

Get a Jump on College



Superintendent's Message

Dr. David Daigneault

Under the leadership of Principal Emily Tindall, Grenada High School continues to broaden students' learning while preparing them for life after high school. The school's emphasis on dual credit/enrollment offers great opportunities for industrious students.

GHS currently partners with Holmes Community College to offer an array of college-level classes, both online and in the classroom. High school juniors and seniors may earn college hours while fulfilling their high school credits as well. Some of these classes are taught by GHS teachers during the normal school day, while others are completed online by the student in his or her own time.

We currently have 49 juniors and 67 seniors enrolled in dual-credit classes. To be eligible, a student must maintain a 3.0 overall GPA, and some classes require a minimum ACT score. We encourage sophomores to take their ACT early so they'll be ready to meet these requirements by their junior year.

Among the most popular classes are English Composition and American Literature, which fulfill both high school and college requirements. College algebra is another popular course, along with such electives as art and music appreciation.

Ezzard Beane, the 9th grade principal at GHS, oversees the dual-credit program. He says the online speech class has been a hit with students who are nervous about talking in front of the whole classroom. Through the online class, they need only video themselves making a speech in front of a small audience and submit it to their teacher.

The dual-credit/enrollment program at GHS has grown so much that we're now talking with other Mississippi colleges to offer future courses in science and foreign languages.

So why, when students are already so busy with class work and extra-curricular activities, should they pursue college so early?

For starters, taking dual-credit classes will prepare students for the rigor of college-level courses. It will also free up their future college schedules so they can devote more intensive study to difficult classes in their major. A college student pursuing a degree in engineering may wish to carry a lighter load once they encounter advanced courses. They'll be glad they took the entry-level courses in high school instead of packing their junior- and senior-year schedules to graduate in four years.

See "Jump"
Continued on page 2

Follow Your Heart Expands Guitar Instruction in Grenada



Photo by Jamie Kornegay

By Jamie Kornegay
GSD Reporter

"It's not everyday that someone gets to see, much less play with, one of the best-known country performers in the world," said Jacob Chavis, a sophomore at Grenada High School.

Chavis was one of four GHS students who recently shared the stage with Garth Brooks at a Grammy Museum event in Cleveland, Miss. That opportunity resulted from their participation in Follow Your Heart Arts, a guitar class held each spring at GHS.

The FYH guitar class was started three years ago by GHS alumnus and Nashville singer-songwriter Charlie Worsham. He wanted to spread his love of music and guitar-playing to kids in his hometown, so he struck a deal with Fender Guitars and convinced several Nashville music organizations to donate money. Since then, he has given nearly 150 students in the area a free guitar and a semester's worth of lessons.

The weekly lessons each spring at Grenada High are taught by teachers from the Delta Music Institute at Delta State University. Charlie's parents, Gary and Sherry Worsham, coordinate the program

locally, though Charlie returns home to distribute instruments and even performs with students on the Grammy Museum stage at the completion of the course.

FYH recently expanded its program to the Grammy Museum, which now hosts its own guitar class with students from Tallahatchie County. That partnership led to the four GHS students performing with Garth Brooks.

In addition to Chavis, senior Saavon Washington, junior Tristen Johnson, and sophomore Sophia Kornegay also attended the Grammy event. All four are graduates of the FYH guitar classes and now help mentor new students coming up in the program.

Garth Brooks came to Cleveland on an arts fundraising mission and offered to speak with area students. Approximately 150 students attended from schools throughout Mississippi, though only the students from Grenada, as well as the FYH class from Cleveland, were invited to bring their guitars.

Joining the Grenada students as chaperones were Gary Worsham and Grenada Middle School Principal Marshall Whittemore. They all enjoyed front-row seats for Brooks' talk and performance. "Garth had an inspiring message about focus-

(Photo left) Students in the Grenada Middle School's Follow Your Heart Tiny Guitars pilot program received a free ukulele from Fender Guitars and are receiving ten weeks of after-school lessons. The 2019 class includes (front, l to r) Seth Dorroh, Beau Vance, Olivia Herring, Presley Williams, Alyssa Walker, (2nd row, l to r) Jack Leslie, Bay Kornegay, Emmory Elliot, Tekanya Walton, (3rd row, l to r) Drew Dalton, Alexia Strong, Darshi Kher, and Eleana McCullough. (Back, l to r) Class instructor Zach Dickerson is aided by two student teaching apprentices, Tristen Johnson and Sophia Kornegay.

ing on what you love, working hard at it, and never letting anyone tell you that you can't do it," said Worsham.

