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Daily Mississippian

12-4-2019

December 4, 2019

The Daily Mississippian

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Recommended Citation

The Daily Mississippian, "December 4, 2019" (2019). *Daily Mississippian (all digitized issues)*. 38.
<https://egrove.olemiss.edu/thedmonline/38>

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Recruits announce decommitments after Luke's firing

**JOSHUA CLAYTON
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Since the university announced that Matt Luke would not return as the head football coach, several recruits

from the 2020 class — including four-star defensive back Eric Reed Jr. — have changed their commitment status from the team.

Ole Miss held the No. 23 recruiting class in the country before firing Luke. With

18 days until the early signing period begins, a fleet of assistant coaches, unsure of their own futures, will try to salvage this year's recruiting class.

Along with Reed, Kentrel Bullock, Kyjuan Herndon, Lakevias Daniel, Jabari Small

and Jaqwondis Burns have decommitted from Ole Miss with the early signing period starting on Dec. 18.

Reed is the highest-ranked recruit Ole Miss has lost. The four-star recruit from Louisiana announced his decommit-

ment on Monday afternoon.

"This decision wasn't easy but due to the coaching uncertainty at Ole Miss I'm reopening my recruitment," Reid wrote on Twitter. "Once again I want to

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The longboarding dean of students



BILLY SCHUERMAN / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Marsh became the university's new assistant vice chancellor of student affairs and dean of students after Melinda Sutton Noss resigned last semester.

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To go from one place to another on campus, some administrators walk. Others would opt for a golf cart. Brent Marsh, however, chooses to longboard around campus.

"At a prior university, the policy where students were allowed to ride skateboards had been prohibited for a while," Marsh said. "Once that policy changed through the student government's leadership, I thought it'd be fun to join in with the students who were also enjoying their newfound opportunity to

ride skateboards on campus."

Marsh became the university's new assistant vice chancellor of student affairs and dean of students after Melinda Sutton Noss resigned last semester to take a similar position at her alma mater, Southern Methodist University.

Marsh, who previously worked at Rogers State University in Oklahoma and Howard Payne University in Texas, said that he's been interested in student affairs since he was a resident assistant at

SEE MARSH PAGE 2

Carter cites fan apathy in coaching decision

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Ole Miss Athletics Director Keith Carter addressed the media on Monday after the firing of third-year head football coach Matt Luke.

Luke, who led the team to a disappointing 4-8 season in 2019, was officially fired on Sunday evening, four days after an embarrassing 21-10 loss to Mississippi State in the Egg Bowl. Luke was 15-21 in his three years as the head coach.

"Entering the Egg Bowl, we were optimistic that a strong finish to the season could build momentum," Carter said. "However, after stepping away from the emotion of Thursday and evaluating the team as a whole, it was evident that the apathy surrounding the program was too much to overcome."

The decision was met with approval from the fan base and criticism from a majority of the players, with some storming out of the team meeting with Carter on Sunday night. Carter said several players texted him personally apologizing for leaving the meeting early.

"Let me say this, I'm not

SEE CARTER PAGE 8



VOLLEYBALL HEAD COACH LEAVES PROGRAM

The Rebels had a 14-game winning streak until they lost rhythm in the last third of the season, losing 12 straight.

SEE PAGE 4



OFFENSIVE STRUGGLES CONTINUE FOR MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

The Rebels came up short against No. 24 Butler at home on Tuesday.

SEE THEDMONLINE.COM

MARSH

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Kansas State University. "I worked at a couple of other universities right out of graduate school," Marsh said. "I did my doctorate at Bowling Green State, so I was a graduate assistant ... at that university for a couple of years."

Marsh said that while he was at Rogers State, he started looking for opportunities to advance and try something new when he came across Ole Miss.

"The more I looked into it, the more excited I got about the possibilities here. (In) some ways, I felt that I could bring my experiences to hopefully be helpful and supportive to the students and to the university but also to have some new professional challenges and opportunities," Marsh said.

Marsh said that he faced challenges when he started his new job at UM, including adjusting to the learning curve and understanding processes and procedures.

"I think that the biggest challenge is having to be patient with myself (knowing) that all the things that I want to be able to know and be supportive of (will) take a little time to figure out ... because you want to get to a place and make a bigger difference as soon as possible and support the students and the student experience as soon as possible," Marsh said.

Marsh said that his goals for the university are to enhance the student experience and to get to know the student body. He said that he's always tried to be a good communicator and to let students know that he's always available to talk.

"I try to always operate with an open-door policy," Marsh said. "If my door's open and I'm not hooked in meetings or immersed in a project, I'm trying to make myself available to focus on the students."

