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The Daily Mississippian

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The Daily Mississippian, "September 27, 2011" (2011). *Daily Mississippian (all digitized issues)*. 392.
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Cost of living for students on the rise

BY LEE HARRIS
LTHarris11@gmail.com

University of Mississippi student Phillip Ma drives 70 miles to and from Southaven every weekend. He doesn't visit family, shop or go for any other personal reasons.

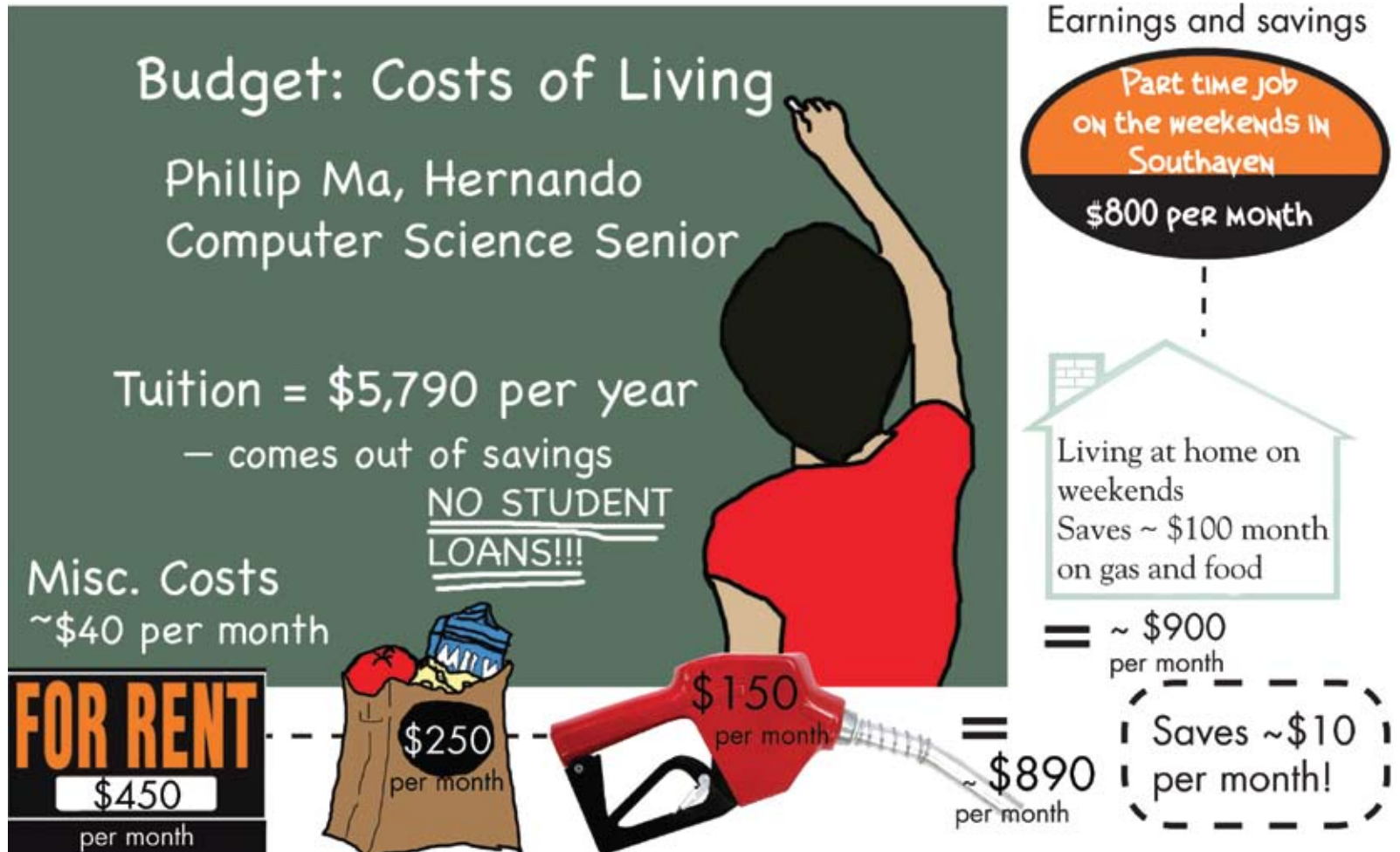
Ma drives to Southaven each week to work at Best Buy, so he can pay for his college education.

Many college students can relate to Ma's situation.

They are having to cut back on spending, take out student loans or even pick up low-paying jobs just to pay for the rising cost of living and attending school in Oxford.

The prices of the basic expenses all Ole Miss students face — tuition, housing, gasoline, food — are all rising, and the economy still shows little sign of recovering.

The cost of attending Ole Miss for the 2011-12 school year is \$5,790 for an in-state student and \$14,796 for an out-of-state student taking 15 hours per semester. The increase in freshman enrollment, in addition to driving tuition high-



GRAPHIC BY CAIN MADDEN | The Daily Mississippian

The cost of living in the U.S. has gone up over the past few years, and the average student is struggling to pay bills. Phillip Ma, computer science senior, only makes approximately \$10 per month when adding up his approximate expenses, bottom row, left to right, with his approximate earnings and savings, top right, going down.

