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Delta State University student Harrison Downs participates in the DSU Outdoor Program Skydiving Class. Skydiving is offered at DSU as a one-hour elective.

President's Message

Dear DSU Alumni and Friends,

As the end of 2011 came and went, the report from the Delta State University Foundation was a good one. Giving from individuals and organizations was up for the first half of our fiscal year despite the continued sluggishness of the economy and the uncertainty many people are feeling. It is indeed gratifying to see the members of our extended Delta State community expressing their support so generously.

Scholarships remain the most important giving priority. Assuring the affordability of a quality educational experience has always been challenging, and it is even more so today as appropriations from the state erode and costs continue to climb. We've made significant budget cuts over the past few years—no college or university in the nation has been exempt—but through it all we have done everything possible to meet the needs of our students for financial assistance.

Your gifts to the annual fund and to your preferred scholarship endowments are critical components of keeping Delta State affordable. Please help in any way possible when you are asked by staff or volunteers from the DSU Alumni Association or the DSU Foundation.

Those same staff and volunteers are also seeking funds to honor Delta State's legendary women's basketball coach, Margaret Wade. You can read about the project in this publication.

Recently my wife and I received a large mailer from our middle son who lives in Virginia. Inside was a book he had found on a table at a library sale. It was written by Margaret Wade in 1980 and offered instruction in basketball fundamentals. As I shared the book with those lucky enough to witness Wade's tremendously successful teams, the photographs and text warmed hearts.

In the book, Coach Wade defined a winner with these words: "[They are] individuals who believe in their own abilities, then are able to see and develop the best qualities in those that are around them." I am proud to report the same spirit still pervades Delta State University, as our faculty educates students, our coaches produce winning teams, and the entire university community offers services to our region and beyond.

Thank you for your past and future support. Thank you for representing the Delta State spirit in your community.



Sincerely,


John M. Hilpert,
President

Alumni Message

Dear Friends,

It is an exciting time to be involved with your alma mater! Delta State and your Alumni Association had a successful Homecoming celebration this past fall, and our Statesmen football team was one win away from playing in its second consecutive national championship game. The excitement continues as we advance the work of the Alumni Association and the University.

The DSU Alumni Association will once again hit the road this year with alumni chapter meetings and special events. From Washington County to Washington, DC, we hope to be in your area with an update on campus, athletics, and the good work of the alumni and foundation offices.

The university recruiting office and the alumni office have partnered to create an easy way for alumni and friends of DSU to refer a prospective student. I hope you will visit the website at www.deltastate.edu and go to the Alumni & Friends page. There you will be able to easily click on "Good Student Referral" to let us know about a prospective student. Delta State is a special place, and as alumni we know firsthand about student life and academics. We are the best ambassadors and recruiters for our university, and I hope you will send us potential students.

The Alumni Association has many outstanding programs that support its efforts. We are fortunate to have several corporate sponsors who assist us in advancing our mission. I want to thank Bolivar Medical Center and Wright Surgical Services, Cleveland Medical Clinic, State Farm Agent Patrick Davis, Polk's Meat Products, and the DSU School of Nursing for their most generous sponsorships. As alumni, we can all support the Alumni Association by purchasing a DSU affinity car tag, using a Bank of America credit card, and paying our annual alumni dues.

Thanks for your continued interest in Delta State, and I hope you will let the Alumni Association know when we can be of service or assistance. I hope to see you on campus, soon!

All my best,

George
George Bassi '87



Studies show that good universities have strong alumni associations!

Your alumni dues allow the alumni association to be able to provide better services to our students and alumni. Please consider joining or renewing your membership today! To become a member, scan the QR code with your smart phone, call (662) 846-4660, or send an email to alumni@deltastate.edu.

▶ Campus Briefs



Fighting Okra

slugs its way to the top

by: Leroy E. Morganti

If you are a small state-supported school with a pittance marketing budget and located in an area that has been losing population for decades, what do you do to make yourself known to prospective students outside your home area? If you are Delta State University, you bring in your heavy hitter to knock the ball out of the park, and that is none other than the school's unofficial mascot, "The Fighting Okra."

And if the rave comments showing up almost daily on the internet are any indication, the "Okra with an attitude" has done just that in spreading the name of DSU throughout the country in a series of humorous videos that have caught the eyes and imaginations of college-bound kids and national websites.

Despite the fact that DSU has turned out quality graduates for almost nine decades in career fields ranging from accounting and education to aviation and geospatial studies, the little school has remained "Mississippi's Best Kept Secret" as it competed for the state's high-school graduates against bigger schools with much larger marketing budgets and the

The Okra videos have brought a level of national attention to the school that would have cost millions to purchase.

regional and national exposure that comes with competing in big-time athletics. Even winning nine national championships in athletics (that's nine more than the other state-supported schools have combined) did nothing to set DSU apart from the hundreds of other smaller schools in the country.

Enter the internet (which is free) and the *Fighting Okra* (which is unique) to level the playing field, and DSU officials have taken advantage of the social media opportunities with half a dozen comical short videos that are getting thousands of "hits" by prospective students. There's a method behind the madness—you have to get the attention of high-school students before you can sell them on your academic quality, and indications are that *The Fighting Okra* was just the guy to get the job done with the high-school market.

In a recent national ranking of college "fruit and vegetable mascots," the Okra topped the list, ahead of Ohio State's "Brutus Buckeye" and Syracuse's "Otto the Orange." Another national blogger commented, "We don't do a lot of Division II schools, but once Delta State's mascot videos hit the mainstream, we had to make an exception." The post went on to say how effectively the Okra caught the eye and then promoted academic and other aspects of the university. Ohio State and Syracuse ranked behind Delta State? You don't find that too often.

This technological cripple was puzzled how the Fighting Okra went, as one blogger put it, from "zero to hero" almost overnight. Best I can tell, it started with a post on *Reddit's College Football* and was quickly picked up by *SBNation*, *Yahoo Sports*, and *Sports Illustrated*. Then folks began posting the stories and videos on their individual Facebook pages. However it happened, the Okra videos have brought a level of national attention to the school that would have cost millions to purchase.

A bit of history would be in order at this point. How the Okra came into existence is the subject of debate with the most plausible suggestion being it was created by members of

a former baseball team who thought the official mascot, "The Statesman" was a bit stodgy and lacked identity. They were eating dinner in the cafeteria one evening and decided to come up with other ideas that would embrace the school's color, green. When one of the students looked at his plate and saw okra there, a legend was born. The students picked up the idea immediately as the flight team began calling itself the "Aerial Okra," and the swim team dove in by becoming the "Aqua Okra."

In the summer of 1995, I was attending a three-week program at the Institute for Educational Management at Harvard, along with 106 other representatives from universities in the U.S. and seven foreign countries. Many of those folks were high-ranking academic officials from schools with impressive academic pedigrees. On the final night, there was a T-shirt swap, and I was a bit apprehensive about how the Fighting Okra shirt I had chosen would go over with the academic snobs in attendance. We displayed our shirts on tables in a large room, and I sought out the most inauspicious place for the Okra. To make a long story short, everyone there wanted the Okra shirt, and I ended up taking mail orders the rest of the night. I never could convince the university bookstore to pursue designing and selling a foam "Okrahead" hat that could be worn to sporting events just like the Green Bay Packers' famed "Cheesehead."

There are some older alumni of the university who have never embraced the Okra and its unique appeal, despite the fact no one has ever suggested it replace the nondescript Statesman as the official mascot. But in the student recruitment game, you aim to appeal to the 15–18 year-olds, and right now they are eating the Okra up!



Commercial Aviation's new DA-42 Diamond

Commercial Aviation Program flying high with new aircraft

The latest buzz around Delta State University's Department of Commercial Aviation is the arrival of three shiny new airplanes. The new multi-engine DA-42 Diamond aircraft will replace the 30-year-old BE-76 Beechcraft Duchess planes that have been in service since the early '80s.

The new Diamond planes feature some of the latest technology, including controllable pitch propellers, moving maps, situation awareness, flight charts, weather forecasting, live traffic information, and avionic suites much like those of modern airliners. The planes also feature digital instrument displays, called *glass technology*, which replace the traditional analog six-pack of round gauges. The new planes will be used for glass cockpit and multi-engine training for the aviation students. Director of Flight Operations Chip

Cooper ('08) said, "This is a way to prepare our guys for the next step and diversify their learning."

The planes were made in Austria then shipped to Canada for final assembly before arriving in Cleveland. The entire process has taken about two years. Department Chair Julie Speakes ('93) pitched the idea of upgrading the fleet in 2009. She advised, "Upgrading the fleet will allow our students to train with the latest technology and better prepare them for the industry."

Delta State is the only university in Mississippi with a four-year aviation program, offering degrees in both aviation management and flight operations. For more information about the aviation program, visit aviation.deltastate.edu or contact the Department of Commercial Aviation at (662) 846-4205.

NEWSMAKERS

Tomeka Harbin ('04)

has been named the new director of the Debt Education for Business Transformation and Sustainability (DEBTS) Program, an initiative of Delta State University's College of Business. Harbin earned a Master of Science in Community Development from Delta State and is currently working on a PhD in Human Capital Development from the University of Southern Mississippi.



Dr. John M. Hilpert,

Delta State University President, was elected to his third term as Chair of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) at the organization's annual conference.



Matt Jones ('07)

has been promoted to Assistant Athletic Director for External Affairs for the Delta State University Athletic Department. Jones will oversee the operations of Delta State Athletics' Office of Athletic Communications and Statesmen Sports Network, while handling the coordination of outside sales and marketing efforts for the Statesmen and Lady Statesmen.



Clint Wood ('77)

is the new chair for the Division of Accountancy, Computer Information Systems, and Finance in the College of Business.



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Epic Performances

Walter Sillers Coliseum celebrates 50 years of fostering champions

by Lynne Jeter

When Coach Clark raised the NCAA Division II National Championship trophy after winning the title game on the home floor of Walter Sillers Coliseum in front of 4,000 Lady Statesmen fans in 1989, it was the single most thrilling moment of Leslie McKiernon Jenkins' ('93) basketball career.

"And I wasn't even on the floor!" said Jenkins, then a senior at Grenada High School and four-year signee with the Lady Statesmen. "The place was electric, and I was there to take it all in. The whole community got behind the team . . . that was wonderful."

