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The Daily Mississippian

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# 1911 THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN 2011

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## Judicial Council rules invocation unconstitutional

BY JACOB BATTE  
The Daily Mississippian

Monday night, the Associated Student Body Judicial Council put an end to one of the ASB's biggest debates of the academic year when the council ruled that the invocation at the beginning of each ASB senate hearing is unconstitutional.

The council ruled that the invocation was in violation of Article 10, Section 2, which deals with freedom of religion; Article 10, Section 7, which covers equal protection and non-discriminatory statement and Article 16, Section 3, which talks about infringing upon the Students' Bill of Rights.

In a statement following the hearing, the judicial council recommended that the ASB senate change Article 5, Section 1 of its rules replace the practice of its invocation with a moment of silence to be used as each senator deems appropriate, and to take Article 5, Section 2 out of the code and constitution.

"In addition, it is the disposition of the ASB Judicial Council that this body is not an expert of either the applications or interpretations of the United States Constitution or the Constitution of the State of Mississippi," judicial council members said in the statement.

"Adherence to the above mentioned constitutions is inherent in the relationship between the Associate Student Body and The University of Mississippi and is a matter best governed by the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning."

Due to this, the ASB Judicial Council recommended striking Article 5, Section 8.

Senators Dan Blazo and Asma Al-Sherri, who have been pushing the issue since it was first brought about last November, presented their argument.

Abby Olivier, vice president of the ASB, and president of the Senate, and Charles Woods, chairman of governmental operations, were summoned to represent the ASB and the decision to turn down the proposed change last week.

Blazo and Al-Sherri said they were glad that the issue has finally come to a close.

"We're really excited that they were able to come to a constitutional decision and that no one after us will be discriminated against anymore," Al-Sherri said. "We have fought the fight for everyone else."

Blazo said he felt it would be his legacy and contribution to the University.

"We did it! We won!" Blazo said. "I feel like we made a positive impact at Ole Miss, which is all we're trying to do. Hopefully this keeps up."

## Barbour calls off his presidency run

BY MALLORY SIMERVILLE  
The Daily Mississippian

Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour announced yesterday that he will not run for president in 2012.

"I will not be a candidate for president next year," Barbour said in a statement on his website. "This has been a difficult, personal decision, and I am very grateful to my family for their total support of my going forward, had that been what I decided."

According to the Associated Press, his declaration came as a surprise since Barbour had been laying the groundwork to campaign for months. Barbour was reportedly planning an "announcement tour" to declare himself a candidate against Barack Obama for the 2012 race.

Barbour said on his website that "supporters expect and deserve no less than absolute fire in the belly from their candidate," which Barbour said he feels he is unable to give.



FILE PHOTO | The Daily Mississippian

Mississippi Governor Haley Barbour spoke at the Overby Center in spring of 2010. Barbour announced yesterday that he would not run for president in the 2012 election.

A presidential candidate can expect a 10-year commitment.

"I cannot offer that with certainty, and total certainty is required," Barbour said on his website.

Barbour was elected governor in 2003, with his first term greatly affected by Hurricane Katrina. When the storm

hit in August 2005, Barbour focused on rebuilding after the storm, convincing federal officials to aid the state with billions of dollars in order to rebuild. In 2007, Barbour was elected to his second term.

Barbour served as chairman of the Republican Governors

See BARBOUR, PAGE 5

## Bill could have saved students money



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ALEX EDWARDS | The Daily Mississippian

BY AVE MAYEUX  
The Daily Mississippian

Efforts to help lower the costs of college textbooks on the state level continue to have little support.

Bill 158, proposed by Rep. Bob Evans of District 91 to lower the cost of books, was shot down for the third time earlier this year.

The proposed bill was going to help regulate the price of textbooks for college students, so they might become more affordable. It would also provide opportunities for people

with lower income to attain college degrees and bridge the gap between fees and financial aid disbursements.

"House Bill 158 is simply my attempt to lessen the cost of textbooks and require that they be used for longer periods of time before replacement with 'new' editions," Rep. Evans said. "This bill would require the Board of Trustees of Institutes of Higher Learning to oversee it. If noncompliance was seen, the noncomplying school could lose some part of its state funding."

The proposed law would

make it less expensive for students and parents to purchase the materials required by the professors. Even though the bill was declined, universities are working with state and federal law makers to decrease college expenses.

One of the methods used to lower the costs is unbundling. Bundling is a term used by publishing companies that refers to textbooks that are sold with supplemental materials such as CDs or online pass codes that grants the student

See TEXTBOOKS, PAGE 5

### this week

OVERBY CENTER

#### DIVERSITY ROCKS WEEK

Red, Blue and Rainbow: An Inside Look at Being GLBT at UM  
11 a.m., Free

Rocking into the Future: Race Relations at Ole Miss  
1 p.m., Free

What Ole Miss Taught Me About Diversity  
2:30 p.m., Free

POWERHOUSE

#### OXFORD ART CRAWL

Oxford is hosting its second art crawl with a traditional double-decker bus transporting people from Southside Gallery, the Powerhouse, Frame Up Gallery, Gallery 130 and the University Museum.

7-9 p.m.  
Free

### inside

NEWS

#### O.U.T. RIDERSHIP UP PARTLY DUE TO GAS PRICES



PHOTOS

#### 11 VICTORIES FOR UM TRACK TEAM



SPORTS

#### ESPN'S THOMPSON CALLS OXFORD HOME





## Once a cheater, always a cheater



BY STEPHANIE THOMAS  
Columnist

While walking to class, I overheard a conversation between two sorority girls.

Before anyone makes assumptions about how I am stereotyping, the girls were wearing tanks that clearly showed what sorority they were members of, and in order to protect the integrity of each sorority, I will keep the names confidential.

I wouldn't call what I did eavesdropping, but more a light form of investigation.

The conversation started out normal. What did you do this weekend? Did you hear about so and so? Blah, blah, blah.

Then it turned into a confession. One girl turns to the other and says, "I got my midterm back today. I got a 99."

Now, there is nothing wrong with getting an A on a midterm. What shocked me was what came next.

"I am so glad (insert name

here) studied. Because if she hadn't, I would have been screwed."

Before coming to any conclusions, I listened more intently. She went into telling her rival sorority friend that she had "borrowed" the answers from the girl in front of her.

In my high school, cheating was a serious offense. If you cheated, you immediately got a zero on the test or assignment, and you were subject to other privileges being taken away or disciplinary actions to be taken.

Here at the University, I am sure the rules regarding cheating are even more severe.

I know that students cheat. It didn't come as a surprise to me when she said she had.

The fact of the matter is, some will do whatever it takes to make the grade.

