

# MAGNOLIA

CLIPPING SERVICE

(601) 856-0911 / (205) 758-8610

MISSISSIPPI PRESS

PASCAGOULA, MS

Circulation = 21038

DAILY

11/30/2009



## Jackson hospital looks to expand

The Clarion-Ledger

MADISON — St. Dominic Hospital, in its proposal to build a \$121.6 million hospital in Madison County, says there are not enough beds to care for the growing population in the county.

A Mississippi Department of Health hearing in February will determine whether the hospital can proceed with construction. However, the Health Department's staff in March recommended against the proposal.

"The hospital is deemed a new hospital," Rachel Pittman, chief of health planning and resource development at the Health Department, wrote The Clarion-Ledger in an e-mail. "The (State Health Plan) does not show a need for another hospital in the area."

This is the hospital's third attempt to open a facility in the county, which has one hospital in Canton.

HMA, which operates five hospitals in the metro area, opposes St. Dominic plan. The company recently broke ground on \$42-million, 67-bed hospital scheduled to open in 2011 across from the Nissan plant in Canton.