See COSTS, PAGE 5

Are you ready? How Ole Miss gets celebrities to Hotty Toddy

BY KAITLYN DUBOSE
lkdubose@olemiss.edu
Special to The DM

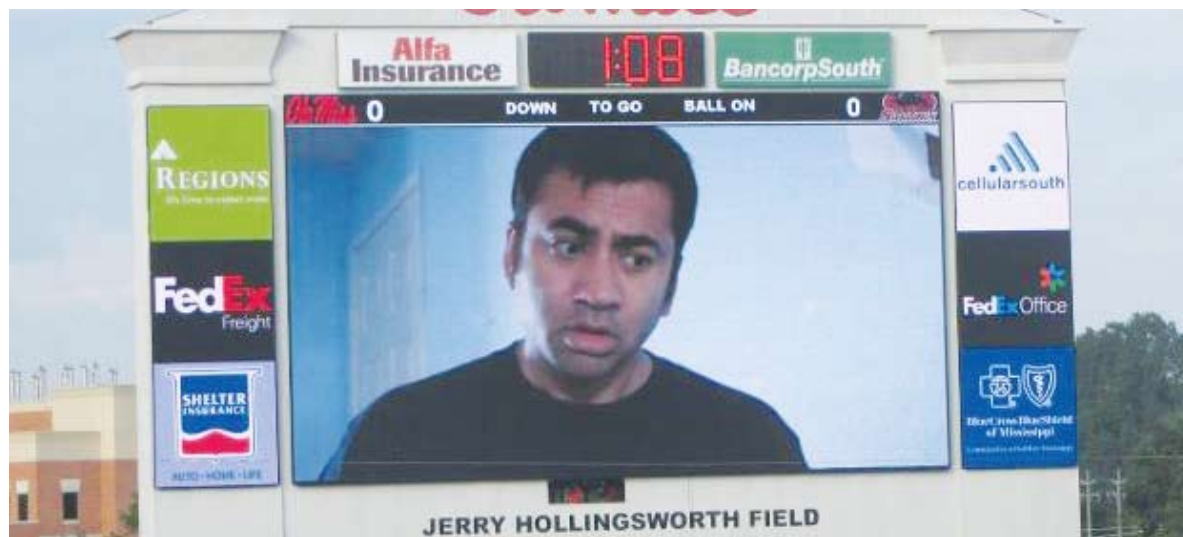
When Dickie Scruggs walked up to assistant athletic director for Ole Miss Sports Productions J. Stern and asked him if he wanted actor Russell Crowe to start the Hotty Toddy chant at the football game, Stern's response was simple — "Hell yeah."

"Then he handed me his phone, and I was talking to Russell Crowe," Stern said.

Stern has been working hard for 14 years to get different celebrities to ask the question all Rebel fans love to hear: "Are you ready?"

"One night Elvis Costello called my phone and asked to do the chant," he said. "I thought it was one of my buddies joking with me, but it really was Elvis Costello. It's unbelievable what it's turned into. It's still crazy to me."

In 1997, Stern convinced coach John Vaught to video the "Are you ready" for the first ballgame of



KAITLYN DUBOSE | The Daily Mississippian

Movie personality Kal Penn starts the Hotty Toddy chant before the Southern Illinois game.

the season. Since then, Ole Miss' famous chant has been started by celebrities, including Vince Vaughn, The Today Show cast and Jack Black.

The list of who has started the chant includes more than 40 television and movie stars, including Jay Leno, Kermit the Frog and more than 20 Ole Miss coaches and notable alumni, like Shepard Smith and coach David Cutcliffe. Stern, who has worked for

ESPN and USA Network, has made a lot of friends in the right places and has 14 years worth of experience at tracking people down. If he doesn't know someone who works with a particular celebrity, he will find someone who does.

"There is a story behind everyone," he said. "We just start calling and emailing and finding people who know people who might know other people."

It's easy to see why celebrities like Morgan Freeman and B.B. King, being from Mississippi, would want to participate. But with others, like Kal Penn, the connections to Ole Miss are less obvious.

"It's real easy to get Ole Miss or Mississippi people," Stern said. "That's cake. We want people who have no connections to Ole Miss. Then we give them one."

Stern said Ole Miss has a far-

ther reach than some might think, as Ole Miss alumni graduate, move off and meet people.

Sometimes these alumni are people who can help Stern get in contact with celebrities. Penn was friends with an Ole Miss graduate, and Dennis Quaid married an Ole Miss alumni, as did Chef Emeril Lagasse and Charlie Day from "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia."

"Every one of them is special in their own right," Stern said. "I really don't have a favorite. But getting Snoop Dogg to do it was a good one. My buddy is his engineer, so that one was cool."

Equally important to getting the crowd ready, Stern said, is getting Ole Miss national exposure.

"It's not about getting you fired up," Stern said. "You get anybody to say 'Are you ready' and everyone will cheer. It's showing the far reaches of it. We should be honored that people want to do it. These are famous, famous people."

Josh Broome, a transfer student

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Visit Facebook.com/thedailymississippian to weigh-in on Amendment 26

online poll



KRISTEN VISE | knvise@olemiss.edu

An insider's view Ole Miss Pan-Hellenic Recruitment



BY MEGHAN LITTEN
mmlitten@gmail.com

I am lucky because I am one of the few women on this campus who have had the opportunity to experience every side of the Pan-Hellenic recruitment process as an undergraduate.

As a freshman, I was the naïve Potential New Member (PNM) who was afraid of being released. I was the sophomore in-house active creeping on the top of the door stack, screaming at the top of my lungs.

I was on the Pan-Hellenic Executive Council my junior year, learning more than I ever imagined I could about how recruitment works and answering the hundreds of phone calls from concerned mamas.

Now I am the senior Gamma Chi, who prays each one of her PNMs will open their bid cards to reveal the house they want and who leads them in a sprint toward their new sorority.

These experiences have allowed me to fully understand the Greek system and the difference it can make in young women's lives. The Greek system has allowed me to develop my leadership skills, introduced me to some of my best friends and, of course, helped expand my T-shirt collection.

One of the hardest things I have ever done is release a girl from the recruitment process, but one of the happiest moments I have ever had is running to my house on my first Bid Day.