But there are two different types of people in this situa-

tion – students that will go the extra mile to achieve a higher grade and students waiting at the finish line to take the credit.

At the end of the day, it all comes down to ethics.

Knowing what is ethical and unethical is a pretty big chunk of the job description of most careers.

Just before they turned the corner, I heard the girl say one more thing.

"I didn't mean to cheat, but I just froze up. But I will never do it again."

You didn't mean to cheat? That makes absolutely no sense. Cheating takes just as much effort as studying.

If a person is willing to cheat once, then if the time arises, they would probably do the same thing again.

Cheating seems to be an addiction. Cheat once and you may cheat again without it even registering in your

brain.

You "accidentally" see someone's answers or you wanted to check and make sure the answer you put was right. Either way, cheating is occurring.

There is no gray area. You are either cheating or you are not.

People can tell themselves that it was unintentional and even swear they will never do it again.

People who steal say the same thing. Drug addicts do, too.

They say that they can quit whenever they want. But they can't.

Fortunately cheating is a bit less extreme than that, but it can become a problem.

Mistakes cannot be erased. The past cannot be changed, and both the present and future reflect it.

So don't buy into that crowd, because once a cheater, always a cheater.

CAROLINE LEE  
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advertising manager

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broadcast manager

## Get your passport, explore the world



BY LEXI THOMAN  
Columnist

My column today was inspired by a picture my sister posted on Facebook, of all things. The image was a map of the United States, providing a visual representation of the number of passport holders as a percentage of each state's population (the chart is from <http://blog.cgpgrey.com/>). The higher the percentage, the lighter the state was shaded, and the lower the percentage, the darker the state was shaded.

Simple, right? The straightforwardness of the chart was one of the things that makes it such a powerful visual tool.

Not surprisingly, the states bordering the eastern and western coasts had the highest numbers, with California, New York, Massachusetts and Alaska all boasting a passport-holding rate of over 60 percent. The states get gradually darker the farther you move from the coasts.

But who is bringing up the rear of all 50 states? Yes, you guessed it: Mississippi.

In fact, the rate of passport holders is so low that it had to be put in its own color category entirely — less than 20 percent of the state's population owns a passport.

Of course, we must remember that socioeconomic conditions may have contributed to this statistic. Mississippi is also consistently one of the poorest states in America.

International travel is simply out of the question for many Mississippians who struggle to make ends meet each year.

That said, I still found this statistic particularly troubling.

As an international studies major, I lived in Quito, Ecuador, this past summer, and I am quick to say that the time I spent there was the best experience of my life.

Before that, I had only vis-

ited two other countries: Canada and Mexico. It only took me one worthwhile summer abroad to catch a "gypsy soul," and I cannot wait to go abroad again next January.

My close friends know how much I love to travel — probably because I talk about it all of the time. When I am bored or procrastinating, I will browse the prices of plane tickets to the most random and remote corners in the world, sign up for a one-way flight and contemplate hitting the "purchase" button.

There is no better way to step outside of your comfort zone than to go to a country with a language, culture and people extremely different from your own. You learn so much about yourself as a person, and I would argue that there is no better way to do so.

So why am I addressing this passport statistic? Going abroad opens your eyes. I am

writing this column simply because I want to encourage each and every reader to experience what I did. Anyone who has gone abroad understands that you simply cannot put the feeling into writing, even though I have tried here today.

The University of Mississippi has a ton of study abroad opportunities, available to every single student here. Even if you are just curious, make an appointment with them. They are here for you. Whether you study abroad for a summer or a full year, I promise that the experience will change your life.

Go ahead and apply for your passport, as processing can take over six weeks. Even if you don't have plans to travel internationally in the immediate future, at least you will know you have the option.

Go see the world. It is a lot bigger than Mississippi.

# Acceptance rather than tolerance



BY CORTEZ MOSS  
Columnist

You tolerate cowbells if you attend an MSU football game in Starkville. You tolerate mosquitos if you live in the Mississippi Delta. You tolerate nasty or rude roommates in your residence hall.

We often tolerate things that are unpleasant to us or different from our morals and values.

Last night, the Associated

Student Body Judicial Council heard a case surrounding the invocation during ASB Senate meetings.

It is extremely important for those who are on the fence to think about things from a different perspective.

Ask yourself: "Do you prefer to be tolerated or accepted? And how does one feel if he or she is simply tolerated rather than accepted?"

There have been many groups that were tolerated in society because of fear, lack of understanding or one group feeling superior to another.

I think it's important to deconstruct the ideas of tolerance and acceptance that I am referring to.

Let's talk for a moment about what I believe the difference is between "tolerance" and "acceptance."

It is my belief that "tolerance" authors a negative response. Tolerance suggests that one does not necessarily accept another or that one disagrees with another's beliefs or practices, but realizes that one has to be nice to another and make them feel welcome because it's the "right" thing to do.

Simply stated: "I will be nice to you in order to keep peace with you."

On the contrary, "acceptance" indicates or suggests a far more positive response to those in the opposite position. It realizes that yes, you are dif-

ferent from another or perform different practices from another while still seeing them as an equal to yourself.

And though you may not agree with them, you support them in their beliefs, rights and practices as much as you would your own.

To accept someone's practices or belief system is not to reject your own view but to simply recognize a difference and to understand that you differ and recognize that you share different practices and viewpoints from them.

While this may be hard, I think it's important for us to take these ideals into consideration when creating practices and policies.

I understand that it may be difficult to accept someone who is polar to your religious beliefs, practices or ideology and that it is much more easy to tolerate them rather than accept them.

Of course we think our ways or beliefs are correct and superior, but it is important to understand and accept the fact that someone else thinks the same way as we do.

The complex question at hand is how do people work together to ensure that everyone is accepted rather than tolerated.

It starts with a conversation, which then leads to understanding and, eventually, action.

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I was impressed by the number of pieces on the national debt and wasteful government programs in The Daily Mississippian recently.

Jacob Batte's two-part news feature on debt awareness and spending, Alec Jones's column on the unintended consequences of the misguided drug war and Matt Johnson's subsequent letter which reiterated the hypocrisy of supporting limited government while regulating personal habits.

I was also impressed, in a negative way, that none of these pieces addressed military spending.

Jones came the closest in his column since the drug war is in large part a military con-

flict, and I believe many of his comments can be translated to our foreign policy as well. The scope of his column was limited though, and it is perhaps unfair to judge him for not addressing the larger concerns of aggressive military action against foreign nations.

In Batte's articles, however, the omission is stunning. Whether the omission results from an editorial choice or simply because none of the people he interviewed (majors in public policy, political science and philosophy) happened to mention military spending as a possible target for spending cuts, the implications are troubling. Either the writer and The DM editorial staff do not consider the country's military involvement in multiple wars

a budget concern, or the folks who study politics here at the University fail to do so.

