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Historic Day in Downtown Laurel

By Linda Cranford
 lindainpact@gmail.com

Never before in the history of Laurel have five businesses in downtown celebrated their grand opening on the same day. Saturday afternoon, October 21, this historic event took place with a block party and five ribbon cutting ceremonies to celebrate the grand opening of The Shop Co. Work, The Pearl Diner, The Loblolly Boutique, Crescent Line Toys, and Guild and Gentry. Magnolia Street and Oak Street in the center of downtown Laurel were blocked off for the celebration.

The first to cut the ribbon was The Pearl Diner with owners Pearl Campbell and Josh Nowell and their full staff. As soon as the ribbon cutting was over the staff went to work cooking up a delicious limited menu to serve during the event. The menu consisted of fried chicken, black-eyed peas, lima

beans, string beans, macaroni and cheese, and rice and gravy with a corn bread muffin.

After The Pearl Diner, everyone strolled down Magnolia Street to The Loblolly Boutique and Crescent Line Toys, where super heroes Captain America and Superman were visiting with the children along with Bell, Cinderella, and the Fairy Godmother. It only took a little over six months for owners Wayne and Melissa Bryant and Joey and Hope Husband to outgrow their first location and move the boutique two doors down and add a toy store.

It took a little longer than anticipated to renovate the space next door to The Loblolly Boutique for the haberdashery, Guild and Gentry, named to honor the craft and chivalry of the men who built our City Beautiful, but the wait was worth it. Owner Caroline Burks with her husband, Cory, by her side was joined by family and friends

for her ribbon cutting ceremony. Later on in the evening, Guild and Gentry sponsored a mannequin contest where contestants competed in striking different expressive poses. The judges for the mannequin contest were Rodney Rowell of Lott Furniture, Andrea Milham of Southern Antiques, and Paul Johnson, who also provided the entertainment for the evening. The first place win-

ner was Chad Evans, who received a \$100 Guild and Gentry gift certificate.

Need a quiet place for a few hours to work while you grow your business in a creative environment a few days of the week or a place to call your full-time office, then The Shop Co. Work is your answer. Owner

Continued on page 2

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continued from page 1

Bethany Byrd with her husband, Austin, by her side and two girls, Melody and Eden, along with friends and family cut the ribbon to officially open the unique downtown networking office space located next to The Pearl Diner on Oak Street.

Present for all ribbon cuttings were Jones County EDA President and CEO Ross Tucker, Laurel Mayor Johnny Magee, Laurel Main Street Executive Director Judi Holifield, and Sheriff Alex Hodge. Magee thanked all for choosing Laurel as their business home. Holifield said it was good to finally see the empty spaces in downtown come to life with great businesses. The EDA and Chamber of Commerce presented each owner with a commemorative poster and framed first dollar of profit.



Guild and Gentry – L-R, Jeremy Adams, John Wiggins, Sheriff Alex Hodge, Judi Holifield, Mayor Johnny Magee, Caroline Burk - owner, Cory Burk, Jan Walker, Eddie Walker, and Jim Rasberry.



Inside Crescent Line Toys, children met L-R, Bell (a.k.a. Lydia Myers), Fairy Godmother (a.k.a. Noel Grosche), and Cinderella (a.k.a. Landra Gavin). Photos/Linda Cranford

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The Pearl's Diner – Owners Pearl Campbell and Josh Nowell with staff.



The Guild and Gentry Mannequin Contest.



The Shop Co. Work – L-R, Jeremy Adams, Sheriff Alex Hodge, Representative Donnie Scoggins, Joe and Ellen Biggie –parents, Leonard Biggie – grandfather, Mayor Johnny Magee, Will Sellers, Bethany Byrd – owner, Austin Byrd – husband, front Melody and Eden Gilbert, Judi Holifield, and Jim Rasberry

By the Fire band member honored at music festival

Submitted

As many of you know, By The Fire, a local Christian rock band, was blessed with the opportunity to play at an annual Christian music festival called Praise In The Park, located in Lucedale, Miss., which has now taken place every year for 14 years. The headliners this year were David Crowder, Rhett Walker and Jimi Cravity, with the two band contest winners being By The Fire and John Gee.

This year something was different about this festival. Stephen Windham, which is one of the founding members of By The Fire, was unable to participate in this years event. For seven years Stephen has either played on stage or volunteered at this event to help make this it a success for the glory of God. Instead of participating this year, Stephen had to sit this one out. On Friday, September 8, Stephen, at 46 years old, suffered a stroke/aneurysm and is currently in recovery at St. Dominic's Hospital in Jackson, Miss.

