

Connection

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Health Ed. Grads Often Meet/Exceed State, National Averages on Certification Exams

Our Health Education Division graduates continue to meet and/or exceed state and national average scores on certification exams, with four of the programs reporting 100 percent pass rates.

Graduates of the Associate Degree Nursing, Practical Nursing (L.P.N.), Expanded Duty Dental Assisting, Medical Assisting, Medical Laboratory Technology, Surgical Technology, and Veterinary Technology programs have the opportunity to earn State or national credentials in their field of study by taking a computer adaptive exam which tests their knowledge on entry-level competencies.

All graduates are strongly encouraged to take their respective certification exam. Certification usually means a larger salary and the recognition of a credential that most employers require. Licensure is required for several programs.

For the fifth time in a decade, Practical Nursing students who graduated in August report a 100 percent pass rate on the National Council Licensing Exam (NCLEX-PN). In addition, graduates of the Dental Assisting, Medical Assisting, and Medical Laboratory Technology programs have 100 percent pass rates for 2010. So far, exam scores reveal that the Practical Nursing students who graduated in December have a 100 percent pass rate, also.

“One of the keys to the students’ success is the excellence of our faculty. Smaller classes and the instructors’ constant interaction with cohorts of students contribute to a positive, learning-centered environment,” said Dr. Lynn Lewis, dean of the College’s Health Education Division.

“I’m proud to say that our students continue to hit and exceed the bar in program State and national certification exams,” said Dr. Lewis. “It is reassuring that we are preparing entry-level, competent, and safe graduates. Effective learning is a ‘two-way street’ that involves student responsibility and faculty expertise. These scores are important to the graduates as they pursue employment and to the community and employers who appreciate and value Tri-County health education graduates,” said Dr. Lewis.

(continued on page 8)



Associate Degree Nursing major **Ashley Bates** trains on a human patient simulator.

UPCOMING EVENTS

College Fair March 2
Law Enforcement
Appreciation Banquet March 3
College Goal South Carolina.... March 5
Criminal Justice Career Fair... March 31
Bluegrass Under the Stars.....April 2
Career FairApril 6
Early Childhood Conference April 16
Student Awards Ceremony April 19

Check the College Activities Calendar in eTC for additional activities and events.

Connecting



Ronnie L. Booth
President

Our budget challenges continue as we move past the halfway point of the 2010-11 fiscal year. The cumulative impact of reduced funding from the State, as well as lower-than-anticipated credit and non-credit enrollment this year, has negatively impacted our revenue streams. As of this month, we have had to reduce our operating budget by approximately \$900,000. Fewer students allowed us to decrease the amount of funding we set aside to hire adjunct faculty. Contractual and travel budgets have been reduced, as well as other operational areas. We are carefully looking at each vacant position to determine if it is essential to re-hire at this time. For the most part, positions we still intend to fill are those funded by federal grants, such as Title III. Those funds cannot be redirected to cover other operational, personnel, or capital needs.

Our students also feel the impact of reduced funding. In recent years, we have added fees that many colleges have had in place for years, such as the parking fee we put in place two years ago. Effective Summer Term, we will add a course materials fee to certain courses to help cover the cost of consumable materials. Some examples include welding courses where we consume costly steel and gases, as well as science labs that use microorganisms, chemicals, and other disposable lab supplies. While the fees are modest, we know our students, like us, have suffered the effects of an economic downturn that have lasted more than three years. Thankfully, financial aid will cover the cost of these new fees, which is yet another reason to encourage all students to apply for financial aid and scholarships.

I know our budget situation has presented real challenges to you as employees. For the last three years, I have asked you to accomplish more with less, even in the midst of maximizing enrollment, programs, and services at our Anderson Campus and opening our new campus in Easley. Your many successes amaze me, and our student testimonials say it all. Take, for example Lynne Baker, who enrolled this spring at our Easley Campus. She always wanted to go back to school, but was never able to make it a priority in her life due to her economic circumstances and schedule challenges. When she saw construction underway at the Easley Campus, she knew the time was finally right. We featured her in a press release when she attended our Enrollment Day in November, and she recently sent a note to Lisa Garrett in the Public Relations Department. She wrote: "I am so excited. I am ready for a change and have wanted to be a nurse for years. Everyone has said to 'follow your dream because your dream won't follow you.' Thanks again so much and thanks to Tri-County Technical College!"