I tell you all this so that you will understand that I am

not some typical sorority girl whom you have seen on television or in the movies.

I am a young woman who values the Greek system after seeing the opportunities it can create for its members. I have seen women cry from both heartache and happiness.

I know that everyone doesn't like the Greek system. I don't live in a fantasy world; I get it. I understand that not everyone has the same opinion as me.

Some just don't care, and I am OK with apathy; however, I am not OK with individuals who belittle women for being in sororities because of some preconceived notion they may have from seeing a drunk girl on the Square or because after reading the book "Pledged" they consider themselves some kind of expert on sororities.

This week, over 1,200 PNMs are going through the formal recruitment process, and I want people to understand that this is not another week at Ole Miss for the thousands of young women involved in every possible side of recruitment.

I am not asking for everyone to care, but for everyone to respect what this week represents for some of your fellow Ole Miss students. This is the first time that women will be asked to think for themselves and make their own decisions without advice and guidance from their parents or friends.

This is also when upper-classman sorority women get to show off what they have been working so hard on for so long.

To the PNMs going through recruitment this week: **JUST BREATHE**. Everything is going to be OK.

Ole Miss is famous for having
See RECRUITMENT, PAGE 3

In an off-year, your vote counts more than ever



BY LEXI THOMAN
alexandria.thoman@gmail.com

The tools and tricks of modern technology like the Internet, Facebook, email, texting and Twitter have created platforms upon which we can reach entire social networks in seconds, with only a few clicks of a mouse.

We can communicate, comment and share information like never before, with an ease that many of us take for granted.

Beyond making it socially acceptable for us to share the miscellaneous details of our daily lives through a status update

or tweet, networking tools have proven revolutionary when it comes to organization, especially in politics.

A perfect example of this phenomenon is the opposition movement that has sprung up in a matter of weeks against Mississippi Initiative 26.

Facebook groups and websites have allowed people with a common cause to organize across the state in ways — and speeds — that would have been nearly impossible only a few decades ago.

People are sharing ideas and information. They are posting (and re-posting) articles and columns. They are proposing ways to get involved in the "real world."

Watching the progress over the past few days alone has

been fascinating.

Regardless of how many Initiative 26 opponents organize, post, tweet, email or text, only one thing matters in the end — how many people cast their ballot on election day.

The Initiative 26 opposition movement has been building a strong foothold in the college-age demographic. While this sounds like good news for their cause, the reality is that college students rarely show up to vote on election day.

For the age bracket that is supposed to be the most politically outspoken and active, the statistics tell a far different story.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, less than half of

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The Daily Mississippian is published daily Monday through Friday during the academic year.

Contents do not represent the official opinions of the university or The Daily Mississippian unless specifically indicated.

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ISSN 1077-8667

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The Daily Mississippian welcomes all comments. Please send a letter to the editor addressed to The Daily Mississippian, 201 Bishop Hall, University, MS, 38677 or send an e-mail to dmeditor@gmail.com.

Letters should be typed, double-spaced and no longer than 300 words. Third party letters and those bearing pseudonyms, pen names or "name withheld" will not be published. Publication is limited to one letter per individual per calendar month.

Student submissions must include grade classification and major. All submissions must be turned in at least three days in advance of date of desired publication.



Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

I applaud Josh Presley for writing a balanced and informative article about the controversy surrounding Mississippi Proposition 26. Nevertheless, I would like to bring up an important issue that I feel was not fully addressed: the issue of women's rights. In the article, the director of "Yes on 26" is quoted as referring to proposition 26 as the "great Civil Rights Movement of our generation". Critics of the amendment argue to the contrary that the proposed amendment would actually take away rights by limiting access to birth control and lifesaving medical treatment.

The effectiveness of female contraceptive methods that prevent implantation of a fer-

tilized egg cell in the lining of the uterus is significantly greater than that of hormonal contraception alone. By granting equal legal protection to cells "from the moment of fertilization", the women of this state will be denied access to the most effective forms of contraception. Furthermore, it has been argued that defining the prevention of zygote implantation under Mississippi state law as a homicide would be absurd from a biological standpoint, since significantly less than half of all fertilized egg cells implant naturally, even without contraception.

Perhaps an even more important issue is the plight of women with certain medical conditions, such as autoimmune disorders, that make

them candidates for extremely high-risk pregnancies. If doctors were obligated by law to provide equal protection to the implanted zygote, these women would be denied access to early and potentially life-saving medical treatment. Adherence to the broad wording of this amendment would inevitably lead to an increase in preventable clinical death from high-risk pregnancies.

Although I consider myself pro-life, I am concerned that restricting the rights of women to potentially lifesaving care and healthy family planning will only worsen the plight of a state already plagued with serious healthcare issues.

Sincerely,
RJ Case
Junior Biochemistry Major

VOTE,

continued from page 2

us in the 18 to 24 bracket exercised our right to vote in the 2008 presidential election, and far fewer still in the midterm election in 2010. And as 2011 has neither a presidential nor a midterm election, that number will most likely be even smaller this year.

But if it is any consolation, the citizens who make up the other age brackets vote in smaller numbers during off-years as well.

This means your vote could count more this year than it ever has before.

And to those out-of-state students like me who thought that they had no voice in this election, think again.

According to the Brennan Center for Justice, which compiles student voting guides, out-of-state students may register to vote in Mississippi so long as they have "a bona fide, unqualified intent to make the place of occupancy or residence on the college or university campus home."

Provided that we enroll in both the spring and fall semesters, most full-time students spend at least eight or nine months in Mississippi each year. It only makes sense that we take an interest in the political proceedings of the state in which we spend most of our time.