Stephen's dedication to family, friends and the way he has honored God with his life over the years has not gone unnoticed or forgotten. Stephen was honored and prayed for by his band mates and friends, By The Fire, and upward of 16,000 people at Praise In The Park this year. As you notice in the photo, By The Fire band members Tommy Myrick (bass), Van Long (lead singer), Nick McCullin (guitar) and Brent Sumrall (drums) are standing with the guitar in the middle, which represents Stephen. All band members are wearing t-shirts that read "Prayers for Stephen."

Now, we all have people we love and care for deeply that when tragedy strikes, it leaves them in need of prayer and a touch from heaven. We also know that prayer changes

things!
 Please join me for a moment in prayer to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on behalf of not only Stephen but also the ones we all love and care for deeply for healing, restoration, quality and quantity of life here on this earth so that we might enjoy them for many more years and that God might be honored in the way that we and all live our lives for the glory of God in Jesus Name. Together let us believe by faith that what we pray for in the mighty Name of Jesus we will receive to the glory of God! Let us pray for "A Touch from Heaven."



In the accompanying photo, By The Fire band members, pictured from left to right, are Tommy Myrick (bass) Nick McCullin (guitar) Van Long (lead singer) Brent Sumrall (drums) . . . the guitar in the middle is representing Stephen. All band members are wearing t-shirts that read "Prayers For Stephen!" Photo/submitted

GIMME SOME FOOTBALL!

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JCJC's Stacy Ruth selected as Mississippi Humanities Teacher of the Year

By Teresa McCreery,
JCJC Media-Public Relations Director

Jones County Junior College's Social Science instructor, Stacy Ruth has been selected as the JCJC 2017 Mississippi Humanities Teacher of the Year. She will be honored by the Mississippi Humanities Council and JCJC on Wednesday, November 8, at 10:30 a.m. in the JCJC Fine Arts Auditorium. The public is invited to see Ruth's free presentation, "The Evolution of Family through Animation," which will discuss how the audience can identify with cartoon characters and how this form of entertainment can motivate or change our behavior.

"Television networks have always portrayed families with both drama and humor. Animation is one of the most radical platforms that depict the social institution in a variety of methods. This presentation will show how cartoons and animation have also changed in its style of interpreting families while still holding on to this traditional view," said Ruth.

The Mississippi Humanities Council will recognize Ruth as JCJC's Mississippi Humanities Teacher of the Year during this special presentation in Ellisville, and again in Jackson at a banquet where she will receive a cash award and a plaque.

"I am grateful and honored by the recognition. I started teaching here (JCJC) when I was 23 years old, and I feel as if I have matured and progressed as an instructor each year. I love my colleagues in the Social Science department; they are my extended family, which makes coming to work much easier," said Ruth.

Some of her "family" members at JCJC said Ruth is very deserving of the recognition from the Mississippi Humanities Council and feel honored to work beside her.

"Having observed Stacy throughout her tenure at JCJC, it has been my pleasure to watch her evolve academically, professionally, and intellectually into one of the finest educators in the state. JCJC is indeed fortunate to have Ms. Ruth on the faculty. It is with utmost enthusiasm that I call her friend and colleague," said JCJC Western Civilization instructor, Wyatt Moulds.

Carson Atwood, JCJC's 2014 Mississippi Humanities Teacher of the Year, said Ruth is an excellent choice for the Humanities honor this year.

"She is a dedicated and diligent instructor who was born to teach. Her students not only learn a vast amount of knowledge from her, they also adore her as their teacher. I consider it an honor to have her as a co-worker and I think Jones is well represented by her as our Humanities Teacher of the Year at JCJC," said Atwood.

As Ruth begins her 25th year teaching Sociology, Social Problems, and Marriage and Family classes at JCJC, she has also had the opportunity to serve the region in various roles. The Laurel resident is a member of the executive committee for the Alabama-Mississippi Sociological Association, the state committee for HIV Prevention-funded by the Mississippi Department of Health, the World Congress on Civic Education in Cape Town, South Africa, and she currently serves on the Executive Board for Jones County Fellowship of Christian Athletes as well as the Advisory Board for JCJC's Baptist Student Union. As a former basketball player on an athletic scholarship for Mississippi College, Ruth has a unique perspective and is aptly able to assist JCJC's female student-athletes. Over the last several years,



JCJC Social Science instructor Stacy Ruth is this year's Mississippi Humanities Teacher of the Year. She will be giving a presentation about the evolution of the family through animation on Wednesday, November 8 at 10:30 a.m. at JCJC's M.P. Bush Auditorium.

Photo/Teresa McCreery

Ruth has joined Jones County's FCA students on several mission trips.

"She is popular with students and a standard-bearer for JCJC. Stacy is involved in campus and community activities and spends her time doing mission trips to make the world a better place. She is a generous and kind teacher, a worthy recipient of the Humanities Teacher of the Year honor," said Social Science department chair, Dr. Ronald Bishop.

