fulcher: 662-846-4708 or email: kfulcher@deltastate.edu

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**Aguzzi Family donates gift**

Victor (left) and Joe Aguzzi (right) share stories of their family’s nearly 100 year history in Cleveland with Delta State’s president, Dr. John Hilpert.

Joe and Victor Aguzzi, of Cleveland, remember playing hide and go seek as children on the campus of Delta State University, then known as Delta State Teachers College. In honor of the Aguzzi family’s longstanding relationship with the University the brothers recently made a $100,000 gift to endow scholarships for deserving and needy students.

The Aguzzi family arrived in the United States in 1895 from Italy and settled in Lake Village, Arkansas. They were one of 100 Italian families to settle in the area and began making a living by farming. The family moved to Cleveland in 1907, sixteen years before Delta State was founded.

The brothers established the scholarship because of strong belief in education. “We didn’t have the opportunity to go to college,” said Joe. “It was a different time back then, and we just didn’t go. Our farm has done well over the years so we have encouraged our children and grandchildren to earn a college degree.”

Between Joe and Victor, all eleven of their children have attended Delta State University with eight receiving degrees. The others completed their education in fields not offered by Delta State. Now, many of their grandchildren have received degrees with several others still attending.

“Delta State is the perfect place for a student to begin their career. We want to help others, who like us, might not see higher education as a reality due to finances,” said Joe, a member of the Delta State University Foundation Board of Directors.

“The University is privileged to have dedicated supporters like the Aguzzis. They have a long history with Delta State. We are pleased that the relationship is not only continuing, but growing,” said Dr. John M. Hilpert, President of Delta State University.

He added, “There will be many students who are able to receive an education thanks to the Aguzzi’s generosity.”

To establish a scholarship at Delta State University, or to make a gift of an existing scholarship, please contact Keith Fulcher at 662-846-4708 or e-mail kfulcher@deltastate.edu.

*Editor's note: Victor Aguzzi passed away on February 10.
DELTA STATE
PHILANTHROPY

Chambers receives award

Mahi Cossifis Chambers, Class of 1986, received the 2003 “Award of the AMAC Chair” at the Airport Minority Advisory Council’s (AMAC) 19th Annual Airport Business Diversity Conference held in Memphis, Tenn. Chambers served as the conference chair. The conference, co-sponsored by AMAC and the FAA, is the third largest aviation conference in the United States with 800 delegates in attendance.

AMAC is a national, non-profit, trade association dedicated to promoting the full participation of minority-owned, women-owned and disadvantaged business enterprises in airport contracts and employment opportunities. Chambers, Director of Staff Services with the Memphis-Shelby County Airport Authority, has been active with AMAC since 1996 and is the only AMAC volunteer who has received the award on two separate occasions. The award, the highest given by AMAC, is presented to an individual who has made an outstanding direct and personal contribution toward the success of AMAC.

SUPPORT “THE DELTA STATE FUND”

Join us in changing lives

Through your Annual Fund gift you become an important part of Delta State’s “Wings and Roots Campaign” - a special fund-raising effort to strengthen the missions of teaching and service across the region and the nation.

Three ways your gift to the Annual Fund helps the University:
1. Your gift is an investment in the future of today’s students.
2. You build a brighter future for Delta State.
3. You raise the alumni/friends giving percentage.

☐ YES! I want to help make a Delta State education possible for a new generation of students.

Annual Giving Club levels Please enroll me as a member of:
☐ President’s Club $10,000 and more annually
☐ Statesmen Circle $5,000 to $9,999 annually
☐ Founders Club $2,500 to $4,999 annually
☐ Dean’s Circle $1,000 to $2,499 annually
☐ University Associate $500 to $999 annually
☐ Partner $250 to $499 annually
☐ Heritage Club $100 to $249 annually
☐ Young Alumni Club $99 and under

Full Names _____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
Mailing Address ________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
Home # (       ) ____________ Work # (        ) _______________
Employer ____________________________________________________________________________ Job Title _____________________________________
Social Security # _______________________________________________________________________E-mail ________________________________
Class Year 19____       Class Year 19____

Please accept my gift of $__________    Charge to: ☐ VISA ☐ Mastercard    Account # __________________________    Exp. Date ____/___

Signature _____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

☐ Please send me information on including the University in my estate plans.

Return to: Box 3141, Cleveland, MS 38732

Since 2001 AMAC has provided $28,000 in scholarship money to Delta State University students. Dr. Billy C. Moore, dean, College of Business, congratulates Chambers after the award announcement, where she was joined by her son, Justin.
Charitable gift annuity versus a savings account

It used to be that a savings account could be counted on for reasonable earnings, and you would not have to give your savings much attention. These days, however, you may be looking for other options that produce a higher rate of return.

