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GHS to Crown 2019 Homecoming Queen

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Staff Writers

A new homecoming queen will be announced tonight during halftime of the football game. The 2019 Homecoming Court consists of five young ladies from the senior class. The court is elected by the senior class, and the student who receives the most votes will be crowned queen. The members of the 2019-2020 Homecoming Court are Hannah Hopper, Anna Hulsey, Tadasia Shapard, Jaden Stepp, and Ansleigh Touchberry.

Hannah Tobresha JaNa' Hopper is the daughter of Amy and Toby Hopper, and the granddaughter of Johnny and Pat Miller, Michael Dixon, and Linda Kay Hopper. Hopper has been a cheerleader since the age of 5, and has been a member of the Gaffney High School competitive cheer team for 4 years. She has also

danced in the Macy's Day Parade with Dance Dynamic. Her community involvement includes being a volunteer at the boys and girls club and hosting a coat drive with her dad yearly. After high school, she plans to attend a four-year university to study to become an occupational therapist. Hopper will be escorted by her father, Toby Hopper.

Anna Joy Hulsey is the daughter of Sheila and Bruce Hulsey, and the granddaughter of Buddy and Mollie Peeler, and Dewayne and Lois Hamrick. Hulsey has clogged at Southern Dance Academy for 13 years, and is a 10-time national



Hopper

clogging champion. She is also a member of the GHS swim team. Her involvement in the community includes being a member of Junior Ambassadors, Beta Club, Sub Deb, and the Camellia Society of Gaffney. After high school,

she plans on attending a 4-year university and majoring in nursing. Hulsey will be escorted by her father, Bruce Hulsey.

Tadasia Trenae Shepard is the daughter of Sharnae Shepard, and granddaughter of Felicia Davis, Elaine Tate, and Sidney Smith. Shepard is a member of Julia Dance and Junior Ambassador. Her community involvement includes volunteering at Goodwill and her church,



Shepard

Indian Hill Baptist Church. After graduation, she plans to go to college to become a pediatric nurse. She will be escorted by her uncle, Aubrey Lee Shepard Jr

Jaden Carol Stepp is the daughter of Linda and David Stepp, and granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Henley Henry, and Mr. and Mrs. James Stepp. She has been a member of student council for two years, is a member of the National Honors Society,



Stepp

and the Carolina Debutante Society. Her athletic hobbies include snowboarding and being the former two-year letterman for GHS cheer. She has also been in the L'Etoile Club for three years, and a volunteer at Meals on Wheels for six years. After graduation, she plans to attend a four-year university and major in business, with a minor in finance. Stepp will be escorted by her brother, Dylan Stepp.

Ansleigh MaKaylin Touchberry is the daughter of Ashley and Chad Terry, and granddaughter of Calvin McBee and the late Linda McBee. Touchberry is a two-sport varsity athlete in both volleyball and soccer, and the Lady Indian's volleyball captain.

She has been in student government since 2013, serving as class president her freshman, sophomore, and junior years. As a senior, she serves as student body president.

She has also participated in the Pinnacle, and was on the filming crew for WGHB. Toughberry is a member of the L'Etoile Club, Camellia Society, Junior Ambassadors, Beta Club, the Superintendent's Advisory Board, and the



Touchberry

Prom Committee. After graduation, she plans to major in political science and economics, and then go on to law school. Touchberry will be escorted by her grandfather, Calvin McBee.

No matter who is ultimately crowned queen during tonight's game, each of these ladies is sure to represent Gaffney High School well.



2019 GHS Homecoming Court. From L-R: Jaden Stepp, Hannah Hopper, Ansleigh Touchberry, Anna Hulsey, & Tadasia Shepard

Gaffney High Welcomes New Principal

Leah Bowen
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There have been many changes around the Cherokee County School District this year, and one of the biggest changes of all happened right here at GHS. For the 2019-2020 school year, Gaffney High welcomed a new principal, Mr. Erik Gerstenacker, or Mr. G as he is known to students and staff.

Before starting a career in education, Mr. G joined the Marines. After the Marines, he finished

college, and then started his teaching career at Ola Copeland Learning Center in Cherokee County. He then moved to Mary Bramlett, followed by Limestone Central, and he would teach adult education in the evenings. It was during this time that he pursued and finished his master's degree in administration.

As a teacher, his principal came up to him and let him know about a program to get his masters that the district would pay for, so he filled out the application. An assistant

principal position opened up soon after at Grassy Pond Elementary. He took the advice of his principal because administration positions do not come up very often, and he took the position even though he didn't want to leave his class.

Mr. G then went on to become principal of Grassy Pond Elementary. After working at Grassy Pond for a few years, he became the Coordinator of Middle Schools and Accountability for the district. He did not ever expect to become principal here at GHS, it

was just like the stars aligned and the right opportunities arose.

With his time here, he wants to learn everything possible to meet student, teacher, and community needs. He would like to see the community of Gaffney and GHS come together in order to grow and advance even more. Mr. G said, "So many families are coming in and out of Gaffney High School, and they should leave impacted."

Mr. G would like to open all lines of communication to show all



New GHS Principal, Mr. Erik Gerstenacker

of the good going on. He believes that so far, the majority of the students

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