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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

City considers lower drivers-for-hire age limit ASB calls for syllabi bank



PHOTO BY: CHRISTIAN JOHNSON

Flying Tuk driver Tyler Willis waits for his next fare on the Square Thursday. The City of Oxford is considering lowering the minimum age for vehicle-for-hire employees to 20 years old after a request from the company.

KATHRYN ABERNATHY
STAFF WRITER

The owners of Flying Tuk, a low-speed vehicle taxi service, have been lobbying the city of Oxford to lower the driving age limit of vehicles-for-hire, and recently achieved a small victory.

Danny Klimetz, co-owner of the company, attended last week's Board of Aldermen meeting and requested the age to be lowered to 18, but Mayor Robyn Tannehill said she was not comfortable making it that low. After discussion, the board came to an agreement in considering lowering the driver age to 20 and will further discuss the matter on Tuesday at a public hearing before a possible vote on May 1.

Currently, the city requires a driver to be 21 years old to operate a taxi or low speed vehicle in Oxford. Klimetz requested that age to be lowered because he's having a hard time keeping a full staff of drivers during the spring season.

"We get a lot of senior students that drive for us, which is great, but usually come the spring semester, they

need to focus more on their school work, senior projects, applying for grad school, jobs, etc.," Klimetz said. "We find ourselves with a driver shortage and our hope with lowering the age limit is that we could appeal to a larger pool of eligible drivers."

The company operates three-wheeled low-speed vehicles which run Monday through Saturday from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. or by appointment. The vehicles travel at a maximum of 25 mph on the Oxford streets and can fit up to six people.

Former driver for the company Je' Michael Handy said he is in favor of the city lowering the age limit.

"While working there, there wasn't a lot of drivers, but lowering the age could possibly increase drivers," Handy said. "Eighteen year olds are licensed drivers just as well as 21-year-olds, and I don't think it wouldn't change much besides having more people that can make shifts easier."

Klimetz said his nearly 2-year-old company has about 10 drivers on staff at the moment, but in the fall that number is usually around 20 to 25 drivers. Fridays and Saturdays

are usually the busiest days with up to five tucks on the road, depending on the weather and what events are going on in town.

Tolley Yoste, a junior marketing major said she loves riding with the Flying Tuk due to its fun experience and cheap prices, but does worry about the age being lowered.

"I don't necessarily know if I would trust an 18-year-old driving me around on a Flying Tuk," Yoste said. "It kind of does scare me in a sense because I'm wondering if they really are responsible enough for that."

As an owner, Klimetz said he understands the concern with lowering the age to 18, but said he would be happy with whatever the board decides to lower it to.

"We are very selective as a company as to who we trust with our vehicles, but more importantly who we trust with our passengers," Klimetz said. "I think just because someone is 'younger' doesn't necessarily mean they are going to be riskier or more immature. There are 18-year-olds out there who I would trust a lot more than some 30-year-olds."

ASB calls for syllabi bank

TAYLOR VANCE
STAFF WRITER

The Associated Student Body Senate passed a resolution requesting the university create an online syllabi bank allowing students to access past class syllabi. The bank was proposed to help students signing up for classes gain a better understanding of the courses before they start.

The resolution was sponsored by Sen. Catrina Curtis, chairwoman of the Academicis Committee, and passed the Senate unanimously. It is now waiting for approval from the university administration.

"I sponsored the resolution because I thought it was a really good idea," Curtis said. "This is a service that I would want as a student and other schools in the (Southeastern Conference) have done this."

Curtis said she talked to Provost Noel Wilkin about the resolution, and he liked it, but he wants the legislation to go through the faculty senate as well. Curtis also said if the legislation passes, Wilkin and his office would be responsible for leading the project and carrying out the specifics of the test bank.

The current universities in the SEC that have syllabi banks are the University of Georgia, Auburn University, Louisiana State University, the University of Florida, the University of Tennessee, the University of Kentucky, Texas A&M University and the University of Missouri.