This is bothersome considering the size of the annual budget for military spending in relation to other programs, not to mention that military intervention abroad often comes with unintended consequences as well.

It is also subject to the same criticism expressed by Richard Burke in Batte's article: using tax revenues to fund controversial programs.

When discussing fiscal responsibility, let's not forget that war is expensive and wasteful, too.

Benjamin Lowery  
Graduate Student  
English



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## O.U.T. bus ridership up

BY BRIT STACK  
The Daily Mississippian

The Oxford University Transit system has experienced an increase in.

Many students and riders attribute the increase to many issues that have arisen recently, such as the shortage of public transportation to campus, the rising gas prices and the price of student parking decals.

Martha Hill, a Yellow Line bus driver, has been driving for O.U.T. for about a year and a half.

Hill said she has noticed an increase in riders, mostly due to rising gas prices.

Jade McIntosh, a University of Mississippi junior, said she exclusively rides the bus to campus.

She said it saves money on gas, and she does not have to search for parking spots on campus, especially on rainy days.

"It works because it goes right on campus near my classes," McIntosh said. "It's really good, especially since I have mostly back-to-back classes."

Darryl Dunson, an Ole Miss junior, said that when he transferred to Ole Miss from the University of Wisconsin last fall and had no other form of transportation, the O.U.T. system was convenient and quite similar to a transport system he used in Wisconsin.

Jaimie O'Dea, an Ole Miss junior, said she did not want to pay \$60 for a commuter parking decal since she lives at Esplanade Ridge off Anderson Road. Every once in a while she will park in the South Lot and ride into campus from there.

She said she only uses it to get to campus now; however, she said she might use it in the fall to go to places such as Walmart, as she will be living off University



FORREST SMITH | The Daily Mississippian

Students line up to enter an O.U.T. bus on one of its numerous stops on campus. The number of riders has been steadily increasing due to rising gas prices.

Avenue.

Hill said she also noticed more riders during Green Week.

"I've had to initial some students' papers for their classes so they get credit," Hill said.

Some students also said the bus

is a much better ride since the upgrade to larger buses.

"It was packed," O'Dea said. "There was no space, and people had to stand."

The O.U.T. system has four routes, allowing riders to get to

most parts of town. It costs 50 cents to \$1 to ride, but is free for Ole Miss students.

All routes run Monday through Friday except the Red and Blue Lines, which also run Saturday with shorter hours.

## Wheelchair basketball tournament set to start today

BY MOLLY DYAL  
The Daily Mississippian

The Advocates for Student Disability Association is giving students the chance to experience life in a wheelchair with its wheelchair basketball tournament.

The three-day tournament, which is part of the ASDA's Disability Awareness Month, will be held at 3 p.m. today through Thursday in the Turner Center.

All are invited to participate and experience first-hand what it is like to be in a wheelchair.

Adam Brown, president of ASDA, said that he is hopeful the tournament will raise awareness for individuals with disabilities.

"The goal of it is to spread awareness, but in a fun way," Brown said. "It should be a good way for people to come together and have a good time."

Teams of three to four can

register with a \$25 entrance fee, which covers the cost of renting the wheelchairs.

Stacey Reycraft, the director of student disability services, said the event could be an eye-opener for students.

"Participants will learn how hard it is to get around in a wheelchair," Reycraft said. "I think they'll gain a new appreciation for those who use wheelchairs. It should also raise awareness that just because someone is in a wheelchair doesn't mean they can't be athletic. I hope it is a success because it is such a novel idea."

Brown said that when coming up with ideas for events to celebrate disability awareness month, the ASDA wanted to do something different.

"When we were tossing around ideas of things to do, we were first thinking of doing a panel or a discussion," Brown said. "But then we decided we could make it a little challenging and interesting. So we decided to have a basketball tournament."

The Student Disability Services works to help students on campus, which has 552 registered students with disabilities. The SDS has been collaborating with the



FILE PHOTO | The Daily Mississippian

Adam Brown, president of the Advocates for Student Disability Association, hopes the basketball tournament will promote Disability Awareness month.

ASDA in creating events for April and raising awareness.

"I am pleased so far with this year's disability awareness month," Reycraft said. "It has been much bigger than last year's, so we're hoping that more depart-

ments will start to get involved and have more events for it."

For additional information or to register a team, contact Brown at [agbrown1@olemiss.edu](mailto:agbrown1@olemiss.edu) or Traci Meredith at [traci@olemiss.edu](mailto:traci@olemiss.edu).

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# Songwriters come to promote National Songwriting Festival

BY LEE HARRIS  
The Daily Mississippian

Buzz Cason and Dickey Lee are not well known, but they have influenced many artists, including the Beatles, Pearl Jam, U2, George Strait, Kenny Rogers and Reba McEntire.

Cason and Lee, who were inducted into the Songwriters' Hall of Fame for the work they did with these artists, will perform Tuesday night at the Powerhouse to promote the National Songwriting Festival.

"These are two guys that have covered everything from '60s teen rock to classic country and contemporary country and rock," said Wayne Andrews, executive director of the Yoknapatawpha Arts Council.

The performance will be part of a three-city tour to find and encourage songwriters to attend the National Songwriting Festival in

Colorado. To support the arts council, the Songwriters Hall of Fame is paying for the show and allowing the council to keep the proceeds.

"If you buy the ticket, if you spend the \$10 to come see the show, you're not only getting to see a great show, but you're also directly helping the Arts Council," Andrews said.

The festival selected Oxford instead of Memphis after the lobbying of some local business owners. Andrews said he thinks this could be a big step in Oxford becoming a major player in the regional music scene.

"When you start putting Oxford musically in the same conversation with Nashville and New Orleans, I think that says something about where music is in our city," he said. "Hopefully it will keep growing."

The two songwriters will perform and recount stories from their careers Tuesday night.

"It's going to be a nice, intimate show," Andrews said. "They're just going to kind of talk and play and see where it takes them, which I think is going to be the good part of the show."

Despite having different histories in the industry, both men have had long careers. Cason, who is the only songwriter ever credited with writing for the Beatles, Pearl Jam and U2, also reportedly helped launch the career of Jimmy Buffett. Lee has written for many country music stars, including George Strait.

"You may not know the name because they wrote the songs and someone else made them famous, but these are the guys that make it all happen," Andrews said.

Local singer-songwriter John Michael McCloud will open the show. It will begin at 7 p.m. and end at 9 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door for \$10.

## BARBOUR,

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Association from June 2009 through November 2010. "While serving, he traveled to campaign for GOP candidates, which was seen as a way to establish himself as a presidential candidate, according to an AP report.

