Miles College has come a long way from the time the college was first started to the times of today. Through the vision and leadership of the 14th President of the college, Dr. George T. French, Jr., the college continues to move forward with the addition of three buildings: the Welcome and Admissions Center, Student Dining Center, and the 204-Bed Residence Hall. The college hosted the historic Ribbon-cutting and Grand Opening ceremony Thursday, Oct. 17, where various dignitaries and alumni were present including several of the nation’s top CME bishops.

Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley was one of the honored dignitaries scheduled to attend the event but was unable to due to receiving surgery the day before. The governor sent his appointed legislative director, Blaine Galilher in his stead.

There was a common theme among all of the guest speakers in notes of thanksgiving to God for what He has done for Miles College, thanking the alumni, faculty and staff that set the standard for what Miles is today. Also, the speakers gave praise and encouragement for the current students who will take Miles into the future.

Miles College was founded in 1898 and is a premier liberal arts institution located in metropolitan Birmingham within the corporate limits of the City of Fairfield. The noble founders of the institution saw educated leadership as the paramount need in the black community.

Through this ceremony, the campus continues to be transformed. The three new structures served as a backdrop to the outdoor ceremonies.

Miles College renamed and dedicated the George T. French, Jr. Activity Center, the Teresa E. Snorton Residence Hall, the Stewart-Reddick Residence Hall and a Welcome and Student Enrollment Services Center. Some of those buildings are still under construction but should be completed within the next 30 days. The 204-bed residence hall will serve as a women’s only dormitory. This is the first time in the school’s history that three facilities were unveiled concurrently.

“It have to tell you that I understand what our ancestors must have felt like when they said free at last free at last,” commented Congresswoman Terri Sewell. “What a great day it is to be a Milean. We write a new chapter in this book called education.”

Established in 1898, the traditionally black college has plans for significant expansion in the near future. Two existing facilities on campus are on tap to be renovated. In addition, acres of land which encompass the North Campus which will eventually be developed and house new classroom facilities.

Bishop Teresa E. Snorton let the crowd know how she and the other board members appreciate the people for their support. “It only takes the faith of a mustard seed to make a dream come to a reality.”

Miles College student David Miller noted how significant the ceremony for the new buildings is for the college. “I think the ceremony today is a monumental ceremony. We (Miles College) have been waiting for this day for so long, but it’s only one of many of come. This is something that has been in the planning for many years, so everyday counts. I see this as a monumental step forward. Miles College is staying true to their tagline, (miles ahead) because they are doing that every day.”
SORRY...WE’RE BACK OPEN

The government was to stay shut down longer than a week. And as we already know, it has been far more than one week.

What does this mean for students? If the government is shut down does school shut-down? Yes, as they say the show must go on, school must go on.

College students receiving Pell Grants and federal student loans were mainly unaffected by the shutdown. This is only because those programs are funded through multi-year and ongoing appropriations from Congress. However, most of the staff overseeing those programs were furloughed except for a “skeleton crew” to provide oversight.

Although college students face small issues, younger sibling or family members in general may face far more apprehension than the college student from an extended government shutdown.

Title I loans for schools within low-income populations where threatened due to the shutdown. Those grants total in $22 billion and some school districts receive up to 20% of their funding through federal grants and programs.

Congress was able to avert further issues of default on Oct. 16 by striking a deal that would re-open the government. This deal ended the standoff that triggered a 16-day government closure and drove the nation toward the brink of default.

The agreement struck by Senate Majority Leader Harry M. Reid (D-Nev.) and Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) funds agencies through mid-January, calls hundreds of thousands of civil servants back to work and raises the $16.7 trillion debt limit.

The agreement that the Senate and House approved the night of Oct. 16, funds the government only through Jan. 15. In the interim, Obama’s team and Congress will try to negotiate a longer-term spending plan.

The shutdown deal also averted the risk of a debt default by extending the government’s borrowing authority until at least Feb. 7, though that deadline could be pushed back if the government utilizes special measures.

Still, another debt ceiling dispute is in the offing in four months.
**THE GOOD FIGHT**

Delisa Olison  
Milean Reporter

“A growth started to appear. My skin was peeling around the breast and my nipples leaked like I was post pardon from having a baby. It was very abnormal and I had to make an appointment with my doctor immediately.”

These are the words spoken by Brenda Crenshaw who is a breast cancer survivor.

Crenshaw was soon told that she was stage two with Ductal Carcinoma in Situ (DCIS breast cancer). DCIS is a non-invasive breast cancer where abnormal cells have been contained in the lining of the breast milk duct.

“I was scared and at that point the only thing I could think about was death,” says Crenshaw.

According to America Cancer society, one in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime. The most commonly diagnosed cancer in women is breast cancer, and it is the second leading cause of death among women.

Instead of being scared Crenshaw started to educate herself about the disease and started to get treatment.

“I refused to give up. I had to fight and that is what I did. I had the cancer removed, but was advised that I was not totally out of the clear from it coming back. So after treatment, I started to exercise and eat healthy, but I did not know exactly how this happened because no one in my family had breast cancer and I do not drink or smoke,” says Crenshaw.

