

to the faculty and staff of Mississippi State University

Softball hits homer with academic rankings

The Mississippi State softball team checked in at No. 13 among NCAA Division I's top academic schools in a recent national ranking.

The ranking by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association marks the second-straight season the Bulldogs have achieved the highest academic ranking of all major Division I schools.

The Disney Wide World of Sports Complex All-Academic teams are based on cumulative team grade point averages submitted by NFCA member head coaches

for the 1998-99 academic year. The list marks the top academic performers in six membership categories, including all divisions of the NCAA, NAIA and junior colleges and high school.

Kentucky (No. 27) was the only other conference school in the top 40 of the ranking.

Mississippi State combined for a 3.256 team GPA last season and sent six players--Kayla Calvert, Tracy Clark, Connie Goldsmith, Jenny Hehnke, A.J. Lott, and Keri McCallum--to the NFCA

Academic All-America team. It marked the second consecutive season that Hehnke, Lott and McCallum have captured such honors.

In the fall semester, 14 Bulldogs posted 3.0 GPAs or better in the classroom and the team finished the semester with a 3.25 GPA.

"This obviously shows our commitment to academic excellence," said Mississippi State head coach Kathy Arendsen. "This is a great accomplishment for our team to be ranked ahead of all major Division I schools. It shows the support for athletics from our academic staff. Our academic counselors have been very supportive of this team."

Mississippi State's commitment to academic success has already been established in the Southeastern Conference. For the second-straight year in 1999, the Bulldogs sent the most players to the SEC Academic Honor Roll, last season

Poem leads to 'wordscape' disc

Two years ago, a poem written by the television center director at Mississippi State aired on National Public Radio's "All Things Considered."

Response to the work encouraged David N. Hutto Jr. to continue producing poems and prose intended to be read aloud. The result of his literary labors is a recently released compact disc of wordscapes—

writings accompanied by music and sound effects.

In addition to writing each piece and narrating one of them, the Ashville, Ala., native also served as executive producer of the project. "When Autumn Comes" is published by MapleRidge Media and

Continued on page 4

Continued on page 4

ITS redesigns, expands web site

Visitors to <www.its.msstate.edu> will discover a redesigned Information Technology Services home page.

While the old web site was organized around departments, the new one focuses on information and services in an effort to make it easier to find information.

Features include expanded BANNER information, network video information, software support, account information, workshop handouts, forms, and applications.

For more information, access the ITS web site or telephone 325-0631.



An extensive expansion project at Dudy Noble Field, Polk-DeMent Stadium is nearing completion. More than 600 additional chairback seats and 18 skyboxes are being added to a facility rated by Sports Illustrated as the best place to watch college baseball. With the additions, fixed seating capacity will be nearly 7,000.

Architecture exhibit highlights Italian design

Contemporary approaches in older urban settings are the focus of a Jan. 30-Feb. 21 architectural design exhibition at Mississippi State.

“New Architecture for Our Cities: Italian Lessons” will be featured at the School of Architecture Gallery (221 Giles Hall).

The selected works represent the creations of 10 Italian architecture teams. Some present built works, while others are proposals or works in progress. All address 21st century approaches to urban dilemmas, especially those in historic or structurally aging settings.

The collection first was exhibited last year in Rome at the international meeting of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture.

Many of the issues are shared with aging American municipalities, in particular the revitalization of stressed structures and resources. Others share the influences of pop culture and the growth of global economics.

SIGGRAPH Traveling Exhibition to open

Mississippi State will be the only Southeastern site to host a nationally touring exhibition devoted exclusively to computer-generated art when the SIGGRAPH Traveling Exhibition opens Jan. 27.

Sponsored by the Department of Art, the exhibition will remain open through Feb. 24 at the McComas Hall gallery. An opening public reception is scheduled Jan. 27, 7-9 p.m., at the gallery.

The tour is part of SIGGRAPH (Special Interest Group on Computer Graphics), whose members develop an annual traveling exhibition culled from work shown at an annual conference. The exhibition provides an opportunity for university employees and area residents to view work by some of the most internationally recognized artists working in digital media today.

Exhibiting artists include Penny Feuerstein of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Mauro Annunziato of Rome, Yoichiro Kawaguchi of the University of Tokyo, and Anna Chupa, who teaches electronic visualization at MSU.