Following his talk, Brooks invited the FYH guitar students on stage to demonstrate what they'd learned. He then asked Chavis and Johnson to remain on stage and perform three songs with him.

"I never would've thought I'd be playing on stage with a superstar," said Johnson. "When he was singing, and we were in the crowd, I got chills listening to him sing. It was unforgettable."

FYH is now preparing to host a new class of GHS students in the spring. Though it was born out of help from Nashville, the program is rooted in traditional Mississippi music, and the students learn to play various genres, including the blues, rock, and pop.

In addition to a free guitar and weekly lessons at the high school, students are given multiple opportunities to expand their knowledge of Mississippi music and the music industry. Popular field trips include a visit to Delta State University's Delta Music Institute, where students can write and record their own songs.

See "Guitar"
Continued on page 6

GHS Band Wins Grand Champion

(Photo right) (front, l to r) Haley Ferguson, Ella Simmons, Shaunna George, Alexis Smith, Tori Wilson, (back, l to r) Tristan Johnson, Sterlin George, and Colin Keys pose with the trophies won at the Gibson County Marching Invitational held in Tennessee.



Photo by Jason Simmons

AmeriCorps Member of the Month Courtney Welch



By Gwen Woodson
AmeriCorps Director

Courtney Welch truly believes in helping uplift others for their own benefit, not for the praise she will receive for her good deeds. This is one of the many rea-

“Jump”

Continued from page 1

Anna Gray Neely is a prime example. Beginning her junior year, Anna Gray supplemented her high school course load with college-level classes and even spent her senior year in dual-enrollment, where she actually attended classes at the Holmes campus here in Grenada. In essence, she spent her morning at high school and her afternoon at college. She earned 26 college hours and was able to enter the nursing program at Northwest Community College right out of high school instead of waiting until her sophomore year.

Dual-credit hours are useful even to students who wish to attend college but haven’t decided on a major. Taking rudimentary English and math classes frees up their college schedule so they can explore other interests. Maybe a student is considering medical school but would like to satisfy a curiosity by taking an intro to law course.

You never know how one class will impact your future. GHS graduate and Nashville performer Charlie Worsham has remarked on how useful he found dual-credit classes. When he entered Berkeley College of Music with credits earned in high school, he was able to take a class on building speakers. He still

sons Welch is so effective in her position as team leader for the Grenada School District AmeriCorps Program.

At Grenada Middle School, Welch is committed to getting things done.

Welch joined AmeriCorps because she wanted to make an impact on students’ lives while gaining meaningful experience and building a network in her community.

The Grenada School District has hosted AmeriCorps members for the last 12 years in the role of tutors for math and reading. Welch is primarily responsible for tutoring 25 students during the school year.

Before AmeriCorps, Welch served as president of the Tougaloo College Psychology Club. She also served in the 21st Century Community Learning Center (CCLC) (2012-2014), the Tougaloo College Youth Organizing and Understanding Community Action and Networking! (Y.O.U. C.A.N!) Institute

has that first speaker he built and was able to save money in the long run by repairing his own gear.

GHS counselors direct students to dual-credit classes that count toward high school requirements. The classes are weighted, so they enhance GPAs. They also count toward advanced electives. Taking advanced classes looks good to college recruiters when they’re considering a student’s application. These high-level classes demonstrate a student’s willingness to tackle challenging work.

Next semester, GHS will unveil its new College Room, which will serve as a common space for students enrolled in dual-credit courses. They will be able to complete their online work in this room, and the on-site adviser can answer questions and ensure that students are completing their work.

Students interested in getting a jump on college should visit the GHS counseling department or talk to Mr. Beane at the ninth grade building.

With a little extra effort now, you can better prepare yourself for the future and make way for new discoveries in college.

(2014-2015), and TRiO Upward Bound tutor (2013-2015). She graduated from Tougaloo College in 2015 with a B.A. in psychology.

“Since joining AmeriCorps, I have learned how important it is to lead by example -- be it students or other members,” said Welch.

