No increase in general tuition rates

By Adrienne Madden
Editor-in-Chief

On Jan. 4, the Carey administration announced that there will not be a raise in general undergraduate tuition for the 2016-2017 academic year. “Support from the Mississippi Baptist Convention and individual donors makes it possible for us to maintain affordable, low rates,” said Dr. Tommy King, Carey president. “We work very hard to provide a quality, affordable education, and low tuition, combined with generous scholarships, keeps Carey competitive, even with public institutions.”

Universities across Mississippi are expected to increase the cost of tuition by an average of 4.1 percent when the new academic year begins in fall 2016. In recent years, Carey has been recognized on a national scale for its affordability. In its 2016 college rankings, U.S. News & World Report named Carey as the number one “Best Value in the South” among regional colleges and universities. Carey was also recognized as a school with the least debt of college graduates in the 2016 rankings. Additionally, Washington Monthly recently named Carey as a “Best Bang for the Buck” institution in its annual rankings. These rankings take into account both the affordability of the university and the quality of the education it provides, proving that not only is Carey cost efficient for its students, but it also provides them with a good quality education.

“This does not mean there will be absolutely no increases. For example, food service is provided by a private company and we do not control their costs … it is based on the food consumer price index, so students may see an increase in meal plan prices. However, I am informed that the increase will be less than 3 percent. Also, there will be some increases in graduate tuition and fees as Carey has been far below other institutions in the state, even public institutions. The Carey administration works diligently to keep the cost of education as low as possible for the benefit of our students,” said King.

Even with adjustments to graduate tuition and fees, Carey’s graduate tuition is below that of public universities, according to King.

New SGA takes office at Hattiesburg campus

The new Student Government Association took office on Feb. 8. Members of the new SGA include (front row, from left) McKayla Strebeck of Seminary, chief justice; Mary Hannah Lott of Hattiesburg, vice president; Gabe May of Columbia, president; Lindsay Knight of Hattiesburg, secretary; Lane Williamson of Pontotoc, treasurer; (second row, from left) Kirestian White of Collins, commissioner of public relations; Meghan Gagliano of Hattiesburg, senior representative; Anna Sanford of Picayune, junior representative; Madison Peyton of Hattiesburg, commissioner of elections; Ava Calvert of Richton, sophomore representative; Olivia Russell of McComb, justice; Adria Piazza of Vicksburg, commissioner of events; (back row, from left) Chama Tinago of Harare, Zimbabwe, commissioner of student affairs; Katelee Thomas of McComb, sophomore representative; David Kanga of Jacksonville, Florida, senior representative; and Nick Papania of Gulfport, justice.

Staff Photo
Carey honored for Hattiesburg High ACT partnership

The School of Education and Earl Travillion partnership honored

School of Education, Earl Travillion partnership honored

SchoolStatus and the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, have partnered with the attendance center to offer a variety of volunteer services, including campus beautification, student mentoring and professional development.

Kristina Pollard, attendance center principal, said the partnership was formed after a needs assessment in 2015 revealed several necessary improvement areas. Through a collaboration with the University of Southern Mississippi Historical Society, Hull was known for her oil paintings, but also for her drawings and watercolors, which will be on display during the exhibit.

Carey's art collections include 40 works by Hull, all of which will be on display during the exhibit. The Oddfellows Gallery is open from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. Thursday through Saturday.

Carey's contributions to the partnership beyond professional development have been numerous, according to Pollard, and range from free after-school tutoring services to the donation of curriculum and instructional materials. Education students completing curriculum requirements are also serving at the attendance center and offering reading and math support for students.

King Named as CEO of the Year

Dr. Tommy King, president, was recently honored as one of Mississippi's top chief executive officers by the Mississippi Business Journal. CEOs were selected based on the growth and success of their companies and the CEO's impact on the company and community. Thirty-six executives from across the state were honored in the categories of nonprofits, rising stars, and large, medium and small companies.

'Although I am truly honored to receive this prestigious award from the Mississippi Business Journal, Carey's growth and success is the result of a team effort between our employees, trustees and donors,' said King.

Wilson Receives Promise Award

Joshua Wilson, director of media relations and marketing and advisor for The Cobbler, was recently awarded the Burlan O'Neal Walker Professional Promise Award by the Pine Belt chapter of the Public Relations Association of Mississippi.

