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November 2, 2017

The Daily Mississippian

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Recommended Citation

The Daily Mississippian, "November 2, 2017" (2017). *Daily Mississippian (all digitized issues)*. 220.
<https://egrove.olemiss.edu/thedmonline/220>

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MISSISSIPPIAN

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI SERVING OLE MISS AND OXFORD SINCE 1911 Visit theDMonline.com @thedm_news

'Diversity is our advantage'

Vice chancellor presents on changing attitudes, connecting values



MICHAELA WATSON
STAFF WRITER

"Often people's resistance comes from not knowing," Katrina Caldwell said to a group of 50 students in the library Wednesday night. "We have to change attitudes, change the narrative. We have to find the ways our values connect."

Caldwell, vice chancellor for diversity and community engagement, spoke about connectedness and diversity. Her lecture was part of the "Are You Ready? Dialogue Series," which aims to start conversations between students and faculty about difficult and important topics.

Hosted by the library, this week's topic was "Just Mercy," the university's 2017 Common Reading Experience book, that is required for many First-Year Experience classes.

"Just Mercy" recounts the chilling story of Walter McMillian, a young black man who was wrongfully sentenced to death for the murder of a white woman with whom he was involved.

Bryan Stevenson, author of "Just Mercy," founded and now runs the Equal Justice Initiative, an organization which, among many other things, seeks to exonerate wrongfully imprisoned people, and also to aid those who are mistreated while incarcerated.

"It's a calling for justice. I think that Bryan is an important representation of having a strong narrative of who you are as a person, and more importantly what you can contribute to the world," Caldwell said. "I think just from his story, it's clear that each of us has the capacity to make changes in the world."

Caldwell said she works to increase opportunities for all students and advocates four primary ways to affect change. She said those ways were to get close to the issue at hand, get uncomfortable, stay hopeful and finally change the narrative.

"First, you've got to get close to the issue, get proximate," Caldwell said. "To



PHOTOS BY: XINYI SONG

Katrina Caldwell speaks to students concerning connectedness and diversity Wednesday night.

create sustainable change, you have to get uncomfortable. Try something different."

At the lecture Earnest Stephens, project coordinator for the NASA Mississippi Space Grant Consortium and First-Year Experience professor, echoed Caldwell's sentiments.

"Being a change agent is never comfortable," he said.

In this discussion-based lecture, Caldwell invited students and faculty to share issues they feel are affecting Ole Miss.

Kelle Thigpen, junior pharmaceutical sciences major, cited a lack of representation in public spaces as one problem.

"When I go to the Grove, I see so much of one type of person," she said. "It's not an intentional discrimination, there's nothing stopping you from going there, but when you don't see yourself represented you're less likely to try to engage in that."

Maliah Wilkinson, sophomore communication sciences and disorders major, said that "inclusivity isn't targeted enough

on this campus."

Caldwell discussed ways to solve inequity and representation problems.

"We have to figure out the why on the personal level, and also try to understand larger societal issues that might keep people out," she said.

Caldwell also stressed the importance of persistence in trying to make change.

"Keep trying to change things even when you fail," she said. "Our first attempt might not be successful, and might even make it worse. But you have to keep trying for anything to change."

Caldwell finished the lecture with an appeal to take advantage of people's differences.

"Often in our lives, we look for categories of how people are different, we immediately see the ways we are disconnected," she said. "I'm hoping we don't have to look for crisis moments to bridge that divide. How we bridge that gap across difference makes us stronger. Diversity is our advantage."

Oxford responds to banned novel

LASHERICA THORNTON
STAFF WRITER

Through the eyes of the young Scout Finch, an audience reads about society, hatred, prejudice in the criminal justice system and the American South in Harper Lee's 1960 novel "To Kill a Mockingbird."

More than half a century after its publishing, Biloxi Public School District banned the book from its eighth-grade curriculum in early October because of offensive and derogatory language. After a national outcry declaring the importance of "To Kill a Mockingbird" as a critical look at racism, offensive language and discrimination, Biloxi officials decided parents must sign a permission slip to allow their child to read the novel. It is no longer a required part of the curriculum.