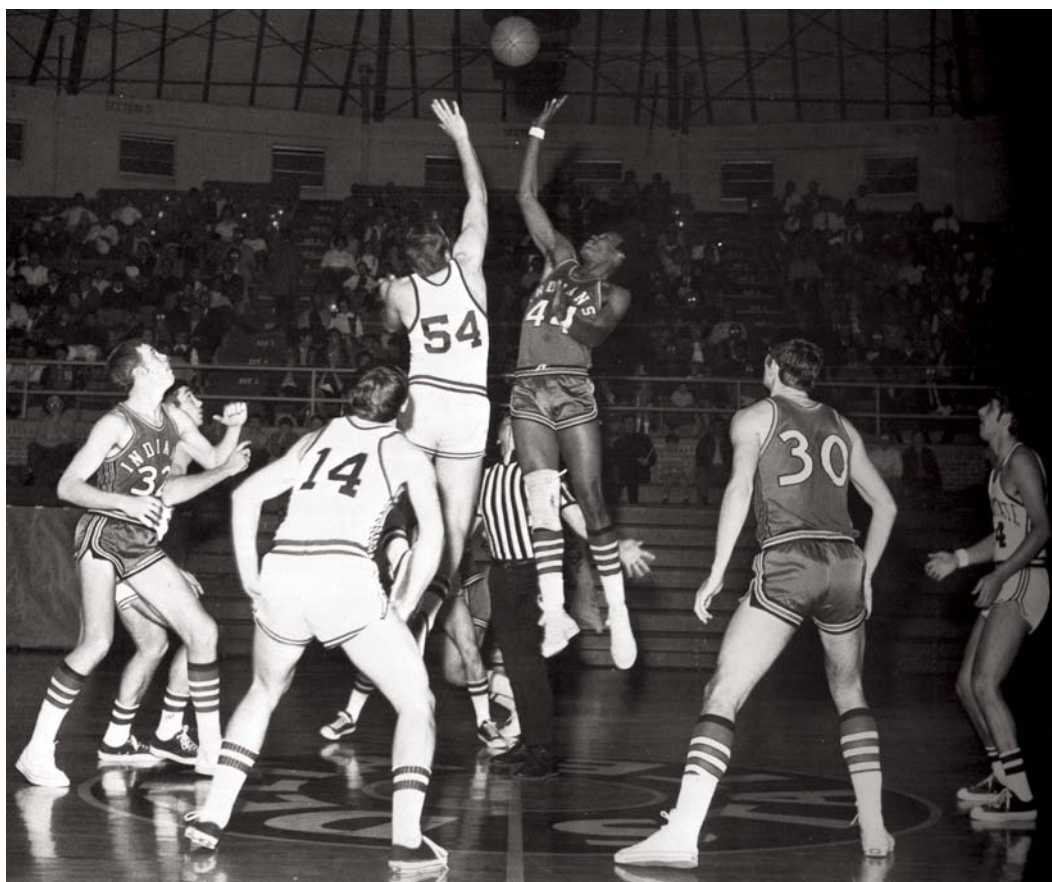
Before Jenkins graduated in 1993, the 6'3" center logged some 1,500 hours in the same arena where her dad, Tommy McKiernon ('68), played center for Delta State in the late 1960s.

"It gave us a special bond to have played on the same floor, in the same place, with fans that cheered him on also cheering me on," she said. "Not many people can say that."

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the inaugural season at Walter Sillers Coliseum, a 4,000-seat, multi-level arena that was dedicated on Jan. 19, 1961, at an elaborate ceremony featuring Gov. Ross Barnett and the man for whom the coliseum is named. A Rosedale native, Sillers was an attorney, cotton planter, and the longest-serving Speaker of the Mississippi House of Representatives. His half-century tenure in the House is also a record. Known as "Mr. Delta" in state politics and a friend of the university who exuded "unusual loyalty and devotion to DSU," Sillers was a staunch supporter of legislation that authorized Delta State in 1924 and was largely responsible for the university's location in Cleveland.

In the same fashion exemplified by other outstanding institutions on campus, the Walter Sillers Coliseum was built as one of the finest indoor arenas of its time and immediately became a much sought-after host venue to high-school and college tournaments and events.

Delta State's winningest men's basketball coach, Steve Rives, was recognized as Gulf South Conference (GSC) West Division Coach of the



Decade and ended his career with the Statesmen in 2006 with a 122-55 record. He coached the team to its best year in school history in 2006, finishing 30-2, earning his fourth GSC championship title, and winning GSC Region and National Coach of the Year honors.

"Aunt Maggie," as the late Lily Margaret Wade was known around campus, pushed Lady Statesmen basketball to the national limelight. Team captain of Delta State College's first female basketball team in 1925, Wade remains synonymous with the "Rabbit Foot Squad" of DSU. Under her direction as women's basketball coach from 1973 to 1979, her starting lineups included Mississippi Sports Hall of Famer Lusie Harris, Debbie Brock, Ramona Von Boeckman Balducci ('78), Wanda Hairston ('78), and Cornelia Ward ('78). Wade led the Lady Statesmen to three consecutive AIAW National Championships, breaking the previous record set by Delta State's ultimate rival, Immaculata.

Lady Statesmen women's basketball head coach Sandra Rushing has led the squad to five GSC titles and earned the title GSC West Division

Coach of the Decade in 2010. Last year, the ladies in green and white finished the season with 28-4 overall and a 12-2 GSC record. Under Rushing's tutelage, Jennifer Rushing ('09) became Mississippi's first player to garner the Cellular South Gillom Trophy.

The Walter Sillers Coliseum, which has been continually upgraded, features more than 1,000 chair-back seats in the mezzanine level. In 1997, the bleachers on the lower east level were replaced with luxury seats and lowered nearly to floor level in 1999. The famed floor that so many Statesmen graced was replaced by hardwood parquet similar to NBA-grade flooring following the 1998 season.

"We burned up the floor," joked Jenkins, of Lady Statesmen playing days from '89 to '93. "During my freshman year, everyone who had been on the 1989 championship team was there except for senior point guard Jo Lynn Davis ('89). We were incredible, and I got to play because we beat everyone by such a large margin. Our starters were so good that they'd have a 25 to 30 point lead by halftime. We broke many records that year!"

Jenkins' sophomore year was slightly more challenging. "The playing experience my freshman year was incredibly helpful because we were a very young team, and we all had to step up," she said. "We didn't like losing, but we lost six or seven games that season. We just didn't have the experience."

During her junior year, the Lady Statesmen won another national championship trophy, but this time it wasn't with the home floor advantage.

"We'd been able to host all tournament games at Walter Sillers Coliseum except the final game, which was held in Fargo, ND. The stars aligned and we had a great run," recalled Jenkins, MVP of the '92 national championship game. "The community and our fans were always behind us. Even though the Lady Statesmen had only graduated one player for the '93 season, the team lost the national title game. "We were obviously disappointed, but the fans never gave up on us. Every time we ran onto the court to play ball, fans were standing up to cheer us on. They were right there ready for us to go to battle. The stands were always full," said Jenkins, long-time director of human resources for Jantran Inc., a towing company on the lower Mississippi River. "I relish that time."

Walters Sillers Coliseum has aged gracefully, remaining one of the largest arenas in the Gulf South Conference and routinely hosting conference, regional, and national tournaments. The lobby houses the Wade Trophy, named for the Legendary Coach Lily Margaret Wade, awarded annually to the best woman's basketball player in National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I competition. A centerpiece stage dominates the north end of the arena, serving as the focal point for Delta State University commencement exercises.

In 2008, the player's locker rooms were completely renovated. A player's lounge was added, featuring a flat-screen television, internet access, and luxury sofas and chairs. The famed coliseum floor was freshly painted and touched up for the first tip-off of the 2008-09 season.

"Now I'm in the stands cheering on the players," said Jenkins.

For more information on Delta State University Athletics, visit gostatesmen.com or facebook.com/dsustatesmen or twitter.com/DSUStatesmen.

Q&A

Wolfgang Mairinger, Swimmer



Q: You are a native of Traun, Austria. You've really come a long way from home. How has the change been?

A: I'm totally happy with my choice to attend Delta State University and to have the opportunity to really focus on academics and also compete on a nationally recognized swimming program in one of the nation's top Aquatics Centers. The pool was one of the main reasons I chose DSU.

Q: You mentioned the facility here. What about the Delta State Aquatics Center is so special?

A: It is definitely one of the top-five facilities. We probably have the top pool in Division II swimming. When you have a meet, and you get all of the people in the crowd cheering for you, it just helps to create an atmosphere. Swimming here just pushes you further. It makes you want to go faster and faster every time.

Q: Looking back on your four years of swimming at Delta State University, what moments stand out to you heading into your final home meet?

A: I have a couple moments that stand out in my career here. Sophomore year was probably my biggest when I got fourth place at nationals. And then last year, with new coach Dan'l Murray, I raced at nationals to a fifth place finish in the 1650 Freestyle as well. This season, we were able to finally win against OBU, and it was great feeling. We had a real team effort that we haven't had so far in the season. It was a milestone win. It was the first time [the senior class] had beaten them. It's always a big rivalry, and they have some good competition. Winning right now is really good too because it just helps to build confidence.

Q: You were named an Academic All-American. You clearly were pushing yourself in the classroom as well as in the pool, but how was the experience of balancing both of those and having success?

A: You have to be really determined. I was just trying my best in the pool and in the classroom. Without having good grades, you can not swim. The one equals the other. To be a good athlete, you have to be a good student. Coping with all of the tough scheduling is hard at some points, but I was able to get used to it and handle it pretty well.

Sports Shorts



Davis Equals Success

Senior quarterback Micah Davis ('11) of the Statesmen football team racked up more impressive accolades following his second season in the green-and-white. Davis was named a finalist for the Campbell Trophy, awarded to the most outstanding scholar athlete from a pool of all NCAA football-playing member institutions. For his efforts, Davis was awarded an \$18k post-graduate scholarship.

Davis was also named a finalist for the Harlon Hill trophy, awarded to the top player in NCAA Division II football. "I feel very fortunate that my time here at Delta State University has led me on the right path for such a bright future," said Davis.

The Wesson, MS, native finished his career in the top three for all career passing records at DSU. He is currently preparing for medical school placement testing, after which he plans to become a physician.

