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The Daily Mississippian

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FRIDAY, 3/2: Dylan Wood



Monday, February 26, 2018

Volume 106, No. 77 IISSISSIPPIA

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

RebelTHON exceeds goal by \$40,000







Hundreds of people participated in the annual RebelTHON event held at the Tad Smith Coliseum on Saturday. Students danced and listened to stories about the kids the 12-hour event helped. More than \$265,900 was raised for Batson Children's Hospital in Jackson.

BRIANA FLOREZ

STAFF WRITER

More than 400 students danced the night away Saturday in the Tad Pad at the sixth annual RebelTHON, a 12-hour fundraising event for the patients of Batson Children's Hospital in Jackson.

Participants maintained high energy throughout the night, moving and dancing as the DJ played old and new pop hits. Participants belted out the lyrics to music by the Chainsmokers, Taylor Swift and even the Jonas Brothers.

Competitions, fundraising challenges and team challenges took place throughout the night. At the end of every hour, members of one of the families from Batson Children's Hospital shared their story with participants. Carson Shade, RebelTHON director of campus recruit-

ment and junior accountancy major, said hearing the families' stories motivates participants to keep going.

"I am pretty optimistic that we will reach our goal," Shade said during the event. "The families talk about their experiences and express their gratitude. They encourage us to keep going and do our best."

Prior to the event, a fundraising goal of \$225,000 was set by the RebelTHON executive board. That goal was met and more, as the final amount raised was \$265,912.30. This exceeded last vear's total, which was \$172,000.

"There are not enough words to express our gratitude to every dancer, every donor, every miracle family, every doctor, and every single person involved in this journey," RebelTHON said in an Instagram post. "We

are extremely grateful and proud to be able to hold up these numbers tonight. We were forty thousand over our goal! This could not have been done without the help of each individual that was involved!"

Last year, money raised went to renovations for the children's center cancer floor. Shade said they are currently looking into getting naming rights for a waiting room at Batson Children's Hospital. Rebel-THON hopes to purchase giraffe beds, which are beds that have the ability to be raised up and down, for the hospital. In addition, the organization hopes to fund the renovation of the waiting room and a patient room. Funds raised will also go to a NICU, PICU, operating

rooms and more. Freshman general studies major Grace Olivia Mauldin

said she loves that she is able to put her passion into the

"I'm so pumped. I've always loved dancing and kids. I feel like what we are doing is so great, and I know if I was in the kids' position, I'd feel so grateful and excited," Mauldin said.

At the end of the night, the "Morale Cup" was given to the team that raised the most money. The red team was awarded the cup after raising \$33,575.78.

Former RebelTHON executive director Marianne Schmidt said she was thrilled to come back and participate in the event.

"I'm just really excited to be able to come back and see all the progress that has been made," Schmidt said. "Seeing how much the event has grown and the kids' faces make me so happy."

Walk set to honor Florida shooting victims

DEVNA BOSE

LIFESTYLES EDITOR

Lexy Johnson, senior integrated marketing communications major, was horrified when she heard about the shooting that took place at her high school alma mater, Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. Now, she plans to honor the survivors and the lives lost nearly 1,000 miles away with a walk here in Oxford at 7 p.m. tomorrow at the Walk of Champions.

On Valentine's Day, Nikolas Cruz, 19, opened fire right before class dismissal at 2:30 p.m. at the school in Parkland, Florida, a residential suburb in the Miami metropolitan area, killing 17 people and injuring at least 14 others.

The event has sparked conversation across the country as well as the #NeverAgain movement led by the survivors of the tragedy calling for stricter gun laws. The shooting hits home for many UM students, including Johnson.

Johnson graduated from Marjory Stoneman Douglas in 2014. Her mother first tried to contact her immediately after the shooting, but Johnson said she didn't know what happened until she received a news update.

"I was in one of my classes when my mom kept calling me, and I kept declining her call. An article then popped up on my Apple Watch that said 'shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School' and I ran out of class," she said. "It was really hard seeing Parkland and my high school being publicized on TV as the location of a mass school shooting. I'm still trying to wrap my head

SEE WALK PAGE 3

OPINION

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COLUMN

Response: 'Epidemic of uniform thought'

JACQUELINE KNIRNSCHILD

STAFF COLUMNIST

Last Wednesday, DM columnist Will Hall claimed that our university is experiencing an "epidemic of uniform thought" and that our department walls "drip with liberal propaganda" but failed to cite any specific examples of "prejudiced academics."

