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Active shooter prevention expert Chris Grollnek speaks at Chamber Lunch and Learn event

By Linda Cranford

When over 200 people gathered at the Sanderson Farms Corporate Office banquet room to listen to nationally acclaimed active shooter prevention expert Chris Grollnek speak, little did they know that less than a week later they would hear of the Stone Douglas High School massacre in Parkland, Florida where a mentally disturbed individual took the life of 17 young people. The words of Grollnek no doubt have echoed through the mind of each and every person who attended the event since hearing of the tragedy.

The Jones County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors partnered with the Jones County Sheriff's Department to bring Grollnek to Jones County to speak at the Chamber's first Lunch and Learn event, an educational seminar and networking event.

"You're in for a treat," exclaimed Sheriff Alex Hodge when introducing Grollnek.

Chris Grollnek is a retired police officer from McKenney, Texas, former U. S. Marine, active shooter and domestic terrorism prevention policy consultant, author, public speaker, and primetime network news guest.

Photo/Linda Cranford

"You're fixing to hear from a guy who has a heart of passion. He believes in what he's doing."

Asking for two volunteers, Grollnek had one volunteer set his phone's timer for 7 minutes and the other for 23 minutes. After being notified when the time expired, Grollnek explained that within zero to seven minutes a perpetrator will locate his target or targets, load his guns, rain carnage on his victims, and then vacate the scene. In Florida, 17 students were killed and 14 injured in six minutes, according to a report on Fox News. Grollnek added that it takes zero to 17 minutes for law enforcement to get on the scene and 17 to 23 minutes before law

enforcement officers will make contact with the first victim.

"It is up to local law enforcement to get the most training possible for an active shooter response," exclaimed Grollnek. He added that it is also important for the community to be prepared and have a plan in place for each environment they spend time in. "We need to change the message to the community from response to prevention. If you see something, say something. It's not so much a gun problem as it's a people problem."

Grollnek is a retired police officer of 15 years, a former U.S. Marine with 13 years of

active duty service and 11 years in the reserves, and a primetime network active shooter incident speaker. As a police officer he was involved in an active shooter incident which took place at the Public Service Building in McKenney, Texas. He is an active shooter and domestic terrorism prevention policy consultant, public speaker, author, and primetime network news guest. He travels throughout the country conducting seminars and workshops on active shooter prevention. He has authored and co-authored many policies and procedures that are used by agencies across the nation. Among the material he has produced is a short video entitled "Run, Hide, and Fight." "I hate that video," exclaimed Grollnek. He said in many situations the run, hide, fight is not the best procedure to follow. Columbine proved that. Today, Grollnek is advising to "Get Out." "If you hear it, if you see it, say something and get out," exclaimed Grollnek. He has made a new free PSA video that is 26 minutes long and can be found on his website at cpgpmg.com. Other than "G.O.," get out, the catch words now are "React,

Continued on page 2

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GROLLNEK, continued from page 1

Escape, Survive.” You must do something! The video is very informative and highly recommended.

Prior to Grollnek speaking, Glen Elsberry with Hunt Southland and Hunt Refinery, who sponsored the day’s event, said, “I’d like to thank the Chamber of Commerce and the Sheriff’s Department for organizing this event. Unfortunately, workplace violence and active shooters have become all too common today. Law enforcement and the community have got to do a better

job in educating everyone around us to be prepared for this, to know what to look for, and to speak out about it.” He added that in 2016 Hunt made the decision to develop a workplace violence prevention program that they rolled out to all their affiliates and employees. “The reception was much better than I expected,” said Elsberry. He said the feedback was positive and that many have taken what they’ve learned back to their families and teaching their children about things to be mindful of.



Pictured with guest speaker Chris Grollnek are, L-R, Ross Tucker – Jones County EDA President/CEO, Major Jamie Tedford – JCSD, Grollnek, Alicia Walker – Jones County Chamber Board of Directors Chair, Amanda Janaskie – Chamber and Tourism Director, and Jones County Sheriff Alex Hodge. Photo/Linda Cranford

Holston named Southern Civitan member of the year

Southern Civitan is pleased to name Kelli Holston as the 2017 Southern Civitan Member of the Year. Kelli is a charter member and serves on the board of directors. Southern Civitan chartered the Laurel chapter of Civitan International in March of 2017. The new club would not have been formed if not for the dedication of all of the charter members and one special member who worked tirelessly to make the club a success. Thank you, Kelli, for your service to the residents of Jones County, especially to those with disabilities. Southern Civitan meets the 4th Thursday at noon at the Laurel Country Club. Guests are welcome. Visit @SouthernCivitan on FaceBook/Twitter/Instagram or civitan.org.



