

Community Showcase

The Gift of Warmth for GES 2nd Graders

Happy New Year!

As we kick off the spring semester at Grenada School District, the administration is developing several exciting projects for the new year. We're optimistic about 2022, and after a difficult couple of pandemic years, a healthy dose of optimism feels well-earned.

One idea that has been reinforced by our experiences over the past two years is the integral partnership between school and community. Our students benefit not only from the expertise and experience of community members, but also their encouragement and generosity.

Before the semester break in December, I participated in Grenada Elementary 4-5's Home for the Holidays Literacy Night. It was one of the most remarkable events we've ever put on at Grenada School District. The event showcased the benefits of bringing students, parents, and community members together.

Green Top Principal Carol Tharpe hosted the event, in which fourth and fifth grade students, along with their parents, were invited to attend a holiday tour of decorated classrooms. In each room, participants were treated to a Christmas reading, performed by members of the community.

Readers ranged from our sheriff, Rolando Fair, to local artist Robin Whitfield, to Jesus Martinez, co-manager of local restaurant No Way Jose. Even I had an opportunity to read *The Cajun Night Before Christmas*, a story that brought back holiday memories of my childhood in Louisiana.

The reading tour was designed to illustrate the variety of literary genres and to foster a tradition of reading, especially as a communal activity. What made this event magical — aside from the stories, the creative decorations, and the Christmas spirit — was how the community came together and showcased its own diversity.

Principal Tharpe, Pam Briscoe, and Kacey Lott led the team of Green Top staff members who were overjoyed by the enthusiastic response to the event. The social media reaction was overwhelmingly positive, and many local businesses asked to be a part of next year's event.

Mrs. Tharpe assured me that the event was an academic success as well. The kids were impacted by hearing community members express what reading meant to them and how it had positively affected their lives. Suddenly, books and reading don't seem like just school work. They are part of what enhances our ideas of the world and community.

When we come together — whether to tell stories, share ideas, or help solve problems — our community grows stronger, and our lives are enriched. I hope we can bring that spirit of partnership and community into the new year.



Second-grade students at GES PreK-3 were recently treated to new winter coats, courtesy of the non-profit Operation Warm and Molina Healthcare in Jackson. (Pic left, l to r) Serenity Griffin, Aleaha Whitten, and Shatoniayah Hayes were among more than 260 students who were able to choose their own coats. (Pic right, l to r) Addison Vanburen and Amare Brown try on their new gift with GES Assistant Principal Dr. Reginald Herrington.

By *Jamie Kornegay*
GSD Reporter

The Farmer's Almanac has forecast colder-than-normal temperatures the next few months in Mississippi, and our typical wet winters lend themselves to bone-chilling days. But second graders at Grenada Elementary School PreK-3 won't have to worry as much about the cold this year after receiving free coats from Operation Warm and Molina Healthcare.

GES counselor Melanie Harlow said she was contacted by a representative from Operation Warm, a national non-profit that makes high-quality coats and shoes for children in need. They learned of a need for coats in the Grenada community and offered to coordinate a distribution event prior to the holiday break.

The coat distribution in December was sponsored by Molina Healthcare, a health insurance provider from Jackson. Representatives from Molina arrived with around 300 coats, providing one for every second grader at GES.

Miranda Clark, who conducts community engagement in north Mississippi for Molina, said Grenada was an ideal community for the project. "The temperature here can get cold, and we see a lot of kids don't have coats that they need," said Clark. "I wanted to do something more meaningful than giving out food or household items."

Clark complemented Harlow and GES for coordinating with parents to get coat sizes for each student. The distribution event ran smoothly with students coming into the gymnasium by class and then directed to various tables according to coat size.

Harlow commended Molina for their generosity, which extends beyond Grenada. "Molina is a valuable asset to the state," she said. "They've taken parents of students with rare diseases and helped with travel and medical expenses. I think they're a great corporate partner for our school."

Harlow believed the success of the



Photos by *Jamie Kornegay*

Brailynn Diggs and Olivia Adams

recent project would open the door for other opportunities down the road, including Operation Soles, which provides shoes for children.

See "Warmth"
Continued on page 8

Renewed Interest in Chess

(Photo right)

The newly re-established Chess Club at Grenada High School meets on Monday afternoons in the communications office at the Grenada Armory. Jaylan Burl (left) and Camden Beamon (right) team up for a two-player team match.



