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**April 16, 2018**

The Daily Mississippian

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The Daily Mississippian, "April 16, 2018" (2018). *Daily Mississippian (all digitized issues)*. 277.  
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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

## Newly elected ASB members sworn in Friday



PHOTOS BY: CHRISTIAN JOHNSON

**LEFT:** Former Associated Student Body President Dion Kevin swears in Elam Miller as 2018-19 ASB president during the ASB Inauguration Ceremony in front of the Lyceum on Friday. **RIGHT:** The 2018-19 ASB officers stand to applaud after the ceremony on Friday.

**TAYLOR VANCE**  
STAFF WRITER

New Associated Student Body executive officers were officially sworn in Friday in front of the Lyceum to begin their terms for the 2018-2019 academic year.

Outgoing executive officers stood by the students who

would succeed them and gave the incoming officers ASB lapel pins to symbolize the passing of the torch to these new campus leaders.

The new ASB Executive Officers are President Elam Miller, Vice President Walker Abel, Secretary Cady Cooper, Treasurer Jonathan Cox, Attorney General Katherine Sistrunk and Ju-

dicial Chair Alex Crouch.

Chancellor Jeffrey Vitter gave the new student government leaders advice on how to best represent the student body and make the university a better place.

“I urge you to enjoy this moment, because you’re going to have to get to work pretty soon,” Vitter said. “I charge you now with directing your

focus and energy on leading our students and continuing in improving our environment on campus.”

In his last speech as ASB President, Dion Kevin reflected on ASB’s accomplishments over the past year. Kevin specifically noted that ASB had established a productive relationship with the faculty, engaged the city of

Oxford and its citizens and changed the school mascot to the landshark.

Kevin also gave kind remarks to incoming ASB President Elam Miller and charged Miller with the continuation of working to make the university a better place for all people.

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## New group helps children of incarcerated parents

**SARAH HENDERSON**  
CONTRIBUTOR

Ole Miss Most Beautiful 2018 Asya Branch is leading a recently launched group of UM students in serving children whose parents are, or have been, incarcerated. The new service group will hold its kick-off meeting at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday in Guyton Hall.

Serving Children of Incarcerated Parents (SCIP) aims to support these families will help break the cycle of children with incarcerated parents becoming incarcerated themselves and, in turn, will lower the future number of children who grow up with incarcerated parents

Branch, a junior integrated marketing communications major, is passionate about her group and its purpose because



PHOTO COURTESY: FACEBOOK

Asya Branch (left) speaks with staff advisor Deetra Wiley about launching Serving Children of Incarcerated Parents. The organization’s purpose is to serve children whose parents are, or have been, incarcerated.

she is a child of an incarcerated father. Branch said she had no resources to help her navigate the difficulties of growing up with an incarcerated father, and she strives to be a person that other children of incarcerated parents can feel comfortable talking to.

“I have made it my duty to make a difference throughout our state and in the lives of children like me,” Branch said. “There are many undiscussed topics and several needs for children of incarcerated parents, and I plan to continue spreading awareness and

hopefully get several others involved.”

While competing in pageants such as Ole Miss Parade of Beauties and Miss Mississippi, Branch has used her experiences as a platform to empower others in similar situations. She created SCIP as a way to make a difference in the lives of children in Oxford and its surrounding communities.

In Mississippi alone, 55,000 children have at least one parent who has been incarcerated. This number represents roughly seven percent of children in Mississippi and equals the national average of children of incarcerated parents.

Serving Children of Incarcerated Parents’ goal is to promote personal involvement in the lives of children with incarcerated parents, to prepare university students to become ef-

fective one-on-one mentors for these children and to work with locals to assist these children in achieving their goals.

Throughout the past year, Branch has visited numerous schools and spoken to over 600 children about how to pursue their aspirations. She said seeing the difference she has made in the lives of those students was enough to make her want to continue her work on the issue, which is why she decided to implement this new service group on campus.

“What better place to spread awareness for a serious cause than your own university?” Branch said.