Kelli Holston

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Nancy Jernigan & grandson Jack Spinks pictured at Anderson Square in North Laurel Shopping Center, making a personalized birthday gift to surprise his mom. To make your own special gift, call 601.340.3153 or 601.498.6905. Photo/submitted

Mt. Olive Attendance Center alumni honor former teacher



In 1970, the 9th grade class graduated from Mt. Olive Attendance Center in Laurel, Miss. On Saturday, February 10, they honored their former teacher, Marguriete Walker-Johnson, at Buffet Palace. We considered ourselves blessed because this was her first teaching job and we were her first students. She was and still is a dedicated educator. Former students in attendance were Lou Alridge, Charles Cooley, Ezekiel Ducksworth, Sharon Gilmore, Earnestine Hunter, David Jones, Shirley Jones, Deborah McFarland, Daisy Peppers, Frances Shelby and Lucuria Windham (group photo above). Charles Cooley, spokesperson for the class, presented the plaque to Walker-Johnson (photo at right), and stated “With our greatest honor, the students of your 9th grade class proudly recognize Mrs. Marguriete Walker-Johnson. It take a special teacher, a special mentor, and a special friend to bring the stationary pictures and words into existence. To take them from the pages of textbooks to existing in thoughts, memories and life. This is in honor of our special person who has done so and continues to help us along the way.” With gratitude Walker-Johnson replied, “Thank you, thank you, thank you. You all are yet an extraordinary group of young men and women. I feel humble and appreciative of the love you have shown me. I love you more.” Photos/submitted



WJHS FCA helps with Valentine’s Day dance and party at Blair Batson Children’s Hospital



West Jones High School FCA Lead Team members were invited to participate in the Annual Valentine’s Day Party and Dance at Blair E. Batson Children’s Hospital in Jackson. FCA team members helped patients decorate Valentine’s Day bags, which were loaded with cards and treats and helped create colorful tissue paper flowers which brought lots of smiles. Each patient was given one-on-one attention by a member in hopes of making their Valentine’s Day special. FCA was honored to have been selected to help with this event! Pictured front: Paulleen Lam, Alexis Parker, Bailey Smith; shown in back: Blake Todd, Jacob Kilpatrick, Matthew Boykin, Jacob Morgan. Photo/submitted

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Four unique individuals to speak at Jones County Genealogical meeting

Submitted

The Jones County Genealogical and Historical Organization will be hosting their monthly meeting on Saturday, February 24 at the Laurel-Jones County Library, 530 Commerce Street, Laurel. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. in the upstairs meeting room. There is an elevator located in the stairwell for your convenience. Everyone is welcome.

There will be four guest speakers including Mitchell “Bo” Asmar, son of the late Mitchell and Marie Asmar; he is a Laurel native. He is a graduate of Mississippi State University and is self-employed with family businesses – All American Transfer and Storage, retail businesses and real estate. He and his wife, Kathy, have three sons, one daughter, and three granddaughters. Asmar will talk about finding his father’s family in Lebanon, where his grandparents migrated from.

Guest speaker Kaleel Rahaim received his chemical engineer degree from Mississippi State University. He has experience in many different aspects of engineering, such as project and process engineering, in both chemical and civil engineering. He has been involved in the thermoset polymer industry for over 30 years. His experience includes process improvements for many thermoset resin applications including cured-in-place pipe (CIPP). His current position is business manager of Remediation Polymers for Interplastic Corporation. Rahaim is a former Board of Directors member and treasurer for the North American Society for Trenchless Technology (NASTT) and is involved in other trade organizations for the trenchless remediation industry. He was recently voted into the No Dig Hall of Fame

for 2015. He is a voting member of ASTM and a member of NASSCO. Rahaim is also a coauthor of the published NASTT Manual for CIPP Good Practices.

Kaleel currently resides in Oxford, Miss., where he enjoys several hobbies, traveling and participating in several different local associations.

Another guest speaker will be Roma Graham. She is the daughter of Walterine Rahaim and the late Ernest Rahaim of Laurel. She attended Laurel City Schools and is a USM graduate. She was employed for many years with William Carey University but is currently serving as director for The National League of Junior Cotillion for Forrest and Jones counties. She and her husband, Ricky, live in Hattiesburg and have a son, Dax, and daughter, Gabby. Graham’s paternal grandparents were Lebanese immigrants and settled in Laurel. She will explain how her family is related to the other Rahaims and Lebanese families in the Laurel area.

Margarett Dennis Boyd, who grew up in Ovett, will also speak on Saturday. She has lived in California and Louisiana, but she has always considered Jones County home. She returned to Jones County in 1994 and began working with the Laurel School District. She has also worked with Pearson Educational and Sanderson Farms. She is now trying to keep up with her energetic 87-year-old mother, Wanda Dennis, and her grandson, Logan. She is also working part-time at St. John’s Day School as the school’s guidance counselor.

For more information contact Laurel-Jones County Library Systems Genealogist Susan Blakeney at 601-428-4313, ext. 111.

Smith garden to be featured on Garden Club Tour



Pictured above is the garden of Dr. and Mrs. Stover Smith, one of the gardens which will be on the Garden Tour for The Garden Clubs of Mississippi State Convention in Laurel (April 17-18). The theme of the convention is “The New State of Jones.” Registration deadline is March 15. For more information, visit The Garden Clubs of Mississippi.org website and click on Convention Call. *Photo/submitted*



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Love Always,
Mom, Janice, Roby, Hylma, Georgia,
Gill, Jena, and the rest of the family

PB168

February 22

Southern Civitan will have their monthly meeting Thursday, February 22 from noon – 1:00 p.m. at The Laurel Country Club, 2011 Highway 84, Laurel. Guest speaker will be Mike Shirley, Mission At The Cross. Guests are welcome. FaceBook/Twitter/Instagram @SouthernCivitan www.civitan.org or 601-422-7575 for more information.