When I hear stories like this, I can set aside – if only for a little while – the pressures of budget shortfalls, politics, and bureaucracy, and think about the difference we are able to make in the lives of people like Lynne. I keep stories like hers tucked away in my mind and bring them out when I feel the need to refocus on what matters most.

Ronnie L. Booth, Ph.D.
President

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Tri-County Technical College does not discriminate in admission or employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, qualifying disability, veteran's status, or national origin.



Spotlight on Lottery Tuition Assistance



Wendy Sutton

Lottery Funds Make College Possible For SGA President Wendy Sutton

Wendy Sutton waited 24 years to live her dream of pursuing a college degree.

At 42, the University Transfer major put aside her fears of returning to college and of dealing with her learning disabilities and made the call to Tri-County Technical College. "I asked to speak to a counselor. Thankfully I got Carol Miller (disabilities coordinator/counselor)," she said. "I started rambling about all the reasons I would fail – my severe dyslexia and my physical limitations after having multiple spinal surgeries. I thought I would run into the same walls I did years ago when I attended college at age 18. Carol said, 'At least come and talk.'"

After learning about all of the support systems in place (Carol's office, Student Support Services tutoring and counseling, and lottery tuition assistance), Wendy signed up for classes in 2009. A recovering addict, Wendy decided to pursue a University Transfer degree and will earn a psychology degree at a four-year college. She plans to work as a substance abuse counselor at a rehabilitation center.

"Everyone at Tri-County has been great and supportive and has helped me to get acclimated to college. The Lottery Tuition Assistance (LTA) made my first semester possible," she said. Her daughter, Angela, 23, also is receiving full lottery assistance. "It's the reason she is able to attend college, also. Thanks to LTA, both of us are achieving the

dream my father had for both of us to get an education. I want the best for my kids, as my father did for me. My husband is the sole breadwinner, and we are grateful for the lottery," said Wendy.

She shows her gratitude by giving back to the College. She serves as president of the Student Government Association and is a community volunteer.

"My life has been incredible since the day I entered Tri-County. I love the ride I'm on."

*Tri-County students gathered with several College Commissioners at the State House January 25 to voice their support for Lottery Tuition Assistance (LTA). They represented a fraction of the nearly 40,000 students each year who depend on LTA to continue their education. One in three—33%—technical college students relies on Lottery Tuition Assistance (LTA) to achieve their career goals. Pictured from left are (top row) **Viola Palacios**, of Central, an associate degree Nursing student; **Danielle O'Neil**, of Clemson, a University Transfer major; and **Paul Watson**, of Anderson, a Business Management major; (middle row) **Wendy Sutton**, of Belton, a University Transfer major and president of SGA; and College Commissioners **Helen Rosemond-Saunders** and **Dr. Valerie Ramsey**; and (bottom row) **Robin Kyle**, of Liberty, a University Transfer major; **Josue Montoya**, of Belton, a University Transfer major; **Croslena Johnson**, director of Tri-County's Student Life and Counseling Services; and **Tammy Lollis**, administrative specialist for Student Life and Counseling Services.*



SPOTLIGHT is a regular feature of CONNECTION that highlights College instructional programs, activities, and support services. Surveys show that our own faculty and staff play a significant role in influencing potential students to apply to the College. We're all ambassadors – so stay informed and keep doing a great job spreading the word that Tri-County is a great place to learn and grow!



Robin McFall, English department head, sent this note to Linda Driggers to compliment the work of **Lynn Shook**, payroll accounting technician.

Linda,

“Often, I don’t think we take the time to let a supervisor know when an employee has gone above and beyond in the normal course of the day. So, I am letting you know how much I appreciate everything that Lynn Shook does to help me. She answers questions, provides guidance, and is always pleasant in doing so. She has been extremely helpful with helping me figure out contracts and time sheets for adjuncts who participated in the new student advising process. I am very grateful to her and appreciate her positive, can-do attitude.”

Gregg Stapleton, vice president for Business Affairs, writes:

“**Lee Tennent** and **Matt Edwards**

continue to amaze us with their innovation and technical savvy! They found a way to automate alerting on critical IT systems using tools we already own rather than spending tens of thousands of dollars each year on a purchased solution. Alerting allows us to provide better 24/7 systems uptime at a much reduced manpower cost and, once again, advances our IT capabilities well beyond those of our sister colleges.”

