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## Wright named Phil Campbell Elementary principal

John Pilati  
 Franklin Free Press

After 11 years of teaching kindergarten in Russellville City Schools, Channing Wright has built an impressive wardrobe of black and gold clothing.

Fortunately for her, Wright's new job won't require a change in colors.

Wright, the daughter of David and Tracy Ward, was hired last month as principal at Phil Campbell Elementary School. This is Wright's first administrative position, and to say she's excited would be an understatement.

"There were so many great things about this job—the faculty, the staff and the community support the school receives," Wright said. "It con-

firmed all the great things I'd heard about Phil Campbell Elementary School and elementary education is where my experience is."

Wright started her teaching career at West Elementary School in 2011. She taught kindergarten until her resignation last month to take the PCES job. Wright earned her Instructional Leadership Certification from the University of North Alabama in 2016, after receiving her bachelors degree in Elementary Education with P-3 certification and Masters in Elementary Education and Instructional Leadership also from UNA.

Franklin County Superintendent of Education Greg Hamilton said he saw many of the same qualities in

See 'WRIGHT,' page 8

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## Kiel, Republican Caucus, backs UNA SGA president

John Pilati  
 Franklin Free Press

After he apologized for a social media post that offended members of the LGBTQ community, Jake Statom, the Student Government Association president at the University of North Alabama, is receiving support for his position from several local legislators, including Rep. Jamie Kiel of Russellville.

Statom posted an Instagram story last month, which was Pride month, that included a t-shirt with a rainbow (a common symbol of LGBTQ support) with the caption, "Born this way? You must be born again."

Almost immediately, there were calls for Statom, an engineering major from Tusculumbia, to resign

amid accusations that he was homophobic.

Statom issued an apology and stated after "seeing the story from a different perspective," that he fell short of adequately representing all UNA students, including those in the LGBTQ community.

SGA members planned impeachments proceedings in the event Statom did not resign, which he had not done as of this week.

Enter the Alabama House Republican Caucus, which released a statement announcing a resolution in support of Statom and his right to "promote traditional morals and values on his personal social media platforms."

Kiel said even though Statom apol-

See 'KIEL,' page 3


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**Johnny Lee Borden, 88**, of Russellville, passed away on Sunday, July 11th. A private graveside service will be held at a later date.

**Author Vanzell Cassel, 60**, of Russellville, passed away on Wednesday, July 14th. Interment at Tharptown Friendship Holiness Cemetery.

**Johnathan "John" William King, 49**, of Russellville, passed away on Sunday, July 11th. Interment at Franklin Memory Gardens.

**Charles Jerome Sherrill, 86**, of Spruce Pine, passed away on Thursday, July 15th. Interment at Spruce Pine Cemetery.

We love to hear from you! Send your guest columns, recipes, cartoon panels, letters to the editor and other creative submissions to [franklinfreepress@yahoo.com](mailto:franklinfreepress@yahoo.com).

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## 'KIEL,' from page 1

ogized to anyone who was offended by his comments, that apology has "done little to quell the continuing attacks."

"My Republican colleagues and I recognize the courage it takes for college leaders to promote biblical principles and traditional values on campuses that are increasingly embracing the Cancel Culture and its 'woke' demands," Kiel said.

"Because our founding fathers considered the freedoms of speech and religion so important, they made them the First Amendment of the Bill of Rights, and Jake Statom was simply exercising the liberties that are guaranteed to him," Kiel added.

Working with others members of the local legislative delegation, including Reps. Lynn Greer (R-Rogersville), Phillip Pettus (R-Killen) and Andrew Sorrell (R-Muscle Shoals), Kiel sponsored a resolution in support of Statom and House Republican Caucus members from across the state voted its approval.

Sen. Larry Stutts (R-Tuscumbia) also has shown strong support for Statom and the resolution.

