First Lady Deborah Bryant Visits Southern Miss Children’s Center
By Van Arnold

Mississippi’s First Lady Deborah Bryant conducted an interactive tour of The Children’s Center for Communication and Development at The University of Southern Mississippi on Thursday, Feb. 28.

Bryant, who was making her first visit to the center, mingled with the children and staff members while learning about the facility’s history and mission.

The Children’s Center is a clinical division of the Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences and has provided services for infants, toddlers and preschoolers throughout Mississippi with communication and developmental disabilities for nearly 40 years.

Southern Miss Hosts Nutrition and Fitness Fair
By Van Arnold

The Student Dietetic Association within the Department of Nutrition and Food Systems at The University of Southern Mississippi sponsored an “Eat Well Hattiesburg” Nutrition and Fitness Fair on Feb. 23 at Pride Field on the Hattiesburg campus.

The event was designed to introduce the Hattiesburg community to vendors that provide healthy nutrition and food options in the Pine Belt. The student group also sought to supply a venue for all ages to come enjoy themselves and learn about nutrition and fitness.

The event included a rock wall, local registered dietitians, a kids’ corner, give-a-ways, music, coupons, group exercise and health screenings.
Southern Miss Professor Hall Receives Dudley Peeler Award

Dr. Margot Hall, a professor in the Department of Medical Laboratory Science at The University of Southern Mississippi, received the Dudley Peeler Award during the Mississippi Academy of Sciences meeting held Feb. 21-22 on the Southern Miss campus. The award is presented for outstanding contributions toward the advancement of the Mississippi Academy of Sciences.

DuBard School at Southern Miss to Hold Missing Links in Academics Seminar

By Vanessa Moulden

The DuBard School for Language Disorders at The University of Southern Mississippi will hold the Missing Links in Academics Seminar April 11-12, from 8:30 a.m.-3:45 p.m. at the DuBard School on the Hattiesburg campus.

This seminar is designed to provide speech-language pathologists, reading specialists and second through eighth grade teachers multisensory strategies to build advanced decoding skills, demonstrate ways of building reading fluency and explore reading comprehension strategies.

For more information or to register call Professional Development and Educational Outreach at 601.266.4186 or visit www.usm.edu/dubard-training.

Southern Miss Announces Campaign for New Health Services Facility

By Amy Martin

The University of Southern Mississippi is on its way to transforming the quality of health care provided to students, faculty and staff -- thus a long-time vision of Student Health Services Director Dr. Virginia Moffitt Crawford and her family will soon become a reality.

On Thursday, March 7, the USM Foundation announced the Moffitt Health Center Campaign, which will aid in the relocation of the University’s Student Health Services to a new, state-of-the-art facility. The $1 million campaign has already received $750,000 in commitments toward the center.