According to the Washington Post, the school district removed "To Kill a Mockingbird" because several people felt uncomfortable due to racist language in the novel.

Oxford High School principal Bradley Roberson said he is aware of the controversy in Biloxi, but Oxford High School is not following the example set in Biloxi. "To Kill a Mockingbird" will continue to be a tenth-grade curriculum text in Oxford School District.

"Here at Oxford, our teachers and students do a great job of communicating the themes of the book and the importance of what that book brings to light as far as some of the critical issues in our society," OHS assistant principal Chandler Gray said. "We haven't had any issues as far as people worried about anything in the book. Teachers do a great

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COLUMN

On-campus pedestrians deserve respect



JONATHAN LOVELADY
STAFF COLUMNIST

Driving is a privilege, but within our country, it has been consistently portrayed as more of a right. Everywhere you drive all over the state and in many other places, you see little if any sidewalk at all.

The pedestrian, in this way, has been devalued in our society to the point that in many places, merely crossing not in the lines or running after the countdown clock is already counting down could

garner you a ticket.

So, what am I getting at? Pedestrians, in general, are disrespected and disregarded even in walkable neighborhoods. I'm not denying that many pedestrians make drivers understandably angry, but a ton of metal is a dangerous thing to control and we should think of the implications of drivers navigating around pedestrians.

Our campus should be an environment where you can walk between classes (or work) and not have to risk your life to cross the street.

Let me tell you a story: You walk gracefully down the sidewalk on campus and prepare to cross the street and--boom--the car barely seems to notice but manages to screech at a devastating pace to stop. You will almost get hit three or four other times that day due to the lack of care from such drivers.

The speed limit on campus is 18 miles per hour, but that does not seem to curtail the massive amount of speeding that continues to occur. Sometimes one questions if it is even worth crossing the street, even at a moment that you feel safe.

The university is not a race track, and according to university rules, the pedestrian has the right of way. Explicitly, it says "in crosswalks," though I admit that this tends to be ignored by walkers as well.

People deserve to get to their destination safely, whether the pedestrian or the driver, and adding a few seconds to your drive or simply watching where you are going in order to slow down shouldn't be that difficult.

This is not to say that pedestrians are not at fault any time, but people should be able to be safe

when walking, whether in the crosswalk or not. With this in mind, the university should come together to discuss this problem with pedestrians and drivers and put forth ideas like putting speed bumps or road tables in place.

The pedestrian should always be a priority especially on a college campus where walking is the norm, and, though I commend the university for closing roads more than was expected, conversations should still be held regarding this issue. Even though walking seems to be discouraged in our country due to the sprawl of suburbia and rural communities, Oxford and Ole Miss are different and should be treated as such.

Jonathan Lovelady is a junior economics major from Los Angeles.

THE DAILY
MISSISSIPPIAN

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Main Number: 662.915.5503
Business Hours: Monday-Friday,
8 a.m.-5 p.m.

ISSN 1077-8667

The Daily Mississippian is published Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays in print during the academic year, on days when classes are scheduled. New content is published online seven days a week.

Columns do not represent the official opinions of The University of Mississippi or *The Daily Mississippian* unless specifically indicated.

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Letters should include phone and email contact information so that editors can verify authenticity. Letters from students should include grade classification and major; letters from faculty and staff should include title and the college, school or department where the person is employed.



MISSISSIPPI
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MEMBER NEWSPAPER

Volunteers reflect on Memory Makers experience

KIARA MANNING
STAFF WRITER

For some students, volunteering at Memory Makers has become an important part of their routine.

Senior Kayla Ladner said she makes a point to get there early in the week, because it starts everything off on a positive note.

“Volunteering at Memory Makers is an experience unlike any other community service or volunteering experience I have ever had,” Ladner said. “I always leave there as if I have made a difference in someone’s day, and I know everyone at Memory Makers has made a difference in mine.”

