

Book Review: 'Family Tree' explores society's prejudices

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Today's society prides itself on being an epitome of racial, cultural and religious tolerance.

However, it has always been the tolerance of strangers that each individual has had to deal with.

On the other hand, how would people respond to the true test of tolerance? How would a person respond if there was an issue of not only tolerance but acceptance of differences in a member of the family?

This is the issue that Barbara Delinsky approaches in her controversial novel known as

"Family Tree."

Although Delinsky is usually known as a romance author, the couple in the story has already had their romance, and this is just the hereafter.

The couple is blessed to have a beautiful little girl. The only problem is that while both parents are Caucasian, the child has definite African-American features.

This presents a problem because the father has no doubts about his heritage because his family's history has been researched and documented.

However, the child's maternal grandfather's family history is unknown. Also, there is suspicion

of infidelity by the mother with the next door neighbor.

The father, pressured by his family, convinces his wife to have a paternity test to eliminate any doubt to anyone, especially himself.

This is when the reader starts to take sides. They will either side with the father who is just confused and wants to be able to find an answer to this situation so that he can deal with it, or they will side with the mother, who is appalled that anyone would question the love that she has for her husband.

Each side has very good points; nonetheless, sides will be taken by anyone who

reads this book.

The test reveals that the man was the father of his child. This only leaves one other explanation. The mother must have been of African descent.

The problem is that there are no African-Americans on the mother's side. Therefore someone somewhere has been dishonest about their family lineage.

This is when the climax of the novel occurs. I will not ruin the story by telling the ending, so everyone will have to find out for themselves.

This book sheds light on everyone who likes to think that they are the most tolerant person

in the world.

It takes the problem of racial tolerance and puts it in each individual's backyard, so to speak.

The father's side of the family was well known for years for being accepting of other people's religions and cultures.

However, this situation forced them to consider if they were really acceptant of other people's cultural background or acceptant of everyone's background, even their own.

This is the same question that we must ask of ourselves. If for any reason there should be any situation that would cause this type of issue to come up, one would hope

that he or she would be very tolerant and accepting.

"Family Tree" places a gigantic mirror in front of the reader and asks him or her about what side he or she is willing to stand on.

This decision is not only for racial tolerance. It is reference to anything that makes a person different from other people.

It is about getting to know a person based on "the content of their character" as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. stated in his infamous "I Have a Dream" speech.

The people of this country have come very far when it comes to tolerance, but there is no mistaking that there is still a long way to go.

PTK attends Mississippi/Louisiana Regional Conference

From Special Reports

Five chapter officers and the three advisors from Rho Sigma Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa attended the Mississippi/Louisiana Regional

Conference held at Northeast Mississippi Community College in Booneville February 22-24.

Chapter representatives returned with several awards: Service Hallmark, Gracie Thompson,

Outstanding Chapter Scrapbook, Leigh Ann Andries and Outstanding Chapter Newsletter, Melanie Smith. Andries was also elected Southern District Representative. The chapter was named a five-star chapter, the

highest possible rating. Conference attendees were very pleased to have former JCJC president and Booneville resident Dr. Ronald Whitehead join them for the luncheon part of the program on Saturday.

Baseball

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Justin Pipkins went 2-4 with a double and two RBIs. Gilmore doubled, singled, and knocked in a run. Page doubled while Glaze and Chase Yelverton each singled and scored.

Charlie Hillman and Pickering also scored a run for the Bobcats. Glaze also added an RBI in the game.

JC 2, EC 0

Three East Central (4-2) errors in the first inning led to two unearned runs for the Bobcats (3-1), and that was all Reed McDaniel (1-0) needed to pick up his first win of the season.

The Warriors scored none on two hits and four errors while Jones scored two runs on three hits and no errors.

McDaniel went the distance—striking out three and only giving up two hits and three walks.

Page singled and picked up an RBI while Smith and Dustin Warren each added a single. Grissom and Gilmore scored the two runs.

BR 3, JC 2

The Bobcats (3-2) dropped

their first road game 3-2 in Baton Rouge.