A Delta State University Foundation Charitable Gift Annuity could be the solution. “Depending on your age, you can receive a payout rate up to 11.3 percent for life from a Delta State Foundation Charitable Gift Annuity,” states Dr. Kent Wyatt, co-chair of the DSU Foundation’s Planned Giving Council and President Emeritus of the University.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$5,000 Investment</th>
<th>Annual Payout</th>
<th>Tax-Free Portion</th>
<th>Taxable Portion</th>
<th>Spendable Dollars After 25% Taxes</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.5% Charitable Gift Annuity</td>
<td>$325</td>
<td>$196</td>
<td>$129</td>
<td>$293</td>
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<tr>
<td>1% Savings Account</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>$37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These calculations are based on quarterly payments and a 4.6 percent charitable midterm federal rate.

Increase your income!

With a Delta State Foundation Charitable Gift Annuity, you may earn up to 11.3 percent for life!

Act now and receive:
- Payments for life
- Charitable deduction for a portion of the gift
- Possible partial tax-free annual income

You’ll receive all that and a federal income tax deduction!

Annuity Rates for One Life

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<tr>
<td>85</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Minimum gift is $10,000.

Please contact the Foundation Office at (662) 846-4708 or e-mail Keith Fulcher at kfulcher@deltastate.edu for more information.

Please send information about a charitable gift annuity.

Name (please print)  

Mailing Address  

City  

State  

Zip  

Birthdate (month, day, year)  

Telephone  

Please return to Box 3141, Cleveland, MS 38733
**Dorgan Center becomes reality**

Delta State University student-athletes can now be the best they can be in the classroom and on the field.

The Billy Dorgan, Jr., Student Performance Center became a reality thanks to a $1 million pledge by Billy and Patty Dorgan, Sr. The Dorgan’s generosity was due in large part to Billy Dorgan, Jr’s great academic and athletic experience at Delta State University from 1999-2000.

The state-of-the-art complex totals 15,605 square feet. A free-weight area, general exercise area, and storage makeup the first-floor of the center. Two academic labs, a conference room, coaches and athletic directors' offices are on the second floor.

Billy Dorgan, Jr., was a standout place kicker for the Delta State University football program from 1999-2000. He helped the Statesmen to the 2000 Gulf South Conference and NCAA Division II National Championships. He owns the DSU and GSC record for point-after-touchdowns kicked in a season record with 71 in 2000. He ranks third on the single season scoring list with 109 points and his 128 career points scored is 11th on DSU’s all-time list. He kicked 81 career PAT’s, ranking him second on the career PAT’s list.

Dorgan, Jr., set the DSU record for field goals made in a season with 13, but none were more important than the game winner that beat Southern Arkansas, 30-28, in 2000. The Statesmen trailed 28-27 in the final minutes. DSU’s final drive stalled at the SAU 36-yard line. Dorgan kicked a 43-yard field goal with 47 seconds remaining to keep the Statesmen undefeated at 7-0.

**Rushing reaches historic mark**

The Delta State University Lady Statesmen head women’s basketball coach Sandra Rushing was not necessarily aware of all the implications of her 77-39 win over the University of Arkansas-Monticello Cotton Blossom this January 15. Rushing understood that it was the eleventh consecutive win for her Lady Statesmen, a win that propelled her squad to the top of the GSC standings and an emotional home win. However, Rushing did not realize until the public address announcement following the game that she was the second fastest coach in the history of the program to reach 30 DSU career wins (only the legendary Margaret Wade reached 30 wins in a shorter time).

Rushing has a proud, long, and rich tradition with DSU. Rushing is no stranger to the Mississippi Delta, serving as a graduate assistant during the 1986-88 seasons. During Rushing’s time as a graduate assistant, The Lady Statesmen advanced to the Final four twice, the Elite Eight once and had a combined 86-8 record.

**Rives wins 350th**

Coach Steve Rives reached a personal milestone in a 56-54 win over the University of Arkansas-Monticello on January 15, winning his 350th career game.


Rives is also a two-time NCAA Division II South Region Coach of the Year (1996-97, 1997-98).

**Statesmen christen new website**

The Delta State University department of athletics moved to a new address on the web this past year, opening a new website at http://www.gostatesmen.com. "Short of handing over the design and maintenance to an outside company, having our own unique internet address will make Delta State athletics more accessible to our fans," says Sports Information Director Paul Smith. "This website will allow our fans to have easy access to up-to-date information."

**NOMINATIONS NEEDED...**

Nominations are needed for the DSU Coaches Hall of Fame and Sports Hall of Fame. Please send your letter of recommendation to: Bill Marchant, DSU Box B-2, Cleveland, Mississippi 38733
The athletic department and the Hall of Fame committee of Delta State University announced the following seven Statesmen for the DSU Hall of Fame as members of the 34th class. Jo Lynn Davis, Ronald Davis, Vann Ellis, Aubrey Matthews, Mike Plumlee, Keith Williams and Larry Wood all have the distinct honor of joining DSU greats such as “Boo” Ferriss and Margaret Wade as hall of fame alumni in the 2004 induction ceremony.