February 24

The Health Ministry of Springhill Missionary Baptist Church, 1403 Dubose Street, Ellisville, will be hosting our church's blood drive to be held Saturday, February 24 from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Please come out and donate blood – Be A Hero, Help Save Lives!! If you have any inquiries regarding this blood drive, please contact the church office at 601.477.8463.

DIY painting event for all ages benefiting TEAMM Autism will be held at The Craft Room, Sawmill Square Mall, on February 24 at 10:00 a.m. Disney Princess and Superhero character photo opportunity. The event will last through the

AREA HAPPENINGS

The Area Happenings section is a schedule of activities for non-profit groups only – such as schools, churches and other not-for-profit organizations or family events. You may send your events to: Admin@laurelimpact.com.

day with many group times and craft choices.

Are you in need of a miracle? Join us for our Day of Healing sponsored by Sandra Hancock Ministries on Saturday, February 24 from 10:30 am to 12:30 p.m. at “The Gathering Place,” 3227 Audubon Dr. in Laurel. For more information, call 1-800-579-7350 or see our webpage at www.sandrahancock.org.

The JCGHO will be hosting a meeting on Saturday, February 24. The meeting will be held at the Laurel-Jones County Library and will begin at 10 a.m. Guest speaker will be Frances Asmar Schwartz. Everyone is welcome to attend this meeting.

Christ Way Baptist Church, located on Hwy. 84 West of Laurel, will have a gospel sing February 24 starting at 7:00 p.m. The Magnolia Boys quartet of Laurel will be the featured group. Everyone is invited to attend.

There will be a benefit for Wayne Martin, recently diagnosed with kidney and lung cancer, at the Ag Complex in Raleigh on February 24 from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. There will be an auction of donated items, singing and entertainment. Chicken plates are \$6 each and include chicken, baked beans, potato salad, dessert and drinks. For more information contact Justin Middleton at 601-850-3165, Waylon Martin at 769-220-4346 or Danielle Hand at 601-382-0747. The Martin Family would like to thank you for all the love and support.

Brian Free & Assurance Gospel Music will be in concert at Trinity Baptist Church in Laurel on Feb. 24 at 6:00 p.m. A love offering will be received, and a nursery will be provided.

There will be a benefit fish fry and gospel sing to aid in the rising medical expenses of Samuel Atkinson on Saturday February 24 at the SMFWB youth camp, 1400 Pine Grove Road, Waynesboro. The fish fry will begin at 4:00 p.m. and the gospel concert begins at 6:00 p.m., featuring The Inspirations. This is an indoor event, but seating is limited; please bring a lawn chair. For more information call Vance Green at 601-408-0689.

Springhill MB Church, Ellisville, will host one of its two

yearly blood drives on Saturday, February 24. If you are interested, please contact the church office at 601-477-8463 for more information.

February 25

Pleasant Grove Moss M.B. Church invites everyone to their musician appreciation on February 25 at 2:00 p.m. Pleasant Grove Moss M.B. Church is located at 1466 CR 8 in Laurel (Moss Community).

Hills Chapel MB Church is celebrating 14 years of pastoral ministry with Pastor Kimble Windham & First Lady Lisa Windham on Sunday, February 25. Rev. Steve Edwards, pastor of Word of Faith, Montrose, will be the guest speaker at 11:00 a.m. Rev. Gary Moore, pastor of Greater Corinth MB Church, Newton will speak at 2:30 p.m.

February 26

The R.H. Watkins Class of 1978 will have a very important class meeting on Monday, February 26 at 6:00 p.m. This meeting will be held at the masonic building across from the old South MS State Hospital. Election of new class officers will be held at this meeting. Please bring a covered dish.

The Desk and Derrick Club of Laurel would like to remind the public of the 2018 scholarships that are available; the deadline to apply is February 26. If you are interested in applying for a Desk and Derrick Scholarship, please contact your school's counselor or the following Desk and Derrick members: Shannon Ramsey, 601-577-8669, or Tammy Cameron, 601-319-8510.

February 27

Tuesday, February 27 from 10:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Black History comes to life at the Laurel-Jones County Library with Laurel's first Black History Live Museum. Join us as we take a journey back in time to learn about some of the most fascinating and inspirational, yet little known, figures in black history. This event is free to the public. All children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult. The library requests that groups of 10 or more please call 601-428-4313 (ext. 106) to schedule your time slot. This event is presented by the Society of Thinkers in partnership with the Laurel-Jones County Library System. For more information check us out on Facebook or visit our website www.laurel.lib.ms.us.

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NEJ Gold Horizon Show Choir celebrates Grand Champion title

By Linda Cranford

Thirty-two members of the North East Jones High School Gold Horizon Show Choir converged on Buffalo Wild Wings Thursday night, February 15, to celebrate being named Grand Champions at the Purvis Show Choir Invitational competition the week before.

The show group is directed by Dr. Bill Myers, who has been teaching music at the high school for 15 years. According to Myers, this is the first Grand Champion title for the group in approximately 13 years.

“This is a hard working group,” said Myers. “And, we’ve got a great theme this year – Cleopatra. The kids love it. There was a lot of excitement in picking out the Egyptian style costumes and learning the choreography as well as choosing the music.” He and his daughter, Lydia, came up with the theme while traveling to New York last summer.