The award is presented on an annual basis to a new or young public relations practitioner who has demonstrated considerable promise in the field and exhibits signs of future success.

Wilson has worked at Carey since August 2013.

Dykes Named to Leadership Role

Sophomore Kyle Dykes has been named as the principal trombonist and brass section leader for the Blue Lake International Youth Symphony Orchestra. Based in Muskegon, Michigan, the orchestra is comprised of talented and inspired young musicians from across the United States performing a full range of orchestral literature. Under the direction of Michael Klaue, conductor of the Ahrensburg Youth Symphony in Ahrensburg, Germany, the orchestra's 2016 repertoire will include "New World Symphony" by Antonin Dvorak and "Rhapsody in Blue" by George Gershwin. The orchestra will also join with the Blue Lake International Choir to perform Dvorak's "Stabat Mater."

Dykes, a music education major from Purvis, was selected for the orchestra following a rigorous recommendation, audition and interview process.

See BRIEFS, Page 8
**Music therapy students work with camp**

Music therapy students assisted with Camp Rocky Creek, a one-day camp for clients of Pine Belt Mental Healthcare Resources, on Feb. 6 in Marion County. Students under the direction of Jim Pierce, assistant professor of music therapy, were paired with clients to participate in various activity groups, including arts and crafts, music and movement, music self-expression activities and music games.

According to Pierce, the activities harnessed the intrinsic nature of music to fully engage clients and provide cognitive, social and psychological stimulation.

“These goal-oriented sessions targeted physical exercise, memory recall and opportunities for social skills and self-expression,” said Pierce. “Everyone also eats together, which allows the students to understand people beyond the client’s diagnosis.”

At the conclusion of the camp, participants received a client-produced T-shirt printed by Pine Belt Graphics in Hattiesburg, which employs several of the clients.

“This camp is filled with much excitement for everyone involved,” said Pierce. “Students walk away with a better understanding of how to work and relate to individuals with intellectual disabilities … and clients have fun while learning important social skills.”

The camp, now in its 24th year, was originally hosted on the property of Elmore Outlaw. The camp since 1993.

**Online programs thrive at Carey**

In June 2015, Carey began to enhance its online presence in order to provide more degree options and class offerings for the nontraditional student. Currently, through the hard work of university officials, Carey offers numerous online programs both on the undergraduate and graduate levels.

During the summer term of 2015, Carey made the transition to Canvas, an online learning program that provides additional resources for instruction and opportunities for learning in each course to allow students to achieve an online education more easily. Online programs offered within the School of Education, School of Natural and Behavioral Sciences, School of Nursing, and School of Music and Ministry Studies offer alternative forms of education that fit better into the life of the busy student.

Since the switch to Canvas, online enrollment has increased and new programs were created to compensate for the growing number of online enrollees. One such new program is the addition of an online graduate degree in criminal justice that began with the start of the spring 2016 trimester. The master’s degree offers several benefits to those with an interest in the field, said Department of Criminal Justice Chair Dr. Karla Pope.

“For students currently employed in the field of criminal justice, the master's degree will offer a competitive edge when testing for promotion within the agency and, in some instances, will provide an educational pay incentive,” said Pope. “A master’s degree also provides qualifications for an individual wanting to teach criminal justice at the undergraduate level in community colleges or at the university level.”

The degree will also provide an opportunity for graduates of Carey’s existing undergraduate criminal justice program to continue their education in order to receive some of the career benefits mentioned above. The criminal justice program started with two students at the Tradition campus in Biloxi in fall 2012 and has now expanded to more than 60 students.

“The growth of the undergraduate program, along with many inquiries from people within the field who already have a bachelor's degree and would like to earn a master's degree in a convenient format, prompted us to establish the additional electives and a comprehensive written exam upon conclusion of the required coursework.

The credibility of the university’s new online programs comes from the recognitions the existing online programs have received. For example, Carey was recognized by U.S. News & World Report as a leader in Mississippi and the United States in providing excellent online graduate education programs.