Jo Lynn Davis, a native of Wynne, Ark., was listed as a “good ball handler,” “Gutsy, heady player,” “and one of the best in the Gulf South Conference” in the 1987-1988 DSU women’s basketball media guide. Yet, some would argue that, in the Lady Statesmen’s run to a national championship in 1989-1990, Davis was much, much more.

A triple threat guard, Davis made the opponents pay with 444 career assists (sixth in the DSU all-time records), 106 three pointers (sixth on the DSU career list) and her .866 free throw percentage (ranking first in career statistics). Davis could drive, dish and shoot with the best of them. Thanks in part due to Davis, her years rank among the best women’s basketball teams of all time, leaving a proud legacy in the footsteps of Margaret Wade.

Ronald Davis, originally hailing from Brandon, was a member of the 1981 and 1982 Delta State squad that finished with a 41-19 overall record and a 7-1 conference mark, finishing atop the Gulf South Conference and making an appearance in the DII World Series. Falling just short of a national championship, Davis managed to put up a great senior year, playing in 49 games, hitting .430 (third on the DSU single season list) and driving in 60.
Davis’ name can be found throughout the DSU baseball media guide, as he holds a great deal of prestigious career records. Davis is currently fifth in home runs (28) and third in all-time walks (130).

**Vann Ellis** played at a time when statistics were deemed less important for defensive players such as centers. However, all one has to do is read the media guides in the mid-60s to appreciate the impact that Ellis had on the teams he played for.

Hailing from Moultrie, Ga., Ellis was one of the best defensive linemen the Statesmen ever had making a name for himself with speed uncharacteristic of a 6’2,” 230 lbs. senior. It’s no wonder in 1964 that Coach Horace McCool made Ellis the “big man in this year’s attack.” It was due in part to this attack that the Statesmen finished 8-1 in 1965, ranking third in all-time walks among their best seasons of all time.

**Keith Williams**, a native of Gulfport, was highly touted in all facets of the game and lived up to the high expectations that came along with the duties of being a Delta State University quarterback. Versatile and athletic, Williams received letters for every year of play (including a red-shirt freshman year in which he played free safety) in his tour of duty as a Statesmen in 1983-1986.

It is not possible to look through the DSU offensive statistics without coming across Williams’ accomplishments. Williams holds the record for consecutive completed passes (eleven in 1983), attempted 317 passes in a single season (good for third place in the DSU record book), ranks among the all time leaders in passing percentage (second all time with 56.2 in 1986) and has top ten records in single game passing yards, season passing yards and total offense.

To quote former coach Horace McCool, **Larry Wood** was “a heck of a football player. Whoever put him up for the Hall of Fame knew exactly what they were doing,” adds McCool.

Wood played both sides of the game, in a time when it was not uncommon to do so, but in a way that was better then most. As the team’s fullback and defensive lineman, Wood might not have put up the gaudiest numbers in the Statesmen record book, but made an impact nonetheless. As a three-year offensive and defensive starter, the Statesmen won 20 games in the years Wood played (1961-1963).

**Dr. Forest Kent Wyatt** will receive the Distinguished Statesman Award for his service as an administrator, supporter of DSU athletics and fine athletic achievements for the Statesmen.

Dr. Wyatt became the fifth president of Delta State University in 1975, and served in that capacity for twenty-four years, retiring in 1999. He is now serving Delta State University as president emeritus.

Dr. Wyatt is married to the former Janice Collins, and they reside in Cleveland.

As a member of the 1955-1956 DSU Statesmen basketball team, Dr. Wyatt was a part of one of the greatest seasons in Statesmen history, compiling a record of 15-7 and winning the NAIA District 19 Tournament, sweeping Birmingham Southern and Southern Mississippi. However, the team was unable to attend the NAIA championship due to Mississippi legislation. Dr. Wyatt played shooting guard for the team, and was known for his extraordinary shooting and presence on the floor. (See article on page 14.)
Statesmen sign 29 to National Letter of Intent

Twenty-nine faces will join the Delta State University football program this year, as coach Rick Rhoades announced the signing of 29 student-athletes to National Letters of Intent.

"I think our signings are a good start," says Rhoades. "I'm very excited about the guys that decided to come with us. We do have some more that we hope will come through. Our assistant coaches worked extremely hard and some good families put a lot of faith in our program; and as the head coach, I'm extremely grateful for both."