Jennifer Beattie, lead Freshman Seminar and College Skills instructor/English instructor, sent this note of appreciation:

“In December, someone from the Anderson community contacted me about a situation with which he thought I could help. A woman and her 16-year-old son had been homeless for a month after leaving their abusive husband/father. Anderson Community Ministries was able to find them a home that they could afford to rent, but the house was empty! The woman is on disability because she’s still recovering from cancer. In fact, in a week, she was scheduled to have surgery to remove a brain tumor. I began asking folks here at TCTC to

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Our College Family

excellence through service

In October of 2010, the Surgical Technology department received a 10-year continuing accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs. Program Coordinator **Cheryln Brown** said accreditation evaluators complimented the department on its clinical procedures and state-of-the-art equipment.

Congratulations to Associate Degree Nursing faculty member **Dr. Sharon Harper**, whose abstract has been accepted as a poster presentation at the South Carolina Deans and Directors of Nursing Education and SCLN Faculty Quality and Innovation Conference set for April 8. Sharon’s poster presentation is titled “Effective Jump Start Decreases Early Attrition.”

Also to **Amanda Spacil** and **Eugene Grant**, who graduated from the Educational Leadership Certification Program at the University of South Carolina in December. Amanda is our grants director, and Eugene is the dean of the Industrial and Engineering Technology Division.

In addition, Amanda is serving as the Secretary/Treasurer for the Chief Development Officers Board for the State Technical College System.



Amanda Spacil

Eugene Grant

Brady Thomas, of Anderson, the designated hitter for the University of South Carolina’s Baseball team, the 2010 NCAA National Champions, was an associate in Science major here and transferred to USC’s Nursing program. **Kay Rhodes**, admissions liaison for the Nursing department, was his academic advisor and helped Brady to stay on track with scheduling the classes needed at Tri-County and for admission to USC.

He signed the artwork she is holding in the photo above which Kay displays in her office. “I often remind the USC’s Dean of Nursing that they wouldn’t have Brady if it weren’t for Kay,” said Janet Fuller, Nursing department head.



Kay Rhodes

Congratulations to **Julia Campbell**, a University Transfer major, who is our representative for the 2011 Phi Theta Kappa All-State Academic Team award ceremony to be held this spring.



Julia Campbell

Executive Staff Updates

in transition

STUDENT AFFAIRS DIVISION

Brian McGuinness is our new Admissions/Enrollment Counselor for International Students. He was International Student School Director for Kaplan Aspect at Dean College in Franklin, Massachusetts, and lived in Japan for five years, working as an ESC Instructor and International Student Advisor. He holds a B.A. in Political Science from Syracuse University and an M.Ed. from Campbell University. He is a member of the National Association of Foreign Student Advisors. He and his wife, Shiho, live in Anderson with their two children, Grace, 5, and Logan, nine months.



Brian McGuinness

Betty Fant joined Financial Aid as the Administrative Assistant in January. She has more than 30 years of experience in industry, working as a Human Resource Representative and in Accounting for BASF Honeywell (now Shaw Industries). She also worked for the S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce Center as a Program Assistant in 2010. Betty attended Anderson University and is a member of Mt. Moriah Baptist Church, where she sings in the Sanctuary Choir. She lives in Anderson.



Betty Fant

The following faculty and staff recently departed the College. We wish them well in their new endeavors.

Ed Heberling

Ed Vassar

Commission Elects New Officers

At its February meeting, the College Commission elected new officers. Effective April 1, they are as follows: Mr. William H. "Ham" Hudson, Chair; Mr. Leon "Butch" Harris, Vice Chair; and Mr. D. Pruitt Martin continues as Secretary/Treasurer.



Ham Hudson



Butch Harris



Pruitt Martin

The Commission meets bi-monthly at noon in the Board Room in the Ruby Hicks Hall.

- **Fall Semester Important Dates and Deadlines:** Amanda Blanton, dean of Enrollment Management, presented a recommendation from the Post-Registration Workgroup regarding the establishment and communication of key dates and deadlines for Fall Semester. A calendar will be published and widely disseminated.
- **50th Anniversary Celebration:** The College will celebrate its 50th anniversary during calendar year 2012. The PR and Marketing Office will begin talking to various offices about participation in celebration activities.
- **Strategic Planning:** The Executive Staff finalized the Key Strategic Objectives and began debriefing on the strategic planning process in preparation for the roll-out of the final plan.
- **Other:** Inclement weather debrief, Commission retreat, FY2012 budgeting process.

Adult Learning and Tri-County Offer Bridge Program

Pickens County residents who have not completed their high school credential can gain the skills needed to get into the workforce through a unique program offering GED study and WorkKeys certification.

Persons who successfully earn these two credentials will have the opportunity to gain more specialized training through “QuickJobs” (six months or less) training at the College’s new Easley Campus.