See ONLINE PROGRAMS, Page 8

---

**Music therapy students work with camp**

**From Staff Reports**

Carey Dinner Theatre awarded Pine Belt Image Award

Carey Dinner Theatre was awarded the second annual Pine Belt Image Award during the Pine Belt chapter of the Public Relations Association of Mississippi's annual awards banquet at Lake Terrace Convention Center in Hattiesburg on Jan. 19. The Image Award recognizes an organization or individual for an achievement in public relations which significantly improves the image of the Pine Belt on a regional or national scale, or which makes a significant improvement in the quality of life of a segment of the area's residents or the region as a whole. The inaugural award recipient in 2014 was FestivalSouth, Mississippi's only multiweek, multi-genre arts festival.

Carey Dinner Theatre was founded in 1975 when Obra Quave, then-chair of Carey's Department of Theatre and Communication, and other faculty and staff members wanted to give their young performers a professional and educationally sound opportunity to express their talents in a unique format. There was also a desire to offer to the public quality entertainment that the whole family could enjoy.

A distinctive feature of the dinner theatre from the beginning has been that student company members serve tables during dinner. By the time the performance has started, each person in the audience has had some personal contact with at least one member of the dinner theatre's company.

Selected from auditions held every spring, college students from across the country try out for performing, technical and clerical positions in the company. More than 50 schools have been represented by company members. Examples of schools represented include Vanderbilt, Julliard, Wake Forest and Duke.

The dinner theatre's two productions are presented in June and July. For the 40th season in 2015, the company presented "Church Basement Ladies," a musical comedy by Jim Stowell and Jessica Zuhrlich with music and lyrics by Drew Jansen, and "Beehive," a musical tribute to the popular female singers of the 1960s written by Larry Gallagher.

"Carey has a long history of excellence in theatre, including the widely acclaimed Carey Dinner Theatre," said Dr. Tommy King, Carey president. "Outstanding faculty and wonderful students have made the theatre program a success."

Auditions and interviews for cast and crew positions for the 41st season of Carey Dinner Theatre will be held beginning at 10 a.m. on March 12 in the Joe and Virginia Tatum Theatre on the Hattiesburg campus. For more information, call (601) 318-6218 or email cdt@wmcarey.edu.

---

**From Staff Reports**

Music therapy students assisted with Camp Rocky Creek, a one-day camp for clients of Pine Belt Mental Healthcare Resources, on Feb. 6 in Marion County. Students under the direction of Jim Pierce, assistant professor of music therapy, were paired with clients to participate in various activity groups, including arts and crafts, music and movement, music self-expression activities and music games.

According to Pierce, the activities harnessed the intrinsic nature of music to fully engage clients and provide cognitive, social and psychological stimulation.

“These goal-oriented sessions target- physical exercise, memory recall and opportunities for social skills and self-expression,” said Pierce. “Everyone also eats together, which allows the students to understand people beyond the client’s diagnosis.”

At the conclusion of the camp, participants received a client-produced T-shirt printed by Pine Belt Graphics in Hattiesburg, which employs several of the clients.

“This camp is filled with much excitement for everyone involved,” said Pierce. “Students walk away with a better understanding of how to work and relate to individuals with intellectual disabilities … and clients have fun while learning important social skills.”

The camp, now in its 24th year, was originally hosted on the property of Elmore Outlaw. The camp since 1993.

**BY JESSICA BOYETTE MANAGING EDITOR**

In June 2015, Carey began to enhance its online presence in order to provide more degree options and class offerings for the nontraditional student. Currently, through the hard work of university officials, Carey offers numerous online programs both on the undergraduate and graduate levels.

During the summer term of 2015, Carey made the transition to Canvas, an online learning program that provides additional resources for instruction and opportunities for learning in each course to allow students to achieve an online education more easily. Online programs offered within the School of Education, School of Natural and Behavioral Sciences, School of Nursing, and School of Music and Ministry Studies offer alternative forms of education that fit better into the life of the busy student.

Since the switch to Canvas, online enrollment has increased and new programs were created to compensate for the growing number of online enrollees. One such new program is the addition of an online graduate degree in criminal justice that began with the start of the spring 2016 trimester. The master’s degree offers several benefits to those with an interest in the field, said Department of Criminal Justice Chair Dr. Karla Pope.

“For students currently employed in the field of criminal justice, the master's degree will offer a competitive edge when testing for promotion within the agency and, in some instances, will provide an educational pay incentive,” said Pope. “A master's degree also provides qualifications for an individual wanting to teach criminal justice at the undergraduate level in community colleges or at the university level.”

