

The Clipper

For Friends & Supporters of Gulf Coast Community College



WINTER 2008/09

**Unveiling the New Athletic Logo and
the "Tradition & Leadership" Campaign**

**ALSO: The Gulf/Franklin Center celebrates its 10th Anniversary
E-Learning is a big help for Military Personnel**

Always moving forward



Since the release of the Strategic Plan, we have much to celebrate about at Gulf Coast Community College. In a major celebration, we recently commemorated the 10th anniversary of our Gulf/Franklin Center in Port St. Joe. This campus works to provide educational opportunities for students in Gulf and Franklin counties, and has been instrumental in defining the ability of Gulf Coast as a whole. The U.S. Department of Agriculture recently awarded the College a \$245,304 Distance Learning and Telemedicine grant to expand interactive distance learning opportunities for residents of Gulf and Franklin counties.

We are always looking to expand opportunities for students attending Gulf Coast, but we are also working to promote partnerships and stay strongly connected with K-12, higher education, and business and industry. Recently, key industries and organizations came together in an unprecedented collaborative workforce training effort. Executives from Workforce Florida, Inc., Gulf Power Company, The St. Joe Company, and GCCC signed a memorandum of understanding to establish a workforce initiative that will be the heart of the West Bay area and the new airport. The College will play a key role in providing leadership and cooperation for workforce education and training as new opportunities emerge.

One of the elements that will give Gulf Coast and Northwest Florida a distinct edge in economic development and enticing new businesses to relocate to our area will be our new Advanced Technology Center. The ATC holds tremendous potential for students and this community as our first “green” building. It will also house programs like Technology, Transportation, Digital Media, and Sustainable Energy, just to name a few. Feedback from the community and students indicate a growing demand for innovative programs like these and we want to stay ahead of the curve when it comes to the programs we offer. In the next decade, the majority of new high paying jobs will be high-tech and require specialized college certification programs, AS, AAS or AA degrees. The foundation of the ATC will be the integrated collaboration with business and industries, chambers of commerce, economic development planners, workforce boards, the K-12 system and our university partners; this is at the center of our Strategic Plan. We aim to be at the forefront of these innovations and will constantly seek your thoughts and input as we move forward.

As this semester comes to a close, I am reminded of all of the blessings that we have been given at this fine college and in this great nation. I wish you and yours the very best as we enjoy the peace of this season and look forward to even greater opportunities for the New Year.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Kerley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

ON CAMPUS

E-Learning makes a big difference for military 4
Military student CaMecia Bain talks about the perks of
E-Learning.

Do You Speak English? ESOL Program teaches 5
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Student Spotlight Meet some of the students who make 6
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THE CLIPPER

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ABOUT THE COVER

District Board of Trustees member, Karen Durden, and Former Speaker of the House, Allan Bense, unveil the “Tradition & Leadership Campaign” goal at the September press conference.



The Clipper is published for friends and supporters of Gulf Coast Community College and the Gulf Coast Community College Foundation, Inc. Children and their parents flocked to the First Annual Fire Prevention Fest held at Gulf Coast Community College on October 9. Area firefighters, emergency personnel, and fire prevention specialists came together to inform the community about fire prevention techniques. Kids at the event enjoyed checking out the fire trucks (above) and getting their picture taken with Smokey the Bear.



E-Learning makes a big difference in the lives of GCCC Military Students

According to CaMecia Bain, Radiology major and military E-Learning student, online courses offer what she needs for success. “For military personnel, E-Learning is the best thing since sliced bread! Whether you work daytime hours or nighttime hours, the Internet is available 24/7 to fill your requirements for any degree,” she said.

Finding the time to attend class is a hurdle many students, especially military personnel, face when going back to school. To combat this issue, Gulf Coast has revamped E-Learning to include online, distance education, and “hybrid” classes. While these classes are offered to, and are very helpful for any Gulf Coast student, they are instrumental in helping the military community achieve their educational goals.

Bain is currently enrolled in two E-Learning courses,

and does not take any classes on campus. She says “after I had my daughter, it was impossible for me, as a single parent, to continue going to a formal classroom to continue my education. So I went to my education office here on base and became aware of the opportunities E-learning had to offer.”

