

PAW PRINT

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Jan. 26**
•HSTW Assessment
•Faculty Meeting 3:05
- Jan. 27**
•SPIRIT DAY: Blue & Gold
•BB Chester Co (A) 6:00
- Jan. 31**
•Junior Class Mtg HR
•Choir Senior Night 5:15
•BB Lexington (A) 6:00
- Feb. 1**
•TCAP Writing Assessment for Juniors
- Feb. 2**
•Cats In Action Mtg HR
- Feb. 3**
•Pep Rally during HR
•Basketball and Cheer Senior Night 5:15
•BB Liberty (H) 6:00
- Feb. 20**
•School Dismissed for President's Day
- Feb. 23**
•Faculty Mtg 3:05
•Fellowship of Christian Athletes 6:00

Midterm Exams

- March 6
1st & 2nd block
- March 7
3rd & 4th Block

Writing and Teaching - A New Career

Rachel Burns

Ricky Thompson has been substituting for six years at MCHS. However, he does not just sub. Now he is proud to add author to his list of accomplishments. Having written two books, and now writing two more, Thompson is filling up the shelves everywhere.

"I started when my granddaughter, Kaley, started here her freshman year," says Thompson. Danny Day talked Thompson into his subbing job, after he had retired in 2005 from General Electric with 33 years of service. The children, Thompson tells, are his favorite part of being a substitute.

"They are the best medicine I have in all the world. I love them very much. Thank you, you little pain killers!"

Many people have inspired Thompson, giving him the courage to write.

"It is something I always wanted to do but I was always so busy with my children and

wife," says Thompson. However, he says the angel on his shoulder inspires him more than anything else.

"I love and miss her so much."

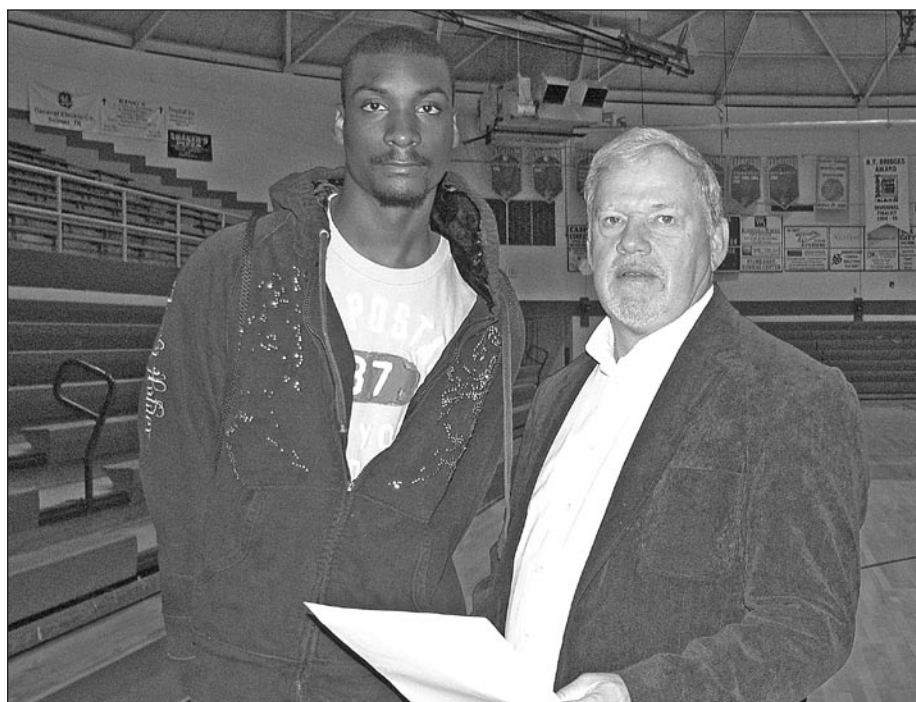
The hardest part of writing books to Thompson is the mindset.

"You have to have your mind on what you are writing about. I find when I feel good and no outside interferences are present, it is easy to express my thoughts to paper," states Thompson.

Thompson has two books. One is about traveling all over the world with his brother Steve while turkey hunting. The other is about his duck hunting fan club in Arkansas. This book tells about the hunts and all the fun experiences, good and bad.

"The friendships of a duck hunting club is one of the best experiences of my life," says Thompson.

Thompson has now started two other books. One is almost complete. It is the continuing travels of



Mr. Ricky is also an avid Bobcat fan. Here, he discusses last night's game with senior Cal Chappell.

the *Traveling Turkey Hunter*. The other book is called *Three Brothers on Cypress*. It is about Thompson and his two brothers and all the others around in the 50s, 60s, and 70s.

"Cotton picking to chopping wood, corn-cob pipes to BB gun fights. It is all here for the modern day people to see what life was like around the Good Ole Days," says Thompson.

Are there more books to come? Thompson says the *Traveling*

Turkey Hunters will go on till they hunt in all the states and countries that have turkeys. This is also true of his duck hunting club book. When asked about the possibility of more books, Thompson said,

"It depends on the outcome of my other work whether or not I continue it. I hope to."

Thompson is a wise man-he has given words of wisdom of why he writes. "I love to write and express myself. It is viewing

life through my eyes. It is making history and it is sharing fun, happiness, sadness, and heartache."

Thompson has memories to share while writing his books. He is an inspiration to all.

"Life inspires me. Loneliness haunts me and memories keep me going. I try to share some of mine to make you smile, laugh, frown, or cry. If not these, just to remember me by."

High Schools That Work Assessment

Rachel Burns

In high school, tests are constant. A test is coming up for 60 randomly picked high school seniors on the 26th of January. The students are selected if they are on the Dual or Technical path. There are three subjects to this test - Math, English, and Science.

"The program is

based on the belief that most students can master complex academic and technical concepts if schools create an environment that encourages students to make the effort to succeed," stated by the Southern Regional Educational Board website.

According to the website, the HSTW has made a list of

key practices that prepares students for their next step in life. One key practice is to have students actively engaged in classrooms. Another key practice is to motivate students to meet higher expectations in the classroom. More steps include teachers working together to challenge the students in academic and ca-

reer/technical classes, and to also provide guidance to students.

www.mchscats.org



FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES

FCA Night Meeting Thursday, Feb. 23

6:00 pm Food and fellowship
6:30 pm Worship

Senior Night

 **Choir**
Jan. 31
5:30

Basketball & Cheer
Feb. 3
5:30 