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Pelahatchie, MS

Ramos named USM Standard Bearer

Special to Pelahatchie News

After moving from Mexico to Pelahatchie to go to high school, Cheyla Muñoz Ramos has earned the highest honor bestowed upon a student during college commencement - serving as the Presidential Standard Bearer. Ramos, who was selected for the honor at The University of Southern Mississippi (USM) based on academic achievement, leadership and campus involvement, served as the Presidential Standard Bearer at USM's Spring 2023 Commencement. In addition, Ramos finished with the highest grade point average of all USM graduation candidates.

Ramos graduated with a double major in International Studies and French through USM's Honors College. Originally born in Minnesota to Mexican-American parents, she spent most of her childhood in Veracruz, Mexico. She moved to the United States about seven years ago to attend high school in Pelahatchie.

Ramos says she chose to pursue International Studies in college because it intrigued her to learn more about the world as she took classes in different fields such



Special to Pelahatchie News

Chyla Muñoz Ramos, a 2019 Senior Beta Graduate of Pelahatchie High School, was recently named the USM Presidential Standard Bearer, the highest honor that can be bestowed on a student during college commencement.

as religion, anthropology, history, English, geography and more.

"After moving to the United States, I had to learn English, which sparked my interest in learning other foreign languages. I started my college career by taking a French class, but I added French as a double major after studying abroad during my freshman year," said Ramos. "Studying what I did was a great decision, and I will be forever thankful with my younger self for deciding on this pathway."

While at USM, she studied abroad in France in USM's Château program in Strasbourg. Now, she is fully tri-lingual.

"From studying abroad to working in the Language Hub and being able to participate in L'AF (the French Club), I feel accomplished and thankful for all the growth opportunities I've had at USM," said Ramos, "Most of my professors have been incredibly supportive, and I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to study in their classrooms."

PHS 2023 valedictorian, salutatorian

Special to Pelahatchie News

Pelahatchie High School (PHS) held their graduation ceremony on May 16 at the Hinds Community College Clyde Muse Center, with Eli Boyer named valedictorian and Maddie Grace Walters named salutatorian.

Boyer, the son of Rachael and Blake Boyer, graduated with honors, ACT honors, is a Mississippi Scholar, a Beta Club inductee, has acknowledged distinguished service and is a member of the PHS Student Council. Boyer is also a Lindy Callahan Scholar Athlete nominee and was inducted in the Hall of Fame. He plans to attend Hinds Community College, then transfer to a university to earn a bachelor's degree in computer science.

Walters, the daughter of Lacie and Gabe Walters, accumulated of \$5,000 in scholarships, graduated with honors, ACT honors, is a Mississippi Scholar, has distinguished service and was inducted into the Hall of Fame. Walters is also a PHS



Eli Boyer
PHS valedictorian



Maddie Grace Walters
PHS salutatorian

Photos special to Pelahatchie News

Lindy Callahan Scholar Athlete nominee. She has been involved in the National Beta Club, PHS FFA, Student Council, volleyball, soccer, cheer and track. She plans to attend Hinds Community College and graduate in the spring of 2024, after which she will attend Mississippi College to earn her bachelor's degree in graphic design with a minor in marketing. Walters aspires to become an entrepreneur with a successful graphic design business.

ERA 2023 valedictorian, salutatorian

Special to Pelahatchie News

Dylan Davis and Peyton Patrick were named East Rankin Academy's Class of 2023 valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively.

Davis is a member of Mu Alpha Theta Mathematics Honor Society, ACT 30+, Academic Team, the ERA Chapter of the National Honor Society and served as captain of East Rankin's championship academic quiz bowl team. Davis was named a National Merit Finalist and was also one of ERA's STAR Students with a perfect score of 36 on the ACT. He plans to continue his education at the University of Alabama.

Patrick, salutatorian, is a member of the ERA Chapter of the National Honor Soci-



Dylan Davis
ERA valedictorian



Peyton Patrick
ERA salutatorian

Photos special to Pelahatchie News

ety, Mu Alpha Theta Mathematics Honor Society, ACT 30+ and Academic Team. He also participated on the science quiz bowl team and East Rankin's championship academic quiz bowl team. Patrick plans to attend William Carey University.

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