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News

AROUND THE FIELDS

Delta Leader Recognized by Peers

Roy D Campbell III, a native of Greenville, is a partner in the **Bradley Arant Boult Cummings** in Jackson. **Campbell** was elected President-Elect of The Mississippi Bar. His term as President-Elect will begin at the conclusion of the 2014 Annual Meeting held in June.

Campbell is a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers who has been lead counsel in over 100 jury trials. His listings for many years in The Best Lawyers in America and Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business reflect the high regard in which he is held by peers and clients alike. With more than 38 years' experience, he has litigated a variety of civil suits at both the trial and appellate levels, including antitrust claims, commercial lease disputes, contract breaches, business torts, insurance coverage, and employment disputes.

Campbell

Dr. Tim Walker Joins Horizon Ag

Dr. **Tim Walker**, Research and Extension Professor at the Delta Research and Extension Center at Stoneville, has accepted a position with Horizon Ag effective March 1, 2014. Dr. **Walker** has been a key scientist in the research team at the Delta Center and has had a significant impact on the rice industry in the Delta. His contributions and leadership will be missed but we wish him well in this new phase of his career.

"**Dr. Walker**'s research has helped rice farmers across the Delta. His contributions to the rice industry will be long standing and we thank him for his efforts," stated **Bubba Simmons,** Chairman of the Advisory and Research

Walker

Financial Services Agencies Issue Interview Final Rule: Volker Rule

Five federal agencies recently approved an interim final rule to permit banking entities to retain interests in certain collateralized debt obligations backed primarily by trust preferred securities (TruPS CDOs)

Under the interim final rule, the agencies permit the retention of an interest in or sponsorship of covered funds by banking entities if qualifications are met.

"Numerous banks in our region would have been adversely affected, had the (Volker Rule) not been clarified in this rule by the Federal Reserve, We wish to extend our thanks to Senator **Cochran** and Senator **Wicker** for their leadership role in this initiative," stated Delta Council President, **Gibb Steele**.

Southern Hardwoods, Dr. John Adams Graduate Student Poster Contest Winners Announced

Winners of the Southern Hardwoods Dr. **John Adams** Poster Competition were announced recently at the Southern Hardwoods Annual meeting on the Stoneville Campus. The competition is open to any currently enrolled M.S. or Ph.D. student working on original research that investigates some aspect of southern hardwood forest research (e. g. silviculture, forest protection, forest ecology, forest products, wildlife, etc.) Above are winners of this year's competition pictured with **Norman Davis** President, Land Acquisition / Sales for **Anderson Tully** who serves as Chairman of the Southern Hardwood Forest Research Group.

Hood left, **Davis** right

Peterson left, **Davis** right

Wilson Hood of Louisiana Tech - 1st place winner

Thomas Peterson, Mississippi State University - 2nd place winner

Sam Ongonlolu, Mississippi State University - 3rd place winner.

Former Reagan Press Secretary, Delta Native, Larry Speakes Dies at 74

Speakes with **Reagan**

Former Press Secretary for President **Ronald Reagan** and Merigold native **Larry Speakes** passed away recently at his home in Cleveland, MS.

Speakes served six years as the President's spokesman. Before going to Washington he worked for the Oxford Eagle and the Bolivar Commercial, and in 1968 he served as press secretary for U.S. Senator **James O. Eastland**. Speakes served as the keynote speaker at the 1985 Annual Meeting of Delta Council.

Wilkerson Retires; Street Named Interim Director

The leader of a statewide research institute based at Mississippi State University is stepping down.

Wayne Wilkerson, the director of the Mississippi Water Resources Research Institute (MWRRI), announced his retirement last month.

"I appreciate that I was provided the opportunity to serve the university and our stakeholders through leadership of the Water Institute," he said. "I am confident that it will continue to grow and prosper under new leadership," the associate professor of landscape architecture and MSU alumnus added.

Wilkerson

The institute provides a coordinated research and development program focusing on economic and environmental issues affecting water resources in Mississippi. (For more, please see www.wwri.msstate.edu.)

Joe Street, MSU Extension Service associate director, will serve as interim director of the institute, effective Feb. 1. The veteran administrator has an extensive research background in many areas that are related to water resources, particularly water usage in the Delta.

Street

A search for a permanent director will begin later this year said Dr. **Greg Bohach**, Vice President of Agriculture, Forestry & Veterinary Medicine for Mississippi State University.