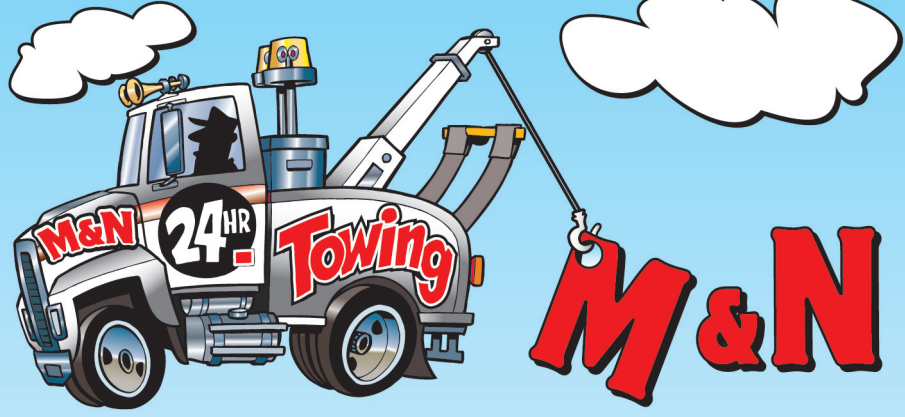
"Whether someone agrees with or opposes the stand that Jake Statom has taken, his constitutional right to speak freely and promote his religious beliefs must not be abridged with threats of impeachment and baseless attacks on his character," Stutts said.

The resolution states the Caucus' members' "strong opposition" to any effort to impeach, remove or apply political pressure intended to force Jake Statom from the presidency of the University of North Alabama Student Government Association.

For updates on news and sports throughout the week, visit us on the web at [www.franklinfreepress.net](http://www.franklinfreepress.net)!

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# 'Cold Case' files: Cassie Winborn Northwest-Shoals offering tuition break for fall semester

Dr. Joe Teal

Investigators continue to seek information surrounding the death of Russellville resident Casie Winborn, 29.

On July 2, 2018, her partially-clad body was found in the old Russellville Landfill, where Russellville Utilities now dumps debris.

Her body appeared to have been in that location for at least a couple days before it was found.

Once discovered, Winborn's body was sent to the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences for autopsy, and numerous toxicology tests were conducted. The report indicates there were no obvious signs of injury on her body, and the medical examiner's cause of death was listed as "non-determined".

Russellville Police Department Investigator Jake Tompkins has worked the case since that time, and after three years, is still encouraging people to come forward with any and all information they might have. A lot of questions remain unanswered. Your information could be beneficial, no matter how insignificant it may appear.

You may be able to help solve a mystery. Anyone with information regarding the Casie Winborn death investigation is encouraged to contact the Russellville Police Department at 256-332-2230 or Shoals *Crime Stoppers* at 256-386-8685.

*This article is a team effort of the Franklin Free Press, Dr. Joe Teal (member Atlanta Press Club), the Russellville Police Department, the Franklin County Sheriff's Department and Shoals Crime Stoppers.*



COURTESY PHOTO FROM RPD  
Cassie Winborn

Submitted to the FFP

Northwest-Shoals Community College (NW-SCC) is using Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) funding to provide a tuition break for students who register for the fall semester of at least 50 percent off tuition.

The College has received approximately \$6 million in CARES money to be disseminated for students. To date, the College has given out almost \$3 million. The amount of CARES funds students receive this fall will depend on how many hours they have taken at NW-SCC.

NW-SCC President Dr. Glenda Colagross said the CARES money will be given to students after they complete their CARES application once they register for fall semester classes. "Our students have had a hard time the past year, and we believe we have developed a plan to help them regardless of what stage they are at with their education," said Colagross. "All students that have applied for CARES will receive at least half tuition. We will look at each individual case. Some may receive even more if they've been at the college throughout the pandemic."

High School Dual enrolled students (limit to two classes) and NW-SCC students that are within 15 hours of graduating will receive full tuition free if they have applied for CARES.

Registration is now underway at <https://www.nwsc.edu/2021-summerfall-registration>. To be eligible for the financial help, students must first register for classes and then apply through their individual Moodle student portal. They will receive an email and/or text message from the college explaining the process.