Barbour served as political director for the Reagan White House in the mid-1980s. He also aided in forming the Washington lobbying firm Barbour, Griffith & Rogers in 1991.

According to AP, he played a large part in helping the GOP take control of both the U.S. House and Senate for the first time in 40 years.

Barbour has been known to have a strong fundraising campaign, but critics have accused him of being deaf to Mississippi's divisive racial history.

According to the Clarion-Ledger, Barbour faced criticism in December for a comment he made to The Weekly

Standard about the Civil Rights era in his hometown, Yazoo City.

Barbour stated, "I just don't remember it as being that bad."

Barbour then clarified his statement, which was reported in a Clarion-Ledger article.

"It was a difficult and painful era for Mississippi, the rest of the country and especially African Americans who were persecuted in that time," he said.

Although Barbour will not be a candidate for president, he will continue to fulfill his elected responsibilities.

"This decision means I will continue my job as Governor of Mississippi, my role in the Republican Governors Association and my efforts to elect a new Republican president in 2012, as the stakes for the nation require that effort to be successful," Barbour said in a statement on his website.

## TEXTBOOKS,

continued from page 1

access to online workbooks and study guides and often is where professors assign their student's homework.

These items are shrink-wrapped and bound together. Once opened, the items are not returnable.

To make buying textbooks optional, some professors require the purchase of the passwords.

This way, students save money by not having to purchase a textbook and are still able to complete online assignments by logging on to their designated homework sites with their passwords.

This gives students flexibility when purchasing materials at the beginning of each semester.

Madonna Thomson, a junior psychology major, expressed her disgust for the overall rise in textbook sales.

"I'm completely outraged with the rising costs of textbooks, as if tuition wasn't enough already," Thomson said.

"Now that textbooks prices have risen, less people are buying books and they're not getting an efficient education. If you can't afford to buy your books, what's the point of even going to class?"

Another method popular among college campuses is textbook rental. This gives students the option to rent books as opposed to buying them outright.

This is considered to be one

of the cheapest options available, but according to Richard Lowe of Rebel Bookstore, that is not always the case.

"Buying a used book and selling it back is a better deal," said Lowe.

Lowe said the typical markup on a publisher's new book is 20 percent.

If it is the current copy that the teachers are using, he said that he gives 50 percent back, or in some cases has given more if the book was in high demand.

"In the long run, it's cheaper to buy the book and then sell it back," Lowe said.

Because the proposed bill was declined, the option to rent textbooks will live on.

"The bill, unfortunately, is

dead for this session," Evans said.

If the bill had been passed, it would have required that a rental system be established within each public university.

Rep. Evans said that had Bill 158 been passed, Mississippi students would have seen a significant drop in textbook prices this upcoming school year.

If it had become law, textbook prices would have been reduced because the length of time particular books used would have increased.

Also, a book rental system would have been established by way of a pilot project to see if that's realistic, he said.

Evans has a personal connection with this bill because he is a parent himself.

"I put my four sons through college," Evans said.

"As such, I have personal knowledge about the textbook pricing racket. For example, you buy a new book for \$100 at the beginning of the semester, then sell it back to the bookstore (if edition doesn't change) at the end of semester for \$25, even if the book's condition is still pristine."

Why the bill has not been passed in previous sessions is up for debate, Evans said.

"I have received no negative input," Evans said.

"But someone obviously doesn't like it – probably booksellers – since the bill hasn't even been made it out of the House Committee (Universities and Colleges)."



**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**  
**Diana Price**

**Four Letter Assassin: AIDS and the American Foreign Aid Response in South Africa**

**Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**4:00 p.m.**  
**Odom Hall**  
**First Floor Conference Room**

The defense is open to the public.  
If you require special assistance relating to a disability, please contact Penny Leeton at 662-915-7266.

**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**  
**Sarah Story**

**Quintessence: B.F.A. Painting Exhibit**

**Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**4:00 p.m.**  
**Meek Hall**  
**Gallery 130**

The defense is open to the public.  
If you require special assistance relating to a disability, please contact Penny Leeton at 662-915-7266.

**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**  
**Cole Wilkerson**

**Examination of the Consumer Ethics of Students at the University of Mississippi**

**Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**2:00 p.m.**  
**Holman Hall**  
**Room 230**

The defense is open to the public.  
If you require special assistance relating to a disability, please contact Penny Leeton at 662-915-7266.

**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**  
**Sarah Rogers**

**"Policies Addressing Obesity: A Comparison of South Korea and The United States"**

**Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**3:00 p.m.**  
**Lott Leadership Institute**  
**Conference Room**

The defense is open to the public.  
If you require special assistance relating to a disability, please contact Penny Leeton at 662-915-7266.





The University of Mississippi hosted the Mississippi Open last Saturday where the team recorded 11 victories at the last home track meet of the year. Saturday's mens winners included Lee Moore, 400 meter hurdles; the Ole Miss' 4X400 relay team; Ricky Robertson for both long jump and high jump; Morris Kersh, triple jump; and Benjamin Lapane, javelin. The women's winners included Sofie Persson, 400 meter hurdles; Katie Breathitt, 3000 meter steeplechase; Aria Gaines, triple jump; Juliana Smith, hammer throw; and Brittany Bozeman, heptathlon.

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# Fish can't climb trees

Lydia Smith, junior special education major, was presented with the Grand Prize, an Apple iPad, yesterday morning at the Diversity Rocks opening ceremony for winning the Diversity Rocks essay contest. Diversity Rocks events will be held throughout the week at the Overby Center Auditorium.



BY LYDIA SMITH  
Special to The DM

Albert Einstein once proclaimed, "Everybody is a genius, but if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid."

I not only feel that this statement puts the world into perspective, but it also best represents my stance on diversity. For me, one of the most important parts of diversity is the inclusion and acceptance of individuals with disabilities.

This part of diversity remains close to my heart because of one very special person and her drastic impact on my life.

Growing up, I remember tapping my foot anxiously as I listened to her tell me the same story for the fifth time.

My eyes would roll as she stumbled over her words again and again. Praying that she did not embarrass me one more time, I would cringe each time we had to run an errand, make a phone call or answer the door. Her name is Jenny, and she is my aunt. Jenny has a cognitive disability that has affected her life since the day she was born.

For most of my life, I viewed my responsibility to care for her as a burden, but it would not be until I was in college that I realized this burden was actually one of my greatest blessings. In fact, if you would have told me back then that in 2012 I would be preparing to graduate with a degree in special education, I would have told you that you were crazy. My change of heart came one Christmas Eve afternoon. Jenny and I sat at the table making sticky fondue and listening to soft Christmas carols on the radio.