Memory Makers is a local organization dedicated to serving those in the community who are affected by the early stages of Alzheimer’s Dementia. The organization offers various services including respite, socialization, counseling, education and information, while giving the occupant’s caregivers a break to rest.

Because the disease affects so many families, many students volunteer with Memory Makers.

Ladner’s grandfather was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s, which prompted her to begin volunteering. She said she enjoys getting to hear stories from participants, which make her reflect on her own life.

“It really makes me sit back



PHOTO BY: MADISON WREN

Volunteers help those who are affected by the early stages of Alzheimer’s Dementia.

and do some reflection of my own,” Ladner said. “The overall experience of just getting to interact with an age group that I normally do not get to is something that I cherish.”

Each day, Memory Makers has at least three to eight volunteers. Program director Julia Burnett said she always receives a positive response from volunteers.

“Our philosophy is that nobody wants to go to a daycare but everybody likes to go to a party,” Burnett said. “The environment at Memory Makers is positive and upbeat, and both participants and volunteers enjoy the day.”

Volunteers help facilitate the various social activities Memory Makers offers. Throughout the day, participants can eat,

socialize and engage in activities like crafts or crossword puzzles to stretch their mind. Burnett said while the morning program is very consistent, they try and switch things up during the afternoon program to provide enriching and meaningful opportunities for group engagement.

“We have fun activities to enhance their days and bring them joy,” Burnett said. “We treat all our participants with the dignity and respect they deserve. We hope that our impact on them is to provide them with the highest quality of life possible while they are a part of the program.”

Junior Mary Scott Polk recently began volunteering with Memory Makers. She said their “brain stretchers” activi-

ties are some of her favorite.

“One day we were doing the ‘Finish the Bible Verse’ activity and one of the participants finished all of the 30 bible verses by herself,” Polk said. “It was incredible.”

Polk said the most rewarding part of Memory Makers is seeing participants’ faces light up when a volunteer walks into the room. She said she believes it not only help the participants, but also teaches the volunteers valuable life lessons.

“I look forward to my time at Memory Makers every Monday and Wednesday,” Polk said. “All of the participants have incredible stories that I look forward to hearing.”

Senior Leah Margaret has been volunteering at Memory Makers for two months. She

said volunteering there has reminded her of the importance of service.

“What I love the most is the loving and welcoming atmosphere and the opportunities to interact with the participants,” she said.

Margaret said her favorite activity is leading chair-yoga with the participants.

Burnett said Memory Makers constantly hears from caregivers who are grateful for the program and how it gives participants a safe and structured environment.

“I personally love that Memory Makers is such a unique place in terms of ages and life stories,” she said. “Memory Makers is a gift to Oxford.”

NOVEL

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job of teaching the curriculum and do a great job of teaching that subject area. We certainly try to do anything to educate our kids in any way possible.”

Oxford community members have defended the novel, saying it depicts an important part of history.

“From the book, I gained a representation of the past although the book was fictional,” Haley Williams, junior biology major and African American studies minor who read the book while in high school said. “It gave me a sense of the justice system and how race plays a part in how things are perceived. It’s important because our society is still reaping from such a poor justice system today.”

Williams said the past will forever be relevant and literature, fictional or not, serves as a reflection of the era it was written in.

“I feel like gaining that sense is the point of the book,” said Williams. “It isn’t meant to make you feel good. It’s supposed to make

you uncomfortable.”

Deborah Barker, an English professor with a Ph.D in English from Princeton University, has taught at Ole Miss since 1990. She said she’s rarely in favor of banning books and that the debate over “To Kill a Mockingbird” is nothing new.

Not long after the book’s debut, 11-year-old Barker said she wanted to read it, but her teacher wouldn’t approve because it dealt with rape.

“So, this is not something new. I guess, it keeps happening,” Barker said. “I think if you’re going to do that, there’s such a long list of novels you’d have to

ban. Because race has been such an integral aspect of American literature, I think the whole point of ‘To Kill a Mockingbird’ and many other works is to address it and to critique it, and if you pretend it doesn’t exist, then you don’t get rid of the problem”

Barker stressed the importance of recognizing issues such as racism and obscene racial slurs.