Offered through the Pickens County School District’s Adult Education Office and Tri-County Technical College, “The Adult Learning Bridge program is designed to build a seamless transfer from the time a student enters the Pickens County Adult Education program through their completion of a Tri-County QuickJobs program,” said Dr. Brian Swords, acting director of our Easley Campus.

“This program offers residents an opportunity for a better future. It’s a great way to make the next step easier,” said Dr. Mary Gaston, director of the Adult Learning Center for the School District of Pickens County.

Local businesses are looking for a high school diploma or GED and WorkKeys credentials when interviewing prospective employees, said Dr. Gaston. WorkKeys is a job skills assessment system measuring real-world skills that employers believe are critical to job success.

“This class isn’t for everyone,” she stressed. “It is designed for those individuals who are likely to complete their GED or diploma in a short period of time.” When a student is within a month of completing the GED, Dr. Swords will enroll him or her into the Workplace Skills (soft-skills class) while continuing to work toward the GED or diploma.

The next step would be training at the QuickJobs Center in one of these QuickJobs programs: CNA (Certified Nurse Aide), Commercial Truck Driving, Customer Service, or Certified Manufacturing Production Technician.

The Aliens Named FLL Champions



Tommy Williams, of Bosch, back row, right, congratulates the champions, *The Aliens*, of Lakeside Middle School.

The College hosted the Third Annual FLL Regional Tournament January 29 on the Pendleton Campus. For the second consecutive year, *The Aliens* from Lakeside Middle School in Anderson were named the Champions and received the most prestigious award.

Seventeen teams, representing students from area middle schools, competed in a regional qualifying event for FIRST LEGO League teams. FLL teams explored the world of biomedical engineering to discover innovative ways to repair injuries, overcome genetic predispositions and maximize the body’s potential, with the intended purpose of leading happier and healthier lives.

Each FLL Challenge has two parts – the Robot Game and the Project. Teams were judged on teamwork, robot design, and performance and a research project. Robert Bosch Corporation, LLC, sponsored this event.

FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) is an organization that seeks to create a world where science and technology are celebrated similar to a sports environment.



Tim Nafziger, left, and Engineering Technology instructor **Mandy Orzechowski**, were among the referees at the tournament.

Three Students Compete at Speech Festival



Three of our students, from left, **Lily Rosas**, **Orrie Kyzer**, and **Molly Loch**, traveled to Limestone College in January to participate in the 2011 South Carolina Speech and Theater Association College Festival. Lily is a Nursing major from Pickens; Orrie, of Conway, is a University Transfer student majoring in Performing Arts; and Molly, of Anderson, is a Radio/Television and Broadcasting major. The Tri-County Technical College Speech and Drama Team is coached by Greg Toney, Kim Harp, and Dana Griffith. Next year's festival will be hosted by Tri-County Technical College Saturday, February 11, 2012.

Student Democrats Support New Foundations



Our Student Democrats sponsored a Christmas Tree Decorating party at New Foundations December 3. The group collected decorations and other essentials from members as well as others in the Tri-County community to help them decorate four trees. Here, **Jaz Isom**, right, helps one of the students at New Foundations (children's home in Anderson) decorate a tree. Through the generosity of our club members and others in the community, the students were able to serve them pizza and other refreshments, as well as have the Tiger Mascot attend. New Foundations provides a home for several displaced children (all ages), and it helps them develop fundamental life skills. The Student Democrats are planning a skating party for the children on March 10. The club also plans to attend the S.C. Democratic Convention on April 30 and hopes to visit the White House in May. Contact Mary Geren at Ext. 1418 if you'd like to help or learn more.

Black History Month Celebrated



Bryant Smith

Clemson resident and consultant Bryant Smith discussed the achievements, contributions, and culture of African Americans at a Black History Month presentation held February 16 at the College.

The Offices of Student Life and Counseling Services hosted the event. Titled "Black History...Before and Beyond the Dream," Smith's speech chronicled the cultural significance of a race of people throughout time.

He volunteers as a mentor and coach for young teenage boys and serves as a board member for "Youth Advocates," an agency that works with challenging youth in the community. He has hosted his own radio and cable talk programs and written numerous articles for a variety of journals and magazines. He has published two books.

Health Ed. *(continued from page 1)*

Graduates of associate or baccalaureate nursing programs must pass the NCLEX- RN exam to become a registered nurse in the State. The NCLEX exams for both Practical Nursing and Associate Degree Nursing programs are computerized, adaptive exams that evaluate a graduate's basic nursing knowledge and decision-making ability on commonly encountered health-care situations.

