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2-28-2020

**February 28, 2020**

The Daily Mississippian

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## Buildings on Square forced to close

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On Wednesday, the City of Oxford announced that the sidewalk and on-street parking in front of 208 S. Lamar — the building space most recently occupied by Stella Restaurant — would be closed, citing “structural concerns and potential hazards to pedestrians.” Earlier this week, on Sunday, Oxford building officials required Fill-Up With Billups to close to customers pending a further inspection of the building’s safety.

The 208 S. Lamar location was in the process of being renovated into a New Orleans-themed po’boy restaurant with a rooftop rum bar before the city’s announcement. The hazard prompted the Courthouse Square Preservation Commission to schedule an emergency meeting this morning where they will decide whether or not to demolish the building, according to a report from the Oxford Eagle.

Fill-Up With Billups, the breakfast restaurant and bar on the Square, has been closed indefinitely by Oxford building official Chris Carter following an issue with the floor last weekend.

“In an abundance of caution for the public welfare, I felt that it was prudent to require further invasive evaluation before allowing the restaurant to resume operation,” Carter said in a statement.

Oxford Police Department (OPD) Chief Jeff McCutchen

SEE SQUARE PAGE 3

## Broken silence

“Send Silence Packing” event displays over 1,000 backpacks in the Grove for suicide awareness



OLIVIA SCHWAB / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Over 1,000 backpacks were left in the Grove for the Send Silence Packing event on Wednesday. Active Minds is a national non-profit that focuses on mental health awareness.

NIGEL DENT

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The Grove was dotted with over 1,000 backpacks on Wednesday — with colorful messages of hope and encouragement — to remember college students who die by suicide every year. The exhibit

was sponsored by the University of Mississippi chapter of Active Minds, their third “Send Silence Packing” event.

To Lydia Cates, a sophomore and the Active Minds media director, this event is not just about awareness. It serves as an active

reminder that mental health, especially on college campuses, is paramount.

“It is important to go and seek help,” Cates said. “Go to the counseling center ... And don’t let other people shame you out of going

SEE SILENCE PAGE 8

## U.S. House passes Emmett Till Act

WILL STRIBLING

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After a century of failed attempts, Congress passed legislation on Wednesday that would classify lynching as a federal hate crime.

“We must pass it to correct the inactions of those before us. The inaction of others does not relieve one of the obligation to do what is right,” Rep. Bennie G. Thompson said on the House floor Wednesday, testifying to the importance of the bill.

Thompson was one of the bill’s sponsors. He represents Mississippi’s second congressional district, which includes where Emmett Till’s murder took place.

The Emmett Till Antilynching Act passed in a bipartisan 410-4 vote. A separate version of the legislation, the Justice for Victims of Lynching Act, passed unanimously in the U.S. Senate last year. There are only small differences between the two bills, and if the House’s version is approved by the Senate, it will be sent to President Donald Trump’s desk.

The bill, which comes after 200 failed attempts to pass an antilynching bill over the last 100 years, describes lynching as an act willfully done by a group of people who assemble with intention to commit violence against another person and then cause that person’s death, according to a copy of the bill.

The legislation is named after Till, who was brutally lynched in 1955 while visiting family in Money. During his trip, white shopkeeper Carolyn Bryant accused 14-year-old Till of making sexual advances toward her at Bryant’s Grocery. Four days later, Bryant’s husband Roy, and his half-brother J.W. Milam kidnapped Till from his uncle’s home. They beat him, shot him in the head and threw his body into the Tallahatchie River.

SEE TILL PAGE 2

## Putt heard around the world

JOSHUA CLAYTON

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There hasn’t been much to celebrate for Ole Miss basketball during the 2019-20 season, but when 84-year-old Mary Ann Wakefield sunk a putt from baseline to baseline to win a 2020 Nissan Altima on Saturday, The Pavilion might as well have been the venue of Game 7 of the NBA Finals.

Wakefield lined up a putt from 94 feet away and, with pinpoint technique and mechanics, hit a long, winding shot reminiscent of Tiger Woods at the 16th hole of the

2005 Augusta Masters.

“I got up there, and I was very relaxed,” she said. “(I) didn’t feel the pressure.”

In an interview with After Further Review podcast on Rebel Radio, Wakefield revealed that it was a no-look shot — a sort-of homage to greats like Magic Johnson or Jason Williams.

“To tell you the truth, I couldn’t see it once it went past half-court,” she said. “I didn’t know it went in until everybody started screaming, and the announcer said something. When I first got

SEE PUTTING PAGE 5



FILE PHOTO: REED JONES / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

84-year-old Mary Ann Wakefield sunk a 94-foot putt to win a new car from Cannon Automotive group during a contest during halftime of Saturday’s basketball game.



# No campus polling place 'anytime soon'

MASON SCIONEAX

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With the 2020 primary and general elections looming, student voting accessibility is being monitored both nationally and locally. Despite continual efforts to establish a polling place on campus, including an Associated Student Body (ASB) resolution, Lafayette County circuit clerk Jeff Busby doesn't believe it will happen before the 2020 elections.

"I would like to see (a polling place on campus)," he said. "But I don't foresee that happening anytime soon. Most of the precincts are in and around the university, so they're not far, and there's transportation to all precincts."