Looking back, I now realize that

anything could have sent me over the edge that day, but Jenny just happened to do it.

When it was time to clean up our mess, her large hand accidentally knocked a glass of soda off of the table and onto the kitchen floor. At that moment, I lost my mind.

A combination of harsh words, tears and rage ended our celebrations with me sobbing in my bedroom and Jenny sitting quietly on our old leather couch.

When I finally composed myself, I prepared to apologize for a situation that never should have happened. As I began to vomit out my list of excuses, Jenny stopped me. She wrapped her long arms around me, squeezed me tightly and kissed my cheek like a child kisses a kitten for the first time.

She had not only forgiven me, but she had decided to forget long before I had even finished saying that I was sorry. It was at that very moment when I realized that she could teach me far more than I could ever teach her.

The inclusion of individuals with

disabilities fosters understanding and acceptance. Mainstream society places great importance on being the smartest, fastest, richest, best and most successful.

For many with disabilities, their importance is placed on accomplishing simple tasks, achieving slight progress or simply making it through another day. Still, these very special folks foster skills that the majority of society will never come close to mastering.

Jenny cannot complete algebra, parallel park or win a running race, but she can model undying love, an abundance of acceptance and a desire to please. She is able to do these things because while the rest of the world is working against each other to be number one, Jenny is learning to overcome her disability by seeing the world in a different way.

People sometimes deem those who are disabled as different and unworthy. Surprisingly, I think that these people are exactly right.

Those who are disabled are fabulously different. Their uniqueness allows for the opening of minds be-

longing to people all around them.

The diversity that these individuals create has the potential to alter the way people view their own lives and the lives of those around them.

In addition, people with disabilities are also unworthy.

They are unworthy of receiving anything less than exceptional care from the people around them. They are unworthy of not being treated equally. They are unworthy of not having the opportunity to live life to the fullest. The acceptance of those with disabilities creates a fire inside me that makes me want to celebrate our differences. Every person has unique abilities that can add to society, and this is what diversity is all about.

My hope is that someday everyone who has a disability will be viewed for the person that he or she is instead of the impairment that he or she has. When this is our reality, the world will be a more beautiful place. It is time that we stop forcing fish to climb trees and start encouraging the tolerance and celebration of everyone's abilities.

## Carson-Pitcock Scholarship Benefit



What: BBQ from The Rib Cage

When: April 29th 3pm - 5pm

Where: Tri Delta House

Tickets on sale at the Union April 26th to Friday 29th from 10-3  
or from any Tri Delta

Thanks for your support!



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**1,2 AND 3 BEDROOM APTS.** available. 1 mile from campus. Cable and internet included. Running out of space for Fall! Check us out [www.liveatflexingtonpointeapts.com](http://www.liveatflexingtonpointeapts.com) or call 662-281-0402.

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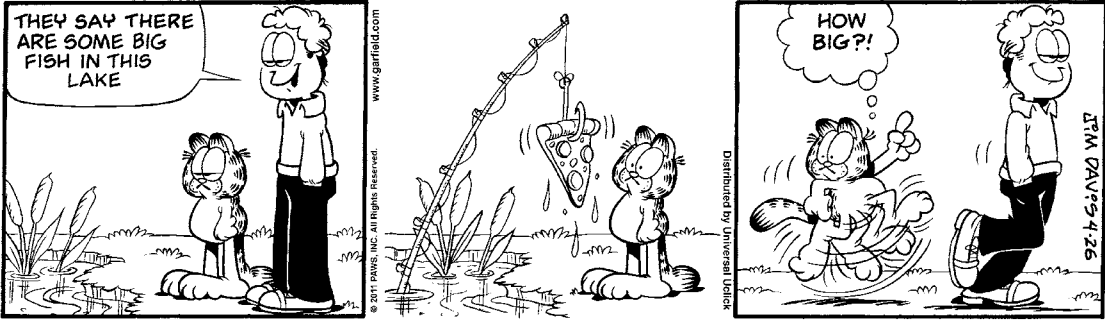
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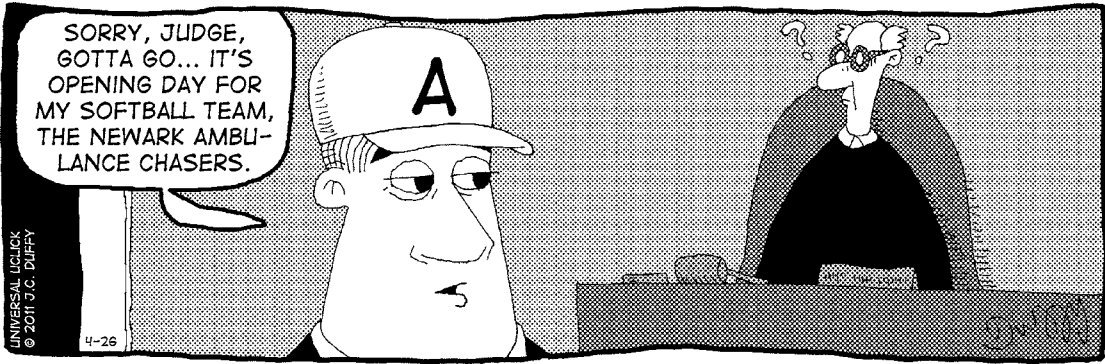
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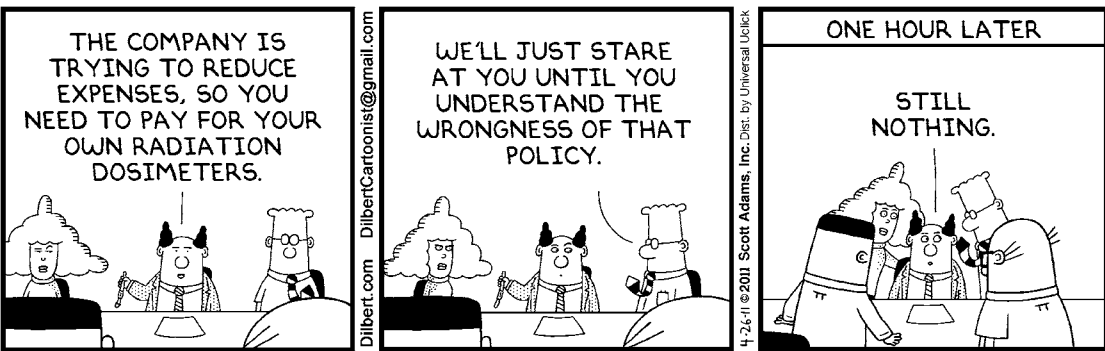
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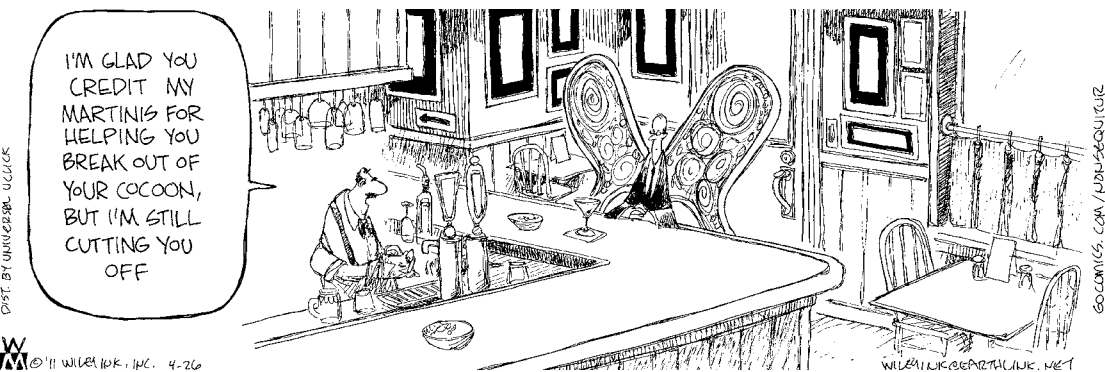
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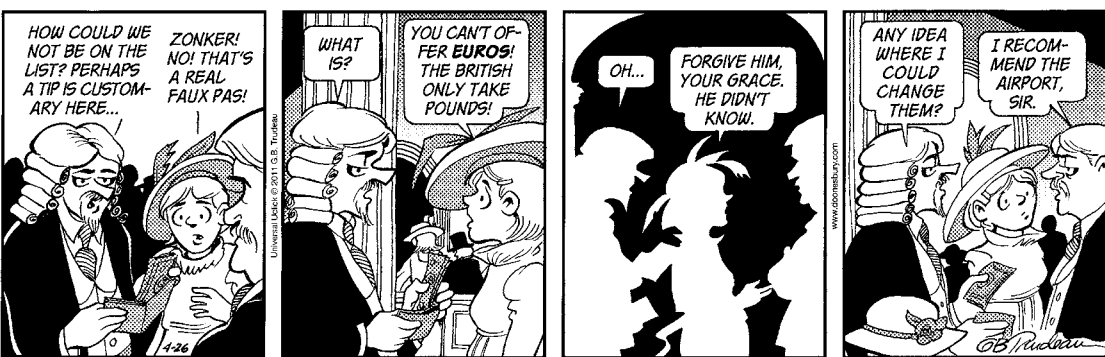
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**ACROSS**

