

MEMO

To the Faculty and Staff of Mississippi State University

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Raspet feels brunt of storm

Mississippi State's Raspet Flight Research Laboratory sustained major damage Jan. 13 from a passing storm front. A high-wind burst blew away most of the hangar roof and shattered glass panels in the control tower, causing an estimated \$300,000 in damage. Built in the mid-1960s at Starkville's Bryan Field airport, the facility apparently took the biggest local hit from the bad weather, though the nearby Wal-Mart Supercenter and a residential complex in the area also were impacted by the high winds.





McGee returns as director of sponsored programs

A former outreach coordinator in the office of Mississippi State's research vice



McGee

president is the university's new director of Sponsored Programs Administration.

Marc McGee, who was research outreach and development coordinator from 1998-2003, began work in his new position in December. He had

served since January 2003 as vice president for property development and research for the Greater Starkville Development Partnership/Oktibbeha County Economic Development Authority.

McGee succeeds former SPA director Jim Peterson, who left the job in 2003. Lynda Tuck and Jonathan Pote, associate vice president for research, directed the

office on an interim basis during the transition.

"We are delighted to have Marc back on board in the research division," said Colin Scanes, vice president of research and graduate studies. "His experience will be a big plus in serving faculty with external grants from a wide range of funding sources."

McGee received a bachelor's degree in office administration in 1994, and a master's in technology with an emphasis in marketing technology in 1995, both from Mississippi State.

Earlier, McGee was a project leader in MSU's department of technology and education, and a researcher for the university's Tri-State Network Demonstration Project. As outreach and development coordinator, he handled a variety of public relations, economic development and congressional liaison responsibilities.

In his latest role for the city and county, McGee served as the contact and coordinator for all real estate development

projects by working with local, state and federal funding agents to help acquire, develop and maintain economic development properties. He also helped manage the development group's \$1 million operating budget.

MSU promotes exercise with 'Girls' Sports Day'

Mississippi State again is seeking local participants for a half-day program of exercise training for girls ages 6-18.

The departments of recreational sports and athletics will jointly sponsor the second "Girls' Sports Day" 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Feb. 5 at the Joe Frank Sanderson Center.

Coaches and members of the women's soccer and volleyball teams will provide lessons in their respective sports, while Sanderson staff members will instruct yoga and aerobics classes.

"It's an opportunity for young girls to meet women who have excelled in sports and to know a little more about the sports," said recreational sports director Laura Walling. "It's a learning clinic, so the skill level doesn't matter."

Walling said emphasis will be placed on demonstrating that exercise is fun and can be done in a variety of ways.

"When it comes to staying active and staying healthy, it's not just sports," she said. "There are other recreational activities they can be involved in, such as yoga. We're trying to show both sides of the picture in terms of being active and healthy."

Participants should wear athletic shoes and gym clothes to the event.

In addition to snacks, those enrolled will receive tickets to the Feb. 5 Lady Bulldog softball game with Mississippi Valley State University and a Lady Bulldog basketball game the following day with Louisiana State University.

For more information on Girls' Sports Day 2005, contact Walling at 325-2179.

To register, visit www.recsports.msstate.edu.



HONORING THE DREAM—Starkville native Lucius T. Outlaw Jr., associate provost at Vanderbilt University, was the speaker Monday during campus ceremonies honoring Martin Luther King Jr. The 11th annual Unity Breakfast was sponsored by Mississippi State and the Greater Starkville Development Partnership.



Music ed department gets reaccreditation 'A-OK'

The National Association of Schools of Music is notifying Mississippi State that the university's music education department continues to be in good academic standing and accreditation.

As the result of a departmental self-study and the visit of an NASM accreditation team, the department's two bachelor's degree programs have the

organization's stamp of approval until the next reaccreditation date in 2014.

While the department has traditionally offered a bachelor of science degree in music education through the College of Education, it recently added a bachelor of arts in music through the College of Arts and Sciences.

"Special commendations were given to our faculty for their preparedness and professionalism," said department head Michael R. Brown of the NASM notification letter. "The association also praised the university administration for its efforts to make faculty salaries competitive during these difficult economic times."

Speaking for his departmental colleagues, Brown expressed his "deep appreciation for the hard work of the accreditation officials and to President Charles Lee and other university officials for their leadership in addressing the salary and related issues."

In addition to enrolling 75 majors in the two undergraduate programs, faculty members provide instruction to a total of more than 2,000 students each semester, Brown said.

The department also plays a major role in musical performances held around the Starkville area. "On average, our faculty and students are involved in approximately 200 public performances each year," Brown said.

Founded in 1924, NASM establishes national standards for undergraduate and graduate degrees and other credentials. The organization, which is headquartered in Reston, Va., currently has some 600 accredited institutional members.