Marsh said he believes that leading by example is very important for

the student body, and he hopes that he is someone the student body can look up to.

"I've always tried to be a hard worker and operate with high levels of ethics and professionalism and hopefully treat people the way I want to be treated," he said. "I hope by role-modeling that kind of professional behavior that (it) would set a good example for others."

Something Marsh said is that students could improve the way they represent the university; he referenced game days and students' rowdy behavior while tailgating in the Grove.

"I've gotten information where there (are) some times where maybe we haven't always been the best ambassadors for our university," Marsh said. "I would love to see people have so much pride in their institution that they always want to reflect well."

While he has only worked at the university for a few months, he said that he feels that he's already learned a lot.

"I think the more you go through life, you realize how much you don't know, and I think this has just been one more of those opportunities for me," Marsh said.

Marsh added that when he came to Ole Miss, he thought that he had a good mix of administrative skills and a desire to build good relationships with students.

"I think it's important that whatever level we are in the university organization chart, that we're approachable and friendly and ready to engage with students," Marsh said.

Marsh also said that he's excited for what's to come as he continues to work with the rest of the university administration.

"It's really about finding yourself in a place where you can sort of operate confidently and professionally, moving your part of the organization forward and knowing that you've got colleagues and students all across campus that are also doing that and just working to advance the university together," Marsh said.



PHOTOS BY: BILLY SCHUERMAN / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

At a prior institution, Marsh joined students in skating across campus after a ban had been lifted by the student government. Marsh previously worked at Rogers State University in Oklahoma and Howard Payne University in Texas.

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Why one student spoke before the United Nations

NIGEL DENT

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When Rohan Agrawal received news that he was one of four U.S. students selected to attend the Committee on World Food Security conference at the United Nations headquarters in Italy, he called his parents — even though it was 2 a.m. back home in India.

“Dad,” he said. “I’m going to Rome!”

Agrawal received a Planet Forward scholarship in June to attend the conference. Planet Forward is an initiative of the Center for Innovative Media at the George Washington University School of Media and Public Affairs that rewards college students involved in environmental storytelling.

A junior computer science major minoring in international relations and mathematics, he said has always cared about the environment because of how he was raised in Indore, India.

“I always had a service element inside me,” Agrawal said. “I have to give back to society in some way or the other.”

He grew up witnessing class disparity, seeing other children who did not have the resources to go to school and had to ask for money to buy food.

“I didn’t want the world to suffer the same,” he said.

It was important for Agrawal to get scholarships to attend Ole Miss, which he discovered online in high school. He was impressed with the university’s options available for international students and the university’s status as an R1 research institution.

Agrawal said he was anxious about applying for the scholarship, but after attending the World Food Security Summit in October, he was even more passionate about his future. Besides getting to speak with people like María Juliana Ruiz Sandoval, the first lady of Colombia, and the directors of the food and climate divisions of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, he learned that people are hopeful about the role technology will play in helping the environment.

Computer science is a significant part of school curriculum in India, Agrawal said.



PHOTO COURTESY: ROHAN AGRAWAL

Agrawal met a host of world leaders including María Juliana Ruiz Sandoval, the first lady of Colombia.

While he learned how to code in the fifth grade, he said he noticed that Mississippi does not have much focus on computing and technology.

Inspired by a coding club in Water Valley, Agrawal presented Wilkins with the idea for “Code Miss,” an organization where he and other computer science students teach middle and high school students in Lafayette County how to code.

by computer science students at Oregon State University who have developed similar technology.

“If tech people are working that much towards sustainability,” Agrawal said, “I think that’s my responsibility to do something towards the environment,” Agrawal said. “I think that’s my small contribution to the university.”

Agrawal is working with the university’s Facilities Management

of curiosity,” Matthew Hendley said. Hendley, one of Agrawal’s best friends, recounted the time he taught Agrawal how to drive. Although the first attempt wasn’t successful, after a summer away, Hendley came back to find that Agrawal had greatly improved his driving skills, eventually getting his permit and license.

“That just shows his character right there,” Hendley said, “He’s so driven and so passionate about the things that he’s interested in that it kind of rubs off on you.”

Tim Dolan, director of the Office of National Scholarship Advisement, helps connect students to scholarships and other competitive opportunities, and he led Agrawal to the Planet Forward scholarship.

“It has really opened doors to let people know what he’s able to do,” Dolan said. “He’s really on the cutting edge of how people are thinking about using technology in innovative ways.”

