

DAILY NEWS

Starkville

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INSIDE

AHS grad to succeed Brand as East Webster basketball coach

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Starkville Country Club teammates win

PGA event

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An adaptive renovation

Old Borden plant being transformed into Central Station

By PAUL SIMS
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As one project official called it a “showplace for Starkville, Miss.,” a variety of people broke ground on the effort to convert the former Borden Milk plant into Central Station Commercial Condominiums.

The plant, located on the southwest corner of the intersection between Montgomery and Lampkin streets, will be the home of at least four local businesses – Tabor Construction and Development, Tabor Management, Boardtown Bikes and Central Station Grill – what is now the Cotton District Grill restaurant.

Mayor Parker Wiseman said “downtown is not limited to Main Street,” mentioning a link with the Russell Street area “which we hope will grow.”

Greater Starkville Development Partnership President and CEO Jon Maynard said: “There’s an awful lot of confidence in the economy here in Starkville.”

Jeremy Tabor, one of the partners in the project, said it will be an “opportunity to showcase” some of the company’s work on a first-hand basis.

Tabor will relocate his construction and development and management companies – which were founded in 1989 and 1991 respectively – to the building.

The company started by Tabor’s father, Larry S. Tabor, developed Academy Place, Annabella and Pitot House in Starkville and has worked on several other projects in the area, including service as general contractor on the University Flats and Cotton Quarters condominiums in the Cotton District, according to background from an official announcement on the project issued last week.

The Tabor Management LLC was established by the Tabor’s to handle the day-to-day activities of their properties. John Bean is the president of Eat With Us Group, the parent company of the future Central Station Grill.

“We’ve seen what’s happened in downtown and” wanted to be part of it, he said. “We’re moving to grow our business. ... We’re bullish on Starkville and the Golden Triangle. ... I think you’ll find this is going to fill a niche in the market,” Bean said.

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John Bean, president of the Eat With Us Group, left, Starkville Mayor Parker Wiseman and Dan Curran, a partner in the The Creamery at Central Station LLC, take part in a formal groundbreaking ceremony Wednesday for Central Station, which is planned for the former Borden Milk plant in downtown Starkville. The company Bean leads operates the Cotton District Grill, which will relocate into the building and go by the name Central Station Grill.

Keenum’s inauguration set for Oct. 16

SDN Staff Reports

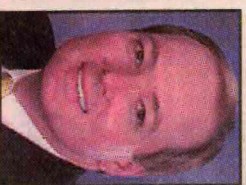
Mississippi State University President Mark Keenum will be inaugurated with a day of festivities in mid-October.

Keenum was named as MSU’s 19th president by the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning in November 2008. He took office in January of this year.

Keenum’s formal inauguration will take place Oct. 16 on campus. The public event will begin at noon in Bettersworth Auditorium of historic Lee Hall, one of MSU’s Mis-

“We are fortunate to have been in leadership in advance of our university,” said inaugural chair Amy Tuck, special assistant to the president.

“In light of the difficult economic times, and in keeping with Dr. Keenum’s desire to



Keenum

the university, the event will be kept in scale and expense,” she said.

“He wants to use this to increase scholarship opportunities for MSU students.”

A committee is being formed to coordinate events for Oct. 16 and other events related to the inauguration, Tuck said. Plans currently call



Tuck

a local Habitat for Humanity home construction project.

The investiture events are designed to reaffirm Keenum’s core commitments, especially to MSU students, outreach, diversity and community engagement, Tuck said.

Additional details will be announced as they are finalized, Tuck said. A special home page on the MSU Web site will provide additional details about the inaugural festivities and other information, including how MSU alumni and friends can help support

Wiseman vetoes revamp of Parks Comm.

By BRIAN HAWKINS
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Mayor Parker Wiseman held true to his promise to veto a vote by the Starkville Board of Aldermen to revamp the city’s Parks and Recreation Commission into an advisory board.

The Board of Aldermen voted in a June 30 meeting to repeal the city ordinance 2008-5 that establishes the authority of the Parks Commission to operate with autonomy and voted to approve a city ordinance 2009-4 designating the commission as an advisory board.

The Board of Aldermen then reappointed the current members of the commission to the new advisory board.