NW-SCC fall semester classes begin August 19th.

**For updates on news and sports throughout the week, be sure and visit us online at [www.franklinfreepress.net](http://www.franklinfreepress.net)!**

## FRANKLIN FREE PRESS

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## My take on this... Be happy in your clothes and make your heart smile!

I might be remembering something that you haven't thought about. It might even be something you never wanted to ever think of again. It isn't even a pleasant memory of mine, but I don't always control my memories.

For some reason, I remembered those ugly blue gym outfits I wore from the seventh grade to graduation. They snapped up the front. They had elastic in the legs and were very short and had elastic in the waist.

I don't know who designed those ugly things, but it was someone who had a perfect body or made them for laughs. If your body was far from perfect, it sure didn't do anything positive for you. My waist wasn't small and probably not considered medium. I just know the elastic in the waist wasn't the cutest thing to wear.

Fast forward to "now" where some schools require dressing in matching uniforms to prevent jealousy and insecurity among the children. The idea is marvelous, but it doesn't work.

Regardless of the clothes, each person has a different concept of that. Each brain has its own ideas and opinions. Vision means you can see the difference of weight and body-form. Body shapes tend to mould the personalities of the person. It has been known to cause someone to have



Gail Motes

a low-self esteem or be self-conscious of themselves.

Thank goodness our everyday lives give us the advantage to wear what we like. Try to wear something that makes you feel good on the inside. You smile when you look in a mirror. What you wear will make a difference on the outside, too! It does me.

I have worn things when my sons were still at home and got an unwanted opinion asking me if I was really going to wear that. Sometimes, they even added a compliment of, "It looks awful." I know it was not meant as a compliment, but I'd wear it anyway. Looking back on it, I will have to admit; they were right! Sometimes.

If you are someone who just requires the opinion of others; that is okay. You aren't the only one that does.

I do have to add a comment about those ugly blue gym outfits I had to wear. Someone came to their senses, and a year or two after I graduated, a nice outfit of shorts and tops that had Phil Campbell Bobcats printed on both were the new gym clothes. Of course, there are still those who didn't like the way they looked. After-all, everyone doesn't look good in the same clothes. Right?

So, go choose what makes you smile.  
Until later...

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# Franklin County BOE approves multiple personnel moves

Brady Petree  
Franklin Free Press

The Franklin County Board of Education approved 50 personnel moves at its June 15, 2021, meeting, including the hiring of three new coaches.

In addition to personnel moves, the board:

—approved the annual bid for copier/computer paper to American Paper & Twine as the lowest responsible bidder, with a cost of 8.5" x 11" paper \$36.90 and 8.5" x 14" paper \$49.90 per case.

—approved the lowest responsible bid for LP gas to Thompson Gas at \$1.389 per gallon.

—approved the lowest responsible bid for diesel to Tatum Oil at \$2.345 per gallon.

—approved paying Jacqueline Parsons \$2,401 for Alabama Dept. of Public Health Youth Tobacco Division services performed outside of regular duties. The honorarium will be reimbursable by the ADPH Youth Tobacco Grant.

—approved increasing bus driver substitute pay from \$60 per day to \$80 per day (\$40 morning route and \$40 evening route) and bus driver trip pay from \$75 to \$100.

Personnel moves included:

—Resignation: Sharon Stacy and Jessica Cantrell, Tharptown Elementary teachers, Donovan Hand, instructional aide Vina High School, Jennifer Russell, Phil Campbell kindergarten teacher and summer reading camp teacher, Nicole Henderson, Tharptown Elementary teacher and summer reading camp teacher, Georgia Jeffreys, school counselor at Belgreen.

—Resignation in Supplement: Donovan Hand, Vina varsity baseball coach, Shauna Humphries, Red Bay tennis coach and Carlee Robbins, Belgreen basketball and softball coach.

—Employment in Supplement: Donovan Hand, Red Bay varsity baseball coach, Cody Renfrow, Vina varsity baseball coach and Chandler Allen, Vina varsity basketball coach.