Expansion seems to be the buzz word around the Department of Athletics! The Statesmen Sports Network will be expanding its broadcast network into Yazoo City and Brookhaven for the 2004 baseball and softball season. WBKN 92.1 FM in Brookhaven and WYAB 93.1 FM in Yazoo City will add Statesmen baseball and softball to their programming line-up. Matt Jones, director of the Statesmen Sports Network, states, "We are extremely pleased to be able to expand our coverage of athletics. The added markets will give Statesmen and Lady Statesmen athletics an added presence in southwest Mississippi, Yazoo City, and the Jackson metro areas." Jones adds, "Each station will carry the Gulf South Conference schedule, as well as selected non-conference games." Dr. Brad Teague, director of athletics, states, "Increasing the coverage of Delta State athletics has been one of our primary goals since July. This expansion would not have been possible without the hard work and support of many alumni in Brookhaven and Yazoo City. Special thanks should go to Doug Sullivan for his work and dedication to this process." Teague adds, "This addition allows alumni, fans, and recruits the opportunity to follow Delta State athletics over three-quarters of Mississippi." In addition to these radio broadcasts, Statesmen and Lady Statesmen athletics can be heard on the World Wide Web. To access internet broadcasts log on to www.gostatesmen.com. For more information on the Statesmen Sports Network contact Matt Jones at (662)-846-4300 or mjones@deltastate.edu.

High expectations accompany new facilities for softball

The 2004 season looks full of promise for the always powerful Lady Statesmen softball program as they attempt to build upon their 38-14 record from the 2003 campaign. This year they plan to settle for nothing shy of a conference title followed by Gulf South Conference Tournament championship.

Coach David Kuhn is optimistic about the direction the program is going in, as well. Not simply from an athletic performance angle, but also in regard to the dedication the athletic program has shown to maintaining and creating new facilities for his Lady Statesmen and the positive turnout from fans at University Field, the GSC's premier softball facility.

Arguably on their way to creating the nicest softball field in all of DII athletics, the last few years have seen the addition of permanent bleachers and a state-of-the-art press box which houses electrical outlets, heating and air conditioning and a working area for media and the public address announcer. For the 2003 season a new dressing room, rest room and concession area were added. Yet, the biggest field improvement in 2003 was the addition of lights to the playing field. This year, the Lady Statesmen will debut a new brick backstop as the athletic department continues to show their dedication to creating an incredible fan environment for softball. Offering season tickets for the first time in the history of the program, as well as charging at the gates, it is the goal of the athletic department to provide the finest product and the most entertainment for the fan possible. With 10 games scheduled under the lights in 2004, University Field will definitely be jumping with a palpable intensity.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Signee</th>
<th>Ht</th>
<th>Wt</th>
<th>Pos.</th>
<th>Hometown/Last School</th>
</tr>
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<td>205</td>
<td>LB</td>
<td>Taylorsville/Taylorville HS</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Mark Braswell</td>
<td>6-1</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>QB</td>
<td>Collierville, Tennessee/Evangelical Christian HS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daryl Burton</td>
<td>5-10</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>QB</td>
<td>Grand Prairie, Texas/South Grand Prairie HS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>175</td>
<td>RB</td>
<td>Magnolia/South Pike HS</td>
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<td>6-4</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Hot Springs, Arkansas/Lakeside HS</td>
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<td>170</td>
<td>CB</td>
<td>Waynesboro, Mississippi/Southwest CC</td>
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<td>FB</td>
<td>Birmingham, Alabama/Carver HS</td>
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<td>Justh Franklin</td>
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<td>WR</td>
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<td>285</td>
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<td>CB</td>
<td>Jackson/Provine HS</td>
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<td>5-11</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>LB</td>
<td>Jackson/OBEC</td>
</tr>
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</table>
1940
James E. Glover, of Albertville, Alabama, has received several football Coach of the Year awards and was named to the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame in 1985.

1955
Bebe Carter Bingham, of Grand Prairie, Texas, is president of the Grand Prairie School Board. Bingham was “Miss Delta State of 1955.”

1958
Elbert R. Hilliard, of Madison, recently retired as director of Department of Archives and History.

1963
Frank McClellan, of Barton, Arkansas, is Arkansas’ winningest high school football coach at 357-66-4 overall.

1964
Jack W. Busby Jr., of Belden, retired as CEO and president of Hancock Fabrics Inc. after a 37-year tenure.

1967
Ann Homer Cook, of Jackson, is the co-author of a new book entitled The Book of Druthers, published by Quail Ridge Press.

1970
Hugh Malcolm Kuykendall, of Belmont, has been promoted to Principal of Tishomingo County School District.

1974
Russell Stewart is an Alderman and Vice Mayor for the town of Anguilla.

1975
Edwin D. Campbell, of New Orleans, Louisiana, is an instructor in English at Levell College.

1976
Leslie “Les” Edward Warren is a Communications Professor at Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas.

1977
Robbie Brawner Ouzts, of Smyrna, Georgia, is the Coordinator of Doctoral Scholars with the Southern Regional Educational Board.