Rushing Reaches 400th Win

Sandra Rushing has just completed her tenth season as head coach of women's basketball. In the 2010–2011 campaign, she led the Lady Statesmen to the Gulf South Conference Championship and to the NCAA Sweet Sixteen for the sixth consecutive time. DSU has won five GSC titles under her direction. Rushing reached the elusive 400 plateau against the University of New Orleans on February 23rd at Walter Sillers Coliseum. The University of Alabama alumnus has helped



guide the Lady Statesmen to at least 25 wins during each of the last six seasons, including two consecutive trips to the NCAA Elite Eight. The Biloxi native began her coaching career at Millsaps College in Jackson. The former Lady Statesmen graduate assistant coach also spent time at UTEP and Henderson State before coming to DSU.



Kinnison Hits Milestone

For the last 15 seasons, head coach Mike Kinnison ('77) has led the Delta State University baseball team. This past season, Kinnison made history by passing legendary former coach Dave "Boo" Ferriss atop the all-time wins list at Delta State. The record-setting victory came on Mar. 26, 2011. The Statesmen defeated Southern Arkansas 7-5 in game one of a double-header. The victory gave Kinnison his 640th career victory and put him in first place on the DSU all-time wins list. Over his 15 seasons at the helm, Kinnison has amassed a 654-201-1 overall record. Another honor for coach Kinnison came this past summer. On July 30, Kinnison was inducted into the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame. Kinnison went into the hall of fame as the only coach in Mississippi collegiate baseball history to win a national championship, a feat he and the Statesmen accomplished back in 2004.

Student-Athlete Leadership

Stacey Hagenson can run fast. Very fast, in fact. The sophomore from Poplarville, MS, continued her success with the Delta State cross-country team this season, becoming the first Lady Statesmen in

school history to earn All-Gulf South Conference First Team honors in back-to-back years.

Delta State completed its season with a second-place finish, its best ever, at the GSC Championships and took seventh at the NCAA South Regional in Tampa.

“We didn’t finish like we really wanted to at regionals this past season, but that’s going to motivate us for next year,” Hagenson said.

“I hope we can get some new Lady Statesmen recruits that are ready to go with us in the future.”

In the classroom, Hagenson was equally impressive, posting a team-best 3.81 GPA. While she is undecided on a major, either nursing or physical therapy, Hagenson sees a major benefit studying at Delta State as opposed to other institutions.

“One reason I chose Delta State over other schools, including Division I, was because I could study and run here,” Hagenson said.

With two years remaining in Cleveland, Hagenson can’t wait to see what unfolds in the classroom and on the trail.

“Staying up late studying and then waking up for 6 a.m. practice—it’s motivation to get out of bed and keep working for yourself and the team.”



CHADWELL TAKES OVER STATESMAN FOOTBALL PROGRAM

On Wednesday, Jan. 4, Jamey Chadwell was introduced as the 18th head football coach in Delta State University history. Chadwell, who comes to DSU from North Greenville University, began his duties on Monday, Jan. 2.

“When the opportunity to coach at one of the nation’s top Division II institutions came about, I knew it was the right thing to do for my family,” Chadwell stated. “Delta State is a special place, and I’m excited about being a part of the Statesman tradition. Now, let’s get to work.”

Chadwell, 35, spent the last three seasons as head coach of North Greenville, where he quickly built the Crusader program into one of the region’s top teams. Prior to his arrival on the Tigerville, SC, campus, the Crusaders had garnered just five wins against NCAA Division II opponents in school history. In his three seasons as head coach, Chadwell amassed a 22-14 record with 20 wins coming in the last two seasons.

Chadwell quickly made a name for himself with wins over NCAA DI-FCS member Presbyterian College and DII regional foe North Carolina Pembroke. That success parlayed itself into the 2011 campaign. With expectations at an all-time high for the Crusaders, Chadwell engineered an 11-3 season, advancing all the way to the NCAA Division II Quarterfinals before losing 28-23 to Delta State at Parker Field-McCool Stadium.

The 2011 Crusaders also finished the season ranked No. 12 nationally in the American Football Coaches Association DII Top 25, marking the first time an NGU team has garnered a spot in one of the nation’s official media/coaches’ polls.

Prior to coming to NGU, Chadwell solidified himself as one of the nation’s top young offensive minds at Charleston Southern University, a member of NCAA DI-FCS. From 2004 to 2008, he served as an assistant on head coach Jay Mills’ staff.

As a four-year letterman for the Buccaneers, Chadwell spent two seasons as a co-starter at quarterback. He was twice named team captain, and he helped lead ETSU to the Southern Conference title game two times during his career (1995–1999).

He received his bachelor’s degree in Economics and Business Education in May 2000 from East Tennessee State. He also completed his master’s in Business Administration from Charleston Southern in May 2006. Chadwell is married to the former Solmaz Zarrineh, and the couple has one son, Jameson (2).

Legacy of a Life Well Lived

Affectionately known by her grandchildren as “Mama Doyce,” the late Doyce Stallings Mitchell (’39) was a gracious southern lady of high moral character who demonstrated outstanding academic performance, engaged in civic and extracurricular activities, and exuded wonderful interpersonal skills. These qualities were characteristic of her life, and recipients of the Doyce Stallings Mitchell Endowed Scholarship, established in her memory, share those attributes.

“Our Mom would definitely enjoy having her name associated with such a prestigious academic honorary,” said her son, Lem Mitchell of Magnolia.

Mitchell, who died on April 16, 2010, at the age of 95 at St. Catherine’s Village in Madison, was born a week before Christmas in 1914 on a farm in the Webster County countryside. The ninth of 10 children born to Mack and Evelyn Stallings, she graduated valedictorian of her senior class at Maben High School just as the Great Depression hit America. To pay her way through college, she worked as an elementary school teacher at various rural schools in the Mississippi hills, while studying part-time at Wood Junior College and Mississippi State University. She found a permanent home in Cleveland and graduated from Delta State Teachers College in 1939. She married Quinton Allan Mitchell from the small town of Pace.

In addition to raising five children and working as a classroom teacher, she earned a Master of Library Science degree from the

University of Mississippi in 1965 and became a school librarian, initially at Margaret Green Junior High School and later in Atlanta’s public school system and Jackson area schools, including Sunnybrook Children’s Home. She also found time to devote to Galloway United Methodist Church in Jackson and First United Methodist Church in Cleveland. Mrs. Mitchell had a passion for the written word, and she loved music and could play the piano by ear. She was very involved in the development of her daughter Kay Mitchell Arcuragi’s musical career. Her son, Ned Mitchell of Cleveland, often mentions how he inherited his mother’s love of reading. “After she died we returned a stack of library books that she was reading until the very end,” said Ned.

She took great joy in the accomplishments of her globe-spanning family, including 11 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

The first recipient of the Doyce Stallings Mitchell Endowed Scholarship is Kristen Eakin, a junior Chemistry and Pre-Med major from Yazoo City. This scholarship is awarded annually to a community-college transfer student with the highest grade point average on a minimum of 62 hours of academic credit and who also exudes the honorable qualities that were characteristic of Doyce’s life. More specifically, this scholarship, combined with the university’s existing Phi Theta Kappa



scholarship, covers the full tuition of a deserving Phi Theta Kappa transfer student from any Mississippi community college. “Phi Theta Kappa members who apply for the scholarship are required to interview with a member of Mama Doyce’s family,” says her son, Dr. Don Mitchell of Jackson. “Two-year transfer students have always been a very important part of the campus culture. The competition for . . . Phi Theta Kappa students . . . the best and the brightest from Mississippi’s community colleges . . . is fierce,” said her son and former Delta State Professor, Dr. Ben Mitchell.

“The Mitchells are a family of talkers and storytellers,” said Don Allan Mitchell, an Associate Professor of English at Delta State and one of Mama Doyce’s grandchildren. “I think Mama Doyce would enjoy someone talking their way into a scholarship—as long as the conversation wasn’t in the library!”

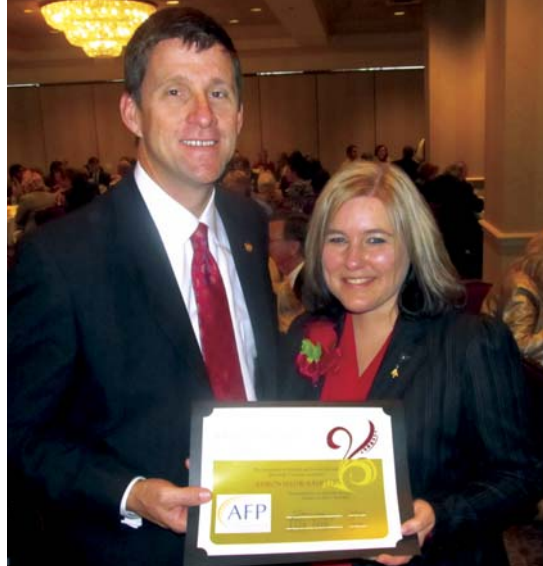


To make a gift to the Doyce Stallings Mitchell Endowed Scholarship, scan the QR code with your smart phone, visit deltastate.edu/pages/481.asp or email foundation@deltastate.edu.

Delta State's 2011 Philanthropist of the Year

Sharon Mathis Krugler of Cleveland was recently honored as Delta State's Philanthropist of the Year at the National Philanthropy Day in Jackson, where Dr. Hank Bounds, Mississippi's Commissioner of Higher Education, presented her award.

Sharon works as an administrative assistant at Delta State University and is a single mother of two beautiful children, Kalie and JonCaleb. Sharon is attending Delta State University part-time, majoring in business while working 40 hours a week. Sharon is scheduled to graduate in 2014 and will be the first in her family to earn a college degree. She contributes monthly to the Delta State Annual Fund and is paying on her Life Membership in the Delta State University Alumni Association through payroll deduction. She stated in a recent interview when asked why she gives back to the university, "Working at Delta State, I see the needs students are facing, whether it is a text book, lab fee, or tuition, and I understand the impact of what even \$20 can do to help a student in need." In 2010 Sharon doubled the amount she contributed yearly to the Annual Fund. "Based on her salary as an administrative



assistant, Sharon's annual gifts are probably more significant proportionately than those donors who make five, six, and seven figure gifts," said Keith Fulcher ('83), Executive Director of the Delta State University Foundation, Inc.

Kalie and JonCaleb Krugler are so proud of what their mother is doing. Kalie, a 10th grade student at Cleveland High School, said, "My Mom is a very strong and inspiring person. She is an example to me that I can do something great, because if she can do it then I can too." JonCaleb, 7th grade student at Margaret Green Junior High, said "It is so good for her to go to college and finish her degree. She makes me want to listen and do better in school."