Jones scored two runs on four hits and no errors. Baton Rouge (3-5) scored three runs on seven hits and two errors.

Seaman (0-1) went five—surrendering six hits and three earned runs. He struck out four and walked four.

Jon Arender pitched the sixth in relief. Arender gave up one hit, one walk, and struck out two batters.

Pipkins went 2-4 with a double and a run scored. Page and Yelverton each singled for the maroon and gold. Grissom added one RBI.

JC 6, BR 5

Adkins (2-0) picked up his second win of the season as the Bobcats (4-2) defeated Baton Rouge (3-6) 6-5 on a cold February evening of baseball.

Adkins pitched six shutout innings while allowing only three hits, two walks, and striking out four.

Caldwell and Destin Brumley began the seventh on the mound for Jones.

Hits began to fall in favor of the Bears as they scored five earned runs on four hits and three walks. The shaky seventh ended with Howell getting the final two outs and notching his first save of the

season.

The Bobcats scored six runs on eight hits and an error. Baton Rouge put up five runs on seven hits and an error.

Glaze went 2-4 with an RBI and a run scored. Evans doubled and scored three runs. Gilmore singled and knocked in a run while Hillman doubled and added two RBIs.

Bolton also singled and scored. James and Page each singled, and Grissom also scored a run.

ICC 10, JC 3

A rainy morning evolved into a comfortable sunny afternoon of baseball as Itawamba (1-2) exploded with a five-run fifth to put the contest out of reach and defeat the Bobcats (4-3) 10-3.

Jones took an early 1-0 lead in the first, but the Indians took a one-run lead in the fourth and never looked back.

Jones plated three runs on five hits and four errors. Itawamba scored 10 on 12 hits and two errors.

Briley (0-1) suffered his first loss of the season—allowing six hits, two earned runs, one K, and five walks.

Howell allowed three earned runs on two hits and two walks in an inning of relief.

Reggie Parker took the mound for a couple of innings, but surren-

dered four hits, five runs, three earned runs, four walks, and two strike outs.

Anthony Winborne also gave up a free pass in relief on the hill.

Dustin Warren doubled, scored, and knocked a run in. Clanton doubled and scored a run. Gilmore doubled.

Caldwell and Yelverton both singled. Glaze scored a run while Caldwell and Pipkins each added an RBI.

ICC 6, JC 4

Itawamba (2-2) plated three runs in the third to take a 3-1 lead as they defeated the Bobcats (4-4) 6-4.

Jones scored four runs on seven hits and three errors while the Indians scored six on eight hits and four errors.

McDaniel (1-1) surrendered his first loss of the season as he allowed six hits, four runs, three earned runs, two walks, and struck out four.

J. Warren took the hill for three innings of relief—allowing two unearned runs on two hits.

Evans went 3-4 with two doubles while Gilmore went 2-3 with a double, a single, and one run scored.

Bolton singled and scored a run. Pipkins singled and drove in two runs. Grissom also scored two runs.

Hoops

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came up short in a 97-87 Meridian victory.

Bolton led Jones with 21 points. Hubbard added 19, Booth 14, and Carter 12. Booth grabbed 15 rebounds on the night. Carter also contributed six assists and four steals.

JC 91, GC 70

The Lady Bobcats (11-11) mustered up a 45-27 lead at the

halfway mark, as they defeated Gulf Coast 91-70.

Leading scorers for Jones were Bolton, 17; Hubbard, 14; Tucker, 14; Lewis, 11; and Leverett, 10. Tucker grabbed nine rebounds while Carter pulled down seven. Carter also contributed six steals and five assists. Bolton added eight assists and four steals.

SW 78, JC 76

Jones (11-12) led 37-36 at halftime, but a Southwest (15-6) basket with .8 seconds to play resulted in a 78-76 victory for the visiting Lady Bears.

Bolton led the Lady Bobcats with 14 points. Hubbard put up 12, Leverett 11, and Carter 10. Bolton and Leverett also had four assists on the night. Carter had three steals and three assists. Hubbard also had four steals.