The degree will also provide an opportunity for graduates of Carey’s existing undergraduate criminal justice program to continue their education in order to receive some of the career benefits mentioned above. The criminal justice program started with two students at the Tradition campus in Biloxi in fall 2012 and has now expanded to more than 60 students.

“The growth of the undergraduate program, along with many inquiries from people within the field who already have a bachelor's degree and would like to earn a master's degree in a convenient format, prompted us to establish the additional electives and a comprehensive written exam upon conclusion of the required coursework.

The credibility of the university’s new online programs comes from the recognitions the existing online programs have received. For example, Carey was recognized by U.S. News & World Report as a leader in Mississippi and the United States in providing excellent online graduate education programs.

See ONLINE PROGRAMS, Page 8
The Cobbler presents...

SADER
SCENES

Grab your camera or smart device and participate in Carey’s photo contest, sponsored by The Cobbler newspaper and the Office of Student Activities. We want to see how you see your Carey!

CATEGORIES:
• Carey Views and Vistas – What is your favorite Carey sight?
• Learning Spaces and Places – Where is your favorite place to learn on campus ... classroom, library, outdoor space?
• The Carey Spirit – Show us what Carey Spirit means to you!

PRIZES:
• Prizes will be awarded for both campuses.
• A $25 gift card to Common Grounds (Hattiesburg) and a $25 gift card to Subway (Tradition) will be presented to the overall winners. Additional prizes will be given to submissions receiving honorable mentions.

CONTEST DATES:
• The contest begins on Feb. 29 and runs through March 29. All entries must be received by 11:59 p.m. on March 29.

HOW TO ENTER:
• Enter the contest as many times as you want, but photos should be in full color with no edits. No filters, please! (This is not Instagram.)
• Enter the contest by attaching a picture to an email and sending to cobbler@wmcarey.edu. For best results, use your Carey email. Include the following information:
  • Subject line: Carey Photo Contest
  • Name, Carey email address, and category name

RULES AND LEGALESE:
• Carey students (both campuses) and staff are welcome to enter.
• Pictures will be judged on quality and subject matter. A panel of judges will select winners.
• Your photos remain your property, but Carey reserves the right to use them in future marketing materials. Great photos deserve promotion!

Medical student Joseph Kim submitted winning entries for the previous edition of SaderScenes. ABOVE: Kim photographed “The Violinist,” a 6-foot tall stainless steel sculpture by Aaron Hussey, which is on the front lawn of Tatum Court on the Hattiesburg campus. BELOW: Kim photographed the Heritage Plaza fountain between Ross and Johnson Halls. The plaza recognizes Carey’s years as Mississippi Woman’s College.

Photos Submitted

SADERSCENES WINNER

CAREY CAREER FAIR

10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Thursday, April 21, 2016
Student Conference Center
Wilkes Dining Hall
Hattiesburg Campus

All majors are invited. Please come dressed to impress and bring your resume. All students who attend will be entered to win a tablet.
Remembering ‘Osmo’

Tradition campus to exhibit paintings by late Finnish artist

“I feel blessed to have been in the company of this individual ... to have gotten to know him and to be able to carry on with now with his art. I am excited for other people to know about him and what an interesting and talented individual he was.”

- Mary Pyle

Mary Pyle of Gulfport displays one of Finnish artist Osmo Visuri’s watercolor paintings while preparing the paintings for an exhibit at the William Carey University Tradition campus. The paintings will be on display through March 31.

Mary Pyle of Gulfport poses with her friend Osmo Visuri, a Finnish artist, in this 1989 photograph. Pyle will display 20 of Visuri’s watercolor paintings at the William Carey University Tradition campus from Feb. 25 through March 31.

BY JOSHUA WILSON

Editorial Advisor

BILOXI – Osmo Visuri is a name unknown to most Mississippians.

However, the very mention of the name brings a smile to the face of Mary Pyle of Gulfport as she recalls the colorful, adventurous character who is forever imprinted in her memory. She hopes to soon share her memories of Visuri, along with some of Visuri’s unique watercolor paintings, during a special exhibit at the William Carey University Tradition campus in Biloxi from Feb. 25 through March 31.

Pyle met Visuri, a Finnish artist, university professor, author, world traveler and photographer, in June 1988. Pyle was in Los Angeles participating in a People to People International program on distance learning. At that time, Pyle was a member of the National Council on Vocational Education, a position she was appointed to by President Ronald Reagan.