See 'BOE,' Page 8



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 There will be a VFW meeting this Thursday, July 22nd. All members are urged to attend.


 Volunteers are needed with Kindred Hospice. Come and serve your community in a way that meets your goals and time availability. Contact: Kay Holt, LBSW, VC or Kimberly Mansfield, VC @ Kindred Hospice 256-764-0873.


 You are invited to a Gospel Meeting, July 25-30, at Washington Avenue Church of Christ. Speaker will be Dale Robins from Eubank, Ky. Sunday times 9:15, 10:15, 4 p.m. Monday-Friday 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome in study of God's word! The church is located at 309 Washington Ave. NW. Call 256-565-1635 for more information.

 You're invited to Mountain Valley Hee Haw, every Saturday evening from 6-10 p.m. Open mic with Hee Haw Band. Travis Wammack will perform July 17 and August 14. Supper Night is held every 3rd Saturday night. Bring a covered dish. Karaoke begins each Saturday night at 10 p.m. Hee Haw is located on Highway 79, just east of Hwy. 243. For more information, call 256-810-4840.

 You are invited to a Revival at My Father's House Church, 104 East Lawrence St., Russellville, starting July 25. Sunday morning service at 11 a.m., then Sunday night at 5 p.m. Monday-Wednesday evening services July 26-28 6:30 pm nightly. Missionary Evangelist Joel Ali from Trinidad will be speaker. Everyone is welcome. Come to receive deliverance, healing and miracles.

 You are invited to Summer Revival at Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church, 305 Bethlehem Road, Russellville, from July 18-23. Sunday service at 2 p.m., with Bro. Keith Prince. Monday-Friday at 7 p.m., with Evangelist Bro. Rodney Krick and Pastor Bro. Jeff Fleming. Prayer meeting 20 minutes before each service. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact Bro. Jeff Fleming at 256-856-5610.

 Russellville, First Baptist Church, 213 Jackson Avenue, North will celebrate 154 years with Homecoming Service on Sunday, August 15, 2021, at 10:30 a.m. Our speaker will be Dr. Rick Lance, Executive Director of the Alabama Baptist State Board of Missions; music by former RFBC member, Paul Lynch, Gainesville, Georgia. Bro. Chase Dowdy is Pastor, (256-332-2065).

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ters to the editor and other creative sub-  
missions to [franklinfreepress@yahoo.com](mailto:franklinfreepress@yahoo.com).**

## Franklin County Watermelon Festival slated to return in August

John Pilati  
Franklin Free Press

After a one-year COVID-19 induced hiatus, the Franklin County Watermelon Festival is set for Friday/Saturday August 20, 21, in downtown Russellville.

With two days of live entertainment, dozens of vendors, games, activities and lots of free watermelon, the annual event draws up to 20,000 visitors to Franklin County each year.

The 40<sup>th</sup> annual Watermelon Festival headliner is Shawn Gerhard with the Ultimate Garth Brooks Tribute. He will take the stage Saturday night at 8:30 p.m., preceded by Kerry Gilbert (6-6:45) and the Joseph Baldwin Band (7-8:15).

Friday night's lineup is highlighted by Shootin' You Straight, a Lynyrd Skynyrd tribute band. They will take the stage at 8:30 p.m., preceded by Rewind of the Shoals at 7, Tremayne at 6 p.m., and opening ceremonies set for 5:45 p.m.

Watermelon Festival t-shirts are now in and available for purchase at the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce office on North Jackson Avenue. Shirts are available in short sleeve in the following colors: mint, violet, gray, heather navy and heather red in sizes from youth to 4XL. Tees in children's sizes will be mint. Long sleeve tees in Carolina blue are available in adult small through 2XL.

Children's shirts are \$10. Youth through adult XL shirts are \$15, adult 2XL-4XL are \$18 and long sleeve shirts are \$20.

Vendor applications are still being accepted. Log onto [www.franklincounty-chamber.org](http://www.franklincounty-chamber.org) and click the Watermelon Festival link for more information.