Photo by *Jamie Kornegay*

AmeriCorps Recognizes Member of Excellence

By Gwen Woodson
AmeriCorps Director

Maron'Ta Coffee joined AmeriCorps to shape the future of others while developing her own. She has done just that by serving as Team Leader, mentor, tutor, and helping with Pre-K. The Grenada School District AmeriCorps program focuses on tutoring Grenada School District K-8 students in math and reading.

"I have been truly impacted by my students and have enjoyed the relationships I have cultivated with them," Coffee said. "They went from being ashamed of being in tutoring to embracing it. They are so happy with their growth, and I am honored to have made that impact on them. The expectations I have for my students are also applied to myself as well."

Prior to joining AmeriCorps, Coffee worked in the hotel industry as a front desk agent. She attends Pleasant Grove #2 M.B. Church in Goodman, Mississippi. She is a graduate from Durant High School and obtained her bachelor's degree from the University of Mississippi, where she majored in sports & recreation administration with a minor in sociology. While at the University of Mississippi, Coffee served Lafayette County by helping with the Special Olympics, Rebel Man Triathlon, and the Ten Step Programming Project with the Leapfrog Program of Oxford Public School and Lafayette County School. Coffee also interned at the Tupelo Convention and Visitors Bureau.

"AmeriCorps has encouraged me to be proactive and to devise new ideas and concepts," Coffee said. "I also strive to remain positive in any situation, be a great listener, speak up, go the extra mile, and most importantly, lead with grace."

In her role as an AmeriCorps Team Leader, Coffee has learned to communicate better with others, be a positive mentor, and adapt to an ever-changing environment.

"People will be surprised to know that I have a twin brother," she said. "My hobbies include doing make-up and hanging out with family and friends. My motto is, 'Trust YOUR Process.'" Coffee added, "Oftentimes, we compare our lives with others, and it just might not be our season. You have to let go and



have faith that things will work out on their own timing."

Maron'Ta Coffee is a hidden gem. I don't think I have ever met anyone with so much drive and determination to succeed. She knows what she wants, and she works hard to get it. She is also an outstanding team leader who knows how to lead by example. I believe she will be a great fit for any organization.

"AmeriCorps is a great program," Coffee said. "We strive to provide the best help for the students in the Grenada School District. My advice to a future AmeriCorps member is, don't lose focus on the goals or plans that you have."

In exchange for a year of service, AmeriCorps members earn an education award of \$6,345 that can be used to pay for college or to pay back qualified student loans. Coffee plans to use her Education Award to go back to school next year.

AmeriCorps is administered by the Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service and the Corporation for National and Community Service. It is part of a White House initiative to foster a culture of citizenship, service, responsibility, and help all Americans answer the Call to Service.

For more information about the Grenada School District AmeriCorps Program, contact program director, Gwen Woodson, at gwoodson@grenadak12.com. For more information about AmeriCorps, visit www.americorps.gov.

Type 2 Diabetes? Smoking Causes That!

The more cigarettes you smoke, the higher your risk for developing type 2 diabetes. According to the most recent data from the Mississippi State Department of Health, in 2016, Mississippi ranked first in the nation for overall diabetes prevalence, with an estimated 308,295 adult Mississippians living with diabetes (over 13.6% of the adult population). Diabetes accounted for 1,083 deaths in Mississippi in 2016.

According to the office of Tobacco Control at The Mississippi State Department of Health 23.0% of all adults in Mississippi reported current cigarette use.

Bill B. had diabetes. He quit smoking the day his leg was amputated. "Having diabetes and being a smoker—my doctors always warned me about the bad things that could happen. Did I listen? No!"

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) say those who smoke cigarettes are 30%-40% likely to develop type 2 diabetes compared to nonsmokers. If you have diabetes and you smoke, you will have a higher risk managing your insulin dosing.

"Quitting smoking provides health and protection to you, no matter when you quit," said Sue Mashburne Director of the Mississippi Tobacco-Free Coalition of Grenada, Yalobusha, and Calhoun, counties. "These benefits are more important now than ever."

For information about the dangers of cigarettes visit www.healthymys.com/tobacco For help with quitting visit www.quitlinems.com, or call the Mississippi Tobacco Quitline at 1-800-QUIT-NOW.

www.landmarkgrenada.com
662-226-4454

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GCTC Tours

Northwest Community College



The Grenada Career and Technical Center's advanced auto, carpentry, and welding classes toured Northwest Community College last November. (l to r) Bryce Lee, Damon Dulin, and Anthony Franklin were among the students who visited the dorms as well as such academic programs as John Deere/Agricultural Technology, HVAC, welding, automotive, and industrial maintenance. Recruiters fed the students in the cafeteria and led them on a tour of the Ranger Outdoor Complex, known as "The ROC."

