

The
Pirate Speaks

December 2010



The Pearl High School Newspaper Since 1948

The
Pirate Speaks



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The Pirate Speaks

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The Pearl High School Newspaper Since 1948

Volume 62 Number 2

‘A Date Which Will Live in Infamy’

By Juliet Ferrell

On December 7, 1941, the Japanese military attacked Pearl Harbor, causing some 2,400 American servicemen to die. Many of these men were never identified. It wasn't until in 2005 when Ray Emory was casually strolling through Punch Bowl National Cemetery, a cemetery in Honolulu, Hawaii dedicated to the dead from Pearl Harbor, that any of these unknown soldiers had a chance to be identified. Emory wasn't happy seeing that there were a lot of servicemen who were unidentified.

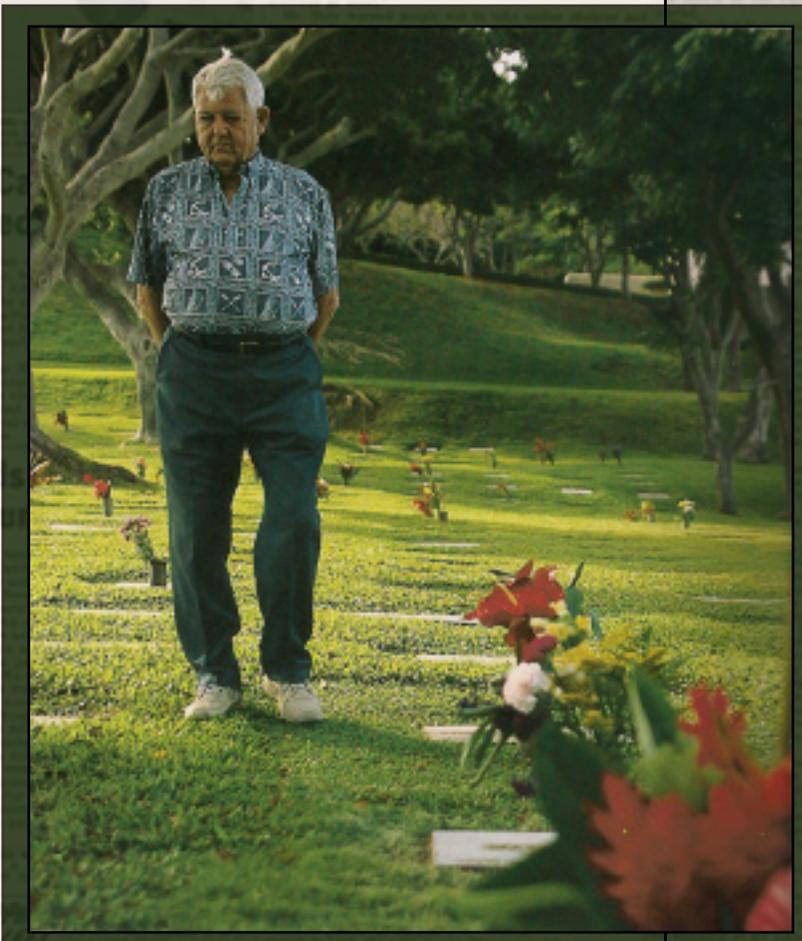
Emory, a survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor, visited Pearl from November 6 - November 13 this year for the Veterans' Day Ceremony as well as to talk to the various NJROTC, history, and science classes about his experiences in the attack on Pearl Harbor and in identifying many servicemen.

Seaman Emory was reading a newspaper in his bunk when he heard General quarters sound. He raced to the battle stations and began to uncover the .50-caliber machine guns. Emory recalls, "I had one all the way off and another about halfway off when the first plane went by our stern. When the second plane went by, I noticed the big red ball. That was when I realized what was going on."

After World War II ended, Emory left the military and became a mechanical engineer. After he retired, he spent a lot of time looking through deceased, unknown soldiers' information folders in order to put the pieces of the puzzle together. Emory stated, "There isn't a day gone by in my lifetime that I haven't thought about December 7, 1941. Never. Everything from that day has been wrapped around that day." With his determination, he convinced the JPAC (Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command) to reopen the case. He has shown that through determination and hard work, anything is possible.



Seaman Ray Emory serves proudly during his military career.



