

# MONDAY MORNING

MERIDIAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE FACULTY & STAFF NEWSLETTER

JULY 5, 2011

Tuesday



*College gives financial helping hand*

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**Nathan Courtney**

## **BROWN SHIFTS GEARS**

# **Basketball Coach Courtney comes on board from Iowa**

Dale Brown is out and Nathan Courtney is in as the new men's basketball coach at MCC, according to Dr. Scott Elliott, president of MCC.

Elliott explained that shortly after agreeing to become MCC's new coach that Brown was offered a more lucrative university-level job in Georgia; therefore, the Eagles immediately turned to Courtney.

A Mississippi native, Courtney comes to MCC with 11 years of college and university coaching experience, most recently as an assistant coach at Indian Hills Community College (Ottumwa, Iowa) – indisputably one of the nation's premier junior college programs.

"My belief is that most things work out as they are intended," Elliott said. "I certainly feel that's the case here. We were excited about Dale Brown, who enjoyed a prolific playing career on both the junior college and university levels, but we're not in the business of holding people back. In Dale's case, I believe he accepted our position in good faith, but he was then offered a job at Clark University in Atlanta that was going to pay him considerably more than we could offer. Dale's got a wife and three kids to provide for, so all we could do was be happy for him from a personal perspective."

That said, Elliott expressed gratification that MCC was able to quickly turn to Courtney, originally from Lumberton. Besides Indian Hills, Courtney has

coaching stints at Missouri State, Marshalltown Community College, Barton College, and the University of Dubuque. Moreover, he has worked summer camps for the University of Iowa.

"The fact that Nathan is coming to us from Indian Hills kind of says it all," Elliott noted. "Indian Hills has one of the richest basketball traditions in junior college sports history. At one time, Indian Hills won three consecutive NJCAA national championships – the only college to ever accomplish that. During Nathan's time on the Indian Hills staff, the college went to the NJCAA national tournament twice. So, he's been to the big show, and he knows what it takes to get there as a coach."

As an assistant coach, Courtney has helped to build consistently winning programs with a total record of 141-33 (81 percent victorious) and coached 32 players who went on to play at NCAA Division I colleges. He has also coached seven players who went on to play professional basketball.

"The committee which interviewed our finalists for head coach felt like we had three candidates who were pretty much even-Steven in terms of their credentials and presentations," Elliott noted. "We felt like any one of the three would be a great choice, so it's not like we're settling for Nathan Courtney. On the contrary, we feel that we're very fortunate to have Coach Courtney on board with us."

After a stellar high school career, Courtney went on to start three years and become team captain at the University of Dubuque in Iowa, where he earned a BS degree. He went on to also earn a masters degree at the University of Northern Iowa.

Courtney and his wife, Ann, are the proud parents of three children, William, Samuel and Camryn.

# College begins book scholarship for incoming freshmen, returning sophomores

“I couldn’t say anything. I am so excited.”

That’s what Prudie Shumpert of Starkville said when she learned her daughter, Rochelle Bush, would be getting a financial helping hand in her studies at Meridian Community College.

With the focus on helping students achieve their educational goals, this fall MCC has initiated a special scholarship to assist students and their families to ease the costs of college.

According to officials, the cost of college is one of the most prevalent reasons why students do not continue their education past high school, even though statistics point to more learning means more earning power, and the biggest gains in earning power occur with the addition of two years training after high school.

MCC President Dr. Scott Elliott said “we realize that educational expenses, including personal expenses such as transportation costs, have gone up markedly in recent years. In an effort to more strongly assist our students in coping with those costs, the MCC Board of Trustees has initiated this new scholarship program, which will especially support those students who have achieved a benchmark score on their ACT.”

According to Soraya Welden, dean of students, incoming freshmen who sign the MCC Foundation’s Tuition Guarantee Program contract and earn a 21 or above on their ACT score will receive \$600 per semester for books. Returning MCC sophomores, who were also under the Tuition Guarantee contract and who made a 22 or above on their ACT score will net \$600 per semester for books.

Additionally, in-state, out-of-district freshmen who earn a 25 or above on their ACT score, will receive the President’s Scholarship and garner \$300 for their books per semester.



MCC Bookstore staffer Johnny Warren, left, assists incoming freshmen Rochelle Bush of Starkville, Colt Taylor of Stonewall and Calah Mathis of Enterprise, in their selection of books for the fall semester.

Elliott explained the ACT score is one predictor of success on the college level, making this a worthy investment by the college in the economic development of our area. “Our goal is to not only offer our students a quality college education, but to also provide them with incentives to stay at home, remain a part of our community, and ultimately help mold the future of that community.”

The MCC Foundation initiated the first-ever Tuition Guarantee program in Mississippi and it was among the first of its kind in community colleges in the nation.

# WAKING EARLY

### New term

Summer Term II begins today, Tuesday, July 5.

### New hours



The campus post office is now open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Please make sure all mail is turned into the mailroom, which is located in Ivy Hall, before 1 p.m. to ensure same day delivery to the U.S. Post Office.

### Revised

### refund policy

Student Services has published a revised refund policy and the withdrawal policy for students effective for the 2011-12 academic year. "Please include this information in your first day handouts that you provide to your students," said Soraya Welden, dean of student services.



For more information, email Welden at [swelden@meridiancc.edu](mailto:swelden@meridiancc.edu).



### WIA funding questions?

If students have concerns, questions about the WIA funding, contact Rhonda O. Smith, WIA dislocated worker program coordinator. Her contact information is:

601-484-8645; [rsmith20@meridiancc.edu](mailto:rsmith20@meridiancc.edu).

### Summer graduation application deadline approaches

The deadline for students to apply for summer graduation is Tuesday, July 5, said Ashley Jones, registrar. No applications will be accepted after the July 5 deadline date. Students are encouraged to visit the advising area in Ivy Hall for more details.



### Graduation ceremony nears

The summer commencement is Friday, Aug. 5, at 7 p.m. in Northcrest Baptist Church.

Faculty and staffers participating in the ceremony are asked to be at the church by 6:15 p.m. "Please view the faculty/staff listing of participants to determine if you are scheduled to participate in this particular ceremony. If you have any questions, let me know," said Soraya Welden, dean of student services.



### A must-read for summer

A draft of MCC's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) is on Eaglenet, and MCCers are encouraged to read it.

"Please feel free to ask questions and make comments," said Cathy Webb. "This document represents two years of hard work on the part of many people on this campus. It is essential that all faculty, staff, and students are aware of all aspects of the development, implementation, and assessment of our QEP," she added



### NO WATT?

**Myth:** Lights should be left on when leaving the room for a short period of time.

**Fact:** It is more economical to turn incandescent and fluorescent lights off each time you leave the room.

# MCC Weekly Schedule | 4-July-11 to 11-July-11

## Tuesday

Division Chair Meeting 0200 PM - 0330 PM, Webb Hall GSR  
Student Services Chair 0200 PM - 0400 PM, Ivy Hall 121

## Wednesday

Mississippi Power 0800 AM - 1200 PM, Work Force Training Center

## Saturday

First Tee Orientation/Coach Trng. 0700 AM - 0430 PM, Webb Hall DULANEY  
NACES Testing 0700 AM - 0700 PM, Health Center 240  
NACES Testing 0700 AM - 0700 PM, Health Center 251  
First Tee Orientation/Coach Trng. 0900 AM - 0100 PM, Annex A 101  
First Tee Orientation/Coach Trng. 0900 AM - 0100 PM, Annex A 102