GSD Parent Resource Center

423 S. LINE STREET • 662-227-3370
ADULT EDUCATION CENTER/ ROOM 10

HOURS: Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 11:30 and 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Friday: 8:00a.m. - 12:00p.m.

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for school related items

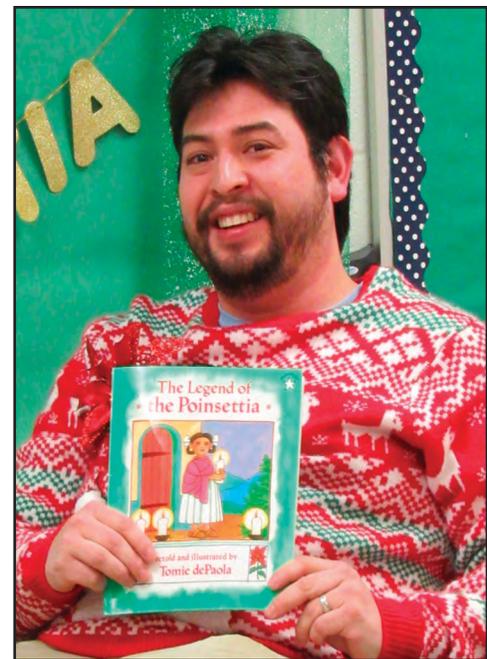
Free ACT Practice test

Free financial literacy help

Free FAFSA application and help

Free printing for school related items

GES 4-5 Holds First Christmas Literacy Event .. More to Come



GES 4-5 hosted its first Home for the Holidays literacy event in December. (Photo left, l to r) Administrative Academic Officer Lyle Williams and GES 4-5 Principal Carol Tharpe welcome Santa Claus to the Green Top. (Photos middle and right) Students were treated to Christmas readings by community members, who expressed how much books meant to them. (Left) GSD Superintendent Dr. David Daigneault read *The Cajun Night Before Christmas*, and (right) Jesus Martinez, co-manager of local restaurant No Way Jose, read *The Legend of the Poinsettia*.

By Jamie Kornegay
GSD Reporter

Grenada Elementary 4-5 hosted its first seasonal literacy event, Home for the Holidays, on Dec. 2. Administrators said the evening was such a success, they are planning a similar event this winter.

The Christmas-themed literacy night was designed as a creative way to expose students to reading different genres of literature — from folklore and fantasy to non-fiction and poetry.

GES 4-5 Principal Carol Tharpe said the mission was to enhance classroom objectives with a memorable, holiday-themed experience. “We’re just trying to look at what we do here in a very fun way,” said Tharpe. “And the kids also got to meet and see the leaders in our community in a different way.”

The event was limited to the first 80 students to register, and each child invited two adult family members. Students and their guests toured classrooms and heard community volunteers reading from a curated selection of Christmas read-aloud books. Each classroom was decorated to match the theme and genre of the book.

After the reading tour, the participants met for refreshments in the library. Before departing, students received a special gift — hardback copies of the books they heard read aloud.

Tharpe said she has been thinking about this event for many years, and the outcome exceeded all hopes. “I’ve



Taylor Hamilton

been in education for 33 years and never been associated with an event that came together so amazingly,” Tharpe said. “If you could’ve seen the kids’ faces. And the adults were just as mesmerized.”

Pam Briscoe, ELA specialist at the Green Top, agreed. “It was a highlight of my professional career,” said Briscoe. “It was emotional to hear some of our volunteers talk about what reading meant to them and how it impacts their everyday life.”

“We spend so much time teaching them to take apart reading passages and how to remember what they’ve read,” said Tharpe. “We also want children to experience the pure joy of reading a very good book and being transported through reading.”

Tharpe said she hoped to match the



Jonah Clark

success of Home for the Holidays with a special math-themed event, Math Carnival Night, which the Green Top will host on February 28.

Like the holiday event, students will tour classrooms to play interactive math games, which can earn prize tickets. When they complete their tour, they may take their tickets to a carnival in the gym, where they’ll play games and win prizes in booths sponsored by local businesses.

“Sometimes students don’t understand how math is going to benefit them in the real world,” said Tharpe. “This is a great way to show them how it’s real in a very fun way.”

To register 4th and 5th grade students for Math Carnival Night, parents may call the school (662-226-2818) or contact their child’s math teacher to register. The



RaNiyah Wiggins

event is free, but space is limited.

Tharpe said that help from the community and local businesses helped make Home for the Holidays a great success. After the success of that event, businesses have reached out to help with Math Carnival Night.