1978
Stanley S. House, of Cleveland, is the branch manager for Thyssen Krupp Elevator Corp.

1979
Charles S. Carraway, Associate Professor of Art at Jackson State University, has been awarded a $5,000 fellowship from the Mississippi Arts Commission, which will be used to support the creation of a group of paintings combining interior and exterior views.
Jeff Russell, of Clinton, is the Executive Vice President of GodwinGroup.

Curtis Robinson, of Pensacola, Florida, is Assistant Vice President of Developmental Landing in the program operations division for Mississippi Home Cooperation.

Ricky Hearn, of Millington, Tennessee was named Coach of the Year in softball for the Tennessee District 14 AAA.

Robert A. Taylor, of Alexandria, Louisiana, has been named Incumbent Worker Training Program Coordinator for Louisiana Technical College.

Captain Michael Pyles is an auditor for NATO.

Lynda Miller, of Duncan, has been selected as the 2003 MPSEA (Mississippi Private School Education Association) elementary Teacher of the Year.

Jim Adams, III, of Madison, is president and chief executive officer of TPMG Inc., which specializes in real estate investments.

Marjorie Akers Taylor, of Alexandria, Louisiana, is the Dean of the Learning Center for Rapides Parish.

Dorothy Gilmore, of Nashville, Tennessee, is an Administrative Assistant with Hastings Architecture Associates, LLC.


Mary H. Baxter, of Amory, was appointed by the National Association of Junior Auxiliaries to the position of Region IV Chapter Support Coordinator of 2003-2004.

Glenn Kitchens, of Water Valley, is a member of the Advisory Board for the Millsaps College Principals’ Institute.

Joe Ricotta, of Indiana, is president of Leland Chamber of Commerce.

Ken Purvis, of Southaven, is a Senior Vice President of Community Bank.

Tre Cooke, of Stoneville, has been selected to The Delta Business Journal’s Top 50 under 50. He is the Executive Director for Delta Wildlife.

John Michael Ainsworth, of Leland, is a clinical specialist with Medtronic, Inc.

Cheryl Alsworth Sheppard, of Madison, is the Executive Director for Elementary Education for the Jackson Public School System.

Kenner Patton, of Brierfield, Alabama, was promoted to Executive Editor of Special Editions at Oxmoor House.

Shelly Snyder Simi, of Alexandria, Virginia, is the vice president of communications for the General Aviation Manufacturers Association in Washington, D.C.

Reginald “Reggie” Harris, of Raymond, has been inducted into the Sports Hall of Fame at Hinds Community College.

Kevin Locastro, of Collierville, Tennessee, is head football coach at Christian Brothers High School.

Stacy Waldrup Upton, of Cleveland, is a National Board Certified Counselor; teaching Orientation classes and directing the Delta Dancers at Mississippi Delta Community College.

Amy Nunley Youngblood, of Birmingham, Alabama, has been promoted to Vice President-Retail Project Manager with SouthTrust Bank.

Sarah Lynn Consul, of Ridgeland, is a Business Associate Systems Analyst for the State Department of Health in Jackson.

William H. Bunch, III, of Goodman, is Director of Institutional Advancement at Ittawamba Community College.

David Holman, of Bay St. Louis, is the president of Charter Mortage, Inc.
Planters as Vice President and Branch Sales

Marvin Freeman, of Brandon, has joined Union Elementary School in Canton. He is the Branch Retail Sales Manager at Union Planters Bank.

Markham Robinson, of Hernando, is Senior Grants Manager with South Delta Planning and Development.

Darryl Hardy, of Westlake, Texas, has been promoted to Assistant Regional Manager for FirstSecurity Bank in Olive Branch.

Dr. Matt Jenkins of Lawton, Oklahoma, documentary Historical Treasures, Stories of Our Past: The U.S.S. Nautilus has been accepted into the Greenwhich Film Festival.

Dr. Michael Mahoney is practicing emergency medicine in Mobile, Alabama, and has recently achieved fellow status with the American College of Emergency Physicians.

Monica Fioranelli Wright, of Memphis, Tennessee, is an insurance claims reviewer with Butler Snow’s Health Law Group.

Chase Wright of Memphis, Tennessee, is a Senior Manager with Deloitte & Touche Accounting Firm.

Mark Robinette, of Greenville, achieved the five star rating from Daimler Chrysler for his business practice and complete customer satisfaction as General Manager of James Ceranti Motors.

Valerie Kendrick Donnelly, of Hernando, is a flight attendant with Northwest Airlink, and a Beauty Consultant with Mary Kay Cosmetics.

Markham Robinson, is Vice President and Branch Retail Sales Manager at Union Planters Bank in Canton.

