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4-4-2003

## MWP Newsletter, 2003 (April 4)

University of Mississippi. Department of English

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## Welcome to the Mississippi Writers Page Newsletter for April 4-10, 2003

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### THIS WEEK in MISSISSIPPI LITERARY HISTORY

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The following events all happened during this week in Mississippi history.

Year:

**1682:** Following a journey down the Mississippi River from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico, **Robert Cavalier, Sieur de La Salle**, claims the entire Mississippi River watershed for France and names it Louisiana in honor of King Louis XIV. (April 9)

**1862:** The Battle of Shiloh, the first major battle in the western theater of the American Civil War, began near Pittsburgh Landing along the Tennessee River, a few miles north of Corinth, Mississippi. The attacking Confederates on this first day were initially victorious, pushing Union troops under the command of Ulysses S. Grant back to a line of defenses near the river, although the Confederate commanding general, Albert Sidney Johnston, was hit in the leg and bled to death as his personal surgeon attended to other wounded. (April 6)

**1862:** The Battle of Shiloh concluded with a Union counterattack that overwhelmed Confederate forces under General Pierre G. T. Beauregard, who succeeded Albert Sidney Johnston as commander after his death on the first day of the battle. The Confederate forces retreated to Corinth, Mississippi, and then to Tupelo, Mississippi. (April 7)

**1911:** Theologian **H. Leo Eddleman** was born in Morgantown, Mississippi. (April 4)

**1925:** [William Faulkner](#) published "Cheest" in the New Orleans *Times-Picayune*. (April 5)

**1937:** Historian **James W. Hammack Jr.** was born in Scooba, Mississippi. (April 5)

**1940:** Historian **Eric N. Moody** was born in Vicksburg, Mississippi. (April 4)

**1942:** Historian **John Worthington Jeffries** was born in Oxford, Mississippi. (April 6)

**1967:** *The Wishing Tree*, by [William Faulkner](#), was published in the *Saturday Evening Post*. (April 8)

**1939:** Historian **Jimmie Lewis Franklin** was born in Moscow, Mississippi. (April 10)

**1951:** Journalist [Frank Trippett](#) married Betty Timberlake. (April 6)

**1953:** Children's author **Jerdine Nolen** was born in Crystal Springs, Mississippi. (April 6)

**1955:** *The Bride of the Innisfallen and Other Stories* by [Eudora Welty](#) was published by Harcourt, Brace and Company in New York. (April 6)

**1967:** *The Wishing Tree*, by [William Faulkner](#), was published in the *Saturday Evening Post*. (April 8)

**1981:** Journalist **Mark Foster Ethridge** died after several strokes in Chatham County, North Carolina. (April 5)

**2000:** A new play by [Beth Henley](#), *Family Week*, opened at the Off-Broadway Century Theatre for the Performing Arts in New York, starring Angelina Phillips, Rose Gregorio, and Carol Kane, and directed by Ulu Grosbard. It closed after one week. (April 10)

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### NEWS about MISSISSIPPI WRITERS

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Do you have a news item about a Mississippi writer? Please send your information to [mwp@olemiss.edu](mailto:mwp@olemiss.edu).

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### NEW FEATURES in the MISSISSIPPI WRITERS PAGE

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The following article was recently added to the Writer Listings:

- [Stark Young](#) (1881-1963)

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### NEW BOOKS by Mississippi Writers

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Crossed Bones

By [Carolyn Haines](#)

Delacorte Press (Hardcover, \$23.95, ISBN: 0385336594)

Publication date: April 2003

**Description from *Booklist*:**

Reluctant southern belle and PI Sarah Booth Delaney is hired by Ida Mae Keys to exonerate Scott Hampton, the man who is accused of killing Ida's husband, blues pianist Ivory Keys. Hampton, a former racist and Ivory's protege, maintains his innocence, but the murder weapon and some bloodstained cash are found in his possession. Hampton's offensive attitude and lack of cooperation hinder Sarah Booth, but she perseveres despite the rising racial tension in her rural Mississippi community. Sarah Booth's life is further complicated by her attraction to Sheriff Coleman Peters, who has just returned to his wife to try to save his marriage. Despite the serious issues addressed in the story, the mood is lightened by the commentary of Sarah's partner, Tinkie,



and the ghost of her great-great-grandmother's nanny, both of whom believe that Sarah Booth should be wedded and bedded. Sarah Booth is a charming, likable hero, and this fourth installment of her series continues to provide a vivid snapshot of southern life. —*Sue O'Brien. Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved.*

Sixth Inning in Southaven

By **Phil Hardwick**

Quail Ridge Press (Paperback, \$9.95, ISBN: 1893062406)

Publication date: October 2002

**Description from the publisher:**

Jack Boulder's personal world comes apart after his high school sweetheart rejects his marriage proposal, a police officer issues him a speeding ticket and he gets arrested for murder—all in the same day. He can do little about the first two problems, but Mississippi's premier private investigator faces prosecution for a crime he did not commit unless he finds out who really killed a local baseball coach. His clues are found in cryptic messages based on the score in the top of the sixth inning of certain games at Snowden Grove Park, a youth baseball Mecca in Southaven, Mississippi.

