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## MWP Newsletter, 2003 (August 22)

University of Mississippi. Department of English

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## Welcome to the Mississippi Writers Page Newsletter for August 22-28, 2003

### *In this issue:*

- [This week](#) in Mississippi Literary History
- [New books](#) by Mississippi writers
- [Author events](#): readings, book signings, and appearances
- [On the horizon](#): events coming up in the weeks and months ahead

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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:

**1928:** Columnist and teacher **Ewilda Fancher** was born in Houston, Mississippi. (Aug. 22)

**1930:** Theologian **Harmon L. Smith** was born in Ellisville, Mississippi. (Aug. 23)

**1931:** Baptist minister and broadcaster **Nelson Lynn Price** was born in Osyka, Mississippi. (Aug. 24)

**1935:** Educator **Anne H. Adams** was born in Hamilton, Mississippi. (Aug. 25)

**1939:** Fiction writer [Lewis Nordan](#) was born in Jackson, Mississippi. (Aug. 23)

**1939:** Political scientist **Harold R. Rodgers, Jr.**, was born in Columbus, Mississippi. (Aug. 25)

**1942:** Medical doctor and writer **John M. Smith** was born in Laurel, Mississippi. (Aug. 23)

**1944:** Medical writer **Donald M. Vickery** was born in Brookhaven, Mississippi. (Aug. 22)

**1944:** [Murry Falkner](#), brother of [William](#) and [John Faulkner](#), married Suzanne Coqterre. (Aug. 24)

**1949:** Historian **Thomas D. Cockrell** was born in Mississippi. (Aug. 26)

**1960:** [William Faulkner](#) accepted an appointment to the University of Virginia faculty. (Aug. 25)

**1973:** *Flags in the Dust*, an uncut version of the novel *Sartoris* by [William Faulkner](#), was published for the first time by Random House, more than 40 years after the original novel was published. (Aug. 22)

**1977:** Singer and writer [Jimmy Buffett](#) married his second wife, Jane Slagsvol. (Aug. 27)

**1982:** Historian **George C. Osborn** died. (Aug. 23)

**1989:** The opera *Pamelia*, libretto by [Linda Peavy](#) and Ursula Smith, was first performed in Billings, Montana. (Aug. 25)

**1992:** Spanish professor **Reginald C. Reindorp** died in Purvis, Mississippi. (Aug. 27)

**1998:** Country comedian **Jerry Clower** died in Jackson, Mississippi, five days after undergoing heart bypass surgery. (Aug. 24)

### NEW BOOKS by Mississippi Writers

The Hit

By **Jere Hoar**

Context Books (Hardcover, \$24.95, ISBN: 1893956342)

Publication date: March 2003

**Description from *Publishers Weekly* :**

Hoar makes a crackling debut (after the story collection *Body Parts*) with this Southern noir thriller about a decorated Vietnam vet up to no good in Mississippi. Luke Carr is locked away on the psychiatric ward of a VA hospital in the deep South. The diagnosis is post-traumatic stress disorder. The therapy consists of a series of notebooks in which Luke is supposed to tell his story “using colored pencils—pastels when I am unsure, darker colors for certainties.” Through these notebooks, Luke records his post-Vietnam downfall, as the bookish, sensitive vet becomes a gun for hire.

After returning home from his three tours in Southeast Asia, the solitary, disturbed Luke plots to steal art from Tom Morris, a wealthy businessman and collector. Along the way he encounters Morris’s wife, Kinnerly, the former love of his life. Predictably, they resume the affair they’d ended years ago as students at Ole Miss. Within six weeks, the scheming Kinnerly has Luke convinced that offing her husband is the only decent thing to do. But soon another local rich guy, Jeff Ballard, also offers Luke a handsome payment for a hit on Tom. Luke discovers that Jeff and Kinnerly have recently been lovers and suspects something fishy, but agrees to take the job anyway. The hit goes awry when a local farmer catches Luke red-handed and blackmails him. Soon, Luke has to kill him, too. Seduction, betrayal, revenge and surprises lurk around the corner as the lovers plot their getaway. The plot makes rapid switchback turns all the way to the last page. Readers will be rapt. —*Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc.*

The Hit



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

**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](http://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](http://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](mailto:mwp@olemiss.edu).

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## 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/](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.

### 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.

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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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