

Mike DuBose Is Named Head Football Coach

When Ron Jurney, then director of athletics, learned on the morning of February 3 that David Saunders was leaving Millsaps, he was faced with the crisis of finding a new head football coach. Jurney's crisis was quickly downgraded that morning when he was met by a group of players milling around Jurney's office. These players had a solution to Jurney's problem: Promote the defensive coordinator, Mike DuBose, to head coach.

DuBose, whose last college head coaching job was at the University of Alabama, has been a part of the Majors' coaching staff since the 2005 season. His coaching résumé, knowledge of the game, and familiarity with current players made him a logical choice for the head coaching job at Millsaps. As Jurney put it, "This was a no-brainer for me."

The decision to accept the head coaching position came easily to DuBose, as well. "I don't know if I've ever taken a phone call and accepted the job at the same time," DuBose said. "Usually, you want to take some time to talk about it, think about it, and pray about it. But there was no question about this in my mind."

DuBose is not the only person at the College excited about his new position. After DuBose was announced as head football coach, President Frances Lucas said, "We are thrilled to have a topnotch coach with outstanding regional and national credentials on board here at Millsaps College."

Perhaps no group on campus is more eager for DuBose's term to begin than the Majors football team. Josh Hanna, senior defensive back, reports that DuBose is a very hands-on coach, which has him and the rest of the team looking forward to the 2006 season. "Coach DuBose is a very involved football coach who really



wants to see his players do well in life, in the classroom, and on the football field," Hanna said.

Connell Phillips, a senior offensive lineman, was enthusiastic about the upcoming season based on DuBose's previous coaching successes. "Coach DuBose knows what it takes to build a championship team," Phillips said. "His NCAA Division I experience, his knowledge of the game, and his ability to win are all going to be huge assets to this football team. I am truly looking forward to playing for him this upcoming season."

—Clint Kimberling

Links to a Legend: Tourney a Tribute To Mary Ann Edge

Golf traditionally has been known as a sport for forging relationships between business associates, fathers and sons, mothers and daughters, and brothers and sisters. In the South, golf is almost a religion. Services start with each tee time, the congregation is the gallery, the sermons are long straight drives in a cathedral of

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trees and grass, and communion takes place each and every time a golfer sinks an 18-foot putt into the tin cup.

At Millsaps College, one woman can be credited with forging numerous alumni relationships spanning four decades, and to honor this woman's legacy the Mary Ann Edge Memorial Golf Tournament was established in 1997. Edge, a native of Amory, Mississippi, was a pioneer in golfing circles in Mississippi and throughout the region. Some of her many accomplishments include being named the City of Jackson Women's Champion 13 times, State Senior Women's Champion once, State Amateur Runner-Up five times, Low Amateur in LPGA events twice, and Shady Oaks Club Champion 20 times.

In the meantime, she coached the Millsaps Majors Men's Golf Team for 28 years, and in 1993, the year she retired, she coached the Majors to the Southeastern Collegiate Athletic Conference Championship. In the state and throughout the region, Edge was known for her tireless devotion to the game, coordinating the Junior Girls Golf Circuit in the 1970s and hosting golf clinics for men, women, and children to promote the game.

January 29, 2006, marked the 10th anniversary of the passing of Millsaps' beloved golf coach and associate professor

of physical education, and this is the ninth year that the College will host the Mary Ann Edge Memorial Golf Tournament.

Doug Minor, B.A. 1977, a former student of Edge and one of the original organizers of the event, recalls how the tournament has grown and become a new Millsaps College tradition. "After I graduated, Mary Ann and the alumni office asked me to establish and coordinate an annual golf tournament in conjunction with Homecoming activities," Minor said. "I was happy to offer my services, and, for most of the 1980s, alumni, staff, and friends of Millsaps would play in a scramble on the Friday before the Saturday football game. Mary Ann played in the tournament every year."

In the early 1990s, John Christmas, then the Millsaps vice president for enrollment and student services, suggested naming the tournament for Edge as a tribute to her long tenure at Millsaps and her devotion to golf, her players, and her students. Therefore, the Annual Millsaps Homecoming Golf Tournament became the Mary Ann Edge Golf Tournament. A few years later, after Edge lost her battle with cancer, the event was renamed the Mary Ann Edge Memorial Golf Tournament.

Said this year's tournament chair, Russ Hawkins, B.B.A. 1995: "This is a chance

to give back to Millsaps College for the opportunities that were given to me in the early 1990s," he said. "It's also an honor for me to chair a golf tournament in honor of Mary Ann Edge, who represented everything from a coach to a friend, on and off the golf course, to all who played for her."

Buddy Buchanan, B.A. 1962, another of Edge's students, said: "Mary Ann Edge was my coach, friend, and life mentor. The list of top golfers she turned loose on the public is only part of her legacy—players like Mary Mills, who won three major LPGA championships and was named 2006 Alumna of the Year (*see related story, page 37*), Doug Minor, Greg Maloney, Fred Gipson, Roger Williamson, and Dick McMurray. Coach Edge was also a splendid ball striker. She was a masterful course manager and had the competitive heart of a linebacker. Had it not been for the great Mary Mills, Mary Ann would certainly have won most of the Mississippi Women's Amateur titles from 1955 through 1962. She left word for me to read scripture at her memorial—one of the finest honors ever accorded me."

Even 10 years after Edge's death, her memory and golfing legacy live on in the hearts and minds of alumni and friends. Because of the impact that she made on Millsaps College, new relationships will continue to be forged for years to come on the fairways, the greens, and the sand traps of our common life that is Millsaps College.

This year's tournament, the Ninth Annual Mary Ann Edge Memorial Golf Tournament, is scheduled for May 12, 2006, at the Lake Caroline Golf Club in Madison. For an application, go to the Millsaps website, www.millsaps.edu, and click on the Mary Ann Edge Golf Tournament icon, or call the Millsaps athletics office at 601-974-1191 to request an application. This year's event promises to be one of the best yet.

Special thanks to our major corporate sponsors: AmSouth Bank, BancorpSouth, and BankPlus. —Vernon King



From left, committee members Scott Essex, Mike Highfill, Dick Highfill, Russ Hawkins, Jim McKeown, Pat Taylor, and Vernon King.