He wrote that he's never come across an Ole Miss professor "who falls to the far right of the political spectrum" and that many liberal professors do not accommodate "diversity of thought."

So, according to Hall, this complex notion of a "diversity of thought" boils down to the simplistic binary of whether one is a Republican or Democrat. Such an assertion devalues the myriad other factors – such as background, culture and research interests – that shape one's thoughts and opinions.

Hall cited a quote questioning the presence of Republicans in the field of sociology, but I wonder if he has explored the variety of research interests in our own sociology department — to name a few: food production and consumption, Latin America, deviance and criminality, the rural U.S. South and the Holocaust.

And though he's correct that academia attracts more liberal-leaning people, he did not take a moment to contemplate why this might be.

A university – like any other employer – does not require a person to identify his political party on his job application. Therefore, any ideological trends in certain fields are occurring naturally based on selfchoice.

Everyone has different career aspirations – some aim to earn a lot of money, some seek personal fulfillment, some want power and prestige, some just want a stable income and some want to work in the comfort of their homes.

As Stanford political scientist Adam Bonica found in his 2008 research, certain occupations – such as film, academia, printing and publishing – draw in more liberals, while others – such as oil, gas and auto dealers – draw in more conservatives.

A 2017 survey by the Pew Research Center also found that 58 percent of Republican and Republican-leaning independents think higher education has a negative effect on the nation, which is another reason not many aspire to become professors.

But just because there are more liberal-minded professors, this does not mean their political views bleed into the classroom: In 2008, political scientists Mack Mariani and Gordon Hewitt analyzed 6,807 student respondents at 38 colleges but found little evidence that faculty ideology is associated with changes in students' ideological orientation.

When we discussed politics and religion in my Honors 101 and 102 classes at Ole Miss, both of my professors encouraged all students to express their opinions, and then – as an intellectual discussion should go – they challenged all of us (not just the conservatives) to defend our stances. In order to truly understand an issue, one needs to take a critical and multi-faceted approach that does not assume only one belief system is true.

Hall's perspective resembles the rhetoric used in conservative organization Turning Point USA's online "Professor Watchlist," which allows students to submit reports of professors who "advance leftist propaganda in the classroom."

These reports include a couple quotes from a professor without any argument against what he said and often cite right-wing websites such as Campus Reform and Turning Point News as evidence.

Rate My Professor is listed as the only source against mathematician Anatoli Kaploun, who is guilty of "abusing his academic freedom by making final exams worth 50% of the grade."

And world-renowned anthropologist Nancy Scheper-Hughes is listed for speaking out against the NRA in a blog post – which is her First Amendment right – but there is no mention of her immense contributions to investigating human organ-trafficking networks.

Students sending tips do not bother to engage with any of the professors' actual books or research but instead vilify them for exercising their First Amendment rights, which hardly sounds like Hall's dream of "a free market of ideas."

Jacqueline Knirnschild is a sophomore anthropology and Chinese double major from Brunswick, Ohio.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I disagree with the latest opinion piece written by Will Hall attacking academia and will like to add the following rebuttal concerning the goal of a college education.

A college education should not be made into political dogma for closed-minded individuals who only want to consume one world view, theirs. This is a mistake, a "think tank" approach that leads one away from becoming a free thinker and a contributing member of society. I haven't seen, until recently, the unprecedented attack on academia. If Hall wants one world view, why attend our great university, Ole Miss?

What is the goal of a college education?

Let's start by defining the term Hall tried to marginalize. "Liberal" comes from "liberty," which means freedom. Liberty is a liberal term conservatives misuse often by naming institutions after it, like "Liberty University," where there is no freedom for all, just their kind.

Historically, our universities evolved from the Classical Greeks, with philosophers like Socrates, Plato and Aristotle evolving into what we know today as the "liberal arts" – a curriculum designed to teach one to think, lead, which was considered essential for a free person to know in order to take an active part in civic life, participating in public debate, defending oneself in court, serving on juries and, most importantly, military service.

The core "trivium" was comprised of grammar, logic and rhetoric, while the "quadrivium" included arithmetic, geometry, the theory of music and astronomy.

The "Socratic Method" evolved from liberal arts and is used to develop the mind and discover truth. Imagine if

Socrates had only allowed one view and not sought to discover truth. Unfortunately, it was this narrow-mindedness that stamped Socrates as dangerous to society and led to his end.

