

Youth in Three Counties Participate in Kick Butts Day 2013



(l to r) GMS SADD Sponsor Suzanne Smith, Brooke Fielder, JaQuon Lipscomb, Zion Clay, Dontavious Shipp, and MTFC Director Sue Mashburne display the "Kick Butts" banner after students added their signatures.

Mississippi youth in Grenada, Yalobusha, and Calhoun Counties joined kids in other states, and even countries, all across the world on March 20 to voice their opposition to big tobacco companies during 2013 Kick Butts Day.

Kick Butts Day is a national day for activism when thousands of youth around the world will speak up and stand out against the tobacco industry. As part of this year's Kick Butts Day celebration, the Mississippi Tobacco-Free Coalition of Grenada, Yalobusha, and Calhoun Counties (MTFC) are working with students at area schools to help empower youth to speak up and take action.

"Kick Butts Day is an opportunity for participating youth to speak out and tell others they are not going to be influenced by pressure to use tobacco products. While Kick Butts Day is officially held on one day each year, our hope is that every day will be Kick Butts Day in the fight against tobacco," said Sue Mashburne Director of Grenada, Yalobusha, and Calhoun Counties.

Tobacco use is the leading preventable cause of death in the United States, killing more than 400,000 people every year. Each year, 3,900 Mississippi kids under the age of 18 become new, daily

smokers. Sixty-nine thousand Mississippi kids now under 18 will ultimately die prematurely from smoking, according to the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids.

"Mississippi's kids play a huge role in helping to reduce youth tobacco use in our State," said Roy Hart, Director of the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) Office of Tobacco Control. "The kids participating in Kick Butts Day 2013 are sending two very important messages: they want to raise awareness of the problem of tobacco use in their community and they want to urge elected leaders to do more to protect them from tobacco."

Through MSDH's local tobacco-free coalitions, young advocates take part in a variety of tobacco prevention activities throughout the school year, including working with elected leaders to develop policies that reduce youth tobacco use and exposure to secondhand smoke, and educating their peers about the risks of tobacco use.

For more information about Kick Butts Day events in Grenada, Yalobusha, and Calhoun Counties or for tobacco cessation information, contact the MTFC at 662-226-2589, visit www.tobaccofreems.org, or follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MSTobaccoFree.

GUES Parents Info



Grenada Upper Elementary Facebook page

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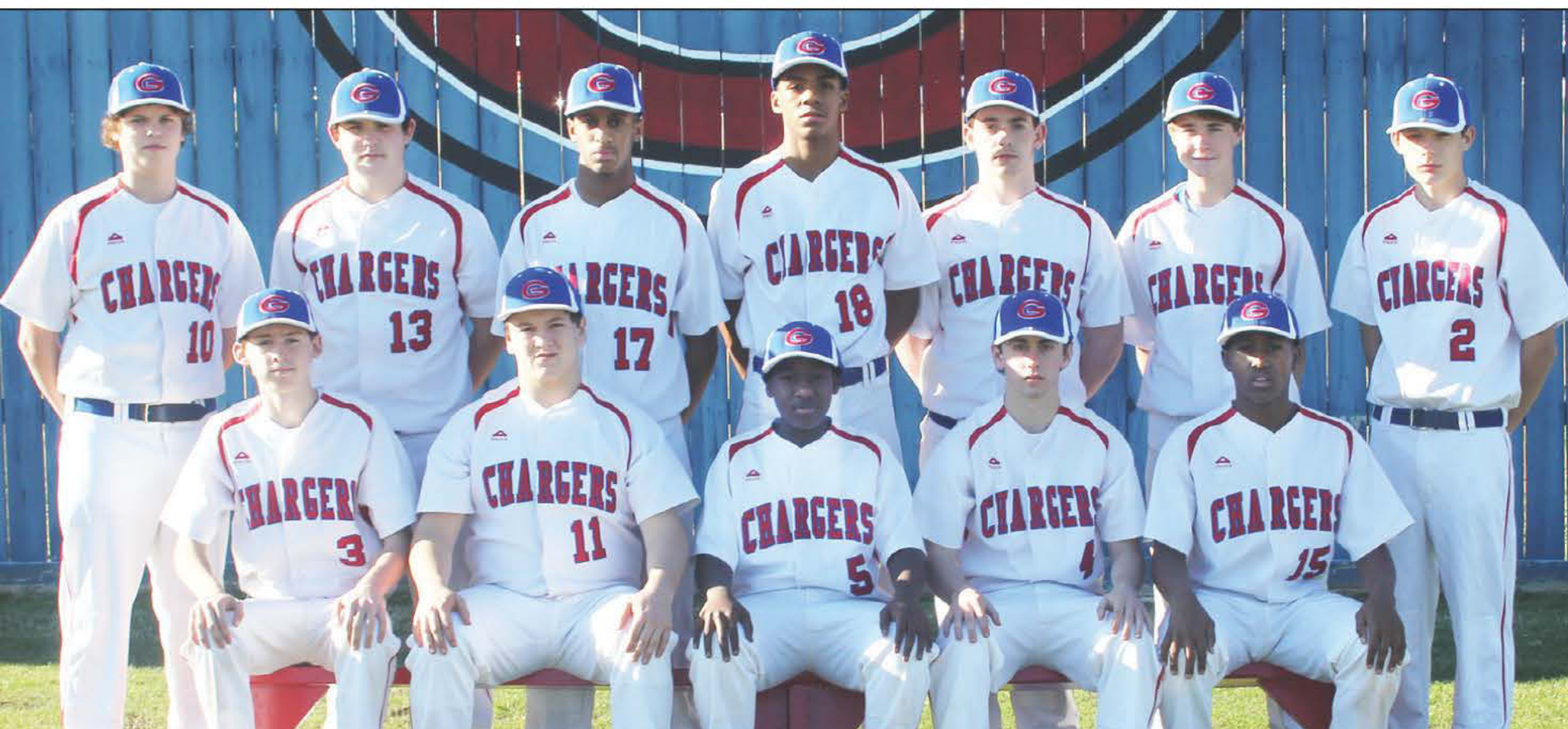
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2013 GHS Jr Varsity Baseball Team



first row l to r: Anderson Roberts, Drew Henson, Radrez Hubbard, Kyle Towles, Jatavis Dorsey; back row l to r - Nathan Hill, Bradley Sanford, Devarious Wilborn, Trey Spencer, Lee Palmer, Jordan Hobbs, Cody Horne