He said that polling places are not too far for students and added that the Oxford – University Transit (OUT) buses will transport students to polling places in this year's elections. The buses also went to polling places for the November 2019 election.

Students with an on-campus post office mail box, for example, can vote at the Mississippi State Extension Office, which is on Buddy East Parkway in Oxford. This is approximately a 10-minute drive from campus to the Extension Office for students to vote. On an OUT bus, which has multiple stops depending on the route, this trip could take longer.

Busby said he lacks specific knowledge on how to create a campus polling location, but added that he will research to determine the possibility of it.

"The truth is (that), I haven't looked into that much," he said. "I'm speaking on not a lot of knowledge of that situation. A year from now, I could know a bit more about the ins and outs or why it would be feasible to do. I absolutely plan to look into it."

ASB President Barron Mayfield called a campus polling place essential for student voters and said that while he is satisfied with campus efforts to

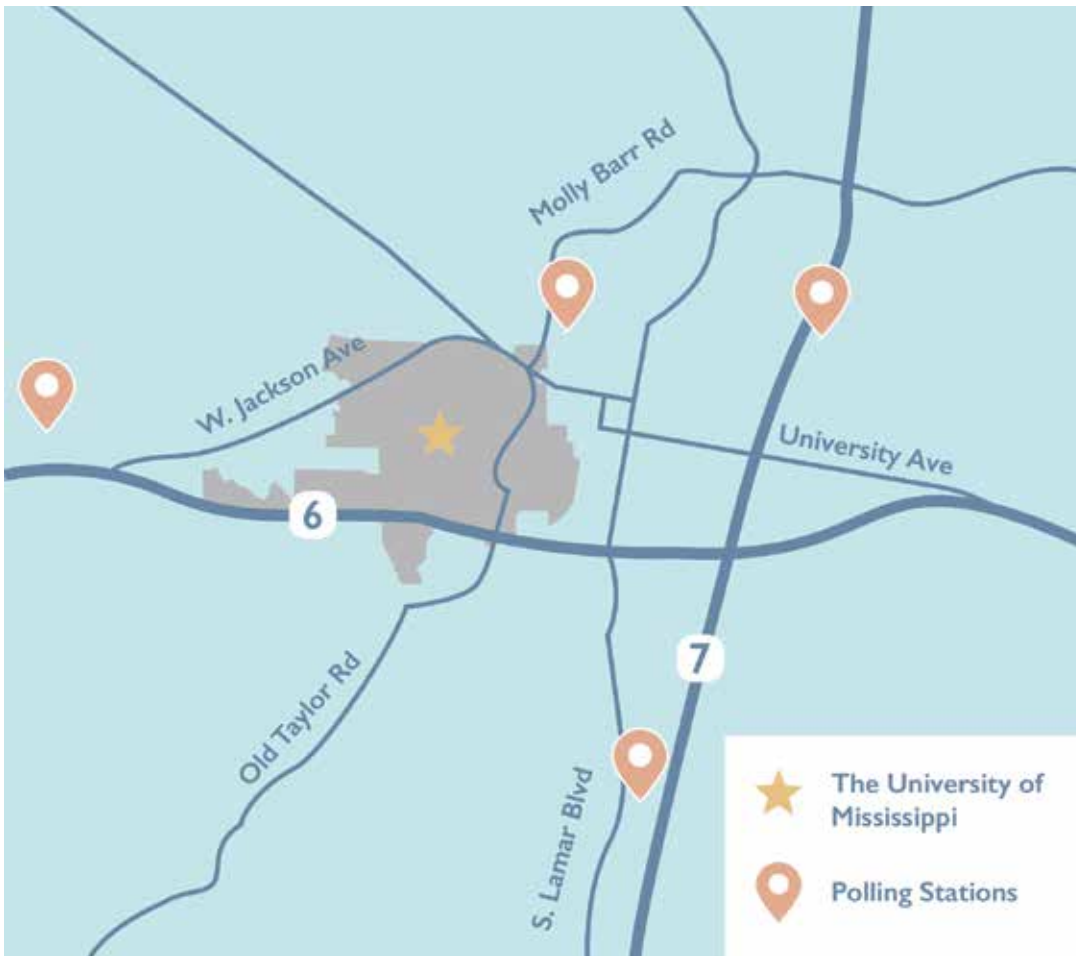


ILLUSTRATION: KATHERINE BUTLER / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

improve accessibility, he feels that local officials have not done enough.

"(Getting a polling place on campus is) something we've passed a resolution through (ASB) Senate for, but it's really on the local election officials to take action — something they don't seem interested in getting done," Mayfield said.

In Oct. 2018, the ASB Senate unanimously passed a resolution urging Lafayette County to create a campus polling place. At the time, the authors of the legislation were cognizant of the logistical issues in creating a campus polling place, but hopeful that the resolution would put pressure on the County to meet their goals.

In March 2019, Mississippi State University was designated a "Voter Friendly Campus" by the Fair Election Center's Campus Vote Project. It is the

only Mississippi university and one of only two Southeastern Conference schools with that distinction.

Campus Vote Project works with colleges and universities to reduce barriers to student voting by advocating for policy reforms and providing informa-

adding an on-campus polling place.