Kristi Hamilton Peede, of Alexandria, Virginia, is an advertising assistant for the Roll Call Newspaper of Capitol Hill.

Marvin Freeman, of Brandon, has joined Union Planters as Vice President and Branch Sales Manager at the County Line Road office in Ridgeland.

Tanya Wells, business manager of The Greenwood Commonwealth, was named Employee of the Year for 2003.

Brian DeAngelis, of Corpus Christy, Texas, has been promoted to Associate Director of Athletics at Texas A&M University.

Martha Renee Holm, of West, is manager of the accounting firm, Haddox Reid Burkes and Calhoun.

Felicia Hobson, of Memphis, Tennessee, is the Director of Education for Sylvan Learning Center.

Jennifer “Jennie” Mitchell Price, of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, is a special education teacher for East Baton Rouge Schools.

Brian Jones, of Madison, is an Accounting Manager for Cellular South.

Hugh S. Krutz, Jr., of Brandon, has joined Forman, Perry, Watkins, Krutz, and Tardy, LLP as a Facilities Manager.

Guidano Napoli, of Cordova, Tennessee, owns Cross Creek Physical Therapy in Olive Branch, where he is a physical therapist and Clinic Director.

Falia L. Edwards, of Ridgeland, is an Environmental Compliance Specialist Manager for the Mississippi Department of Military.

Alethea Waller Krutz, of Brandon, is the Staff Development Officer and Adult Therapist at Weems Community Mental Health Center in Meridian.

Montie Moore, of Jackson, is the Assistant Manager of Walgreen’s.

William “Neil” Quinton graduated from the University of Medical Center School of Dentistry and is doing his residency at the Children’s Hospital in Detroit, Michigan.

Richard Warren Manning, Jr., of Franklin, Tennessee, is an emergency room nurse at Saint Thomas Hospital.

Aimee Brandon Manning, of Franklin, Tennessee, is an 8th grade teacher at Page Middle School.

Arnold D. Lee, of Mound Bayou, has joined the Product Liability group at Butler, Snow, O’Mara, Stevens & Cannada, PLLC.

James Bret Green, Jr., is a loan officer at First Security Bank in Olive Branch.

Rachel Rawinson Towery, of Birmingham, Alabama, is a physical therapist for Carraway Methodist Medical Center.

Corry Donnelly, of Hernando, is a pilot for Northwest Airlink.

Jeff Tatum, of Frisco City, Alabama, was named 2002 Junior College Offensive Coordinator of the Year.

Brian Keith Henry owns a chiropractic clinic in Olive Branch.

Joey Valencino is a civil defense lawyer with Forman, Perry, Watkins, Krutz, & Tardy Law Firm in Jackson.

Shannon Cobb, of New Albany, is the Cost Controller at Lane Furniture Industries in Verona.

Betsy Griffin, of Hernando, is Director of Rehab at the Senatobia Nursing Home.

Timothy Smith graduated from law school at Louisiana State University and practices with Smith, Rives, and McDonough law firm in Jackson.

Anna Long, of Cleveland, is the Healthy Community Coordinator with the Delta Center for Culture.

Robbye Elizabeth “Betsy” Griffin is a speech therapist for Mid South Rehab Services in Hernando.

Lesley Smith has been named Sales Manager for Cabot Lodge on Jackson North and Dyess Road in Ridgeland.
Shelley Sheppard, of Jackson, is the sales manager for the Millsaps Cabot Lodge.

**2001**
LaShosha D. Shavers, of Orlando, Florida, is a guidance counselor at Hungerford Elementary and is pursuing her specialist degree in educational leadership.

Jeffrey Erickson, of Hazlehurst, is the Crisis Prevention/Intervention Specialist for Copiah County with Region 8 Mental Health Services.

Jeremy Whitmire is a paralegal with Wells, Marble & Hurst, PLLC in Jackson.

**2002**
Marble & Hurst, PLLC in Jackson.

Jeremy Whitmire is a paralegal with Wells, Marble & Hurst, PLLC in Jackson.

Mono Dennis, of Rosedale, is a legal assistant with Campbell, Delong, Hagwood & Wade LLP.

**2003**
Kathryn Lott Mims, of Greenwood, is a nutritionist for the Sunflower County Health Department.

Matthew Hill, of Rogers, Arkansas, is a Real Estate Sales Associate for Harris McHaney Realtors.

Ronald Sanders, of Greenwood, is working at the Fitness Center in Tunica.

Kristy McCain, of Cleveland, is an Account Service Representative with Cellular South.

Justin Ferguson, of Cleveland, is the Federal Policy Coordinator for the Delta Regional Authority.

Jennifer Lynn Pagani is the head softball coach at Southern Arkansas University in Magnolia, Arkansas.

Chad Thompson is currently the Student Minister at First Baptist Church in Bruce.