“There was a meet and greet,” said Pyle. “I would say that in most situations like that, you find people that you get attracted to as far as common interests and personalities.”

That was the case for Pyle and for Visuri, who was then serving as the director of television production at the University of Helsinki.

“I can still remember when Osmo walked in the room, dressed in a blue trench coat and with a warm and deep voice,” she said. “We chatted and instantly became friends.”

For three weeks, Pyle and Visuri traveled through Australia and New Zealand as part of a group working on educational projects. As the trip drew to a close, Pyle invited Visuri to visit her at her Gulfport home and to meet her husband, Jack.

He accepted the offer several months later in February 1989.

“The phone rings late in the middle of the night,” said Pyle. “We answer it and hear, ‘Hello, this is Osmo ... I’m in New Orleans.’

Visuri stayed with the Pyles for nearly a month. He brought with him 20 of his watercolor paintings depicting things of interest to the artist, including Finnish landscapes, in the hopes of finding a place to exhibit them in the United States.

“We thoroughly enjoyed Osmo because we really got to know more about him during his stay,” said Pyle. “We discovered that he had been a photographer and writer in the 1950s and had written five books on the Parables of Jesus. He had spent a lot of time in Israel and had also trained as a painter in China.”

They discovered many of Visuri’s other talents, including his baritone voice, and enjoyed escorting Visuri to areas such as New Orleans, Jackson and Baton Rouge. During their visit to New Orleans, Visuri was made an honorary citizen of the city by Mayor Sidney Barthelemy, a friend to the Pyles.

The Pyles and Visuri were unsuccessful in finding a place to exhibit the paintings before Visuri returned home. As he planned to depart, he made the decision to leave the paintings in Pyle’s care.

“I remember him saying, ‘I’m going to leave the paintings with you … that way, you’ll have them should you decide that we can get an exhibit going,’” said Pyle.

Visuri would go on to open an art studio and teach art in Italy. He kept in touch with the Pyles and sent them postcards and videotapes explaining his technique and what was depicted in the paintings he left behind with them.

“There’s 20 paintings, but four of them are painted front and back,” said Pyle. “They are watercolors of scenes you would find in Finland ... he said that most people think that Finland is just ice, but in these paintings, you can see the changes in the time of the year and season.”

As time passed, the Pyles and Visuri kept in contact, but with less and less frequency. When Jack Pyle died in 2004, Visuri called Mary to express his sympathies. It was the last time the two friends would speak before Visuri’s death in January 2013.

About a year after Visuri’s death, a dream about Visuri and the paintings jolted Pyle awake. She Googled her friend’s name and discovered his obituary.

“I decided right then that I had to do something about the paintings,” said Pyle. “I have been on a mission since then to make sure they are exhibited in a way that properly honors Osmo.”

The search for a place to exhibit the paintings eventually led Pyle to Monica Marlowe, Carey’s chief advancement officer, and then to Tracy Williams, the director of Carey’s art program at the Tradition campus.

Williams said Visuri has many similarities to Walter Anderson, the famed painter from Ocean Springs.

“There’s so many parallels with Walter Anderson,” she said. “They were both watercolor painters, intensely inspired by nature, entrenched with the natural world ... they’re like similar spirits, those two.”

Pyle said finding the right place to exhibit Visuri’s work was like putting together a puzzle.

“It all fell together at the right time and I think Carey is the right place to exhibit these works,” she said. “I think it has the right connection with him – his religious aspect, as he was quite a religious man – and also because he was affiliated with a university.”

She is excited to finally tell the story of her friend to the public.

“I feel blessed to have been in the company of this individual ... to have gotten to know him and to be able to carry on now with his art. I am excited for other people to know about him and what an interesting and talented individual he was.”

The opening reception for the exhibit was Feb. 25. In addition to the unveiling of the art, a presentation about Visuri was given. Keijo Karijalainen, a cultural counselor from the Embassy of Finland in Washington, D.C., was in attendance as a representative of Visuri’s native land.

The exhibit, which is on display in the lobby of the A Building, will be closed for break from March 14-18.
Kipchumba captures third national title

From Christopher Moran & Adrienne Madden

Sophomore Geoffrey Kipchumba of Eldoret, Kenya, won his third national title as he took top honors in the 5,000-meter run at the 2016 NAIA Indoor National Championship in Johnson City, Tennessee.