With E-Learning courses, a student gets the same high-quality classes and education with far fewer students per section than other institutions offering online courses. Students receive one-on-one support and guidance from caring and dedicated faculty and staff, all within their own schedule.

“E-Learning is great because I can do my school work at home, deployed, or in my office during my downtime. There are no set hours so it is virtually impossible for me to miss a class. The instructors are readily accessible either through e-mail or a phone call for any questions I may have on homework assignments or anything,” Bain said.

E-Learning supports the integration of technology into teaching and learning across the curriculum as well. E-Learning coordinators assist the academic divisions in their offering of over 150 online courses each semester. According to Dr. Steve Dunnivant, Associate Dean, E-Learning, last year over 4,000 students enrolled in GCCC’s online and hybrid courses and that number continues to increase every year.

As reported by Peggy Martin, Director of Military Education, Tyndall Air Force Base, there are 88 active military students enrolled in the E-Learning program for the fall 2008 semester, which was 26% of overall military enrollment. This percentage increased from 20% of active military E-Learning enrollment in the spring 2008 semester.

E-Learning is growing based on student demand at an average rate of 15% each semester. Over 75% of those students enrolled in online courses also take face-to-face classes at GCCC, offering them the best of both worlds. The E-Learning program has made education more accessible for all, and helps many students who otherwise might not be able to attend, achieve their goals.



A Gulf Coast student works online while enjoying the beautiful Northwest Florida weather — another E-Learning advantage!

Sprechen Sie Englisch?

Students discover American culture and the English language

Language differences are a barrier that many residents face everyday. Since October 2006, Gulf Coast has offered the adult ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) program. This program began because over the last five years, this region has experienced a significant growth in its international population, and many in this category did not have the necessary English skills to work or navigate effectively within the community.

This program is offered to adults (18+) who are not native English speakers. In order to become a member of this program, students must attend an

orientation session, register with Gulf Coast, commit to attending classes, and have a strong interest in American culture and the English language. Students must also perform a pre-test, and after 72 hours of classroom instruction,

perform a post-test. All ESOL classes are free of registration charges, and learning materials are provided by the program.

Since December 2006, the ESOL program at Gulf Coast has seen 57 students graduate based on the Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment System post-test. On average, ESOL has 500 students enroll per semester (250 per eight week session), and the number continues to increase each semester. The number of languages represented in the program varies per quarter, but usually 27-32 different nations are served each session. Some of the most prominent languages served in the ESOL



Students get a lot of face-to-face time with their instructors in ESOL.

program include Spanish, German and Russian.

Currently, there are 24 staff members working with the ESOL program at Gulf Coast. The program projects 170-200 students enrolled this semester with 50 in day classes and 120-150 for night classes. Because of the success of this program, and the ever growing international population, ESOL is expanding its services. Classes on basic computer programs, including Microsoft Office and Windows XP recently began, and open enrollment courses were offered for the first time. These courses will serve those who cannot make it to regularly scheduled classes so that they may work at their own pace, yet still enjoy the benefits of the ESOL program.

Because of the ESOL program, many students have obtained new jobs or promotions and/or raises within their current job. Some students, after completing the ESOL program, have pursued a GED or are in the process of enrolling in credit classes at GCCC.

The community has been overwhelmingly supportive; many local businesses help recruit students, local churches have provided space for satellite classrooms, and many organizations have hosted workshops to help the students better understand this community. The program, in return, has provided the community with an international population that has a better grasp of the English language while still retaining cultural values from their native land.



Each semester, approximately 30 countries are represented among ESOL program participants.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Courtney Scruggs

Nursing

Courtney Scruggs has known for most of her life that her calling is to help people. That is why she chose, or, as she says, was chosen by, nursing. “I feel like it found me. I love nursing, and I couldn’t imagine doing anything else.”

Since her birth, which was three months premature, followed by a two month stay in a neonatal intensive care unit, Courtney has been grateful to the medical community, particularly nurses. “I know without their care, I wouldn’t be here today.” She now feels that it is her turn to take care of others and wants to help those as she herself was helped.