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COLUMN

Avoid emotions in Syrian intervention

REAGAN MEREDITH
STAFF COLUMNIST

Last April, the town of Khan Shaykhun, Syria was forced to inhale sarin nerve gas. At least 74 people were killed and more than 557 were injured. In response, President Donald Trump unleashed 59 Tomahawk missiles on the Shayrat Airbase.

On March 7, the town of Douma, a Syrian city east of the capital of Damascus, experienced a chemical weapons attack on innocent civilians just like the ones we have seen before in Syria.

This particular attack killed at least 42 people and injured more than 500, although the numbers are expected to rise.

This time, President Trump took to Twitter and promised that the U.S. would launch missile strikes against Syria, going against the Russian government which has shown support for the Syrian regime.

The recent attack and the

imminent response from the U.S. and its allies have led me to provide some thoughts on the subject.

What we should first ask ourselves is: Did Bashar al-Assad, the president of Syria, do it?

To be clear, I am not saying that Assad did not do it. I think he did, but military intervention at the level discussed over the past few days should require that we know, without a shadow of a doubt, that he did it.

Considering that our media gets all its information from U.S.-funded rebel groups, this is not particularly clear.

Let's assume that Assad, or as Trump called him the "Gas Killing Animal," is the culprit.

Before a president even considers intervening in a foreign country, the U.S. Constitution requires that he get congressional approval. Article I of the Constitution reserves the power to start a war to Congress.

This means that President Trump's attack on Shayrat

last year was unconstitutional, as well as President Obama's bombing of Libya.

However, a Congressional approval for war would and should reflect the will of the American people. This presents an obstacle because polling from last year indicates that a large portion of Americans disagreed with President Trump's decision to launch an airstrike, and that only 22-percent support the U.S. taking an active role.

Let's assume that Congress turned against the will of the American people and approved military intervention. What is the goal? Is it to oust Assad? Or is it to be something symbolic like the attack on Shayrat?

If you think the answer is the former, ousting Assad is not as simple as it seems. Who would replace him? The people of Syria would not accept an existing rebel group as their leader. If you think a similar Shayrat attack is the answer, I challenge you to consider the 70 people that died on Satur-

day in spite of it.

The most troubling thought is one of great consequence. If the United States and Russia continue to invest their resources in minor international actors such as the Kurds or Assad, the risk of even a slight miscalculation by a minor actor causing a World War III-type clash between major powers becomes higher by the day.

The U.S. has been actively intervening in Syria for 10 years. Assad is still arbitrarily killing his people. Red lines are still being drawn in the sand, although I hope that French President Emmanuel Macron does not back away from it like Obama did.

Whatever your solution is, consider these factors with extreme importance before pushing emotion-based solutions.

Reagan Meredith is a sophomore political science major from Monroe, Louisiana.

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MISSISSIPPI
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MEMBER NEWSPAPER

SYLLABI BANK
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of Alabama, the University of South Carolina and Vanderbilt University currently do not have a syllabi bank.

Assistant Vice Chancellor and Dean of Students Melinda Sutton Noss received the legislation and signed off on the resolution. She said her signature does not mean she approves or disapproves of the resolution, but that her office has read and recognized the resolution.

"It is not my place to say whether I approve of the legislation, but this is an interesting idea," Sutton Noss said. "The reasons the senators say they support this bill are interesting reasons and I'm supportive of the senators."

The resolution will now be passed on to Vice Chancellor for Student Services Brandi Hephner LaBanc. If Hephner LaBanc signs the resolution recognizing the legislation, the resolution will be sent to Chancellor

Jeffrey Vitter for approval.

ASB President-elect Elam Miller said he thinks the resolution will be a beneficial way for students to see what they're signing up for. Miller said he does not think the resolution would place a burden on professors or the university, but doesn't know how the professors and deans would coordinate to get the syllabi bank accomplished.

"Professors are already required to turn (syllabi) in before classes start," Miller said. "I'm not sure whether the syllabi bank would be made public through MyOleMiss or through a separate website."