Kipchumba posted a time of 14:30.91 to edge Arya Bahrani of Oklahoma City University by four seconds to capture the national title for Carey.

This win clinched Kipchumba’s third national title in the last 10 months. In May 2015, he won the 10,000-meter run at the NAIA Outdoor National Championship and followed it up in November with the NAIA men’s cross-country title. Kipchumba also competed in the 3,000-meter run and finished second to Sam Atkin from Lewis-Clark State College. For his efforts in the 3,000 and 5,000-meter run, Kipchumba earned the Men’s Most Valuable Performers award.

“Taking my experience and success in outdoor and cross-country into consideration, Coach Blake [Hegstrom] and I sat down the day before the race and made a game plan. Through his guidance and the trust in have in myself and God, I went the ‘extra mile’ for Him, my coach, my team, myself and everybody who has encouraged or helped me.”

Men’s basketball team wins regular season

By Christopher Moran

Sports Editor

After a rocky 5-8 start to the season, the Crusaders won 15 of their final 17 games to clinch the Southern States Athletic Conference regular season title.

Those 15 wins include a 13-game winning streak, all of which came in conference play. The streak was snapped after Carey suffered two losses on the road to Bethel University and Martin Methodist College. Despite the tough road trip, the Crusaders still held the top spot in the conference and still clinched the number one seed in the SSAC tournament.

The Crusaders finished the regular season with a 20-10 record and a 14-4 record in conference play. This is the second time in the last three seasons that the men’s team has captured the regular season title and it marks the eighth overall regular season title under Head Coach Steve Knight, six of which came in the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference.

The SSAC announced post-season men’s basketball honors for the regular season. Knight was recognized as SSAC Coach of the Year. Averaging 17 PPG on the season, senior Donta Pittman was named SSAC Player of the Year and named a member of the All-Conference First-Team. Other Crusaders receiving honors include Leo Garrett, who was named Second-Team All-Conference; Tre’ Collins, who was named to the Champions of Character team and the All-Academic team; and Brandon Daniels, who was named to the All-Academic team.

The Crusaders were upset 80-78 by Loyola University in the SSAC tournament, but will return to action on March 16-17 in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics tournament in Kansas City, Missouri.

“I believe all of our team’s success this season can be attributed to each and every player buying into Coach Knight’s system and making the necessary changes to improve,” said sophomore Tre’ Collins of Newton. “That’s where the turn-around started that would lead us to a 20-10 record and to be regular season conference champs.”

Crusader baseball starts season with strong play

By Christopher Moran

Sports Editor

Head Baseball Coach Bobby Halford returned this season with seven starters from last year’s team that went 30-23 and finished third in the Southern States Athletic Conference. The Crusaders have played strongly against ranked opponents, such as Missouri Baptist, and conference foes, such as Martin Methodist College.

“Our returners give us experience and are game-tested. Tyler Richardson is one of the top players in our league; Tyler James continues to mature and is also expected to be one of the top players in the league,” said Halford. “Nick Lowe really came into his own behind the plate and has been impressive. Larson Barkurn has started at third plate for two years and has been effective on the mound. Cody

Richardson

James

Christian and James provide a top-notch middle infield tandem.”

Halford also has a talented recruiting class led by junior college standout James Land of Saucier, Adrian Brown of McComb, Stevie Hubbard of Magee, Drew Standland of Hattiesburg, Tyler Odom of Hattiesburg and Tyler Graves of Petal.

The Crusaders have shown resilience and dominance on separate occasions so far this season. They made a comeback win against then ranked #21 Missouri Baptist 9-8 after trailing by two runs in the seventh inning. The Crusaders followed that up two weeks later with a 27-0 win against Marygrove College of Michigan, where they allowed only one hit.

Carey has also shown dominance in sweeps against Williams Baptist College and Martin Methodist College. So far this season, they have outscored their opponents for a combined point total of 152 to 63. Leading the Crusaders in batting this season are senior Larson Barkurn of Petal, sophomore Tyler James of Slidell, Louisiana, and Tyler Odom, who are batting 0.404, 0.414 and 0.439, respectively. The trio has combined for 72 hits and 35 RBIs.