In addition to the many volunteering teachers that made Home for the Holidays a success, the Green Top wishes to extend its thanks to local businesses and organizations who helped sponsor the event, including UMMC, Grenada Nissan, The Touchdown Club, Friends of Chakchiuma Swamp, Grenada Junior Auxiliary, Elizabeth Jones Library, Farm Bureau, Pap’s, the Grenada Rotary Club, GHS National Honor Society, Jan Walton, Lois Gaskin, and Debbie Rouse.



GES 4-5 Math Carnival Night

February 28, 2022 • 5:30 - 7:00

Register online or call 662-226-2818 or contact student’s math teacher

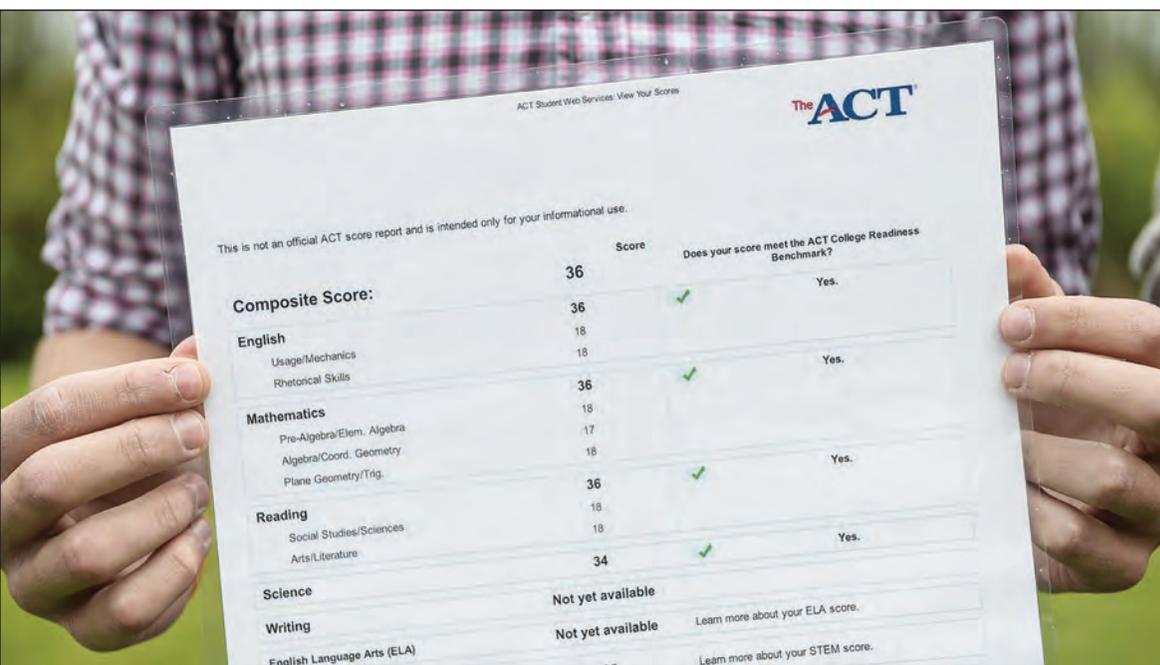
Child Care provided for Pre-K - 3rd Grade

Limited space available!



Registration QR Code

Use the ACT to Pay for College



The Basics

First off, a perfect score on the ACT is 36. It's rare and extremely difficult to earn that on the first try. The average score is 21. Normally, it costs around \$50 to take the test (except that one time during junior year). But what's \$50 — or \$250 if you take it 6 times — when you could earn back thousands?

Establish a goal

What are you trying to achieve? Certification from a two-year college? A four-year

degree? A score of 20 will start earning serious money toward junior college tuition, but you'll have to earn closer to 30 to start earning significant money toward four-year universities. Determine how much help you'll need paying for college, and then you'll have an idea what score you'll need to get there.

Identify Your Weaknesses and Attack

After taking the test and receiving your scores, you'll have a much better idea where you need to work harder. If you made a bad score on math, work with your math teacher to understand why you missed those questions. If your reading score sunk you overall, focus your attention there. Don't let your weaknesses take money from you. With enough discipline and determination,

you can study and raise your score significantly. GHS counselors can give you a booklet with a complete practice test, including answers. You'll also find many practice tests online.

Timing is Everything

Prepare to battle the clock when you take the ACT. On certain sections, you may have an average of 30 seconds per question. Stay focused and don't labor too long over the tough ones. Circle back around, answering the ones you know first. Work practice tests to help you train for this race. Be prepared to beat your own time-wasting habits like taking too long to fill in the answer circles. It's also a long test, so practice is the best strategy for building your endurance.