She admits her first semester was difficult, leaving her unsure if nursing was her true calling. However, beginning her second semester, she was more confident with her decision. Donna Fowler, Assistant Professor, Health Sciences Division, encouraged Courtney to have confidence in her work. Randy Chitwood, also an Assistant Professor in Health Sciences, taught her to “have a good time and smile while learning.” Without these influences, Courtney feels that she may not have been successful in the program. Another strong influence on Courtney was her first patient – a 98 year old woman. “She had so much life in her and didn’t allow anything to hold her back,” she explained. This experience gave her a new perception of life and of the profession she was entering.

Future plans for Courtney include graduating from GCCC, attending FSU PC, and working at Gulf Coast Medical Center.



Ashley Rader

Music

“Igrew up with music,” said Ashley Rader, a second year Music major with a focus on vocal performance. Most of Ashley’s family, including parents, cousins, aunts and uncles, have been involved in some facet of the musical industry. Her family previously owned a local country music theater. Ashley, due to her love of music, has participated in choir since a young age, plays classical piano, and occasionally writes her own acoustic music.

Ashley applied to a couple of different colleges, where she was both accepted and offered scholarships. She chose to attend Gulf Coast instead. “I just felt right here. I felt that those other schools were not right for me, and that Gulf Coast was.” While at Gulf Coast, Ashley has accelerated in her vocal training and studies, and also helps assist professors in the music and theatre departments. “I set aside time every single day to sing and play piano. It sounds like an addiction, but it’s not. Almost though,” Ashley jokes. She says there have been two professors who have had a profound impact on her, Rusty Garner, her voice coach, and Judy Harrison, her choir director.

After graduating from Gulf Coast, Ashley intends to continue her education in vocal performance. She has currently applied to four different universities, and hopes not only to obtain her Bachelor’s degree, but to earn her Master’s as well. After finishing school, Ashley’s main career goal is to perform opera and possibly teach private vocal courses. Ashley says that she is “not looking to become famous” – she would like to do what she loves: sing.



Davida Tinker
Pre-Med

Originally from East Tennessee, Davida Tinker, was raised among a large family – she was one of ten children. Some of her earliest memories are of someday becoming a doctor.

Davida has always felt a strong calling to pursue her degree in medicine. She is motivated by the desire to help the underprivileged and those who cannot help themselves.

Davida, a sophomore pre-Med student, has certainly had her share of struggles. Along with studying for her degree, she also works the night shift at Bay Medical Center in emergency room registration. She is also the mother of two children, ages seven and eight.

Even though her journey to becoming a doctor has been complex, she is thankful for the strong support system she has found at Gulf Coast. “Nearly all of my professors have been really amazing. They have helped me learn so much,” said Davida. Adding that in particular, Melissa Moore, Assistant Professor, Natural Sciences Division, “has been extremely supportive. She is really incredible, always has a lot of enthusiasm, and truly cares about what she does, which shows.”

Davida will graduate from Gulf Coast this summer and plans to continue her education at the University of Florida majoring in Biochemistry. She hopes to attend Med School at UF, intern at Shands Hospital, and pursue a currently undecided specialization. Davida’s ultimate goal is to “serve underserved populations.” She feels a “very strong calling to help the less fortunate, whether in the United States or another country.”



Casey Slater
Social Studies Education

“She isn’t supposed to go to college,” Casey’s elementary school principal said of the first grade student during a meeting with her mother. Now years later, Casey has proven that principal wrong, and is excelling in both athletics and academics, at Gulf Coast.

She was raised in Florida and Texas and is one of seven children. She says that her family, particularly her aunt on her mother’s side, has played a crucial role in motivating her to achieve her goals.

While searching for a college, Casey became aware of Gulf Coast’s great academic record. “I really like the teachers here and the fact that I can get a lot more individual attention because of the small class sizes,” she said. Casey, a Social Studies Education major, loves history and plans to teach high school history one day.

Along with her studies, she is also a member of the Lady Commodores volleyball team. She says that in the future she would love to coach volleyball. Casey has been playing volleyball since fifth grade. “I love the sport,” she said. “It is a family tradition. I’ve played my whole life because my mom taught it to my dad, who taught it to me,” she explained.

Casey will complete her degree at Gulf Coast soon and plans to transfer to a four-year university. She wants to continue pursuing her Social Science Education degree and begin a future of teaching and coaching.



A Tradition of Leadership!