Phil Hardwick loves a good mystery. Early in his career he solved real ones as a police officer and state investigator. *Sixth Inning in Southaven* is the ninth volume in his Mississippi Mysteries Series, a collection of exciting novellas which unfold in various locations throughout Mississippi. Phil is an award-winning columnist whose column appears in the *Mississippi Business Journal*. He and his family reside in Jackson.

Escape from Heart

By **Lynette Stark**

Harcourt, Brace (School & Library Binding, \$17.00, ISBN: 0152023852)

Reading level: Young adult

Publication date: October 2000

**Description:**

Heart Colony, founded as a Mennonite community striving to be close to God and nature, becomes a place of fear, denial, and injustice under the cruel and evil direction of a new leader, Hezekiel Whittenstone. Sarah Ruth Heart wants one simple thing—to compete in the countywide spelling bee—but her uncle Hezekiel refuses to allow it. Sarah Ruth struggles with her desire to attend school and compete in the spelling bee, to be attractive to the boy she secretly likes, and to overstep the boundaries dictated by the repressive Hezekiel. Her secret rebellion brings danger to herself and her family, and Sarah Ruth is forced to make difficult decisions about her future—with consequences that are more far-reaching than she ever could have imagined.

Lynette Stark has taught high school and junior high school for sixteen years. She lives in Mississippi. *Escape from Heart* is her first novel.



**AUTHOR EVENTS: Book Signings, Readings, and Appearances**

**April 10-13: Johnson Commons, The University of Mississippi, Oxford, Mississippi**

The Oxford Conference for the Book. For program and registration information, visit the conference web site, [www.olemiss.edu/depts/south/ocb/](http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/south/ocb/).

**April 16: Barnard Observatory lecture hall, The University of Mississippi, Oxford, Mississippi, 12 p.m.**

Brown Bag Lunch & Lecture: "Keeping the Blues: The University of Mississippi's Blues Archive," by Greg Johnson, Blues Archive curator and assistant professor of library science. Sponsored by the Center for the Study of Southern Culture, [www.olemiss.edu/depts/south/](http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/south/).

**April 23: Barnard Observatory lecture hall, The University of Mississippi, Oxford, Mississippi, 12 p.m.**

Brown Bag Lunch & Lecture: "Traditional Music of North Mississippi: A Documentary Project of the Mississippi Arts Commission," by Wiley Prewitt, project director, Lodi, Mississippi. Sponsored by the Center for the Study of Southern Culture, [www.olemiss.edu/depts/south/](http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/south/).

**April 23-25: 309 N. Lamar Blvd (next door to Bouré), Oxford, Mississippi, 8 p.m.; April 27, 2 p.m.**

Annual 10 Minute Play Festival features full productions of 10-minute plays by local authors. Sponsored by Oxford Screenwriters. Tickets are \$8.00. For more information, please contact Pamela Massey, (662) 234-7290, [pmassey@nautiluspublishing.com](mailto:pmassey@nautiluspublishing.com).

**April 30: Barnard Observatory lecture hall, The University of Mississippi, Oxford, Mississippi, 12 p.m.**

Brown Bag Lunch & Lecture: "Darkness on the Delta: A Black & White History in 8MM from the Pepper Collection of the Southern Media Archive," by Margaret Pepper Grantham, Oxford librarian. Sponsored by the Center for the Study of Southern Culture, [www.olemiss.edu/depts/south/](http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/south/).

*If you know of upcoming literary events by or about Mississippi writers, please let us know by writing us at [mwp@olemiss.edu](mailto:mwp@olemiss.edu).*

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Latest issue of *The Southern Register* now online**

The Winter 2003 issue of *The Southern Register*, newsletter of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi, is now available on the Center's web site, [www.olemiss.edu/depts/south/](http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/south/). To go straight to this issue, point your web browser at [www.olemiss.edu/depts/south/register/winter03/index.htm](http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/south/register/winter03/index.htm).

*Send your Mississippi writer-related announcements to [mwp@olemiss.edu](mailto:mwp@olemiss.edu).*

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**ON THE HORIZON**

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The following events are planned for the coming weeks and months. You may wish to begin planning now to attend or participate.

**July 20-24, 2003**

30th Annual Faulkner & Yoknapatawpha Conference, The University of Mississippi, Oxford, Mississippi. Information and registration forms available at [www.outreach.olemiss.edu/events/faulkner/](http://www.outreach.olemiss.edu/events/faulkner/).

**October 16, 2003**

Elmore Leonard, author of more than 30 novels (including *Bandits*, *Get Shorty*, and *Tishomingo Blues*), numerous film and television productions, essays and commentaries, will read and talk about his career. For more information on Leonard, visit [www.elmoreleonard.com/](http://www.elmoreleonard.com/). Elmore Leonard's new book, *When the Women Come Out to Dance*, is to be published in November 2003. Johnson Commons Ballroom, The University of Mississippi, 7 p.m. Sponsored by the John and Renee Grisham Visiting Writers Series and the Department of English at the University of Mississippi.

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If you know of additional news items for this newsletter or if you have suggestions, please write us at [mwp@olemiss.edu](mailto:mwp@olemiss.edu).

For more information about events in the Oxford and University of Mississippi community, see the Ole Miss Community Calendar: [www.olemiss.edu/calendar/](http://www.olemiss.edu/calendar/)

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