Integrated Marketing Communications instructor Debbie Hall has been advising students for more than a year and said she can view the legislation from three different angles: as an adviser, an instructor and a former student. Hall said she thought a syllabi bank could've been helpful to her choosing classes as an undergraduate student.

Hall also said she thinks the resolution will be ben-

eficial to the students, but she can see the resolution making some professors uneasy.

"From an advising standpoint, I can see where (the resolution) would be beneficial," Hall said. "It would allow students to see how the class is going to be taught and graded. From an instructor point of view, I can see some downfalls and I can see some professors not being happy their syllabi is public knowledge, even though a lot of professors share our syllabi with one another."

Junior psychology major Aundrop Price said she thinks the resolution is a good idea, and if the resolution passes, it will help her in the future. She also said there are classes she would not have taken if she had viewed the syllabus before.

"I feel like this resolution will be a good way to help us know what we are getting into beforehand, and this will be a better way to prepare for classes," Price said.



PHOTO BY: CHRISTIAN JOHNSON

Flying Tuk driver Tyler Willis prepares to leave with his next client on Thursday

FLYING TUK
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Junior integrated marketing communications major Shea Young said lowering the age will make the overall experience of riding with the Flying Tuk even better.

"I think it's a good idea to lower the age limit because college students or younger adults are just as familiar with the Oxford area as older drivers are," Young said. "We always have to tell our Ubers how to get to the destination even though they have the route in their phone, which is annoying."

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Author shares story of her father, Faulkner's friendship

KIARA MANNING
STAFF WRITER

Author, professor and Oxford native Gloria Burgess will discuss her latest book "Pass It On!," which shares the true story of her father Earnest McEwen Jr. and his life-changing relationship with William Faulkner, at Off Square Books on Saturday. The acclaimed writer funded her father's dream of going to college.

The idea to write this book came to Burgess about 20 years ago, while she was speaking with one of her clients who encouraged her to write the story before somebody else did.

"He said, 'Well, have you ever written it down?' and I said, 'Well, no. Why should I?' He said, 'You should. It's your story, and you have your point of view about it. People need to hear about it and they need to see and hear about it in your words,'" Burgess said.

According to Burgess, this was the spark that got her thinking about writing the story down instead of just sharing it verbally.

Ernie, as he was affectionately called by friends and family, dreamed about going to college as a young boy. He got a job in his hometown of Oxford and began working as a janitor at Ole Miss. At the time, the university was still segregated, so he could not go to school there. Little did her father know he was one step closer to his dream.

"One of the professors heard about my father and his story and about his dreams and they reached out to my father and fell in love with him," Burgess said. "They said you are an incredible human being, we love your determination and your vision and we want to introduce you to someone who can make your dream come true. That person ended up being William Faulkner."

While Burgess was writing "Pass It On!," her father passed away.

Annie McEwen, Gloria's sister, remembers her father as an incredibly honest man who took care of his children. She emphasized how important education was to him, and that in his house, not going to college was not an option. She said she appreciates the things

