



## RB Hardy stable after weekend shooting

SPORTS, 1B

# HATTIESBURG AMERICAN

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## All hugs at William Carey University graduation



William Carey University graduates pose for photos after the College of Osteopathic Medicine's commencement ceremony on May 9. SETH WALKER/PROVIDED BY WILLIAM CAREY UNIVERSITY

Hattiesburg American | USA TODAY NETWORK

William Carey University held graduation ceremonies at the Hattiesburg campus on May 7, and May 8.



William Carey University celebrates graduates during one of the commencement ceremonies on May 8. PROVIDED BY WILLIAM CAREY UNIVERSITY

USA250

JIM HENSON WEEK

## Q&A with the author behind the Jim Henson biography

Charlie Drape  
Hattiesburg American  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Brian Jay Jones spent years researching the life of Jim Henson, interviewing family members, performers and longtime collaborators for his bestselling 2013 book, "Jim Henson: The Biography."

In a recent interview with the Clarion Ledger, Jones discussed Henson's Mississippi roots, his abounding creativity, fascination with television and the family-like atmosphere behind the Muppets.

Along the way, Jones discussed how Henson referred to himself as a "Mississippi Tom Sawyer," recalled that the creator's favorite word was

See HENSON, Page 2A

## Hundreds of homes damaged in wake of tornadoes

Brian Broom  
Hattiesburg American  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Hundreds of homes are damaged, multiple injuries have been reported and thousands of people are without power in Mississippi as severe weather and tornadoes swept through the state on Wednesday, April 6, into Thursday morning with the heaviest damage appearing to be in the southwestern part of the state.

"There were three significant tornadoes," said Eric Carpenter, senior meteorologist with the National Weather

See STORMS, Page 2A



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