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# 'BOE,' from page 5

—Transfer: Amanda Murray, from TES teacher to TES intervention teacher, Bethany King, from PCES teacher to Belgreen school counselor, Talon Thomas, from physical education teacher at Vina to Belgreen Health/Access Facilitator, Megean Berryman, from EFJH Principal to Belgreen High School Principal, Brooke Harris from TES elementary teacher to THS English teacher, Lori Hardin, from Career Coach, Franklin County Schools.

—Volunteers: Colby Cox and Tony Darracott, Belgreen boat captains, Alisa Pinkard, PCHS volleyball coach, David Palmer and Randy Pike, PCHS football coaches, Jacob Ayers, PCHS baseball coach.

—Employment: Lamanda Johnson, Vina intervention teacher, Taylor Godsey, PCHS computer science teacher, Karren Sewell, Belgreen Elementary teacher, Aleah Harris, family consumer science teacher, Phil Campbell, Channing Wright, PCES Principal, Chandler Allen, Vina history teacher, Donnie Hastings, summer school drivers education teacher, James Miller, 5th/6th grade math teacher at PCES, Trisha Ergle, PCES teacher, Katie Brooks, Tharptown Elementary teacher, Heather Tompkins, Tharptown Elementary teacher, Katina Petree and Hannah Vincent, summer reading camp teachers.

—Summer Reading Camp Bus Drivers: Jonathan Raper, Terry Pennington, Tharptown. Ann McMahan, Vina. Lamanda Johnson, Red Bay, Brita Davis, Belgreen, Lionel Landers, East Franklin, Janice Pennington, Megan Skidmore, Griffin Harris, substitutes.

—Summer 2021 Tracks: Jennette Pearson, Red Bay teacher, Maria Pruet, Phil Campbell bus driver/aide, Alanna Cason, East Franklin teacher aide.

The next board meeting of the Franklin County Board of Education will be July 13, 2021, with work session at 4 p.m., and meeting to follow.

# 'WRIGHT,' from page 1

Wright that he saw in her predecessor, Jennifer Warhurst. "She has those same qualities that led me to hire Mrs. Warhurst. Mrs. Wright loves kids. She's all about hard work and those are the criteria I look at. There's a lot more I could say, but I'll just say we are excited to have her in Franklin County Schools," Hamilton said.

Wright began her new post last month and she was quickly impressed by the school's faculty.

"The teachers seem to work really well together. They have been very welcoming. I'm so eager to get started with a lot of good programs already in place and great support from the central office all the way through the school," Wright said.

It's not lost on Wright that the two previous principals, Warhurst and Jackie Ergle, did outstanding jobs leading PCES. To many Phil Campbell residents, Ergle is synonymous with the school.

"I know I have big shoes to fill because they both did such great things at Phil Campbell Elementary School and were so respected by the school and the community," Wright said.

Phil Campbell Elementary, which includes students from Pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade, has approximately 400 students.

Wright said she will be an active part of the Phil Campbell community and school extracurricular events.

"I'm all in with Phil Campbell 100 percent and that's something to be excited about. I look forward to meeting more of the community and helping any way I can," she said. "I will try to be very open to conversation, suggestions and concerns. I don't have all the answers and I know that."

Wright and her husband, Bobby, have one daughter, Campbell, who is four.



COURTESY PHOTO

Wright will take over as the new PCES principal. She follows Jennifer Warhurst who held the position before Wright took over.

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## Commission refinances, consolidates jail bonds

John Pilati  
Franklin Free Press

The Franklin County Commission approved a refinancing of the two bonds that provided funding for the construction of the Franklin County Jail in what Probate Judge Barry Moore called a cost-saving measure.

The two bonds, with a remaining balance of approximately \$7 million, were consolidated into one bond financed by three local banks, Valley State Bank, CB&S Bank and First Metro Bank. The interest rate on the new consolidated bond is 1.99 percent fixed, as compared to 4.33 and 3.22 percent on the old bonds.