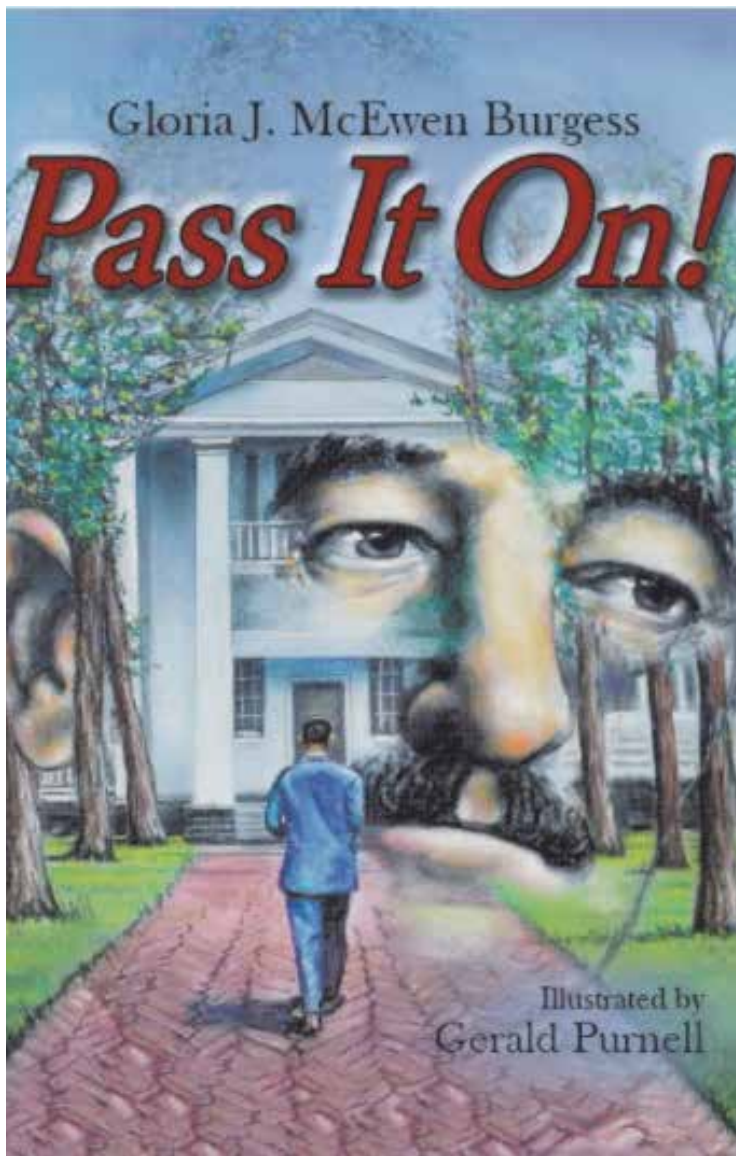


PHOTO COURTESY: GLORIABURGESS.COM

he taught them and the principles he modeled for them.

Annie said she was thrilled when she found out that her sister was writing a book on their father.

"I don't know if she originally envisioned it being a children's book. It just came out that way," Annie said.

"She let the Lord lead that, and I believe that when you let God lead things and believe in divine intervention then you do what he asks you do, so it came out as a children's book."

Annie said she loves the idea of a children's book because it is relatable to everyone. She described her

parents as incredible role models who created a legacy, thanks to William Faulkner who paved the way for her father to go to college. Because of him, Annie and her siblings can pass on the things they have learned.

"At a time when this country was racially divided, these two men were extraordinary in my opinion – William Faulkner and my dad," Burgess said.

When Burgess isn't writing books, she is busy running her corporation Jazz Inc. She is the CEO of the leadership consulting company. Outside of Jazz, she is also an accomplished speaker and professor.

Burgess is now working on another book on leadership and pondering with the idea of writing a sequel to

"Pass It On!"

"I'm continuing to do research on my dad because there is more to the story, and people are encouraging me to write a sequel about Ernie. I don't know if I will, but that's certainly something I'm thinking about," she said.

What she loves the most about her job is discovering something that she didn't expect to discover. She hopes that people will read this story and find someone within themselves.

"I hope that people will discover a different dimension of Faulkner and that they will hear this story and find young people that they can share it with," she said. "I hope that the people that come will discover something about themselves."

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No. 5 baseball travels to Vanderbilt for weekend series

LOGAN CONNER
STAFF WRITER

After a dominant win against No. 13 Southern Miss in Pearl on Tuesday night, Ole Miss baseball will travel to Nashville this weekend for a three-game series against Vanderbilt. Fresh off of a win against a top-15 opponent, the 28-6 Rebels will look to continue their roll against another ranked team in the Commodores and add to their 7-5 conference record.

The Rebels lost their first series of the season last weekend in Starkville – falling in games 1 and 3. Their pair of losses dropped the team to No. 5 in the latest rankings and second in the SEC West, one game behind No. 3 Arkansas, who



FILE PHOTO: BILLY SCHUERMAN

Third baseman Tyler Keenan attempts to tag out a University of New Orleans base runner. The Rebels travel to Nashville this weekend to take on Vanderbilt.

they took a series from earlier in the season. For the first time this season, the Rebels looked beatable and needed to rebound against Southern Miss, which they did.