He said he thinks Agrawal will continue to do great things in computer science and believes he has a good chance of becoming a finalist for the Rhodes Scholarship, which Agrawal plans to apply for next year.

“I didn’t come with a specific plan in mind,” Agrawal said. “I just knew that I have to do something big over here.”

“I think that’s my responsibility to do something towards the environment, I think that’s my small contribution to the university.”

Rohan Agrawal
Student

“I think coding — or computer programming, in general — is one of the most important skills of the 21st century,” he said. “And I thought there was a need. So, if schools are not able to give them that, I will.” The club now has 17 students and 15 mentors.

Agrawal said he is also looking to leave a lasting impact on the University of Mississippi. He is developing a “dashboard” that can output information such as how much energy, water or natural gas is used and produced on campus. His idea was influenced

Office, which handles the university’s data on energy and water, during the developmental stage of the dashboard. The office likes the idea so much that they intend to use it even after Agrawal graduates.

Agrawal has learned more about politics around climate change and how society confronts it. He thinks that adding discussions about climate change to the EDHE curriculum or freshman orientation would be a step in the right direction.

“He’s very much a student

Another monument decision set for Friday

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The relocation of the Confederate monument is slated to go before the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH) Board of Trustees at their meeting on Friday.

Provost Noel Wilkin said that he was committed to transparency regarding the movement of the monument at the Provost forum in September. He said that the university’s Facilities Planning Department contacted him in October and informed him that the MDAH would add their review of the university’s plans to their December agenda.

The university sent plans to relocate its Confederate monument from the Circle in the center of campus to the Confederate cemetery on campus in late August.

Wilkin said that the MDAH originally planned for the relocation to be on its October agenda, but because of the complexity of the move, its review has taken longer than expected.

If the MDAH approves the university’s plans in their December meeting, the decision to relocate the monument will rest in the hands of the Institutions of Higher Learning. The IHL Board of Trustees will make the final decision whether or not the monument will be relocated if the MDAH approves the move.

When then-Interim Chancellor Larry Sparks informed the campus that the university sent their plans to the MDAH in August, he added that the university would contract an outside firm to facilitate the relocation.

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VOLLEYBALL

McRoberts leaves program after 12-game losing streak

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Ole Miss head volleyball coach Steven McRoberts have agreed to part ways, according to an announcement from the university.

This comes at a time when McRoberts' team finished the 2019 season with a 14-15 record after a 12-game losing streak. The Rebels were rolling with a 14-game win streak heading through the middle of the SEC slate but lost all rhythm during the last third of the season.

Even though the record was not what they had hoped, many players had record-breaking seasons. The Rebels appeared in top-10 conference individual leader rankings in almost every statistical category, including Nicole Purcell leading the SEC in digs this season.

Two seniors are leaving the program atop the Ole Miss record books. Emily Stroup finished her last season as a Rebel as the program's all-time rally-scoring leader. Purcell recorded 555 digs this season,



FILE PHOTO: MARLEE CRAWFORD / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Volleyball head coach Steven McRoberts reached a mutual agreement with Ole Miss to leave the program this year after 12 seasons.

an Ole Miss rally-scoring best. "Coach McRoberts represented Ole Miss with class and integrity over the past six years," Keith Carter, the

athletics director, said in a statement. "He made tremendous contributions to our program and to the lives of our student-athletes, and we

wish him the best as he moves forward."

McRoberts was hired in January 2014, and he led the Rebels to an 111-82 record and a postseason appearance in the NIVC Championship in 2017. He coached at Lubbock Christian, Central Arkansas and Tulsa before he was hired at Ole Miss.

"I'm extremely grateful for the six years that I've had at Ole Miss," McRoberts said. "I've had the pleasure of coaching some great young ladies during that time. I'm thankful for my staff and all the hard work that they've put into this program. I'm sorry that I couldn't get the program up to the level it needed to be. Thank you to Lynnette and Ross for giving me this opportunity. I know that God has a greater plan for me. My family and I love Oxford and Ole Miss, and we will always have fond memories of being here."

The move is another major decision made by Carter, who gained the permanent AD position on Nov. 22. Carter fired third-year head football coach

Matt Luke on Sunday and will add a volleyball coach search to the docket this winter.

Ole Miss sat at the bottom of the SEC in the seasons before McRoberts' arrival on campus. McRoberts led the Rebels to a winning record in his first four seasons with the team, including a postseason appearance in 2017. He has also led the Rebels to 12 regular season tournament titles and set the record for most consecutive victories in Ole Miss history with 14 straight wins during the 2014 and 2019 seasons.