The exhibition was made possible through financial assistance from profes-

sional chapters of SIGGRAPH. Among those participating chapters is the recently established OK-SIGGRAPH, a group of electronic artists and designers living in the Starkville-MSU area.

Gallery hours are Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-10 p.m.; Friday, until 5 p.m. Special weekend viewing can be arranged by telephoning 325-2204.

Postal Regulations Workshop set

Printing/Mail Services is sponsoring a Postal Regulations Workshop Feb. 1 in the President’s Reception Room of Humphrey Coliseum.

The 9:30 a.m.-noon workshop is divided into three sessions and is geared toward those on campus who design envelopes, such as artists, and those who prepare mail, such as clerical workers. It also will address direct mail.

Each session will last 45 minutes with 15-minute breaks. Participants may attend one or all of the sessions. Refreshments will be provided.

For more information, telephone

Architecture Faculty Show through March.

For more information on all gallery exhibitions, telephone John Miller at 325-2523.

Evelyn Sebren or Christie Minyard at 325-8829.

Memo is published for the faculty and staff of Mississippi State University by the Office of University Relations. It is published weekly during the fall and spring semesters and twice a month during the summer. It is also available electronically through the World Wide Web at <msuinfo.ur.msstate.edu/msu_memo/>. Editorial material should be sent to Kay Fike Jones, Mail Stop 9512, or via Internet to jonesk@ur.msstate.edu.



“Chaos Revenge” by Mauro Annunziato is one of the works on display in the SIGGRAPH traveling show.



Funding Opportunities

Below are funding opportunities received from various sources such as the Grants Resource Center. Sponsored Programs Administration (SPA), 325-7404, will assist you in obtaining information and applications necessary for submission to governmental or private sources. For complete listings and other opportunities, see the Sponsored Programs World Wide Web page on the MSU server: <<http://www.msstate.edu/Dept/SPA/index.html>>.

AGENCY: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Office of Environmental Justice

ITEM: Notice releasing guidelines and requesting application under the FY 2000 Office of Environmental Justice Small Grants Program, which provides support to eligible organizations that are working on, or that plan to carry out, projects that address environmental justice issues.

ACTION: Applications must be post-marked by March 3, 2000. See also, <http://www.epa.gov/oeca/oej/00grants.html> for access to electronic information.

CONTACT: See this notice for regional contacts, or call 800/962-6215.

TITLE: Process for E-mail Submissions of Prior Approvals for NIH Grants and Cooperative Agreements

DOC#: OD-00-009

INSTITUTE: National Institutes of Health-Wide

ITEM: Notice implementing the process by which grantees may submit prior approval requests for NIH grants and cooperative agreements via e-mail.

ACTION: This notice does not represent a change in policy with regard to prior approval requirements discussed in the NIH Grants Policy Statement (see also, http://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/nihgps/part_ii_5.htm#adminreq) but is a change in formal procedure to allow requests to be submitted and replied to via e-mail.

CONTACT: Request further information from the Grants Management Officer who signs the notice of grant award (go to <http://directory.nih.gov/> for access to a directory of NIH staff members).

TITLE: Cell-specific Delineation of Prostate and Genitourinary Development

DOC#: DK-00-015

INSTITUTE: National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases; National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

ITEM: Notice seeking applications under a program designed to encourage the development of new research tools and methods to study the development and biology of the prostate and urinary tract.

ACTION: Letters of intent are due by March 21, 2000, and applications are due by April 21, 2000. Application forms are available from the Division of Extramural Outreach and Information Resources, 301/435-0714. E-mail: GrantsInfo@nih.gov. Go to <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html> for electronic access to the forms.

CONTACT: Robert Star, 301/594-7715.

Fax: 301/480-3510. E-mail:

StarR@extra.niddk.nih.gov. Leroy Nyberg, 301/594-7717. Fax: 301/480-3510. E-mail: NybergL@extra.niddk.nih.gov. Michael McClure, 919/541-5327. 919/541-5064. E-mail: mm461n@nih.gov.

