



Senior quarterback Juan Joseph (#11) executes a toss sweep to the left to freshman Shane Bowser (#24). Juan Joseph is joined by Head Coach Mike DuBose at the Conerly Trophy award ceremony in Clarksdale. Joseph is the first quarterback since Eli Manning to win the Conerly Trophy.

## Major surprise: Joseph wins 2008 Cellular South Conerly Trophy

Millsaps College senior quarterback and All-American hopeful Juan Joseph capped a stellar four-year career with an unforgettable honor: He was named recipient of the 2008 Cellular South Conerly Trophy, which is awarded to the best college football player in the state.

Up against incredible odds, Joseph won the prestigious award over a pair of projected NFL first-round draft choices from Ole Miss.

“This feels great,” Joseph said after the announcement. “I’m just happy. I can’t even put it into words.”

Although two players from Division II Delta State University have won the award, Joseph is the first player from the Division III level to win in the trophy’s 13-year existence.

A senior from Edgard, La., Joseph led Millsaps to win 11 straight games. The team advanced to the NCAA Division III national playoffs before losing to Washington & Jefferson College in the second round. The Majors were ranked as high as No. 3 nationally in both the D3football.com and AFCA polls.

Joseph led Millsaps in rushing with 76 carries for 412 yards and four touchdowns. He completed nearly 68 percent of his passes (301-for-445), for 3,463 yards, 32 touchdowns, and only six interceptions.

A panel of about 60 media representatives around the state voted on the award, which was presented after a ceremony at Clarksdale Country Club in front of 200-plus in the hometown of Charlie Conerly, the former Ole Miss quarterback for whom the award is named.

Millsaps coach Mike DuBose said Joseph could have played football at a higher level, but he valued more than just that. “He’s a young man that really was interested in academics and he proved that

by coming to Millsaps,” he said.

Joseph was named the Majors’ top senior by the Jackson Touchdown Club. He still has two post-season honors pending in the Gagliardi Trophy – given to the top college football player in Division III – and All-Region/American honors by D3football.com.

Joseph plans to graduate in May with a degree in business administration but will also see if he can play for a professional football team in the NFL or otherwise. If that doesn’t pan out, he plans to return to Millsaps to receive a Master’s of Business Administration.

Likely a shoe-in for SCAC Coach of the Year honors, and currently fourth in the Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year fan voting, DuBose improved to 18-1 all-time in conference play and put the Majors in the national spotlight. Before DuBose took over as head coach in 2006, the Majors struggled, winning just 21 games from 2000-05 against 36 losses. An average team has now turned into a winning team with DuBose leading Millsaps to a 23-6 overall record.

—Kevin Maloney



Senior defensive back Jacob Hanberrys (#36) makes an interception in the end zone.

## Millsaps athletes capture scholar award

Millsaps scholar-athletes have once again proved they have what it takes to win both on the field and in the classroom.

Millsaps recently won the David M.

Halbrook Award for having the highest percentage of graduating athletes for the five-year period, 2003-04 to 2007-08. Millsaps had a 98 percent graduation rate in the Independent College Division. The award was presented during the 75th Annual Mississippi Association of Colleges and Universities Conference.

“Our student-athletes come to Millsaps



## Kenny Chesney comes to campus

From left, Regina Italiano, accounts payable supervisor; Jeanne Bodron, coordinator of user services ; and Sharon Beasley, student account representative, met country music star Kenny Chesney when he practiced with the New Orleans Saints on their last day of training at Millsaps. It was the second consecutive season that Chesney, a buddy of Saints coach Sean Payton, practiced with the team.

because they love their sport and know they will receive an excellent education,” said Tim Wise, athletic director at Millsaps. “This speaks well for the type of scholar-athletes we have here as well as the support

they receive from the faculty and coaching staff as they strive for excellence in the classroom and athletic competition.”

Millsaps College is a NCAA Division III athletic program. A member of the

Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference, Millsaps has 14 men’s and women’s varsity sport teams.

—K. P.



## Sports Hall of Fame Inductees

During Homecoming 2008, the Millsaps College Sports Hall of Fame inducted a new class of former standout athletes. Honored were back row from left, Steve Hendrix, recipient of the Dr. Sam Knox Distinguished Service Award; and Hall of Fame inductees, Dr. Michael Carter, B.S. 1973; Kim Weaver Sawyer, B.S. 1997; Teddy Hymel, B.B.A. 1996; front row from left, Lucinda Baker, widow of the late Lee Baker, B.A. 1951, honorary member; Mike Highfill, B.S. 1998; and Paige Carpenter Pratt, B.B.A. 1990 and M.B.A. 1991.