"Addressing these two issues alone could greatly expand the ability of all Mississippians to register and vote, including young and student voters who are far more familiar with conducting business online and

**"I would like to see (a polling place on campus)," he said. "But I don't foresee that happening anytime soon. Most of the precincts are in and around the university, so they're not far, and there's transportation to all precincts."**

- Jeff Busby  
Lafayette County circuit clerk

tion for students to register and vote. It has staff in seven states and Washington, D.C. and is in partnership with campuses in 23 other states.

To become a Voter Friendly campus, a school must develop a strategy with goals pertaining to upcoming elections. The process includes five phases, from the submission of interest to the actual designation, which lasts for two years.

Mike Burns, the national director for the Campus Vote Project, said that while Ole Miss has not had any problems preventing it from attaining designation, it simply has not applied for consideration to be a Voter Friendly Campus. Burns cited accessibility issues in Mississippi.

"I am not aware of specific issues at Ole Miss," Burns said. "But I can say that Mississippi as a state could do a lot to improve everyone's — including students' — access to registration and voting."

Burns named the lack of online voter registration and early in-person voting as two major voting issues that Mississippi needs to reform, along with

may have trouble accessing polling places due to class and work schedules, along with access to transportation," Burns said.

While Chancellor Glenn Boyce declined to answer specific questions regarding his recent student voting discussions with the ASB Senate or the possibility of a campus polling location, he said in an email that he is committed to making Ole Miss a voter-friendly campus.

"The responsibility falls on us to ensure that we encourage involvement from all individuals, especially our students here at Ole Miss," he said. "I will work hard to make our university a voter-friendly campus and will ensure that we are providing opportunities for our students and members of the campus community to play their part."

The Ole Miss student voting website, located at [vote.olemiss.edu](http://vote.olemiss.edu), had not been updated since before the November 2018 midterm elections. As of Feb. 20, the site includes a countdown clock until the March 10 primary election and links to register, obtain an absentee ballot and resources for residential students looking for their polling place.

TILL

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The jury that acquitted the two murderers only deliberated for 67 minutes. Decades later, Carolyn Bryant admitted that her claims Till harassed her were lies. Roy Bryant and Milam did not wait nearly as long to admit their crimes, doing so in a 1956 interview with *Look Magazine*, as their acquittal provided them double jeopardy protections.

After Till's mutilated body was recovered from the river, his mother, Mammie, demanded an open casket at her son's funeral so others would have to confront the horrors inflicted on him. The photos this produced provided an initial spark for the Civil Rights Movement.

All four Mississippi congressmen voted to pass the bill. Only four lawmakers — Reps. Louie Gohmert (Texas), Thomas Massie (KY) and Ted Yoho (FL), and independent Rep. Justin Amash (MI) — voted against it.

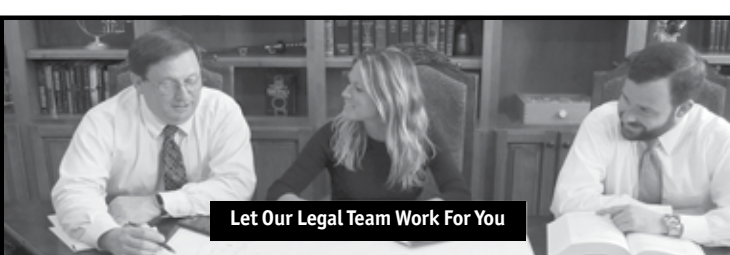
Rep. Bobby Rush (IL) introduced the bill in January 2019, and he is the representative for the first congressional district of Illinois, which includes the area of Chicago where Till was from. In a press conference with several national news outlets after the bill passed, Rush said that the image of Till in his casket "created an indelible imprint on my brain, on my spirit," which was part of his motivation for the bill's name.

"It made me conscious of the risk, the trepidation of being a black man in America," Rush said in the same press conference.

While there are no recently recorded lynchings, sponsors of the bill said its passage is incredibly important. On social media, Rush thanked his colleagues who helped pass the bill and said the House sent "a strong message that violence—and race-based violence, in particular—has no place in America."

If the Senate signs off on the Emmett Till Antilynching Act, it will be the first attempt to make lynching a federal hate crime since 1900 to succeed in both the House and the Senate. The most recent attempt was last year when the Senate passed its similar anti-lynching bill.

Mississippi has had more lynching victims than other Southern states and highest lynching rate per capita from 1877 to 1950. During that time period, 654 people were lynched in the state, many of whom were black men like Till, and the per capita rate from those years is 0.62. If the bill is signed into law, anyone found guilty of lynching would face up to life in prison.



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OLIVIA SCHWAB / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Fill-Up with Billups has been closed indefinitely by Oxford building officials until structural damage is assessed.

## SQUARE continued from page 1

contacted Carter early Sunday morning with reports of a loud popping sound in the restaurant, which remained open until 2 a.m. that day. OPD noted “deflection and sponginess” in a public use area of the floor. Deflection is an unlevel surface caused by structural strain, and sponginess indicates a floor that does not have adequate support.

Carter evaluated the restaurant, but he could not access the underside of the floor to determine whether there is any structural damage. He has requested access from the restaurant to examine under the floor and determine the cause of the issue.

“(How soon the restaurant can reopen) depends entirely on (the owners of the restaurant),” Carter said. “I don’t want these guys to (be) shut down any longer than they absolutely have to be. If I could’ve figured out a way to keep it safe for the public, I wouldn’t have closed them to start with.”