Sharon Mathis Krugler also represents a growing trend being observed in philanthropy today. It is an ever increasing number of people who go unnoticed in making their daily sacrifices to give financial gifts to foundations consistently month-after-month to transform lives.

For more Alumni and Foundation success stories, please visit youtube.com/dsucommark or facebook.com/deltastateuniversityalumni or follow us at twitter.com/DSU_Alumni.

Busch's Commitment to Students

Though she's only been in town a little less than two years, Dr. Monique Busch, Assistant Professor of Social Work, has grown attached to Cleveland, Delta State, and her students in the Social Work program. The Portland, OR, native made the move to her new "hometown." "The community and Delta State have been so welcoming," Busch said.

One of the first things Dr. Busch does with her students is evaluate their needs in order to succeed. She then provides them with her time, guidance, and motivation for their educational journeys to receive their degrees. "I feel grateful that I'm in a position to help and improve their skills. To see them graduate is such a reward."

Dr. Busch also had an idea to ensure that

social work students have the chance to get a degree while taking on life's challenges. Her idea began to become a reality after hearing a presentation to students by Keith Fulcher ('83), Alumni-Foundation Executive Director. "Keith came to a Senior Tea where we were honoring students and faculty. He did a plug for the students to give back but also made a plug for faculty members to consider what we might do," she explained.

Within two weeks Busch designated the University as a beneficiary of a \$100,000 life insurance policy. Dr. Busch said "most of the funds will be in the form of scholarships, while a portion will remain available for needs of the Social Work department" "I've seen so many needs with my students, and I just want to give them every opportunity to



do the very best they can," she explained.

For more information about making a difference in students' lives, please call (662) 846-4704.

Career Path Changed from Vo-Tech to Medicine

Dr. David Webber ('78), of Greenville, can honestly say attending Delta State changed his life. While in high school, Webber looked forward to a future in the tool and die industry, but little did he know his career path would take a different direction.

"I was pretty good [at the trade], and I was offered a scholarship to Mississippi Delta Junior College's vo-tech program. I had to make a decision," Dr. Webber explained. However, after coaxing from his girlfriend and the fact that two life-long friends, Petrone and Tetrone Woodard, were already attending DSU, Webber chose to turn down the scholarship at Mississippi Delta Junior College and enroll as a history major at Delta State. It wasn't long though until he reconsidered his choice of majors because of a friendly bet he made with his then-girlfriend.

She was a pre-dental major and was in need of a tutor for her Western Civilization class. Webber told her if he took her chemistry class and made an "A," then he could surely tutor her in history and help her get an "A" as well. "I got an 'A' in Chemistry," explained Webber, "but when I tutored her in Western Civilization she got a 'B.'" Webber then decided to pursue a chemistry degree.

David Webber graduated from Delta State University with a BA in Political Science in 1978 and added a BS in Chemistry in 1979. Later in the same year he was accepted to pharmacy school at the University of Mississippi and graduated in 1982. After working as a pharmacist in his hometown of Greenville for two years, Webber decided to enter medical school. He applied for and was admitted into West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine in 1984 and graduated in 1988. Dr. Webber did his residency at the Medical College of Ohio in Toledo from 1989–1991. He then decided it was time to head "south towards home," and he did just that in 1991.



Webber started his career in small-town Marianna, AR, and then grew his practice by opening clinics in West Helena and expanding to Forrest City. "I've got three offices and about 25 employees," he said. "And it all started at Delta State."

Webber was influenced by many faculty members while at DSU, and the teachers remember him well. Dr. Henry Outlaw, Chair Emeritus of the Department of Physical Sciences, commented that he "was not only an excellent student in chemistry, he was a leader in the classroom and laboratory. Because of his high energy level, intelligence, focus, and charismatic personality, it was easy to predict that David was going to be very successful in his chosen field of medicine."

Dr. Joe Greever, a retired Professor of Chemistry, recalled Webber as one of his "best laboratory assistants in organic chemistry I had

during my tenure. I knew after working with him for two years that he could succeed at any task he took on. If I lived in the same area as David Webber, I would be proud to have him as my personal physician."

Like so many alumni, Dr. Webber also made a decision to give back to Delta State University. He established the "James Adams Memorial Scholarship" in memory of one of his classmates. The scholarship was established to provide two annual scholarships for up to \$500 each for qualifying African-American students. Dr. Webber continues to support other areas of the University as well.



To make a gift to the James Adams Memorial Scholarship scan the QR code with your smart phone, visit deltastate.edu/pages/481.asp, or email foundation@deltastate.edu

Common Threads

Rick Shepherd and Earnest Hart have never met, yet these two Delta State University alums have much in common. Both graduated from Delta State in 1977 and share a mutual love of antique cars. Most importantly, both Shepherd and Hart share the same “giving-back” philosophy, as they have both provided needed scholarships for Delta State students and have served on the Delta State University Foundation Board of Directors.

“I’ve been very blessed throughout my life, and Delta State has played a very important role in my business success,” said Shepherd, who is also a board member for the Mississippi Rural Water Association, the local Planters Bank, and Washington County Crime Stoppers. “My philosophy is to ‘pass it forward.’”

Hart, an avid Habitat for Humanity Metro Jackson volunteer, echoed Shepherd’s sentiments: “If you give freely with an open heart, you’ll be rewarded in ways you can’t imagine. This allows you to give more, and the cycle will continue. Along the way, you’re helping others and making a difference. What can be more gratifying?”

Shepherd, a Greenville native and President of Faulkner Pipe and Supply Company, started working at the company in his senior year of high school as a three-week temporary worker and has been with the company ever since. “Robert Swanner hired me for inside work, but the first afternoon, they handed me a thrasher, and I cut weeds along a right-of-way,” he recalled. “Then after three weeks, I still needed a job, so instead of asking if I could stay, I just kept coming back.”

Soon, Shepherd’s boss persuaded him to work in the sales side of the business. “I didn’t think I was salesman material,” he said. “It made me very uncomfortable, so Mr. Swanner came up with a compromise. I’d spend three days a week selling and two days in the office.” The plan worked well, and in 1986 Shepherd was offered an opportunity to buy Faulkner Pipe’s Greenville plant as part of the company’s massive restructuring.

“I paid off the business loans in record time,” Shepherd explained. “Dropping off that final payment in person gave me a great feeling.” In 2009, Shepherd sold Faulkner Pipe to Dennington Moss, who retained him on a consulting basis and recently extended his contract.

“I wanted to give back to Delta State by establishing a scholarship, so in 2003 I set up the Faulkner Business and Education Endowed Scholarship,” stated Rick Shepherd. “It is for business and education majors, since I first pursued an education degree and later switched to business administration.” The scholarship is awarded to two students annually.

Hart, who studied art and design at East Central Junior College, transferred to Delta State because the school “had a reputation of having a really great fine arts program. I’d heard it was actually the best among all the other state universities,” he said.

Delta State lived up to his expectations as he continued his fine arts education. “Once on campus and enrolled in the commercial art program, I found the education and instruction to be more than I’d hoped for,” said Hart of the professors who helped fine-tune his career plan. “I’ll never forget my fine arts, design, and sculpture teachers—Sammy Britt, Jerry Walden, and Floyd Shaman.”

After earning a commercial arts degree from Delta State, Hart launched a successful commercial art and graphic design career that lasted for more than two decades at various newspapers. He then moved into the digital arena. “I still use my illustration and graphics skills on an almost daily basis to design logos and multimedia presentations for clarionledger.com,” said Hart, assistant managing editor/digital for *The Clarion-Ledger*, Mississippi’s largest daily newspaper. “When I was asked to join the Delta State University Foundation Board in November 2008, I couldn’t say no. I knew it was time to give something back to Delta State.”

Hart, who is starting his second three-year



term of service on the Foundation Board of Directors, is helping to raise millions of dollars through its fundraising campaign. He has also provided funds to initiate the Delta State University Foundation Scholars Fund for aspiring Delta State students. “At this point in my life, I feel extremely blessed with a successful 34-year career, a lovely wife in a 30-year marriage, two wonderful god-children, pets, a nice home, and other hobbies,” he said. “I plan to bring whatever I have to offer to the table in the form of time, money, involvement, and support.”

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LIVING LEGACY

Hugh Ellis Walker Sr. Leaves Legacy in Many Ways, Including Scholarships

For Hugh Ellis Walker Sr. ('52), joining Delta State as Alumni Secretary in 1969 was a life-defining moment. Another one occurred in 1987, when he was named Executive Director of the Alumni/Foundation. His contributions were so great that the house that hosts the Alumni/Foundation staff is named in his honor.

The Alumni Association now has scholarship money available in Walker's honor. The Hugh Ellis Walker Scholarship is a one-time stipend for incoming students whose parents are active members of the DSU Alumni Association.

"I've always loved Delta State. I'd had some success... and always wanted to come back," said Walker, Mr. Delta State and president of the Student Government Association (SGA) in 1952. "It had always been a burning desire of mine to come back in some capacity."

The call to Delta State came in 1969. During his tenure, he served as a faculty/staff representative to Omicron Delta Kappa, a national honorary leadership fraternity. In 1993, the Delta State SGA honored Walker with the Distinguished Service Award. The Hugh Ellis Walker Alumni Foundation House was dedicated in 1996.

Even though Walker hit many milestones

in his role as the liaison to alumni and the university, the early years were not all rosy. In fact, his greatest challenge was getting alumni members involved in campus events.

"It was a constant struggle to be creative and get folks involved, from donations to chapter meeting participation," recalled Walker. "Of course, I loved athletics. About the time I came onboard, we started doing well and I used that success as a way to involve alumni."

Walker's involvement on campus has long reach into the community. He served as deacon of First Baptist Church in Cleveland. He presided over the Cleveland Noon Lions Club, for which he received the Distinguished Service Award in the mid-1980s, and served on the Cleveland-Bolivar County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. He received the President's Award for each of the two terms he served as chairman of the chamber's Membership Committee. In 1998, he stepped up to fulfill the city alderman post vacated by the death of an alderman.

When Walker was inducted into the Alumni Hall of Fame during Homecoming 2011 festivities, he was surrounded by family and friends. Just the mention of extended family sparks his enthusiasm: Eloise Stratton, his wife

of 61 years as of Aug. 19, their two children—Hugh Ellis Walker Jr. and Sheri Lynn Walker Wright—and the five grandchildren and two "great-grands."

"Hugh Jr. has three sons, all with strong legs," he said, with a chuckle. "Hugh III is a graduate of the Air Force Academy, where he played on the soccer team. He's also an F-16 pilot who just returned from Libya where he was involved in the Gadhafi situation. Bryan Walker is a former Delta State football kicker, and Taylor Walker is a community-college transfer who also kicks now for Delta State."

