

GLENVILLE STATE COLLEGE
Pioneer Update
YOUR WEEKLY UPDATE ON GLENVILLE STATE COLLEGE
A COMMUNICATION TO ALUMNI AND FRIENDS ABOUT EVENTS AND PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



Alumni Spotlight

Nashville singer, songwriter, and studio engineer Rebekah Long '08 has released another music video from her current album, *Run Away*. It features her song *Fishin' On the Cumberland*, written with Donna Ulisse and Jerry Salley, and shows her doing just that, "fishin' on the Cumberland" in, of course, her favorite Glensville State College sweatshirt. [Click here to enjoy the video.](#)

Rebekah makes her home in Nashville, Tennessee where the past few years have seen the release of her debut solo album *Here I Am* which gave her a Top 20 Bluegrass Unlimited hit on



Members of the Minneweather family gather with President Pellett, current and former students, and former coach Tim Carney during the reading of a proclamation recognizing Bob 'Skinny' Minneweather at Winter Homecoming.

GSC Black Alumni History Week Recognized During Winter Homecoming

Glensville State College held its annual Winter Homecoming on Saturday, February 3. The day tipped-off with an alumni basketball game where several past Pioneers and Lady Pioneers suited up to show off their skills on the court. Returning players and coaches were recognized during halftime of the Lady Pioneers game.

Alumni and friends later had an opportunity to reminisce and reconnect at The Alumni Deck while students enjoyed free food from game day sponsor Glensville Foodland, face painting, and more before the Lady Pioneers took on the University of Charleston.

the song *Ain't Life Sweet* as well as a month long stint hosting the Bluegrass Ridge TV program on the Heartland TV network where two of her videos from her debut album have been in rotation. The album continued to chart in the Roots Music Report charts, even as she launched her recent second solo album on LUK Records, *Run Away* which is also very popular.

Glimpses of Rebekah's life can be found through several selections on her most recent album. For example, the song *Georgia Bound* is a toe-tapping barnburner of her yearning to see the place she grew up while *Fishin' on the Cumberland* is about her love for the great outdoors. *Woodland Street* and *A Place Beyond the Clouds* both touch on the loss this past year of her husband Ben Speer while "I've Seen the Light" is an audience favorite.

After graduating from GSC's bluegrass program, Rebekah worked as an engineer and as an assistant for Tom T. Hall and Miss Dixie before recording her own music, releasing music videos, forming her own band, and being seen at festivals and other performance venues around the country where everyone enjoys her humor, high energy, and talented delivery of bluegrass music.

Between the double-header, Glenville State College President Dr. Tracy Pellett issued a proclamation to declare the first week in February as GSC Black Alumni History Week. The proclamation honors and celebrates the courageous and dedicated black students who integrated at Glenville State College during the 1960's and 1970's. The proclamation also challenges the campus community to honor these individuals by promoting equal opportunity and the inclusion of diverse voices and opinions in the future.

Pellett, along with GSC's legendary former coach and Hall of Fame Inductee Tim Carney, presented a plaque commemorating the event to Sharon Minneweather, widow of Bob 'Skinny' Minneweather, class of 1967. Minneweather, who was a phenomenal student athlete, came to GSC in the fall of 1963 with his friend Sammy Burns to play basketball. The duo paved the way for many future Pioneers at GSC. Minneweather was an inaugural inductee of Glenville State's Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of Fame in May 2001, competed in both basketball and track at GSC, held the Pioneer rebounding record for 35 years, and was awarded GSC's prestigious Montrose Award in 1967. Mrs. Minneweather was joined by her and her late husband's daughter, Brittany Hope, and his brother Doug, along with Doug's wife Janet and their daughter Rachael, for the presentation.

[Click here to watch a report on the event.](#)

GSC Senior Lands FBI Internship



Glenville State College senior criminal justice major and business minor Gracen Samples has been chosen to take part in the prestigious FBI Honors Internship Program.

Samples is a member of the Lady Pioneer Volleyball team, works as an intern in GSC's Office of International Programs, and participates in Phi Beta Lambda (PBL). She also participated in a May 2017 study abroad trip to London and Paris.

Gracen was recently featured in an interview with local news station, WDTV. [You can see that interview by clicking here.](#)

Congratulations Rebekah on your outstanding music career and on your latest video. We are proud that you are an alumna of Glenville State College and proud to recognize you in this week's Alumni Spotlight.

Samples says she hopes that, through the internship experience, she will be able to get her foot in the door for a career with the FBI. The internship begins in June 2018.

Did You Know?

Digital (and searchable) copies of GSC's long-time campus newspaper, *The Glenville Mercury*, as well the college yearbook, the *Kanawhachen*, are available online?

Click [here to view the yearbooks](#) or [here to see the Mercury](#).



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