Ray Emory walks through Punch Bowl National Cemetery. Photos courtesy of Time Magazine

Toys for Tots

By Samantha King

Imagine waking up on Christmas day with nothing under the tree. This might be a reality for thousands of children. With the help of the Marine Corps Toys for Tots Foundation, children have something to look forward to on Christmas day.

The mission of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program is to deliver (through a shiny, new toy at Christmas) a message of hope to children across the country. The Marines want to spread joy to as many children as possible and to play an active role in their development.

Pearl High School, and other local high schools, play a vital role in the mission of Toys for Tots.



Samantha King

The Toys for Tots organization has been named Most Outstanding Non-Profit Organization and Best Children's Charity and awarded Charity Navigators highest four-star rating.

First Sergeant Gordon Miller, Toys for Tots coordinator for Jackson, and his fellow Marines believe that this program will inspire the needy children to grow into responsible, productive, patriotic citizens, and community leaders.

"The Toys for Tots program is all about helping others in our community," Miller

said. "No matter what the situation, every child deserves a Christmas!"

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Merry Christmas

from

The Pirate Speaks

News Staff

A Busy Year

By Samantha King

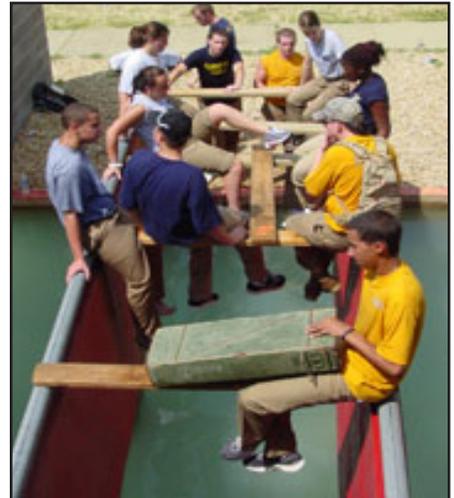
With loads of community service, four academic postals, and field trips coming up, NJROTC is scheduled for a busy year.

In October, NJROTC took an overnight trip to the Naval Air Station in Meridian to learn more about Naval Science. Captain John Lewis said, "This trip was just like real Naval Marine life for the cadets. Each student received three meals a day and had to sleep in the barracks. The cadets got to tour the bases, classrooms, and the flight line."

Along with educational field trips, all cadets go to orienteering meets. Orienteering meets are land navigation through the woods using markers and description of the land around the markers. Many teams, each with three cadets, use a compass, count their paces, and face obstacles along the way to the finish. The competition is also timed.

NJROTC has four drill meets throughout the year. Three are sanctioned meets being held at St. Amant, Neshoba Central, and Ole Miss. The last meet is the supermeet. To qualify for the supermeet, a squad must win two of the sanction meets.

NJROTC cadets work together to accomplish a team goal at Camp Shelby. Each student shows extreme agility as they make their way across a pool of water. Photos provided by Captain John Lewis.



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The Walk

*Students in grades 6 - 12 are invited to
join us for worship and youth events!*

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10:30 am Worship

6:00 pm Evening Worship

Wednesday

6:30 pm The Walk

Youth Worship/Praise Band/Fun

Last Wednesday of Every Month

6:30 pm Outreach

Free Pizza/Drinks/Games/Fun

Jeff Buchanan, Pastor

Chris Beam, Youth Pastor

Shooting for the Stars



Seniors prepare to run the three-legged race against the juniors on November 9. Pictured left to right are Emily Craven, Gerrick Epps, Adam Knight, Samaj Chafee, Colton Penton, and Kyle Bynum. Photo by Hanna Lewis.

By Maria Cannon

Students congregated around the football field of Pearl High School, on a fall afternoon in early November. They were hanging out with friends and focusing on anything but school and testing on the Subject Area Tests. Pearl High School has had field days like this before known as All-Star Day and Level 5 Day.

This field day was planned to reward the students for helping Pearl High School achieve a high performance status but more importantly to encourage students to help us earn a Star School status. Assistant Principal Smithhart said, "This is free time for students to socialize with friends and not worry about testing."

Football, softball, volleyball, and kickball were some games held at the field day. Some events were some booths, slides, tricycle races, simulator with games,

a National Guard Rock wall, and music was played.