Build on Your Success, However Minimal

If you took the ACT late and scored around 18, don't despair. With extra study, you can try again and earn a 20, which qualifies for full tuition at Holmes Community College. Many students buckle down once they get to college. Keep up your grades, and you may qualify for Phi Theta Kappa membership, which will earn greater scholarships if you decide to transfer to a four-year college.

Visit with your counselor to help you understand your options and formulate a sound strategy for tackling one of the biggest hurdles of college — paying for it.

The hard truth of higher education is this — tuition isn't getting cheaper. Neither is food, rent, gas, and other living expenses.

But there's good news too. You can ease the burden on yourself and your family when it comes time for college by putting in a little extra effort now that could set you up for a better education and more job opportunities down the road.

A high score on the ACT exam can earn thousands of dollars toward your annual college tuition. A 4.0 GPA looks impressive on your college admissions application, but it won't earn you money like a great ACT score.

GHS encourages students to start looking seriously at the exam during their sophomore year. Ambitious students take the exam many times, and all juniors take it at no charge on February 20.

Why is the ACT so important?

It's difficult to judge a student by GPA alone. A 3.5 GPA at Grenada is different from a 3.5 at another high school. Criteria such as course variety, difficulty, and enrollment all factor into the equation. Your ACT performance is measured on a level playing field with students who are taking the exact same test all across the country.

GHS administrators have seen the difference a high ACT score can make in paying for college. That's why they offer a prep course that will help students develop the skills needed to raise their scores. The key is practice and familiarity. If you understand what you're trying to achieve, you'll have better results.

ACT prep books and websites can give you very specific strategies for taking the test, but generally, here are some things to keep in mind:

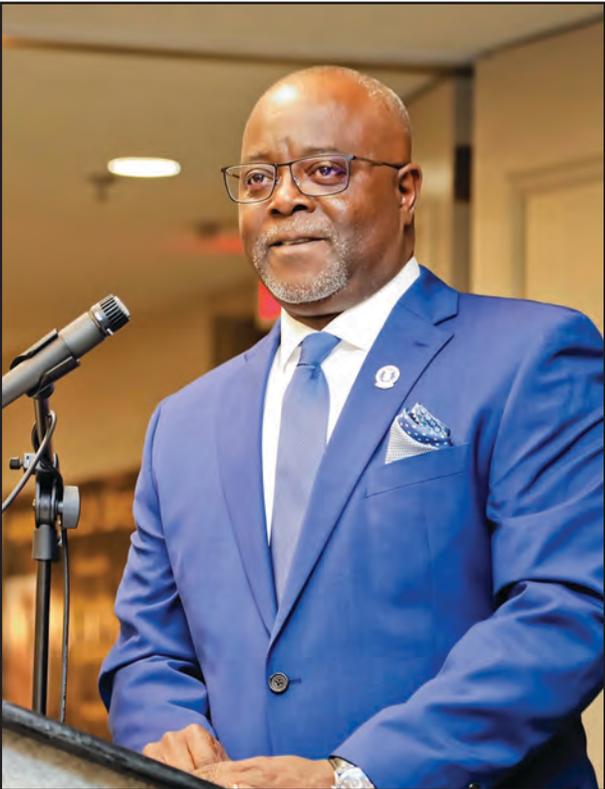
GHS JV Girls Basketball



Photo by Jamie Kornegay

(front, l to r) Tracey Hurd, Saniyah Boyd, Elyse Dorris, (back, l to r) Caitlyn Avery, Caitlin Berry, Coach Centeria Lott, Layla Escobedo, and Kalsey Jefferson

Alumni Frank Crowder, Class of 1987



By Jamie Kornegay
GSD Reporter

Frank Crowder, GHS Class of 1987, recalls growing up in Eastern Heights, a neighborhood north of Grenada, out Old Hwy. 7 toward the airport. “We were embedded in a neighborhood full of parents who looked out for all the kids,” Crowder recalled. “I keep going back to that expression: It takes a village.”

Growing up in a nurturing community meant so much to Crowder that — after he joined the military, traveled the world, and earned the highest enlisted rank in the Air Force — he came back and

bought a piece of local history, making a second home in Grenada.

Some of Crowder’s fondest memories came from his time at Grenada High School. He and his classmates, several of whom he stays in touch with, have likened their education to a prep school upbringing. “That education I got in the ’80s was phenomenal,” Crowder said. “I was truly prepared when I left.”