On Tuesday night, Ole Miss traveled to Pearl for the neutral-site game. In the second inning, Rebel bats exploded and scored six runs. After Tyler Keenan started the scoring for Ole Miss, a homerun preempted a two-run single by power-hitter Thomas Dillard. The Golden Eagles were unable to recover from the early deficit and fell to the Rebels, 11-3. With the victory, Ole Miss increased its win total to 28 and earned its sixth win of the season against a ranked team.

The Commodores enter this weekend looking a little rough. Despite sitting at No. 15 in the latest national rankings, they have lost six of their last nine

games. However, Vanderbilt has seemingly hit a patch of positive momentum and recovered from six straight losses with wins in its past three. So far this season the Commodores have faced only one top five team: the No. 1 Florida Gators, who swept the series 3-0. The following weekend, they were able to squeak a series win against No. 18 Georgia, enough to move them to third in the SEC East.

This weekend's series is massive for both teams.

Ole Miss finds itself trailing No. 3 Arkansas in the SEC West and the Commodores trail both Florida and Georgia in the East, making this matchup pivotal. The winner of the series could throw themselves right back into contention within their own division and jump up in the national rankings. The loser could fall too far behind

in the divisional race.

The key for the Rebels will be on the offensive side of the ball. In their six losses this season, they have averaged 4.5 runs per game. On the other hand, the Rebels have averaged an astounding 7.6 runs per game in their 28 wins – seven of those ending in double-digit performances. With Vanderbilt having one of the premier bullpens in the nation, the Rebels will need to score early and take control of the game.

First pitch of the series is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Friday, with Saturday's set for 2:00 p.m. and Sunday at 4:00 p.m. However, with severe weather in the forecast on Saturday, the schedule is tentative to change. The first two games can be streamed on SEC Network + with the final game being televised on ESPN U.

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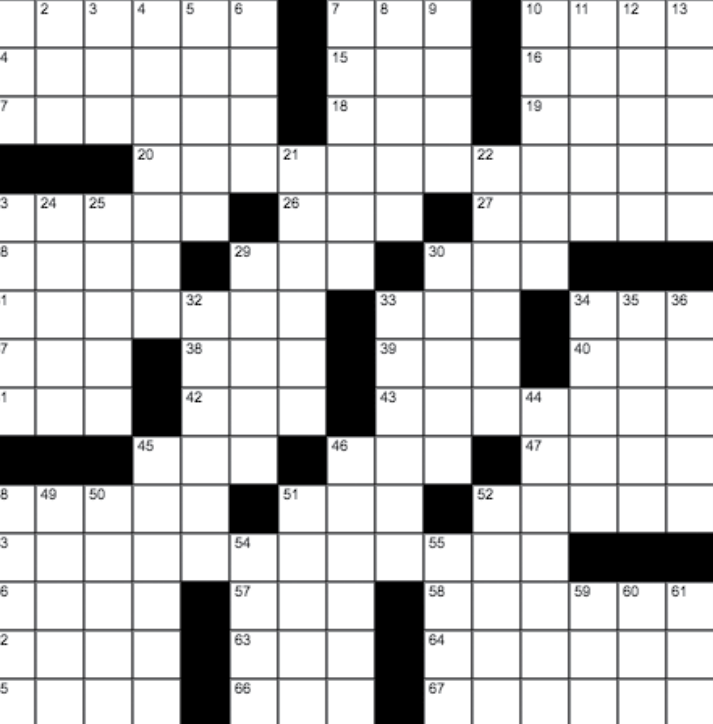
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- ACROSS**
- 1 Saw for cutting wood with the grain
 - 7 Golfer Ernie
 - 10 Heels
 - 14 Excite
 - 15 By way of
 - 16 Thin woodland instrument
 - 17 Small burrowing rodent
 - 18 Tolkien ogre
 - 19 What the fourth little piggy had
 - 20 Capital of Utah
 - 23 Encourage
 - 26 Campers, briefly
 - 27 Oklahoma city
 - 28 Where heroes are made
 - 29 Take to court
 - 30 Bruins legend
 - 31 Quarantine
 - 33 Oklahoma city
 - 34 Appropriate
 - 37 Geom. point
 - 38 Monopoly quartet: Abbr.
 - 39 Seed vessel
 - 40 Rock's ___ Speedwagon
 - 41 Mystery writer
- DOWN**
- 1 Old cloth
 - 2 Indignation
 - 3 ___ favor
 - 4 Undersoil
 - 5 Eastern
 - 6 Commendably
 - 7 Develop gradually
 - 8 Turkish money
 - 9 Large bag
 - 10 Agree
 - 11 Bubbling
 - 12 No-nos

