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MWP Newsletter, 2003 (June 27)

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Welcome to the Mississippi Writers Page Newsletter for June 27-July 3, 2003

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THIS WEEK in MISSISSIPPI LITERARY HISTORY

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

Year:

1895: Schoolteacher, journalist and author [Ida B. Wells](#) married Ferdinand L. Barnett, a lawyer and newspaperman. (June 27)

1913: English professor **Rodney M. Baine** was born in Kosciusko, Mississippi. (June 30)

1925: Civil rights leader [Medgar Evers](#) was born near Decatur, Mississippi. (July 2)

1925: Sociologist **George L. Maddox, Jr.**, was born in McComb, Mississippi. (July 2)

1926: [Frank Trippett](#) was born in Columbus, Mississippi. (July 1)

1932: Presbyterian minister **Perry H. Biddle, Jr.**, was born in Meridian, Mississippi. (July 1)

1933: Foreign languages professor **William D. Horan** was born in Jackson, Mississippi. (July 1)

1934: [William Faulkner](#) left Mississippi for a three-week assignment at Universal Studios in Los Angeles. (July 1)

1941: [Richard Wright](#) accepted the Spingam Award from the NAACP at its convention in Houston. (June 27)

1944: Educator and science writer **Barrie Klaitz** was born in Biloxi, Mississippi. (July 2)

1944: Photographer and journalist **Mary Ann Wells** was born in Mississippi. (July 2)

1948: Documentarian and memoirist [Edward Cohen](#) was born in Jackson, Mississippi. (July 3)

1959: *Night of the Iguana* by [Tennessee Williams](#) was performed as a one-act play in Spoleto, Italy's Festival of Two Worlds. (July 2)

1986: Novelist [Lewis Nordan](#) married Alicia Blessing. (July 3)

1992: A statue of assassinated civil rights leader [Medgar Evers](#) was erected in his honor in

Jackson, Mississippi, where he was living at the time of his death in 1963. (June 28)

NEWS about MISSISSIPPI WRITERS

Do you have a news item about a Mississippi writer? Please send your information to mwp@olemiss.edu.

NEW BOOKS by Mississippi Writers

Sleep No More

By [Greg Iles](#)

Signet (Paperback, \$7.99, ISBN: 0451208765)

Publication date: May 2003

Description from *Publishers Weekly* :

Iles has written some solid, beautifully constructed thrillers (*24 Hours*; *Dead Sleep*), so when his latest seems for page after page to have no logical explanation for its central mystery, we hold on, bide our time and wait for the moment of revelation that will make everything fall into place. Unfortunately, that moment never comes. The puzzle of how a woman who has been dead for 10 years can suddenly appear in the body of another woman turns out not to be a mystery at all. It's a whole other genre horror or fantasy or science fiction.

Iles fans will certainly enjoy the way he once again brings to piquant life his home turf Natchez and the Mississippi Delta and creates a character with an actual job. John Waters is a petroleum geologist, and the details of his work are carefully rendered. He's a happily married man of 41 with a bright eight-year-old daughter, although his sex life has all but disappeared in the wake of several disastrous pregnancies. So he's ready to be pushed over the edge by the sudden appearance of Eve Sumner, a 32-year-old real estate agent who seems to know every intimate detail of Waters's youthful affair with the late Mallory Candler, a mentally fragile beauty queen who was subsequently raped and murdered in New Orleans.

The game gets really serious when Eve is also murdered. Possibilities abound: John's weak and financially reckless partner might be behind the whole thing, and even Waters's embittered wife could be a suspect. Readers will probably stick around to see how Iles gets himself off the hook, but it's hard to imagine many of them coming away completely satisfied. —*Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc.*

Sleep No More



AUTHOR EVENTS: Book Signings, Readings, and Appearances

July 20-24: The University of Mississippi, Oxford, Mississippi

30th Annual Faulkner & Yoknapatawpha Festival: "Faulkner and the Ecology of the South." Information and registration forms available at www.outreach.olemiss.edu/events/faulkner/.

August 15: Square Books, Oxford, Mississippi, 5 p.m.

Best-selling Mississippi mystery writer [Greg Iles](#) returns to sign and read from his latest suspense novel, *The Footprints of God*. For more information, visit www.squarebooks.com.

September 4: Square Books, Oxford, Mississippi, 5 p.m.

Dr. Ann Fisher-Wirth, University of Mississippi professor of English, will read from her collection of poems entitled *Blue Window*. For more information, visit www.squarebooks.com.

September 16: Square Books, Oxford, Mississippi

[Larry Brown](#) signs and reads from his unusual, new novel, *The Rabbit Factory*. For more information, visit www.squarebooks.com.

If you know of upcoming literary events by or about Mississippi writers, please let us know by writing us at mwp@olemiss.edu.

ON THE HORIZON

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

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/. 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.

February 12, 2004

Reading and lecture by [Richard Ford](#). 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.

If you know of additional news items for this newsletter or if you have suggestions, please write us at 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/

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Send comments to mwp@olemiss.edu.

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