He cited three teachers from that era who made a lasting impact on his life:

- Mrs. Leverette, his eleventh-grade English teacher, truly loved English and literature. “It oozed from her,” Crowder said. “You can’t fake that. I wanted to write with that same zeal and zest.”

- Major Heard, his social studies teacher, gave him a lifelong love of history. “He made you dig deep and look at what’s beyond the page.”

- Jack Holliday, his football coach, led them to a winning season. “Coach was the first person who talked about Frank Crowder being a leader. I never knew that until he actually told me.”

Crowder excelled academically at GHS and was even offered a full scholarship to Rhodes College in Memphis. But

he already knew what he wanted to do with his life. He’d always been drawn to law enforcement and admired his uncle, who was stationed at the Air Force base down the road in Columbus.

“Because of what Coach Holliday told me, I knew I was a leader,” Crowder said. “Academically, the Air Force was more competitive, so that’s where I wanted to go. I already knew my career path would take me to the Air Force. I knew I was a lifer.”

Frank enlisted early, his junior year, and set out for training right after graduation. By the end of that year, he’d graduated from the military police academy at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. It was the start of a prolific 22-year career in the Air Force, which saw him quickly climb the chain of command.

Within ten years of enlisting, Crowder became the ranking law enforcement superintendent at Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque, New Mexico, with 300 troops under his command.

The mission, each step of the way, was protecting critical resources like airplanes and weapons systems, both nuclear and conventional. “We were protecting our nation’s most critical assets from theft,” he said. “Both from our enemies and sometimes even our friends.”

In the late 1990s, around the time of the Soviet Union’s fall, Crowder received a special duty assignment that led him to sites around the world. “The Soviet Union’s collapse left a mess, and the U.S. had to help clean it up,” he said. “We worked with former Soviet republics to help secure nuclear material before it fell

into the wrong hands.”

Crowder ultimately made it back where he started, to the Air Force Security Forces Center in San Antonio. He served as superintendent of one of the advanced training schools where he’d first entered the police academy. “It was the center of gravity for all things police in the Air Force,” he said.

During the War on Terror, Crowder was promoted to the main headquarters, where he worked in rapid technology development. “It became apparent that our soldiers in Iraq were vulnerable to improvised explosive devices in the field,” Crowder said. “It was our job to quickly develop new body armor to support those troops ahead of the normal supply schedule.”

By the time Crowder retired in 2009, he’d advanced to the E-9 rank of Chief Master Sergeant, the top one percent capstone of military promotions.

Along the way, bolstered by his education in Grenada and the confidence boost from his early mentors, Crowder continued to pursue his dream of college. Over the years he earned academic degrees and finished with a master’s degree in homeland security from American Military University.

Using everything he’d learned and experienced, Crowder transitioned into civilian life by founding Defense Consulting Services. He serves as CEO and president of the firm, which provides security, training, and consultation for multiple military agencies as well as private companies.

See “Crowder”

Continued on page 8

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Basketball Competes in 6A

By Jamie Kornegay
GSD Reporter

As school started back this January, the Grenada High School boys and girls basketball teams were just getting warmed up.

Both teams were young, featuring few senior players, but they'd made it halfway through their season and grown as teams. With records of 12-5 (boys) and 12-3 (girls), they were entering the toughest part of their schedule, dominated by traditionally competitive 6A district schools.

"We're in the toughest 6A region in the state," said Cooley of their 6A, Region 1 rivals.

By the second week of January, the Chargers would face their three district

opponents — Tupelo, Oxford, and the undefeated Starkville — before turning around two weeks later to face them each again.

"Regardless of who you're playing, these guys know you just have to get out there and compete," Cooley said.

This year's team opened the season with only two starters from last year, Tray Yates and Antonio Blackmon. Senior forward Jadarius Townes and junior shooting guard Cameo Noel stepped up to contribute along with sophomore Kelton Jones.

"They've meshed well together," Cooley said. "They've been in the gym, playing together since the end of last season, and that has helped us tremendously." After last season's 9-14 record, Cooley said the boys team committed to getting in the gym and putting in the

work. "Our thing was, we need to learn how to compete, and I'm seeing that pay off in practice," he said. "Now it's time to transfer that to games."

Coaching this year's Lady Chargers for the first time is Kendrick Conley. He came up from Grenada Middle School, where he coached boys and girls basketball for the past four years.

"It's different," Conley said of the move to high school. "In middle school, it was strictly basketball. Now there's emotions involved. But I'm enjoying it."