Sheri's children also have strong Delta State ties. Patti, an alum, lives in Texas; Katie played on the Delta State women's softball team. They gave Walker his "great-grands," Bryce and Mallory.

"If everyone knew how wonderful Delta State is, the university would be flooded," said Walker. "To make it easier financially on alumni families, scholarship dollars are available for their children—if they pay their alumni dues."

Opportunities are also available to make a gift to the Hugh Ellis Walker Scholarship Fund. For more information, contact the Hugh Ellis Walker Alumni and Foundation House at (662) 846-4794 or email jjfarris@deltastate.edu.

By LYNNE JETER

surfing the sky

Delta State University is first in Mississippi, second in the nation to offer a skydiving course.





Learning how to jump from a plane thousands of feet above the ground requires plain talk: Check parachute equipment. Hold onto the side of the aircraft door with two hands, perching your body on the threshold until your instructor gives the countdown. Assume a stable arch back as you fall. Then spread your wings and start surfing the sky.

“Mentally, skydiving is an incredibly refreshing break from the everyday stressors,” said Davis. “While there’s a lot of talk around the minimal dangers of skydiving, many people often overlook the benefits associated with the sport. The truth is there are many benefits people find when they’re involved in skydiving—it’s fun, exciting, safe, and challenging!”

As simple as it sounds, quite a bit of training is involved in skydiving, an outdoor recreational sport that Delta State recently added to its portfolio of offerings to students, faculty, alumni, and community members, which already includes white-water rafting, rock climbing, and mountain biking.

The new *Introduction to Skydiving* course, held every fall and spring, is the brainchild of alum Don Ehrhardt ('07), network systems administrator with Delta State's SunGard Higher Education and Office of Information Technology, who proposed the concept in 2009.

“Don is an active and practicing skydiver with over 100 skydives, including a dive from a hot air balloon at 8,000 feet,” said Todd M. Davis, coordinator for recreation leadership and outdoor education for the Health, Physical Education, and Recreation (HPER) Outdoor Recreation Program and holder of the Dave

Heflin Professorship at Delta State. “He’s passionate about the sport and is an advocate for the education behind skydiving.”

For many years, Ehrhardt served as a co-guide on several major Delta State expeditions, including a six-day Rio Grande Canoe expedition, multi-day Mississippi River Canoe expeditions, and rock climbing trips. He openly discusses how skydiving was a catalyst for him to stop smoking, lead an active lifestyle, and stay in shape.

“After researching the idea, Don found that Ohio State University had conducted a credited course for skydiving that was very successful,” said Davis. “For over a year, Don kept approaching me, asking when I was going to develop a skydiving class. In 2010, I decided to investigate the idea and developed a proposal. I, too, found that other universities and colleges around the nation were offering extreme sport education as a means to promote active lifestyles, support individualized recreation activity, and introduce students to an active culture for adrenaline sports.”

College of Education Dean Leslie Griffin, Division for HPER Chair Tim Colbert ('86), and Gold Coast Skydiving Center staff were also supportive of the plan.

Davis, a former helicopter rescue swimmer for the U.S. Coast Guard, who got his adrenaline rush from jumping into cold seas from Alaska to Cape Cod, had never skydived, yet he believed the sport might be an important endeavor to offer students for several reasons. “Skydiving cultures are extremely inclusive to those involved in the sport, something which I feel strongly about when introducing new participants to any recreational activity,” he pointed out.

“Skydiving, although contrary to thought, is very safe. Governed by the Federal Aviation Agency (FAA), the sport of skydiving has

numerous safety protocols and required redundancy equipment, along with curriculum and jump-level certifications, which are monitored by skydiving associations and drop-zone managers. I feel it’s my position at the university to develop a comprehensive, progressive, developmentally, and instructionally appropriate, fun, safe, entrepreneurial, and intriguing recreation program at the university level—a recreation program that inspires, motivates, and provides unique opportunities for DSU students to witness human-powered recreation in its purest form. More so, I felt that skydiving was more than a sport, rather an art, or an opportunity to feel emotions which couldn’t be felt in any—and I mean any—other way.”

Davis had extra steps to cover to make the credited course a reality. The Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning’s Office of Risk and Assessment approved the plan, as did the Dean’s Office in the College of Education. The final step included approval by the Provost’s Office. Last August, sign-up for the inaugural *Introduction to Skydiving* course was robust. Of 47 participants who successfully parachuted to the ground, 17 were alumni.

“One significant item of discussion for the DSU course was that students weren’t required to skydive to receive a passing grade,” said Davis. “The intent of the course was to simply expose the students to the sport, teach students the basics, show students the gear involved, and develop informed consumers in the extreme sport realm by providing them an opportunity to see a Skydive Drop Zone in operation. Once at the Drop Zone, students would be allowed to participate in a short ground-school seminar and watch other people skydive who weren’t part of the course. Only after all of the required components of the course would students make their own decisions whether or not to skydive.”



The curriculum, developed by skydiving professionals, included special guests such as:

- Pro Skydiver and BASE jumper Miles Daisher with the Red Bull Air Force, who stars in the soon-to-be-released IMAX/3D Digital movie, “Human Flight 3D”
 - Gary Holm of theflyingfatguy.com, who recently was featured on CBS’s “The Early Show”
 - Bill Jackson of the Army Golden Knights, a retired World Champion Accuracy and Style jumper
 - Leanne Igo and Vincent Moore with Gold Coast Skydivers, who shared information about The Pink Mafia, a worldwide organization for female skydivers established at Gold Coast Skydivers
 - Charlie Metcalfe, a retired drop-zone manager and jump pilot who detailed skydiving history and demonstrated sport parachute gear
 - Rusty Robinson, who discussed human flight in a wingsuit
 - Don Ehrhardt (’06) and Nathan O’Neal (’05), who demonstrated a variety of formation skydiving jumpsuits
-



HONORING A *Legend*

By Matt Jones



By any measure, Margaret Wade is a legend. No ifs, ands, or buts about it. Her exploits as the head coach of the Lady Statesmen basketball team from 1973–1979 are, well, simply legendary. When looking back on her career, Wade did more for the game of women’s basketball, women’s rights, and the growth of Delta State University than anyone could accurately measure.

Delta State recently announced a plan to further honor her legacy with a statue adjacent to Kent Wyatt Hall depicting the larger-than-life Wade. The \$80,000 project fund-raising efforts have been spearheaded by a committee comprised of Caroline Laudig Gaines, Lucy Richardson Janoush ('78), and Ed Kossman ('59).

“Our challenge was to find a proper way to honor Wade’s memory here at DSU, and we believe we have done so,” said Keith Fulcher, Alumni-Foundation Executive Director. “The statue will give fans of women’s basketball a place to reflect on Wade’s contributions to the game and her commitment to the Mississippi Delta.”

Renowned Mississippi sculptor William Beckwith, who created the sculpture of William Faulkner on the square in Oxford, has been commissioned to produce the Wade piece. The Taylor, MS, native has created many memorable pieces across the state, including the statue of B.B. King in Indianola; Jefferson Davis at Beauvoir in Biloxi; Jim Henson and Kermit the Frog at the William Percy Library in Greenville; and the Flag Bearer of the Mississippi 11th at the Gettysburg National Military Park in Gettysburg, PA.

Fundraising for the statue has been ongoing for over six months, and to date the DSU Foundation has raised over \$50,000 towards the project. Donations have ranged from a little as \$25 to as large as \$5,000. Anyone



interested in donating to the Margaret Wade Fund may call (662) 846-4704 or visit [facebook.com/coachmargaretwade](https://www.facebook.com/coachmargaretwade) for more information.

No single individual has had a larger impact on women's basketball than Wade. The Women's Basketball Coaches Association, the premier coaches organization in the country for women's coaches, recognizes her as the "Mother of modern women's college basketball" and named its player of the year award after the Mississippi Delta legend. The "Lily Margaret Wade Trophy" is annually awarded to the nation's top women's basketball player, and in 1978 Montclair State guard Carol Blazejoski became the first recipient.

Wade's legacy on the court is without question. Coach Wade retired following the

1978-79 season with a career record of 465-85. She guided the Lady Statesmen to three consecutive AIAW National Championships in 1975, 1976, and 1977, and her winning percentage (.789) remains one of the greatest of all time.

Wade began her odyssey with basketball as a forward on the Lady Wildcat basketball team at Cleveland High School in the mid-1920s. After graduating, she became a standout on the court for the Lady Statesmen basketball team in 1929.

In 1932, Delta State Teachers College disbanded the program and ended a promising playing career for Wade. Quoting a statement released by school officials in 1932, "Intercollegiate basketball could not be defended on sound grounds."

Coach Wade stated, "We really didn't have a choice, and it was especially tough on me since I had another year remaining." Wade added, "Administration thought the game was too tough for young ladies, so we burned our uniforms."

The decision to cancel the program could have been crippling to Wade and her career, but the Cleveland native took that fire and built a coaching career unrivaled at the time in women's basketball.

For 25 years, she patrolled the sidelines as head coach at Cleveland High School, directing the program to a 308-62 record with countless tournament titles to her credit.

In 1972, Delta State President Aubrey Lucas turned to Wade, who was an instructor in the Health, Physical Education, and Recreation Department, to rebuild a Lady Statesmen program that had been dormant for 40 years. "That first meeting was something. I was stunned," stated Wade. "I had been away from coaching for 14 years."

Wade found the passion she had as a player at Delta State and used it to fuel her desire to turn her alma mater into a national power. From the start, it was clear Wade's Lady Statesmen would make a mark in the Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW).

Under Coach Wade's leadership, the Lady Statesmen erupted onto the national stage, winning four Mississippi state championships, three regional titles, and three national

Year-By-Year Record

1973-74	16-2
1974-75	28-0 AIAW National Champions
1975-76	33-1 AIAW National Champions
1976-77	32-3 AIAW National Champions
1977-78	27-5
1978-79	21-12
Totals	157-23 (.872)

Career Accolades

- 1975** AIAW National Champions
- 1975** Inducted into MS Sports Hall of Fame
- 1976** AIAW National Champions
- 1977** AIAW National Champions
- 1977** Kellogg's National Coach of the Year
- 1978** Wade Trophy established by WBCA
- 1988** Inducted into National Basketball Hall of Fame

championships. Her record during the first four years back was a jaw-dropping 109-6, an astonishing .947 winning percentage.