The group won first place in AA Mixed Group competition as well as being awarded Best Costumes, Best Effect, and Best Female Performer with senior captain Lauren Hankins. Their outstanding performance in the preliminaries earned them a spot in the finals. Gold Horizon was named Grand Champions after competing against five other top performing show choirs in the finals.

The members of Gold Horizon include Tori Ball, Lorianne Barnett, James Brazil, Carson Bryant, Mikah Byrd, Dalton Calhoun, Coriana Carmichael, Ebony Cole, Brittany Darbonne, Ty Evans, Lauren Hankins, Gabi Hodge, Breanna Holifield, Cassidy Holifield, Haleh Holifield, Jonah Holland, Lindsey James, J’oi Jones, Tashiera Jones, Alec McCormick, Keimauri McKenzie, Julia McNeil, Brandon Murray, Jade Peacock, Kambri Pippen, Tyler Rayner, Breyanna Satcher, Josarah Slover, Taylor Stevenson, Haylee Wait, Daygen Warren, and Donovan Williams.

In addition to the 32 member show choir, Myers said they have a 12-piece orchestra consisting primarily of music majors from USM that travels with them along with at least 12 parents that help backstage and two student technicians.

Myers said Show Choir competition season runs from January through March and the Purvis Invitational was the third competition of the season.

Saturday, February 17, Gold Horizons competed at the West Jones Show Choir Invitational, taking first place in the Middle Division and fourth runner up in the finals. The last weekend in February they will compete at the Petal Show Choir Invitational, and on March 15 they will travel to Orlando, Florida, to the Universal Heritage Fest Show Choir Competition, where they will compete with show choirs across the United States.

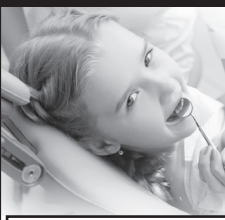
When asked how much longer he plans to teach and direct, Myers said, “I don’t know, I’m still having so much fun.”



NEJ Gold Horizon celebrated winning the title of Grand Champion at the Purvis Invitational at Buffalo Wild Wings.

Photo/Linda Cranford

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United Way of the Pine Belt Region celebrates successful campaign

By Linda Cranford

Thanks to the people of the Pine Belt Region who donated and the hard work of the United Way employees and volunteers, many organizations throughout the region will continue to meet the needs of the local communities.

During the United Way of the Pine Belt Region's annual meeting and awards luncheon, Lowell Howell, 2017 Regional Campaign Chairman, reported exceeding their goal for the 2017 "Get Your Game On" campaign by receiving \$668,619.01 in total donations.

"Because of your support and that you were willing to 'get your game on,' our campaign was successful this year," said Howell. Each year "The main reason we do what we do is so our partner agencies can provide the needed services in our community."

The United Way of the Pine Belt Region serves 17 partner-agencies in Covington, Jasper, Jones, Smith, and Wayne counties.

Certificates of Appreciation and awards were handed out to top organization and businesses for their contributions during the 2017 campaign.

Each year traveling trophies are presented to a school in the Laurel School District and one in the Jones County School District that exhibited a spirit of giving back to the community. "This is determined by calculating the percentage of increase in the amount of giving at each individual school," explained Howell. "This is the sixth time this award has been presented, and every year the schools get a little more competitive." Receiving the Spirit of Giving



United Way of the Pine Belt Region staff L-R, Nathan Rigdon-office clerk, Lauralee Bailey-senior office coordinator, and Barbara Johnson-executive director. Photos/Linda Cranford

trophy for the Laurel School District was Mason Elementary School and for the Jones County School District, West Jones Elementary School.

"It's been an honor and a privilege to serve as president of the Executive Committee," said outgoing president Ryan Griffin, "Because of the United Way and the people in this room so many of our friends and neighbors are better off today than they were before. I thank you for your continued support."

Danita Horne was elected to succeed Griffin as president of the Executive Committee for 2018 along with the following: Lowell Howell-Vice President, Bruce Lentz-Treasurer/Secretary, Tim Dudley-Building Maintenance Committee Chairman, Becky Collins-Communications Committee Chairman, Joan Young-Fund Distribution Committee Chairman, Dale Wood-Personnel Committee Chairman, and Ryan Griffin-Nominating Committee Chairman.

During her remarks as incoming president, Horne told her story of her relationship with the United Way for the past 20 years, admitting her reluctance to give when first introduced to the organization. "Everybody was expected, and practically shamed into giving their 'fair share,'" said Horne, describing her experience in Chattanooga, Tennessee. It wasn't until she moved to Laurel and learned of the local United



Eddie Henderson, right, accepted the Spirit of Giving trophy in the Jones County School District on behalf of West Jones President Ryan Griffin, left.



Angela D. Brown, left, accepted the Spirit of Giving trophy in the Laurel School District on behalf of Mason Elementary School from President Ryan Griffin, right.

Way organization's work and distribution ethics that she changed her mind about the United Way. "I realized quickly that the folks who volunteered and the office staff were people with great character and integrity who felt their job was a calling and a mission." Horne said she found her home serving as the Funds Distribution Chairman and has served in that position for 12 to 14 years. "I got to visit agencies, meet our great agency directors and volunteers and give them money. Why would I leave that?" But she said she knew the time was right for her to step in as president this year when Mitt Cole, who was vice president, had to resign.