- 1 Slightest
- 6 Antarctic sea
- 10 Diner orders
- 14 Finance
- 15 Not fooled
- 16 Almost never seen
- 17 Hot topic
- 18 Noisy insect
- 20 Most faded
- 22 Mirage sights
- 23 Fractured
- 26 "C"—la vie!"
- 27 Hoagies
- 28 Perilous headland (2 wds.)
- 33 Veld herd animal
- 34 High bidder
- 35 Film director
- 36 Spokes
- 37 Furniture wood
- 38 "Typical Male" singer
- 39 Verse lead-in
- 40 Courtyards
- 41 Flu symptom
- 42 Summoned
- 44 Claim
- 45 DC tax org.
- 46 Took the wheel
- 47 Bread ingredient
- 50 Do over
- 52 Toast topper
- 54 Without doubt (2 wds.)

**DOWN**

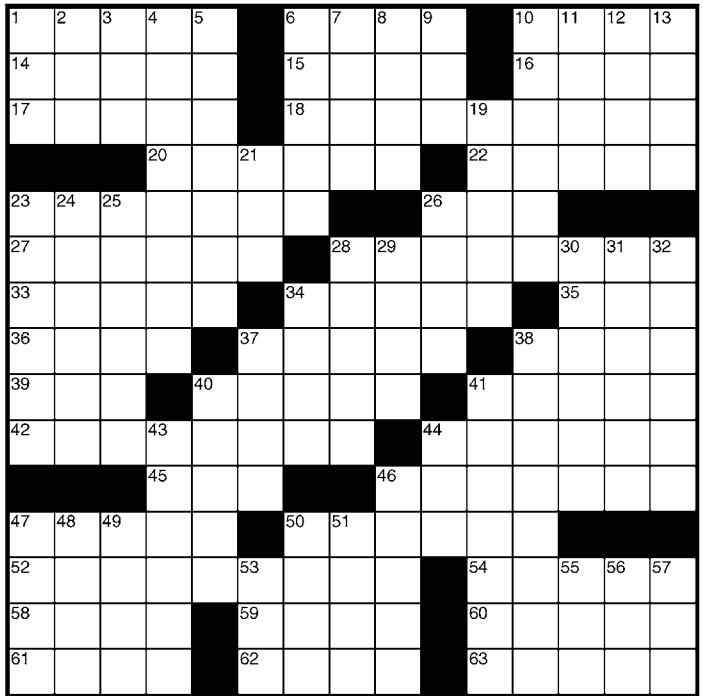
- 1 Aloha token
- 2 Dash widths
- 3 Come-ons
- 4 Mere traces
- 5 Adjusted slightly
- 6 Ceremonially dressed
- 7 Unwelcome obligation
- 8 Mo. bill
- 9 Weep audibly
- 10 Take a deep —
- 11 Big black dogs
- 12 Part of a grove
- 13 Goes out with
- 19 Runner-up
- 21 Brown the bandleader
- 23 Rosy-cheeked child with wings
- 24 Fix, as brakes
- 25 Mullah's tongue
- 26 "En garde" weapon
- 28 Golden oldie "Stupid —"
- 29 Auel heroine
- 30 Hardy or Cromwell
- 58 Manitoba tribe
- 59 With, to monsieur
- 60 Discrete
- 61 Exec. aide
- 62 Lemonade color
- 63 Wish granter

**PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED**



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- 31 Back out
- 32 Got closer to
- 34 Empty
- 37 Natural elevs.
- 38 Fax preceder
- 40 Large artery
- 41 Run-down hotel
- 43 Fate
- 44 Chowd down
- 46 Mote
- 47 Gym org.
- 48 Listener's need
- 49 Mount Olympus warrior
- 50 Mr. Shankar
- 51 Shangri-la
- 53 Drink like Rover
- 55 Enthusiastic devotee
- 56 "Exodus" character
- 57 Road map info