I know that I am not the only out-of-state student who did not know she could vote in Mississippi.

To those who are not registered in the state — or not even registered at all — I challenge

you to take 10 minutes to fill out and send in your voter registration. The form can be found at the Mississippi Secretary of State's website at <http://www.sos.ms.gov/elections.aspx>.

Beyond Initiative 26, there are plenty of other measures and people on the ballot for which we need to cast our votes. All voter registration letters must be sent by Oct. 7, so time is running out.

Remember: When you don't vote, you don't count. It is as simple as that.

So register to vote.

Take the initiative to make your voice heard in this election because there is a good chance that it will be worth more this year than it ever has before.

Lexi Thoman is a junior international studies and Spanish double-major from St. Louis, Mo.

RECRUITMENT,
continued from page 2

ing one of the most intense and competitive recruitments in the nation, but we also have one of the highest placement rates for PNMs into a house.

Trust the system.

The truth is, some of you will have the best recruitment EVER; some of you will not.

I am a strong believer that everything happens for a reason, and on Bid Day you will end up where you are supposed to be even if you thought you were meant to be somewhere else.

The beauty of the recruitment process is that it is based on mutual selection. You do not only choose a sorority, but the sorority also chooses you.

That being said, if on Sunday, you are not at your No. 1 sorority, I encourage you to give it a chance. You were placed in that sorority for a reason.

You may come to find out that you like it better than you first thought.

If a sorority proves not to be for you, that is OK too.

You do not — yes, I understand what I am about to say may seem cliché, but damn, is it true — have to be Greek to have the Ole Miss experience.

You are responsible for deciding how you will "experience amazing," and that doesn't have to be in a sorority. It was for me, but not for everyone.

Meghan Litten is a senior public policy leadership and elementary education double-major from Petal.

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Art Crawl returns to Oxford tonight

BY KATHRYN WINTER
khrn_winter@gmail.com

Tonight the Oxford Art Crawl is bringing together art and cul-

ture, featuring unique works of art from St. Louis, Ocean Springs and University of Mississippi art students.

The art shows change every

month. Wayne Andrews, the executive director of the Yoknapatawpha Arts Council, said a record-setting gallery show is premiering at the Powerhouse at 6 p.m., an hour before the Art Crawl starts. The show, by Katherine Rhodes Fields, mixes parody and 1970s images from Playboy magazine with food and photography that can be scratched and sniffed.

"Some call it porn, some call it art and some call it just plain crazy," Andrews said.

The art is only appearing at the Powerhouse for one night, as it is on loan from St. Louis. Fields, a visiting assistant art professor in printmaking, has artwork in the Mississippi Museum of Art in Jackson and a contemporary art gallery in St. Louis.

"The thought for doing the Art Crawl was that we were scheduling all these art receptions and we were competing against each other, so we decided to schedule our events together and make it a much bigger event," Andrews said.

"We hoped that more people would discover all the different art venues and people would come in from out of town, which has worked. We had 200 people per Art Crawl come out and restaurants have been donating food."

Double-decker buses will run through four main stops: the University Museum, Southside Gallery, the Powerhouse and Gallery 130 (in Meek Hall). Students can park at any of the four locations and hop on and off the bus. It will run in a continuous circuit.

Students who are 21 and older can enjoy cocktails at various locations and free beer provided by Coors; Old Venice will also be giving away free slices of pizza.

The Oxford Art Crawl is completely free for students. The reception prior to the Art Crawl is at the Powerhouse starting at 6 p.m.

The Art Crawl is held every fourth Tuesday of the month and was started this past April by a partnership between the Oxford Tourism Council, the university and the Yoknapatawpha Arts Council.

"You know the great thing is you can park, hop on the double decker, go to a couple of stops and go back to the Square for a drink or dinner," Andrews said.

"It's a great way to start your evening, and since Friday and Saturday nights are booked, why not go out on a Tuesday? Everyone should come; it's definitely art and culture."

Work from Ole Miss art students will be featured at the Powerhouse from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. and the University Museum houses an exhibit featuring work by Walter Anderson, a wildlife artist from Ocean Springs.

RAINN largest sexual assault prevention network in U.S.



PETRE THOMAS | The Daily Mississippian

Marsha Thompson and UPD officer Jesse Richards sit at a table in the lobby of the Student Union and talk with students about RAINN.

BY JOHN MCEACHIN
jbmceach@gmail.com

Every September RAINN, or Rape Abuse Incest National Network, goes out to different big cities and campuses to promote protection from sexual assault.

Elwyn Lopez directed the "RAINN Day" event at Ole Miss this year.

"As a journalist, I believe you should shine light on issues that are unspoken and that most people don't really talk about," Lopez, a journalism senior, said.

This year was Lopez's first time working with RAINN, but it was not her first charity work.

"Last year I did the March of Dimes Benefit concert, and I believe we raised over a thousand dollars for that," Lopez said. "This year I wanted to take on another issue that was not spoken of or something I believed in."

Lopez said that while the statistics are low for sexual assault cases on the UM campus, she is

concerned that some cases are not being reported.

"My whole reasoning behind this is that the more people we are able to communicate this issue to, the more sexual assaults we will be able to prevent," Lopez said.

University Police Department officer Jesse Richards, volunteered to help Lopez out during the RAINN Day event this past week by teaching Rape Aggression Defense, or RAD, to students.

"I volunteered because I believe in the program as far as empowering women not to become victims," Richards said.

Richards said RAD is basic self-defense that is offered to women.

"The objective of RAD is to develop and enhance the options of self-defense, so it may become a viable consideration for the woman who is attacked," Richards said.

To sign up for a RAD class, students can contact Officer Richards at 662-715-7234 or by email at jcricha1@olemiss.edu.