Conley has inherited a young team with only two seniors, Takiyah Townsend and Ryonna Lee, and a state all-star nominee, junior Katelyn Leavy at guard.

The team gained confidence with a couple of high-profile wins. Conley said, "Lewisburg was a big win. They're one of the top 6A schools. Kosciusko was

one of the top 4A schools who could compete with anyone, and we beat them."

Like the boys' team, the Lady Chargers have an uphill battle in the back half of their schedule, facing the dominant schools in their division — Starkville, Oxford, and the perhaps the toughest, Tupelo.

"We've just got to do what we do best," Conley said. "Play defense, run the floor, and make shots."

The basketball teams' regular seasons end at home on Fri., Feb. 4, against Bruce. Come out for Senior Night or tune into the livestream at vimeo.com/GSDLive

GHS Boys Varsity & Junior Varsity Basketball



Photo by Michael Sanford

(front, l to r) Martveon Austin, Shane Rosenthal, Zachary Townsend, Travis Wilks, Chance Jenkins, Drudarius Barnes, Chris Cole, Demetreus Ross, Antonio Scott, (back, l to r) Coach Robert Sapp, Tylann Kimble, Richard Smith, Brent Jones, Jekerious Williams, Cameo Noel, Lazarus Conley, Dontralus Yates, Jarques Perry, Antonio Blackmon, Kelton Jones, Jadarius Townes, Thomas Ware, Jaylon Skinner, and Coach Joey Cooley

GHS Girls Varsity Basketball



Photo by Michael Sanford

(front, l to r) Takiyah Townsend, Amaya Anderson, Kyla Hughes, Lauren Harges, Katelyn Leavy, Gabby Burt, (back, l to r) Ryonna Lee, Ally Burt, Tamyrah Miller, Coach Kendrick Conley, Kelsey Federick, Jayla Myers, and Nadiya Hurd

GES Green Top Principals' Breakfast



Students at Grenada Elementary Green Top were honored for good or improved behavior with an invitation to have breakfast with the principals. Students selected for November include (photo top) (front, l to r) Daniel Groner, Larry Nix, Swayze Allbritton, Alyssa Hamann, Marlee McDonald, Alex Watson, (back, l to r) Principal Carol Tharpe, Sophia Woodall, Jakieria Wiggins, Calvinsha Jones, Kaydee McDonald, Lacy Loggins, Preston Hood, Zacarias Steward, Assistant Principal Dr. John Daves, (photo bottom) (front, l to r) Taylor McGee, Antonio Bryant, Zarryah Redditt, Kade Haley, Keniyah Ford, JoChristopher Hubbard, (back, l to r) Principal Carol Tharpe, Aubree McDonald, Alexis Aldread, Amelia Melton, Nylan Hubbard, Brittlyn Miers, Kimber Crosby, Janiya Hall, and Assistant Principal Dr. John Daves.