Community leaders join forces to support GCCC Athletics

As funding for higher education institutions continues to shrink, colleges across the state are being forced to make some difficult decisions. Several schools have elected to trim their budgets by closing their athletics programs. In sharp contrast, however, Gulf Coast Community College decided to help push its athletics program further ahead with the help of the community.

On September 23, the Tradition & Leadership Campaign for Commodore Athletics was formally announced in front of a large home crowd at the Billy Harrison Field House. The kickoff of this mini-campaign was heralded by some “major league” community leaders: GCCC District Board of Trustees member, Karen Durden; former Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, Allan Bense; and District 6 State Representative, Jimmy Patronis, Jr. At the press

conference, Durden stated, “We are hoping that we can do something to ensure the success of athletics for the future. We have had some great athletes come through these doors and some terrific coaches that have gone on to do tremendous things in their lifetime. We’ve had Olympians, we’ve had coaches that have coached internationally, we’ve had athletes that have turned pro, and we’ve had athletes who have come through here and then have gone on to be great, solid citizens, and we want to continue that tradition.”

Co-chairs Durden and Bense, Dr. Jim Kerley, GCCC President, and the GCCC Foundation set a one-year campaign goal of \$250,000. Support from the Foundation is critical as they begin to fundraise for program support in new and innovative ways. “We’re proud of our athletics — it is part of the culture of Gulf Coast Community College,” remarked Kerley. “We want

to keep athletics strong. We want to keep it competitive. I am committed to that and so are the District Board of Trustees and the Foundation Board.”

The long and successful tradition of Commodore Athletics has always resonated with the community, and so has the campaign. In just a few short months, \$146,810 has been raised as of December 1, 2008. Fundraising opportunities have included a social benefit as well as a percentage of the proceeds of this year’s Shark’s Tooth Golf Tournament. Community members have also begun stepping up to the plate to make personal donations in support of Gulf Coast athletics.

In order to maintain fundraising efforts into the future, the Foundation and Athletics are planning a new annual event for the fall. It is still in the planning stages, but it will be one that everyone will be able to enjoy. Plans call for a family Fun Run/Walk with a 5K Run for the more serious competitor. All proceeds from this event will go directly toward athletics as it becomes the Commodores’ signature annual event. Each of the six



Jimmy Patronis presents a check to Dr. Jim Kerley, Allan Bense, and Karen Durden (opposite) in honor of the “Tradition & Leadership Athletic Campaign.” Pictured above, Karen Durden shares a moment with a couple of student athletes after the press conference.

athletic programs (men’s basketball, women’s basketball, baseball, softball, volleyball, and cheerleading) will benefit from the campaign for short-term needs as well as long-term needs in the years to come.

Updated logo gives new life to the Commodores brand

The campaign kickoff was not the only celebration announced at the September press conference. The new athletic logo was also publicly unveiled for the first time. Gulf Coast has fielded athletics teams since 1960 and has had a host of mascots and logos that represented the “Commodores.” Some of the cartoon Commodore logos have appeared studious, some have looked tough and hard-hitting, while others have been comical or goofy.

In the fall of 2007, the Media & Community Relations Office conducted a complete marketing audit of the entire College. The audit included the athletic logo as well as other marketing such as advertising and the Web site. Based

on feedback from student and community focus groups as well as the coaches, the new athletic logo brands the division, conveys strength, tradition and pride, and provides consistency for all sports.

“We feel that this better represents our athletic programs,” said Gregg Wolfe, Athletic Director. “There is a long, rich history in our athletic programs. We think that this new logo will be carrying us for the next 50 years.”

Recently, the Media & Community Relations Office entered the revamped Commodores logo in the FACC Institutional Advancement Commission awards in

Orlando, Florida and won Second Place in the Best Re-Design category.



Gulf/Franklin Center celebrates 10th

Residents gather for a celebration of growth and leadership

In 1998, the economic outlook for The Forgotten Coast was looking somewhat bleak. The paper mill, the region's largest employer and source of well-paying jobs, closed its doors. Residents were anxious. Where would they go for the re-training for any new jobs? How would they receive support during their own financial crises? The new Gulf/Franklin Center was the answer for many, and the timing of this new facility could not have been better.