SOLUTION TO 4.12.2018 PUZZLE

13 Later, dude!
21 Most loyal
22 Online brokerage
23 Decree
24 Beau ___
25 Renown
29 Backpack part
30 Smells
32 About
33 About visible
34 ___ we all?
35 Five: Prefix
36 From head ___
44 Country in SE Asia

45 Most secure
46 Deer horn
48 Take ___ at (try)
49 Mesa ___ National Park
50 ___ France
51 Digression
52 Climb
54 Jack of "Rio Lobo"
55 ___-friendly: not too technical
59 Ike's WWII command
60 What the sun does in the west
61 Mao ___-tung



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

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
SUPER TOUGH

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

Tennis hits the road for final regular season matches

MAGGIE CROUCH
STAFF WRITER

Both Ole Miss men's and women's tennis will travel out of state for the final conference matches of the season this weekend. The men's team heads to Fayetteville to take on the No. 47 Arkansas Razorbacks, while the No. 6 women's team will travel to Starkville to play the No. 27 Mississippi State Bulldogs.

Coming off their final home match of the season, the Ole Miss men's tennis team is ready to take on their next conference opponent at Arkansas this upcoming Sunday at 1:00 p.m.

This is the last regular season match for the Rebels before heading into the SEC Tournament just ten days later. With a conference record of 3-8, Ole Miss could use a win heading into the tournament.

Despite the loss to their rivals from Starkville last weekend, the men's team is hoping to keep up the momentum that freshman Finn Reynolds and senior Grey Hamilton started against the Bulldogs when both players earned

singles wins against the No. 7 opponent.

The Arkansas Razorbacks, who share the same 3-8 conference record as the Rebels, have beaten Alabama, Georgia and LSU. Although their conference record may not show it, the men's tennis team has had a winning season with overall record of 13-10 and quality wins against ranked teams such as Virginia and Baylor.

The Ole Miss women's team, who have had a little more luck in conference play, hold a current record of 8-4 and are fresh off a six-match winning streak. Heading into the match against the Bulldogs, who have a conference record of 6-6, the Rebels will look to keep the hot streak rolling.

The Rebels, who have been ranked in the Top 25 for 13 consecutive weeks this season, will take on the Bulldogs at 4:00 p.m. on Friday looking to lock up one last win in the regular season against the Starkville adversary.

The women's team has defeated everyone in-conference except for No. 3 Vanderbilt, No. 20 Auburn, No. 7 South Carolina and No. 10 Florida.



FILE PHOTO: BILLY SCHUERMAN

Gustav Hansson hits a backhand in his singles match against LSU earlier this year. The Rebels will go against Arkansas in Fayetteville to conclude their season.

Freshman Sabina Machalova will be one to look out for on the court this weekend. Named SEC co-freshman of the week, she is the third player in program history to earn

freshman of the week honors more than once. Earning it back on March 28, Machalova has a record to prove sitting 4-4 in the SEC and is 17-10 overall.

The SEC tournament looms on the horizon for both teams

as they finish up their regular season play. The men's tournament will take place in Tuscaloosa, Alabama from April 25-29, while the women will head to Knoxville, Tennessee from April 18-22.