Photos by Kayla Henson

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>February</h1>		1 Visions: Practice 4:00pm - 6:00pm @ GHS Auditorium GHS: Basketball at South Panola JV/V 5:00pm	2 Visions in Auditorium Parks & Rec: Basketball Practice 5:30pm - 8:30pm @ GMS Gym	3 Visions: Practice 4:00pm - 7:00pm @ GHS Auditorium Parks & Rec: Basketball Practice 5:30pm - 8:30pm @ GMS Gym GHS: Subject Area Night 6:00pm @ GHS Gym	4 Entertainers: Jackson Academy Competition Visions in Auditorium GMS: Robotics Northern League Meet 8 3:30pm - 10:00pm @ GMS GYM & Cafeteria GHS: Basketball vs Bruce V (Senior Night) 6:00pm	5 Pizzazz: Showchoir Competition @ Jackson, MS Visions: Jackson Academy Competition GMS: Robotics Northern League Meet 8 7:00am - 10:00pm @ GMS GYM & Cafeteria
6	7	8 GHS: Basketball Division Tournament at Tupelo V GHS: Cheer and Mascot Tryout Clinics 3:45pm - 5:30pm @ GHS Gym School Board Meeting 6:00pm	9 GHS: Cheer and Mascot Tryout Clinics 3:45pm - 5:30pm @ GHS Gym Parks & Rec: Basketball Practice 5:30pm - 8:30pm @ GMS Gym	10 GHS: Cheer and Mascot Tryout Clinics 3:45pm - 5:30pm @ GHS Gym Visions: Practice 4:00pm - 7:00pm @ Visions Classroom Parks & Rec: Basketball Practice 5:30pm - 8:30pm @ GMS Gym	11 GHS: Basketball Division Tournament at Tupelo V GMS: Entertainers - Northeast Jones GHS: Cheer and Mascot Tryouts 4:00pm - 7:30pm @ GHS Gym	12 GHS: Baseball Jamboree at Water Valley Parks & Rec: Basketball Games 7:00am - 5:00pm @ GMS Gym
13	14 Valentine's Day GHS: Basketball Round 1 State Professional Development - No Students 8:00am - 3:15pm	15 GHS: Basketball Round 1 State GHS: Baseball vs New Albany 4:00 & 6:00 4:00pm GHS: Softball vs. Kosciusko JV/V 5:00pm	16	17 Visions: Practice 4:00pm - 7:00pm @ Visions Classroom GHS: 10th Grade ACT Parent/Student Night 6:00pm @ GHS Gym	18 GHS: Basketball Round 2 State GHS: Baseball at Bayou Academy 4:00 & 6:00 4:00pm GHS: Softball vs. Houston JV/V 5:00pm	19 GHS: Visions Competition - Homewood High School GMS: Baseball at New Albany V GHS: Basketball Round 2 State Parks & Rec: Basketball Games 7:00am - 5:00pm @ GMS Gym
20	21 President's Day	22 Band in Auditorium GHS: Baseball vs Horn Lake 4:00 & 6:00 4:00pm GHS: Softball at Senatobia JV/V 5:00pm GLAD: Spring Board Meeting 5:00pm - 7:30pm @ GLAD Conference Room	23 Band in Auditorium	24 GHS: Basketball Round 3 State GES: 2nd Grade Music Concert 9:00am @ GES Cafeteria GES: 2nd Grade Music Concert 1:00pm @ GES Cafeteria Visions: Practice 4:00pm - 7:00pm @ Visions Classroom GHS: Softball vs. Hernando JV/V 4:30pm GMS: Baseball at Lafayette 5:00 & 7:00 5:00pm Band: Percussion Ensemble 7:00pm @ GHS Auditorium	25 GHS: Basketball Round 3 State Visions in Auditorium GES: 2nd Grade Music Concert 9:00am @ GES Cafeteria GES: 2nd Grade Music Concert 1:00pm @ GES Cafeteria GHS: Baseball at Horn Lake 4:00 & 6:00 4:00pm	26 GHS: Basketball Round 3 State GHS: Softball at Germantown Tournament V/DH GHS: Baseball at Cleveland Central 11:00 & 1:00 11:00am
27	28 GHS: Basketball State Championships in Jackson Visions in Auditorium Band: GHS Guard Training 3:40pm - 5:15pm @ GMS Gym GHS: Softball at Cleveland Central JV/V 5:00pm GMS: Baseball at Kosciusko 5:00 & 7:00 5:00pm					

“Warmth”

Continued from Page 1

Clark agreed that Molina would like to partner with GSD in other ways. “Here in this area we know that it’s important to have a nutrition program,” she said. “We’re trying to see what we can do to help these kids eat healthier.”

The coats arrived in the nick of time. Temperatures fell below freezing in

January as students returned from holiday break. Harlow said the halls at GES are now filled with children sporting new coats.

“The kids were very thankful,” she said. “And they all expressed how much they loved picking out their own colors.”

“Crowder”

Continued from Page 5

Today, Crowder lives in San Antonio with his wife, Pamela. His daughter, Paige, lives there with her family as well. Frank still makes time to come home to Grenada, where he owns property.

Several years ago, he was walking past a familiar house on Main Street. His grandmother, Maggie Bell Hooper, had worked there as a maid for the Boyd family many years ago. Crowder said he’d been fascinated by the house since he was a boy, and on that fateful day, the opportunity presented itself to purchase the property.

He leaped at the chance. After buying it, he refurbished the interior and out-buildings, built a gazebo, and even purchased the adjacent lot. He reestablished the house as “The Hooper House” in honor of his grandmother and has made the space available to the community for weddings and events.

Crowder said it has been gratifying to give back to the village that helped raise him and instilled in him the values of humility and believing in oneself.

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GHS Basketball Cheer

(Photo right)

(front, l to r) Autumn Davis, Mersie Watkins, Erinisha Savage, Summer Booker, Janiyah Edwards, (middle, l to r) Trinity Davis, Sarah Trotter, Jalyh Bullin, Madison Benson, Priya Boyd, Kimaria Reed, Charlesha Johnson, (back, l to r) Akera Jones, Daisjah Brown, Chloe Williams, Brooklyn Moore, and Markiya McNeal



Photo by Michael Sanford