

The Mariners' Log

Charting the Course Since 1961

A newsletter for the alumni of the College of Coastal Georgia, Coastal Georgia Community College, Brunswick College, and Brunswick Junior College.



To view more photos, check out the College's Facebook [page](#).

THANK YOU MARINER FAMILY!

You made this our best Giving Tuesday ever. Over \$50,000 in gifts and pledges received from more than 150 donors!

Congratulations to Athletics for raising the most money and the most donors!

We could not do it without YOU!

GIVING TUESDAY



WHAT SHOULD WE NAME THE NEW MASCOT?

At Mariner Fest, the College made history unveiling a new Mariner mascot image. Now we need your help naming it!

The Mascot Reimaging Committee is asking the Mariner community to provide **recommendations for names for our new Mariner!**

Please visit [THIS LINK](#) and give us your best suggestions! The survey will be **open until December 1**, and the new Mariner will be **named at the Homecoming festivities on February 18, 2023.**



ALUMNI Profile: Joe Cravens BJC '74

"The Best Spring of His Life"

By Tiffany King and Casey Hanak

Joe Cravens' best year in college was his sophomore year at Brunswick Junior College in 1974, when student enrollment was 800 to 900 students, and everyone knew everyone. Cravens graduated from BJC that year and went on to have a storied career in athletics, holding head basketball coaching positions at Weber State University, the University of Idaho, the University of Utah, and St. Joseph Catholic High School in Ogden, Utah. Cravens looks back on his time at BJC fondly and the life lessons he learned.

Cravens is originally from Scottsburg, Indiana, and was recruited to play basketball at BJC by then Men's Basketball Head Coach Bob Woodward. Woodward, being from Louisville, Kentucky, south of Scottsburg, would visit his hometown and Scottsburg to recruit players.

"My high school coach (Jim Barley) came to me one day. It was the spring semester of my senior year and I really wanted to play college basketball. Scottsburg is a town with two stoplights and about 6,000 people—it wasn't a hotbed for recruiting," Cravens said. "He said this coach from Brunswick Junior



two players from Scottsburg who went to BJC before me. I came because of Coach Woodward."

Cravens described his time at BJC as "a very formulative time in my life." Going away to college was a difficult adjustment coming from a small town. At the time, there were no dorm rooms on campus and Coach Woodward arranged housing for his players. Cravens and his teammate stayed in a small, one-bedroom apartment which was converted from a lawyer's office.

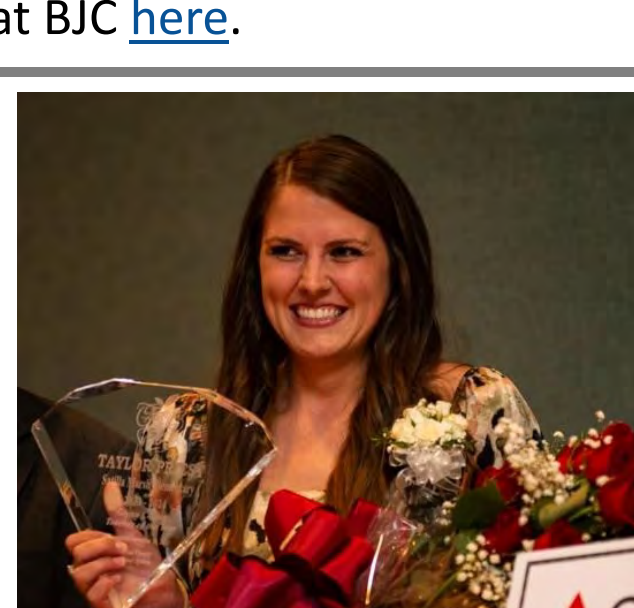
"Being 850 miles away, I couldn't go home on the weekends. I didn't get to go home until Christmas. We didn't have a phone in our apartment. There were no cell phones back then and no email. I would go to the corner of Altama, where there was a payphone and call home collect on Sunday nights. I was very homesick. I was just a small town, country kid in a whole new environment. I almost didn't make it," he said.

Scottsburg was a rural, farming community with very few minorities—Hispanic agricultural workers, but no African Americans. He was then part of a campus community that included African American athletes and students.

"My very first day on campus I met another freshman from Savannah High, a 6-foot-5 African American male, and he had just gotten back from Vietnam. We were literally from different worlds and we became great friends and teammates. It was an amazing thing," Cravens said. "Coach Woodward melted us all together—people from different environments, different cultures."

Although his first year was tough, Cravens was able to push through his homesickness to return to BJC for his sophomore year. He returned to campus now knowing other students and asking how their summers were. Cravens realized that a whole new chapter began in his life. He went from struggling as an individual and player to having a great year—both personally and with the team. Cravens felt like he hit his stride and the team had an outstanding season.

Read more about Joe's time at BJC [here](#).



Coastal Georgia Alum Taylor Priest has been named Glynn County's Teacher of the Year for 2023-2024!

She is a 5th grade teacher at Satilla Marsh Elementary and was honored for her love of students and passion for teaching.

Read more about Taylor's honor [here](#).

Congratulations Taylor!



FALL COMMENCEMENT 2022

Saturday, Dec. 10 starting at 11 a.m.

Jekyll Island Convention Center

Ceremony will be livestreamed on the

College's Facebook page and YouTube channel.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

There is always something going on at the College of Coastal Georgia. Here are some upcoming events:

- Basketball
 - W. Basketball vs. Florida Memorial University: Dec. 3, Coffin Gym at 2p.m.
 - M. Basketball vs. Florida Memorial University: Dec. 3, Coffin Gym at 4 p.m.
- Late Night Breakfast: Dec. 5, starting at 8 p.m. in the Campus Center.
- Fall Commencement: Dec. 10, Jekyll Island Convention Center, starting at 11 a.m. **Ceremony to be livestreamed on the College's Facebook page and YouTube channel.**
- Campus Closed: Dec. 23-30
- Check out the College of Coastal Georgia [Calendar](#) for all events.

STAY IN TOUCH

We would love to stay in touch with you. Please tell us about yourself and what you've been up to after college. Update your contact information [here](#).

Questions? Contact alumni@ccga.edu.