I know from working with her that Courtney is focused and dedicated to her role as leader/member. I love her ability to keep pushing on, no matter what issue or challenge is thrown at her. She has a true and humble heart, which is needed as an AmeriCorps member.

In exchange for a year of service, AmeriCorps members earn an education award of \$6,095 that can be used to pay

for college or to pay back qualified student loans. Welch plans to use her education award to either finish her Masters in Counseling Psychology degree she began a few years ago and/or to help pay off student loans.

“My advice to others about volunteering is to remember that volunteering isn’t always easy, but if done from the heart, it’s always worth it,” Welch said.

For more information about the Grenada School District AmeriCorps Program, contact program director Gwen Woodson



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GHS Football’s College Recruiting Boost



GHS Chargers head football coach Ashley Kuhn (center) with senior players Emmanuel Forbes Jr. (left) and Christian Wortham (right), who have both committed to play Division I college football next fall.

*By Jamie Kornegay
GSD Reporter*

It’s Monday afternoon, and the weight room at the Grenada High School athletic complex is buzzing over the news. It’s just been announced that Genard Avery, GHS class of 2014, has been traded to the Philadelphia Eagles. It’s widely believed that Avery, the first GHS alum drafted to the NFL in at least a generation, was shamefully underutilized by the Cleveland Browns in 2019 following his impressive rookie season in 2018. A move to Philadelphia will hopefully mean more playing time and more exposure for the talented defensive end borne

out of the Grenada High football program. It’s also widely believed that a career in the NFL is the longest of long shots for a fledgling high school athlete. But Genard Avery’s ascension gives the young men on the Charger football team hope. According to the Chargers’ head coach, Ashley Kuhn, “If you have the talent and are willing to do the work, you have as much opportunity to be seen by top recruiters in Grenada as anywhere in Mississippi, and I think anywhere nationally.”

Kuhn came to Grenada as head coach in 2011, and since then, the program has seen a remarkable rise in scholarships — nearly fifty players in eight years, averaging 6-8 per season. Eighteen of those players attended Division I schools. Those are pretty good odds for the 20-25 seniors passing through the program each year. At least two current seniors, Emmanuel Forbes Jr. and Christian Wortham, have already committed to play Division I football. For a high school athlete, that means full tuition, room and board, and a position on the roster of a prominent NCAA college football team.

Division I colleges represent the largest schools with well-funded athletic programs. There are 353 Division I schools in the country, six in Mississippi. A position on the roster gives a player access to high-profile, often televised games in front of massive crowds. It is considered the gateway to a professional career in football, but it is also presents an opportunity at a first-rate education. Kuhn points to Darrius White, who graduated in 2012. He received a scholarship to Itawamba Community College, played well, and was courted by the University of California Berkeley with a \$62,000 annual scholarship. “Some of these kids wouldn’t have the opportunity to attend a school like that without football,” Kuhn says. Not all players are ready to play Division I ball right out of high school. Kuhn has coached many players who went the junior college route first. Most were under-recruited or not fully developed as players. One example is Tyree Phillips, GHS Class of 2015. “He played two years of football with us,” Kuhn recalls. “Six foot, seven inches, 340 pounds. He was the right size, he just hadn’t played much.” Phillips did well at East Mississippi Community College before Mississippi State recruited him. “The JUCO system in Mississippi is great,” Kuhn says. “Sixteen schools sign 60 kids a year. That gives our kids an

opportunity to play. They use the JUCO system to get where they want to be. Even if they don’t make it to Division I, they got two years of college free.” Many football players sign scholarships but can’t cut it academically. Kuhn says that isn’t a problem with Grenada graduates. “Every one of these kids that’s signed Division I or II is graduating with a four year degree minimum, and some of them masters (degrees) without any money out of pocket,” Kuhn says. “And I think that goes back to the discipline and academics from the school and to the discipline and routine of the football program.” The rigorous practice schedule includes daily 7 a.m. practices during the summer as well as after-school practices, often in the punishing heat. “Playing football is not just about signing scholarships,” he says. “I tell them all the time, if you make it through our program, the work ethic and the discipline gives you a really strong background to be successful in the workforce going forward.” One portion of the football training schedule that has made an evident difference in college recruitment is the weight-lifting regimen. “We train all year long, and it’s an intense program,” Kuhn says. “It increases our speed, strength and size.”