“I don’t see the value in, as I said, pretending that these aren’t real issues, that people don’t talk this way, that it doesn’t go on today, that it didn’t in the past,” she said. “How are you going to write about the 1930s, that period

in the American South and pretend like there were no harsh words, that people didn’t use that language?”

As a part of academia, she said she thinks people need to read it but she emphasized the need to critique it as well.

“Its problematic. How do

you deal with racial slurs in literature?” Barker said. “I don’t use the language, myself. If it’s in the passage and it’s an important passage, I can’t censor the text because it’s in there because of the power of it and it’s there to make a point.”

Tips to keep in mind when writing your first novel

SARAH SMITH
STAFF WRITER

Writing a novel in a month is a feat for anyone, but busy college life can make it that much harder. Rolling through the aspiring novelist's mind, it's hard to figure out how to succeed when you're focused on the "how."



Writing Month, here's a list of how to get started with that first draft.

Places to write

Aside from the spots one generally goes, if time permits you, find another place to write. It can be beneficial to the writing process. J.D. Williams librarian Alex Watson calls this place a "third place." Finding a writing spot that works for you and fits the feel for your novel helps. Try to find the locations that bring you joy and creativity. Watson suggests coffee shops and, of course, the library.

Keeping up with characters

Keeping up with the characters in your novel and what is happening is difficult, which is why Watson suggests keeping an "encyclopedia entry" to track everything about your characters, including what is happen-

ing in the story and things about the world you're writing about.

This is as simple as getting a notebook and writing down everything about your novel, from the shade of a protagonist's bedroom color to more complicated entries. It's about having a singular resource to go to learn anything you want about the characters you've created, even the things that aren't necessarily important to the book — they might be important to building the world you're story in written in.

Time management

Brittany Abbott, second-year senior majoring in Spanish and journalism, said she writes in her free time, in between classes, and while waiting on transportation. Any time she can stop and focus to write, she does.

"Write in the little nooks and crannies that you have: before class, on the bus, if you have a few minutes here or there," Watson said. "Set aside more time when you can. I prefer to write before bed, but I know some people

prefer to do it first thing in the morning. Even if you're doing something else, you can think about characters and scenes. Trust me, I've never been more productive as a writer than the times I should've been doing something else."

Corey Davis, sophomore English major and author of "Ollie Way," said that it's tough to find time to write in college, but sometimes she has to put off school work and just spend a little time writing if things become fairly severe writing drought.

"Writing a novel is a slow process, just don't stop and don't give up," Abbott said.

University of Mississippi Grisham Writer-in-Residence, Catherine Lacey has similar advice. Lacey said that just because you can't finish in a month doesn't mean you're not a writer — it just means that's not the way you write. Don't get too hooked on doing things how people

tell you to, but more focus on what works for you as a writer, she said.

This isn't a get rich quick scheme — it's a novel, so writing it will take time beyond the month of November. Don't get discouraged and remember that the road to writing a book is a long one. Planning and recognizing the small pieces in between classes and staying focused on your writing goals will help get a draft of a novel written in a month. In the end, remember that writing the first draft is the first step to becoming the novelist you one day hope to be.



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Gallery invites Oxford to celebrate Day of the Dead

HANNAH HURDLE
STAFF WRITER

The Oxford Treehouse Gallery is giving Lafayette County and Oxford residents the opportunity to celebrate, remember and memorialize passed loved ones for the Day of the Dead at 6 p.m. today.

“We loved the idea of celebrating life and beauty and a little bit of [the] morbid,” gallery assistant Shannon Curtis said. “Between all of us who work at the gallery, we’ve experienced a lot of loss this year, family members and friends, so we wanted to work through that grief by celebrating life.”