The county's monthly payment will decrease from \$56,140 to \$47,000 with the refinancing.

"This was an opportunity to save the taxpayers money by taking advantage of lower interest rates," Moore said.

The commission approved the measure at its June 21 meeting. Other agenda items approved that day include:

- authorizing EMA Director Mary Hallman-Glass and Moore to execute documents related to a \$400,000 grant for storm shelters. There will be a public hearing on the proposed location of the storm shelters on July 12 before the regular meeting. If approved the grant would allow for the purchase of four to six storm shelters. Communities receiving the shelters would be responsible for paying the utilities and maintenance but not the cost of the shelters.
- termination of Corbyt Crane from the Solid Waste Department.
- declared two Sterling garbage trucks as surplus property to be disposed of.
- rescinded the hiring of Charles Adcox as a corrections officer/dispatcher in the Franklin County Sheriff's Office and authorized advertising for two corrections officer/dispatcher positions.
- hiring Isaiah Oliver as a corrections officer/dispatcher.
- set a public hearing for July 19 to receive input on the proposed vacating of Hollow Drive. The commission also authorized County Engineer David Palmer and Moore to sign agreements to relieve the commission of maintenance of a bridge on Hollow Drive.
- approved resolutions honoring the Russellville and Phil Campbell High School baseball teams.



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## Previewing the 2021 SEC West

Brady Petree  
 Franklin Free Press



Brady Petree  
 Sports Editor

On August 28th at 3:30 p.m. Hawaii and UCLA will kick off the 2021-2022 college football season in "week zero" action. What follows over the next six months will ultimately culminate in the college football champion, as it does every year.

But before a national champion is crowned, conference schedules must be played and conference champions must be determined.

And if there's one thing we've figured out about the College Football Playoff, is that the national title game usually runs through the SEC. So over the next two weeks, we will be breaking down both divisions in the SEC and giving our predictions as to how we believe they will pan out.

This week, we start with the all-too-familiar SEC West.

### Alabama Crimson Tide

Implementing a new quarterback for the second time in as many seasons, the Crimson Tide will replace a flurry of offensive talent such as Mac Jones, Najee Harris, Jaylen Waddle and Devonta Smith. Not to mention members on the offensive line.

However, the Tide return an extremely talented linebacking core for a defense that will have to lead the charge until the new offense gets its feet wet.

Despite such a massive turnover, the Tide still figure to possess the most talent in the conference and should take the SEC West crown.

### Texas A&M Aggies

See 'SEC,' page 14

# Crossing a milestone



COURTESY PHOTO

Luna, as a member of the Belgreen cross country team, qualified for the state tournament in both her junior and senior years.

Brady Petree  
 Franklin Free Press

**BELGREEN** - Before she ever thought there had a chance of going to college as an athlete, recent Belgreen High School graduate Kimberley Luna took a more casual approach to refining her running game.

But in recent months, Luna has upped her training regiment, and for good reason.

Luna will be continuing her athletic and academic career at Calhoun Community College after signing a scholarship to become a member of the cross country team.

After finishing with some impressive times and placements in races, there was still some doubt with Luna as to whether or not she would be able to continue competing beyond high school.

See 'MILESTONE,' page 13

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## 'MILESTONE,' from page 11

That was until a teacher stepped in and a way forward came to light. "One of my teachers sent me a picture that Calhoun was offering scholarships to girls and so I then emailed Calhoun's coach and we set up a meeting. The whole process took about a week," Luna said. "Calhoun has a good campus and it's not too far from where I live. I just felt like this was the best place for me to continue my education."

A member of the cross country team at Belgreen, Luna will now have to turn her focus from competing at the high school level towards training to run at the collegiate level.

And part of that aforementioned training regiment will become more intense as her training continues into the upcoming fall in preparation for the start of her college athletic career.

"Before I got a scholarship offer, I would run every once in a while. But since then, I've been running everyday for a little over a month and every time I run it gets easier. I drink lots of water and that's what I stick with," Luna

said.