Other honors the 1987 Heidelberg Academy graduate has earned include being awarded the S.A. Rosenbaum Earthwatch Fellowship to conduct research on Family Health Rituals in Madras, India, in 2005, and in 2010, she was selected as JCJC's Higher Education Appreciation Day, Working for Academic Excellence (HEADWAE) instructor of the year for Mississippi Colleges and Universities. Additionally, Ruth was selected as one of the top five instructors at JCJC by her colleagues and administrators. She earned her bachelor of science in applied sociology, her master of social sciences with an emphasis in sociology, history and political science, and her master of science in counseling psychology with an emphasis in marriage and family therapy from Mississippi College. Ruth has one daughter, 11-year-old Lexie who attends Laurel Christian School.

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Happy 100th Birthday!
Texana McFarland will be celebrating her 100th birthday on Sunday, October 29, at Studio 5Fifty/Gatherings in Laurel from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. It is a come-and-go party. All of her friends and family are invited to come by and wish her a happy birthday. No gifts, please.

clude: Books on tape, cds, audiocassettes, magazines, encyclopedias, puzzles, hardback books, paperbacks, cookbooks, non-fiction books, children's books, puzzles, textbooks, encyclopedias, DVDs and videos. Each morning additional items will be added to the sale. For more information, contact the library at (601) 735-2268, by email at wlib@wwcls.lib.ms.us, or check out updates to the book sale on Facebook.

The Wayne County High School Homecoming game is set for Friday, October 27 at 7 p.m. when the War Eagles host West Harrison. The Homecoming parade will be held on Thursday, October 26 beginning at 5:30 p.m. There will be a pep rally at the school on Friday, October 27. The Homecoming festivities will begin Friday night at 6:20 p.m. at the football field. The Wayne County Band is also hosting the second annual War Eagle band reunion as former students will be able to perform at halftime. Also, this year all former dance team members will perform at halftime. All former classes will be able to tailgate in the area next to the tennis courts. Tailgating will be 4-7 p.m.

October 28
Laurel Middle School's award-winning show choir, INSYNC, will host Tornado Fest, an arts and crafts festival, on Saturday, October 28 from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. The event is open to the public and will be a family friendly day filled with lots of activities to enjoy including arts and crafts vendors, food vendors, carnival games and entertainment. The event will be held in the school's courtyard, which is located on the Ferrell Street side of the school. There is plenty of parking. The funds raised through booth reservations will assist this dynamic group in purchasing costumes and traveling to various competitions and concerts throughout the school year.

Ellisville First Assembly of God's 11th Annual Car Show will be held on October 28. Registration is from 8:00 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. The awards ceremony begins at 2:00 p.m. For more information please contact Keven Hunnell at 601-319-3634 or email kevin.hunnell@gmail.com.

New Life In Christ Church, 226 Ellisville Blvd., Laurel, will be having a "Free clothes give-away" on Saturday, October 28 from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. Don't miss it!

The Arc Pine Belt Region serves people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their friends and families. On November 4, The Arc is hosting "A Day at Mitchell Farms!" Location: off Hwy. 84 W of Laurel on Leaf River Church Road. It is free of charge and open to anyone with intellectual or developmental disabilities, their friends and families. There will be many activities and the hours are 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Food, drinks, and snacks will be provided. Please call or text ABBY @ 601-433-4852 OR BETTY @ 601-498-4988 if you plan to come so we can make arrangements for enough food or if you need directions or additional information.

October 29
The Moss First Church of God will host Homecoming on Sunday, October 29, starting at 10:30. There will be no Sunday School that morning - just a Homecoming service featuring the Dove Brothers from Tennessee. Lunch will be served immediately after the morning service. To get to Moss First Church of God from Laurel, take Hwy. 15 North, then turn right onto Hwy. 537 (just before Jasper/Jones county line), and drive to the red brick church on the

October 26

Laurel Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc. and Reconnect Therapy and Wellness ask you to join us in helping us "Walk For A Purpose". We will be hosting a free Fun Walk-A-Thon on Thursday, October 26th, A Breast Cancer Awareness event, at Reconnect Therapy & Wellness at Sawmill Square Mall Sign in is at 5:30 p.m. and walk begins at 6:00 p.m. For more information call Sophia Wilson at 601-342-5948 or 601-498-7597.

October 27

A Pale Horse Rides will be presented in three sessions, Friday, Oct. 27 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 28 at 11 a.m. & 7 p.m. in the Laurel Seventh Day Adventist Church located at 1606 W 15th St in Laurel. Topics will include: "Rome Is Burning," "Barbarian Fire," and "An Underground Movement." A Pale Horse Rides will involve both documentary-style and live elements, featuring local moderator Pastor Jim Stewart. This series will address questions such as: What happened to the Christian churches outside of the Roman Empire? How, exactly, did our ancestors become Christians? How does the Bible deal with the fact that Christians are sometimes less than Christ-like? What would the church look like without the merger of church and state? How can we have the strong faith of our ancestors? There will be a Potluck meal after the morning presentation Saturday. A Nursery will be provided for each session.