'TummySafe' seeks child care food safety

Two Mississippi State units and the state's top health office are working together on a new program to help child care centers adopt a series of simple steps that can prevent food-related illnesses.

"TummySafe" is the title of a food-safety certification effort being coordinated by the MSU Extension Service, the university's Center for Advanced Vehicular Systems and the state Department of Health. Using computer delivery and a software platform developed by CAVS research scientists, it offers self-paced instruction in an interactive format.

"The current curriculum for child care providers was developed by the National Restaurant Association and is industrially oriented," said extension food scientist Jenna Schilling, the project's co-director. The current "ServSafe" certification course sometimes requires extensive travel for in-person classroom instruction and costs \$125 per person, she explained.

Developed with a \$280,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the new TummySafe curriculum now is as close as a personal computer and the local extension office, Schilling said. TummySafe also will cost users nothing during the first two years of the project, she added.

"Child care providers without personal computer access will be able to use computers in MSU Extension offices around the state or opt for traditional in-person training," she said. "Travel will be minimal, and they can work at their own pace on individual modules that are as short as 15 minutes."

The project was tested in recent pilot sessions on the MSU campus and will be rolled out statewide in the spring, said registered extension dietitian Carol Ball, the other co-director.

"We're working with MSU's Early Childhood Institute and the Extension Service's Nurturing Homes Initiative to reach as many childcare providers in the state as possible," Ball said, noting that the team's ultimate goal is "to launch TummySafe as a national education model."

Using software designed by CAVS research associates Scott Calhoun and Debbie Brown, Schilling and Ball have the capability of adjusting content, audio and illustrations.

Persons participating in the TummySafe certification will navigate interactive modules that include explanations of food safety and food hazards; the importance and correct methods of hand-washing; correct ways to purchase and store foods; ways to cook food properly; and food topics for infants and babies.

"Participants begin with a pre-test and must successfully complete a post-test for certification," Schilling said, adding that throughout each module, caregivers must successfully answer questions before progressing.

For more information on the TummySafe program, contact Schilling at 325-8930 or jennas@humansci.msstate.edu. Ball may be reached at 325-8930 or carolb@humansci.msstate.edu.

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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 "Calendar of Events."

To list calendar events online, access www.ur.msstate.edu/news/today.asp and follow the instructions.

February

1

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

2-4

Brazilian Music Festival. 325-2854.

3

MSU vs. Vanderbilt women's basketball game has been moved to 8 p.m. for airing by Fox Sports Net South, Humphrey Coliseum.

5

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

12

MSU vs. Vanderbilt, men's basketball, Humphrey Coliseum, 6 p.m.

16

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

17

Human Resources Management session: "Disciplinary Action (non-contract employees)," 150 McArthur Hall, 1-4 p.m. Open to supervisory employees. Registration required. 325-3713 or helms@hrm.msstate.edu.

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



23-25

Play: "A Staged Reading of Fragments" by Edward Albee, \$5 general admission, McComas Hall lab theater, 7:30 p.m. Recommended for mature audiences. 325-3203.

26

MSU vs. Mississippi, men's basketball, Humphrey Coliseum, 6 p.m.

27

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

March

5

MSU vs. Alabama, men's basketball, Humphrey Coliseum, 1 p.m.

Ongoing Events

Department of Art's 33rd Annual Art and Design competition, more than 100 works in a variety of media, through Feb. 11, Department of Art Gallery, McComas Hall. 325-2970.

Faculty awards nominations open

Nominations for the MSU Alumni Association's 40th Faculty Recognition Awards are due by Feb. 1.

Honors are presented in the following categories: Graduate Level Teaching, Undergraduate Level Teaching (junior and senior courses), Undergraduate Level Teaching (freshman and sophomore courses), Research, and Service. Each honoree will receive a commemorative plaque and monetary award at the Faculty Recognition Reception on April 26 at the Hunter Henry Center.

Nominations and all supporting data must be submitted to Libba Andrews,

associate director of the sponsoring MSU Alumni Association.

To receive a nomination booklet, visit the Hunter Henry Center or www.msubulldogs.msstate.edu/frp/facultyrecog.htm.

Nominations downloaded via the Internet cannot be completed and returned by e-mail, as the nominator must sign the form. Completed packets must be returned to the Henry Center.

For more information, contact Andrews at 325-3479 or landrews@alumni.msstate.edu; or Karen Hudson, 325-2284, khudson@alumni.msstate.edu.



Some three million visitors to the Sanderson Center since it opened in 1998 caused the university's fitness and recreation facility to undergo a partial upgrade during the winter holidays. Campus patrons now tread hallways featuring new carpeting. In addition to the carpeting, the renovations included a new synthetic surface in the Strength and Aerobic Conditioning Room and repair work to the swimming pool.