TITLE: Making Quality Count for Consumers and Patients

DOC#: HS-00-002

INSTITUTE: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (formerly AHCPR); National Cancer Institute

ITEM: Notice requesting applications for demonstrations that facilitate consumer and patient use of information about quality through development of test methods and models for developing information on quality for consumer and patient use in health care decisions, and evaluation of the impact of strategies to provide information about quality to consumers and patients.

ACTION: Letters of intent are due by February 11, 2000, and applications are due by March 24, 2000. Application forms are available from the Division of Extramural Outreach and Information Resources, 301/435-0714. E-mail: GrantsInfo@nih.gov. Go to <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html> for electronic access to the forms.

CONTACT: Christine Crofton, 301/594-2003. Fax: 301/594-2155. E-mail: ccrofton@ahcpr.gov. Gary Kreps, 301/496-7984. Fax: 301/496-8675. E-mail: Gary.Kreps@nih.gov.

TITLE: Early Detection of HIV Implications for Prevention Research

DOC#: MH-00-008

INSTITUTE: National Institute of Mental Health

ITEM: Notice seeking applications to study new approaches to increase HIV testing and communication of test results for at-risk individuals, as well as to develop and evaluate innovative prevention strategies associated with emerging technologies in the early detection of HIV.

ACTION: Letters of intent are due by February 10, 2000, and applications are due by March 10, 2000. Application forms are available from the Division of Extramural Outreach and Information Resources, 301/435-0714. E-mail: GrantsInfo@nih.gov. Go to <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html> for electronic access to the forms.

CONTACT: Louis Steinberg, 301/443-6100. Fax: 301/443-9719. E-mail: lsteinbe@nih.gov.

TITLE: NRSA Institutional Training Grants in Environmental Health Sciences

DOC#: PAR-00-038

INSTITUTE: National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

ITEM: Notice requesting applications under an initiative providing support for training programs in disciplines and research areas that focus on the effects of chemical, physical and biological environmental agents on human health and well-being and the linking of these effects of exogenous environmental factors to the cause, moderation or prevention of human diseases or disorders.

ACTION: Applications are due by May 10, 2000. Application forms are available from the Division of Extramural Outreach and Information Resources, 301/435-0714. E-mail: GrantsInfo@nih.gov. Go to <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html> for electronic access to the forms.

CONTACT: Carol Shreffler, 919/541-1445. Fax: 919/541-5064. E-mail: shreffl1@niehs.nih.gov.

TITLE: Established Investigator Award in Cancer Prevention, Control, Behavioral and Populations Research (K05)

DOC#: PAR-00-039

INSTITUTE: National Cancer Institute

ITEM: Notice seeking applications under a program whose purpose is to provide established investigators with protected time to devote to research and to act as mentors for new investigators. Activities of particular interest are the training and retaining of scientists who conduct high-quality research in cancer prevention, control, behavioral and population sciences.

ACTION: Applications are due by February 1, June 1, and October 1, of each year. Application forms are available from the Division of Extramural Outreach and Information Resources, 301/435-0714. E-mail: GrantsInfo@nih.gov. Go to <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html> for electronic access to the forms.

CONTACT: Lisa Begg, 301/496-8580. Fax: 301/402-4472. E-mail: begg1@mail.nih.gov.



Calendar of Events

Send your calendar items to

Kay Fike Jones, 102 George Hall; Mail Stop 9512; FAX 325-7455; e-mail <jonesk@ur.msstate.edu> at least **TWO WEEKS** in advance. For updates, check <www.msstate.edu> and click on "News" for msu.NOW!

January

25

"The Ins and Outs of Contract Language" workshop, Tait Butler Room, Wise Center, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 325-7404.

Faculty Artist Series: "Duo Savage," Betterworth Auditorium, Giles Hall, 7:30 p.m. 325-3070.

27

MSU vs. Auburn, women's basketball, Humphrey Coliseum, 7 p.m.

SIGGRAPH Traveling Exhibition of digital art through Feb. 24, McComas Hall gallery. Opening reception 27th, 7-9 p.m. 325-2947. (see story on page 2)

28

"A Healthy Student" and "Understanding Money," International Student Required Extended Orientation, Rogers Auditorium, McCool Hall, 3-5 p.m. 325-8929.

MSU vs. Southern Mississippi, men's tennis, Pitts Tennis Centre, 2 p.m.

Wind Ensemble concert, McComas Hall theater, 7:30 p.m. 325-3070.