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THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

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COSTS,

continued from page 1

er, has pushed upperclassmen into off-campus housing that is typically more expensive. Ma, a junior computer science major, said he has noticed a significant increase in his housing costs over the last year.

"I used to live in an apartment over at Campus Creek," Ma said. "I paid \$365 per month including utilities, and this year they've jumped it up to \$400 something. I had to move two miles from campus."

While the increase in student enrollment has raised housing and tuition costs, other economic factors have also played a role in pushing the cost of living higher in Oxford. Food prices, which are being driven up by inflation, have increased 4.2 percent over the past year.

Libby Feaster, a graduate student in taxation, said she has felt the upward trend at the grocery store.

"Food prices have really gone up," Feaster said. "I tend to try to eat really healthy, but the problem with that is healthy food

costs more. The inflation is really hurting."

Another major expenditure of most college students is the price of gas. The average price per gallon has risen nearly \$1 from where it was 12 months ago. Students who are fortunate enough to live near a bus stop or campus can cut these costs, but many students are still forced to drive, regardless of the price of gas.

"Gas isn't as bad as I thought it was going to be because I live so close to campus, but just filling up the tank is difficult," Feaster said.

For other students like Ma, gas is a large expenditure every month. The unemployment rate, which is 9 percent nationally and considerably higher for college-age students, has forced many students to drive further to find well-paying jobs.

Stagnant wages make these bumps to food and gas prices even more painful for Mississippians. The combination of these economic factors makes it hardly a surprise that the default rate on student loans jumped to 8.8 percent this year from 7 percent last year, according to the Department of Education.

These costs are a burden that all students face. For those who

do not have financial support from their parents or some other beneficiary, working to pay for school is one option.

The other route students can take is to either apply for financial aid or take out student loans. Feaster is one of the students taking on these costs by themselves. Despite having an assistantship that covers her tuition, she still struggles to meet the costs of living in Oxford.

"I have school paid for, but I'm in some financial difficulties right now," Feaster said.

"It's really hard to be independent. I'm trying my hardest to not ask Mom and Dad for anything."

Even as students try to be frugal with their finances, there are other costs that, while not as urgent as tuition and housing, are still important. Student health insurance through the university costs \$2,500 for a school year.

To help students cope with these costs, the university has various programs that provide students with the means to pay their tuition and other expenses.

Many students participate in work-study programs that directly pay for their tuition or are employed as student workers on

campus. Also, more than \$185 million in various aid is given to students each year through various federal aid programs.

As long as the cost of living continues to rise around the country, students will have to resort more and more to leaning on their parents or taking on debt to pay for their college education.

Students like Feaster, despite not wanting to depend on their parents, find themselves with few other options.

"Because of the way prices are rising and with inflation and the way students are being encouraged to take on debt, graduates like me are not as independent as we used to be," Feaster said.

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HOTTY TODDY,

continued from page 1



PETRE THOMAS | The Daily Mississippian

LEFT: NFL Network Analyst Steve Mariucci does the Hotty Toddy chant before the Georgia game Saturday. RIGHT: The student section participates in the Hotty Toddy chant.

from Pearl River Community College, agrees with Stern but also thinks it is about the fans.

"I think it's great that they want to represent Ole Miss," he said. "And it definitely gets the fans pumped."

Celebrities can continue representing Ole Miss when the taping of their video is finished. Although they are not compensated, celebrities receive Ole Miss shirts and gear, compliments of the school.

"We always send them some swag," Stern said. "Vince Vaughn has been spotted several times wearing his Ole Miss shirt. Snoop wears his stuff all the time. Kal Penn said he's going to wear his stuff all over the place."

But not everyone wants to be a part of the chant. Stern said many stars have turned down the opportunity, some more than once.

"We've been turned down by a lot of people, I mean a lot of

people," he said. "We've been trying for three years to get Danny McBride, but we just can't get through."

The biggest person to turn down starting the Hotty Toddy chant, according to Stern, is Tiger Woods. Woods' doctor is an Ole Miss alum, but Woods refused because he graduated from Stanford.

"Some people don't want to because if it's not for their own school, why would they? So we have to respect that," Stern said. "Matthew McConaughey said he'd do anything for Texas, but not for Mississippi. Drew Brees wouldn't do it because he went to Purdue."

Stern has a list of stars he'd like to see start the chant, and McBride is at the top of the list.

"He's just turned us down so many times I'd like to see him finally do it," Stern said. "I love his

movies and his show — I'd just like for him to do it."

Morgan Turner, a senior communicative sciences and disorders major, has been coming to games at Ole Miss since she was 2-years-old.

"I've seen a lot of people — Shepard Smith, Hulk Hogan, Sandra Bullock — the list goes on," Turner said.

"But I'd like to see Steven Tyler. He's very energetic, and he would get the fans pumped up for the game."

The list for this year's season is just as star studded as in the past, but Stern is keeping it under lock and key.

Not only does he not want to spoil the surprise for the students, but it's hard to know who will start the chant.

"It's hit or miss," Stern said. "Sometimes they fall through right when we need them."