The Crusaders have played strongly this season, going 15-5 and 3-0 in the SSAC so far. They are looking ahead to the remaining conference schedule and will host 13 of 17 conference games throughout March and the beginning of April.

“We returned this season with a ton of experience from last season and have added a deep and talented recruiting class. The new players should give us the potential to be a real threat in the SSAC,” said Halford. “We spent the first portion of the academic year training in order to come back stronger and better. We saw several players improve and make personal strides towards becoming better players.”

Editor’s note: At the time of print, the Crusaders are on a 9-game winning streak with a 15-5 record.
Ed’s Burger Joint offers retro atmosphere on Hardy St.

Ed’s Burger Joint, a concept two years in the making, finally came to completion in January 2016. The eatery is located on Hardy Street in Hattiesburg next to Starbucks where Little Tokyo used to be and specializes in burgers and milkshakes delivered in an eclectic atmosphere. Ed’s focuses on making quality food using honest ingredients in order to serve the community the best food for their money. The name “Ed’s” is intended to represent the everyday man in a casual environment. The idea of the restaurant is to bring back the experience of going to a burger joint with friends and family to take a break from fast-paced life.

Robert St. John, the restaurant’s owner, describes its style as a throwback, saying, “Those burger joints of the ’30s and ’40s, where they were using all fresh ingredients and their burgers were juicy—that’s what we’re bringing back.”

Although Ed’s does offer burger joint classics, the restaurant has also found a way to prove they offer original burgers as well by serving burgers such as the El Magooey, which is topped with pimento and cheese, or the Jam Burger, which is topped with bacon jam. The Comeback Burger, topped with pepperjack cheese, mushrooms, onion rings, jalapenos and comeback sauce, is also another Ed’s favorite. They also serve other burger joint favorites, such as the Shroom Burger, Blue Burger and Honey-Mustard Burger to name a few.

By Kaitlyn Watkins
Features Editor

Ed’s Burger Joint offers retro atmosphere on Hardy St.

For those who do not wish to order a burger, Ed’s also offers an array of chicken sandwiches, salads, and hotdogs; a chicken tender basket; a couple of hot sandwich options and chili. For those who prefer a plant-based diet, Ed’s does serve a black bean burger. However, vegans beware: the buns the regular burgers are served on are topped with butter. Gluten-free buns can be substituted for any burger. The price of Ed’s burgers ranges from $6.50-7.75.

Ed’s is also becoming known for their original milkshake flavors, such as the Cap’n Crunch, Elvis ’77, Shipley’s Donut Shake and Coffee-Toffee Shake. The Shipley’s Donut Shake contains an entire donut hole. The Coffee-Toffee Shake is made using Heath Bar and Grin Coffee, a local brand of coffee that is produced in Hattiesburg. The Elvis ’77 has received nothing but stellar reviews by online critics. Ed’s also offers traditional milkshake flavors, such as vanilla, chocolate, Oreo, cookie dough and peanut butter crunch, as well as a Barq’s Root Beer Float. Milkshakes are priced at $4.50. Though this may seem a bit steep, they are made with real ice cream, whole milk, quality ingredients and are worth every penny.

Ed’s Burger Joint, located at 3800 Hardy St. in Hattiesburg, offers a “throwback” style with options from hamburgers to milkshakes.

The restaurant’s building has an outdoor deck with games like shuffleboard and bocce ball to keep customers occupied while they wait or for post-meal enjoyment. Thus far, Ed’s has proven to be very prosperous, which has often resulted in long lines and waits. Many customers have complained about the wait times and line, which St. John explains is a product of “the honeymoon period” as well as a small kitchen. However, at the end of February, Ed’s announced that the lines had died down and wait times were becoming more manageable. Aside from these remarks, Ed’s continues to have a great reception in the community.

St. John is a local legend in Hattiesburg and a champion of local businesses. However, he is also a nationally-recognized restaurateur, chef, food columnist and author. He has been voted Best Chef in Mississippi three times and is the author of multiple cookbooks, in addition to maintaining a weekly food/humor column. Besides Ed’s Burger Joint, he also established Crescent City Grill, Purple Parrot Cafe, Branch, Tabella and Mahogany Bar. St. John also runs a nonprofit called Extra Table that is an active participant of the fight against hunger in the community.