The Friends of the Waynesboro-Wayne County Library will hold a five-day outdoor book sale in the parking lot of the library, Monday, October 23 - Friday, October 27, weather permitting. The sale will be held from 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. each day, except on Friday in order to take the book sale down starting at 2:30 p.m. and setting up on Monday morning. All books will be 25 cents each with the exception of new books which will be marked a special price. Thousands of items for sale in-

Mississippi Made opens in Ellisville

By Linda Cranford
lindaimpact@gmail.com

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held in downtown Ellisville Thursday, October 19, to officially open Mississippi Made, a new gift shop in the front of Boson Joe's Seafood Restaurant in the old Hotel Alice building. Owners Michael and April Welch said as the name implies the goods sold in the gift shop are all made by folks in Mississippi. "Anything that's good quality stuff made by folks in Mississippi is what we want to sell," said Michael. He said they are very pleased how well the concept and idea of the shop has been received so far. The shop has been open for about six weeks and he said in the past few weeks people a making special plans to come shop. "We had seven ladies

from Prentiss just this past weekend drive down just to come eat with us and shop," said Michael. "We've had people come from all over in the past six weeks." "We've got anything from jewelry to art, candles, pottery, hand-stitched goods, cooking aprons, and you name it, we've got it," exclaimed Michael. Shoppers will find small chalk boards throughout the shop with the name of the town where the goods are made. Right now you will find goods made from Ellisville, Moselle, Meridian, Petal, Hattiesburg, Louisville, and Lumberton to name a few. "Offering goods made just a stone throw from here seems to go with what we are trying to do here with the hotel and restaurant," said Michael.



L-R: Pastor P. J. Weeks, Teresa Welch - mom, Ellisville Alderman Jeffrey Williams and Chris Hall, Ellisville Mayor Lynn Buckhaults, owners Michael Welch with Brantley and April Welch with Kinsley, and Chamber Ambassadors Christy Drennan and Paige Kennedy.
Photo/Linda Cranford

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left.
The Fifth Sunday Community Unity Church Services will be held at Bethlehem UMC. Service will begin at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, October 29. Rev. Kewis Payton, associate minister of New Prospect MB Church, will deliver the morning message.

The Fifth Sunday Singing Union invites you to our last gospel singing session at Mt. Zion UM Church on October 29 at 2:00 p.m. We are asking all groups, choirs and soloists to come out and be a part of this great program.

October 31
First Baptist Church of Myrick, 1593 Millcreek Rd, Laurel, will host Trunk or Treat on Tuesday, October 31 from 5:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Everyone please make plans to attend. For further information please call Craig Walters at 601-580-4961 or the church at 601-425-1037.

Southern Civitan will have their monthly meeting Tuesday, October 31 from noon - 1:00 p.m. at The Laurel Country Club, 2011 Highway 84, Laurel. Guest speaker will be Scott Pittman, Fellowship of Christian Athletes director. Guests are welcome. Contact southerncivitan@gmail.com, www.civitan.org or 601-422-7575 for more information.

November 3
Deaconess Hospice and the First Church of God invite you to the First Friday Grief Support Group on November 3 at 10 a.m. This group is open to the public for anyone who is experiencing grief or if you are interested in learning how to support those who are grieving. Laurel First Church of God is located at 1635 Grandview Drive. For more information, call pastor Duane Parker at 601.323.4988 or chaplain Mike Cochran at 601.261.4010.

November 4
A benefit fundraiser for burn victims Celina Russell and Victoria Russell Walker, who were severely injured in a recent house fire, will be held on Saturday, Nov. 4 from 11:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. at the Buster Hamm Community Center in Stringer. The proceeds raised will help with expenses now and in the future. The Stringer VFD will be serving hamburger plates for \$6. Bring your chairs for a day filled with lots of fun, music, auction and raffles. Any donations for the auction will be appreciated. Call 601.422.8689 to donate or for more information.

The Arc Pine Belt Region serves people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their friends, and families. On November 4, The Arc is hosting "A Day at Mitchell Farms!" Location: off Hwy. 84 W of Laurel on Leaf River Church Road. It is free of charge and open to anyone with intellectual or developmental disabilities, their friends and families. There will be many activities and the hours are 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Food, drinks, and snacks will be provided. Please call or text ABBY @ 601-433-4852 OR BETTY @ 601-498-4988 if you plan to come so we can make arrangements for enough food or if you need directions or additional information.