The scientific method also evolved from the liberal arts, where a hypothesis is formulated and facts gather to be tested through observation and measurement.

Let's examine the term conservative; it is defined as one adverse to change or innovation. Probably, the reason there is no such thing as a "conservative curriculum" in colleges and universities is because conservatism does not teach one to think for oneself or innovate; it only teaches dogma.

From an American historical perspective, our Founding Fathers adopted the "liberal" concepts, developed during the Age of Enlightenment, from the "father of liberalism," John

Locke, and his "Two Treatises of Government" in writing both the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution.

John Locke opposed the conservative Tory belief in the absolute power of kings and instead supported the natural rights of man – right to life, liberty and property. Had the conservative Tories, who supported the king prevailed, our founders would have been hanged and our nation would not exist today.

It seems that today's conservatives support what our patriots fought against during the War of Independence (e.g., lower taxes for the very rich) and often vote against their own self interests. A college education matters.

Ernesto Anaya is a 1983 alumnus of the University of Mississippi from Lawrenceville, Georgia.

THE DAIL

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Third-party letters and those bearing pseudonyms, pen names

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to one letter per individual per calendar month.

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.



MEMBER NEWSPAPER

WALK continued from page 1

around it and the fact that my high school will always be known as a place where a mass school shooting hap-

As a student at Marjory Stoneman Douglas, she distinctly remembers seeing Aaron Feis, one of the teachers who died protecting students at the school, walking down the hallways and interacting with students. Johnson said she felt she had to do something here because she couldn't be home with those affected.

"One of the hardest things to go through during a time like this is not being able to be in Parkland with my classmates and to show my condolences to the victims and their families," she said.

Johnson has planned a walk for Tuesday night in the Grove called "A Walk for Champions," honoring those affected by the shooting. The walk will begin at the Walk of Champions arch in the Grove and will end at the Lyceum on the Circle. The walk will be videoed and sent to teachers and students at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School to "show them the Ole Miss and Oxford community supports them

and stands with them."

Johnson said the community of Parkland has been "broken" after the shooting, and she hopes to help them through the grieving process with the video.

"The key message of this event is to let the teachers ing them here in the LOU community and show support for the families of students in Parkland, Florida.

"We want to remember those who lost their lives and those who are struggling to deal with the loss of classmates and that they

was the worst day of my life. I still get sick to my stomach reading those messages from my sister from last Wednesday. I just wanted her out of the school safely, but with the shooter at large for such a long time, the wait was miserable."

I'm still trying to wrap my head around it and the fact that my high school will always be known as a place where a mass school shooting happened."

- Lexy Johnson, A Walk for Champions organizer

and students know that they are champions to us for being so strong and returning to school after the horrific tragedy," she said. "They are strong people for being able to go through this, yet finish out the school year strong. To me, that's the definition of a champion."

Not only is Johnson showing support for the Parkland community, but she also hopes to raise money for the memorial being built to replace the freshman building where the shooting happened.

The Meek School of Journalism and New Media is sponsoring the event.

Will Norton, dean of the Meek School, said the school wants to honor Lexy and her schoolmates by remembersurvived," Norton "Mass killings have become a major issue in the United States, and national, state and community leaders need to talk about how to deal with the crisis and develop policies for safe schools and safe communities. In the process, we trust that we will be showing support for one of our students.'

Another graduate MSD, Mallary Goad is a sophomore here at Ole Miss and has a sister who is a freshman at the high school. Her sister was in school when the shooting occurred last week.

"She is safe, but we have been closely affected by the lives lost, as they were our peers, teachers and coaches," Goad said. "Wednesday

Goad said the walk is being planned is heartwarming and she has appreciated seeing the support pouring in from all parts of the country, including Oxford.

"This isn't just something you see on the news. This is real life; these are real kids murdered, real families destroyed and an entire community suffering. I'm disappointed in myself that it took my sister's danger and fear for her life for me to take a position on gun laws," she said. "I will continue to do my part in this battle for those who now can't and support my fellow classmates who have started a movement."

Melinda Sutton Noss, assistant vice chancellor and dean of students, has corresponded with Johnson during the process of planning the walk and expects there to be an outpouring of support from the communi-

"Given this has specifically impacted members of our community in such a personal way, I think the opportunity for the Ole Miss family to demonstrate support and share in her grief is most fitting," she said. "I'm glad (Lexy) has an opportunity to share with her Ole Miss family the way it has impacted her and her hometown."