**See “Football”
Continued on page 7**

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21st Century Skills Program Begins New Year

By Jami Kornegay
GSD Reporter

Grenada School District’s 21st Century Community Learning program kicked off its fall skills and tutoring classes in October.

The classes, made possible by federal funds distributed through the Mississippi Department of Education, provides after-school instruction and tutoring to nearly 400 students in grades 6-12. The 21st Century grant also offers literacy and other educational services to the families of participating children.

The 21st Century program is divided into skills and tutoring classes.

The skills classes meet for two hours on Monday and Wednesday afternoons with close to 100 students. Students sign up for hands-on instruction in traditional vocational skills such as carpentry, automotive repair/fire fighting, potter ceramics, archery/urban ag, weightlifting/law enforcement and culinary arts, or computer lab classes that teach computer graphics and design, video film production/editing, sound engineering, and podcasting.

One new class offered this fall is welding/brazing, taught by Grenada Career and Technical Center instructor David Robinson.



Brenda Miller stamps her clay in Pottery class.



Kayleah Daniels, Cole McDonald, Payton Easley, Blake Lollar, Ryan Williams check the hydroponics solution.



(photo left) Brandon Hughes learns to apply a clipping mask in Photoshop.



(photo right) Alyssa Smitherman flattens her clay with a rolling pin.



(photo left) Culinary Arts students Stanesha Dubard and Jamiracle Purnell wrap fresh cornbread muffins