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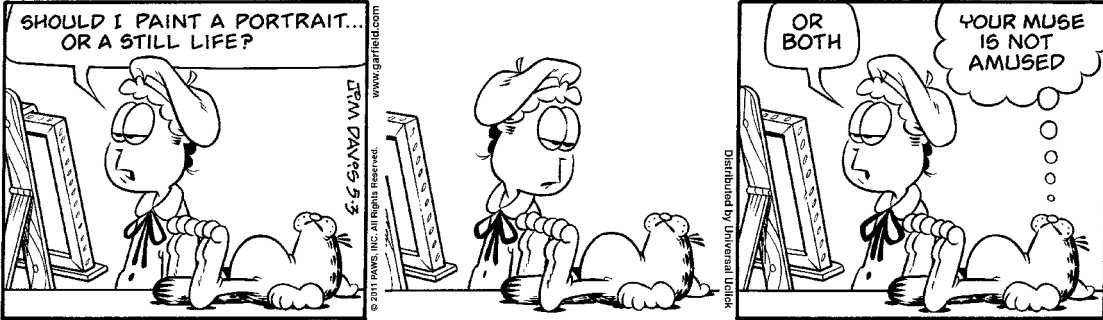
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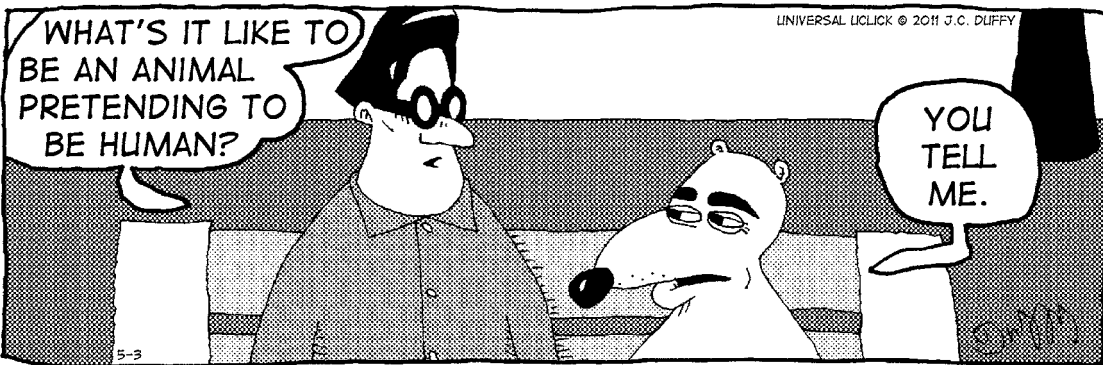
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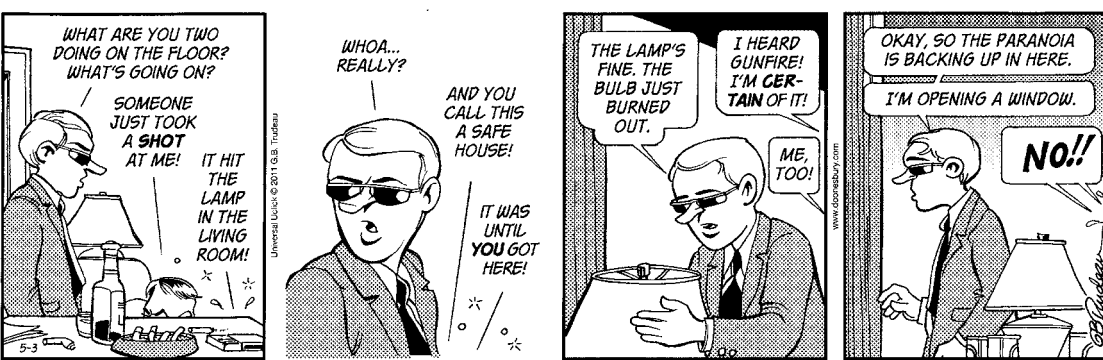
DILBERT



NON SEQUITUR



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ACROSS

- Unisex garment
- Helps a hoodlum
- Scout's rider
- Director's shout
- Delicate hue
- Flight stat
- Vaulted recesses
- Bombardment from space (2 wds.)
- Opposite of "paleo"
- Art colony town
- Marquis's inferiors
- Where Potala Palace is
- Most loving
- Area 51's state
- Alliances
- Helen, in Spanish
- Jeweler's lens
- Wet ground
- Breeze or gale
- Twiggy abodes
- Beneficiary
- Do lacework
- Wash cycle
- Perry's secretary
- Island nation
- Take it slow (2 wds.)
- Now and then (2 wds.)
- Waterfall
- New-car option
- Rosemary, for one
- "Xanadu" rockers
- Semi oasis (2 wds.)
- Seaside resorts
- Aleta's son
- Baha'i devotee
- Brilliance
- Two-timer
- Water wheel
- Stew seasoning

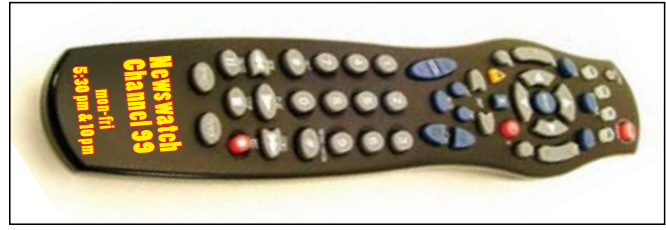
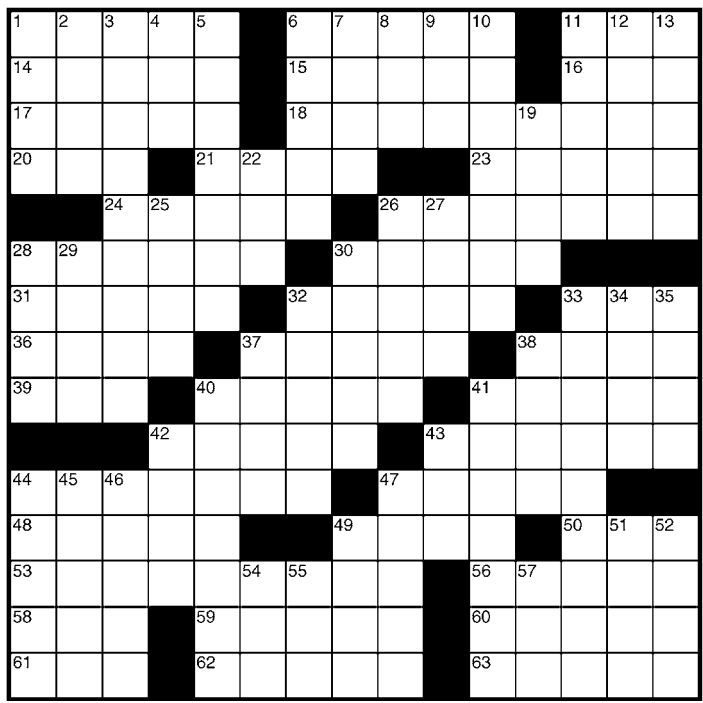
DOWN

