

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Remember others

To the editor:

In recent weeks, there have been several references in the newspaper related to drownings on Cypress Creek. These references have not mentioned the names of the first two young men to die there.

My youngest brother, Jerry Roberson, and a friend of his, Allen Weeks, drowned at the location of the dam on Cypress Creek in March 1982. I located the body of my brother several hours after his death, and he was wearing a life jacket. Allen was also wearing a life jacket.

The dam is extremely dangerous. Unfortunately, most people overlook the danger and view the dam as an exciting place on the creek.

During the past few weeks, I have been talking with Ronnie Pannell about his son's death. I have asked the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to investigate the dam. They have agreed to do so.

I am hopeful that corrective action will be taken and that the

dam will be made safe or will be removed. The new signs warning of danger are important, but they are not enough. Unless the personal tragedy strikes your family or friends, you will not know the magnitude of sorrow created by accidents at the dam.

We should not forget the names of any of those who died on Cypress Creek: Will Pannell, Max Harlan, Allen Weeks and Jerry Roberson.

Bobby Roberson  
Columbus, Miss.

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## Accountability

To the editor:

How long are we going to allow the gross mismanagement of our state to continue?

We, the people, have to hold our elected officials to the same standards we hold ourselves to. We do not spend money we do not have. We perform our jobs as expected or we lose them.

If we pay someone to do work for us, we surely do not pay