Broadcast journalism students in The University of Southern Mississippi School of Mass Communication and Journalism took top honors at the Associated Press College University competition in Jackson recently.

Southern Miss students won first place in the three categories of competition they entered. The categories, winners from Southern Miss and submitted projects include the following:

- **Best New Story:**
  1st place: Beth Alexander, senior, Little Rock, Miss. for "Cigarette Tax"

- 2nd place: Lauren Moak of McComb, Miss. (graduated fall 2009) for "Magee Tornado"

- **Best Feature Story:**
  1st place: Beth Alexander for "Extreme Food and Water"

  2nd Place: D-Jay Johnson, senior, Richland, Miss. for "Pay It Forward"

- **Best Sports Story:**
  1st place: - Stefanie McDavid of Ocean Springs, Miss. (graduated fall 2009) for "Purple Dragon"

  3rd place: - Mercer Morrison, senior, Pensacola, Fla. for "Tailgate Drinking"

The broadcast journalism program is under the direction of assistant professor Dr. Mary Lou Sheffer. Participating students get hands-on broadcast experience through their work on Hub City TV. For more information about broadcast journalism and other programs in the Southern Miss School of Mass Communication and Journalism, online visit http://www.usm.edu/mcj/; or call 601.266.4258.

About The University of Southern Mississippi
The University of Southern Mississippi, founded in 1910, is a comprehensive doctoral and research-extensive university fulfilling its mission of being a leading university in engaging and empowering individuals to transform lives and communities. In a tradition of leadership for student development, Southern Miss is educating a 21st century work force providing intellectual capital, cultural enrichment and innovation to Mississippi and the world. Southern Miss is located in Hattiesburg, Miss., with an additional campus and teaching and research sites on the Mississippi Gulf Coast; further information is found at www.usm.edu.