JC 82, PR 79

Jones (12-12) led 45-41 at the conclusion of the first half to hang on to a 82-79 victory over Pearl River.

Leading scorers for the Lady Bobcats include: Leverett, 18; Tucker, 13; Bolton, 11; Carter, 11; Hubbard, 10; and Lewis, 10.

Lewis had six assists and four steals on the night. Carter also grabbed 12 rebounds while Tucker pulled down nine.

JC 76, CL 58

The Lady Bobcats (13-12) concluded their season in grand style as they defeated Co-Lin (17-7) 76-58. Jones led 33-27 at the conclusion of the first half.

Carter led the maroon and gold with 18 points. Booth and Hubbard each put up 13 while Tucker added 10. Carter also had 10 rebounds and four assists. Booth and Hubbard also pulled down nine.

Bobcats

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Marshall put up 32 points, six threes, for the Bobcats while Woodland and L. McCullum

added 19 and 10 points respectively. L. McCullum also grabbed 14 rebounds. Marshall added five assists and five steals. Danny Bolton and Collins each contributed four assists.

PR 68, JC 54

Pearl River led 34-26 at the half and went on to defeat the

Bobcats (9-15) 68-54.

Buxton and Woodland led the scoring for Jones as they each put up 11 points. Woodland also grabbed seven rebounds for the maroon and gold.

CL 69, JC 68

The Bobcats concluded their season with a close game that

revealed the winning team in the final seconds. Jones (9-16) took a 36-28 lead into the second half, but Co-Lin took the victory 69-68.

Marshall led the Bobcats with 27 points and 11 rebounds. L. McCullum put up 20 and pulled down 12 rebounds.

Candidates

From page 3

that voting in November is the least important thing on our "to-do" list.

However, there is this magical tool that I found on the World Wide Web when I was asked to do a search for a candidate quiz, or poll, to find out more about which candidates share my views.

There are many surveys and sites, but the most beneficial of these is www.glassbooth.org.

On Glassbooth, users add points to the issues that matter most to them, adding more for the most important issues.

Users then take the quiz and find out what candidate with whose views they most closely align and why. Every important issue is covered.

Everyone has an opinion as to which issues are most important.

Users click on the issue they think is the most important, and candidates' views are given.

For example, if one opposes abortion, Mike Huckabee or Ron Paul would be the ideal candidate.

If one is ready for the troops to come home from Iraq, Mike Gravel and Ron Paul believe the same.

Since gun control is a major issue among Americans, if one wants strong restrictions,

Clinton, Obama and Gravel are sure to agree.

If one is all for gay rights, or "same-sex" rights, Clinton and Obama believe that same-sex couples should have every right, except ceremonial marriage.

I have learned many things about the candidates and who to vote for, and if others will check this site out, I am sure that each one will walk away with a new understanding.

I shall not say for whom I am going to vote because I do not want to endorse anyone, but it is definitely not Clinton. That's for sure and for many reasons.

No matter what one's personal politics are, it is very

important that one votes.

Casting a vote allows one to put his say into which candidate will run the country for the next four years.

A lot of people say that, "My vote does not count, so why should I even vote?"

Well, if people do not vote, what right have they got to complain about the government when they did not even attempt to go make a difference?

People need to go to the polls and cast a ballot, then they can complain as much as they want.

For those who do not take the time to vote, do not care, or what-not, do not think someone is willing to hear the complaints.

'Magnolia', and 'Boogie Nights'. It has a very slight sense of humor and the focus is on one person unlike Magnolia and Boogie Nights.

There is this ever-ominous feeling that no matter what is

going on, the audience knows something is fishy, something horrible might happen, and there is no happy way out for anyone.

Plainview is not a great man nor is he a man who does great things; he just simply has

money and fattens his pockets daily.

He's the kind of man people confide in about how bad their life is going, only to have him coldly stare at them, take a long sip of whiskey, remind them he

has their money, and laugh in their face.

The best way to describe this film is 'Citizen Kane' shot through a camera from hell.

I have not seen a movie more perfect than this and it

stands now as my favorite.

