Emergency notifications for students, faculty and staff will be handled by mass email, Channel 19, WURC 88.1 FM, RC-TV 2, and campus loud speakers. If you would like to receive emergency notifications by text message, please submit your cell phone number to Mrs. Carolyn Hymon, Dean of Students. The numbers will be used for emergencies ONLY and will not be distributed.

Emergency Numbers:
Security office: 662-252-8090
Security guard on duty: 662-216-3429

The Tom Joyner Foundation is now accepting applications for the Full Ride Scholarship, which will cover all the expenses of one student planning to attend a Historically Black College or University in the fall of 2010. Founded in 1998, the Tom Joyner Foundation has raised more than $55 million to help keep students enrolled in black colleges. It has assisted more than 14,000 students and worked with more than 100 HBCUs.

Students will receive full tuition and stipends for up to ten semesters to cover room and board (on-campus housing only) and books. Students must meet the required academic standards each semester to renew the funds each year. Graduating high school seniors can apply for the scholarship by going to www.blackamericaweb.com.

Eligibility requirements:
• Student must be a U.S. citizen
• Current high school seniors attending school in the United States
• Minimum high school grade point average of 3.5 (on a 4.0 grade scale, excluding home school studies) and a minimum SAT score of 1300—combined math and verbal score / or ACT score of 28.
• Applicants must have applied and been accepted to an HBCU by July 1, 2010.
• Applicants must have demonstrated leadership abilities through participation in community service, extracurricular, or other activities.

Applications must be postmarked no later than January 23, 2010. The winner will be announced on April 2, 2010. Please submit any questions to fullridescholar@blackamericaweb.com.

Dr. David L. Beckley, ’67, President  
Dr. Ishmell H. Edwards, ’71, Vice President  
Mr. Ray V. Autry, PR Director  
Ms. Adrienne Phillips, Public Information & Publications Specialist

Rust College Mourns the Loss of Mrs. Frances A. Hathorne
63 Years of Exemplary Service and Commitment

Rust College sadly announces the passing of an icon, Mrs. Frances Allen Hathorne, who served the College from 1946-2009. She was 87.

Mrs. Hathorne passed Friday afternoon, January 8, 2010 at 1:30 p.m. at her home in Holly Springs, Mississippi, after a brief illness. Hathorne’s funeral service has been scheduled for Saturday, January 16, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. in the Doxey Fine Arts Center – Morehouse Auditorium.

“We are saddened by the passing of Mrs. Frances Hathorne who served more than 66 years as an employee of Rust College,” said President David L. Beckley. “She served under the last four presidents, Dr. L. M. McCoy, Dr. E. A. Smith, Dr. W. A. McMillan, and served the last 16 years under my administration. During this period she served as a mentor, advisor, and friend to thousands of young people from around the world. Her influence, advice, kindness and love will live on through generations to come. Rust College lost a true soldier in its efforts of providing quality educational experiences to young people throughout the world.”

Mrs. Hathorne grew up in New Albany, Miss. after being born in neighboring Tupelo. Dr. L.M. McCoy (then president of Rust College) recruited her, while making his usual visit to a popular New Albany restaurant.

After graduating in ’46, she planned to stay around a couple of years, but the years kept passing. Her 63 years of continuous employment will likely not be challenged. (continued on page 3)

Devastating Earthquake Hits Nation of Haiti
Rust Students and Staff Affected

A 7.0 earthquake hit the small Caribbean country of Haiti Tuesday night, January 12, 2010. Although there is no official word at this time, the death toll is expected to be in the thousands. Hundreds of people are searching for family members—many fear their loved ones are buried beneath the debris left behind by the quake. President Obama is making preparations to send relief workers to Haiti to help with rescue and recovery efforts.

Jennifer Plantin of the Division of Business says her home in the capital city of Port-au-Prince is severely damaged and she has not been able to contact her father. One student, Sophia Phanor, who had not yet returned to Rust from the holiday break, is home helping in the search for loved ones.