The 3rd Annual Car, Truck, & Rat Rod Show, sponsored by the Men's Ministry of Moselle Memorial Baptist Church, will be held Sat. Nov. 4. Registration from 9 to 11 a.m. Nine trophies will be awarded at 2:00 p.m. The \$20 entry fee includes a free picture of your entry. Goody bags, door prizes, Show and Shine Antique Tractor display, Women's Ministry cake auction, live music, burgers, hot dogs, drinks, and chips will be available. The church is located at 6 Beason Road & Hwy 11, Moselle. For more info, call 601-580-5550 or 601-520-3423.

November 5
The Community Center Church Family cordially invites you to celebrate their Pastor James Owens and First Lady Sister Trina Owens 6th Year Pastor Anniversary. This special occasion will be held on November 5 at 2:30 p.m. The speaker for this event will be Rev. Milton Branch, pastor of New Testament Church, Ellisville.

November 9
The Friends of the Waynesboro-Wayne County Library will hold its annual Christmas Tasting Bee on Thursday, November 9 from 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. in the Betty Cain Hurt Community Meeting Room. This year's holiday festivities will feature the theme "A Mississippi Bicentennial Christmas" with tickets selling for \$12 each. Carry-outs are also available. Entertainment this year will feature music provided by Keynote Studio students (Carolyn Stagg, instructor). A softcover cookbook will be available for sale the day of the event for \$10 each, as well as, Christmas wreaths and gift items. We encourage everyone to purchase their tickets early as this is a sellout event each year. For more information, contact the library at (601) 735-2268, by email at wlib@wwcls.lib.ms.us or check out our page on Facebook.

NEJ Tigers look to close season strong

By James Pugh
 Week 11 of the MHSAA football season is here. Here are our predictions of the games this week that involve Jones County teams.

West Jones at Wingfield

Who could've imagined West Jones to be in its current situation after the program's embarrassing loss to Quitman back in Week 3. Yet here they are: winners of six straight, including its huge win over Laurel two weeks ago and South Jones last Friday night. West Jones is gearing up for a Region 3-5A title game vs. Brookhaven . . . next week. This week the Mustangs must focus on taking care of business vs. Wingfield. It should be an easy one.

Prediction: West Jones +24

South Jones at Brookhaven

Now is crunch-time. Two games remain on the regular season schedule and South Jones must win one of the two to secure its first playoff berth since 2009. Sound familiar? It should. It's been the story toward the end of the Braves prior two seasons. The test ahead of South Jones this week will be its toughest, as if Laurel and West Jones wasn't tough enough. Brookhaven enters Friday night's game with South Jones on an eight-game win streak, including its 5-0 record in Region 3-5A. The Panthers have two running backs that average more than nine

yards per carry. The Braves must be flawless on defense to have a chance by the fourth quarter.

Prediction: Brookhaven +17

Laurel at North Pike

Both teams are 5-4 on the season, but that doesn't mean both teams are equals. Laurel is 3-2 in Region 3-5A and looking for its fourth win, which would secure them another 5A playoff berth. North Pike is 1-4 and is mathematically eliminated from postseason play. So what does one do when eliminated from the playoffs - play spoiler to someone who isn't. An upset by North Pike would put the Tornadoes in hot water, as if the Tornadoes don't feel that way already with the season it has had so far . . . in comparison to its past years' success in the region.

Prediction: Laurel +20

Newton County at Northeast Jones

What an upset by Northeast Jones last week versus Mendenhall, who only had one loss before a second was handed to them by the Tigers in the final minutes of Week 10. Newton County has struggled more this season than Northeast Jones. Newton's 1-9 season is a recipe for another Tigers win. What better way to finish up a tough season than a finale win at home? Northeast Jones still has something to play for.

Prediction: Northeast Jones +13

WJHS celebrates 2017 Homecoming



West Jones High School would like to invite you to our 2017 Homecoming at Mustang Field on Friday, October 27. Homecoming Court pictured is front: Senior Football Maid Keyasha McDonald, Senior Maids Brittani Dozier and Carolyn Barlow, Queen Carley Hill, Senior Student Body Maids Anna Grace Gieger and Nataleigh Duran, and Senior Football Maid Asyeona Anderson. Back: Sophomore Maids Madi Waters and Natalie Allgood, Junior Maid Anna Book-out, Mustang Maid Cathalyn Townsend, Junior Maid Kaneisha Fortenberry, Freshman Maids Natalie Ainsworth and Alice Dickey. Homecoming car p.rocession begins at 6:15 pm. Homecoming ceremony begins at 6:30 p.m. Kickoff for the West Jones versus Wingfield football game is at 7:00 p.m. Hope to see you there! *Photo/submitted*

Weekend Forecast: Football & Fun

Another gridiron weekend is in the books. Alabama keeps rolling, Ole Miss has been beset with a key injury to its QB, Southern Miss is hitting its stride at the right time, Miss. St. is still an enigma, and several local high school teams have a legitimate shot to make the playoffs . . . stay tuned on that front.