Jeremy Whitmire is a paralegal with Wells, Marble & Hurst, PLLC in Jackson.

LaShosha D. Shavers, of Orlando, Florida, is a guidance counselor at Hungerford Elementary and is pursuing her specialist degree in educational leadership.

Jeffrey Erickson, of Hazlehurst, is the Crisis Prevention/Intervention Specialist for Copiah County with Region 8 Mental Health Services.

**Memorial**

Lynn Ward ............................................................................................ '92

Dr. Donald Ross Ward ........................................................................ '01

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Jessica Lane McBride to Jonathan Taylor Rowell (1998) on May 31


Kathryn Elizabeth Dunaway (1998) to James Thomas Johnson, II, on June 7

Sonya Marie St. Peter (2000) to Dennis Floyd Mobley on May 31

Victoria L. Pace (2000) to Steven M. Taylor on June 14

Heather Dawn Stubblefield to Jason Roberts Keen (2001) on June 14

Jean Merideth Aldridge (2001) to Jeremy Michael Fancher on July 19

Stefanie Teresa Jones (1995) to Tony D. Brown on July 19

Molly Lynn Bruegger to Vernon Carey Hammett (2001) on March 22

Kakawonda Tamealia Nolden (2001) to Markricus T. Hibbler on May 9

Sonya Marie St. Peter (2000) to Dennis Floyd Mobley on May 31

Jessica Lane McBride to Jonathan Taylor Rowell (1998) on May 31

Stephanie Renee Jackson (1991) to William Dean Benton on May 31

Natascha Kawana Pittman (1999) to Leonard Eric Calhoune on June 7


Demetra Burnett to Kevin J. Gooden (2000) on June 20

LaShunda O. Wood (2002) to R. Turell Davis on June 21


Coretta LeighAnn Cannon (1999) to Reginald Curtis Miller on June 21

Dana Ann Vance (2003) to Edgar Julian Toney on June 21

Emily Grace Harber (2001) to Glenn Andrew Montgomery, Jr. on June 21


Virginia Lee Martin to Allen Breland Yelverton, III on June 28

Shannon Leigh Reyer to Jason Perry Broom (2002) on June 28

Cynthia Denise Barnes (1995) to Anthony Wendell Cannon on July 5

Sylvia Vannette Hoover (2001) to Ezzard Charles Bean, Jr. on July 5

Jennifer “Sonny” Scott Haven to Bryan Kent Lane (2001) on July 5

Leah Anne Norris (2001) to Chadwick Heath Wrenn on July 12

Grace Haley Long to Fabio Pereira Costa Santos (2001) on July 12

Ellanor Andrews Ellis (1998) to Henry Shelton Dukes on July 12

Carroll Marie Woods (2003) to Christopher Neal Warner on July 12

Lee Ann Krause (1995) to Paul Brian Henry on July 12

Kayla Lorraine Smith to Christopher Barrett Kendall (1997) on July 12


Angela Nicole Taylor (2000) to Willie Anthony Reynolds on July 12

Teresa Jones (1986) to Tony Brown on July 19

Stefanie Teresa Jones (1995) to Tony D. Brown on July 19

Monica Michele Blunt (1997) to Tobey Dwayne Shaw on July 19

Shereka Fay Owens (2003) to Jonathan Omar Newsom on July 19

Sonya Marie St. Peter (2000) to Dennis Floyd Mobley on May 31

Octavia Daylarie Gissom (1995) to Thomas Edward Dunavent on July 26

Valorie Ann Wielert (2002) to Stephan Lance Kinbrell on July 28

Sherry Philista Kirby to Jeremy Scott Luse (2000) on August 2

Stephanie Allison Stone to Rick Edward Collier (1993) on August 2


Kentrell Marie Liddell to Herman Sanders, Jr. (1984) on August 2

Alicia Renee Marengo to Gerald Kyle Smith (2002) on August 9


Amy Michelle Sanders to Christopher Ray Langley (1994) on August 16

Allison Kay Chaney (2002) to Steven Ray Hannaford on August 16

Shelley Suzanne White to Jason William Miller (2001) on August 16

Whitney Autumn Jones to Mark Ashley Cash (1993) on August 30

Kimberly Georgette Jones to Michael Wayne Merchant (1999) on August 30
**WEDDING BELLS**