Risk factors such as drinking, smoking, and family history does not mean that a woman will get breast cancer. Many women who have risk factors never develop breast cancer. Women do have a greater risk if there is a family history of the disease. A risk factor is something that can increase the chance of getting the disease, but does not guarantee that an individual will contract the disease.

Breast cancer doesn’t target women but men as well. According to a study done by Susan G Komen foundation breast cancer in men is extremely rare, but it does happen. In the United States, about one percent of all breast cancer cases occur in men.

Breast cancer also affects men. Although males do not develop milk-producing breasts, a man breast cells can still develop cancer. Less than one percent of all breast cancer cases develop in men.

A hard lump underneath the nipple and the areola is an abnormal sign that a man is suffering from breast cancer.

“I have been in remission for five years, and I have to give thanks to my family and friends for supporting me through my time. I have to give God the glory because without him I would not be here to tell my story,” says Crenshaw.

National Breast Cancer month has also sparked awareness at Miles College. Miles College raises awareness by walking around the Albert J. Sloan Alumni Stadium.

“This walk is for the survivor and also for those who are suffering from this disease. The key is to educate, and people will know that this disease is preventable,” says Ashley Williams, a volunteer at the walk.

Breast cancer is an illness that has touched many lives but with funding for research from organizations like the Susan G. Komen Foundation and continued public awareness, there is always a continued hope for finding a cure.

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**RACE FOR THE CURE**

Shahanica Gales  
Milean Reporter

Vampires, fairies, goons, and goblins are not the only things that will be worn this October. Pink is considered the new orange this season. On Oct. 12, 2013, the students of the Miles College Communications Club put their best foot forward and headed downtown to Lynn Park to join many men, women, and children to race for the cure. Club members such as Brittney Edison walked in celebration of many love ones who have beat the odds of living with breast cancer.

I walked in celebration of Lutrica Long, my grandmother who battled this heart wrenching disease. “Tears began to roll down my face as I pulled in the parking deck. I watched my grandmother try her best to put on a brave face while fighting breast cancer. At that very moment, I realized that I could be shedding mournful tears,” Long said. I was ready to give up on life and so much more, but my husband told me that he loved and supported me no matter what, and I had something to live for so I started treatment.”

Long also added, “While undergoing treatment for breast cancer my fingertips and feet turned black and my hair started to thin during chemo.”

Freshmen LaPrieya Tinker did not take part in the race for cure walk, but she shared her story with other young women to let them know that they were not alone. “At first I was mad at God for punishing my aunt with breast cancer, because I didn’t understand.” After deciding to get a double mastectomy, Tinker’s aunt is breast cancer free, which was 10 years ago.

LaPrieya found a lump in her right breast a few months ago while doing a self-breast examine in the shower. As of today Tinker does not know if its cancerous cells. Tinker said “I’m scared to go through what my aunt did that’s why I won’t get checked”

According to Curtrel Bishop, Fairfield resident, “My grandmother passed from breast cancer and it tore me up. I really miss her.”

Bishop is one of many Fairfield residents who have lost someone to this incurable disease. Breast cancer doesn’t target women but men as well. According to a study done by Susan G Komen foundation breast cancer in men is extremely rare, but it does happen. In the United States, about one percent of all breast cancer cases occur in men.

Breast cancer has taken the lives of many women in the African American community all over the United States. The best thing that we can do to become knowledgeable about this diseases is to engage in things like the race for cure to help foundations like the Susan G. Komen’s and many more to help raise money to find a cure. The next time you purchase a new pair of running shoes for your upcoming race, take a brief moment to think about the next race that u may run because it could be your last. So go out with a PINK BANG and RACE FOR THE CURE.
HOMECOMING WEEK AT MILES COLLEGE

LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL

A LOOK AT EVENTS DURING HOMECOMING WEEK INCLUDING THE HISTORIC RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY AND THE MISS MILES CORONATION CEREMONY

PHOTOS:// CURTREL BISHOP, KIM MOORE, LEON MOODY & TONY BINGHAM
When Miles College says let the good times roll, they mean it literally. Homecoming Week kicked off smoothly with the elegance of Miss Miles Coronation and led into the week’s events. On Tuesday, Oct. 15, the Student Government Association (SGA) executed their plan to take the students back to a time when they were carefree risk takers. Roller Motion, a skating rink in Bessemer, Ala., gladly opened their doors so this could happen.

When some of the Miles College students found out about roller-skating being one of the events for Homecoming Week, they were excited. “I haven’t been roller skating in so long I can’t wait to go. I’m a little nervous about falling, but other than that I’m excited,” says Kim Preston, a senior at Miles.

As students entered the skating rink, a sense of nostalgia enveloped them. The smell of greasy food and the sound of back-in-the-day music attacked their senses. Students stood in line for skates a little apprehensive about putting them on. Of course, there were a few stumbles, fumbles, and tumbles but no one can say Miles does not have persistent students. No matter how many times they fell, they got right back up and tried again. So many students were in attendance for the event that some were more than willing to hand their skates over so others could participate.