So, it's time for another version of our Weekend Forecast, which features pigskin picks (high school, JUCO and senior colleges) by Buzz Jack, Brian Jack, James Pugh and a guest picker. This week the guest picker is Kline Estess of Today's Furniture.

Game 1: laurel at north Pike.

Brian – Laurel
 Buzz – Laurel
 James – Laurel
 Kline – Laurel

Game 2: Newton Co. at NEJ.

Brian – Newton Co.
 Buzz – NEJ
 James – NEJ
 Kline – NEJ

Game 3: South Jones at Brookhaven.

Brian – Brookhaven
 Buzz – Brookhaven
 James – Brookhaven
 Kline – South Jones

Game 4: Wingfield at West Jones.

Brian – West Jones
 Buzz – West Jones
 James – West Jones
 Kline – West Jones

Game 5: JCJC at Gulf Coast.

Brian – JCJC
 Buzz – JCJC
 James – JCJC
 Kline – JCJC

Game 6: Miss. St. at Texas A&M.

Brian – Miss. State
 Buzz – Texas A&M
 James – Texas A&M
 Kline – Miss. State

Game 7: Arkansas at Ole Miss.

Brian – Ole Miss
 Buzz – Ole Miss
 James – Ole Miss
 Kline – Ole Miss

Game 8: Florida at Georgia.

Brian – Georgia
 Buzz – Georgia
 James – Georgia
 Kline – Georgia

Game 9: Tennessee at Kentucky.

Brian – Kentucky
 Buzz – Tennessee
 James – Kentucky
 Kline – Kentucky

Game 10: Missouri at UCONN.

Brian – Missouri
 Buzz – Missouri
 James – Missouri
 Kline – Missouri

Game 11: Vandy at South Carolina.

Brian – South Carolina
 Buzz – South Carolina
 James – South Carolina
 Kline – South Carolina

Games 12: Heidelberg at Bay Springs.

Brian – Bay Springs
 Buzz – Bay Springs
 James – Bay Springs
 Kline – Bay Springs

Game 13: Taylorsville at Clarkdale.

Brian – Taylorsville
 Buzz – Taylorsville
 James – Taylorsville
 Kline – Taylorsville

Game 14: Lumberton at Stringer.

Brian – Stringer
 Buzz – Stringer
 James – Stringer
 Kline – Stringer

Game 15: W. Harrison at Wayne Co.

Brian – Wayne Co.
 Buzz – Wayne Co.
 James – Wayne Co.
 Kline – Wayne Co.

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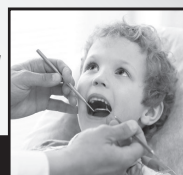
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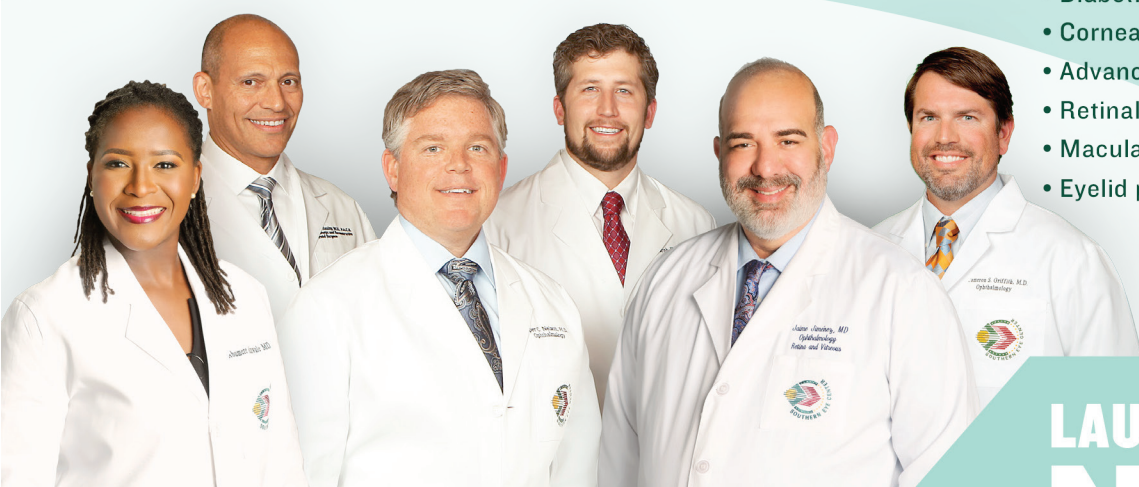
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Bobcat Math League teams battle for playoff bids in the final weeks

By Teresa McCreery

After a week off from competition in the Jones County Junior College's Bobcat Math League, most of the 16-teams are in a must-win situation to make it to the post-season. Three of the four division leaders have clinched post-season play and there are only a few opportunities left for some teams to stay alive after the final week of competition.