Deetra Wiley, a University of Mississippi business applications analyst, had a hand in

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**THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN  
EDITORIAL STAFF:**

**LANA FERGUSON**  
*editor-in-chief*  
dmeditor@gmail.com

**SLADE RAND**  
*managing editor*  
dmmanaging@gmail.com

**MAGGIE MARTIN**  
*copy chief*  
thedmcopy@gmail.com

**RACHEL ISHEE  
MADDIE MCGEE**  
*news editors*  
thedmnews@gmail.com

**BLAKE ALSUP**  
*assistant news editor*  
thedmnews@gmail.com

**SAM HARRES  
GRAYSON WEIR**  
*sports editors*  
thedmsports@gmail.com

**MARLEE CRAWFORD  
BILLY SCHUERMAN**  
*photography editors*  
thedmphotos@gmail.com

**DEVNA BOSE**  
*lifestyles editor*

**MARY LIZ KING**  
*assistant lifestyles editor*  
thedmfeatures@gmail.com

**LIAM NIEMAN**  
*opinion editor*  
thedmopinion@gmail.com

**HAYDEN BENGE  
ETHEL MWEDZIWENDIRA**  
*design editors*  
thedmdesign@gmail.com

**EMILY HOFFMAN**  
*social media editor*

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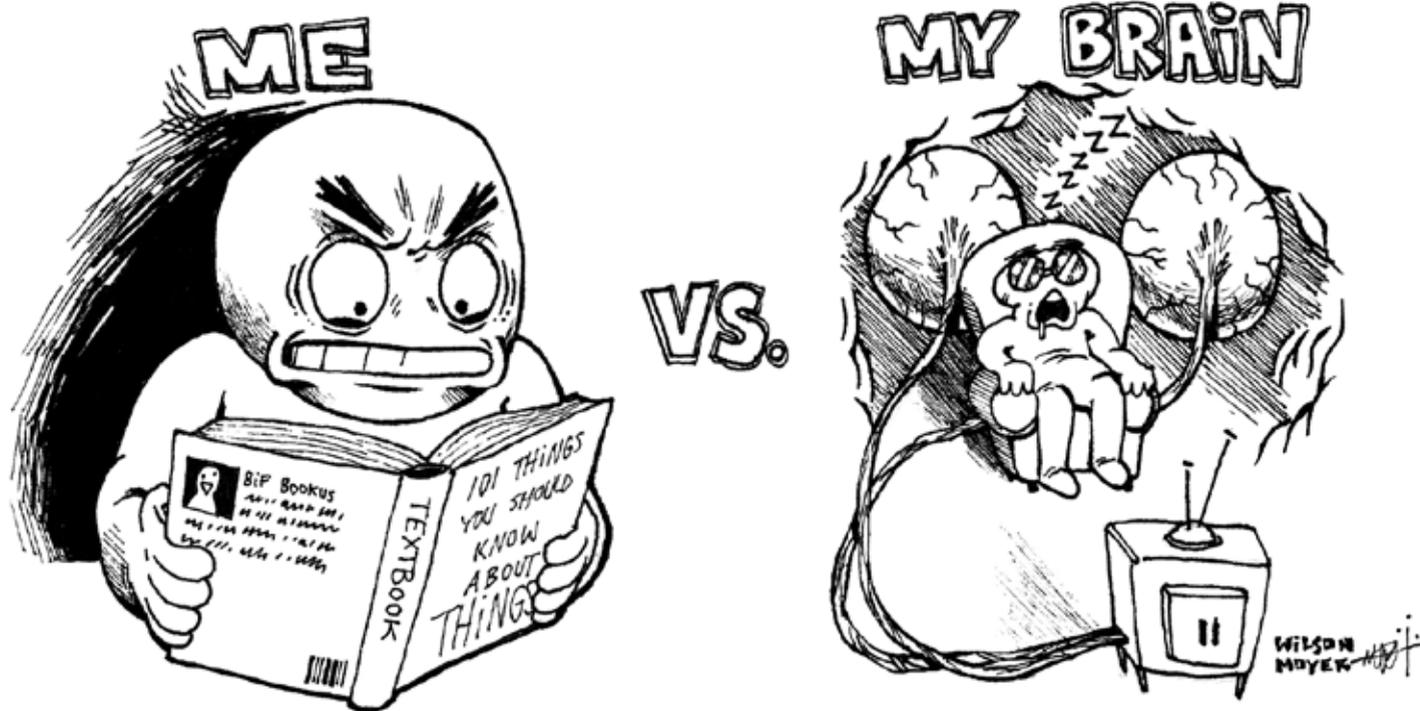
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**COLUMN**