The PTO and private donors helped with donations to make this event successful. Smithhart said, "I am very proud of how hard our students work and I think our students and teachers work harder than any other school in the state of Mississippi. I am very proud of the school wide efforts we put into our academics."

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A Silent Disease

By Ayanna Bloom

The first thing one notices about two-year old Reese McDonald is not his tiny wheelchair, instead it is his bright smile and twinkling eyes. Reese has been diagnosed with Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA), the second most common genetic disorder and the number one killer of children age two and younger.

“At first we didn’t think he had it (SMA). We just thought he was developing slowly; but when he was one we noticed he was starting to develop symptoms like his cousin Evie Horton, 4, who also has it,” said PHS senior Holly Johnson. Johnson is related to both Reese and Evie. “He got tested, and we learned that he also has the disease.”

Reese has never been able to crawl, stand, or walk. He can sit up on his own, but if he falls over he cannot get back up. He always has to have supervision.

Evie was diagnosed with SMA before her second birthday. “It is very rare to find two cases in the same family,” said Johnson.

Both Reese and Evie attend swimming lessons for therapy. PHS history teacher Jessica Eubanks became close friends with Evie’s mom, Dee, whom she met at the pool. Her son, Brady, and Evie became friends at swimming class.

“I want to do everything I can to help these amazing children,” Mrs. Eubanks said. After she met Evie, she began researching SMA to learn more about the disease.

On a mission to find a cure Evie’s dad, Jeff Horton, founded Stop SMA, a non-profit organization to help raise money for research and awareness. “Over \$300,000 has already been raised; and with the proper funding, they are within five years of finding a cure,” said Mrs. Eubanks.

“It is difficult to raise money especially with the recession, but when people see cute little Reese and Evie they are more than willing to open their wallets,” said Mrs. Eubanks.



“To know that we are very close to finding a cure and Evie and Reese could be cured of this terminal disease is a wonderful thing,” Mrs. Eubanks said.

“If you would like to learn more about SMA or help with Stop SMA please visit www.stopsma.org or feel free to come and see me,” Mrs. Eubanks said.

“The first thing one notices...is his bright smile and twinkling eyes.”



“He is really smart and outgoing. The disease only affects his muscles. He is like a normal little kid his age,” Johnson said. Photos provided by Jessica Eubanks.

A Score Above the Rest

By Maya Miller

Legend has it that villagers in Neolithic times pressed clay into the bottom of woven bowls. A great fire swept through the village, and when the villagers went through the wreckage, they found that the wood had burned, but the clay remained and was even hardened. This is only one of many tales of how ceramics came to be.

Mrs. Vicky Miley's ceramics class had a less spectacular beginning, first being just a six-week lesson and transforming into a year long course. By definition, ceramics is the making of pottery and sculptures with clay, but to Mrs. Miley, seniors Kayla Young and Bailey Peagler and sophomore Devon Miller it is much more than that.

Mrs. Miley began taking Art in junior high school and continued through college and ultimately her career. Her favorite

mediums are clay, batique (which is the process of dyeing and waxing) and pastels.



Kayla Young admires her flower candlestick she created as one of the first pieces she created this year.



Devin Miller works on an Egyptian mask for his visual arts class he takes along with ceramics.

Miley said, "I love the texture and feel of the clay, which is why I like the Japanese Jomon pottery. I just love the lines and textures."

Young has been taking Art since 6th grade. Her uncle passed in 2004, and she made a promise to him that she would take her art career somewhere. Young is in ceramics this year and said, "I like being able to express myself through clay. If it breaks, you can put it back together." To her, the hardest

part of ceramics is to make sure that everything is slipped and scored (scratching lines

in the clay which is scoring and using watered down clay called slip as glue) correctly, so that it will not break in the kiln. She plans to take airbrushing and tattooing classes and hopes to one day open a ceramics shop in her home and sell her art.

Peagler took ceramics class last year and enjoys it so much that she sometimes comes back to Mrs. Miley's class just to work on a new piece. She had already taken Art I and II and ceramics was the next advanced class of Art. She likes ceramics because of class in general. "As long as you stayed on assignment, you can make whatever you'd like with the clay." Peagler would like to become an illustrator and draw comics. Her dream career would be to work for Marvel or DC comics.