Carter, who has the final say to allow the restaurant to reopen, will inspect the damages again with a structural engineer to determine what must be done, and

again after the repairs, to ensure they were sufficient for public use. He suspects the issue is the floor joists, which support the floor above the basement, and if the problem is not severe, he said it can be repaired in about a week. Floor joist repairs can range from a few hundred dollars to \$10,000.

“I’ve been doing this for almost 18 years,” Carter said. “This is the first time that I’ve had this come up.”

Phillip Acosta, an engineer with W. L. Burle Engineers, an engineering consultant firm in Oxford, said that because of this type of issue, it is difficult to make estimates about the severity of the damage.

“I think it’s probably one of things where you probably don’t know how bad it is until you get in there and look at it,” Acosta said. Acosta said there are two possible issues: one with the soil, in which the ground under the restaurant is giving way, or a foundation issue, meaning that the structural integrity of the floor is giving way. If Carter is right about the floor joists, Acosta said, then it is most likely a foundation issue.

The owners of Fill-Up With Billups could not be reached by the time of publication.

# Students, faculty headline list of speakers at Tedx

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Thirteen speakers will take the stage for TEDxUniversity-ofMississippi at the Ford Center Saturday night, ranging from Beth Ann Fennelly, the Poet Laureate of Mississippi, to Pakistan native and Ocean Springs High School senior Areesha Razi.

“I am looking forward to challenging the community to think outside of the box, meanwhile engaging those thirsty for knowledge,” Kendal Outwater, a junior on the TEDx Student Planning Committee, said. “I believe TEDx will unite every demographic in a positive light.”

The event, which began at Ole Miss in 2015, gives speakers 15 minutes to tell their stories in a way that relates to a common theme. This year’s theme is “Continuum: Ideas Worth Spreading,” which also serves as the national TED slogan.

TEDx is planned entirely by the Student Planning Committee, which is made up of 12 students with the help of three fac-



FILE PHOTO: KATHERINE BUTLER / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

TEDx will take place on Saturday and feature thirteen speakers covering a variety of topics.

ulty advisors. It’s a subsidiary of the national TED organization, which started in California 30 years ago. TED hosts two annual conferences and invites some of the world’s leading minds to talk for 18 minutes or less.

Since it started, over 1,200 people have attended TEDx con-

ferences at Ole Miss, and more than 1.5 million people have watched the 34 TEDxUniversity-ofMississippi YouTube videos featuring past speakers. Of past speakers, 50% were from outside of the university, 38% were university faculty or staff and 12% have been students.

The 2020 speakers will focus on topics such as women in politics, immigration, Mexico, heart disease, poverty, ageism, music, race, migration, literacy, yellow fever and community development. Nine of the 13 speakers are teachers or students at the university or in Oxford.

Fennelly teaches in the M.F.A. program, where she was named Teacher of the Year. She has published three poetry collections and a nonfiction book, as well as a novel with her husband, Tom Franklin. She expressed her excitement to be able to elaborate on her work at TEDx.

“For me, the TEDx talk is the opportunity to distill and clarify my work over the last twenty years of teaching literature,” Fennelly said. “I’m passionately convinced that reading can change our lives for the better, and I’m looking forward to showing people how and why.”

Tallulah Jones, a junior engineering student on the Student Planning Committee, said that working with the speakers to make this event happen has been an inspiring opportunity.

“I am so excited about the opportunity to work alongside such talented people,” Jones said. “(This event) creates a bridge between the Ole Miss students and surrounding Oxford community by sharing new ideas.”

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SOFTBALL

# Rebels set to host Ole Miss Classic

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The Ole Miss softball team is set to host three teams in the Ole Miss Classic this weekend.

Jackson State, California Baptist and Missouri State come to Oxford on Friday for the ten-game tournament. Each team will face the other three once before the teams are reseeded for the semifinals.

Ole Miss will face Jackson State and California Baptist in a doubleheader on Friday before taking on Missouri State on Saturday. The semifinals will take place Saturday evening. The championship game, as well as a consolation third-place game, will be played on Sunday.

The Rebels are 6-10 this season after a solid performance at the Blazer Classic in Birmingham, Alabama, last weekend. They also defeated North Alabama at home Wednesday in a come-from-behind victory.

Already 2-0 at home this season, they look to pick up some wins against weaker opponents in their last weekend before SEC play.

None of the teams in the tournament have records above 0.500, but California Baptist and Missouri State both had narrow defeats against ranked opponents earlier in the season.

Jackson State is 6-7 on the young season, having gone 2-2 in their previous tournament. The Tigers have been plagued by inconsistency this season; eleven of their 13 games were decided by five runs or more. Three of those games were decided by margins of ten runs or more.

They play just two power conference teams this season including Friday's tilt with Ole Miss. Their other matchup came against Texas Tech in New Orleans



FILE PHOTO: REED JONES / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Paige Smith had two hits against North Alabama on Tuesday. Ole Miss will host Jackson State, California Baptist and Missouri State in the Ole Miss Classic this weekend.

on Feb. 7 when the Red Raiders came away with a 5-1 victory.

California Baptist is 5-10 this season and faces a far more difficult non-conference slate than Jackson State.