Practical Nursing grads' scores rank above both the State average (95.09%) and the national average (87.06%) figures.

The College's Associate Degree Nursing department reports an 89 percent pass rate and in 2009 had a 94 percent passing. The State average is 89.53 percent, and the national average is 87 percent.

"I attribute these success rates to the commitment of our students and our faculty's commitment to our students' education," said Janet Fuller, Nursing department head. "I am so pleased with both sets of scores," said Janet. "Of course, our goal is for a 100 percent pass rate in Associate Degree Nursing, but it's a high-stakes test, and I'm proud of our scores and the fact that we continue to meet State and national averages and many times exceed them."

Tri-County's Nursing departments are fully accredited by the State Board of Nursing in South Carolina and the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission. The Licensed Practical Nursing program will move from the Pendleton Campus to the Easley Campus in fall 2011.

As reported in a previous issue of Connection, all 12 of the College's spring Medical Laboratory Technology graduates earned their national credentials by scoring a 100 percent pass rate on the National Certification Exam administered by the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP). Since 2006 four out of five graduating classes have achieved 100 percent pass rates. The Class of 2007 achieved a 92 percent pass rate.

Tri-County ranks higher than the national figures when comparing registry scores. Tri-County's mean score was 580 as opposed to the national score of 506. (A person must score 400 or above to pass the exam.) Tri-County ranks 100 percent in average scores for this cycle (the last four months) as compared to the 79 percent national average score.

"Our graduates were a very conscientious group who focused on the details. We had excellent comments from the facilities where they did their clinical training throughout the year," said Polly Kay, MLT program coordinator.

The MLT program is accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS).

The College's most recent graduates of its Medical Assisting program can proudly place the C.M.A. designation after their names. The 14 graduates of the Class of 2010 received a 100 percent passing score on the American Association of Medical Assistants'



Expanded Duty Dental Assisting students work to develop their skills in a lab environment.

Certification Examination.

Students prepare all year for the exam, she said, by training to be good test takers. "They get a national certification simulation exam that mimics what they will sit for," said Kaye Bathe, Medical Assisting program coordinator. "You must pass this test to pass our Medical Assisting program. They get many opportunities to practice, and it pays off," she said, adding that being able to take the test right after graduation is a real advantage."

In 2005, the Medical Assisting program received a maximum seven-year re-accreditation from its national accrediting agency, the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs.

Dental Assisting grads for 2010 also are celebrating a 100 percent pass rate on the Dental Assisting National Board (DANB) exam. "Our students had a 100 percent pass rate on all three parts – infection control, radiology and general chairside," said Donna Shannon, Allied Health/Expanded Duty Dental Assisting department head. Sixteen students took the first two parts and 14 took the last part. Like the other programs, Donna uses mock exams and review books as study guides.

According to information from the DANB, Tri-County's average score on the infection control test was 668, while other accredited schools in the state scored 598. The national average score on that test was 561. Tri-County's program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation.

"It's an affirmation of hard work on the part of the students and the faculty," Donna said. "It's a testament to the program and the committed faculty, who really take their roles as educators very seriously."

The graduates of the Veterinary Technology program are eligible to take a national credentialing exam, the Veterinary Technician National Examination (VTNE). Tri-County students must pass this national exam before they are eligible to take the state licensure written exam.

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USC President Visits Campus



The University of South Carolina's president, **Dr. Harris Pastides**, and his wife, **Patricia**, pictured here with **Dr. and Mrs. Booth**, were guests on campus, and he spoke to the faculty and staff at a meeting January 31. "I come to extend the hand of partnership and friendship," he said, commending the 16 technical colleges' work and specifically Tri-County's Bridge to Clemson and Gateway to College programs. "I'm so inspired by that. I have immense respect for you and your work." Dr. Pastides was named the University of South Carolina's 28th president on August 1, 2008, following a decade of service as a professor, dean, and vice president.

LC² Thematic Designers Plan Courses



The Spring 2011 Thematic Designers for the Learning through Connections and Community (LC²) initiative are at work and meeting bi-monthly for course design planning sessions. Pictured here from left are **Dr. Amoena Norcross**, (English); **Sue Andrus**, (Library); **Andrea Barnett**, (Developmental Math); and Title III Activity Director **Katy Goforth**. Penny Edwards (Psychology) is not pictured. This fall each will teach a section of College 105 with their theme. The LC² initiative is funded by a Title III Strengthening Institutions grant awarded to the College last year. The five-year plan is designed to more powerfully focus on student learning and student success for first-time postsecondary students. Look for a more in-depth article about the Thematic Designers and the Readiness Assessment Researchers in a future issue of Connection. To stay current on what's happening with the LC² project, join the group portal in eTC.