Dr. David L. Beckley has approved and is encouraging the Rust College family to rally support for our Rust Haitian sisters and brothers, whose families are in need of our prayers, love, and financial support. All the employees and students are asked to contribute whatever possible to a Rust College Haitian Relief Fund to be sent to individual families and/or relief organizations designated to assist families of Rust students and employees in Haiti. (continued on page 4)
Mid-Year Opening Convocation Held Tuesday
New, Returning Students and Employees Welcomed

Students, faculty and staff gathered together Tuesday, January 11 to kick off the new semester with the Mid-Year Opening Convocation, led by President David L. Beckley. He welcomed back returning students and employees as well as those who are new to Rust College. New faculty and staff members were introduced: Ms. JoAnn Scott—Director of Enrollment Services, Ms. Patricia Willis—Assistant Director of Alumni Development, Mr. Barbara Howell—Secretary for COPE Center, Mr. Mansfield Hoarn—Cafeteria, Utility Maintenance, Mrs. Sylda Jones—Registrar’s Office Secretary, Mr. Barry Taylor—Security Officer, Ms. Marquetta Cunningham-Brooks—Assistant Director in the Residence Hall, Ms. Melanie D. King—Admissions Counselor, and Mrs. Wanda Pegues—Library, Director of Night Circulation.

Miss Rust, Cyphonnie Smith, extended greetings from the Rust College student body and Dr. Beckley introduced the speaker for the afternoon, Rev. Dr. James Leodis Tucker. Rev. Tucker is a retired educator, who gave 31 years of service as a science teacher in the Nettleton and Tupelo, Mississippi school districts. It was in his role as a teacher that he and Dr. Beckley became acquainted. Dr. Beckley described Rev. Tucker as a teacher who continually encouraged students by telling them, “You are somebody. The world needs you, no matter who you are.”

Rev. Tucker’s message focused on time and using it efficiently and wisely. “Not using it will not slow it down, and using it to the fullest will not speed it up.” He appealed to students and employees to take the time to appreciate God’s grace and not use it in vain. He urged the audience to surrender old habits that hold one back, and to surrender negativity. “Not everybody is able to be a student at an institute of higher learning,” he said. “His grace can lift one from shadows to sunshine.”

Topping off the event was the Rust College A’Cappella Choir, led by Mr. Zebedee Jones and featuring soloist Jamaica Houston, and the Rust College Sextet. The next assembly will be hosted by Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. on January 14, 2010 in the Doxey Fine Arts Center at 2:40 p.m.

Business Student Awarded UNCF Scholarship

Congratulations to Destini S. Jones, a sophomore in the Division of Business, who was selected as the recipient of a UNCF scholarship. Jones was selected after submitting an essay and letters of recommendation to the awards committee. She has a grade point average of 3.3 (on a 4.0 grading scale).

Destini Jones, sophomore

In 2008, Hathorne was selected to be the Grand Marshal for the Holly Springs Christmas Parade. “It has been years since I have been in a parade. I was quite honored to be asked,” said Hathorne. Hathorne was an active member of Asbury United Methodist Church in Holly Springs where she served as United Methodist Women president and served for 15 years as youth coordinator. She was a history maker in serving as the first black UMW conference treasurer. She was also the first black district treasurer and then became the conference treasurer. For more than 30 years, she was executive secretary and treasurer for J.F Brittenum & Son Funeral Home. She was a Life member of NAACP; Life member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., where she served 10 years as local president, four years as national treasurer, and two years as member-at-large for the National Educational Foundation. In 1996, she moved to Oakview Mansion and began serving as Coordinator of Individual Alumni Giving. She also chaired the Rust College Annual Holly Springs/Marshall County UNCF Drive and the annual Earnest A. & Milverta G. Smith Endowed Alumni Lecture Series. She married the late Johnny M. Hathorne in 1950, and they had two children, Alan M. Hathorne, and Maureen Hathorne Jones, both of Holly Springs. She has three grandchildren, Laurens A. Hubbard, Jonathan M. Hubbard, and Ashana Parker. In April 2009, the College held a retirement reception honoring Hathorne for her 50 years of service to the school. During the ceremony she was presented the 34th Tower of Leadership Award.

Hathorne began her career as an assistant at the college in the bursar’s office. She was later appointed bursar by President L.M. McCoy. Prior to becoming an assistant to the business manager—in charge of the accounting department—Hathorne worked fifty years as bursar and chief accountant. Having worked at Rust College for more than six decades, Hathorne was an inspiration to many people on and off campus. Always having the best interest of the college at heart, she has established a place for herself in the hearts and lives of students, faculty and alumni. To continue Mrs. Hathorne’s legacy, the College is establishing the Frances Allen Hathorne Endowed Scholarship Fund. Contributions can be made to the Office of Development, attention: Dr. Ishmell H. Edwards, Vice President, 150 Rust Avenue, Holly Springs, Mississippi 38635.