For Mike Mossing, who plans on attending the event, celebrating life is exactly what the holiday is all about. Participating in the Day of the Dead tradition with his daughter after losing his wife to cancer almost four years ago, the commemorative nature of the event has stayed with him.

“I know several people who have lost parents or loved ones in the last year and sometimes you don’t know what to say or you don’t know what they need,” Mossing said. “As someone who has gone through a loss myself, it’s good to be around other people ... I think it’s good to remember people we loved and share that experience with [the] people still around us.”

Nestled in the woods out in Lafayette County, the cozy little gallery features pieces from around 20 different artists. With the entire back half of the gallery looking out at the woods surrounding the property, to comfy couches to sit on and visit while admiring the art, the gallery has a welcoming feel that makes visitors think of home and family.

It is Oxford Treehouse Gallery’s uniqueness and unconventional nature that makes it the perfect loca-



PHOTO BY: HANNAH HURDLE

The main art room at the Oxford Treehouse Gallery in Lafayette County showcases pieces by 20 different artists most of whom are from Mississippi.

tion for a Day of the Dead celebration. Not following any pattern or theme, the gallery is filled with various works of art from paintings of landscapes and sculptures of animals to pottery and even jewelry.

Curtis, along with gallery owners Vivian and Walter Neill, said she is excited to celebrate Day of the Dead because she does not recall a similar event happening in Oxford before this. The gallery aims to create a space for the community to gather and celebrate the positive things in life while being surrounded by beauty.

Curtis said they did a lot of research for the event trying not to veer into cultural appropriation by mistake. Wanting to make the event as friendly and comfortable for everyone as possible, while still following the traditions of the holiday, they decided to include an altar for departed loved ones.

According to NPR, the Day of the Dead or Dia de los Muertos, was started 3,000 years by the Aztecs to celebrate passed loved ones rather than grieve for them. Celebrating the souls’ return to the living once a year, the tradition of altars was created, which welcomed passed spirits

into the home.

The altar at the gallery will follow tradition with items such as prayer candles, flowers, bread, water and salt as well as personal items including photos, mementos and written notes brought by participants to represent their loved ones.

For Curtis, the items people bring are remembrances of those that have passed and are a way of finding peace with the ideas of life and death.

At sundown, a list of passed loved one’s names, which can be added to on the gallery’s website, will be read with the hope that the person honoring them will step forward to show their connection with that individual.

“There is something pretty meaningful just saying people’s names [out loud],” Curtis said. “Remembering what they meant to you and what they meant to the people around them.”

Since sharing food is at the root of many family gatherings, participants are also encouraged to bring the favorite foods of the departed friend or family member they are honoring for a communal potluck. The idea behind everything at the event is that all who come will be able to collectively share in the memory

of those who have departed.

Wayne Andrews, who has worked with the Oxford Treehouse Gallery in the past, felt the way the gallery is handling the holiday is more in line with the traditions surrounding the Day of the Dead rather than the usual flashy pop culture representation Americans are used to seeing.

“Often, we focus on the mourning period following the death and this is a mix of reflection, remembering, and support for those who have lost someone,” Andrews said. “I think events that build a sense of community and allow people to share strengthened bonds, connect us to others, and inspire us to stop and reflect on that which is important in our own lives.”



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First college football playoff rankings released

LOGAN CONNER
STAFF WRITER

College football fans are officially a month away from finding out which four teams will fight for the CFB National Championship in Atlanta on January 8. Nine weeks into the season, a few things have become clear.

Alabama and Georgia seem to be on a No. 1 vs. No. 2 SEC Championship collision course. Ohio State controls its own destiny for now and if Notre Dame wins out, they are a lock for one of the four playoff spots. Fans have also witnessed a number of surprising upsets this year. From Iowa State knocking off both No. 3 Oklahoma and No. 4 TCU to the mess that is commonly known as "Pac-12 After Dark," there's no shortage

of excitement.