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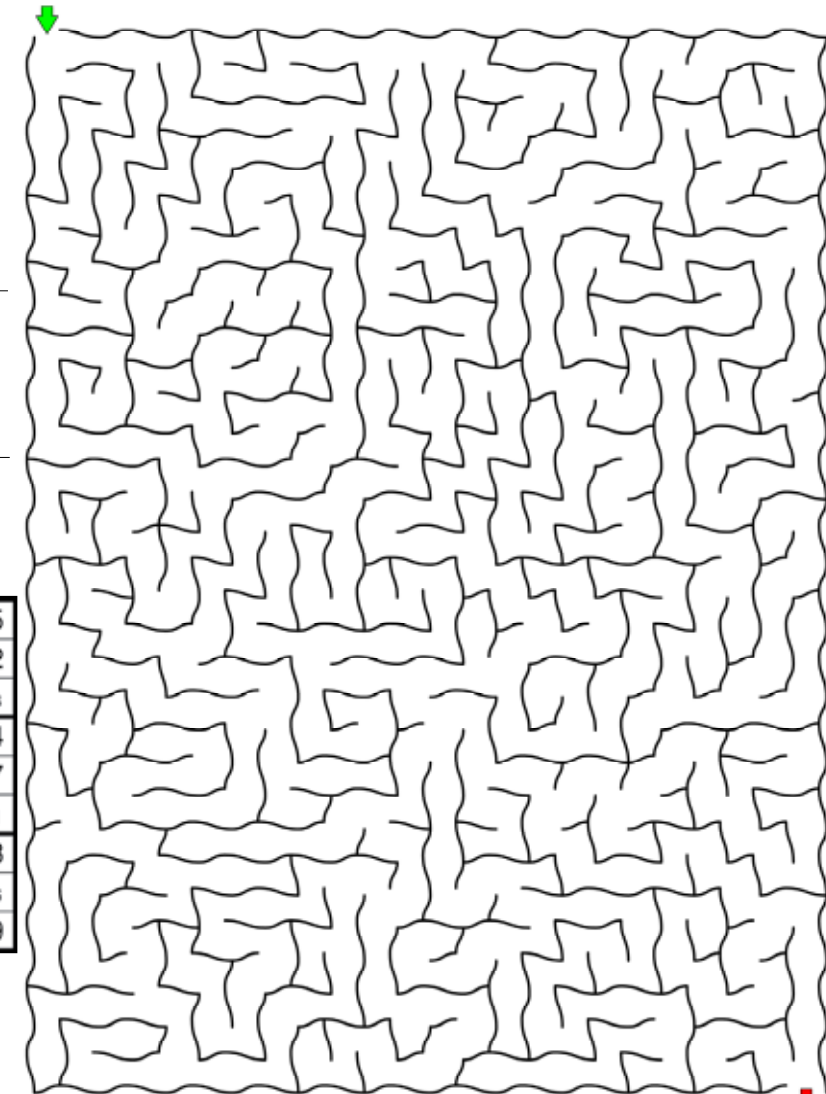
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6				4	2		3
	8						
			3			6	1
5		9					2
	4			1			
	2					7	8
	6	5			9		
							3
1		2	8				7

**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**  
IIIIII

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





OLE MISS SPORTS INFORMATION

# Brunetti declared eligible for '11 season by NCAA



ALEX EDWARDS | The Daily Mississippian

Ole Miss sophomore quarterback Barry Brunetti takes off running during the Grove Bowl on April 16 at Vaught-Hemingway Stadium. Brunetti, who transferred from West Virginia after the fall semester, was deemed immediately eligible by the NCAA on Monday.

OXFORD – The NCAA has approved a waiver request for Ole Miss quarterback Barry Brunetti to compete in the 2011 season, the school learned on Monday. The sophomore has three years of eligibility remaining.

Prior to the spring semester, Brunetti transferred to Ole Miss from West Virginia and competed in the Rebels' spring drills.

In February, Ole Miss filed a waiver on Brunetti's behalf requesting relief of the one-year residency requirement for transfers, so Brunetti's mother, who suffers from health issues and lives in Memphis, could watch him play.

"It's a great thing for the Brunetti family, and we are grateful to the NCAA," Rebels head

coach Houston Nutt said. "We appreciate the hard work by (compliance director) David Wells in working with Mrs. Brunetti to gather all of the details during this long process. We also thank (West Virginia coach) Bill Stewart for his support in the process."

As a true freshman at WVU in 2010, Brunetti arrived in Morgantown in May and quickly soared up to No. 2 on the depth chart behind All Big East quarterback Geno Smith.

Brunetti saw action in four games last season for the Mountaineers, completing 4-of-9 passes for six yards and rushing once for four yards.

A product of Memphis University School, Brunetti earned All-American honors from Parade and EA Sports and com-

peted in the U.S. Army All-American Bowl and Liberty Bowl All-Star game as a senior. He was rated the nation's No. 3 dual-threat QB by Rivals.com.

Brunetti guided MUS to back-to-back 13-0 seasons and state championships in 2008 and 2009, earning All-State honors each season. He was the 2009 Commercial Appeal "Best of Preps" Offensive Player of the Year after passing for 2,257 yards and 23 touchdowns with only one interception and running for 519 yards and 13 TDs as a senior.

Brunetti finished his high school career, completing 240-of-432 for 3,882 yards and 43 touchdowns and rushing for 1,660 yards and 39 scores. He also lettered in basketball and track.

## THOMPSON, continued from page 12

When coming up with story ideas, Thompson does both on his own accord and from ideas pitched to him by ESPN.

A story on the breakup between the Cleveland Cavaliers and LeBron James was the network's idea.

A piece tying together the game of soccer with the 2010 Haiti earthquake was his own.

When Thompson writes, he often gets up early – 6:30 a.m. – and works until mid-afternoon.

After, he moves on from the creative process for the day but finds time to chat with his editor, Jay Lovinger, whose past credentials include looking over the work of Hunter S. Thompson, Gary Smith and David Halberstam, among others.

"The (ESPN) business card wears off very, very quickly," Thompson said. "Then it's just your job. The benefit isn't, 'I work at ESPN.' It's that there are incredibly smart people that work there, so you get the benefit of working with them."

Thompson's employment at ESPN has nonetheless afforded him a myriad of opportunities.

He once wrote a story that got a man released from jail, and he was asked to read an excerpt of W.C. Heinz's "Death of a Race Horse" at the writer's wake – Thompson considers Heinz "the best sportswriter that ever lived."

But for Thompson, it's the "little snapshots" that stick out: hearing the North Sea right outside his balcony on a November night in Scotland, riding in the back seat of black Mercedes Benzes in foreign capitols, eating duck in Beijing and the press box food in Aminabad, India, which he said beats the cuisine offered to the press at SEC football games.

Thompson calls his travel schedule "insane," but when he's not on the road, he spends his lei-

sure time at home in Oxford with his wife Sonia, a fellow Missouri journalism graduate he met while on assignment in New York.