She retired following the 1979 season with a 157-23 record as the head coach of the Lady Statesmen. In 1986, she became the first woman and first women's coach to be inducted into the National Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, MA. She is also a member of the Delta State University and Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame.

Wade's legacy to Delta State and women's basketball is evident in the program she coached to three national titles. Former head coach Lloyd Clark directed the program to 495 wins and three national titles, and current head coach Sandra Rushing has led DSU to 254 victories and four conference titles in her time at DSU.

"Her legacy can be seen everywhere," Rushing stated. "When you walk into Sillers Coliseum you see all the championship banners hanging from the rafters and you feel a sense of obligation to her memory."

That sense of obligation was a driving force behind the statue project at Delta State. Come November, Margaret Wade's presence will once again be a mainstay a few short steps away from the hallowed court she once called home.

Class Notes

1950s

1952



LINDH

David Lindh, of Gulfport, recently wrote and dedicated his first collection of poetry entitled *Verse to Ms. Evelyn Hammett*.

Hugh Ellis Walker, of Cleveland, was inducted into the Delta State University Alumni Hall of Fame at Homecoming on November 4.

1955



BINGHAM

Bebe Carter Bingham, of Grand Prairie, TX, recently accepted a position as President of the Grand Prairie Independent School District's Board of Trustees.

Bill Ray, of Hattiesburg, has received the HUB Award for 2011 in Hattiesburg for his contributions to the community, commitment to excellence, and dedication to public service.

1960s

1962

Amb. Jeanette Hyde, of Raleigh, NC, was awarded an honorary doctorate from Wake Forest University. Hyde is a former U.S. ambassador to Barbados, Grenada, and several other countries, and was DSU's "Alumnus of the Year" in 2000.

1963

Bobby Harper, of Columbus, has joined Renasant Bank as a senior vice president and business development officer.

1970s

1970

Dr. Ronald Chance, of Naples, FL, was inducted into the Delta State University Alumni Hall of Fame at Homecoming on November 4.

Curtis Kyrerd, of Raymond, was inducted into the 2011 Hinds Community College Sports Hall of Fame.

Nancy Woods, of Indianola, was recently named one of the 2011 Top Volunteers of the Delta by the *Delta Business Journal*.

1972

Jack Kyle, of Minter City, will be spending 15 days in China trying to persuade cultural officials to loan some of the nation's porcelain to the proposed Mississippi Arts Pavilion and Gardens. Kyle is working to develop this world-class art museum in downtown Greenwood.

Jean Eakin Jones, of Porter, TX, was promoted to Director of Laboratory Administration for St. Michael's Labs, Inc., which has clinical laboratories in Houston, Dallas, San Antonio, and Las Vegas.

1973

Duncan Baird, of Cleveland, was awarded the Mississippi Humanities Council's 2011-12 Teacher Award in the Wright Art Gallery at Delta State University. Baird serves as Delta State's Associate Professor of Art.

1974

Patricia G. Wood, of Cleveland, recently integrated a new art program at Presbyterian Day School in Cleveland.

1975

Margaret Ferriss White, of Madison, represented the Division of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation at Delta State University's College of Education 2011 Outstanding Alumni Luncheon.

1976

Richard "Rickey" Berry, of Brandon, has been named the new Mississippi Department of Human Services Executive Director.

Anne Hart Preus, of Boyle, has recently released *Stories from the Hart* (published by AuthorHouse). Her book is a memoir about growing up in Tallahatchie County in the 1950s and '60s.

1977

Bill Crump, of Cleveland, was recently named one of the 2011 Top Volunteers of the Delta by the *Delta Business Journal*.

1978

Ramona Von Boeckman Balducci, of Madisonville, LA, was recently inducted into the Horn Lake High School Hall of Fame.

Janice Tolbert Phillips, of Madison, received the Hugh Ellis Walker Alumni Service award at Homecoming on November 4.

Dr. William Ross Story, of Cleveland, was awarded the Legacy Award at Homecoming on November 4, which is presented to an alumnus who made an institution-changing impact on the university.

1979

Henry Walker, of Cleveland, was named one of the 2011 Top Volunteers of the Delta by the *Delta Business Journal*.

Verdie Cile Reed Williams, of Charleston, was named Southeast Ohio Secondary Math Teacher of the Year by The Ohio Council of Teachers of Mathematics (OCTM).

1980s

1982

Jimmy Avery, of Cleveland, was awarded the Spirit of Excellence award at Mississippi State University's Delta Research and Extension Center. Avery is the only Extension catfish specialist.



CATES

Victor "Bubba" Cates, of Martin, TN, was named the 2010 Jerry Kindall Character in Coaching Award recipient by the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Cates is the head baseball coach at the University of Tennessee-Martin.



WATKINS

Dr. Timothy Bruce Watkins, of Lake Village, AR, represented the Division of Teacher Education, Leadership, and Research at Delta State University's College of Education 2011 Outstanding Alumni Luncheon.

1983

Mark Hargett, of Boyle, was given the S.E. Kossman Award from the Cleveland-Bolivar County Chamber of Commerce at the 2011 Chamber Banquet.

Nancy Disharoon Loomer, of Clinton, was named the Outstanding "Alumnus of the Year" at the 2011 Homecoming Awards Gala on November 4 and was also inducted into the Delta State University Alumni Hall of Fame.

1984



MOREHEAD

Dr. Billy Morehead, of Madison, delivered the keynote address at Delta State's 2011 Fall Commencement.

1986

Anthony Garcia, of Matthews, NC, has recently been appointed to the American Council of Life Insurers' Board of Directors through 2013.

David Leatherwood, of Fulton, has recently retired after 31½ years in the Army National Guard, with 15 of those being Active Duty Guard.

Sandy Solomon, of Leland, was nominated for the 2011 Heart of Hospice Award from the Louisiana-Mississippi Hospice and Palliative Care Organization.

Sam Washington, of Cleveland, has accepted a position with Delta State University's Department of Commercial Aviation.

1987

Victor Pittman, of Madison, has been elected Vice President of the American Beverage Licensees (ABL).

1989

Pamela Gunter, of Jackson, was named one of *Mississippi Business Journal's* 50 Leading Businesswomen of 2011.

1990s

1990

Maggie Barnes-Campbell, of Indianola, was recently named one of the 2011 Top Volunteers of the Delta by the *Delta Business Journal*.

Kelly Kiker, of Belzoni, was promoted to First Vice President and Director of Transaction Systems at BankPlus.

1991

John Brindley, of Indianola, was recently named one of the 2011 Top Volunteers of the Delta by the *Delta Business Journal*.

1992

Dr. Kimberly Broadwater, of Cleveland, was named the 2011 "Alumna of the Year" by DSU's Department of Music for her professional career as a musician, educator, and civic leader.

1993



GRIFFITH

David Griffith, of Cleveland, was recently inducted as the 2011 Realtor Hall of Fame for the Cleveland Board of Realtors and has been appointed to serve on the Real Property Value Committee for the National Association of Realtors in 2012.

Janet Ray, of Indianola, recently accepted a position as headmaster at North Sunflower Academy.

1994

Marion Howard, of Greenwood, was recently named one of the 2011 Top Volunteers of the Delta by the *Delta Business Journal*.

1995



ARMOUR

Rob Armour, of Madison, was hired as Executive Vice President and Chief Marketing and Business Development Officer of BankPlus.

Liza Vaughn, of Boyle, was named one of the Top 50 Business Women by the *Mississippi Business Journal*. Vaughn is the assistant director for the Delta State Alumni Association.

1997

Dr. Ryan Akers, of Starkville, will provide statewide leadership in the development and implementation of Extension emergency management programming. He is currently an assistant professor at Mississippi State University's Extension Service.

Serena Rasberry Clark, of Madison, was awarded the Kent Wyatt "Young Alumnus" Service Award at Homecoming 2011.

Dodie McElmurray, of Belzoni, was named one of *Mississippi Business Journal's* 50 Leading Businesswomen of 2011.

1998

Dr. Christopher J. M. Cummins, of Blue Mountain, was recently promoted to Major in the Mississippi Army National Guard as Brigade Surgeon for the 155th BCT "Dixie Thunder" after returning from Afghanistan.

1999

Chad Cooper, of Greenville, has recently joined Grand Bank Mortgage Center as a loan originator.

Lee Gladden, of Cleveland, won the Cleveland Country Club Golf Championship on August 14.

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With the Classes



HOLLINGSWORTH

Julie Hollingsworth, of Cleveland, has been named the Health Care Marketing Professional of the year by the state of Mississippi.



LOGAN

Libbi Logan, of Cleveland, was recently named one of the 2011 Top Volunteers of the Delta by the *Delta Business Journal*. Logan is the President of the Cleveland-Bolivar County Chamber of Commerce.

2000s

2000

Dr. Leigh Edwards, of Cleveland, has joined the staff at River Oaks Hospital as a board-certified doctor.



GRIERSON

Dr. Randy Grierson, of Cleveland, was recently named principal of East Side High School.



LEE

Andy Lee, of Cleveland, led the 2011 Louisiana State University-Eunice Lady Bengal Softball Team to win the NJCAA D2 National Championship.



MANCINI

Paul "Bubba" Mancini, of Cleveland, was recently named one of the 2011 Top Volunteers of the Delta by the *Delta Business Journal*.

Thomas Jeffrey Triplett, of Coldwater, has been hired as a full-time music instructor at Northwest Mississippi Community College in Senatobia. Triplett teaches applied low-brass, guitar, and assists with the bands.



WHITLEY

Jeffrey Whitley, of Memphis, TN, recently became a partner with Fouts and Morgan Accounting firm in Memphis.

2001



BRADHAM

Will Bradham, of Cleveland, was recently named one of the 2011 Top Volunteers of the Delta by the *Delta Business Journal*. He also just opened a business called Right at Home Care and Assistance based out of Northwest Mississippi and the Mississippi Delta, where he serves as President.



GILLESPIE

Makita Donerson-Gillespie, of Forney, TX, received her doctorate in Supervision in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in Reading from Texas A&M-Commerce.

Jason Patterson, of Yazoo City, was recently named the editor and publisher of *The Yazoo Herald*.

2002

Ryan England, of Southaven, has received State Farm's prestigious Chairman's Circle Award.



KIRK

Andy Kirk, of Fulton, was hired as the new Head Fastpitch Coach at Itawamba Community College.