Executive Director Barbara Johnson spoke expressed her gratitude for a successful campaign that almost wasn't. "It was a miracle," exclaimed Johnson. "Laura and I were so concerned about reaching the goal this year, that we were set not to. And one phone call changed it. One phone call and the money was there. There's going to be money for the 2018 year. So, thank you, God. I give him all the glory."

Johnson introduced her staff, which includes office clerk Nathan Rigdon, who was hired in that position last year, and senior office coordinator Lauralee Bailey. Johnson announced that Bailey will be retiring in June after 20 years with United Way and that she is planning on retiring at the end of the year.

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Mustangs fall to Long Beach in Class 5A South State title game

By James Pugh

The bid was denied Tuesday night by Long Beach. West Jones, who reached the MHSAA Class 5A South State Championship for the second straight year in boys soccer, was denied the opportunity to also appear in its second 5A title game in as many years.

Long Beach shut out West Jones 3-0 on the pitch Tuesday night in Soso.

West Jones head coach Josh Sullivan told his team to remember the seasons' accomplishments indeed of forcing on the night's defeat.

"We had high expectations coming into the season," said Sullivan. "I felt like our guys played great for most of the year. It's sad to tell them bye, but it just wasn't our night."

After finishing the regular season 13-7-1 and Region 5-5A champs for the first time since the 2012-2013 season, West Jones knocked off West Harrison, 2-1, in a thriller, and Forest Hill, 3-1, to appear in its second straight 5A South State Championship game.

Tuesday night's loss was marred by missed opportunities, including an early miss on a PK attempt by senior Luis Ramirez

in the first half.

Long Beach scored two goals in the second half to seal the 3-0 win over West Jones.

"You get in this kind of games where the ball takes a funny bounce, and crazy things happen," Sullivan said. "A crazy thing happened tonight. We get a PK opportunity, and a guy that has never missed one in his life hits the crossbar. Right then you felt like things were going against you."

Having to play this game less than 24 hours after our second-round game last night wasn't easy either. And we're not trying to make excuses, but its just hard and you hate it for the seniors. But what they've left behind will set a great foundation [for the future]. These guys were not just good soccer players; they were great young men."

High school soccer has long been dominated by the girls in Jones County over the past decade. Back-to-back appearances in the Class 5A South State Championship game for West Jones has raised the bar for boys soccer in Jones County.

"Our girl's program is still strong, and they're highly competitive," said Sullivan. "Now we can compete with that. When I and coach Winship decided we were going



Photo/James Pugh

to do this together, we wanted it to be a soccer family, not just seeing it as a girls and boys team separately. When it's not a family, you will see the girls leave after their game and not stay for the boys. When I first came that happened a few games here, but the girls started buying in [to the family mentality],

and now they stay for the boys game. Our guys appreciate that. In turn that makes our guys what to play harder and gives them motivation. We have come a long way [over the years]."

West Jones ends the season 15-8-1 overall.

Northeast Jones falls in North State Championship, 1-0

By James Pugh

Third time isn't always the charm.

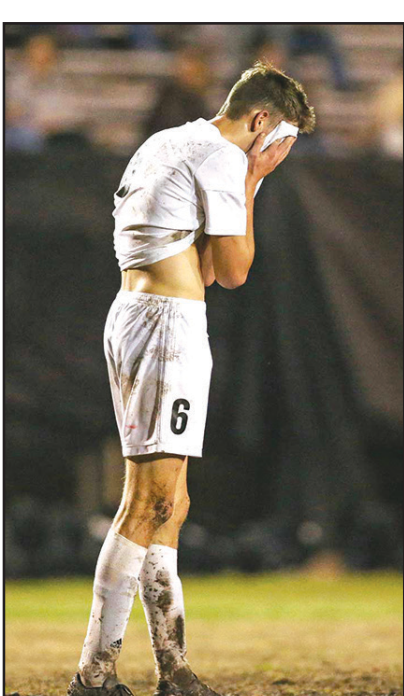
In its third semifinal round appearance in school history, Northeast Jones boys fell 1-0 to Amory Wednesday night in the MHSAA Class 4A North State Soccer Championship game.

"This wasn't a one-sided game," said Northeast Jones head coach Matt Reid. "There were opportunities back and forth both ways. Amory made good on one opportunity. I thought we had one of two better shots that them tonight in the first half, but we missed them by inches."

The lone goal was scored by Amory in the third minute of the match.

"I told our guys after the game that if we played this team 10 times in a season, it would be five and five," Reid said. "It just didn't go our way tonight."

Senior keeper Jonathan Blackledge worked overtime Wednesday night to keep the game within reach. Black-



Photo/James Pugh

ledge finished with seven saves, each seemingly more challenging than the one before.

Amory outshot Northeast Jones 7-3 in shots on goal.

Northeast Jones finishes the season 16-6-3 overall. Its 16-win season is the tied with the most ever by the program in school history.

"We can't remember our season based on one game," said Reid. "We came so far. Those kids competed their butts off. That locker room is full of competitors. I wish I had played on teams with competitors like Carlos Hernandez. It's just kids like that who time after time, who might not be the most athletic team on the field and may not be the most talented player on the field, competed and gave everything they had. Nobody can tell them that they didn't belong here."