Trish Tapper Warriner and Mrs. Jean Gander, residents of Gulf County, have invested countless hours in the Gulf/Franklin Center and higher education for The Forgotten Coast.

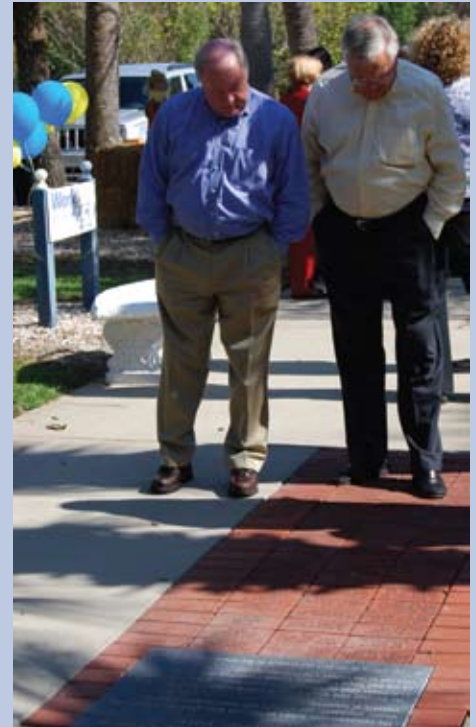
Fast-forward to 2008, a time of new economic uncertainty and anxiousness. The ten year anniversary holds different meanings for many area residents as they look back at its creation and look forward to all of the Center's future possibilities. Dr. Jim Kerley, President, said, "By having the campus here,

we plant the seeds of opportunity and hope." He also wants to push the boundaries of what the GFC can offer. "As the community changes, we at the College need to continue to change, too. We need to make sure that we're offering as much flexibility as possible with the right classes and relevant career training based on real community needs," he said. One of those ways of providing flexibility, he said, is through a recent distance

learning technology grant worth almost \$250,000. The grant will serve 600 residents of Gulf and Franklin counties each year and remove some of the obstacles to educational attainment.

Armed with a vision of accessible higher education, community members came forward in a number of ways to provide key leadership a decade ago. Bubba Gander, former District Board of Trustees member, and David Warriner, Foundation Board member and past Foundation President, spoke at the ceremony about making the vision a reality. "When this project came out, the hope that the community had was extraordinary," said Warriner. He described the property that their family donated as the "heart of Gulf Coast in this community."

The next economic wave for the area will coincide with the completion of the neighboring Sacred Heart Hospital. The GFC will be critical to filling the need for qualified health care professionals. "Sacred Heart is going to need training, is going to need strategic partnerships," remarked Warriner. "Gulf Coast Community College is going to play a key role."



Ralph Roberson and Greg Johnson, former members of the District Board of Trustees, read the names listed on the Heritage Path, which leads to the entrance of the Gulf/Franklin Center.

in short ...

Gulf County became part of the college's service district in 1966. Franklin County was added in 1984. The Gulf/Franklin Center was built in 1998 for \$1.7 million. The GFC opened its doors in fall 1998 and offered 24 classes.



Highlights & Celebrations

1 GCCC honored: FACC IAC Awards

FACC's Institutional Advancement Commission honored GCCC with the following awards:

- ✓ **First Place – Outdoor Advertising**
(Fall Campaign)
- ✓ **First Place – Campus-Wide Magazine** (The Clipper)
- ✓ **First Place – Website**
(www.gulfcoast.edu)
- ✓ **Second Place – Best Re-Design**
(Commodores Athletics Logo)
- ✓ **Second Place – Direct Mail Piece**
(Alumni Association)

3 GCCC to Host International Students

The International Program is excited to announce its association with Youth for Understanding student exchange program. GCCC is the only community college in Florida and one of 23 community colleges in the nation partnering with YFU. If you are interested in hosting a student, please contact Linda Fitzhugh at 769-1551 ext. 2863 or lfitzhugh@gulfcoast.edu.

2 Six GCCC Faculty & Staff honored with National Excellence Award

A small group of GCCC employees recently earned excellence awards based on quality teaching and leadership attributes.

Since its inception in 1978, the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) has emphasized the importance of teaching and leadership excellence in institutions of higher education. NISOD has worked to serve, engage, and inspire teachers and leaders through conferences, publications, web services, partnerships, programs, and more.