The Lancers were one of six schools who participated in the second session of the Puerto Vallarta College Challenge along with Ole Miss, No. 3 Texas, No. 20 Tennessee, Colorado State and Utah. They fell to both ranked teams but came away with a 4-2 victory over the Rebels and a 4-3 win over Colorado State.

They broke a six-game losing streak on Wednesday when they defeated San Diego State 1-0 at

home (Aztecs fans can rest easy knowing their men's hoops team is still top-5 in the nation).

Missouri State enters Friday's action having played only nine games this season. The Bears are 3-6 but have not played since Feb. 15 when they lost the second half of a doubleheader against North Texas after defeating UT-Martin earlier in the day.

They participated in the NFCA Division I Leadoff Classic on opening weekend, one of three schools in the 15-team field that did not hail from a power conference. Their only game against a ranked opponent came on Feb. 7 when they were narrowly

defeated in a 1-0 loss to No. 18 Minnesota.

The Bears are sure to be rusty after taking nearly two weeks off, but they may be the toughest competition for the Rebs come Saturday.

Ole Miss is in a position to get themselves above .500 for the first time this season with an undefeated weekend, but needs to be locked in against multiple underrated mid-majors if they want to get back on track before conference play begins.

The Rebels start their weekend against Jackson State on Friday at 3:30 p.m. in the Ole Miss softball complex.

BASEBALL

# Ole Miss travels to North Carolina

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The Ole Miss baseball team will take its first road trip this weekend to Greenville, North Carolina, for the Keith Leclair Classic.

The Rebels will face High Point on Friday, East Carolina on Saturday and Indiana on Sunday. The team hasn't lost since the season opener against then-top-ranked Louisville, climbing to the No. 15 spot in the latest poll from D1Baseball.com.

No. 21 East Carolina will be the only top-25 competition at the invitational, but the Rebels will get their first taste of baseball away from Swayze Field. The trip will be an opportunity for head coach Mike Bianco to take a look at his roster before they open SEC play against No. 11 LSU on March 13.

The first thing to watch this weekend is for the starting rotation to remain dominant. The weekend pitchers sat down the Xavier lineup last weekend, allowing only three total runs in the series.

Bianco will also keep an eye on the bullpen. While the starting pitchers excel, the relievers have been hit or miss. Wes Burton, Drew McDaniel, Max Cioffi, Austin Miller and Braden Forsyth are just a few that have the opportunity to work through some innings this weekend.

A few position players will also get opportunities in the invitational. The whole outfield is still up for grabs, so expect plenty of young faces to play. Jerrion Ealy, Cade Sammons and John Rhys Plumlee should make appearances, and midweek hero Hayden Leatherwood will get work in the outfield.

The Rebels will open the weekend on Friday against High Point. First pitch on Friday is set for 11 a.m.

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MEN'S BASKETBALL



FILE PHOTO: BILLY SCHUERMAN / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Blake Hinson missed much of the early part of the season because of a blood abnormality.

# How Hinson can bounce back

**JAMES MINZESHEIMER**  
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There have been many interesting storylines with the struggling Ole Miss basketball team: Breein Tyree's scoring rein, the emergence of Devontae Shuler as a primary facilitator and the nickname "Dude Collum" for freshman forward Antavion Collum. But one thing that stands out for the Rebels this year is the play of Blake Hinson.

Prior to the season starting, Hinson's role with the team was limited as he was dealing with a blood abnormality. After discovering this and feeling unwell, he returned home for a brief period of time.

Despite all of the problems surrounding his health — and those issues drawing him away from the team — he has put together a strong sophomore campaign, but this does not come without its drawbacks.

Hinson is a very hot-and-cold, on-and-off type of player, which can lead to one of two options: the side of Hinson that erupted for 26-points on the road against rival Mississippi State or the side of Hinson who has been shooting 26-percent from three at away games this year.

Even though he is listed as a guard, he does not play as a typical guard. He does

not generally hold the ball for very long, and he does not provide ball handling or facilitation. The reason Hinson is on the floor is for spacing and shooting reasons.

Even though Hinson is on the floor for shooting, he has yet to surpass the 35-40% from behind the arc clip that marks an efficient and effective three-point shooter. Because of this and the types of shots he

The last game Hinson got off to a hot start — he made a three and a long jumper early — but after that, he did not contribute much besides fouls.

Hinson has a chance to be a real force on this team, and, with his ability to score and his athleticism, he could be an absolute animal for what thus far is looking like a depleted Rebel team next year. If he is able to re-tool, and the team is able to make the necessary adjustments, you could be looking at the next great shooter in the SEC.

When asked in late January about how he can impact the game, besides from shooting three, he

**"(I have) done more than impact the game with shooting threes, but when I watch film, (I see) there's a million and one things I could have did to help the team be in a better situation."**

- Blake Hinson  
Sophomore forward

takes, the comparison to NBA-journeyman J.R. Smith is drawn.

J.R. Smith is more than an NBA player; he is a personality. He draws the ire of NBA memes and Twitter. Although he and Hinson do not necessarily compare in that aspect, when you look at stats and the shots they take, the comparison becomes evident.

Smith and Hinson are both unconscious shooters, meaning defense and depth do not faze them for the most part. While it can be good for a player to be confident, this player is generally only good for their team if they are hot and hitting shots.

said, "(I have) done more than impact the game with shooting threes, but when I watch film, (I see) there's a million and one things I could have did to help the team be in a better situation. So there's no such thing as good enough, the only good enough is winning. I got to figure out what more I can do to win."