# Do you understand what you believe?



**JONATHAN LOVELADY**  
STAFF COLUMNIST

Excluding during the Civil War era, our country has never been closer to the brink of bursting at the seams with political divisiveness as it is today. This column isn't meant to advocate for a particular political ideology or to throw shade at certain political organizations that push for the foundations of their beliefs.

Rather, its purpose is to try and make sure you understand what you actually believe.

We all have our beliefs, but the success of our civilization relies on compromising

sometimes - a technique which we have effectively lost nowadays because of divisiveness. In a democracy, having your particular ideology run the entire show is impossible.

There's a quote from Ludwig Erhard, a German politician during the 1960s, that I believe ties this all together. He said, "A compromise is the art of dividing a cake in such a way that everyone believes he has the biggest piece."

The fate of our government at this time relies on this spirit of compromise coming back. This isn't to say I'm predicting our government will fail. Rather, it's just to say that if some of us want progress, some of us want to uphold tradition and some of us don't care, then we need to bring back a reality of compromise seen previously in American history that can recognize these viewpoints.

The first important political compromise in U.S. history was the "Great Compromise" congressional

representation, in which the House and the Senate were created to represent small and large states equally. Though they had different ideas, the delegates came together to make the compromise happen, and without that there might never have been a Constitution.

Fast forward to the Civil Rights Act of 1964. President John F. Kennedy, a Democrat, strongly supported the 1964 bill to dramatically strengthen the Civil Rights Act of 1875. In a show of compromise, he met with Republicans to push for the bill, which eventually became law after President Lyndon Johnson's continued fight following Kennedy's assassination.

There are countless other scenes of compromise throughout our government's history. These people knew what they believed about the issues but also believed in the importance of a unified country.

Take the time to research your values, your party and

what your party truly upholds, then research what the other parties stand for in their own documents. Next, reread the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights along with it.

When we understand our political differences, we can also understand that there is more than one way to fix a problem.

Accept the fear of not knowing enough about a topic rather than regurgitating strings of information from unverified sources. Research whatever you believe, proclaim it and ultimately be willing to compromise for the sake of this country.

It may seem easier to beat around the bush when addressing a problem, but to effect real change, one must strike a problem at its roots. It won't be easy, but this has to be done and will take all of us.

*Jonathan Lovelady is a junior economics major from Los Angeles.*

THE DAILY  
**MISSISSIPPIAN**

S. Gale Denley Student Media Center  
201 Bishop Hall,  
P.O. Box 1848  
University, MS  
38677-1848

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.



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ASSOCIATION

MEMBER NEWSPAPER

**ASB**  
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“You are about to embark on a journey of self-discovery, but I’m here to say that I believe in all of you,” Kevin said. “Particularly, I believe in Elam Miller. Elam has dedicated three years to serving the student body, most recently as ASB vice president. He’s a talented negotiator,

passionate ambassador and sympathetic advocate.” Miller then took the stage and gave his first address to the university as ASB president, during which he reflected on his campaign motto, “Expect More,” and what it means for his presidency. “... Whether that be expecting more opportunities for students who have been turned down from ASB before or expecting more access to shared

concerns directly or expecting more collaboration between ASB branches and the student body,” Miller said. Miller shared why he decided to run for ASB President and what he wants to accomplish. “If I’ve learned anything (as vice president), it’s that each student at this university has unique opinions, ideas and concerns, and that ASB can be a great catalyst for what students want to see,” Miller said. “These

needs and concerns from students are what motivated me to run for ASB president. I will do my absolute best to make sure every student has a voice in their student government.” Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Brandi Hephner LaBanc also spoke at the ceremony and encouraged the ASB members to reflect on their successes and failures in order to grow and have a successful year. “The Associated Student

Body has a large role on our campus, and each of you maintains serious responsibilities in your positions,” Hephner LaBanc said. “I have very high expectations for today’s new leadership ... leave this place a better place ... (than) you found it.” ASB executive officers will start serving in their new roles in the fall semester of 2018.