Selection criteria are left to the discretion of each institution, and according to Dr. Jim Kerley, President, "each has exemplified a level of leadership, whether faculty or staff, and they have been recognized by their peers, and therefore recognized at the national conference."

Michael Brinegar, Assistant Professor of Mathematics

Mary D'Aoust, Program Assistant, Student Services/Returning Student Program

Dana Dye, Assistant Professor of Business & Technology

Fledia Ellis, Assistant Professor of Natural Science

Libby McNaron, Coordinator of Surgical Technology in Health Sciences

Patti Woodham, Associate Professor of Language and Literature

4 Historic Agreement to Enhance Economic Development in Northwest Florida

With the new airport nearing the halfway point of its completion, a collaboration among economic, workforce development, and education that will positively impact on our area begins to form. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to establish a workforce initiative was signed at a press conference on December 16, by executives from Workforce Florida, Inc., Gulf Power Company, The St. Joe Company, and GCCC. The MOU was developed for fresh short and long-term regional planning in order to expand jobs and create new opportunities for high-skill, high paying careers. The initiative emphasizes responsiveness to specialized workforce needs, coordination with secondary and post-secondary education, and creative leveraging of resources and assets to support workforce development.



Building better futures

Student Support Services & TRiO step up to the challenge

Financial assistance, educational resources, professional tutors, and a “family-like” social network are just a few of the perks that TRiO students are privileged enough to enjoy at Gulf Coast Community College. Not only does the TRiO program provide financial and educational assistance, they also provide a community where a student can feel comfortable – and that is something that every new college student could use.

“Ever since I have joined this program, the counselors and advisors have gone out of their way to help me succeed and enjoy college,” said Shannon Smith, a freshman Theatre major and TRiO student. “It amazes me how dedicated and caring everyone is,” she continued to say.

The TRiO program facilitates community,

continued education, and a strong social network – providing a “family” for the students, thereby putting students’ goals within reach. Just a few of the other services offered by Student Support Services (SSS) and the TRiO programs includes a community relaxation room, professional tutoring, transfer trips, cultural events, family nights, campus activities, community projects, financial aid, and book and equipment loans.

TRiO originally earned its name from the initial three programs, which were Upward Bound (1964), Talent Search (1965), and Student Support Services (1968). Funded by the U.S. Department of Education, these programs were designed to help students overcome environmental, social, cultural, and academic barriers to higher education.

TRiO has grown over the years and now includes seven programs: Gulf Coast: Educational Opportunity Centers; Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement; Student Support Services; Talent Search; Upward Bound; Upward Bound Math and Science; and Veterans Upward Bound. However, there is an eighth program in the works, Training Programs for Federal TRiO Programs.

Eligibility into the TRiO program is contingent upon whether the student has an academic need, is a first generation college student, is low income, or has a disability, along with being a US citizen and enrolled at GCCC.

Once involved in the TRiO programs, students are offered transfer trips in which they research and explore four-year universities, at no cost to them.

Last semester, Mona Warren, a current student in the TRiO program, attended the transfer trip to the University of West Florida. “It was awesome,” she said. “We had the opportunity to ask a lot of questions, visit all different parts of the campus, talk to advisors in the different departments that we were interested in, and attended seminars.”

This semester SSS traveled to Tallahassee, Florida, to visit both Florida State University and Florida A&M University, and also to Gainesville, Florida, to visit the University of Florida. Students also took a trip across Collegiate Drive to visit the Florida State University Panama City Campus.

From the 2007-08 school year, SSS celebrated 42 graduates and transfers to four-year universities. Eighty eight percent of their students achieved a GPA

of 2.0 or above with many finishing the year with honors.

Jaymar Varner, a graduate of the TRiO program commented, “This program gave me a great deal of opportunity. I was able to network with other students and faculty so that I could understand how to approach my classes and be successful.” Jaymar is now employed with Gulf Coast Community College in the Information Technology Services Department and continues to work with Student Support Services.



Justin Sharp, left and Antoan Chisolm discuss the elements of the Periodic Table in the SSS Community Room. Above, Judy Bailey, Math Learning Manager, Student Support Services, spends time tutoring Melissa Jahr. Counselors tutor students in subjects from English to fractions to chemistry.