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December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 First Sunday of Advent	2 Band: In Auditorium GHS: MAAP Retesters TBA JV Soccer vs. Winona at Grenada (5:00/6:15) MAAP English II, Algebra I, Biology, and US History Visions Rehearsal in GMS Gym 4:00pm - 8:00pm GMS: Basketball at Coffeeville 5:00pm	3 Band: In Auditorium GHS: MAAP Retesters TBA GHS: Soccer at Lafayette 5:00/7:00 MAAP English II, Algebra I, Biology, and US History SPED: Professional Development 3:30pm - 4:30pm Visions Rehearsal in GMS Gym 4:00pm - 8:00pm GHS: JVB/V Basketball vs. Indianola Gentry 5:00pm Pizazz Christmas Show 6:00pm	4 Band: In Auditorium GHS: MAAP Retesters TBA MAAP English II, Algebra I, Biology, and US History GES PreK-3: Fall Book Fair - GES Gym 8:00am - 2:30pm Parks & Rec: Basketball Practice 5:30pm - 7:30pm	5 Band: Christmas Concert in Auditorium 7:00 GHS: MAAP Retesters TBA GHS: Soccer vs. South Panola (Home) 5:00/7:00 MAAP English II, Algebra I, Biology, and US History GES PreK-3: Fall Book Fair - GES Gym 8:00am - 2:30pm Visions Rehearsal in GMS Gym 4:00pm - 8:00pm GMS: Basketball vs. Cleveland 5:00pm GHS: Thespians Rehearsal in RM 40 5:30pm - 7:00pm.	6 GHS: MAAP Retesters TBA MAAP English II, Algebra I, Biology, and US History Visions in GHS Auditorium GES PreK-3: Fall Book Fair - GES Gym 8:00am - 2:30pm GHS: JV/V Basketball vs. Coffeeville 4:00pm Parks & Rec: Basketball Practice 5:30pm - 7:30pm	7 GHS: Boys Basketball Bruce Classic (Okolona) at Bruce (TBA) NJROTC: Neshoba Drill Meet Visions in GHS Auditorium Parks & Rec: Basketball Games 7:00am 5:00pm
8 Visions in GHS Auditorium	9 JV Soccer at Senatobia (5:00/6:15) MAAP English II, Algebra I, Biology, and US History Visions in GHS Auditorium GES PreK-3: Fall Book Fair - GES Gym 8:00am - 2:30pm Visions Rehearsal in GHS Auditorium 4:00pm - 8:30pm GMS: Basketball vs. Winona 5:00pm	10 GHS: Soccer at Columbus 5:30/7:00 MAAP English II, Algebra I, Biology, and US History Visions in GHS Auditorium GES PreK-3: Fall Book Fair - GES Gym 8:00am - 2:30pm Visions Rehearsal in GHS Auditorium 4:00pm - 8:30pm GHS: JVB/V Basketball vs. Amanda Elzy 5:00pm School Board Meeting-Central Office 6:00pm	11 Band: State Band Clinic in Natchez, MS MAAP English II, Algebra I, Biology, and US History Visions in GHS Auditorium GES PreK-3: Fall Book Fair - GES Gym 8:00am - 2:30pm Visions Rehearsal in GHS Auditorium 4:00pm - 8:30pm Parks & Rec: Basketball Practice 5:30pm - 7:30pm	12 Band: State Band Clinic in Natchez, MS GMS: Basketball at Winona JV Soccer at Lafayette (5:00/6:15) MAAP English II, Algebra I, Biology, and US History Visions in GHS Auditorium GES PreK-3: Fall Book Fair - GES Gym 8:00am - 2:30pm GES: PreK-1 Grandparents Day in Kidzeum, Library, Cafeteria, & Gym 9:00am - 12:00pm GMS: Basketball at Winona 5:00pm Visions Winter Spectacular 7:00pm - 8:00pm	13 Band: State Band Clinic in Natchez, MS GHS: Soccer at New Hope 5:30/7:00 MAAP English II, Algebra I, Biology, and US History Visions in GHS Auditorium GES PreK-3: Fall Book Fair - GES Gym 8:00am - 2:30pm GES: 2nd-3rd Grandparents Day in Kidzeum, Library, Cafeteria, & Gym 9:00am - 12:00pm GMS: Robotics Club - FLL Robotics Competition at Armory Building 3:00pm - 7:00pm GHS: JV/V Basketball vs. Calhoun City 4:00pm Parks & Rec: Basketball Practice 5:30pm - 7:30pm Visions Winter Spectacular 7:00pm - 8:00pm	14 Band: State Band Clinic in Natchez, MS GHS: Boys Basketball Calhoun City Loggins Classic at Calhoun City (TBA) GMS: Basketball Grenada Tournament JV Soccer vs. Oxford at Grenada (TBA) vs. South Panola in Grenada (TBA) Visions in GHS Auditorium GMS: Robotics Club - FLL Robotics Competition at Armory Building 8:00am 6:00pm
15 Visions in GHS Auditorium	16 Exams Week Visions in GHS Auditorium Parks & Rec: Basketball Practice 5:30pm - 7:30pm	17 Band: Midwest Band Clinic - Directors Only Exams Week Visions in GHS Auditorium GLAD: Student Awards Ceremony in GLAD Cafeteria 1:00pm - 7:30pm Parks & Rec: Basketball Practice 5:30pm - 7:30pm	18 Band: Midwest Band Clinic - Directors Only Exams Week Visions in GHS Auditorium GLAD: Student Awards Ceremony in GLAD Cafeteria 7:30am - 12:30pm Parks & Rec: Basketball Practice 5:30pm - 7:30pm	19 Band: Midwest Band Clinic - Directors Only Exams Week GHS: Soccer vs. Westpoint (Home) 5:00/7:00 Visions in GHS Auditorium Visions Rehearsal in GHS Auditorium 4:00pm - 8:00pm Parks & Rec: Basketball Practice 5:30pm - 7:30pm	20 60% Day Band: Midwest Band Clinic - Directors Only Exams Week GHS: Soccer at Winona 5:00/7:00 Visions in GHS Auditorium GHS: JVB/V Basketball vs. Winona (Alumni Night) 5:00pm Parks & Rec: Basketball Practice 5:30pm - 7:30pm	21 Band: Midwest Band Clinic - Directors Only NJROTC: Area 8 Orienteering in Alabama Visions in GHS Auditorium Parks & Rec: Basketball Games 7:00am 5:00pm
22 Visions in GHS Auditorium	23 Holiday!!! Visions in GHS Auditorium	24 Christmas Eve Holiday!!! Visions in GHS Auditorium	25 Christmas Day Holiday!!! Visions in GHS Auditorium	26 Holiday!!! Visions in GHS Auditorium Visions Rehearsal in GHS Auditorium 4:00pm - 8:00pm	27 GHS: Boys Basketball at Coffeeville Holiday Classic (TBA) Holiday!!! Visions in GHS Auditorium	28 Visions in GHS Auditorium Parks & Rec: Basketball Games 7:00am 5:00pm
29 Visions in GHS Auditorium	30 Holiday!!! Visions in GHS Auditorium	31 New Year's Eve Holiday!!! Visions in GHS Auditorium				