McRoberts' players have appeared on All-SEC Teams four times and have been SEC Player of the Week 10 times. He also had two players reach the 1,000/1,000 club, with over 1,000 kills and digs throughout their time in a Rebel uniform. Several players set numerous Ole Miss individual records under his direction.

Ole Miss finished this season at 14-15 overall, 6-12 in conference play, their biggest win coming against No. 22 Missouri in Columbia.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Rebels prepare for undefeated Texas Tech in SEC/Big 12 Challenge

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The Ole Miss women's basketball team will battle undefeated Texas Tech today in Lubbock, Texas.

The Rebels suffered a heart-breaking loss when freshman Sarah Dumitrescu tore her ACL during the first quarter of the

match against Sam Houston State on Nov. 26.

Dumitrescu, a native of Romania and a four-star recruit from IMG Academy, will be out for the rest of the season. However, her impact has not been unnoticed.

Entering that match as the top rebounder for the Rebels, averaging 7.8 boards per game, Dumitrescu was ranked 13th in

SEC rankings. Before her injury, she already had five boards in the first quarter.

"My heart is broken for Sarah, as she has worked extremely hard to buy into the role we envisioned for her on both ends of the floor," said head coach Yolett McPhee-McCuin. "She is loved by her teammates, staff and the Oxford community, and I'm certain that she will not only bounce back from this but come back even stronger."

Over Thanksgiving break, the Rebels played a series of games against Louisiana Tech, Sam Houston State and Alcorn State to add three wins to their record. However, the Rebels suffered a 58-50 loss to Pitt last Saturday.

During the Daytona Invitational, junior Valerie Nesbitt averaged 17.0 points in two games. Nesbitt is also averaging 11.5 points in the season with double-digit games.

Still stuffing the stat sheet, Nesbitt currently leads the SEC in steals and ranks 11th in NCAA with her 3.8 steals per game average.

After an outstanding performance against Louisiana Tech, Nesbitt recorded a series of 12 points, eight assists, eight steals and six rebounds making her the first available documented Ole Miss player to hold both eight assists and eight steals in the same game.



FILE PHOTO: REED JONES / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Valerie Nesbitt takes the ball into the paint earlier this season. The Rebels face Texas Tech in Lubbock, Texas, on Wednesday.

Junior Deja Cage is also a force to be reckoned with on the court. She is ranked ninth in the SEC with 15.3 points per game. Cage also holds six different double-digit games and earned a spot next to three other players in the last five years with her career-high 30-point game against Louisiana Tech.

The Rebels lead the series with Texas Tech 2-1, but the Raiders are currently one of the 18 teams left undefeated. In Texas Tech's last match, they defeated San Diego by four points, 64-60.

The Raiders also have Big 12 honoree and Texas Tech top scorer Brittany Brewer, who holds a 17.8 PPG. Brewer also leads the NCAA in blocks with 29 and blocks per game with 5.8.

The last time these two teams battled it out was in 2005 when

Ole Miss beat the Raiders with a score of 72-69 here in Oxford. Ole Miss held a 51% shooting average and out-rebounded Texas Tech by 42-28.

Despite their latest loss, the Rebels gained an important lesson.

"(Pitt) came out and punched us in the mouth. Now we know what it's like. You have to play every possession versus power five teams," said McPhee-McCuin. "You can't just come out and be bigger and stronger, that is not going to happen. Because of it, we did not come out of it with a victory, so we have to learn from this and keep going."

The Rebels will carry on without Sarah Dumitrescu and try to win against the Raiders today.

Tipoff is set to 7 p.m. in Lubbock, Texas.

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FOOTBALL

Norvell, Kiffin among popular options for coaching vacancy

JARED REDDING
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After the shocking firing of head football coach Matt Luke on Sunday, players storming out of a team meeting, rumors of players transferring and a recruiting class in question just weeks before the early signing period, Athletics Director Keith Carter is looking strikes gold with new leadership — and fast.

If there is one thing that Ole Miss fans can cling onto about Ventura Partners, the search firm contracted to assist in the search for a new football coach, it is that they can bring in a solid coach, shown in the head basketball coach Kermit Davis's hire in 2018.

During the social media fall-out after the firing, two names stand out the most; one of them is leading a terror just 90 miles north of Oxford, and the other has a national championship ring and SEC pedigree.

Mike Norvell, head coach of the current-AAC West champion Memphis Tigers, is a popular candidate among the Ole Miss faithful. During his time at Memphis, he has led the Tigers to national prominence with three straight bowl appearances and three straight AAC West Championships.