Northeast Jones claimed the Region 5-4A title at the conclusion of the regular season. In the playoffs, the Tigers defeated Pontotoc, 1-0, in the first round, and New Hope, 2-1, to reach its third-ever semifinal appearance in boys soccer.

Baseball Eagles sweep MSU; Lady Dogs are SEC champs

By Dale McKee

USM swept Mississippi State in a three-game opening series of the 2018 college baseball season in Hattiesburg this past weekend. The Golden Eagles outscored the Bulldogs 23-6 over the weekend and never trailed at any point. MSU transfer Luke Reynolds stole the show going 6-for-10 with a home run, five RBI and six runs. Reynolds was not alone as he had help from Nick Sandlin, who pitched an opening day masterpiece. The Eagles, coming off a 50-win season in 2017, will travel to Starkville next February. MSU is on a 12-game road trip to open the season as Dudy Noble Stadium is having a \$40 million remodeling. Ole Miss opened their baseball season with a three-game sweep of Winthrop.

Lady Bulldogs win first SEC title

The Mississippi State Lady Bulldogs claimed their first ever SEC regular season championship with a big win over Texas A&M this past Sunday. State is now 14-0 in SEC games and 28-0 overall. MSU is ranked No. 2 in the nation.

Andy Kennedy steps down

The big news out of Oxford was the sudden immediate resignation of Ole Miss basketball coach Andy Kennedy. Assistant coach Tony Madlock will finish the season as head coach. The Rebels have only four games left in the regular season and the SEC tournament. The Rebels (11-16, 4-10) lost to Mississippi State Saturday night for only the second time in their last ten meetings. Kennedy coached 401 games at Ole Miss and won 245 of those games. He led the Rebels to eight straight 20-win seasons before this year's results. This year's team has lost nine of

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Jones County +/- 34 Acres. Within walking distance of West Jones Elementary School, this site is waiting to be properly developed. Just south of Highway 84, the property has road frontage on Dogwood Hills Lane, Cactus Drive and Holly Road. With these multiple access points, this tract has excellent potential for development either as an estate or subdivided into several home sites. It is serviced by a community water association and Dixie Electric Power. The property features a gorgeous mix of pines and hardwoods. Located in the county less than five minutes from Laurel and the Sportsplex, this it offers great country living with the conveniences of city life. Priced at \$115,000, this property won't last long. Call Bennett at 601-913-0340 at Walley Properties, LLC. or visit walleyproperties.com for more information.

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Lamar County +/- 40 Acres. Near Lumberton on Lake Hillsdale Road, this property features old pasture land with fences, a mix of pines and hardwoods, small ponds, an old house and a pole barn. It's the perfect spot for anyone looking to build a home or possibly remodel the old home currently on site. Once used as a cattle farm/mini farm, this property could be restored with a little work. Wildlife is abundant in the area providing great hunting opportunities. Priced to sell at \$85,000. Call Bennett at 601-913-0340 at Walley Properties LLC. or visit walleyproperties.com for maps and info.

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No credit check program available now on new or used single's. Call Tiny, 601-307-2114, 601-261-6005.

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Cute Starter Home, 28x56, 3 bed/2 bth Double Wide, vinyl siding, shingle roof, ready to live in. Price \$20,500 as is, call 601-520-0710 or TB Sales @ Facebook.

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New, used, repo and land home packages. We have anything to meet your mobile home needs. Call Tiny, 601-307-2114, 601-261-6005.

Fixer uppers, starting as low as \$1,000. New, used, bank repos, and land home packages. Financing available, guaranteed approval. Call Tony Purvis, 601-543-9022, 601-261-6005.

Plenty of room! 5 bed, 3 bath double wide. Lots of space for all your loved ones. New carpet and linoleum. Vinyl siding and shingle roof. Zone 2! Won't last long. Price \$35,500 as is, call 601 520 0710 or TB Sales @ Facebook.

Mobile homes for sale. 5BR/3BA., used double wide. Fully remodeled, setup and delivery included. \$44,500. Call Blake, 601-319-1316, 601-261-6005.

Single wides, starting at \$400 a month, double wides \$600 a month. Call Tiny, 601-307-2114, 601-261-6005.

Tired of Renting? Own your own home today. 1 bedroom to 6 bedrooms. Financing available for everyone. Call Blake, 601-319-1316, 601-261-6005.

Handyman Special. 2 to choose from. \$2,500. Call Tiny 601-307-2114, 601-261-6005.

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Fema houses. 1, 2, 3 bedrooms available now. Call Tony Purvis, 601-543-9022, 601-261-6005.

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2005 model, 14X70, 3br/1ba., Zone 3, 2x6 interior walls. Setup and delivered, linoleum throughout, \$17,000. Call Tony Purvis, 601-543-9022, 601-261-6005. Financing available.

Used Houses. Singlewides and doublewides. 3, 4, 5 and 6 bedrooms. Will deliver and setup. Call Tony Purvis, 601-543-9022, 601-261-6005.

I guarantee you a home with \$8,000 down and payments of \$575/month for only 13 years. I don't care if you are in a bankruptcy, you are automatically approved when you put \$8,000 down on a Brand new single wide mobile home. Call Tiny, 601-307-2114, 601-261-6005.

2014 model, 16X80, 3br/2ba., Zone 1, setup and delivered, skirting, A/C, appliances, only \$29,900. Call Tony Purvis, 601-543-9022, 601-261-6005. Financing available.