Schulonda Monika Bailey (1998) to Alex Lenard Daniels on September 6

Yakitta D. Landrum (2002) to Larry R. Lovett, Jr. on September 13

Patricia Burnett Meredith (1992) to Daniel Paul Cox on September 15

Pam Martin (2000) to Chris Bariola on September 20

Lacey Sparks to Ray Chacon (1993) on October 11

Laurie Ann Lizana (2000) to Jeffrey Allen Estridge (2000) on October 11

Samantha Nicole Bardwell to Benjamin Humphreys McIntyre (2001) on October 11

Mary Bess Woodard to Jackie Norris “J.J.” Pannel, Jr. (1996) on October 18

Delonda Delshay Pointer to Tony Alexander Harrell (1998) on October 18

Caroline Michelle Crawford (1993) to C. David Laster, Jr. (1972) on October 24


Louann King (1993) to John K. Begetter on November 8

Melissa Torre to John Kling (2001) on July 12

Kajuandra A. Harris (1999) to Alex F. Huntley on August 30

Geisha Evette Thompson to Gregory Bernard Forrest (2000) on October 11

Lynda Lee Peatross (1979) to Glenn Patterson on July 3

Kristie Ann Giompoletti (2001) to Charles David “Trey” Shamoun, III on November 15

Jennifer “Jennie” Mitchell (1996) to John “Jay” Price on November 1


Demetria Nicole McNeal (2000) to Terris Caton Harris on November 29.


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**IN MEMORIAM** Spring 2004


Peggy Wiggins Grant (1939) on July 14, 2003.

Ethelene Collins (1933) on June 10, 2003.


Claude Gibson Steele, Jr. on July 21, 2003.

Dr. Willis Wayne Valley on July 28, 2003.

Daisy Floyd Walters Agard on August 14, 2003.


Frank Osborne Wynne, Jr. (1940) on July 9, 2003.

Janice Herring Baird, on September 15, 2003.


Mylleen Oakes Azlin on September 16, 2003.


Enoch Lanoris Florence, Sr. on August 31, 2003.


Preston Riley on October 5, 2003.


Nannie Louise Mackey Whitten on December 10, 2003.


Boyce Tiser on December 22, 2003.


John Frank Richardson (1975) on December 2, 2003.


Dan O’Rourke, Jr. (1951) on December 2, 2003.


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Maiden Name ______________________________________________
Social Security # ____________________________________________
Work Phone ________________________________________________
Address __________________________________________________
Home Phone ________________________________________________
City___________________________State ______ Zip ____________
Graduation Year_________Date of Birth ________________________
E-mail Address ____________________________________________
Here’s my update __________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
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__________________________________________________________

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Daniel Luke to Mr. and Mrs. Roy Smith (Patricia Rutland ’82) on October 3, 2002.


Hannah Maple to Mr. and Mrs. Hardie “Buddy” Hays (Patricia “Missy” Markham ’84) on December 30, 2002.

Daylen Anna to Mr. and Mrs. Shannon Craig Cobb ’00 (Dana Leanne Stanton ’00) on March 25, 2003.

Barrett Wade to Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Fondren (Amanda Lea Barrett ’96) on March 12, 2003.

Twin girls Rachel Lynn and Sarah Kathryn to Mr. and Mrs. Dean Patterson (Susan Louise Wood ’88) on January 24, 2003.

Brandon Levelle to Mr. and Mrs. Brad Yawn (Rebecca Sarah Porter ’01) on August 23, 2002.

Martin Cade to Mr. and Mrs. William Mark Robinette ’93 on May 15, 2003.

Elijah Crew to Mr. and Mrs. Chad Wilson Thompson ’02 (Elizabeth Frances Hassell ’02) on January 5, 2002.

Seth Thomas to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Beard ’85 on September 9, 2003.


Magnolia Grace to Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Scott Duke ’97 on March 5, 2002.

Madeline Kaye to Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Christian Plitt ’96 (Kaye “Kaby” Brown Higgins ’98) on June 3, 2003.

John Noble to Mr. and Mrs. John Noble Newton ’95 on March 7, 2003.

John Gabriel to Mr. and Mrs. Keith Fulcher ’83 on September 14, 2003.

Anna James to Mr. and Mrs. James Hughlilt Mize ’99 (Anne Maranto ’95) on September 25, 2003.


Paige Kessler to Mr. and Mrs. Eric Martin Swope ’01 (Deanna Elaine Kuhn ’00) on October 5, 2003.

Shannon Elissa to Mr. and Mrs. Shawn Maloney (Jacqueline Helton ’88) on June 10, 2003.

Stella Claire to Mr. and Mrs. Chase Wright ’93 (Monica Fioranelli ’93) on November 26, 2003.

Andi Michele to Mr. and Mrs. David Price (Kim Dean ’02) on January 5, 2004.

Reagan Victoria to Mr. and Mrs. Jere “Bubba”Watridge (Tiffany Howard ’94) on June 4, 2003.

To announce your newborn to the DSU family, submit a photo and information to:
Alumni Association
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DSU
Cleveland, MS 38733
Or Email: alumni@deltastate.edu

Preston Jones
Allison Jones

Jacob William Grimsley to Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Grimsley ’96 (Shannon Smillie ’96) on September 23, 2002.
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