All three votes were taken in the last Board of Aldermen meeting of the previous city administration. Wiseman and the current Board of Aldermen officially assumed leadership of the city on Monday and held their first public meeting Tuesday night.

Wiseman on Wednesday released message outlining his reasons for vetoing the previous board’s actions on the commission.

“Starkville park and recreation programs have seen unprecedented growth in the 26-year history of the Park Commission. Abolishing the Park Commission threatens to slow future progress of park and recreation programs,” said Wiseman in his veto message.

“Mississippi House Bill 1833, which enables the City to assess a 2 percent tax on prepared food and beverages, designates that 40 percent of the revenue from the

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Tourism officials to hold contest for Starkville logo

By PAUL SIMS
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The Starkville Visitors and Convention Council adopted a program of work Wednesday for the coming year which includes the development of a logo for Starkville.

The panel, which oversees the community’s tourism effort and is part of the Greater



Glaze

The campaign’s first component will be the logo, which

"We're really going to try to enhance the Web site to make it more user-friendly and find ways to keep it updated and current," she said.

Keenum

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the scholarship initiative.

The address for the Web site is <http://www.msstate.edu/web/keenum>. Currently, the only information posted is the announcement of the date for Keenum's inauguration.

Keenum came to the MSU presidency following a distinguished public service career, including his most recent stint as a U.S. undersecretary of agriculture for two years.

For many years before that, he was among the senior staff members for U.S. Sen. Thad Cochran, R-Miss., including a decade as Cochran's chief of staff.

Keenum and his wife, Rhonda, are MSU alumni. They are the parents of four children.

Veto

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tax shall be distributed to the Park Commission. Absent action by the Mississippi Legislature, the abolishment of the Park Commission places such revenue in jeopardy."

The concern about the impact on the flow of the 2 percent tax revenues to the city's parks system was voiced at the June 24 meeting of then-Mayor Dan Camp and the previous Board of Aldermen.

"This says if you do away with the Parks Commission, you do away with the 2 percent taxes," said Parks Commission chair Dan Moreland as he distributed a letter regarding the issue to the board last week.

The parks receive some \$600,000 of the 2 percent restaurant and lodging tax.

Should the current Board of Aldermen decide to override Wiseman's veto, they would have to take up the matter at its next meeting on July 21.

In order for an override vote to be successful, two-thirds of the seven-member Board of Aldermen would have to vote in favor of it. That means five aldermen must vote to override the veto.

Station

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Boardtown Bikes is another of the planned occupants for the renovated facility.

Jan Morgan, a co-owner of the store, says the business will move from a 1,200-foot space to 5,000 square feet, which will have a dedicated area for the 3D Fit program, she said. She says the store will add additional lines of bicycles as well as clothing and running shoes as well as more items for triathletes.

Dan Curran, who is in partnership with Jeremy Tabor on the project, says it will be a "showplace for Starkville, Miss."

The building will also feature additional space as well as a climate-controlled facility.

Project officials have said they hope to have Phase I renovations finished in January.

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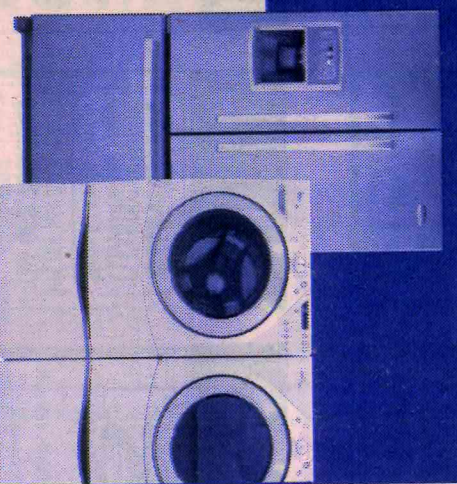
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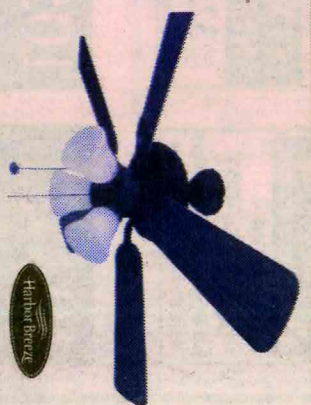


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