- Sax man Getz
- Think positive
- Broke
- Country addr.
- Taco cousin
- Bauxite giant
- Profiles
- Loop trains
- Beret
- Kind of fair
- Novelist
- John le —
- Eurasian range
- Lovers' meeting
- Scoundrels
- Film speed ind.
- Bridge holding
- Orchestra member
- Uh-oh!
- Pond dweller
- Essay byline
- nova
- Fasting times
- Not on the dot
- Van Gogh medium
- Cloudy
- Shade of green
- Loaf end
- Baking dish
- Renaissance garb
- Sundry, briefly
- Aquarium oddity
- Vows venue
- firma
- Gibe
- Brown-tinted photo
- Hagar's daughter
- Potting soil
- Italian innkeeper
- Marquee notice of yore
- Cigarette goo
- L, for Wolfgang

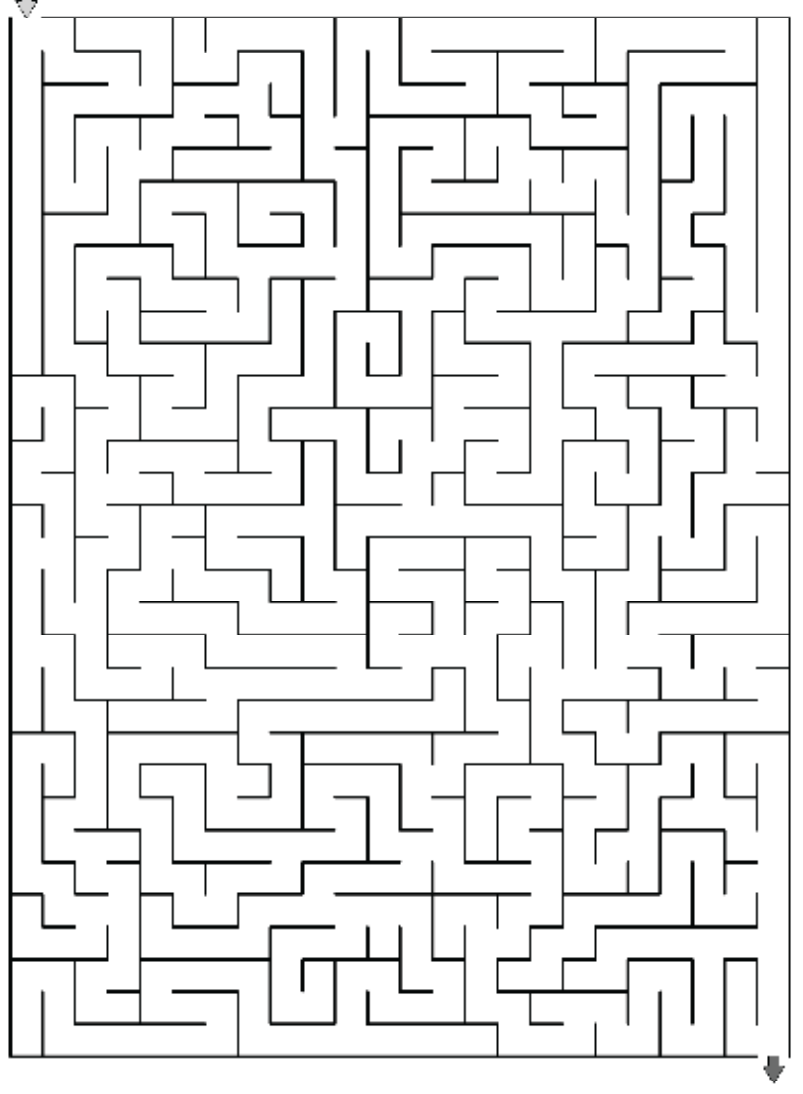
PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

REHAB	BOSC	MONA
ADELE	UPTO	YVES
RELIC	GERM	WEAK
ENDEAR	COMF	ORTS
	LOT	PUERTO
CREAMER	TED	
AEGIS	EXCEL	DIG
READ	VEILS	ROME
RFD	BASIE	FINAL
	COQ	REOPENS
ATEOUT	KIX	
BLINKERS	NIACIN	
ELLS	RANT	ELIDE
LIEU	ODIE	SANER
LESS	SEPT	TWEED

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TODAY'S MAZE



SUDOKU Puzzles by Pappocom
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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

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

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Cutting down on mistakes, opening up the playbook with trick plays

BY BENNETT HIPPI
jbhipp@olemiss.edu

After four games of the Ole Miss 2011 football season, a lack of offense has become a recurring theme.

On Saturday, Ole Miss managed only 183 total yards of offense and a measly eight first downs against Georgia in a 27-13 loss. The Rebels scored only one offensive touchdown, a 38-yard touchdown pass from junior quarterback Randall Mackey to freshman wide receiver Donte Moncrief on a trick play.