And then maybe, just maybe, the J.R. Smith comparison will fade away, and Hinson will no longer be known as the crazy confident shooter for this disappointing Ole Miss team. Perhaps he will be known as Blake Hinson, one of the SEC's great shooters.

## PUTTING

*continued from page 1*

up to the ball, I couldn't even see the hole because it was a black background and a black hole, so I said, 'Where's the hole?'"

"If (the put curved), I'd be in trouble. I wouldn't be able to make a two-foot putt."

Since the electric putt, Wakefield has been invited to Reb Talk at Boure with David Kellum featuring Lane Kiffin and has also gotten calls from Inside Edition, Fox News and Access Hollywood among other programs, with her daughter acting as her agent.

She also made an appearance on ESPN as No. 1 on the Sportscenter Top-10 Plays of the Week. The new Ole Miss legend said that she was just as surprised as anyone when she made the putt.

"I'm a terrible golfer.

My husband taught me to golf when I was in my 50s," she said. "I could hit the ball pretty good, but once I got close to the green I just blew everything. I mean, really, my putting was terrible. That was just a miracle last Saturday."

Wakefield was a bright spot in Ole Miss' 103-78 blowout loss to Alabama on Saturday night.

"That's the best thing I saw in the second half — her making the putt and winning the car. So congratulations to Mary Ann," head coach Kermit Davis said after the loss.

With one swing of the putter, Wakefield became a legend on national television and on the Ole Miss campus, and we're sure to see her face on a Club Red student section t-shirt next season.

"It's unbelievable," she said. "I know my daughter told me there's over 3 million 'twitters,' and I don't even Twitter."

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# Art crawl connects Oxford

**ELEANOR HOOVER**  
thedmfeatures@gmail.com

On Tuesday evening the Yoknapatawpha Arts Council hosted the monthly Oxford Art Crawl, featuring art exhibits at six different locations around Oxford.

At the University of Mississippi Museum, the “Mississippi Women” exhibit was a highlight for attendees. The exhibit highlighted works from 15 female Mississippi artists of the 20th century.

“BIRDS” was featured at Southside Gallery on the Square during the art crawl. This exhibit has been on display since Jan. 28 and will be closing Feb. 29.

Event-goer Caleb Whittington said he came to the art crawl because it presents an opportunity to see more of the city, as well as a different side of it. “I think these types of events are a good way to actually get people involved and walking around, not just to go to stores, and I think that’s really good for the community,” Whittington said.

Brooke P. Alexander, a visiting assistant professor of foundations in the university’s art department, was featured at Southside’s gallery. Her piece, “A Wake,” is currently on display, as have been many of her works in the past.

Adrienne Brown-David’s “Fly” is also displayed on a gallery wall. Brown-David is an Oxford resident, and her work has been on display in various locations around Oxford before.

On display at the Powerhouse, as a contributor to the SmART Show exhibit, was Alba Rocio Harrelson’s various acrylic dyads. As a career biologist, Harrelson described biology as her work and



NANCY MANROE / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

The Oxford Art Crawl is on the fourth Tuesday of every month from January to October. The art is presented by local artists and galleries from around Oxford.

art as her love.

“As a biologist, my artwork is definitely inspired by nature and the natural world, but also (by) the world around me, like the laboratories I spend so much time in,” Harrelson said.

At the center of Harrelson’s pieces is the idea of space and spatial awareness.

“(Audiences can) create their own interpretations of what the pieces mean and how they interact with each other,” Harrelson said.

Harrelson also explained her sometimes deliberate choice of connecting the space between two images. She spoke about an acrylic dyad of two birds called “Twilight Twittering.”

“(The birds) can be in line with each other on the tree, facing away from each other and arguing or facing each other in conversation,” Harrelson said.

Olivia Whittington, Kirstie Manning and Debbie Myers are among other artists also featured at the Powerhouse SmART Show.

“This is the easiest way to go

see Jan Murray’s show and not have to park on Thursday night at the opening,” attendee Maggie Wetters said.

Jan Murray, associate dean of liberal arts and professor of art, featured the exhibit “Lost + Found” at Gallery 130 in Meek Hall. Murray has worked on her prints for seven years, and the exhibit will be officially open to the public on Feb. 27.

Wetters also mentioned the potential benefits events like the art crawl have on the Oxford community.

“I wish more people were involved in it and it would be advertised around town more, but that’s a challenge in itself,” said Wetters. “It is wonderful to see what each place has to offer. It is a really nice, varied experience.”

The art crawl is open to the community and occurs every third Tuesday of the month. Transportation is provided by the Double Decker bus between various exhibits around Oxford. Food and beverages are provided at each venue.