HIGH WATER MARKS

EMILY BALAZS, News Director, WKGC 90.7 FM/1480 AM, was a featured business woman in the “Her Voice Summit” on August 7. “Her Voice Summit,” sponsored by the Florida Department of Health, brought together local business women and young girls for lunch and a discussion about how to reach personal and professional goals.

MICHAEL GATTIS, Instructor, Social Sciences, received recognition for his paper *L.Q.C. Lamar and the New South*. He will present his paper at the 2009 Midwest Political Science Association Conference which will take place April 2 – 5 in Chicago, Illinois.

DR. TERRY JACK, Professor, Social Sciences, received recognition for his latest book, which has been selected as a college text by Kent State University. The book is titled *Deliberation and the Restoration of America’s Democratic Potential: A Primer on American Government (2007)* and will be used in a course entitled *Education in a Democratic Society* this coming spring.

MAGGI LECLAIR, Associate Director of Resource Development, Institutional Effectiveness, served on the Council for Resource Development Federal Funding Task Force in Washington, D.C. November 3 – 5. She led team visits to the Department of Labor and the Department of Education’s Office of Innovation and Improvement and participated in a team visit to the Environmental Protection Agency.

LIBBY MCNARON, Coordinator of Surgical Technology, Health Sciences, presented the workshop *Policy...Why get involved?*, at the Florida State Assembly Trauma Workshop at Tampa General Hospital on November 8.

ROBIN MERRITT, Senior Employment Representative, Workforce Development/Workforce Center, earned her Bachelor’s degree in Social Work from Florida State University. She also completed an internship with the Salvation Army’s Domestic Violence Program.

RHONDA TINGLER, Learning Manager/Sign Language Interpreter, Student Services/Disability Support Services, earned her Associate of Arts degree in Social Work from Gulf Coast Community College.

ELIZABETH TRENTANELLI, Associate Professor, Social Sciences, is one of ten people from the community college system recently named to the Social Science Discipline Common Prerequisite Committee in the State of Florida. The committee is examining university recommendations for the prerequisites for bachelor’s degree programs in Economics, Criminology, Sociology, Geography, Political Science, Anthropology, and International Relations.

ALICE WALLS, Coordinator, Enrollment Services, has been selected as the Admissions Representative Board Member for the Florida Association of International Educators. She has also been named the Recruitment and Academic Preparedness Knowledge Community/ Admission Representative for NAFSA Region 7.



Girls Get IT!

Girls Get IT is an inspirational program that encourages girls to reach beyond the norms of education. The program is sponsored by the Technology Division and is a series of hands-on workshops held the second Saturday of every month from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

The workshops are designed for girls in grades 6 – 8 to explore different technologies and related careers. Students in the program learn

fun and exciting things

in technology, including XHTML, Photoshop, PowerPoint, Web design, building a computer, Basic programming, and MS Word.





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Bay Point Marriott Golf Resort & Spa
Beach TV
Cahall's Deli
Camp Creek Golf Club
Captain Anderson's Restaurant
Carrabba's Italian Grill
Cindy Smith
David and Trish Warriner
Dillard's
Edgewater Beach Realty/Jeannie Quave
Edgewater Beach Resort
Emerald Beach Resort
Fire Fly Restaurant
GCCC Culinary Ice
Geri Anderson
Hombre Golf Club
Kim McGuire
La Friandise
Les and Verna Burke
Maharaja Fine Jewelry and Gifts
Majestic Beach Resort
Nails So Happy
Olive Leaves
Olive Tree
Out of the Box Gifts & More
Panama City Dental Studio/Herbert G. Salisbury, DMD
Panama Country Club
Patricia Coolman
Patricia L. Phillips
Paul Brent Gallery
Port Inn
Sonny's Real Pit Bar-B-Q
Spine Care Plus Wellness Center
Tammy Marinuzzi
The Grand 16 Pier Park

LAST LOOK



Sophomore Music majors, Erich von Hinken, left, performs a classical piece on the piano while Ashley Rader practices for the annual holiday concert with the Gulf Coast Community College Concert Chorale. The group performed several times for the community and was broadcast on WKGC 90.7 FM.