Dr. Hunter McIntyre, of Wynne, AR, represented the Division of Counselor Education and Psychology at Delta State University's College of Education 2011 Outstanding Alumni Luncheon.

2004



COLLINS

Hays Collins, of Brandon, was recently published twice in the *Wall Street Journal* as well as *Sports Illustrated* for his sports photography. He also recently launched the state's newest sports publication, *Mississippi Scoreboard*.

Dr. Joy Long, of Cleveland, has recently opened Long Chiropractic, a new chiropractic clinic in Cleveland.

Jamie Patterson, of Yazoo City, was recently named one of the 2011 Top Volunteers of the Delta by the *Delta Business Journal*.

Matt Sledge, of Cleveland, is now a Farm Bureau Insurance Agent in Cleveland.

2005

Patrick House, of Bluffton, SC, will serve as spokesperson of WellnessPlus (a subsidiary of BankPlus) webinars as well as educate WellnessPlus employees on the importance of exercise and healthy eating habits.

2006

Sulee Blansett, of Cleveland, was selected as Bell Academy's Teacher of the Month for January 2012.



GIACCAGLIA

Laura Parker Giaccaglia, of Cleveland, represented the Division of Family and Consumer Sciences at Delta State University's College of Education 2011 Outstanding Alumni Luncheon.

Charles Lamb, of Beulah, recently graduated from Mississippi Highway Patrol School Class 60. Lamb will serve as a highway patrolman for Bolivar County.

2007

Curtis Burchfield, of New Albany, has been selected as the outstanding faculty member for the 2011-12 Higher Education Appreciation Day-Working for Academic Excellence (HEADWAE) Awards.



RAYBORN

Russell Rayborn, of Wiggins, recently accepted a position as a State Farm agent.

2008



MILLER

Marsha Miller, MSN, RN, of Warren, AR, has been elected Arkansas Nurses Association (ARNA) District 02 (Ashley, Bradley, Chicot, Desha, Drew counties) President and serves on the Arkansas Nurses Association Healthcare Policy Committee.

Savannah Reis, of Tupelo, recently accepted a position teaching second grade at Madison Station Elementary School in Madison, MS.



STANTON

Mark Stanton, of Raymond, has accepted a position as District Director of Student Activities for the six campuses of Hinds Community College.

2009

Laura Abraham, of Cleveland, was selected as Bell Academy's Teacher of the Month for February 2012.

Fernando Reis, of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, was promoted to Human Resources/Safety Coordinator for Sanderson Farms, Inc., in Hazlehurst, MS.

2010

Tavares Johnson, of Cleveland, recently accepted a position as head football coach at Vicksburg High School.



TACKETT

Jeremy Tackett, of Greenville, recently enlisted in the Army National Guard as a Warrant Officer. After basic training and flight school, he will be based in Greenville, SC, flying a CH-47 Chinook Helicopter.

Elizabeth Rayborn, of Wiggins, recently accepted a position as an accountant at Forrest General Hospital.

2011

Rory Doyle, of Phoenix, AZ, has been named the new Management Trainee with the Cheshire YMCA of New Hampshire.

Bevin Lamb, of Cleveland, accepted a position as Senior Secretary at Delta State's Office of Communications and Marketing.

Chris Smith, of Cleveland, recently accepted a position as a Senior Consultant for Booz Allen Hamilton in Centreville, Virginia.



SMITH

James Raymond Smith, III, of Newark, DE, has been named Director of Multimedia for the University of Delaware athletics department.

Shannon Woodward, of Cleveland, recently accepted a position teaching English, creative writing, and reading at North Sunflower Academy.

Attended

Gail W. Muse, of Jackson, was named one of *Mississippi Business Journal's* 50 Leading Businesswomen of 2011.

Larry Weems, of Flowood, was inducted into the 2011 Hinds Community College Sports Hall of Fame.

Faculty & Staff

Dr. Luther Brown, director of the Delta Center for Culture and Learning, recently received an award from the Mississippi Delta Strategic Compact for his work promoting tourism.

Gary Bouse, of Cleveland, accepted a position in the DSU Alumni & Foundation Office for Development.

Brittany Herndon, of Tupelo, accepted a position as Senior Alumni Secretary for the Delta State Alumni Association.

Sharon Krugler, of Cleveland, was recently honored at the National Philanthropy Day event in Jackson as the 2011 Association of Fundraising Professionals Fundraiser of the Year at Delta State University.

Tricia Walker, of Cleveland, recently released a gospel album entitled *Farther Along*.

2012 ALUMNI AWARDS



Deadline to submit nominations for the Delta State University Alumni Association Service Awards for 2012 is May 4. Scan here with your smart phone to print the nomination form.

- ☑ Outstanding Alumnus of the Year
- ☑ Alumni Hall of Fame

- ☑ Kent Wyatt "Young Alumnus of the Year" Award
- ☑ Hugh Ellis Walker Alumni Service Award

- ☑ Gladys Castle "Friend of Delta State" Award
- ☑ Legacy Award

SUBMIT TO: DSU Alumni Association, P. O. Box 3104, Cleveland, MS 38733
For more information contact Jeffrey Farris, (662) 846-4794.

NOMINATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED OR DELIVERED BY MAY 4, 2012.

Baby Statesmen

All dates are in 2011 unless otherwise noted.



ABLES

Josiah Price to M/M Stacy Ables (**Paula Turner '98**), of Southaven, on September 21.



BROWN

Meega Alana to M/M **Shannon Griffith Brown '02** (**Martha Cole '05**), of Cleveland, on March 25.



CANNON

Josie Weeks to M/M **Sean Cannon '97** (**Julia Gaston '00**), of Fulton, on November 17.



CASAVECHI

Hayden Brent to M/M Brent Casavechia (**Lauren Steidle '08**), of Greenville, on June 1.



CHRISTMAS

Nora Claire to M/M Tyler Christmas (**Maggie Washington '07**), of Merigold, on April 25.



EDWARD

Master Charles Edward Stuart to Major/M **Christopher J M Cummins, MD '98** (**Eliana Cummins**), of Blue Mountain, on September 15.



ENGLAND

Carlisle Katherine to M/M **Brian Ellis '07** (**Courtney Peaden**), of Cleveland on March 8.



FARMER

Taylor Elias to M/M **Ryan Taylor England '02** (**Robbye Griffin '00**), of Southaven, on September 29.



FITZGERALD

Amelia Caris to M/M **Cameron Farmer '05** (**Erin Selvy '05**), of Jackson, on October 14.



HODGES

Waverly Kate to M/M **Keith Fitzgerald '04** (**Karen Giardina '07**), of Brandon, on September 15.

Eli Thomas to M/M **Darrin Hardesty '09** (**Natalie Pickard '08**), of Cleveland, on June 22.

James McBee to M/M **Christopher Hodges '06** (**Kathryn Brookshire Barnes '08**), of Madison, on December 8.

George Braxton to M/M George Evan Horn (**Tessa Taylor '02**), of Durant, on February 4.

Case Everett to M/M T. A. Jennings (**Lindsay Harkins '06**), of Merigold, on December 1.

Madelyn Grant to Dr/M Will Jennings (**Madelyn Black '00**), of Tupelo, on February 2.

Lily Elizabeth to M/M **Brent Leach '05** (**Sara Farris '06**), of Brandon, on November 27.

Matthew Benson to M/M **Parker Lipscomb '06** (**Olivia Hendricks '04**), of Ridgeland, on September 14.



LEACH

Alexander Caine to M/M Allen Caine Little (**April Home '99**), of Cleveland, on February 22.



LIPSCOMB

Piper Grey to M/M **Jeremy McClain '99** (**Christie Cannon '00**), of Cleveland, on July 27.



MESSER

Ella Grey to M/M Greylin McMaster (**Barbara McMaster '05**), of Madison, on December 19.



PARKTON

Tatum Elizabeth to M/M Cory Messer (**Whitney Carollo '08**), of Brandon, on January 20.



PATE

Ashton Brosnham to M/M **Brian Parkton '01** (**Mollie Cook**), of Fort Walton Beach, FL, on August 11.



PHILLEY

Mabry Alan to M/M **Brady Pate '08** (**Ann Marie Mayers '04**), of Cleveland, on December 27.



SPENCER

Jackson Norwood to M/M **Tyler Philley '04** (**Meredith Scott '00**), of Tupelo, on August 17.



SWEEDEN

Avonly Bailey to M/M Curt Spencer (**Alicia Bailey '04**), of Hernando, on December 1.



WALLEY

Sophie Elizabeth to M/M **Bruce Sweeden '05** (**Debra Tonos**), of Atlanta, GA, on May 17.



YBARRA

Thad Steele to M/M **Steven Tomaszewski '02** (**Lauranne Vance '03**), of Ocean Springs, on December 10.

Maci Elizabeth to M/M James Walley (**Shey Williams '99**), of Austin, TX, on June 29.

Lampton Lee to M/M **John Walker '05** (**Amy Lampton '04**), of Greenville, on December 20.

Greggory Cade and Robin Elizabeth to M/M **Dennis Weaver III '91** (**Paula Rainey '96**), of Brandon, on December 16.

William Claude "Clay" to M/M **Josh West '05** (**Jill Waycaster**), of New Albany, on April 25.

Finley Catherine to M/M **Luis Ybarra '07** (**Natalie Ditcharo '09**), of Brookhaven, on November 30.

Wedding Bells

All dates are in 2011 unless otherwise noted.



WEEKS-ABIDE

Marion Weeks '04 to **Dr. Andrew Elias Abide**, of Cleveland, on December 18.

Linzy Leigh-Ann Hughes (Attending) to **William Spence Abraham (Attending)**, of Cleveland, on December 3.

Suzanne Sturdivant '83 to **Jesse Ballard Jr.**, of Aberdeen, on April 16.



MORRISON-BOYKIN

Kathryn Morrison '10 to **Brett Boykin '08**, of Cleveland, on August 13.



SMITH-DILMORE

Reagan Smith '08 to **Nicholas Dilmore '07**, of Mendenhall, on September 24.



EARNEST-HAYES

Rocky Hayes '02 to **Jimmy Earnest**, of Oakland, TN, on April 9.

Carolyn Christine Eley (Attended) to **Stephen Thomas Golding '06**, of Cleveland, on October 29.

Charity Layne Swindoll '03 to **Christopher Grant**, of Indianola, on October 8.



MAXWELL-GREENLEE

Leathe Maxwell '00 to **Franklin Eugene Greenlee**, of Leland, on December 3.