**INCARCERATION**  
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creating this organization with Branch. Wiley is also a child of an incarcerated parent, and like Branch, she believes in the power of mentoring children who grew up in situations similar to her own. Wiley is the organization’s staff advisor and will be helping Branch use university funds and donations to accomplish its goals. “We want to serve these children through storytelling and doing other services that will be beneficial in creating a nurturing and loving environment for these kids,” Wiley said. Vinesh Patel, Serving Children of Incarcerated Parents treasurer, was enlisted to help start the organization by Branch, his friend and high school classmate. “She reached out to me as

she needed people to jumpstart this program,” Patel said. “It was a good concept when she told me over the phone, and I wanted to help because I like to be around kids. After hearing about it, I thought, ‘Why not?’” Patel is not a child of an incarcerated parent but wants to be a positive role model in the lives of those children who are. “When I see little kids think about the future, I want them to grow up with a positive lifestyle,” he said. “This [organization] allows me to be with children whose parents are currently incarcerated and be a light to them when their parents cannot be.” Branch, Wiley and Patel all believe in a mentorship program because of the harsh statistics related to children of incarcerated parents. According to a study by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, children of incarcerated parents are less likely to live

in neighborhoods where they can be offered support from their community. The parents of these children often feel they cannot trust anyone to help with their children, resulting in little or no support for the child experiencing parental incarceration. In the same study, it was shown that children of incarcerated parents were more likely to drop out of school, engage in troublesome behavior and, subsequently, become incarcerated themselves. Tuesday’s meeting is open to the public and will offer members the chance to hear the stories of Branch and Wiley as well as share their own experiences and ideas for the organization. Though students with incarcerated parents are especially encouraged to join the organization and help mentor younger children, any University of Mississippi student is welcome to join the group and

voice his/her thoughts. “The plan is to give these children the necessities to be successful in a world that often doesn’t understand

their situations,” Branch said. “I want to make people more aware of the effect that incarceration has on a family.”

**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**  
**Quincy Anne Hendricks**  
B.B.A. IN BANKING AND FINANCE  
“Behavioral Finance: A Survey of Financial Literature”  
Directed by Bonnie Van Ness  
Monday, April 16 at 8:30 am  
Holman Hall Room 230  
The defense is open to the public.  
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**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**  
**Carley Elizabeth Cole**  
B.A. IN BIOCHEMISTRY  
“Effects of Predation on the Biochemical Constituents of the Bleached Soft Coral *Simularia Polydactyla*”  
Directed by Deborah Gochfeld  
Monday, April 16 at 11:00 am  
Thad Cochran Room 2017  
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# 'Isle of Dogs' showcases precision, drips with detail

**JAX DALLAS**  
STAFF WRITER

Wes Anderson's newest film "Isle of Dogs," originally released on March 23, has finally made it to Oxford theaters and has most definitely been worth the wait.

Set in a near-future Japan where all dogs have been expelled to the nearby "Trash Island" in response to a massive outbreak of snout fever among the dog population, "Isle of Dogs" follows the journey of Atari Kobayashi, voiced by Koyu Rankin, as he tries to reconnect with his beloved guard dog Spots, voiced by Liev Schreiber. Atari is

helped along the way by a wise-cracking, rumor-craving pack of abandoned dogs led by Chief, voiced by Bryan Cranston. Things are going well for the troupe until they discover a conspiracy led by Atari's uncle, Mayor Kobayashi, that threatens the end of dogkind, and only Atari and his newfound furry friends can stop it.

