

SPORTS

Alabama vs Mississippi High School
ALL-STAR CLASSIC



The Legends Continue.

See how all-star teams from Mississippi/Alabama game will line up for tonight's game. See rosters, page 2-B.

LEADER-CALL

Laurel, Mississippi

The Mississippi Highway Patrol Trooper of the Year was recognized. See story, page 3-A.

Mississippi school dropouts declined in 1997. Read more about it on page 3-A.

Payne Stewart hangs on to lead at U.S. Open in San Francisco. See story, page 1-B.

Local swimmers do well during Vicksburg swim meet. See story, page 1B.

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50 cents Less by subscription

LOCAL

Sandersville holds Big Bang event

SANDERSVILLE — To celebrate being an American and being free, the city of Sandersville would like to invite you to participate in a Big Bang Celebration.

There will be a Beauty and Beau Pageant July 3 at 7 p.m. at Sandersville Elementary, and a parade and a Day in the Park on July 4, starting at 10 a.m. There will also be a dance July 4, starting at 8 p.m.

For more information and entry forms, contact D.L. Geiger Jr. at 649-3068 or forms may be picked up at Sandersville City Hall.

STATE

Hosemann, Davis spar over abortion issue

JACKSON (AP) — Fourth Congressional District candidate Delbert Hosemann has received endorsements from national and state anti-abortion groups despite claims by his opponent that he was associated with an abortion clinic.

Friday's endorsements came one day after Phil Davis began running television ads that question Hosemann's stance on abortion and say he has been an officer for the South Jackson Women's Clinic, where abortions have been performed.

Next week, Republicans in the 4th District will decide between Davis, a banker, and Hosemann, a lawyer, in a primary runoff.

Davis, who released paperwork about Hosemann's alleged connection to the clinic, said "candidates are people who live in glass houses, (and) I believe the role of the campaign is to clean the glass."

"His dirty politics and sleazy campaign tactics know absolutely no bounds," responded Hosemann, who said he did legal work for the South Jackson Women's Clinic before abortions were performed there.

Hosemann said he was never an officer for the



Davis

"The bottom line is that all the facts point toward a meaningful association between Delbert Hosemann ... and the SJWC." — Phil Davis campaign literature

"His dirty politics and sleazy campaign tactics know absolutely no bounds. ... He knew this was an absolute lie." — Delbert Hosemann



Hosemann

clinic.

Mississippi Right to Life leader Sandy Ellard of Kosciusko said her group and the national Right to Life organization investigated the claims and determined they were baseless before making the endorsements.

Hosemann said he was hired in the late 1970s for the Jackson gynecology clinic when it was embroiled in a dispute with the IRS. He said that he had nothing to do with the clinic after 1981.

His name was not removed from clinic documents filed with the secretary of state's office until 1989, according to records released by the Davis

campaign.

"The bottom line is that all the facts point toward a meaningful association between Delbert Hosemann ... and the SJWC," Davis campaign literature says.

"He knew this was an absolute lie," said Hosemann.

Ellard said Hosemann, a Catholic, was endorsed after a review of questionnaires filled out by both candidates. She said the endorsement was also prompted in part by politics involving "unborn children."

See CAMPAIGN, page 2-A

Campaign

From page 1-A

"You'd like for that to be an issue off-bounds for politics. Unfortunately, it's been chosen to be kicked around in this race," she said.

The National Right to Life endorsement said that the group believes that Hosemann's election to Congress "will be one more step toward that day when the sanctity of human life will be restored in America."

Meanwhile, Davis was joined at a Friday news con-

ference by Dave Barlow, Jackson coordinator for Promise Keepers, an evangelical organization for men. Barlow said Davis has a record for "standing up and fighting for" moral causes.

The two candidates were debating Friday in Jackson and have another appearance together Monday in Jackson.

The winner faces Democrat Ronnie Shows and three other minor party candidates in November.