



JSU makes history as first HBCU in state to have School of Journalism



Provost Dr. Evelyn Leggette speaks to the media as Dr. Elayne Hayes-Anthony (center) and JSU president Carolyn Meyers talk following the journalism school announcement. PHOTO BY GAIL BROWN

By Gail M. Brown
Contributing Writer

It was standing room only in the lobby of the Mississippi Center at Jackson State University at 6 p.m. Nov. 12, as JSU President Carolyn Meyers officially announced the history-making School of Journalism and Media Studies. Resounding applause and cheers echoed from the floor to the balcony. JSU is the first Historic Black College and University in Mississippi to have a School of Journalism and Media Studies, and the third in the state overall. The other two are The University of Mississippi and the University of Southern Mississippi. "This is a very, very special, special occasion today," said Meyers. "We will be the seventh HBCU in the country to have a School of Journalism and Media Studies, and I pres-



ent that we are the best one," she boasted with a smile. The IHL Board approved the new journalism school at their last meeting in October. "And tonight, we celebrate this historic moment in Jackson State's history," Meyers said. She also made another announcement. "Every new endeavor has to have a strong, talented and committed leader. I am proud to announce tonight that Dr. Elayne Hayes-Anthony is the dean of this new School of Journalism and Media Studies." The crowd roared in applause. "With her as the champion, with the talent and dedicated

faculty and staff, with a committed advisory board and friends, I have no doubt we're going to be the best School of Journalism and Media Studies on the planet," Meyers said. A large cluster of blue and white balloons suspended above the excited crowd was released to accent the celebratory announcement. Hayes-Anthony set the stage with a popular audio excerpt from the JSU Sonic Boom Marching Band. "Get ready, here we come," said Hayes-Anthony, a JSU alumna. She shared the school's mission: "The mission of the School of Journalism and Media Studies is to provide academic excellence in the areas of media production, multi-media journalism and integrated marketing. The school will provide students with theoretical and

hands-on training needed to be successful in the field of media and communications, coupled with the core principles of basic journalism and digital communication." Addressing the local media, Hayes-Anthony said the school plans to be their "go-to program." "So when you are looking for people to hold these jobs in all areas of (the media), you can look to Jackson State University," she stressed. The school offers both the bachelor's and master's in mass communications. Its enrollment is approximately 250 undergraduates and 44 graduate students. Course-related specializations include editing and graphic design, electronic communication, multimedia

JSU
Continued on page 3

Middleton to lead Univ. of Missouri

Interim president is Jackson native

By Summer Ballentine and Alan Scher Zagier
The Associated Press

COLUMBIA, Mo. — One of the University of Missouri's first black law school graduates was appointed Nov. 12 to lead the four-campus system through a tumultuous period of racial unrest, drawing praise from students who said he's well-equipped to confront the problems they felt his predecessor largely ignored. Michael Middleton, 68, who is a native of Jackson, Miss, has spent 30 years at the university — as an undergraduate, law stu-

dent, faculty member and finally, administrator. At a news conference announcing his appointment as the university system's interim president, he vowed to take on the racial problems that inspired the protests that helped force the Nov. 9 abrupt resignation of President Tim Wolfe and another top administrator.



"I have seen the system grow and excel over the years and I look with great optimism in the future," said Middleton.

Middleton
Continued on page 3

Mt. Helm celebrates 180 years of ministry

By Jackie Hampton
Publisher

The 180 year anniversary weekend celebration of Mount Helm Baptist Church, the oldest African-American church in the capital city, pastored by C. Edwards Rhodes II, MDIV, culminated on Sunday with a 3 p.m. service of praise. "Renewing Strength to Change Lives that Change the World" was the theme for this year long celebration. The afternoon service was held in the church's sanctuary located in the heart of downtown Jackson at 300 East Church St. Pastor Jerry Young of New Hope Baptist Church, president of the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc., delivered the anniversary message. In his introduction of the guest preacher, Rhodes described Young as a man of great wisdom, integrity and one filled with the Holy Spirit. He also referred to Young as a father figure to his wife, Allison, and as a profound prolific scholar who understands that



Pastor Jerry Young was the guest speaker for the anniversary service. PHOTO BY JACKIE HAMPTON

the task of being president of the National Baptist Convention, USA is mighty, but God is greater. The mass choir of New Hope provided the music for this momentous occasion. The choir's rendition of "The Blood Has Miraculous Power" seemed to set the tone for Young's message.

Mt. Helm
Continued on page 3

Alzheimer's conference draws 250 plus Keynote speaker stresses positivity; attendees adorn their 'fighting purple'

Special to The Mississippi Link

A sea of purple attire was vividly seen throughout Anderson Hall of Mississippi College Nov. 12, as the Fifth Annual Central Conference on Alzheimer's convened. Purple is the national color in the fight to end Alzheimer's. Held each year by the Alzheimer's Association Mississippi Chapter, the conference raises awareness and educates caregivers and healthcare professionals on the latest developments pertaining to Alzheimer's disease and research. This year's conference attracted more than 250 attendees — the largest conference to date. "This is my third year attending the conference," said Delores Harper of Crystal Springs. She is a caregiver for a relative diagnosed with dementia. "I come so that I may get the education needed to help me as a caregiver," Harper said. She expressed she learned a great



Session presenter Victor Smith (second from left), executive director of The Blake at Township, is joined by Blake's Director of Sales Kerri Adams, Alzheimer's Association - Mississippi Chapter Board Member Gail M. Brown and Alzheimer's Association - Mississippi Chapter Program Coordinator Sara Murphy. PHOTOS COURTESY OF MS CHAPTER OF ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION.

deal of valuable information. Conference keynote speaker Janet Edmunson, M.Ed, FAWHP stressed the importance of positive emotions for professional and family caregivers. "Our mindset matters," Edmunson said. "We have to (learn) to flip negative thinking; (focus) on what went well

today." A national presenter and business owner, Edmunson highly engaged conference attendees in a series of positivity exercises. In addition to flipping negativity, other recommendations included enhancing relationships, engaging in social activities and creating a positive personal development plan. "There are more than 205,000 Alzheimer's and dementia caregivers in Mississippi who provide 234 million hours of unpaid care," said Patty Dunn, Alzheimer's Association Mississippi Chapter executive director. "Caregivers face special challenges, and we are here to provide support services through educational opportunities and support groups." November is National Caregiver Month and in the U.S.

Alzheimer's
Continued on page 3

Omega Psi Phi men present service awards at banquet

By Stephanie R. Jones
Contributing Writer

Each year the Beta Alpha Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. recognizes members of its organization who have carried fourth the fraternity's mission of service to the community and Mississippians who have exhibited service to humanity and otherwise. This year, the Aspire Community Uplift Foundation, along with Beta Alpha Chapter and Upsilon Epsilon Chapter, presented awards of recognition during the annual David C. Bass Sr. Achievement Week

Gala Saturday at the Capital Club in downtown Jackson. The theme of the gala was "We Are I." The speaker for the event was Antonio Knox Sr., 40th Grand Basileus of the fraternity. Knox is the deputy administrator at the North Carolina Credit Union Division. He is a graduate of North Carolina State University. Beta Alpha Chapter named George W. Jamison, II the Omega Man of the Year.

Banquet
Continued on page 3

AMA seeking warning labels on medical marijuana products

Page 6

Lost album "Diana Ross Sings Songs From The Wiz" to be released Nov. 27

Page 19

Stevelyn Robinson: The little guy with the lion heart

Page 17

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