Miller has also been taking art since 9th grade. He likes working with his hands and enjoys working with clay, glazes and the kiln, but he hates when things explode in the kiln. Miller's favorite pieces to create this semester were the coil candlestick and the Mayan whistles. He describes ceramics as "being able to express himself freely. Mrs. Miley is my inspiration because she helps me see my full potential."



Bailey Peagler puts the finishing touches on her mask before she glazes it and sends it back into the kiln. Photos by Maya Miller.



**“Never shall I forget
the days I spent with
you. Continue to be
my friend, as you will
always find me yours.”
-Ludwig Van Beethoven**

**“What’s it take?”
“Pride!”**



By Erica Berg and Faith Harris

“Ladies and gentlemen, we proudly present the ‘Award-Winning Pearl Pirate Band!’” Hearing these words from Mr. Ray Rogers, the band knew they had to put everything they had learned together from Thursday night rehearsals, to Saturday practices, to sectionals, and daily practices. This year, the show was entitled Immortal Beloved: The Timeless Music of Beethoven. In seven and a half minutes, the band performed Beethoven’s 5th, Fur Elise, Scherzo, Pathetique Sonata, and Ode to Joy. With very difficult music, many visuals, and 47 drill sets, some say this was possibly one of the hardest shows Pearl has ever done. It also might be one of the best shows Pearl has ever performed as well.

When the band went to competitions, the judges and crowds loved the show. The people knew the music, and they respected that the movements the band did with the music was very difficult. This year at competitions the band received all superiors making this the 43rd year in a row the Pirate Band has done so. The band’s driving force is the community and their parents who are always there to support them.

**“Band, wipe the sweat!”
“What sweat, sir?”**



Pirates Giving...

FCCLA Helps Youth Villages

By Ashley Parker

FCCLA is a club formed from Mrs. Paige Lewis's Family and Consumer Sciences classes. This September the members collected 43 bags of baby items (diapers, wipes, pacifiers, snack bowls, etc.) to give to Youth Villages. Youth Villages is an organization "committed to helping troubled children and their families find success and provide a comprehensive array of programs and services." These services include counseling, foster care, and adoption. Mrs. Lewis stated, "this was a good way for FCCLA to fulfill their mission by reaching out to families in need. The project also served an educational purpose by raising student awareness of the costs involved in taking care of babies."



Key Club



The Pearl High School Key Club members were guest speakers for the Kiwanis Club of Pearl luncheon. Senior club members: J.T. Wilkinson, Colton Penton, Josh Saulsbury, Jana Cooper, Allie Jones, and Bridget Page attended.

By Ashley Parker

The purpose of the Pearl High School Key Club is to serve the community and school through volunteer projects. The club consists of 66 members, each required to serve at least 15 hours of volunteer work. The members have taken part in the Special Olympics and the community wide project Keep Pearl Beautiful and are also partnering with Alpha Delta Kappa and the Center for Violence Prevention to provide toiletries for those in need.

"I am very proud of all my kids. I am very proud of the way they handle the projects and enjoy giving back to the community," said Key Club sponsor Meri McCoy.

Key Club President Bridget Page helps with the special olympics. Page has been a member of Key Club for two years.

A Helping Hand

ROTC Takes Part in Special Olympics

By Ashley Parker



Pearl High School's Naval Junior ROTC, a 144 member course of study, is centered around developing good citizens and giving students tools they will need to be successful in life. Along with learning about naval science and competing, NJROTC spends a good deal of time volunteering around the community. "ROTC is a great program. I think more people should get involved in it, because it teaches you things like patience, team work, discipline, manners, and respect. It's more than just a team, it's about the family and experiences I've gained the past four years," said Senior Cadet Lieutenant Chelsea Copeland.

"Volunteering is important. It helps open your eyes to the things you take for granted. The things we have and don't really think about is all they want," stated Copeland. The ROTC members are regular visitors to Gateway Missions charity,

Senior ROTC member Nic Hawker helps with baseball at the Special Olympics, Saturday, October 16. Photo provided by Captain Lewis

Habitat for Humanity, and helping out with school and community functions such as band competitions, track meets, and the City of Pearl Fall Festival. Saturday, October 16, they helped with the Special Olympics, and the color guard has also attended the March for Leukemia.