While the AP and Coaches Polls are voted on by various analysts and coaches, the College Football Playoff Rankings (CFPR) are selected by a committee of 13 former athletic directors, coaches and NCAA executives. These rankings are based off of strength of schedule, head-to-head competition, comparative outcomes of common opponents and, at the end of the season, championships won. Most importantly, these rankings determine which four teams make the College Football Playoffs. There are six CFPR rankings, the first of which was released on tonight, and only the final ranking decides which teams make the playoffs.

After much deliberation, the top four teams were re-



COURTESY: SPORTS ILLUSTRATED

vealed and, to everyone's surprise, Alabama was not number one. Instead, Georgia (8-0) found itself at the top of the CFB Playoff Rankings.

Georgia is followed by Alabama, Notre Dame, Clemson and Oklahoma, in that order. No. 2 Alabama hosts No. 19 LSU Saturday night in a game that will give the Tide a much-needed boost to their strength of schedule. No. 3 Notre Dame hosts a much-improved Wake Forest team Saturday night, while No. 4 Clemson and No. 5 Oklahoma go on the road Saturday afternoon to face top-25 opponents.

In spots six through 10, the CFP committee placed No. 6 Ohio State, No. 7 Penn State, No. 8 TCU, No. 9 Wisconsin and No. 10 Miami. After the Buckeyes' win at home against Penn State, Ohio State was placed at one spot

ahead of the No. 7 Nittany Lions. Surprising many, two of college football's undefeated teams, Wisconsin and Miami, were ranked nine and 10. Although 8-0 and 7-0 respectively, both teams lacked sufficient strength of schedule. No. 9 Wisconsin's best win came against Northwestern and No. 10 Miami's most impressive victory was a 25-24 squeaker at home against Georgia Tech.

The rest of the rankings are as follows: 11. Oklahoma State (7-1), 12. Washington (7-1), 13. Virginia Tech (7-1), 14. Auburn (6-2), 15. Iowa State (6-2), 16. Mississippi State (6-2), 17. USC (7-2), 18. UCF (7-0), 19. LSU (6-2), 20. NC State (6-2), 21. Stanford (6-2), 22. Arizona (6-2), 23. Memphis (7-1), 24. Michigan State (6-2), 25. Washington State (7-2).

With another Saturday

full of top-25 matchups, these rankings are bound-to-change and are written only in pencil. No. 7 Penn State travels to East Lansing against No. 24 Michigan State. No. 25 Washington State hosts No. 21 Stanford in an effort to cling onto the last spot in the rankings. No. 13 Virginia Tech travels to No. 10 Miami in a matchup that will likely determine who gets a trip to Orlando for the ACC Championship. In a classic #Pac12AfterDark matchup, No. 22 Arizona travels to the LA Coliseum to play No. 17 USC.

There's one thing we do know: we are a few upsets away from complete chaos in college football. A week from now, these rankings could be flipped completely upside down and we will be reminded of how much we don't know. But, for today, we know who can win it.

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- ACROSS**
- 1 Merit badge holder
 - 5 Actress Beulah
 - 10 ___-ball (arcade game)
 - 14 Proceedings
 - 15 On ___-to-know basis
 - 16 Strikes
 - 17 Long time
 - 18 Proverbial battlers
 - 19 Architect Saarinen
 - 20 Vain boasters
 - 22 Gutter site
 - 23 Down with something
 - 24 Polo Grounds hero
 - 25 Electric generator
 - 29 Set free
 - 33 Surround
 - 34 Humble
 - 36 Sailor's saint
 - 37 HST's successor
 - 38 Capital of South Korea
 - 39 Composer Delibes
 - 40 Oven used to dry hops
 - 42 Tree frog
 - 43 Song of joy
 - 45 Exhales violently
 - 47 Adds yeast
 - 49 Actor Beatty
 - 50 Year in Edward the Confessor's reign
- DOWN**
- 1 Swedish import
 - 2 Super server
 - 3 Classical colonnade
 - 4 Form of capital punishment
 - 5 Igneous rock of a lava flow
 - 6 Standout
 - 7 Barber's call
 - 8 Barely passing grades
 - 9 Bartender's requests
 - 10 Encase
 - 11 Capital on the Dnieper
 - 12 To be, in Toulouse
 - 13 Those, to Juan
 - 21 Type of club
 - 22 List-ending abbr.
 - 24 Like Nash's lama