2017 Doublewide, 5 bedrooms, 3 bath, central A/C, skirting, delivery, setup, and tie down included. Call Tony Purvis, 601-543-9022, 601-261-6005.

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Won't last long. 2BR/2BA., 2001 Horton, 16x72. Woodgrain in kitchen, w/ceramic tile counters and flooring, large master bath with garden tub and sep. shower. \$16,500 as is. 601-520-0710 or TB Sales @ Facebook.

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12x60 mobile home on 3/4 acre of land, fully bricked up, concrete porch, full length awning, private drive, appraised \$35k, asking \$25k, partially furnished, Sharon Community. Call 601-649-5385 after 12 noon.

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2017 5BR/3BA, central A/C, skirting, delivery, set up and tie down, only \$69,900. Call Tiny 601-307-2114, 601-261-6005.

Lenders offering Zero Down with Land on Mobile Homes. Call Robbie 601-674-2643 or John 601-726-9215.

Foreclosurers, repos, used, land home packages, and new mobile homes. Call Blake today for details. 601-319-1316, 601-261-6005.

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Slade Channel Catfish Fingerlings, Bass, Bream, Grass Carp, KOI fathead-tuffy Minnows, Electrofishing, etc. Free water analysis. State licensed. Randall Slade 601-796-2000 www.sladesfish.com

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Sandersville Auction, 205 North Front Street. Auction every Tuesday and Saturday, 6:30 p.m. New and used merchandise. No buyers premium. Gene Reimert, MAL #1289. For more info 601-580-0368.

GARAGE SALES

3 Family Yard Sale. Saturday, February 24 at 8:00 a.m., 203 East Magnolia, Ellisville, MS. Rain cancels.

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2017 Nissan Altima. \$24,590. For more info text 5X4D to 27414 or call Morris Hilton at 601-319-0447.

1997 Jeep Cherokee Country, Red, 4 door, automatic, new A/C, brakes, new tires, shocks, new radiator & fans. Completely serviced & much more. My mechanic will verify all work. 280,000 highway miles, lots of power, great stereo. \$3650. 601-520-5918. I can text photos.

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toll free number 855-242-0775. See more at Cars601.com

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2014 Nissan Murano. \$18,900. For more info text 2BXD to 27414 or call Morris Hilton at 601-319-0447.

2008 GMC Yukon xl. \$16,900 at Ellisville Motors. Call 844-737-5629. See more at Cars601.com.

2011 Toyota 4Runner. \$15,995 at Hattiesburg Cars. Call our Local toll free number 855-242-0775. See more at Cars601.com

2011 Toyota 4Runner. \$18,900. For more info text 6XXK to 27414 or call Morris Hilton at 601-319-0447.

2016 Ford Escape. \$15,888 at Hattiesburg Cars. Call our Local toll free

number 855-242-0775. See more at Cars601.com

2015 Nissan Rogue Select. \$14,900. For more info text 9C9T to 27414 or call Morris Hilton at 601-319-0447.

2005 Cadillac Escalade ESV. \$9,350 at Ellisville Motors. Call 844-737-5629. See more at Cars601.com.

AUTOS - TRUCKS

2010 Toyota Tundra. \$15,995 at Hattiesburg Cars. Call our Local toll free number 855-242-0775. See more at Cars601.com

94 Chevrolet. 2 ton with top loader. Top loader in excellent shape, truck needs minor work. Both for \$10,000. 601-550-2502, 601-470-6169, 601-583-6310.

2006 Chevrolet Silverado 1500. \$12,900 at Ellisville Motors. Call 844-

737-5629. See more at Cars601.com.

2008 Chevrolet Avalanche. \$15,900 at Ellisville Motors. Call 844-737-5629. See more at Cars601.com.

2018 Nissan Frontier. \$25,235. For more info text 65W0 to 27414 or call Morris Hilton at 601-319-0447.

2011 Chevrolet Silverado 1500. \$16,995 at Hattiesburg Cars. Call our

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2006 GMC Sierra 3500. \$20,900 at Ellisville Motors. Call 844-737-5629. See more at Cars601.com.

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MCKEE, continued from page 8

their last ten games, beating only Alabama at home during that span. The Louisville native turned the Rebels’ program around as he posted 11 consecutive winning seasons after taking over a program that was coming off four straight losing seasons. The Rebels won the 2013 SEC tournament championship.

Booker wins 3-point contest

Moss Point native Devin Booker won the Three-Point Contest over the weekend at the NBA All-Star weekend at the Staples Center in Los Angeles. Booker is now with the Phoenix Suns and is the youngest (21) NBA player ever to score 60 points in the league’s history. This season Booker had a 70-point game.

Saints face tough 2018 schedule

The Green Bay Packers’ 2018 NFL regular season schedule is rated the toughest. The Saints will have the second toughest based on the 2017 records of their 2018 opponents. Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Minnesota and the L.A. Rams are on the Saints’ 2018 schedule, along with NFC South foes Atlanta and Carolina twice each.

Kudos to Bubba Watson

One of my favorite pro golfers made history this weekend as Bubba Watson won his third Genesis Open. He joins Ben Hogan and Arnold Palmer as the only three-time winners at the Riviera Country Club in Pacific Palisades, California.