"It is very important to volunteer. By Volunteering, we are giving back to our community and that is what makes us a strong community. We give back for the good of our community," said ROTC instructor Captain John Lewis.

"By Volunteering, we are giving back to our community and that is what makes us a strong community." -Captain John Lewis



Junior Dilan Sanchez and Freshman Jaime Dela-Cruz take part in Special Olympics events October 16.



Several ROTC members grades 9-12 participated in the Special Olympics.

Student Athletes: Not Just Athletes

By Joshua Griffin

Preparing for the upcoming season, head basketball boys' coach Russell Evans and girls' coach Tracy Yates train their players by requiring them to do agility and ball handling drills, to run, to lift weights, and to practice all the essentials for becoming a better basketball team.

"It would be a great accomplishment to become the first boys' basketball team at PHS to win state," said Coach Evans.

"I tell my girls all the time: You are not just athletes, you are student athletes," said Coach Yates.

Before each team can perform on the court, they must first perform in the classroom. "Academics are stressed every day to the team. I want my team to be the best student athletes at PHS," said Coach Evans.

"The strategies for the upcoming season for the boys' basketball team are defense, defense, and defense. Defense wins championships, and the players have to be able to defend in a half-court set or in a full court situation," Coach Evans said. "Players should put pressure on the ball to make the other team turn over the ball so that our boys can transition from defense to offense."

"The strategies for the girls are to use their speed and agility to get up and down the court, transitioning from defense to offense or from offense to defense," Coach Yates said. "Also we have three returning starters from last year."

Junior Twymond Howard, the boy's captain, said that he feels that the team is going to have their mind set on accomplishing the things that they learn in practice and perform them well in the games ahead.

Coach Evans said "Even though both teams have a tough schedule ahead of them, we are going to be ready for the season."



"Do not let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do." Coach Evans



"You are not just athletes, you are students." Coach Yates



Keep It Up Pearl Pirate Football



"Whatever It Takes"



Lady Pirate Softball 26-7



Cross Country Girls and Boys Division Champions

Soccer: Back With Attitude

By Hanna Lewis

“The team was good last year but I think it has improved this year” said senior captain Alex Alexander. “We’re going to win state all the way. We’re going to the [champion]ship.” Said senior Jana Cooper.

The boys and girls soccer teams have this winning attitude. Last season both teams made it to the second round of the state championships; this season players and coaches have stated that they will put their best foot forward and attempt to win state.

“To achieve that goal, the teams are working harder, conditioning more, and working to improve team unity.” Boys soccer coach Andy Kivlan said. “We’ve got a lot of talent. If we can get the chemistry and the camaraderie together we’ll do well.”



Hard Practices: Junior defender Kyle Gilmore prepares to receive a pass from a teammate during a scrimmage practice. The team is trying to improve to win state this year. “As a whole we are better this year” said Gilmore



Planning Time: Girls soccer coach Chris Lee encourages his team and explains the day’s practice plan. “We all have high expectations for the season. Our varsity squad is junior and senior laden. They are the foundation of what we have built here over the last four years. Our team will go where these girls take us.” Said Coach Lee. Photo by Hanna Lewis



Back after 13 years: Alex Cummins still has not lost his touch after being out of school for 13 years, as evidenced in this photo from last years Alumni Game. Photo provided by Melissa Gilmore.

The Past Returns

By Hanna Lewis

What happens to our soccer players when they leave high school?

They go on and live their lives, but many never forget their time here playing soccer. Some even come back to play again, thanks to an annual event held by the booster club called the Alumni Game where former players compete against each other.

The Alumni Game is not just a soccer match: to some the game is a chance where “past generations can come back and give us tips and we can show them what we got.” Said senior Emily Craven, a member of the Lady Pirate soccer team.

Expecting **BIG**

By Amanda Rogers

The girl's power lifting team is entering its third year of having a team. After winning the Region and North State last year, the girl's goal this year is to win state. Power lifting involves three procedures: Squats, Bench Presses, and Dead Lifts. A power lifter has three attempts at each lift. The lifter's total consists of the best of each lift (highest squat + highest bench press + highest dead lift).

"There must be 100% commitment", said Coach Anderson, head coach for the girl's power lifting team.