29

MSU vs. Southern Mississippi, women's tennis, Pitts Tennis Centre, 1 p.m.

"Native Medicinal Herbal Plants," Crosby Arboretum, Picayune, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Members, \$15; non-members, \$20. (601) 799-2311, extension 21.

30

MSU vs. LSU, women's basketball, Humphrey Coliseum, 2 p.m.

Mississippi State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, or veteran status.

MSU vs. Alabama-Birmingham, men's tennis, Pitts Tennis Centre, 1 p.m.

"New Architecture for Our Cities: Italian Lessons," design exhibition through Feb. 21, Giles Hall gallery. 325-2523.

February

1

Postal Regulations Workshop, President's Reception Room, Humphrey Coliseum, 9:30 a.m.-noon. 325-8829. (see story on page 2)

2

MSU vs. LSU, men's basketball, Humphrey Coliseum, 7 p.m.

3

Faculty Artist Series: Johns/Harrison Duo, McComas Hall theater, 7:30 p.m. 325-3070.

Hutto--continued from page 1

produced at Dill Studios in Birmingham. A variety of voices, among them Starkville resident Elizabeth Smith Gwin and actor-director John Maxwell of Jackson, provide glimpses into Southern life and passages.

"As I began to write, stories emerged from my rural Alabama childhood, from travels to the red clay hills of Georgia and experiences on beaches of the Gulf of Mexico," Hutto said. "Listeners will meet people who seem familiar if they grew up in the South."

All selections share a common thread about the spiritual journeys the University of Alabama art graduate said he believes most people make in life. Inspired by a fall trip to Maine, the title poem, which first aired in 1997 on NPR's nationally broadcast late afternoon news and variety show, shares Hutto's thoughts about metaphors of aging.

"A beautiful fall called attention to the time in life when all of us pause and reflect on things we have accomplished in a lifetime and on what the next steps might be," he said. "My mother was then in her 80s, the autumn of her years, and this provided additional inspiration."

Hutto said 73-year-old Betty Brewer of Birmingham, a retired Broadway performer and early television and radio voice talent, provided narration for the title poem. Though in failing health, Brewer took a keen interest in the project, he added.

3, 10, 17

"How to Identify Winter Birds," Crosby Arboretum, Picayune, 9 a.m.-noon. Members, \$25; non-members, \$30. (601) 799-2311, extension 21.

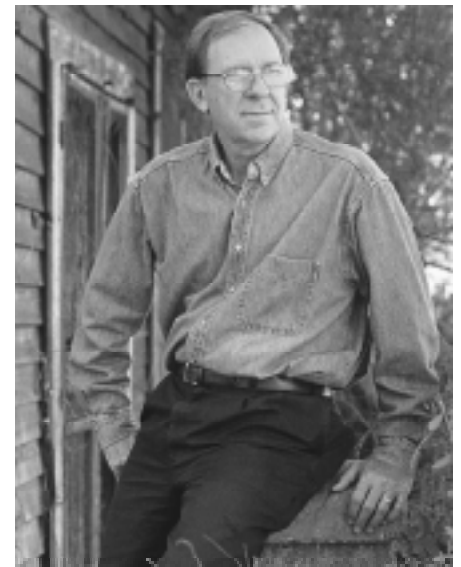
4

MSU vs. Tulane, women's tennis, Pitts Tennis Centre, 2:30 p.m.

3rd Annual Magnolia Independent Film Festival, McComas Hall theater, 6 p.m. \$5. (662) 494-5836.

MSU Women's Club, "English Cottage Gardening" by Suzanne Cade of Jackson's Everyday Gardner, Colvard Union, noon. 325-3573.

"African Higher Education" and "Etiquette," International Student Required Extended Orientation, Rogers Auditorium, McCool Hall, 3-5 p.m. 325-8929.



Hutto

"Sadly, Mrs. Brewer died within three weeks of finishing her work," Hutto said.

The CD is available at the MSU Bookstore and at the Book Mart and Be-Bop Records in Starkville. It is being distributed nationally through bookstores and record outlets.

Softball--continued from page 1

putting 11 players on the list. In the two years that softball players have been eligible for the award, 19 Bulldogs have garnered Academic All-SEC honors, the highest of any SEC member institution.