Brag & Share

(continued from page 4)

look around their houses and see if they had anything to donate to this woman and her son. The TCTC community really responded to the call for help! Thanks to the generosity of the following people, within one week (before the woman had to go into surgery), we had managed to put together a complete house—everything from major household appliances to the small comforts that make a house a home! These people really made a difference in our community—kudos to them!"

Sara Crocker, Kevin Steele, Andrea Barnett, Deborah Brock, Rebecca Eidson, Charmagne Burns, Katy Goforth, Jenny Dean, Marla Roberson, Claudia Poore, Sue Andrus, Betty Morgan, Polly Kay, and Chris Worthy.

If you wish to thank someone publicly, share personal news, brag about a recent accomplishment in your unit, or any other highlight, send it in for our "Brag & Share" column. E-mail your submission (65 words or less) with "Brag & Share" in the subject line to Lisa Garrett at lgarrett@tctc.edu.

Health Ed.

(continued from page 8)

According to Dr. Peggy Champion, department head, because the test is taken on a quarterly basis at the student's convenience, she hasn't received a full report of scores for the class of 2010.

Ten of the 17 2010 Surgical Technology graduates passed the National Certification Exam. The goal is to exceed 80 percent (the benchmark) for the exam, said Program Coordinator CherylN Brown, who noted that she is implementing new study techniques, such as adding more review exams throughout the year, so students can identify areas of weakness to successfully prepare themselves for the comprehensive exam. Tri-County students are required to sit for the exam prior to graduating.

Lady Hawks Compete In Region 10 Tournament

By Assistant Coach Ken Jones

The Tri-County Technical College Women's Basketball team competed in its first Region 10 tournament at Voorhees College February 25 - 26, ending its inaugural season with a 2 - 18 record.

It has been a tough inaugural season for the Lady Hawks and first-year Head Coach Alesia Smith. As expected in many first-year programs, the Lady Hawks experienced signs of brilliance and disappointments. The team fought through trials and tribulations and carried a 2 - 17 record into the Region 10 Tournament. Don't let the record misconstrue the ladies' improvement throughout the season.

This Region 10 Tournament comes at a great time for the Lady Hawks. They just played number #1 seed Spartanburg Methodist Tuesday night and really held their own in the first half of a well fought contest.

Unfortunately, the Lady Hawks entered the Region 10 Tournament with only seven available players. Suzie Ashford and Tricia Lego have filled in as point guards. Suzie, one of the captains, was taken out of her comfort zone as the number 2 guard but has proven she is a great team player. Tricia now plays both point and shooting guard, but her outstanding hustle is what she is known for. Sophomore Danielle Henderson had to learn to play every position on the court, and she leads the team in almost every category. The Lady Hawks lack the true presence of a strong, athletic post player, but Shemicka Smith, Tessa Lumpkins, Keyana Patterson, and Jessica Epps will fight you to the end for points and rebounds. These ladies have shown great promise in the forward and in the post positions.

Coach Smith already is actively recruiting some of the best talent in the area. She leaves no stone unturned in her quest to create the best Women's Basketball Team in the NJCAA. It has been a pleasure to work alongside Coach Smith, Coach Tammy White, and Coach Peppers during Tri County's inaugural Women's Basketball season.

Fifty-three Attend OSHA Update



Fifty-three individuals attended an OSHA Update seminar February 22 in the Industrial and Business Development Center. Paul Schlumper, CSP, PE., of the Georgia Tech Research Institute, led the seminar, which focused on new development with OSHA and opportunities for training at the Institute in Atlanta.

Lady Hawks Finish Season



The Women's Basketball team: top row (standing) from left to right, **Tammy White**, assistant coach, **Ken Jones**, assistant coach, **Shonna Peppers**, assistant coach, **Cassandra Heyward**, **Shakina Harris**, **Alishia Kahan**, **Kourtney Patterson**, **Tricia Lego**, and Head Coach **Alesia Smith**; and bottom (kneeling) from left to right, **Suzie Ashford**, **Shemicka Smith**, **Jessica Epps**, **Danielle Henderson**, **Keyana Harrison**, and **Tessa Lumpkins**.