I award it a perfect 5 out of 5 and recommend it to those who enjoyed 'The Aviator' and most Stanley Kubrick films, especially 'The Shining', '2001', and 'A Clockwork Orange'.

Bonnaroo

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The Felice Brothers, Mason Jennings, MGMT, The Lee Boys, Black Kids, Serena Ryder, Steel Train, Grupo Fantasma, Back Door Slam, Bonnaroo Late Night Chat

About with David Cross, Janeane Garofalo, Zach Galifianakis, Jim Norton, Brian Posehn, Mike Birbiglia, John Mulaney, and

Spice

From page 7

directly in front of the JCJC campus on Highway 11. They are famous for their appetizing fried chicken strips and kabobs.

It is owned by a former JCJC football player, and the restaurant is decked out in Jones County sports clippings from newspapers. I must

Pinch

From page 7

were known for their trickery.

These Leprechauns were actually never associated with Saint Patrick's Day until 1959 when Walt Disney released a movie called Darby O'Gill and the Little People, which introduced

Williamson

From page 6

however, working on my first full-length book, and when I finish it, I am going to try to get published. I am really excited about this book and am having a lot of

Armours

From page 6

and I knew it would provide me with a great foundation, not to mention the scholarships available," said Rebekah.

As Miss JCJC Rebekah hopes "to set a Christian example to those around me and to model excellence in academics as well as character."

Rebekah is the president of the Engineering Society, a member of

Hattiesburg

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ways to take a load from all of the stresses of college life. No matter where you go you are guaranteed to have a great time.

Ask around campus for

Hutchinson

From page 6

to be at Jones County Junior College. She said she loves Jones.

"All of my teachers have been wonderful," she said, explaining that that her teachers have been very personable and accessible.

Coming from ULM, which is a bigger university, Hutchinson said

Michelle Buteau.

There it is folks. This is a complete down low of what to expect at the great and mighty Bonnaroo festival this year. I know some people might be a little upset because there were some serious rumors circulating about Led Zeppelin playing.

When the lineup was posted, it turns out it is just a cover band called Lez Zeppelin. That is certainly not a reason not to go though!

Tickets went on sale February 16 and can be purchased online. See you there!

also give this restaurant a double A+.

I hope that I have given you all an idea of the food offerings in Ellisville. Your decision should be a lot easier to make now that you know what to expect at each restaurant.

Also, (a little extra information on the side) our town is seeing some managerial changes in two local, downtown favorites: KoKo's (also known as Eileen's) and The Hotel Alice Cafe. Hopefully, these changes will be for the best.

America to a different type of Leprechaun.

This friendly Leprechaun is solely an American invention, but has quickly become a symbol not only for Saint Patrick's Day but also for Ireland as a whole.

So this Saint Patrick's Day, don't forget to dress yourself in green and show your respect to one of the most well known patron saints of Ireland, Saint Patrick.

fun writing it."

In the meantime, anyone interested in reading some of Williamson's work will have that opportunity later this spring as she is one of the featured writers in the upcoming publication, "Wisteria", the JCJC college literary magazine. For more information on "Wisteria", contact Townsend at tammy.townsend@jcjc.edu.

the College Republicans, and a Jones Ambassador. She also enjoys taking piano lessons from Dr. Theresa Sanchez and the challenges of competitions and recitals. After graduation, Rebekah plans to attend Mississippi State next fall.

Something important to Rebekah as Miss JCJC is that each student be set high goals and be proactive.

"Jones is full of so many great possibilities for each student!" she explained. "I will always look back (fondly) on my memories at JCJC."

advice on the best place for you or check out the web sites where you can find more information about all of the Hattiesburg night spots.

For more information, check out <http://local.yahoo.com/MS/Hattiesburg/Entertainment+Arts/Bars,+Pubs,+Clubs/Night+Clubs>.

she loves being able to establish a relationship with her teachers and not having to make appointments to see them.

After graduating from JCJC, Hutchinson hopes to work in intensive care. She does not know whether she will stay in Mississippi because she would love to be closer to her sons and grandchildren. Hutchinson believes everything happens for a reason and there is a reason she decided to become a nurse.