In both of her junior and senior years, Luna managed to qualify for the state tournament and also managed to notch a personal record time of 23:34 for her career. In addition to qualifying for the state tournament, Luna also managed to place in the top-10 in multiple races she competed in.

Of course, cross country is a sport that isn't exactly for everyone. With its long courses, sometimes unpredictable conditions and just a need for overall stamina, it can be difficult to participate in and sometimes take interest in.

But for Luna, the sport is something that brings out the best in her and allows her to compete alongside people she cares about.

"I've been running cross country for four years and I enjoy the outdoors. So running outside and finding different places to run works perfectly for me," Luna said.

"Cross country can be hard at times but it's fun running when you have friends to run with and always striving to beat your personal best time."



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# 'SEC,' from page 11

Speaking of teams with new quarterbacks, Jimbo Fisher and the Aggies are over the Kellen Mond era and will turn over the offense to one of either Haynes King or Zach Calzada. The rest of the Aggies' squad possesses immense talent but without a definitive answer at quarterback or any consistency, it might be hard to put together something to overcome the Tide.

If the Aggies can answer the quarterback position sooner rather than later, they just *might* have enough to become the favorite in the west.

### LSU Tigers

One could realistically flip a coin and place the Auburn Tigers (who we will get to in a bit) in this spot. However, due to the Tigers' absolutely brutal schedule, we'll give the nod for the third place spot in the west to Coach Orgeron and the Tigers.

LSU is very similar to Alabama in the sense that they constantly have five-star talent year-in and year-out. The only issue has been stringing all of that talent together. This certainly won't be like the historic 2019 Tigers, but there's enough talent there to make a run if things break in their favor.

### Auburn Tigers

As mentioned above, the Tigers could easily finish higher than fourth. In fact, they could even finish as high as second in the division depending on certain aspects.

The secondary is a reason for optimism as well as the running backs. And the Tigers have a new coaching regime with Bryan Harsin leading the charge now.

The schedule is going to be rough. There's no way around it. But maybe a breath of fresh air and some newfound optimism is just what the program needed to take them to the next level.

### Mississippi State Bulldogs

Mike Leach is back for another season at the helm for the Bulldogs and the fight for football superiority in Mississippi between two of the most interesting college football coaches enters another season.

The Bulldogs had a great defense in 2020 and it figures to be good for another season. The real question marks remain around the offense. However, if there's one person who knows how to put together an offense, it's Mike Leach... let's just see if he can do it in the SEC.

### Ole Miss Rebels

An overwhelming offense and the mind of Lane Kiffin should be enough to scare any team with title hopes in their eyes. And that offensive threat should give Rebels fans a lot of hope in pulling off an upset or two over the course of the season.

But the defense is going to be the Achilles heel for the Rebels. If there's a team that will lead the SEC in offense, you'd be hard-pressed to find a better bet than Ole Miss. But if you're looking for defense, you might want to keep looking.

### Arkansas Razorbacks

Bringing up the rear in the SEC West is the Razorbacks from Arkansas. And it's certainly no fault of their own that they're dead last in the west, they're just a product of their environment.

Put the Razorbacks in the PAC-12, BIG-12 or BIG-10 and Arkansas would have a fighting chance.

But with the likes of the Crimson Tide, Aggies, the two Tigers and even the Rebels and Bulldogs fighting it out, there just isn't enough to grab onto for the Razorbacks.

But they are on the right track with Sam Pittman at the helm... it just might take another year or three.

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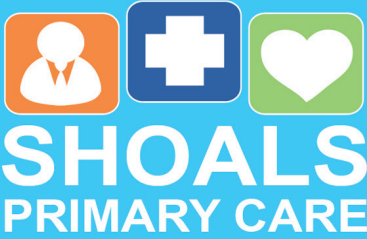


PHOTOS BY CHRISTIAN MEDINA

The RMS Golden Tigers squared off against opposing schools like Brooks, Deshler and Sheffield in a 7-on-7 football camp last week.

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