When describing "Isle of Dogs," the first word that comes to mind is "precision." In a stop-motion film, precision is the tool of the trade. A single scene can take months to position and prepare, and any slight disturbance can mean complete destruction of all the progress that has been

made, but "Isle of Dogs" goes above and beyond the average stop-motion film's attention to detail. Every object on the screen matches the color palette and mood of the scene perfectly; every doggy-ear twitch syncs with the punch line of a joke; cultural references are dripping with detail and respect. In "Isle of Dogs," everything just fits into a charming 1-hour and 41-minute package.

One of the most compelling aspects of "Isle of Dogs" is its fantastic voice work. The film opens with a disclaimer telling the audience that the characters of the film would all be speaking in their native tongues and

that these lines would not be translated unless a translator was active in the scene. However, all dog barks would be in English. Surprisingly, the film followed through on this disclaimer. There is not a translator for a large portion of the Japanese that is spoken, and the viewers' understanding comes only from context and from the dogs' perspectives. The communication barrier between the dog pack and the human characters is a unique plot device that manages to contribute to hilarious and touching moments in the plot without ever feeling forced.

"Isle of Dogs" is a good example of how to make a re-

spectful film about another culture. In an age of white-washing in Hollywood, it is refreshing to hear Japanese spoken in a movie set in Japan and see traditions treated with respect rather than adulteration. "Isle of Dogs" serves as a shocking example of cultural reverence for an American stop-motion comedy - an attribute which stems from Anderson's notorious precision. Though lesser directors would slap the idea of Japanese culture onto their film and settle with that, Anderson sees anything short of authentic portrayal as a slight to his character and the character

SEE ISLE OF DOGS PAGE 5

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**ISLE OF DOGS**  
continued from page 4

of what he is representing. Even if you go into a Wes Anderson movie completely blind, you already know a few things about the film. You will see some form of strained family or orphaned boy storyline, there will be dry humor, Bill Murray will make an appearance, there will be a significant number of symmetrical camera shots and you can bet your life savings that there will be a pastel color palette. For many, these attributes make Anderson's films seem more stylish than substantive, but that is most definitely not the case with "Isle of Dogs." If the Anderson skeptic was correct,

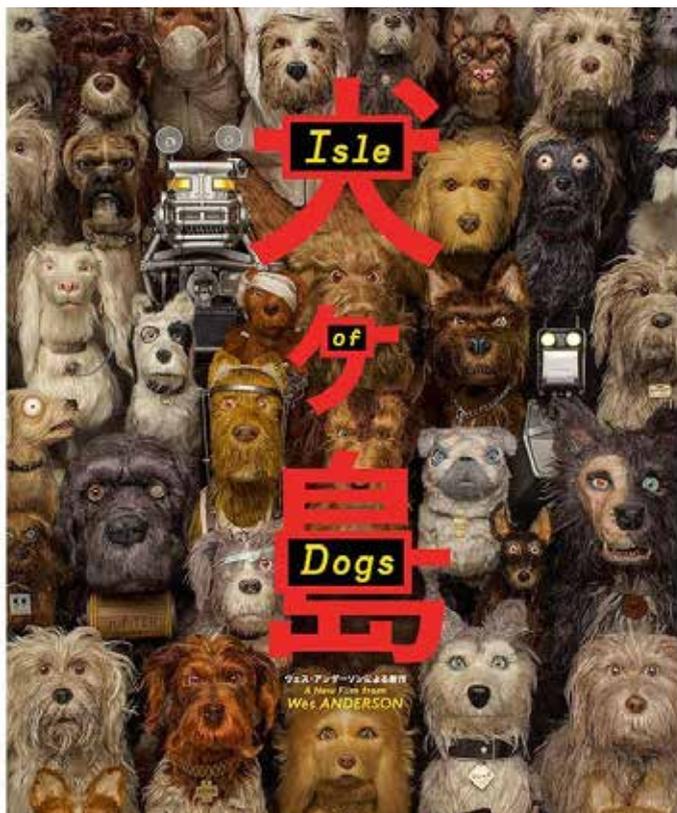


PHOTO COURTESY: IDLE HANDS

then "Isle of Dogs" would not be a film that respects and builds off pre-existing cultural traditions, would not be a film with models so intricate that they appear to have lives of their own and would not be a film with such breathtaking beauty and tear-worthy laughter.