Though Parkland is several states away, tragedies like the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas are becoming more common, and Johnson said she believes it is important to raise awareness in our community.

"The LOU community is comprised of many different schools, from elementary to high school, and we need to make sure this tragedy doesn't happen in another close-knit community. By bringing communities, like the LOU community, together, we can make a change starting at the local level," she said. "Seventeen innocent students and teachers died, and I feel like it shouldn't go unnoticed, even in a state as far away as Mississippi."



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Symposium to showcase history, sound of the South

HANNAH REED

STAFF WRITER

The Center for the Study of Southern Culture is showcasing the effects of Southern music in everyday life with this year's Southern Music Symposium.

The symposium will exhibit presentations, panels and lec-

tures from scholars and musicians. It will also feature a free concert at Proud Larry's. The symposium will begin at the Overby Center at 1 p.m. Monday with a welcome and panel discussion for student research. The day's program includes discussions on the blues featuring Jacqueline Sahagain and Keerthi Chandrashekar along



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with a keynote address from Randall Stephens.

Sahagian, a University of Mississippi graduate student, will discuss Fat Possum Records and the relationship between white men and the blues. Her talk, "The Same Old Blues Crap: Fat Possum Records' Matthew Johnson and How White Masculinity Continues to Shape the Blues," depicts the life of Fat Possum Records founder Matthew Johnson. Sahagian will speak on Johnson's history of supporting white men and their approach to blues music while ignoring other races and their efforts to be seen and heard.

"Though he makes fun of other blues fans, calling them blues geeks,' his rebel identity actually makes him have a lot in common with other white guys from the past who have sought to explain and present the blues to white audiences," she said. "The problem with all

this is that white men are still mediating audiences' interpretations of blues music instead of allowing blues artists to present their art to the public themselves. I would like to point out to blues fans that although Fat Possum's work seems edgy and new, it really shows that blues marketing has not changed much since the race records era."

Sahagian said although she enjoys the music Fat Possum releases, she hopes to lay bare the struggles of minorities in the blues music industry today.

Darren Grem, assistant professor of history and Southern studies, said he has high hopes for the symposium. At 4 p.m., he will moderate a panel of musicians that will be performing that night: Lee Bains III, a punk rocker; Wu Fei, a rapper; and Marco Pavé, an instrumentalist and composer. His panel of diverse and talented musicians will explore their beliefs about

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY: EMILY HOFFMAN the impact music has had on both them and others.

"The symposium will bring together diverse people to talk about what brings them together: music," Grem said.

Grem said he hopes to impact listeners and bring them to the same conclusion that he has come to over the years.

"Music is human expression," he said. "It brings a richer understanding of the past and can help understand broader politics like mill-workers singing to pass time, laborers finding happiness in small tunes, poor folks bonding to rock 'n' roll. Music shapes people."

The history, the beauty and the sound of the South will be heard and celebrated at the symposium and concert. The lectures and panels will all showcase music from different perspectives and ways of life while bringing them all together to show the shared connection.

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TUESDAY

MONDAY

WEDNESDAY

8:30 a.m. - Yoga in the Gallery - UM Museum **1 p.m. -** Southern Music Symposium kicks off - Overby

5 p.m. - Steve Cavanagh with "The Plea" - Off Square Books

9 p.m. - The Busty Petites - Rafters

Noon – Luncheon with Donna Everhart – Off Square Books **4 p.m**. – Ole Miss baseball versus Murray State – Swayze

5 p.m. – Radley Balko & Tucker Carrington with "The Cadaver King and the Country Dentist" – Off Square Books

6 p.m. – February Art Crawl – Yoknapatawpha Arts Council

6 p.m. – Women's Self-Defense Class – Oxford Police Department

7 p.m. – A Walk for Champions – The Grove

7:30 p.m. – Considering Matthew Shepard – Ford Center

9 p.m. – Broken English – Proud Larry's

5 p.m. – Tayari Jones with "An American Marriage" – Off

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Former coach Rob Evans named SEC Legend

BEN MILLER

STAFF WRITER

Former Ole Miss men's basketball head coach Rob Evans has been named an SEC Legend. The Rebels' coach from 1993 to 1998 will be honored next month at the SEC Tournament in St. Louis.