SOLUTION TO 11.01.2017 PUZZLE

O	L	E	A	A	R	I	D	B	A	L	S	A	
L	O	L	L	P	E	L	E	E	L	E	C	T	
D	R	U	G	A	S	K	A	A	S	T	A	R	
S	I	L	E	N	C	E	N	O	T	A	B	L	E
B	A	H	E	T									
M	O	N	R	O	H	E	C	R	A	N	C	E	
A	B	E	A	M	T	O	A	T					
M	I	I	N	S	U	R	E	D	E	S	A		
A	T	L	G	A	L	E							
H	E	A	R	D	S	L	A	N	T	S			
A	R	G	A	L	I	H	E	T	H				
C	A	R	R	I	O	N	Y	E	A	R	N	E	D
A	T	E	A	T	A	L	A	N	A	O	N	E	
S	T	E	R	E	G	E	T	A	I	N	E	E	
T	Y	K	E	S	S	G	T	S	N	E	R	D	

- 25 Windows predecessor
- 26 Quinn of "Legends of the Fall"
- 27 Ninnies
- 28 Follows orders
- 29 Everyday
- 30 Tree-lined walk
- 31 That is to say...
- 32 Middays
- 35 Part of many e-mail addresses
- 38 Molt
- 41 Period of a renter's lease
- 43 ___Alto, CA
- 44 Flies
- 46 ___Buddhism
- 48 Carve in relief
- 51 Winglike
- 52 Daft
- 53 Offers a price
- 54 Abysmal test score
- 55 Cry of dismay
- 56 Fr. miss
- 57 Simone of jazz
- 58 Mil. leaders
- 59 Bellicose god
- 61 Fish and chips fish

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		
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40			41		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					67					68		

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

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

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

COLUMN

Dream job deja vu: Matt Luke is not to blame

JOHN MACON GILLESPIE
STAFF WRITER

"They'll have to carry me out of here in a pine box," then-Ole Miss head coach Tommy Tuberville promised the Rebel fan base toward the end of the 1998 season.

Tuberville, who had come in and brought change to a program that bore the weight of NCAA sanctions in 1995, was rumored as being eyed for the Auburn head coaching position and wanted to assure that he was in Oxford to stay.

However, just days after the 1998 Egg Bowl, Tuberville did not leave Oxford in a casket but on a jet headed for Auburn, Alabama.

Ole Miss fans might remember Tuberville as the man who resurrected a program from the Billy Brewer era of NCAA scandals. In 1994, the NCAA infractions committee found the university guilty of 15 violations that ranged from a lack of institutional control to offers of cash, plane tickets and cars to prospects by staff members and boosters. Sound familiar?

Tuberville came in and made Ole Miss relevant again, but his untimely departure removed all fond memories from the minds of the Rebel-faithful.

When Tuberville departed from Oxford in such a



FILE PHOTO: TAYLAR TEEL

Head coach Matt Luke hangs his head after Saturday's loss against Arkansas.

controversial fashion, Matt Luke was a senior and captain on that 1998 Ole Miss football team. Although David Cutcliffe came to Oxford and coached Luke's final game as a Rebel, a victory in the 1998 Independence Bowl, the wounds were still fresh.

The point is: Matt Luke is a Rebel who knows turmoil.

Now fast-forward 19 years and after Hugh Freeze's departure from Ole Miss due

to unethical conduct, Luke is called in to lead the Rebels through the 2017 season.

Sure, this isn't how he imagined taking over the Rebels. Sure, he is the head of a team reeling from another NCAA investigation and head coach scandal. Nevertheless, Matt Luke has been here before and knows what the program needs following a year that has left it broken.

Eight games in, the Rebels

find themselves at the bottom of the SEC West. When their team does not perform, sports fans look for a scapegoat. But Matt Luke is not the man with whom the anger should lie.