He even brought College GameDay to Beale Street. It is because of this success that he is the highest-paid head coach outside of the Power 5 and is currently sought after by almost every college football program



ILLUSTRATION: KATHERINE BUTLER / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

searching for a new head coach.

Norvell has also signed some of the most overlooked recruits in Mississippi and turned them into star conference players — more notably running back Kenny Gainwell and defensive lineman O'Bryan Goodson — two key contributors on each side of the ball.

Because of the convenience of location, hiring Norvell makes sense, and it is easy to see why Ole Miss fans are jumping at the opportunity via social media.

Lane Kiffin is almost always a name that is brought up in coaching searches, simply because of the brand he has built in college football. Kiffin has head-coaching experience with the NFL's Oakland Raiders as well as Tennessee and USC in the college football ranks.

While he has been more reputable as an assistant coach during his early years at USC and later at Alabama, it may be hard to pass up on someone with that wide range of experience.

Also consider what he is doing at Florida Atlantic, turning them from mediocre to a formidable foe again in C-USA. He has also been around future NFL quarterbacks and knows what he could do to mold John Rhys Plumlee into an elite passer or to polish 2020 Ole Miss hopeful Robby Ashford. While the coach is reportedly in conversations with Arkansas, Kiffin could be a perfect fit in Oxford.

Other names being thrown around include Billy Napier of

Louisiana, Willie Fritz of Tulane and Bill Clark of University of Alabama Birmingham. Mike Leach of Washington State caught a lot of attention for the job after a fake Twitter account posted a graphic suggesting he had accepted the job. Ole Miss also could promote from within since there are two former PAC-12 head coaches on staff in Rich Rodriguez and Mike MacIntyre, who has been named to the interim position.

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How locals get their start in art economy

CAROLINE NIHILL
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In Oxford, emerging artists have opportunities through education and through local organizations to establish themselves within creative careers. While art fields seem dependent on large scale success, local level work provides artists with ways to experiment with their work.

While the art program is not as large as other schools at the university, it has a gallery within Meek Hall that displays students' work.

"There's not really diversification of teachers," senior art student Jake Brown said. "So sometimes it's good if you find someone that really cares about what they're doing... (There are) some people that are actually working professional artists, and some people are just teachers, and you can tell there's

that gap sometimes."

Brown now focuses his talents with drawing and painting after he dabbled in digital art. He describes artists as entrepreneurs.

"You could make, in some people's eyes, really bad art, but you could still be financially successful, or maybe you're just targeting the right audience," Brown said.

Earlier this year, Brown displayed his work at Uptown Coffee and The Edison art gallery. His work was also included in Yoknapatawpha Arts Council's Art Crawl in October.

The arts council hosts many events that encourage local artists who are trying to grow their businesses.

"Our goal is to engage the community and create opportunities to interact with art artists, to be part of the creative process," arts council director Wayne Andrews said.

Along with supporting local creatives, the arts council adds



CAROLINE NIHILL / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Maker's Market had been allowed to use the Courthouse lawn until a review of Facility Use Policy that occurred in March.

to Oxford's tourist economy. According to Andrews, 223,000 people attended art events in Lafayette County last year.

The arts council provides administrative support along with providing the location and tables for all 22 vendors at this year's Holiday Art Market.

While this market was part of encouraging artists business growth, organizations like Maker's Market are undergoing changes that could decrease artist presence in Oxford.

Maker's Market, a monthly multi-vendor site, is run by the artists that participate in the event. The leadership recently changed, along with a change in venue. In the past 10 years, the market has been allowed to use the Courthouse lawn until a review of Facility Use Policy that occurred in March. The policy does not allow the sale of commercial goods by private individuals.

After that, the market rented the lawn for further use until October. After the short period of purchasing use of the lawn, the organization did not have enough vendors to remain in front of the Courthouse. The event moved to the Powerhouse.

The event did not happen because of what artist Emily Rennie

attributed to lack of advertising in the change of venue and technological problems through their social media.

"The YAC has been wonderful and offering their help and their assistance and helping us stay on our feet and giving us locations to hold our markets," Rennie said. "Which is great. It's just hard to get foot traffic to (the Powerhouse)."

Many of the artists involved with the market expressed their discontent with the venue change because of the exposure the Courthouse lawn gives to the market.

"If you have people who follow you and they come to look for you specifically at every Maker's Market, unless you happen to know those customers personally to let them know that there's been a change of venue, you have to rely on social media and posters or word of mouth," Rennie said. "As great as social media is, you can't reach everybody. And a lot of our people, a lot of our customers were just people who were on the square that day."