The biggest shake-up this week was in the Archimedes Division. West Jones and Quitman high schools will be duking-it-out to be the Archimedes Division leader next week with an automatic invitation to play in the post-season for whichever team can capture the top spot. After Oak Grove dealt a crushing blow to the Mustangs this week, outscoring them 68 to 40, the Mustangs are in a must-win situation in their match-up with the Jaguars of Columbia Academy in the final week of competition. Under different scenarios, both Quitman and West Jones could conceivably earn at least a wild-card slot for post-season play. However, with the Panthers on the prowl, it could be hard for the Perry Central Bulldogs to stop the Quitman Panthers in the BML's final week. Quitman, the current Archimedes Division leader will have to succumb to the Perry Central Bulldogs for the Mustang's best chance to make the playoffs without a win next week.

In the Pythagoras Division, the Oak Grove Warriors continue as the division leaders with an automatic bid. The Warriors will meet up with Raleigh, who is still looking for a spot as a wildcard team in the post-season. Also looking for another chance to compete are the Braves of South Jones. Quitman's victory over South Jones, 31 to 19 this week, stunned the young Braves team who had visions of post-season play. The Braves could be in contention for post-season play as a wild-card team, if they win their final match against the Sylva Bay Saints.

Sacred Heart currently leads in the Galileo Division, and with 306 points the Crusaders have accumulated the most points in the BML. The Crusaders creamed the Laurel Tornadoes, 66 to 23, this week and will have to knock out the Northeast Jones Tigers next week to secure the No. 1 playoff seed as the Galileo Division leaders. If the Tigers manage to take the win from the Crusaders, they could earn a wildcard ticket to the playoffs. The Wayne County War Eagles' melee with the Heidelberg Oilers squashed the hopes of the rising Oilers team with a decisive loss, 42 to 11. The War Eagles will need to win again next week against the Collins Tigers to ensure play in the post-season.

The young Bobcat team at Presbyterian Christian High School has protected their ranking as Gates Division leaders and will continue competing in the playoffs. PCS out-manuevered the Northeast Jones Tigers with the Bobcats winning the 'cat-fight, 50 to 35. The Bobcats face the Laurel Tornadoes in their final match-up next week. It will be tough for the Northeast Jones team to get a win over Sacred Heart next week. Without the win, Northeast Jones has little chance of making the playoffs.

The battle to earn a Most Outstanding Leader individual honor has become very competitive between Oak Grove's Peter Liang and Sacred Heart's Ben Dunn with Liang managing to separate himself from the pack. Liang's average scoring accuracy of 65 percent earned him first place, with Dunn's 60 percent placing him in second. Sacred Heart teammates Nick Gallardo comes in at third place with 57.50 percent, and Cameron Miller's 53.33 percent earned him sixth place, tying with Erin Choi of Oak Grove. Oak Grove's Olivia Viguerie and Abigail Weir tied for fourth place with a 55 percent average accuracy rate.

BML teams have one last week to be included in the Bobcat Math League Championship playoffs on Wednesday, November 8 at 8 a.m. in the Home and Health Auditorium. Results from the weekly competitions are posted on the JCJC Bobcat Math League webpage under "Division Standings/Schedules".



The Mustangs of West Jones still have a chance to win a wild-card invitation in post-season competition in the Jones County Junior College Bobcat Math League despite their loss to Oak Grove this week. Pictured seated in the front row, left to right: Candace Nolan, Lindsey Hughes, Haven Howell and Brandon Waldrop. Pictured in the second row, left to right: Logan Parker, Cody Causey and Matt Boykin. Pictured standing in the third row, left to right: Dalton Laprouse, Eva Kiperzoska, JP Persons, Jack Taylor and Karson Wardell. Pictured in the back row, left to right: Josh Cooper, Jess Cooley, Zach Cochran and Coach Courtney Hagan.

Photo/Teresa McCreery

ules at: www.jcjc.edu/bobcatmathleague/ and on the Bobcat Math League Facebook page: Bobcat Math League - Facebook. For more information about the Bobcat Math League contact Dr. Jessica Bunch (JCJC Bobcat Math League Commissioner) at 601-477-5422 or email at jessica.bunch@jcjc.edu.

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Mustangs complete the sweep in Jones County, downs South Jones 30-21

By James Pugh

West Jones QB Peyton Brown turned the offense on a dime. Before the senior quarterback entered the game late in the second quarter, West Jones' offense was in the red. In two drives, one ending in a three-yard touchdown pass from Brown to senior athlete Devrion Hatten, and the other in a 28-yard field goal by junior kicker Walker Thompson, West Jones narrowed South Jones' lead by one by the half, 14-13.

The spark, provided by Brown late in the second quarter, turned into a flame by the second half.