Car #3 wins Daytona

Austin Dillon won the 60th running of the Daytona 500 on the final lap in over-time Sunday. Dillon drove the #3 car made famous by Dale Earnhardt. His win came on the 17th anniversary of the death of Earnhardt, who died on the final lap of the 2001 race. Peyton Manning was the guest

pace car driver at this year’s 500.

Headlines from the Past

February 22, 1988

Shubuta’s Kelly McCarthy scored 20 points as USM (19-8) whipped Tulane, 88-60.

February 23, 1998

Murriel Page of Bay Springs scored 25 points as her Florida Gators won, 74-68, over the Mississippi State Lady Bulldogs.

February 24, 2008

Billy Hamilton scored 29 points as Taylorsville won South State, 96-93, over Hinds AHS.

February 25, 1958

Mississippi State was ranked 16th in the college basketball poll. Kansas State was number one with West Virginia second. Kentucky of the SEC was 12th with Auburn 20th.

February 26, 1988

Tony Heidelberg scored 22 points as Delta State whipped Arkansas Pine Bluff.

February 27, 1958

Mickey Mantle became the third highest paid baseball player of all time signing a \$72,000 contract with the New York Yankees. Only Joe DiMaggio’s \$90,000 and Babe Ruth’s \$80,000 contracts were higher.

February 28, 1978

Laurel’s Billy Howard, known as “Iron Man” by his teammates, was elected to be inducted into the Mississippi State Sports HoF in the spring. Howard played football and basketball and ran track from 1944-46.


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- ADJUST CAMBER ANGLE
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U9149Y	2002 Ford Windstar Wagon	\$5,465	U6539	2014 Ford F-150	\$20,965	U4020X	2015 Ford F-150	\$33,997
U5385X	2007 Chevrolet TrailBlazer	\$5,990	U9366	2011 Chevrolet Tahoe	\$20,977	UA0936	2017 Ford Explorer	\$34,877
U3885	2004 Ford Expedition	\$6,990	F7823	2015 Ford Mustang	\$20,990	U3521	2015 Toyota 4Runner	\$34,965
U8034Y	1997 Ford F-350	\$7,465	U4823X	2014 Ford Expedition EL	\$20,990	R8722	2015 Ford F-150	\$34,977
U5901	2006 Ford Econoline Commercial	\$7,965	U8296	2013 Ford Explorer	\$20,990	U1672	2014 Ford F-150	\$37,977
U3077	2011 Ford F-150	\$11,990	F4637	2016 Ford Escape	\$21,779	F4085	2016 Lincoln MKX	\$38,888
UA1820	2016 Nissan Altima	\$14,887	U7411	2014 Ford F-150	\$21,965	F7564	2017 Ford Transit Wagon	\$38,990
UA6003	2016 Nissan Altima	\$14,887	U2414	2014 Ford Explorer	\$24,990	F9474	2017 Ford Expedition	\$38,990
U2118	2015 Ford Fusion	\$14,965	F3827	2014 Ford Edge	\$24,997	F9900	2017 Ford Transit Wagon	\$38,990
R2865	2015 Ford Fusion	\$14,977	UA1219	2016 Ford F-150	\$28,888	F9905	2017 Ford Transit Wagon	\$38,990
UA2510	2016 Ford Fusion	\$16,590	F1211	2016 Ford Transit Cargo Van	\$28,990	U1966	2018 Ford Mustang	\$38,995
U0706X	2014 Ford Edge	\$16,779	F2142	2016 Lincoln MKZ	\$28,990	F3095	2017 Ford Transit Wagon	\$39,990
R9719	2016 Ford Fusion	\$16,898	UC7608	2008 Ford Super Duty F-250 SRW	\$31,245	F7530	2017 Ford Transit Wagon	\$39,990
R0267	2017 Ford Fusion	\$16,977	UA2749	2015 Ford F-150	\$31,559	U7458	2016 Ford Expedition	\$39,990
UC0000	2014 Honda CR-V	\$17,990	F2328	2017 Ford Transit Wagon	\$32,555	U1559X	2015 Lincoln Navigator	\$39,999
R2995	2016 Ford Escape	\$18,888	F3536	2017 Ford Transit Wagon	\$32,555	F3203X	2016 Lincoln MKX	\$40,885
R4668	2016 Ford Escape	\$18,888	F3543	2017 Ford Transit Wagon	\$32,555	F8546	2017 Lincoln MKX	\$42,887
R4590	2017 Ford Escape	\$18,889	F7628	2017 Ford Transit Wagon	\$32,555	U5063Y	2015 Lincoln Navigator	\$47,777
F7512	2016 Ford Focus	\$18,990	U3415X	2014 Ford F-150	\$32,990	F4579	2016 Lincoln Navigator	\$48,988
U3155X	2013 Ford F-150	\$18,997	U7912	2014 Ford F-150	\$32,990	UC4435	2017 Ford Expedition EL	\$49,995
U2655X	2012 Ford F-150	\$19,965	UA0802	2013 Chevrolet Tahoe	\$32,990	UC2515	2016 Ford F-150	\$57,647
UA9878	2015 Ford Escape	\$19,977	U4020	2015 Ford F-150	\$33,965	U1411	2016 Chevrolet Silverado 3500HD	\$59,965
U9945Y	2016 Honda Civic Sedan	\$19,989	UA8845	2017 Ford Explorer	\$33,990			

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