The writer rarely misses a home football game and has June 1 at 9 p.m. – the day and hour City Grocery begins taking reservations for home football weekends – marked on his calendar.

"I love the falls," Thompson said. "I'm home. The town renews you in some strange way."

On game days, Thompson, a life long fan of the Rebels, entertains what he calls a "strange array" of people ranging from media executives to lead singers of rock and roll bands at his mother's tailgate, which he claims is the world's greatest but admits his bias.

But when it comes to the actual games, Thompson doesn't concern himself with wins or losses. It's the spectacle of a game day afternoon at Ole Miss.

This is where he communes with his family and friends – the same place where former Ole Miss quarterback Jake Gibbs once said "nice catch" to a young Thompson as he played pick-up football outside Vaught-Hemingway Stadium.

Thompson said he always wanted to move back to Mississippi. Oxford was a perfect fit. He moved to the town without knowing many people but is now ingrained in the Oxford community, and besides New Orleans, couldn't imagine living anywhere else.

"It's a town not just that nurtures writers, but there's a lot of amazing writers and it's inspirational to be around," Thompson said.



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# ESPN's Wright Thompson calls Oxford home



CONTRIBUTED BY WRIGHT THOMPSON

Oxford resident Wright Thompson, a senior writer for ESPN.com and ESPN The Magazine, poses with a Sports Emmy he won in 2010 for "Catfish Hunters," a feature he wrote about fishing for catfish with bare hands.

BY PAUL KATOOL  
Sports Editor

Wright Thompson jumps to his feet and darts toward a bookcase that takes up an entire wall in his Oxford home office.

Without hesitation, Thompson goes right to the spot he's looking for and pulls out a signed copy of famed Mississippi writer Willie Morris' "North Toward Home."

Thompson, a senior writer for ESPN.com and ESPN The Magazine, read the book as a 10th grader while recovering from a case of mononucleosis.

The son of a Clarksdale lawyer, Thompson figured he would follow in his father's footsteps, but the lasting impression of Morris' seminal memoir pushed him toward a career in the written word.

"Aha' moments only really happen in movies, except that was an actual 'aha' moment," Thompson said. "I started a book and didn't know what I wanted to do, and finished a book and did. Almost every decision I've made since then has been toward that end."

Thompson's pursuit of a writing career took him to the University of Missouri — considered among the nation's top journalism schools — where he hoped to

write about music. He was instead assigned sports at the Columbia Missourian after covering a breaking story.

Thompson fell in with a core group of friends at Missouri who had an insatiable passion for their craft.

He remembers only a handful of classes he took while in Columbia, crediting his group of friends and their dedication to sports journalism as his sources for success.

"We'd work at the paper; we'd put the paper to bed, and then we'd go and sit at the bar until four o'clock in the morning and talk about stories we were reading or what Gary Smith had in SI or old copies of Esquire," Thompson said. "We were always going to the library in our spare time and reading years' worth of back issues of Sports Illustrated and making copies of them. It was just a constant kind of incubator of that. It just never stopped."

While Thompson is now employed by what many consider the zenith of sports journalism at ESPN, his journey wasn't an easy one.

After his sophomore year, he applied for an internship at "every newspaper in the country" and was turned down.

A year later, Thompson was given an opportunity at the New Orleans Times-Picayune. It was there he broke the news of a new football hire at Tulane, and he was offered the LSU beat right out of college.

"The greatest sentence that you can write in a newspaper is 'so and so will be hired at a 2 p.m. press conference tomorrow,'" Thompson said. "To have that in the paper is like the holy grail."

After spending a year in New Orleans, Thompson spent five years as a features writer at the Kansas City Star before landing the ESPN gig.

He credits the job to some "shameless ass-kissing" he did to a top ESPN executive while still in school at Missouri.

Thompson's main responsibility at ESPN is producing in-depth, long-form stories which require him to leave his Oxford home to chase stories around the globe. Thompson recently traveled to Dhaka, Bangladesh, where he filed a 10,000-plus word expose on the sport of cricket, and followed that up with a trip to Augusta, Ga., where he wrote a series of letters from the Masters.

See THOMPSON, PAGE 11

# NFL labor dispute casts considerable doubt on draft

BY ANDREW DICKSON  
Columnist

The last thing the NFL and the NFL Players Association could agree on, before the undesired but public lockout of the players by its owners,

was that the 2011 NFL Draft should still take place. A provision in the expired collective bargaining agreement (CBA) requires it.

This year's NFL Draft, scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. on Thursday, will have a

unique set of rules and a cape of dread.

Teams will not be permitted to trade players for draft selections, nor will teams be able to sign (or even contact) drafted or undrafted players until the labor dispute is resolved.

Teams will not be able to trade the rights to future players once they are selected either, which is how the rights to former Ole Miss quarterback Eli Manning were traded from San Diego to the New York Giants for the rights to quarterback Phillip Rivers on draft day 2004.

The players being drafted will still be picked as usual, but after draft day, they will have little to no contact with their team until the new collective bargaining agreement is finalized. Both the NFL owners and the NFLPA agree that rookies make too much money, with many first round picks making more than heavily tenured veterans before having proven anything on the professional level.

The one thing future NFL

players can count on is that they're about to lose a lot of money in a process they don't have much of a say in.

What's worse for the rookies is that the lockout inhibits offseason programs — rookie, mini and training camps, and possibly preseason and early regular season games — all of which are vital to rookies who expect to make an impact their first year. The later-round players who count on all of those offseason opportunities to prove themselves will be heavily affected, and undrafted free agents will not be allowed to contact teams until the labor dispute is resolved.

Veteran free agents have also been unable to find new homes since the CBA expired on March 3 this year. That date also marked the beginning of the NFL Free Agency period, a time when NFL teams are able to replenish their rosters before identifying their needs in the draft.

Since the Free Agency period hasn't happened this year, many teams have more holes to

fill than usual.

For example, a team such as the Arizona Cardinals, who are in desperate need of a quarterback, will not be able to fill that need by trading for a proven starter (such as Eagles' backup Kevin Kolb) or addressing it in free agency. Those factors could influence how they use their No. 5 overall pick in the draft, even if the Panthers and Bills select quarterbacks first.

Situations are normally just as awkward as you make them, but this year's NFL Draft entails enough doubt and uncertainty for even the most nonchalant of ICU attendees to call it uncomfortable. No one past the future players will want to show up, and I doubt even they will be excited.

Hopefully the whole proceeding is uncomfortable enough to offer a catalyst for positive labor negotiations before the NFL hype fades off into the summer, and the people in charge of making sure this car isn't driven into a wall wake up before September begins.

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