West Jones outscored its county rivals 17-7 in the second half to win Friday night on the Reservation, 30-21.

"Brown is a young man that has done everything we've asked," said West Jones head coach Scott Pierson. "He's been injury prone, and he's still fighting his leg injury [from last year]. We just ask him to go when he can go. He gave us a spark tonight for sure."

Before his appearance on the field, West Jones had negative two yards of offense. By night's end, the Mustangs offense had acquired 260 - 170 of those yards came in the second half.

"There were a lot of mistakes on both sides, but a lot of that had to do with kids playing so hard," Pierson added. "It got sloppy, but it didn't get that way because of effort. It got that way because a lot of kids laid it on the line."

West Jones completed the sweep of Jones County teams with the win and

remains unbeaten in region play at 5-0.

Defensive Player of the Game

Antonie Kirk found himself in the right place at the right time all night.

The sophomore safety picked up a South Jones fumble early in the third quarter and returned it 30-plus yards for a touchdown. The scoop and score gave West Jones its first lead of the game, 20-14, with 8:45 left to play in the third.

"Kirk was Johnny-on-the-spot tonight," said Pierson. "He has gotten better every week. All he lacked was confidence early in the season. Once he plays with confidence, he's a good player."

Kirk also picked off two John Mitchell (South Jones junior quarterback) passes.

"It was a good night," said Kirk. "We came out in the second half and played hard. I'm thrilled we got the win. We practiced hard all week. This is a good feeling."

Adjustments

South Jones started the night with a long, methodical first drive that ended in a 43-yard field goal by sophomore place-kicker Mark Diers. The drive started deep in South Jones territory and took nearly eight minutes off the clock.

Mitchell had several successful quarterback keepers in the drive, racking up 35 yards on the ground in the eight-minute span.

After West Jones made defensive adjustments, Mitchell fell into the negative yards for the remainder of the contest.



West Jones' Michael Neal (26) tries to escape a tackle by John Mitchell in Ellisville last Friday. Photo/James Pugh

The adjustments continued through the game. Allowing 137 offensive yards in the first half, the Mustangs held their county and region rivals to just 50 yards in the second half.

South Jones didn't help its cause, fumbling the ball over to West Jones twice and tossing two picks.

"Our defense forced big turnovers at the right time tonight," said Pierson.

Stats leaders

West Jones senior running back Austin Land had his fifth 100-plus yards game Friday night. He finished with 118 yards on 24 carries and one touchdown. His 20-yard touchdown run late in the

fourth stanza sealed the game for the Green and Gold.

Field goal specialist Walter Thompson nailed three field goals in the win. Thompson's longest, a 45-yarder, tied the score 3-3 late in the first quarter. He also split the uprights from 28 and 31 yards.

Brown finished with 90 yards through the air on six completions and 23 on the ground from eight carries.

Where they go from here?

West Jones (8-2) will host Wingfield at home next Friday night, while South Jones (7-3) travels to Brookhaven. Kickoffs are scheduled for 7 p.m.



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<p>42K MILES</p> <p>Stk:A0184</p> <p>2015 FORD MUSTANG GT PREMIUM \$29,990</p>	<p>17K MILES</p> <p>Stk:A0169</p> <p>2016 TOYOTA CAMRY SE \$17,500</p>	<p>25K MILES</p> <p>Stk:A0183</p> <p>2014 TOYOTA CAMRY XLE \$18,700</p>	<p>37K MILES</p> <p>Stk:A0167</p> <p>2015 DODGE CHALLENGER SXT PLUS \$23,990</p>	<p>56K MILES</p> <p>Stk:A0136</p> <p>2012 NISSAN FRONTIER CREW CAB SV \$16,900</p>	<p>14K MILES</p> <p>Stk:A0162</p> <p>2017 TOYOTA TACOMA \$33,700</p>
<p>24K MILES</p> <p>Stk:A0159</p> <p>2017 CHEVROLET TAHOE LT \$45,600</p>	<p>17K MILES</p> <p>Stk:A0180</p> <p>2017 RAM 1500 SLT 4X4 \$27,900</p>	<p>24K MILES</p> <p>Stk:A0164</p> <p>2017 TOYOTA RAV 4 \$23,700</p>	<p>25K MILES</p> <p>Stk:A0121</p> <p>2016 HYUNDAI TUCSON SE \$16,600</p>	<p>15K MILES</p> <p>271, 4WD</p> <p>Stk:A0182</p> <p>2016 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 2500HD LTZ DIESEL \$59,900</p>	<p>19K MILES</p> <p>Stk:A0176</p> <p>2017 NISSAN FRONTIER SV 4WD \$26,700</p>

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Stk:A0171 & A0172

<p>Walter Smallwood</p>	<p>Larry Johnston</p>	<p>Eric Eaton</p>	<p>Mike Blakeney</p>
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