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**ACROSS**

- Muscle injury;
- Gives a hoot;
- Cupola;
- Upper hand;
- Get the better of;
- Slaughter in Cooperstown;
- Stains;
- Stands for;
- Trims;
- Truman of literature;
- Twinned;
- Quote;
- Like grams and liters;
- Lout;
- Flat sound;
- Spillane’s “ \_\_\_ Jury”;
- Reckoning;
- Carry;
- Never, in Nuremberg;
- Adj. modifier;
- Man-mouse connector;
- Sicilian smoker;
- Shakespearean sprite;
- Doozy;
- Mariners can sail on seven of these;
- Cedar Rapids college;

**DOWN**

- Abbreviation of the name Edward;
- Dreyer’s partner in ice cream;
- Era;
- Breathe;
- Make right;
- On \_\_\_-to-know basis;
- Gym counts;
- Where It’s at;
- State in detail;
- Most profound;
- \_\_\_ account (never);
- Feminist Lucretia;
- “ \_\_\_ quam videri”

**46- “Gunsmoke” star;**  
**48- Witnessed;**  
**50- Furry swimmers;**  
**51- Still;**  
**54- Sporting blades;**  
**55- Canopy bed, e.g.;**  
**57- Mal de \_\_\_;**  
**61- Work without \_\_\_;**  
**62- Collection of Hindu aphorisms;**  
**63- Chieftain, usually in Africa;**  
**64- Beatty Oscar film;**  
**65- Peer;**  
**66- School orgs.;**

**SOLUTION TO 2.26.20 PUZZLE**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14				15					16				
17				18					19				
			20	21				22					
		23	24					25					
26						27			28	29	30	31	
32					33	34					35		
36						37					38		
39			40						42		43		
44						45			46	47			
			48	49					50				
51	52	53						54					
55						56				57	58	59	60
61						62					63		
64						65						66	

(North Carolina’s motto);  
19- Watched the kids;  
21- Jackie’s second;  
23- Diminutive;  
24- Goddess of wisdom;  
25- Have a cow?;  
26- Floating bombs;  
27- Blast from the past;  
29- Oklahoman;  
30- Accent;  
31- Singes;  
34- Biblical brother;  
40- Declares positively;  
41- Vinegary;  
42- Situated on the side;  
43- Ragtime dance;  
47- Hwy.;  
49- Mentalist’s claim;  
50- Musical drama;  
51- Yonder;  
52- Muscle quality;  
53- Regretted;  
54- Famous last words;  
56- Arab market;  
58- CPR specialist;  
59- Carrere of “Wayne’s World”;  
60- Sounds of hesitation;

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

### 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

### EASY

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



# OPINION

## Mississippians and legislators must act to abolish IHL

**LYDIA JOHNSEY**  
thedmopinion@gmail.com

Can we trust the governor of Mississippi to do what's best for the faculty, staff, and students of the state's universities— even if that means signing away his power? Probably not. The only hope we have in lessening the power of the Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL) is in Congress.

The fiasco of an appointment process conducted by the IHL last October is still a fresh wound felt deeply here at the University of Mississippi. However, it was not the IHL's only less-than-smooth transition; appointments at Jackson State also caused controversy. Chancellor Glenn Boyce's appointment was just the straw that broke the camel's back. Now, the state legislature is calling the integrity of the IHL

into question, and it is our responsibility as members of the LOU community to lead the fight.

Under Mississippi's current system, the members of the IHL board are appointed by the Governor of Mississippi. The board members have the power to conduct processes for certain positions at each of the state's universities. For the first time in Mississippi state history, the current board members of the IHL were all appointed by the same governor. It does not take an expert in politics to see where this could give way for an imbalance of power.

Ole Miss students have held protests on campus, and faculty have voted "no confidence" in IHL board members. Both have expressed their outrage to Mississippi congressmen, and with four IHL board members' terms set to expire in 2021, our lawmakers are beginning to feel the pressure for reform

in the 2020 session.

On Tuesday, February 25, Congressman Trey Lamar informed Mississippians of his much-needed plan for reform. He proposed an amendment to the Mississippi Constitution, limiting the governor's power to appoint board members of the IHL.

Although the details of the policies are unclear, there is much to be said about the reformation process. First, for an amendment, a concurrent resolution must pass with the approval of two-thirds of the lawmakers in both the House and Senate. From there, the amendment would be up for vote on a statewide ballot.

But the process isn't finished there. The change to the Mississippi Constitution would mandate a change in state law, so a separate bill would also need to come to the house floor. If passed by a simple majority in both houses, the bill would eventually be placed on the

governor's desk, where it will likely be vetoed-- we wouldn't expect Governor Reeves to turn over his power so easily.

Although it seems like the struggle for reform is predicted to be all-for-naught, this attempt is still important. Raising awareness about the flaws in Mississippi's governance and politics is our best hope in enacting change. This opportunity to propose an amendment prompts policymakers from other states to evaluate the institutionalism so deeply embedded in Mississippi.

This will take work from all students and faculty. Members of the state legislature need to be made aware of the vitality of this amendment. A simple phone call to your state legislator will go a long way. This is our best hope in overturning the governor's seemingly-guaranteed veto and seeing the change for which we've been waiting patiently

*Lydia Johnsey is a freshman international studies major from Fayetteville, Tennessee..*

### Opinion Policies:

Columns do not represent the views of The University of Mississippi or The Daily Mississippian. The Daily Mississippian welcomes letters to the editor, which should be emailed to [dmletters@olemiss.edu](mailto:dmletters@olemiss.edu). Letters should be no longer than 300 words. They may be edited for clarity, brevity and libel. Third-party letters and those with pseudonyms or no name will not be published. Letters are limited to one per individual per month. Letters should include contact information, including relationship to the university, if applicable.