Brown added that financial stability for artists varies. Artists may be able to find a patron to fund their work dependent on their art. He also commented that

different people may have varying opinions on art which could add to the difficulty of stability.

"Usually they say that like, the better you are, the more chances to become successful," Brown said. "It's kind of weird, because if most of the really, really successful stuff is really avant garde and no one knows it until it's too late."

Local artists can also find exposure put on by events like the arts council, along with finding their style through the many classes that are held by the council.

The Maker's Market schedule for 2020 will be released through their social media and websites soon, along with their new and hopefully permanent venue. Market leadership is planning on meeting with local government to attempt to regain the Courthouse lawn. In the meantime, the Maker's Market will be looking for a new venue.

Also, the market will limit its amount of events throughout the year, only putting the market together during high-traffic and high-profit months.

Despite difficulty in art programs and local events, artists throughout Oxford and Lafayette have continued to showcase their art and plans for the future.

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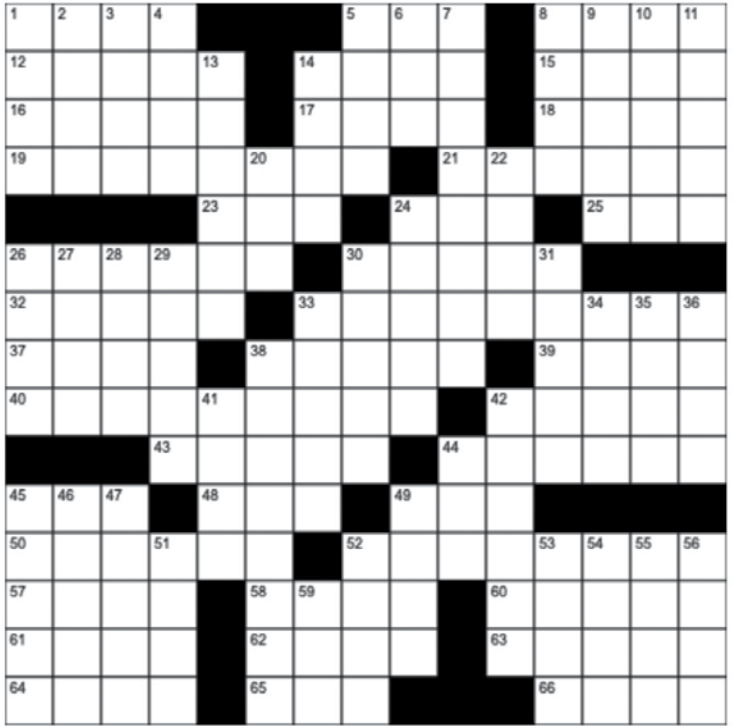
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- ACROSS**
1- Fit together;
5- Thanks, I already
8- Broad valley;
12- Devour;
14- Walked heavily;
15- Inter ____;
16- Biscuitlike quick bread;
17- Stocking shade;
18- Castle protection;
19- Breaks;
21- U.S. gangster;
23- CD ____;
24- Scoff's topper;
25- Devoted follower;
26- Wirelasses;
30- Novelist Joyce Carol
32- The least bit;
33- Turn toward the east;
37- Singer Amos;
38- Oxlike antelope;
39- Fold females;
40- Wrigley's chewing gum;
42- Lively dances;
43- Storage center;
44- Violin;
45- Not him;
48- Startled cries;
49- Play on words;
50- Potemkin mutiny city;
- DOWN**
1- Untidy condition;
2- "From ____ according to his abilities...";
3- Portico;
4- Search thoroughly;
5- Circle segments;
6- Rocky hilltop;
7- Learned;
8- Moist;
9- Indifferent;
10- Tropical vine;
11- Consumed;
13- Gasoline;
14- Division of a school year;
20- Aurora's counterpart;
22- Last word;
24- Spoil;
26- Darn it!;
- 52- Sweat;
57- Religious practice;
58- Clipper feature;
60- Have dinner at home;
61- Land measure;
62- " ____ She Lovely?";
63- Suppress;
64- School on the Thames;
65- Draft initials;
66- Lavish affection (on);
- 27- At the summit of;
28- Challenge;
29- Greek epic poem;
30- Praying figure;
31- War horse;
33- Potpourris;
34- Impressed;
35- Narrate;
36- Start of North Carolina's motto;
38- Stress;
41- Classic cars;
42- Salon jobs;
44- Fine hair;
45- Goddesses of the seasons;
46- Court order;
47- Fashionably old-fashioned;
49- Animal skin;
51- Visualized;
52- Fasteners;
53- Discharged a debt;
54- Sock ____ mel;
55- Civil disturbance;
56- Feminine suffix;
59- Simpleton;



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		7		3	2					9
		8						3	2	
1					7	6				
3		4		5				8	3	
8	6				4					
		3	9							6
9	7						1			
5			2	6		3				

HOW TO PLAY

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 with no repeats.