In short, it would not be a Wes Anderson film. Whether you are a lover of Wes Anderson or you see his films as predictable, hipster, indie darlings, it would be hard to leave "Isle of Dogs" without a grin on your face. It is just that "dog-gone" charming.

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**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**  
**Baylee Mozjesik**  
B.A.J. IN JOURNALISM  
*"Education in Mississippi: Did Integration Elicit Equality?"*  
Directed by Alysia Steele  
Monday, April 16 at 11:00 am  
Farley Hall Room 124  
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**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**  
**Ward Brown Toler**  
B.S.Ch.E. IN CHEMICAL ENGINEERING  
*"Imidazolium Magnetic Ionic Liquid Solubilities in Water"*  
Directed by Paul Scovazzo  
Monday, April 16 at 11:00 am  
Carrier Hall Room 101  
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**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**  
**Chase Rydeen**  
B.S.C.S. IN COMPUTER SCIENCE  
*"Sentiment of the Union: Analyzing Tone in Presidential State of the Union Addresses"*  
Directed by Dawn Wilkins  
Monday, April 16 at 1:00 pm  
Weir Hall Room 225 (Conference Room)  
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**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**  
**Kranthi Kadaru and Rodrick Rogers**  
B.S.E.E. IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING  
*"Home Network Protector - IOT Security Device"*  
Directed by Matthew Morrison  
Monday, April 16 at 3:30 pm  
SMBHC Room 331  
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**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**  
**Kathryn Rowe**  
B.A. IN PUBLIC POLICY LEADERSHIP  
*"Regulating Sex Work: United States' Policy and International Comparisons"*  
Directed by Dr. Melissa Bass  
Tuesday, April 17 at 3:00 pm  
Trent Lott Leadership Institute Conference Room  
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**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**  
**Weston Douglas Liefer**  
B.A. IN CLASSICS  
*"Roman Character: Moral Foundations Theory and the Success of Rome"*  
Directed by John Lobur  
Tuesday, April 17 at 4:00 pm  
Bryant Hall Room 111  
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# Author inspires women to speak up in latest book

**ABBY PEREZ**  
STAFF WRITER

Former White House Director of Communications and Director of Communications for the Hillary Clinton 2016 presidential campaign Jennifer Palmieri will discuss her book "Dear Madam President" at 5 p.m. Monday night at Off Square Books along with Rick Outzen, author of "City of Grudges."

Square Books general manager Lyn Roberts said Palmieri, a Mississippi native, was scheduled to go to Square Books first. However, when Roberts learned that Palmieri was a friend of Outzen, she added him to tonight's event, as well.

"We kind of thought 'the more, the merrier' would make it even better," Roberts said.

Roberts said she feels the title of Palmieri's book says it all.

"I think that it is meant to be an inspiring and a very positive



PHOTO COURTESY: FOX NEWS

Jennifer Palmieri

book about the future," Roberts said. "A book to encourage, particularly, young women to kind of step up."

Palmieri's book is an open letter to women who run the world, the first woman president and women everywhere. Having worked with President Obama, President Bill Clinton and Hillary Clinton's campaign, she has a unique perspective and knows what obstacles women still face today.

"I worked in national politics for two decades and learned some lessons that I thought are useful for women," Palmieri said.

There were two moments in particular that inspired Palmieri to write this book. The first was two days after Hillary Clinton lost the presidential election in November 2016. Dozens of elementary students had scrawled hopeful messages in chalk on the sidewalk outside the campaign headquarters in Brooklyn, and many stood outside, carrying signs and cheering.

"It was so surprising. We

had just lost and we were pretty devastated, and these kids, their reaction and their parent's reaction was to come and try to inspire us," Palmieri said.