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# SILENCE

*continued from page 1*

to an appointment even if you haven't gone before, (if) you're nervous or anything, just go. There's nothing bad about trying it at least once."

Send Silence Packing, an event started by Active Minds in 2008, is a public display in which backpacks are laid out and attached with the biographies of students who have committed suicide. Various groups also set up tables to provide information and resources to interested students.

Active Minds is a national non-profit organization that focuses on mental health awareness, support and education for young adults. More than 500 chapters are present in high schools and college campuses across the United States.

"Mental health is a really important issue that I think a lot of college students struggle with and are scared to talk about because of the stigma," Nikki Sullivan, the president of Active Minds, said. The senior biology major from Birmingham, Alabama, has been a member of the organization since her freshman year.

"I think it's really important that we do something to change the conversation and let people know that help is real and available," she said. "I would just advise anyone that if they're struggling, the brave thing to do is ask for help ... Vulnerability is our



OLIVIA SCHWAB / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

UM Active Minds hosted its third "Send Silence Packing" event in the Grove on Wednesday. The exhibit is held to bring awareness to suicide prevention.

most accurate measure of courage and strength."

A study published by the Journal of Affective Disorders, a peer-reviewed medical journal, labels suicide as the second-leading cause of death, with approximately 1,100 deaths by suicide each year. Research from the 2017 National Survey on Drug Use and Health and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration shows that suicidal thoughts and

attempts are highest among people aged 18-25, 10.5% and 1.9%, respectively.

The University of Mississippi's counseling center offers a number of services, including individual sessions, group therapy and couples counseling. Their website also houses an extensive directory of doctors and services in Oxford and links to information about mental health in the workplace or for minorities.

Tangela Foster, an allied

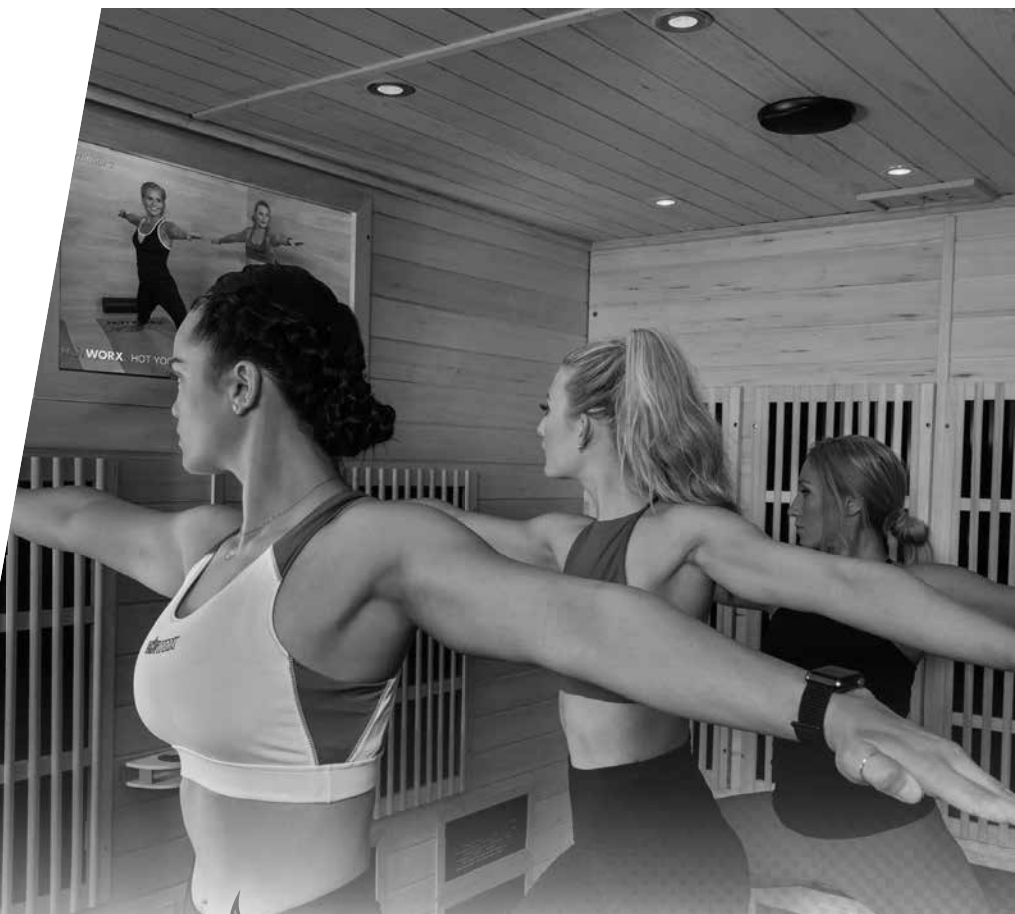
health studies major from Jackson, believes that mental health resources are especially important for students of color.

"Not being the majority on campus ..." she said, "you may overwork yourself trying to make sure you feel important." She added that it's challenging to go to the counseling center since there are few counselors of color, which makes it difficult for them to understand her side of a struggle.

"But they're trying to bring more therapists of color in," Foster said. "So, I applauded them for that."

Students can expect familiar events from Active Minds, such as yoga in the Grove, tabling and more, in April for Mental Awareness Week. Anyone interested in getting involved with the organization can follow it on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook and contact them to be added to their email list.

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