DIFFICULTY LEVEL NOVICE

7	9	3	8	6	2	1	4	5	7	8
8	2	1	3	5	4	6	7	9	8	2
6	4	5	7	1	9	3	8	2	7	4
1	7	9	4	2	3	5	6	8	1	7
5	9	2	6	8	7	4	1	3	5	6
3	8	4	9	5	1	6	2	7	8	3
4	5	6	7	9	8	2	3	1	4	5
2	3	7	5	1	4	8	6	9	2	7
9	1	8	2	3	6	7	4	5	8	9

OPINION



ABBEY EDMONSON / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Don't split efforts for racial reconciliation

KATIE DAMES

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Recently, the university announced plans to establish the Open Society Initiative, an institute intended to address racial reconciliation in Oxford. However, we already had one of those — the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation — which continues to play an integral role in the LOU community's efforts toward healing, despite relocating its office to Jackson in 2018. Recent incidents involving racial aggressions on campus and the inaction following them, in addition to the university's fraught history with the Winter Institute, suggest that the university is not committed to the objectives of racial reconciliation.

Splitting the mission of healing between the Winter Institute and the proposed Open Society Initiative is ineffective and directly contradictory to the principles behind racial reconciliation. Wholeness,

trust and relationship building are values that are not developed by starting a parallel initiative. The fact that the relocation of the Confederate monument and the punishment of those who destroyed the Emmett Till sign remain unresolved is an indicator that the university is not yet capable of fully embracing the justice needed to lead racial reconciliation.

The most notable moments of student activism in recent years are directly tied to the Winter Institute. From providing students with resources during the removal of the state flag in 2015 to assisting leaders with the 2012 anti-KKK rally, the Winter Institute has always helped students seeking to fight racial injustice. Even after the institute was relocated, it still had a critical influence on racial reconciliation work on campus. I met with Susan Glisson, former executive director of the Winter Institute, while writing the legislation to move the Confederate statue to understand how to be as

inclusive as possible and construct a healthy debate.

The Winter Institute also worked alongside the Equal Justice Initiative and the Civil Rights and Restorative Justice Project in 2018 to memorialize Elwood Higginbotham, the last person known to be lynched in Lafayette County. By being on campus for nearly 20 years, the Winter Institute is familiar with our community and already has connections to national racial reconciliation groups that can advance the priorities of Oxford.

The Institute also supports the Emmett Till Commission and its mission to find justice for the 14-year-old African American boy brutalized and killed in 1955, whereas the university has a poor history with the Commission. Administration mishandled the investigation to properly remedy the destruction of the Till memorial by three members of the university community, leaving the incident unknown to the public for nearly five months — only to be

revealed by ProPublica and the Mississippi Center for Investigative Reporting.

Not only does the Winter Institute already address the goals of racial reconciliation at the University of Mississippi, there is also no proof that the university can provide the support needed for such a center to function. The university provided financial support for the Winter Institute at its establishment in 1999, but from that point until the relocation of the Institute to Jackson, the university's administration provided no financial support. As a result, the Winter Institute depended on grants and donations from parties outside of the university.

If the university administration truly wants to “connect and coordinate its activities in research, education and engagement around the issue of racial healing” as a spokesperson said last week, they would supplement and fund pre-existing structures like the Winter Institute. The mission of the William Institute is the mission of the University of Mississippi: it has been inspiring civic activity and healing in Oxford and beyond for 20 years — even when the university has not.

Katie Dames is a junior international studies major from St. Louis, Missouri.

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RECRUITS

continued from page 1

thank you for recruiting me.”

Herndon, a running back from Jacksonville, Florida, was the first player to decommit after the firing of Matt Luke and, reopened his recruitment on Monday.

“It wasn’t a easy decision, but with God, My family and Coaches, I have announced I have decommitted from the University of Mississippi and reopening my recruitment,” he said on Twitter.

Although six 2020 players have officially decommitted from Ole Miss football since Luke’s firing, some high school seniors have remained committed to the Rebels for next fall, though some were disappointed in the decision.

DeSanto Rollins, a 2020 Ole Miss commit, said his faith played a large role in his attraction to the Ole Miss football program and Luke. Rollins plans on staying committed to Ole Miss.