The second moment came after Palmieri found inspiration attending the inauguration in D.C. and later watching the Women's March in New Orleans.

"I didn't attend the march," Palmieri said. "I wanted to just sort of see how America was going to react. I was amazed to see that millions of people turned out."

This empowering book took 2 1/2 months to write. While Palmieri was working on her book, her editor told her to dig deep by writing what's most personal and most raw without holding back, and she feels that's exactly what she did.

"If you dig deep enough, you're going to find a way to describe the experience so other people can relate to it," Palmieri said. "It was a very intense experience, but I really enjoyed it."

When young girls, especially young girls of color, are reading "Dear Madam President," Palmieri said she wants them to know their voices matter and that they should speak up because everyone needs to hear their perspectives.

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**SOLUTION TO 4.13.2018 PUZZLE**

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| R | I | P | S | A | W | E | L | S | C | A | D | S |
| A | R | O | U | S | E | V | I | A | O | B | O | E |
| G | E | R | B | I | L | O | R | C | N | O | N | E |
| E | G | G | O | N | R | V | S | T | U | L | S | A |
| D | E | L | I | S | U | E | O | R | R |   |   |   |
| I | S | O | L | A | T | E | A | D | A | A | P | T |
| C | T | R | R | R | S | P | O | D | R | E | O |   |
| T | E | Y | O | A | T | P | R | E | V | E | N | T |
|   |   |   | S | U | P | A | E | S | I | N | T | O |
| A | V | I | A | N | A | N | A | S | E | T | A | E |
| S | E | L | F | D | E | S | T | R | U | C | T |   |
| T | R | E | E | L | I | L | S | A | N | E | S | T |
| A | D | D | S | A | D | E | R | E | L | A | T | E |
| B | E | E | T | M | E | R | R | E | M | O | T | E |

**ACROSS**

- 1 Clasp for a door
- 5 Donnybrook
- 10 Unspecified in number
- 14 Et \_\_\_ (and other men)
- 15 Advil rival
- 16 School orgs.
- 17 Big name in PCs
- 18 Kidney-related
- 19 Composer Khachaturian
- 20 Bean-shaped candy
- 22 Garden figure
- 23 Netscape buyer
- 24 Droop, sink
- 25 Part of a gun
- 29 Cradlesong
- 33 Old Testament book
- 34 Siouan tribe
- 36 "What I Am" singer
- 37 Building add-on
- 38 Like a March wind?
- 39 Classic two-sealers
- 40 \_\_\_ Three Lives
- 42 Wallet fillers
- 43 Rigel's constellation
- 45 Lived
- 47 Extend
- 49 Bro's sibling

**DOWN**

- 50 Sleep stage
- 51 \_\_\_ in the right direction
- 54 Prudent
- 60 Yuri's love
- 61 Ninth-century pope
- 62 Seasonal song
- 63 Greek god of love
- 64 Come up
- 65 Pinchy crustacean
- 66 Having a sound mind
- 67 Echolocation
- 68 Sicilian resort
- 1 Pilgrimage to Mecca
- 2 Nautically sheltered
- 3 Window ledge
- 4 Plunder
- 5 Metamorphosed limestone
- 6 Robt. \_\_\_
- 7 Musical Horne
- 8 Author Hunter
- 9 Conger
- 10 Glitter
- 11 Other, in Oaxaca
- 12 Polite address
- 13 Salinger girl
- 21 Hindu discipline
- 22 Guy's date
- 24 Chop \_\_\_
- 25 His and her
- 26 Esther of "Good Times"
- 27 Capri and Man
- 28 Circular
- 29 \_\_\_ luck!
- 30 Mgmt.
- 31 Intolerant person
- 32 Type of question
- 35 Half a fly
- 38 Departs
- 41 Illness
- 43 Keats works
- 44 Love affair
- 46 Immerse
- 48 Chauffeur
- 51 Pub orders
- 52 Franklin D.'s mother
- 53 1982 Disney film
- 54 Aviation prefix
- 55 Slay
- 56 Passport endorsement
- 57 Brought into the world
- 58 The Tower of Pisa does this
- 59 Exile isle
- 61 Part of UNLV

