

THE CORE ONLINE



March 2009

Student Josh Killingsworth finds success through hard work and a second chance

Each day hundreds of students file through the doors of Middle Georgia College's (MGC) Dublin campus in search of the bright future that educational opportunities can provide. The campus offers Dublin area students an accessible and affordable option to pursue their college degrees, degrees that are becoming increasingly more valuable as businesses shift towards requiring most of their employees to have some level of higher education. MGC student Josh Killingsworth of Dexter has seen first-hand the difference having a college degree can make in life. Josh's unique experiences have led him to dedicate himself to becoming one of MGC's most committed and successful students.

Killingsworth was a student at West Laurens High School when his father Wendell had back surgery. Already struggling with his school work, Josh had to take on the added responsibility of caring for his father. His grades suffered as a result. "I didn't have the knowledge to realize how important [my education] was when I was in high school," Killingsworth said, "I was careless." After graduating from high school in 2005, Killingsworth took a job at a local business and contemplated going to a technical college. The work was physically demanding, and the pay was low. Josh soon realized that all of the management positions at his place of employment were filled by people with college degrees, and this realization led him to revisit his goals.

When Killingsworth applied to MGC, he was initially denied acceptance because of his low grade point average (GPA) in high school. Refusing to give up, Josh and his father paid a visit to the MGC Dublin Campus Director Rodney Carr. "Josh came to me and said, 'If you give me a chance, I'll prove I can do it,'" Carr explained. Carr was impressed with Killingsworth's dedication and sincerity, and the college agreed to admit him – a decision that has proved successful for both MGC and Josh. Killingsworth is currently a member of the campus student government association, and he has lived up to his promise of excelling academically.



Killingsworth and Carr

"Josh is a great student leader, and his GPA is excellent," Carr said. Carr points to Killingsworth's story as an example of the opportunity and hope that accessible, high-quality education can offer the citizens of the Dublin-Laurens County area. "College is a possibility, no matter who tells you it isn't. MGC offers students an excellent education that is affordable and close to home," Carr explained. "It's very important to MGC that we make a positive difference in this

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April 2009

Baseball Schedule

MGC vs. Young Harris	4/03	7:00 p.m.
MGC vs. Young Harris	4/04	2:00 p.m.
MGC vs. Young Harris	4/04	4:30 p.m.
MGC vs. USC Salkehatchie	4/07	3:00 p.m.
MGC vs. USC Salkehatchie	4/07	5:30 p.m.
MGC vs. Northwest Shoals	4/10	7:00 p.m.
MGC vs. Northwest Shoals	4/11	2:00 p.m.
MGC vs. Northwest Shoals	4/11	4:30 p.m.
MGC vs. CVCC	4/14	5:00 p.m.
MGC vs. Darton	4/16	TBA
MGC vs. Darton	4/18	2:00 p.m.
MGC vs. Darton	4/18	4:30 p.m.
MGC vs. GA Perimeter	4/24	7:00 p.m.
MGC vs. GA Perimeter	4/25	2:00 p.m.
MGC vs. GA Perimeter	4/25	4:30 p.m.
MGC vs. Chipola	4/28	TBA
MGC vs. Chipola	4/29	TBA

Softball Schedule

MGC vs. Truett-McConnell	4/03	2:00 p.m.
MGC vs. Andrew	4/04	2:00 p.m.
MGC vs. GMC	4/08	3:00 p.m.
MGC vs. Young Harris	4/10	2:00 p.m.
MGC vs. Darton	4/14	3:00 p.m.
MGC vs. Perimeter	4/17	4:00 p.m.
MGC vs. ABAC	4/18	1:00 p.m.
NJCAA Region XVII Tournament		4/23 - 4/25

Home games are listed in red.

MGC Admissions Summer First Look!



MGC's Walker Hall

MGC's Saturday First Look program is a great way to visit and explore our campus! Prospective students and their families are invited to join us for the Summer First Look on Saturday, April 25, 2009. The event starts at 9:30 a.m. in Walker Hall on the MGC Cochran campus.

A continental breakfast will be served, and the day's program will feature a tour of the campus, a question-and-answer session, an academic session with faculty and an information fair with representatives from financial aid, residence life, academic affairs, admissions and other MGC departments. Please call 478-934-3103 to reserve your spot at the MGC Summer First Look!

Killingsworth Continued...

community, and I think the area will continue to benefit greatly from the access to higher education that MGC offers.”

Killingsworth is now a business major at MGC, and he stated that the college is a great fit for him. He praised MGC’s small class sizes and the individual attention the faculty offers students. Killingsworth also said that the money he has saved by attending a local college is a great benefit. “I wanted to stay near home to cut costs, and I knew I could get the same course-work at MGC as I could get a bigger college far from home. The classes here are just as good,” Killingsworth said.

“The students all feel comfortable at MGC. It’s a nice environment, and the campus is not as much of a culture shock as it would be to go from high school to a really big college,” Killingsworth stated. “I like the small classes and the great staff and faculty. The teachers here don’t mind helping you out and giving you individual help.”