"Dedication is the most important requirement for power lifting", said Cole McFarland, a senior power lifter who won four state records in two years for squats. "I want my teammates to give 100% and not give up."

Power lifting can also be an excellent form of exercise. However, there can be some consequences. "You can get really sore and have bad joints", stated Cole McFarland on the price of power lifting.

"Expect big things from Pearl's girl power lifting team this season," said Coach Anderson.

Three Types of Power Lifting

Bench Press

- Place weights on bar
- Lay flat on bench
- Straighten arms and grab the bar
- Lift the bar
- Return bar to rack
- Add more weights and lift again

Squat

- Stand
- Position bar on the base of neck and across the back of shoulders
- Raise and dismount the barbell from the rack
- Keeping your back straight, bend at your knees as if sitting in a chair.
- Stand

Dead Lift

- Step up to bar so that your feet are approximately shoulder width apart and under the bar.
- Squat down and grasp the bar
- Lower your hips so that your thighs are parallel to the floor.
- Lift the bar off the ground by standing up
- Then place bar back on floor



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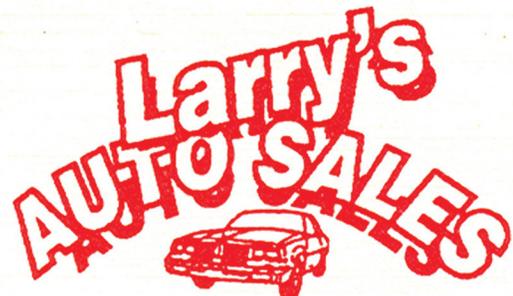
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Homecoming 2010 Southern Showdown

Nineteen maids are selected by the student body and are recognized during halftime on November 5 at the last football game of the season. Pictured are (kneeling) Breanna Magee, Jerica Nichols, Alexis Sandifer, Chrissy Thompson, Courtney Skelton, Holly Lott, (seated) Krista Johnson, Macey Lee, Kaleigh Hunt, (standing) Bobnitra Kelly, Swayzie Wade, Taylor Whitlock, Lexis Morgan, Randa Amason, Bridget Page, Abby Scallorn, Nicole Gatlin, Ashley McWilliams and Bridgett Douglas. Photo by Harriet Matthews.



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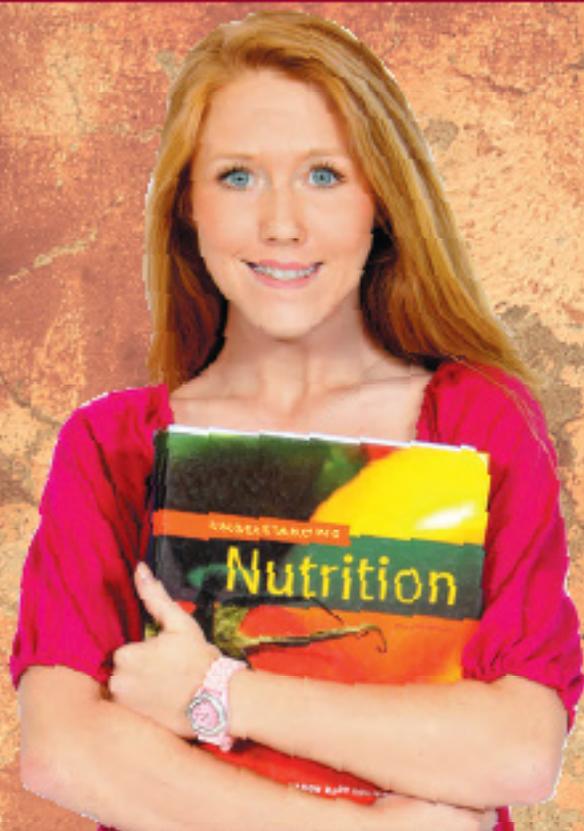
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163 individual programs and more than 12,000 credit hours that are guaranteed to transfer to Mississippi's public universities

Career/Technical Programs

- Air Traffic Control Technology
- Business and Marketing Management Technology
- Business and Office Technology
- Early Childhood Development Technology
- Electrical Technology
- Information Systems Technology
- Medical Assisting Technology
- Nursing
- Plumbing and Construction Technology

Job ready in one to two years



Rankin Campus
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