For the past 20 years running, the Southeastern Conference has selected one representative from each SEC school to earn the title of SEC Legend. Each Legend will be honored at halftime of his respective school's opening game of the SEC Tournament.

Under Evans, Ole Miss basketball experienced a renaissance of success, the likes of which were previously unseen in Mississippi. He led the Rebels to two NCAA Tournament appearances as well as two

SEC Western Division Titles. The 1997 Western Division Championship was Ole Miss' first basketball championship title in school history. That same season, Evans was named the SEC Coach of the Year and the College Hoops Insider National Coach of the Year.

Evans assembled another impressive year in the 1997-98 season - one in which the Rebels took home the Western Division title a second time and made a deep run into March. It was the first time in school history the Rebels competed in back-to-back NCAA Tournaments. Finishing off that season with a 22-7 record, Evans was a finalist for the Naismith Coach of the Year Award.

Evans sits with the fifthmost victories of any coach in Ole Miss history with 86. He left the school with an overall record of 86-81 be-



Rob Evans cuts down the net after becoming SEC West Champions in 1997. Evans held an 86-81 record as head coach from 1993 to 1998.

fore coaching stints at Arizona State, Arkansas, TCU and North Texas. Evans retired in 2017 with an overall head coaching record of

Evans joins LSU's John

Brady and Auburn's Joel Eaves as the only head coaches named to the SEC Legends list this year. In 2016, Ole Miss added 6-foot-6-inch small forward/guard Johnny Neumann to the Legend list. Neumann, who

played ball in Oxford from 1970 to 1971, averaged 40.1 points per game as a sophomore and was consequently named SEC Basketball Player of the Year before turning pro.

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- Abbr 38 Tory rival 39 Genuinely
- 40 Waste allowance 41 Allow
- 42 Sweatbox 43 Oohed and
- 44 Proverb 46 Like a professor's jacket 48 Pen points

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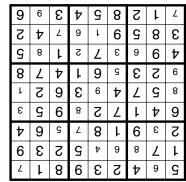
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HOW TO PLAY

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 with no repeats.

DIFFICULTY LEVEL

CHALLENGING



Crossword puzzle provided by BestCrosswords.com (www.bestcrosswords.com). Used with permission

Thornberry named to Fred Haskins Award watch list

LOGAN CONNER

STAFF WRITER

After winning the prestigious title last year, Ole Miss golfer Braden Thornberry has been named to the Fred Haskins Award watch list once again. This award is given to the most outstanding men's collegiate golfer of the year. Thornberry joins a group of 20 players to watch headlined by World No. 3 amateur Doug Ghim and USC junior Justin Suh. Thornberry is one of seven Southeastern Conference players to land on the Haskins Award list.

After a freshman season that included his first career title win, Thornberry broke out in his second year in Oxford. During his sophomore campaign, Thornberry had an exceptional run of five wins, a T-4th finish at the FedEx St. Jude Classic on the PGA Tour and an NCAA individual national title. That same season included PING First Team All-American and First Team All-SEC honors for the 20-year-old from Olive Branch. Thornberry ended the 2016-17 season with a nation-leading stroke average of 69.57.

The summer of 2017 in-



PHOTO BY: AP PHOTO BY QUINN HARRIS | ICON SPORTSWIRE

Braden Thornberry plays the ball from the tee during round four of the 2017 Division I Men's Golf Championships in May 2017 in Illinois.

cluded invites to the Greenbrier Classic and the U.S. Amateur, where he beat world No. 1 Joaquin Niemann, and ended with his becoming the first Ole Miss Rebel to play in the Walker Cup.

Coming off of his breakout season, the defending NCAA individual champion is continuing right where he left off. In the first three tournaments of the year, Thornberry has already picked up two wins at the Shoal Creek Intercollegiate and the FAMC Intercollegiate tournaments and received an invite to the PGA Tour's RSM Classic in Sea Island, Georgia. Currently,

Thornberry is ranked second in the SEC in stroke average with 69.80 – second only to Alabama sophomore Davis Riley.

Sitting at first all-time in career title wins in Ole Miss history with nine, Thornberry has proven himself to be a Rebel legend. After his sophomore season, the Rebel had the opportunity to turn professional but chose to return to Oxford, saying, "I still have things I want to accomplish here. I am not ready to leave Ole Miss just yet."