MGC Dublin’s enrollment numbers continue to grow, and the campus currently serves 825 students plus over 100 students that are taking online classes. Killingsworth has witnessed the growth first hand and explained that it is definitely good for the college and the community. “It will sure look good for me later to say that I went here,” he said.

The MGC Dublin campus is located at 1900 Bellevue Rd. For more information about the campus, please call 478-275-6643. To find out how you can enroll at any of MGC’s three campuses located in Dublin, Eastman and Cochran, please call the Middle Georgia College Office of Admissions at 478-934-3103.

Peacock Gallery hosts closing reception for their March exhibit, “Interstices”

MGC’s Peacock Gallery hosted a closing reception for their exhibit “Interstices,” a collection of works by artist Jane Craven of Freehold, New Jersey on Friday, March 27 in the gallery. The event featured a gallery talk and question-and-answer session with the artist.

MGC Assistant Professor of Art and Peacock Gallery Director Charlie Agnew stated, “Jane Craven’s work intrigues me because of the mysterious anonymity of the figures. The figures present in her work seem to be shadowy reflections of us that suddenly appear and make one feel as though there is another presence with them.” Agnew added, “Many of these figures seem to exist in a state of flux between the conscious world and the edges of our vision. However one relates to this exhibition, this body of work will intrigue the viewer, making them question the relationship between themselves and the figures.”

MGC Foundation Benefit Gala Set for April 4

Join MGC for an elegant evening of music, food and fun!



MGC’s 2009 Foundation Benefit Gala, set for April 4, is sure to be an evening of fun, delicious food and great entertainment. The event will feature a reception, silent auction, gourmet dinner and entertainment by the MGC Jazz Band. The gala begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Eastman Aviation Campus. Formal attire is required, black-tie optional. All proceeds from the event benefit the MGC Foundation’s scholarship program to assist worthy students pursuing an education at the college.

To be a part of this exciting event, please contact the MGC Office of Advancement at 478-934-6417. Tickets are \$50 per person or attendees may request a V.I.P. table, which seats 6, for \$500. Premium seating and a complimentary bottle of wine will be provided at each V.I.P. table. Please make checks payable to the MGC Foundation and mail to: Middle Georgia College, Office of Advancement, 1100 Second Street, SE, Cochran, GA 31014. Reservations can also be paid with a Discover, Visa or MasterCard by calling the office of advancement at the phone number provided above.



Congratulations to the 2008-2009 Lady Warriors!



Back Row (Left to Right): Assistant Coach Tib Brown, Ebony Battle, Akei Irvin, Aureathia Byrd, Jasmearne McGrady, Raquel Reed, Coach Anderson Ligon, Taquella Coates, Monsha Jackson, Tunisia Cobb and Assistant Coach Rachel Henry. Front Row (Left to Right): Jasmine Lloyd, Yasmine Bailey, Jelisa Reed, Shuntell Tharpe, Briana Smith, Stacia Eady, Symone Wilkerson and Destini Blount.

Middle Georgia College Women's Basketball's 2008-2009 season was one of the most exciting in team history. The women earned an impressive 23-6 record this year that included a Georgia Junior College Athletic Association (GJCAA) Region XVII championship title, a district championship title and a trip to the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Women's National Basketball Tournament in Salina, Kansas.

Head Coach Anderson Ligon knew that he would have to beef up his team in order to be a contender for a top spot in the region, especially in his post positions. When recruiting Taquella Coates from Colquitt High School in Moultrie he knew she would fit their need perfectly. "It wasn't easy getting her because she was closer to other schools, but our setup at MGC made the difference," Ligon reminisced. He added, "She was like the missing piece to the puzzle."

The Warriors did have some players returning that gave them some good minutes in the previous season but they also wanted to beef up their point guard positions. "When we signed Symone Wilkerson from Bonaire we felt like we had done that," Ligon stated. He also knew that he needed better shooting from the perimeter. Last year they averaged 55 points per game, but this year that average jumped to 77 points per game. That's a huge difference, and it's all because of Shuntell "Pookie" Tharpe. "Not to take anything away from other players on our team, but adding those three players to our roster has made a huge difference to our program," said Ligon.

This season the Lady Warriors won four games in a row at the start and then lost to Clinton, SC. Following the loss, they won another 12 straight games. Then Darton came to play at MGC. It was a wake-up call. Darton showed the team that they needed to work harder and not become complacent. After their first loss to Darton, the Lady Warriors lost once again on their home court. When the women went to play at Darton's court they were much more prepared for the rematch than they had been for the original game and lost by only 3 points in overtime. Their experiences with Darton led the Lady Warriors to study their game closely and become more aggressive. The women played every game following the second Darton loss as the aggressors on defense and went on to beat Darton in the GJCAA Georgia Region XVII championship game in February.

Despite impressive performances in both their NJCAA National Tournament games, The Lady Warriors lost both. Ligon said the trip to Kansas was still extremely rewarding, "Coming out [to Kansas] was well worth the trip. We got MGC's name out onto the national stage, and you can't put a price on that."