Even when Ole Miss managed to move the football, penalties and mental mistakes eliminated any chance of consistently putting points on the board. Penalties brought back two touchdowns by sophomore running back Jeff Scott, one on a swing pass and another on a punt return late in the game.

"You can't have a penalty," Ole Miss head coach Houston Nutt said. "We can't stop ourselves and all the same things we have been talking about. Thirteen points isn't good enough, bottom line."

Both Mackey and junior Zack Stoudt played Saturday at quarterback, and they struggled, as they completed 12 of 30 passes for 149 yards combined.

The lack of a running game and inconsistency in the passing game caused Ole Miss to go three-and-out six times Saturday, including four of the game's first five drives, something that Nutt said is really hurting the team.

"The thing that hurts us the most is the three-and-outs," Nutt said. "It's so quick to get



PETRE THOMAS | The Daily Mississippian
Freshman wide receiver Donte Moncrief crosses the goal line for a 38-yard touchdown catch from junior quarterback Randall Mackey in Saturday's game. Moncrief leads the team with two touchdown catches and is second on the team with 150 receiving yards.

back to the sideline and put our defense right back on the field. There were some very achievable first downs that we're just missing some balls, a little high, a little right. You've got to be able to hit those."

After the game, Stoudt said he was surprised that the offense was still struggling to move the ball and said mistakes are the main culprit.

"We practiced great again this week, practiced great last week and we've just got to put it together in the game," he said. "We just shoot ourselves in the foot.

"Dropping balls, a few things like that," Stoudt continued, "missing protections, missing passes, missing catches."

With the struggles moving the ball with a traditional offense, Ole Miss unleashed a number of trick plays in order to try to generate some offense. Nutt said after the loss to Georgia that the trickery would continue in an effort to try to give his team the best chance to win.

"We're going to keep opening them up," he said. "We're going to keep opening up a bag of them. Whether it be an onside kick, a fake field goal, whatever it may be to try and give our guys the best chance to win."

Nutt said the trick plays and different formations allow the Rebels to consistently get the ball in the hands of playmakers like Scott and freshman wide receiver/defensive back Nickolas Brassell.

"I just want to keep people off balance, and that's the best way to do it," he said. "Mix things up with a reverse here and a screen there. The razzle-dazzle with the wildcat formation where we flip it back to Randall and you catch everybody playing run and get an easy touchdown, I think we've got to continue to do things like that."

As the Rebels head west to Fresno State this weekend, Ole Miss has to continue to find creative ways to score points until the offense gets back on track.

Houston Nutt talks running backs, team confidence

BY BENNETT HIPPI
jbhipp@olemiss.edu

Nutt hopes to have running backs in full swing for Fresno State

Injuries to senior running backs Brandon Bolden and Enrique Davis have somewhat crippled the Ole Miss rushing attack early this season, something Ole Miss head coach Houston Nutt has always relied on to be a major part of his offenses.

The lack of running game has been "very hard" for the Rebels to adjust to.

"That's been our biggest adjustment, and we haven't quite adjusted yet," Nutt said. "That's always been something we can put our hat on and something we've relied on.

"As you know, we've got to have a running game. We have to. We feel like Enrique (Davis) should be closer to full speed this week. Devin Thomas and then, of course, Jeff Scott is playing very well. Brandon (Bolden) keeps coming; I'm hopeful we'll get back to where we can have our backs."

In this past season's 55-38 win in Oxford, Ole Miss racked up over 400 rushing yards against Fresno State, so a healthy stable of running backs could help the Rebels out tremendously against the Bulldogs.

Confidence not an issue

With a 1-3 start to the season and a large number of young players on the field, it is easy to worry about the confidence of the team and whether they are starting to get down on themselves after the rough start.

On Monday, Nutt said he didn't feel like it was an issue.

"I think after talking to them and watching their body language and talking to all these guys Sunday, I feel good about these guys and I feel good about their confidence," he said.

"Naturally, you gain confidence by winning, you gain confidence with success, so this is hard. This is hard when you don't have success."



PETRE THOMAS | The Daily Mississippian
Redshirt freshman Bryon Bennett tackles Georgia freshman running back Isaiah Crowell in the backfield for a loss in Saturday's game.

Nutt said instead of letting their confidence get down, the Rebels have to keep working for the success that will bring them that boost of confidence.

"You've got just to keep building and knowing it's there; it's coming," he said.

Bennett impresses in first start at defensive tackle

Redshirt freshman defensive tackle Bryon Bennett earned his first career start against Georgia on Saturday, and he impressed.

"He's very active in there," he said. "I've said since day one he has been quick and physical guy. He gives us a presence in there."

"It seems like he has a little confidence right now and he feels like he can make some plays for us, which is great."

As Bennett emerges, Nutt said junior defensive tackle Gilbert Pena is "getting healthier" and that junior Uriah Grant and freshman Carlton Martin are "getting better and we've got to keep coming and keep working."

Brunetti another option at quarterback

Sophomore quarterback Barry Brunetti, the starter for the season opener against BYU, has not played since late in the second quarter of that game. Junior quarterback Zack Stoudt has been the starter and junior quarterback Randall Mackey has also played coming off the bench. Nutt is hopeful that Brunetti can get back in the mix at quarterback at some point, but it remains to be seen if and when this will happen.

"I think he is going to get another shot," Nutt said. "We have to wait our time and he knows that. He has been practicing very well with the limited time he has been given. He will get his chance. He just hasn't played."

"It isn't exactly one thing that is keeping him out of games. He is a good runner and a smart, young quarterback. Like many players, he is inexperienced. He is very talented and I think good things will happen for him. I don't know when, but good things will happen for him."

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