Ed’s Burger Joint is located at 3800 Hardy St. in Hattiesburg. For more information, visit the restaurant’s website at www.edsburgerjoint.com or on Facebook or Twitter at edsburgerjoint.
One way in which to exercise common sense when using the Internet is to only give out personal details or account information if absolutely necessary. Before giving out any personal information online, it is important to evaluate the safety of the storage and delivery methods for course content and delivery methods for course content.

As such, he encourages everyone to be aware of their security settings and to do a weekly check of their activity feeds to scan for any unusual messages as this can sometimes mean your account or information has been compromised and you should change your password immediately.

Social media can be a really great thing or a really horrible thing,” said McInnis. “Another recent problem I’ve seen is that many people have been unknowingly hosting Facebook parodies that gain access to your account, ‘like’ specific articles or photos and then hide the activity from your feed so you can’t tell it is happening.”

Online scams are another risk. McInnis defined three types of scams, and how they can be used. Hacking is perpetrated using a computer to gain access to a person’s data without permission. (Note: Hacking is not when someone posts something embarrassing on your page when you leave yourself logged into Facebook.) Phishing is gaining access to your data by tricking the person into thinking you are someone else. Spoofing is creating a page, or more commonly an email, that looks virtually identical to a legitimate company’s page or email in order to gain access to someone’s data.

In the event that your account is hacked or phished, you should immediately change your password. At Carey, you can also report the message by selecting the “Click the (long blue link) to report this email as spam.” Contact IT with concerns at help@wmcarey.edu.

This is another instance in which common sense really comes into play; if it looks too good to be true, it is. If it looks like a catastrophic collapse of your computer will happen if you don’t click this button, it is probably trying to capitalize on your panic. If the page has a ton of ads and popups, you should probably not continue to access the webpage or download anything from it,” said McInnis.

The final way McInnis suggested that you could pay closer attention in order to protect yourself online is device security. Because all Internet-capable devices are valuable by nature, he suggests that devices should be powered off when not in use (even your smartphones should be turned completely off from time to time). This is important to preserve the life of the device and to decrease the possibility of a potential threat by limiting its opportunity to access your device.

Online Programs (continued from page 3)

Currently, Carey is ranked number 25 on the 2016 Best Online Graduate Education Programs list, which was released on Dec. 12 and ranks 267 institutions from across the country. In the rankings, Carey tied with the University of Mississippi as the state’s top school.

“This ranking is a great acknowledgment of Carey’s commitment to providing strong online programs in education both now and in the future,” said Dr. Ben Burnett, dean of the School of Education.

Programs are scored in five categories, including student engagement, student services, student retention selectivity, faculty credentials and training, and peer reputation. Carey received a total score of 80 in the 2016 rankings, a significant improvement over the university’s 2015 rankings, in which Carey received a score of 56 and placed number 142 on the list. Dr. Barry Morris, associate professor of education, said the rankings jump can be attributed to a number of improvements in technology and to the education school’s growing cohort program.

More than 200 online students participate in 15 cohort programs spread throughout the state. A cohort program is defined as a group of students who begin and end the program together.

The cohorts meet weekly and allow participating students to collaborate on assignments and learn from each other.

“Our cohort program keeps our graduation rate high, which helps us to improve our ranking,” said Morris. “The cohorts give support to our online students and enable them to work with others to succeed in completing their programs.”

The School of Education, which had a record enrollment of 1,270 students overall in fall 2015, is already working on ways to improve its ranking in 2017. New online programs, cohort groups and delivery methods for course content are being planned, said Morris.

“We are looking to add three or four new online programs in the coming months, along with new cohort groups in the state,” he said. “We are also looking to expand our online delivery methods through live-streaming and video-streaming technologies.”

Overall, Carey’s online presence has continued to grow in response to the increasing enrollment of nontraditional students.

“The online classroom allows students more flexibility in learning and continuing their education,” said Shanna Murray-Luke, Carey’s e-learning coordinator.

Student Foundation Hosts Show

The Student Foundation hosted the first “Show With No Talent” on March 1 at the Hattiesburg campus. The show featured university staff members and students performing their best “talents.” More than $1,000 was raised for the foundation, which will award a scholarship to a Carey student later this year.

Applications can be picked up in Financial Aid. The application deadline is April 1.