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Mary Paige Thrash

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William David Rieger

B.A. IN BIOCHEMISTRY

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Directed by Davita Watkins

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COLUMN

Ole Miss versus Patterson: A nonexistent narrative

GRAYSON WEIR
SPORTS EDITOR

The University of Michigan Athletics Department has cancelled this weekend's spring football game, citing weather concerns. As a result, Wolverine faithful will not be able to watch their new 'golden boy' quarterback Shea Patterson take the field on Saturday, perhaps the only time the former Rebel would have been allowed to suit up for the blue and maize in 2018.

Pending an appeal for immediate eligibility with the NCAA, let's get one thing clear: Ole Miss cannot "block" Patterson from playing football for Michigan head coach Jim Harbaugh during the 2018 season. Plain and simple.

After his 2017 season was cut short with a knee injury, Patterson announced his intentions to transfer from Ole Miss, citing that he was misled by Hugh Freeze's coaching staff about the scope of the then-ongoing NCAA investigation when he signed with the university in 2016. Wishing him the best, Ole Miss granted Patterson a full transfer release from the program. In December, he committed to play at Michigan.

According to NCAA rule, any player who transfers is deemed ineligible for the following season at his/her new school. Thus, Patterson must sit out the 2018 year.

However, a 2016 amendment to the bylaw provides immediate eligibility if the NCAA determines he or she "was the victim of egregious behavior by the previous institution's staff member... that directly impacts the health, safety and wellbeing of the student-athlete."

This is where it gets interesting.

To play in 2018, Patterson is required to have an ap-



Shea Patterson slings a pass to Van Jefferson during the game against UT Martin last season. Patterson transferred to University of Michigan after his season was cut short by injury. FILE PHOTO: WILSON BENTON

peal waiver approved by the NCAA, which he and Michigan's compliance department filed with the organization at the end of February. On Monday, the news broke that Ole Miss objected to the waiver claim, based on Patterson's "assessment of the conditions within the program" that led to his transfer.

In response, Athletics Director Ross Bjork said Ole Miss had "no choice" but to file an objection to Patterson's request for immediate eligibility.

"We would not oppose a waiver of the year in residence requirement based on a legitimate reason for any student-athlete who wants to transfer from Ole Miss," he said in a written statement. "With the waiver in question,

the way it was written, we had no choice but to respond the way we did. With anyone who leaves our program, we wish them the best academically and athletically. At this point, it's not really our matter; it's an NCAA and Michigan matter."

Bjork is right. Neither he nor the university can deny or grant Patterson's attempt. The NCAA makes the decision; it's between the organization and Michigan/Patterson.

Ole Miss simply disputes the way it went down-- and for good reason. Amidst an appeal of its own, Ole Miss is hoping to overturn an unfavorable NCAA ruling and obtain bowl eligibility for 2018.

So, let's think logically.

How would admitting to a

display of "egregious behavior," including the misleading of recruits regarding the potential seriousness of the NCAA issues facing the program, be beneficial to the university's appeal in any way? It wouldn't.

If a player in transfer hired an attorney with an established background of partisanship against your university and attempted to recruit players from your roster to another, would you feel inclined to further complicate your own university's issues to make said player's transfer easier? Probably not.

Why is this an issue in the first place? Patterson is a 21-year-old sophomore in college, who, because of unforeseen circumstances, coaching changes and injury,

made a personal decision to transfer schools. He was not happy and wanted to leave. Fine. Why must he be penalized for it? Just like any non-athlete looking to transfer, he shouldn't be ... but that speaks to the logical abolition of the NCAA transfer rule as a whole, which is a different debate for another day.

The bottom line is this: Ole Miss does not have a say in whether Patterson can take the field for Michigan next year, and the assumption is that the NCAA should and will grant him eligibility in the coming weeks. There is no "vendetta" being held against him. As Bjork said, "with anyone who leaves our program, we wish them the best academically and athletically."

Let's move on.

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