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

**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**  
**INSANE**

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

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**SATURDAY, APRIL 28**

8:30-10:00PM - COLD WAR KIDS

7:00-8:00PM - HOUNDMOUTH

5:30-6:30PM - WHITEY MORGAN

4:00-5:00PM - TANK AND THE BANGAS

2:30-3:30PM - SQUIRREL NUT ZIPPERS

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11:30AM-12:30PM - COMO MAMAS

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#### CONTEST RULES

Winning entries must correctly pick winner of all three games for that entry plus 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 hit in total during the three game series.

If there are no correct entries for that week no prize will be awarded.

Pick winner of Friday, April 20 game \*

Ole Miss

Georgia

Pick winner of Saturday, April 21 game \*

Ole Miss

Georgia



Winner  
will be contacted  
Mon., April 23

Hurry!  
Contest closes  
Friday, April 20  
at 4pm

# Basketball announces two-year series with Butler

**JOSH GOLLIHAR**  
STAFF WRITER

Kermit Davis is just weeks into his tenure at the helm of Ole Miss Men's Basketball, but he is already creating excitement around the program. The Rebels have agreed to a home-and-home series against the Butler Bulldogs beginning in the 2018-19 season.

Ole Miss will travel to Indianapolis, Indiana, next season to take on the Bulldogs. This marks the first time that the two schools will matchup on the hardwood. Butler has established itself as a perennial power in college basketball over the last decade. In this time, it has had two trips to the National Championship game and is currently on a four-year run of appearances in the NCAA Tournament.

Coach Davis knows firsthand the kind of talent the Bulldog program possesses. He faced Butler in the 2017 NCAA Tournament as the head coach of Middle Tennessee State.

"I have so much respect for the tradition of Butler



FILE PHOTO: MARLEE CRAWFORD

Guard Deandre Burnett (1) shoots during a game last season against Arkansas. Ole Miss recently announced a home-and-home series with Butler University.

Basketball," Davis said when the series was announced. "We are looking forward to the challenge of going to Hinkle

Fieldhouse this year. This will be a great home-and-home series for our program."

Scheduling this series should

add some excitement to a program that needs it after the departure of Andy Kennedy. With it, coach Davis proves he is willing to test his program against the best the college basketball landscape has to offer: Butler is returning three starters to a team that lost in the Round of 32 of the NCAA Tournament.

The following year, Ole Miss will host the Bulldogs in the Pavilion. Joining Ole Miss' quarterfinals matchup against Georgia Tech in the 2017 National Invitation Tournament, this game has the chance to be one of the most-contested non-conference matchups played in the state-of-the-art facility. If the Rebels can be successful in their first year under Davis, the Pavilion should be packed.

Additionally, the series' announcement came with another that the Rebels will again compete in a Thanksgiving weekend tournament in 2018. The team will travel to Niceville, Florida, to join George Mason, Cincinnati and Baylor in the Emerald Coast Classic. Ole Miss defeated Cincinnati in the 2014 edition of the tournament.

The early returns of Coach

Davis' hire are already proving their impact on the schedule and in the recruiting cycle. Davis was able to maintain power forward Zach Naylor's commitment. Having recruits reaffirm commitments during coaching changes is always a difficult task, but Davis' success will play well during recruiting.

In addition to making scheduling decisions, Davis has reportedly rounded out his coaching staff already. National college basketball insider Jon Rothstein is reporting that Arizona State's Levi Watkins will join Davis in Oxford. Watkins has worked as a recruiting coordinator and has overseen player development for current Sun Devil head coach Bobby Hurley. Once official, Watkins will join Win Case and Ronnie Hamilton, whom Davis brought with him from Middle Tennessee State, on a well experienced coaching staff.

Coach Davis' time at Ole Miss is still in its infancy. The team is months away from taking the court; however, Davis is working to create early excitement for a program that lacked it last season.

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