With a memorable legacy already cemented into Ole Miss history, Thornberry will look to add his name to a prestigious number of golfers to win the Haskins Award more than once. When he won the Fred Haskins Award last season, Thornberry joined a list of past winners that includes Justin Thomas, Matt Kuchar, Ben Crenshaw, Phil Mickelson and Tiger Woods. If the Rebel wins the award again, he will join Mickelson, Crenshaw and Bobby Clampett as the only players to win the title more than once.

However, for the junior, collegiate events are not the only thing on his radar – trips to Shinnecock Hills for the U.S. Open and Carnoustie for the British Open are very much in sight. Currently sitting as the No. 2 player in the World Amateur Golf Rankings, Thornberry will look to continue his success as the spring goes on.

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Enter for your chance to win a \$25 gift card from Campus Bookmart.
CONTEST RULES

Winning entries must correctly pick winner of all three games for that entry pilus answer at least one of the two bonus questions correctly by being within 2, without going over, of the number of runs Ole Miss will score in total in the three game series and/or how many home runs Ole Miss will

Pick winner of Friday, March 2 game *

Ole Miss

☐ Long Beach State

hit in total during the three game series.

Pick winner of Saturday, March 3 game *

Ole Miss

☐ Long Beach State

Winner

will be contacted Tues., March 6

Hurry! Contest closes Thurs., March 1 at 5pm

Rebels roll to victory over Green Wave, stay undefeated

JOSH GOLLIHAR

STAFF WRITER

Ole Miss baseball improved its record to an undefeated 7-0 following another weekend series sweep, this time over the Tulane Green Wave. The Rebels outscored Tulane by a combined score of 20-8 over the three games.

Sunday was the most evenly matched game of the series, even if the final 6-3 scoreline tells a different story. Tulane held the lead for the first half of the game after scoring a run in the first inning. This was the only run of the game until Thomas Dillard hit a solo shot for the Rebels to tie the game in the fourth inning.

Tulane starting pitcher Keagan Gillies had the Rebels' number for most of the game. Other than four hits between Grae Kessinger and Thomas Dillard, Gillies controlled the game. He maintained a 2-1 lead until he left the game in the sixth inning. The Rebels proceeded to score five runs in the sixth inning for the second game in a row to take a 6-2 lead. Cooper Johnson followed up a Will Golsan two-RBI single with a threerun home run to give the Rebels a commanding lead that they never looked back from.

Kessinger has been the best



PHOTO BY: MARLEE CRAWFOR

Thomas Dillard (6) makes his way to first base after hitting a home run during the 6-3 win over Tulane on Sunday. The Rebels swept the series this weekend.

hitter for the Rebels this season, and this weekend only cemented that fact. Kessinger went 5-10 hitting, increasing his batting average on the season to .464.

The Rebels' pitching staff has not been flawless, but it is getting the job done. Its opponents' run totals are low, but all too often the staff finds itself working hard and throwing extra pitches to finish innings. The Ole Miss pitchers stranded 16 Tulane base runners throughout the series. Brady Feigl and Ryan Rolison both had to exit their starts after delays – rain for Rolison and extended time between innings for Feigl.

Sunday's starter, James McArthur, had to work exceptionally hard through his start. He threw 87 pitches over 5.1 innings, surrendering two runs on six hits. Nevertheless, coach Mike Bianco was impressed with the performance his ace put forward.

"I think he was real good today," Bianco said when asked how McArthur looked on the mound. "That is a good offense over there. You really have to pitch to the first six or seven guys in that lineup." Dallas Woolfolk is handling business of his own this season for Ole Miss. The closer recorded saves in games one and three, boosting his total to four on the season through the team's first seven games.

The Rebels have wasted no time warming up their bats this season. Catcher Cooper Johnson has shown power at the plate this season by racking up two home runs already. This is the second straight year that Ole Miss baseball has started the season 7-0, and Johnson is cautiously optimistic about the team's ceiling.

"Absolutely," Johnson said when asked about excitement in the locker room. "We have all been talking about it. There is a very different feel. With the depth on offense, defense and in the pitching staff, I have never played on a team like (this one)."

The Rebels are rolling right now. Wins are piling up, thanks to elite pitching and well-timed bursts of hitting. But Ole Miss' upcoming schedule could test the Rebels' might. After a midweek bout with Murray State, the team will travel out west to take on Long Beach State for a weekend series. The Long Beach State Dirtbags split a doubleheader with the No. 7 TCU Horned Frogs this weekend.