“God and my family are most important to me,” Rollins said. “Coach Luke was a man of faith and a family man. He loved the sport of football and the importance of getting a quality education. He wanted to ensure that he had the best assistants to make us the best athletes in the world.”

Rollins, a defensive tackle from Baton Rouge, Louisiana, shared his disappointment on social media when he received

news of Luke’s firing. Along with multiple retweets expressing his disappointment, Rollins also shared a photo of himself and Luke, thanking him.

“I’ve seen what happened to Coach Luke all of my life,” Rollins said. “Even as an elementary student, coaches would get fired. So I guess that’s the downside of coaching. The relationships they build with players doesn’t seem to be taken into consideration. I think that God has a greater plan for

“I’ve seen what happened to Coach Luke all of my life,” Rollins said. “Even as an elementary student, coaches would get fired. So I guess that’s the downside of coaching.”

DeSanto Rollins
2020 Ole Miss commit

Coach Luke and he will soar to higher heights.

“Being a part of a young, talented team is quite exciting,” Rollins also said. “I love the fact that several freshmen got lots of playing time. It shows that if you go there and (put) in the work and effort, the sky is the limit.”

Columbia running back Bullcock also announced his decommitment on Twitter on Monday.

Lakevias Daniel, a defensive back from Jones County Junior College, committed to Luke and Ole Miss in June. The three-star picked up an offer from Tennessee on Monday.

“I also wanna thank the University of Mississippi for giving me the chance to appreciate like even more & to continue my career in foot-

ball,” Daniel wrote on Twitter. “However, I have decided to reopen my recruitment. I look forward to exploring as many opportunities as possible.”

Linebacker Jaqwondis Burns from IMG Academy switched his pledge after committing to Ole Miss last spring.

“Unfortunately due to the circumstances surrounding @HottyToddy football I will be de-committing from the University of Ole Miss,” Burns wrote on Twitter on Monday afternoon.

“Thank you so much (Coach Jeff) Koonz for recruiting me at two universities, and to all the staff that recruited me.”

With seven potential prospects already off the board, the Ole Miss football program is in danger of more decommitments and transfer moves.

With Luke out, it is likely that the rest of his coaching staff will look for new jobs as well since a new head coach might want to bring in his or her own staff. Luke was on a recruiting trip when the news of his firing broke. While Luke traveled back to Oxford, the rest of the assistant coaches remained on the road to talk to prospects. The effects of the coaching decision have already hit the class of 2020.

CARTER

continued from page 1

mad or angry with those players,” Carter said. “It was an emotional day yesterday. They loved coach Luke. We all love coach and I totally understand the emotions.”

Carter said the decision was made internally after looking at the overall trajectory of the program, and that while there are financial limitations to work through, he’s confident about the decision.

“There was a lot o of noise, kind of, yesterday that there was a booster group that had said they would pay the buyout,” Carter said. “I hadn’t spoken to a single booster about a buyout. Not to say that I won’t talk to them about helping us with a new coach, but we will handle that internally and we’ll work with our department CFO and our foundation CFO to make that happen.”

With the head football coaching job vacant, the search for a replacement will begin immediately for Carter and the athletics department. Ole Miss will use Ventura Partners, the same firm involved in the hiring of basketball coach Kermit Davis, to assist with the search.

“What I’ve learned is people are interested, they’re interested in our job and, you know, I think it’s very attractive,” Carter said. “Like I said, we have a great roster of young men. They’re coming back next year, a lot

to build on. And I think a new coach would look at this as a very attractive situation.

“I’ll probably have some advisors, some people that will help me along the way, but ultimately even sitting down with candidates, it’ll just be me.”


Luke’s firing comes just 18 days before the early signing period for 2020 recruits begins on Dec. 18. Ole Miss’ recruiting class was ranked No. 23 in the country, but the change could affect the stance of some committed prospects.

“We want to move as quickly as possible. You know, this new signing day, it complicates things a lot when you’re making a change like this, but certainly we want to move quickly,” Carter said. “I don’t want to put a time frame on it, but quickly and efficiently, as quickly and efficiently as we can.”

Defensive coordinator Mike MacIntyre will serve as the interim until a new head coach is named. In the meantime, Carter said he’s instructed the assistants to continue with their regular recruiting trips. The team will still host several official recruiting visits this week while the search officially commences.

“Ultimately you’ve got to sit down with people, you’ve got to look them in the eye and you’ve got to talk about a shared vision,” Carter said. “You’ve got to talk about them wanting to be at our place, wanting to build our program, wanting to be at Ole Miss.”

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