Traci Bokros to **Dustin Grubb '07**, of Jackson, on June 25.



BOKROS-GRUBB

Alexandra Whitney Rice to **Cody Hallmark (Attended)**, of Batesville, on May 28.



KLEIN-BUCKLES

Amy Buckles '00 to **Jeremy Klein**, of Bloomington, IN, on December 4, 2010.

Jennifer Kathryn Koskovich '05 to **Andrew Lowe**, of Canton, on December 11, 2010.

Nakesha Whitley '09 to **Montesi McConnell**, of Shaw, on September 24.



PARKTON-COOK

Mollie Cook to **Brian Parkton '01**, of Fort Walton Beach, FL, on November 19.



HOLLIDAY-PATRICK

Allison Holliday (Attended) to **Dan Patrick (Attended)**, of Cleveland, on June 25.

Jennifer Rowland '04 to **Allen Matthew Pongetti '07**, of Cleveland, on February 5.

Shaikenya Alexander (Attended) to **Geoffrey Pope (Attended)**, of Shaw, on December 17.

Sarah Beth McDowell '11 to **Parker Reynolds (Attended)**, of Starkville, on November 19.

Amanda Lynn Denley '04 to **Garrett Kyle Scott (Attended)**, of Shreveport, LA, on October 22.

Sarah Katherine Liles to **Benjamin Alan Snow (Attended)**, of Canton, on July 16.

Donna Louise Pannel (Attended) to **Ted Turman Jr. '04**, of Greenville, on June 18.

Ashley Elizabeth Pentecost '10 to **Brenton Michael Williams (Attended)**, of Greenville, on April 16.



HOWARTH-WILSON

Claire Howarth '07 to **Samuel Wilson '02**, of Memphis, TN, on September 10.

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In Memoriam

All dates are in 2011 unless otherwise noted.

Tommy Boone '49, of Starkville, on October 28.

Clyde Boswell, Friend, of Cleveland, on December 11.

Edith Mitchell Boswell, Friend, of Cleveland, on November 2.

Joe Bradshaw '72, of Charleston, on November 1.

Rosemary Brame '67, of Biloxi, on September 18.

Joseph C. Buccheri '70, of Inverness, FL, on August 25.

Robert L. Burford '84, of Greenville, on December 21.

Rev. Bobby R. Cain '61, of Durant, on August 19.

Jo Betty Aldy Cawthon '61, of Sallis, on January 20, 2012.

Verna Sue Martin Carver '36, of Greenwood, FL, on July 13.

John Dawkins '63, of Brandon, on December 7.

Teikeia D. Dorsey, Attended, of Shaw, on September 8.

Maynola Foules '79, of Greenville, on November 21.

Robert M. Fullilove, Attended, of Duncan, on August 12.

Richard Garrett '65, of Benoit, on December 17.

Fred K. Gill, Friend, of Lucedale, on September 21.

Senator Walter Graham '60, of New Albany, on December 3.

Joe C. Griffin '67, of Ackerman, on August 14.

Dr. Terrence M. Goodbread '62, of Hattiesburg, on August 6.

Harry Harrell '56, of Amarillo, TX, on November 24.

Polly Harris '40, of Cleveland, on December 31.

Mae D. Hazzard '59, of Brandon, on November 3.

Rev. John A. House '52, of Jonesboro, AR, on August 9.

Frank B. Jackson Jr. '77, of Tupelo, on August 2.

Inez Jennings, Attended, of Cleveland, on November 4.

Quincy Cornelius Jones '08, of Vicksburg, on August 7.

James E. Keenum '58, of Vance, on July 2.

Martin T. King Jr. '50, of Cleveland, on February 3, 2012.

Patricia K. Kirkland '98, of Cleveland, on August 30.

Teddy Kittle '68, of Cleveland, on August 12.

Alisa A. Lay '83, of Carrollton, on October 4.

Ruth LaPresto '38, of San Antonio, TX, on August 1.

Arletha Magee '78, of Greenwood, on July 29.

Charles S. Metcalf '00, of Boyle, on October 4.

Patricia K. Montesi '72, of Boyle, on January 20, 2012.

John Oltremari '80, of Greenville, on December 2.

Dr. James W. Ouzts '60, of Cleveland, on November 17.

Stanley M. Partridge '78, of Long Beach, on July 1.

William Allen Pepper Jr., Friend, of Cleveland, on January 24, 2012.

Amanda C. Price '03, of New Albany, on December 5.

Mike Ray '87, of Natchez, on December 8.

Joe Reynolds '60, of Katy, TX, on December 20.

Loshandria Rice, Attended, of Shaw, on September 8.

Minnie Fox Richter '44, of Greenwood, on August 21.

Nell R. Sloan '44, of Daytona Beach, FL, on September 23.

Robert E. Smith, Friend, of Cleveland, on December 5.

Martha A. Solomon '66, of Cleveland, on September 27.

Robert J. Sykes Sr. '49, of Thibodaux, LA, on August 24.

Jane C. Thompson '98, of Cleveland, on October 16.

Helen Thornton '55, of Cleveland, on July 15.

Martha Ward '46, of Starkville, on December 18.

Lois F. White, Attended, of Madison, on July 25.

Nell Wynn, Attended, of Cleveland, on December 29.

Frank C. Young, Friend, of Cleveland, on September 8.

Dr. Jerry L. Young Jr. '56, of Gulfport, on November 8.

Nell Elizabeth Wynn, Friend 1913 – 2011



Ms. Nell Elizabeth Wynn, 98, of Merigold died on December 29, 2011, at Indywood Estate in Cleveland. Wynn was born December 13, 1913, in Merigold to Dr. Andrew Monroe Wynne and Olyve Obrien Wynne. She graduated Merigold High School as valedictorian of her class in 1931. She attended Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, where she graduated with a bachelor of music in 1935 and a master of music in 1936. She then came to Delta State Teacher's College to begin a teaching career in music. While at Delta State, she was inducted into Omicron Delta Kappa, was a charter member of Delta Delta Delta Sorority, and was a member of Phi Beta Fraternity. During her teaching tenure she continued her education at the University of Michigan, McGill University in Montreal, Canada, and Julliard School of Music in New York. She retired from Delta State University in 1978 after 42 years of teaching. She is survived by her sister, Shirley Wynne Westerfield; nephew, Andrew M.W. Westerfield; great-nephews, Jack and Jon Westerfield; great-great-niece, Ella Grace Westerfield; and niece, Kim Westerfield, all of Merigold; nephew, John Wynn; nieces, Elizabeth Matthews and Mary Nelson; nieces, Mary Martha Wynne, Patricia Wynne, and Julia Barton; grand-nieces and nephews, Holly and Bonnie Nelson, Adam and Lee Matthews, Shelby and Kyla Barton, and Betsy and Walter Haywood. Ms. Wynn is preceded in death by her parents; sisters, Olyve Stuart Wynne and Lorraine Wynne Wester; brothers, Dr. John O. Wynn and Andrew Monroe Wynne Jr. and niece, Jennifer Gollaway; and beloved nephew, Jim Westerfield.

MILES AWAY

Where has the road taken you?

Share your travels with us. Let us see where you're reading the Delta State Alumni & Foundation magazine. E-mail your photos to alumni@deltastate.edu.

304 Miles Away

Mandi King ('10), Joe B. Raymond III ('10), James Koestler ('09), and Ginger Koestler ('10) at the Super Dome, in New Orleans, LA



807 Miles Away

Aleia Segars ('10) and John-Michael Miller (student), at Universal Studios in Orlando, FL



1748 Miles Away

Fa'afua Vaaimoa (friend) and Joey Cummings ('11), in Fajardo, Puerto Rico



873 Miles Away

Jonathan ('06) and Vanessa Stark ('07), in Atlantis, Bahamas



807 Miles Away

Sela and Marleigh Mancini, at Walt Disney World Epcot Center in, Orlando, FL



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Alumni Happenings



Dr. Billy Moore and Janice Phillips ('78) at the Greater Jackson Alumni Meeting at River Hills Club.



Darryl Adams ('00) and Louis Cole ('86) at the MS in the Park reunion in Atlanta, GA.



Julius Gainspoletti (Friend), 88 years of age, of Cleveland, getting ready to attend the Statesmen playoff game at Parker Field/McCool Stadium.



George William Gilliam ('40) and Mary Ellen Leftwich ('39) at the Annual Alumni Awards and Gala Dinner held at Walter Sillers Coliseum.



Class of 1961 newly inducted into the Golden Circle at the 2011 Alumni Awards and Gala Dinner held at Walter Sillers Coliseum.



Celeste Williamson ('99) and GERALYN RUSSELL ('03) at the South Central Alumni Meeting held at the Furlow Retirement Center in Brookhaven.



Stephen Caruthers ('99), Les Bumgarner ('70), Jeff Posey ('93), and Alton Ricks ('50) at the South Central Alumni Meeting.



DSU Administration met with the Board of Directors of Planters Bank and Trust Company in Indianola to thank them for their support.



Ken Purvis ('87), Brad Evans ('87), and Bill Evans ('88) at the DeSoto County Alumni Meeting held at the Bank Plus Training Center.



Jack Brabham ('73) is presented the Outstanding Alumnus of the Year for the South Central Area by Neal Randall ('69) in Brookhaven.



Luis ('07) and Natalie Ybarra ('09), Sherry Denise (Friend), GERALYN RUSSELL ('03), and Duane Allred ('81) at the South Central Alumni Meeting.



Charlie ('79) and Ann Minyard ('79) at the MS in the Park picnic in Atlanta, GA, supporting their alma mater, Delta State University.



Dr. John Hilpert and Mrs. Pat Hilpert with Stephanie Morrison ('96) and Ryan England ('02), State Farm Title Sponsors for the 2011 DeSoto County Meeting.



National Alumni Association President, George Bassi ('87), accepts Corporate Sponsorship check from alumni board member Patrick Davis ('96), State Farm Agent in Cleveland.



Dr. Hunter McIntyre ('75), Laura Jane Giaccaglia (Attended), Margaret Ferriss White ('75), and Dr. Timothy Watkins ('97), honored by the COE; also pictured, Dean Leslie Griffin ('86).

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A photograph of a man in a green jacket standing on a grassy cliff overlooking the ocean. He is looking at a map on a stand. In the foreground, the rear of a dark SUV is visible, with a Mississippi license plate that reads "DELTA STATE ALUM1 Go Statesmen." The background shows a coastline with waves crashing against rocks under a clear blue sky.

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