A Rebel since birth, Luke is a good football coach thrown into an undesir-

able situation. Tasked with keeping a team and fanbase that has every reason to feel despondent about their current situation looking on the bright side, the on-field results are not his fault. Luke inherited a team that is inexperienced, confused and, truthfully, not very talented in certain areas. Not to mention, he has been dealing with an NCAA cloud and an entirely new staff of assistant coaches.

Brutal.

And even though the cards were dealt against him to begin with, the general consensus is that Matt Luke will not be the head coach at Ole Miss in 2018.

It's a shame, but in a time where Ole Miss needs an experienced power-five head coach that can lead the program through the murky waters, turn recruiting around and bring brighter days to Oxford, Luke is simply not at that point in his career. That being said, he will eventually be a quality head coach, and if given the time, could be one for Ole Miss.

However, Ole Miss has an angry fan base, a lackluster football team and a load of NCAA sanctions looming.

Time is of the essence.

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Ole Miss tennis represents at National Championships

ETHAN WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

It has been a victorious fall season for Ole Miss Tennis with both the men's and women's team earning wins, accolades and praise left and right.

For the men, the peak moment of the fall thus far came last week. Senior Zvonimir Babic and junior Filip Kraljevic qualified for the Oracle/ITA Fall National Championships, which is currently taking place in Indian Wells, California.

"This is an event that they obviously had as a goal to get the opportunity to play but I know that they are not satisfied just to make it there," men's head coach Toby Hansson said. "They are there to make a serious run at the title. I know the whole team will follow and cheer for the guys from Oxford as they compete out west."

To qualify, the dynamic duo earned their place through the intense trial of the 5-round ITA Southern Regional Championships.

Babic and Kraljevic handled the early rounds in the LSU-hosted regionals with ease, but many doubted that the talented Rebels could top the highly touted, sev-

enth-ranked Niclas Braun and Trevor Foshey of Mississippi State. The pair shed any doubt on their way to a 6-4, 6-4 statement win over the top-seeded Bulldogs.

"We are feeling great on the court; our chemistry is incredible and from now forward we can only thrive and be even better," Babic said about the decisive victory. "We are planning to enjoy our time and play good tennis again in Indian Wells."

The dominant play of Babic and Kraljevic is impressive on its own, but the feat is even more incredible for Ole Miss Tennis when compared to the similar level of play put forth by the women's team.

While Babic and Kraljevic were wreaking havoc in Louisiana, seniors Arianne Hartono and Natalie Suk and freshman Sabina Machalova were making moves of their own in Auburn, Alabama.

Hartono, playing for both the singles and doubles titles, did not drop a singles set the entire tournament on the way to her dominant ITA Southern Regional Singles title. The All-American also helped lead her top-ranked, No. 6 ranked doubles pair with partner Alexa Bortles to an all Ole Miss



PHOTO BY: EVAN TURNER

Zvonimir Babic celebrates after beating Wood Benton 6-3, 6-4 on court six against South Carolina this last season. Babic improved his record to 10-1 in dual matches, 5-1 in the SEC, and has also won seven in a row.

showdown in the finals with Suk and Machalova.

Suk and Machalova won the Rebels-only doubles final, securing the pair's first ever title together. The incredible showing from the Ole Miss squad also marked the first time in 20 years that the Rebels women's team have won both singles and doubles titles at the ITA Fall Regionals.

The show-stopping play

of Hartono, Suk and Machalova was good enough for all three to qualify for the Oracle/ITA Fall National Championships and join Babic and Kraljevic in California.

"It's very exciting to have four players involved in the first National Fall Championships," women's head coach Mark Beyers said. "It's a great chance for our girls to measure themselves

against the very best in the country and finish the fall season on a high note."

The hunt for the national title began this week and will conclude with the finals on Sunday. Nationals will see an increase in the talent pool that the Rebels will be forced to reckon with, but the five Ole Miss representatives have shown an ability to play with and stand out from the very best.



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