GES Red Top Reading Fair



(Photo left)

Kindergarten
(front, l to r) 1st place - Jaelynn Montgomery; 2nd place - Taylor Williams; 3rd place - Peyton Wright; (back, l to r) Honorable Mention - Ann Ivy Moorman; and Honorable Mention - Aaron Adams

Photos by Martha Liberto



Kindergarten 1st place
Jaelynn Montgomery



First Grade 1st place
Isaiah Montgomery



First Grade

(front, l to r) 1st place - Isaiah Montgomery; 2nd place - Cameron Burl; 3rd place - Abigail Foster; 4th place - Adalynn McDaniel; 5th place - Ivy Read; (back, l to r) Honorable Mention - Kaylee Hall; Honorable Mention - Serenity Wilson; Honorable Mention - Ava Lewis; Honorable Mention - Asher Henson
Not pictured: Allen Storey



Second Grade 1st place
Mary Margaret Carollo



Third Grade 1st place
Mia Ferguson



Second Grade

(front, l to r) 1st place - Mary Margaret Carollo; 2nd place - Gabe Day; 3rd place - CJ Armstrong; 4th place - Levi Makamson; 5th place - Cadence Henson; (back, l to r) Honorable Mention - Charley Smith; Honorable Mention - Ally Grace Tawater; Honorable Mention - Lily Miller; Honorable Mention - Mary Swayze Albritton; Honorable Mention - Anna Gail Austin




Third Grade

(front, l to r) 1st place - Mia Ferguson; 2nd place - Nathan Woods; 3rd place - Zoey Washington; 4th place - Helen Liberto; 5th place - Olivia Mitchell; (back, l to r) Honorable Mention - Amani Lodge; Honorable Mention - Bo Miller; Honorable Mention - Aiden Richardson; Honorable Mention - Raina Collins; Honorable Mention - John Ryan Hill

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Partners In Education Enjoy Luncheon



Grenada School District recently hosted a lunch break reception to honor community members of their Partners in Education program, High Hopes. Representatives from participating local businesses joined district staff in the culinary arts classroom kitchen.

(Photo top) Resolute representatives Vicki Brannan (left) and Jean Carpenter (right) visit with one of the High Hopes coordinators and GHS teacher Sara Pollan.



(Photo bottom) Emmanuel Baptist Church representatives (l to r) Barry Worrell, Josh Gosa, and Mark Williams sample the tasty treats prepared by the GCTC Culinary class.

“Guitar”

Continued from page 1

“FYH Arts would like for every student to have the opportunity to explore music through guitar because the instrument played a prominent role in Mississippi’s music history,” said Sherry Worsham. “There are few guitar teachers in the area and, for this reason, FYH supports guitar teachers. The number of students selected for guitar instruction is limited by the availability of guitar teachers. This year, we will give priority to high school students for the FYH Arts Guitar Program.”

Any GHS student interested in being considered for the FYH guitar class next spring should see Lynsie Carpenter in the front office for an application. Applications are due by Nov. 29.

This year, to attract younger players and future guitarists, FYH has forged a new pilot program at Grenada Middle School called Tiny Guitars. Thirteen sixth and seventh graders, based on student interest and music

teacher recommendations, were each given their own ukulele and have met weekly after school for lessons.

“The standard acoustic guitars have been difficult for some of the younger students to grasp, musically and literally,” said Zach Dickerson, the FYH master teacher who leads the Tiny Guitars class. “These ukuleles are smaller, and it’s easier to form chords. The kids have responded quickly and are really playing well together as a group.”

The Tiny Guitars group has excelled since their first lesson in September. They’re learning songs like “Old Town Road” and “Stand By Me,” which they’ll perform at the Grammy Museum in Cleveland on Nov. 9.