“It was really great, I haven’t seen the student body get together and participate as much as they did last night and I really enjoyed that,” said senior class president Tirenésia Person. “With this being my senior year, it really made me smile knowing we are leaving Miles as it transitions.”

Darius Scarver, a graduating senior at Miles, said, “I had an excellent time at Roller Motion. We showed so much unity, to the point that people that have never met before were helping each other out by picking each other up when we fell and also helping each other around the curves.”
FOOTBALL SEASON RECAP

Justin Farrell and milesgoldenbears.com

Milean Reporter

So far the Miles College football team seems to be battling some major ups and downs. Losing the first two games test the true character of what everyone believes to still be a championship contender. Our Golden Bears could blame some of their misfortunes on losing a number of key players due injury as well as disciplinary reason, however, “we look forward at the upcoming games and learn from our mistakes instead of focusing on the past of which we can do nothing about,” said junior Joe Beckham.

The season opener was played on national television against a fierce opponent. Unfortunately The Miles College Golden Bears dropped the 2013 season opener on the road 42-7 to the University of North Alabama Lions in Florence, Ala. The Golden Bears offense was held to only 264 yards of total offense while UNA’s offense compiled 480 total yards.

The Golden Bears traveled to the state of Georgia to face the University of West Georgia Wolves for their second game of the season. Miles College struggled on the road losing to West Georgia, 31-7. For the second consecutive week, Miles College got on the board first. A three-yard run by senior running back Floyd Graves capped a 14-play, 66-yard opening drive to take an early 7-0 lead. Miles kept that lead until UWG erupted for 21 points in the second quarter. MC finished the game with 260 yards of total offense. The defense was led by junior defensive back Tyrell Kinder who finished with six tackles and one interception, while senior linebacker Juultante English finished with 12 tackles (8 solo) and one tackle for loss and Keenan Clark finished with 12 stops (6 solo).

Miles College and Concordia-Selma College was scheduled to play Sept. 21, 2013, at Albert J. Sloan-Alumni Stadium, however the game was cancelled due to a fire on the Concordia-Selma College bus, which destroyed all their equipment. No injuries were sustained to the Concordia-Selma football team or coaches. The game will not be rescheduled.

The Golden Bears begin conference play at home against conference rival Albany State University. The MC held off a comeback attempt by ASU to pick up their first victory, 22-14. The Golden Bears improved to a 1-2 record (1-0 SIAC) while ASU’s offense compiled 480 total yards.

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FIVE QUESTIONS

WITH MILES COLLEGE HEAD FOOTBALL COACH
REGINALD RUFFIN

1. Q: Where do you see the football team going this season?
A: As long as we continue to get better fundamentally and learn to cut down on mistakes and take one play, one down, one quarter, and one game at a time then we can continue the uphill climb to winning championship(s).

2. Q: Do you feel that you’re the driving force behind the team?
A: No the leadership of the seniors, and the unity of every student athlete in the program, and the teaching and mentor ability of the assistant coaches and finally the together we stand and divided we fall is the main ingredient for the success of this program because it’s not about me it’s about the team.

3. Q: What’s your life’s motto?
A: Do what you love and love what you do and do it because you love doing it!

4. Q: What do you try to instill in the young men who play football for Miles College?
A: Always keep God first, be humble, treat everyone like you want to be treated, always finish what you start, don’t do anything to embarrass yourself or your family and finally never quit or give up in life.

5. Q: Why Miles College?
A: Why not Miles College? It’s a great institution for higher learning, great support system from the President to the major stakeholders (the student body at Miles College). My family and I have been accepted and welcome by this institution and I’m very grateful to be the head football coach at Miles College.
DON’T MISS THE ACTION

GOLDEN BEARS

2014 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA (CSS TV)
Florence, Ala. • L 7-42
9/14/2013

UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA
Carrollton, Ga. • L 7-31
9/21/2013

CONCORDIA-SELMA COLLEGE
Fairfield, Ala. • GAME CANCELLED
9/28/2013

ALBANY STATE UNIVERSITY
Fairfield, Ala. • W 22-14
9/28/2013

BENEDICT COLLEGE
Columbia, S.C. • 2 p.m.
10/5/2013

CENTRAL STATE UNIVERSITY
Wilberforce, Ohio • L 21-25
10/12/2013

KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY (HOMECOMING)
Fairfield, Ala. • 4 p.m.
10/19/2013

LANE COLLEGE (SENIOR DAY)
Fairfield, Ala. • 6 p.m.
10/24/2013

STILLMAN COLLEGE
Tuscaloosa, Ala. • 5 p.m.
11/2/2013

TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY
Tuskegee, Ala. • 1 p.m.
11/2/2013

SIAC CHAMPIONSHIP
11/16/2013

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The OFFICIAL Twitter account for the Miles College Athletic Department.
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