For questions about the program, email followyourheartarts@gmail.com

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Grenada School District



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(front, l to r) Brittany Clardy, Jatya Boclair, (back) Sara Daves



Shelbie Woodall, Joeley Beckwith, and Maddie Ingram



(front, l to r) Davion McClain, India Willis, Jakeelah Cleveland, (back, l to r) Brecklyn Bowden, Hailey Tatum, Callie Rushing, and Jakayla McCarroll



(l to r) Tori Wilson, D'Andrea Harris, Terri Leigh Washington, and Jaslyn Forrest

Photos by Lisa Holland



Sierra Swims, Janiyah Edwards, Samria Rounds, and Trinity Harbin



Trevor Alldread

“Football”

Continued from page 3

The coach cites JJ Russell, a member of the class of 2017 who went on to play with the University of Memphis. “He was not a big kid when we got him in the ninth grade, but he really developed in the weight room.”

The GHS program has also seen more coaches and representatives from Division I schools visiting and watching players perform on the field. NCAA rules limit contact with high-school players during the season, so much of the recruitment happens in the spring, says Kuhn.

The Chargers’ competitive schedule gives the team more opportunity to be seen by college coaches and recruits, who often watch the game from the sidelines.

One of the most highly recruited players to come through the GHS program, C.J. Avery, GHS Class of 2017, lured coaches from Notre Dame, Alabama, Stanford, and most of the SEC schools. Kuhn remembers Dan Mullen, then head coach for Mississippi State, making a

dramatic entrance by helicopter to see Avery play. Avery ultimately signed with the University of Louisville, where he has shined.

For a player who excels in college play, there is more emphasis than ever on his NFL prospects.

Kuhn mentions that he recently filled out NFL questionnaires on one of the program’s former players. Professional teams eyeing prospects to draft out of college will protect their investment by conducting thorough research on a player’s character, going all the way back to high school.

“It speaks a lot about your program when you’re taking out part of your day to speak with the NFL about former players,” Kuhn says. “Sometimes they’ll fly down to meet with us, and the kids see them in the field house, wearing the NFL shirts, and it really puts things into perspective. It is possible.”

MDOT Visits GCTC



Photo by Meg Newcomb

Representatives from the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) visited the Grenada Career & Technical Center with interactive demonstrations from their safety education program. The demos were designed to reduce vehicle fatalities and serious injuries by raising awareness about the importance of seat belt usage and child passenger safety as well as the danger of impaired and distracted driving. GCTC students (l to r) Niyema Akil, Siniyah Jones, Keajah Holloway, Pacey Whitt, Summer Liles, and Sierra Ellis experienced the hands-on activities, including a truck cab that spun on its own axis at 35 MPH to simulate a rollover crash, a distracted driving simulator that demonstrated the hazards of texting and driving, and Fatal Vision Goggles that replicated the sensation of driving while impaired by drugs and alcohol.

Grenada Chargers with Division I scholarships (since 2011)

Darius White (Univ. of Calif.)
Trey Bledsoe (Univ. of Miss.)
Genard Avery (Univ. of Memphis)
Shareef White (Univ. of Memphis)
John Austin Cook (Univ. of Central Ark.)
Myles Harges (Middle Tenn. State)
JJ Russell (Univ. of Memphis)
C.J. Avery (Univ. of Louisville)
Willie McCaleb (Univ. of Kan.)
Tyre Phillips (Miss. State)
Tyrus Black (Miss. Valley State)
Shedkeytrick Ross (Miss. Valley State)
Trey Townes (Miss. Valley State)
Reive Wood (Univ. of Central Ark.)
Demarcus Archer (Jackson State)

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GMS Students of the Month



6th grade October Students of the Month are, (front, l to r) Jatavious Green, Ryan Williams, Samya Johnson, Zion McDaniel, (back, l to r) Keelin Bender, Asia Nevitt, Harlee Johnson, Justiz Davis, Madeline Yawn, Hannah Robertson, and Assistant Principal Jamie Harrison.



7th Grade October Students of the Month are, (front, l to r) Jared Badon, Tara Bailey, Alyssa Honey, Anna Claire Poyner, (back, l to r) Seth Dorroh, Kelsey Hodges, Ikiria Hall, Abigail Crouch, Jane Wicker, and Assistant Principal Jamie Harrison.



8th Grade October Students of the Month are, (front, l to r) Laken Snyder, Arianna Kennedy, Harlee Williams, Savannah Mallet, Matt Cummings, (back, l to r) Kaitlyn Richardson, Damysia Coffey, JoLacy Irwin, Dakota Jenkins, Jaylen Ford, Tatyanna Kimble, and Assistant Principal Jamie Harrison. Not Pictured: Nadiya Hurd



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