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**August 31, 2012**

The Daily Mississippian

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CARTOON: BUYING TEXTBOOKS

P. 2



MUTUAL RESPECT ON THE ROAD

P. 4

INSIDE: FOOTBALL PREVIEW 2012



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THE DAILY

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31, 2012 | VOL. 101, No. 10

# MISSISSIPPIAN

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI | SERVING OLE MISS AND OXFORD SINCE 1911

## MEREDITH RETURNS 50 YEARS LATER

Fifty years after becoming the first black student enrolled at Ole Miss, James Meredith talked about his new book, education and his statue on campus.



AUSTIN MCAFEE | The Daily Mississippian

BY KAYLA CARPENTER  
krccarpen@go.olemiss.edu

James Meredith returned to Oxford last night where his journey began 50 years ago, to sign and discuss his new book, "Mission from God: A Memoir and Challenge for America."

"This is the most important event of my life," Meredith said during his book signing at Off Square Books.

Meredith is no stranger to important events. Fifty years ago in the fall of 1962 Meredith became the first black student admitted to the University of

Mississippi.

In his book, which was written with William Doyle, Meredith recounts his time at Ole Miss. He also encourages and expresses his passion for quality public education for all. Meredith also tells of his March Against Fear in 1966 where he

had planned to walk 220 miles through Mississippi to protest voting rights, but it ended early when a man in the crowd shot him. Unlike the variety of works previously written about Meredith and this achievement

See MEREDITH, PAGE 5

## Forward Together halfway to \$150 million goal

The UMAA Foundation and Ole Miss Athletics announced Thursday that the Forward Together Campaign has reached \$75 million, halfway to the overall goal of \$150 million.

BY AUSTIN MILLER  
dmmanaging@gmail.com

UMAA executive director Keith Carter set a goal of \$80 million for the Forward Together campaign by Sept. 1, and Ole Miss Athletics announced Thursday the campaign reached \$75 million in total gifts.

This puts the campaign halfway to the overall goal of \$150 million.

The new total includes an anonymous donation of \$3.7 million, which is the largest gift in the history of the Ole Miss athletics department by a single individual or organization. Since the start of the campaign, 2,471 donors have contributed gifts that range from \$10 to \$3.7 million.

"We really felt like this was some positive information that we wanted to get out," Carter said.

"To pass the \$75 million mark, halfway to our goal in the campaign, is a huge step. And it's something we felt like going into our first game, with all of the excitement that surrounds the first weekend of the season, that we wanted to kick that off with a positive announcement.

"We're really happy about where we are, but there's more work to do. We got to continue to grow that revenue and to create private dollars, and we'll continue to do that. We hope that this release will not only excite people, but also challenge people as well that there's still work to do. We're right on track but we've got to continue to move the campaign forward."

As Ole Miss nears the \$80

See FORWARD, PAGE 5

ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Isaac causes widespread flooding along Mississippi Gulf Coast



STEPHEN QUINN | NEWSWATCH

MOSS POINT -- Residents of the storm-saturated Mississippi Gulf Coast ventured out today to examine damage from Isaac as local governments lifted curfews. Some neighborhoods flooded as the tropical storm continued dumping heavy rains on its slow trek northward.

Some coastal businesses and roads reopened, but many people who had evacuated still couldn't make it home because of standing water in low-lying areas and along rivers. Near the western end of Mississippi's

coastline, beachside roads were covered in sand, and several dead nutria -- large semiaquatic rodents -- littered Beach Boulevard in Hancock County.

A tow truck driver, Gregory Alan Parker, 62, of Picayune, was killed early Thursday when Isaac's high winds and heavy rains knocked a tree onto his vehicle in his hometown, one county up from the coast and just across the state line from Louisiana.

See ISAAC, PAGE 4

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JOSH CLARK | @dm\_toons | The Daily Mississippian

## Is smoking a privilege or a right?

BY ALEXANDRA WILLIAMSON  
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Before Isaac set his course to drench North Mississippi, there was supposed to be a protest of the University's new smoking ban in the Grove today. Smokers and nonsmokers alike have RSVPed to the facebook event, which states in the description that "[t]his isn't about smokers versus non smokers. It's about freedom and personal responsibility."

I can see that argument. This is America, and while freedoms of all sorts are slipping away from us at an

See SMOKING, PAGE 3

## COLUMN

# Drinks with Dionysus



BY ANDREW DICKSON  
addickso@go.olemiss.edu

Many accounts of the patch of grass situated in the middle of our campus bring to mind William James' description of an ineffable religious experience: Often those writing about the Grove contest that the experience cannot be properly put into words.

A bold claim once came from ESPN's Jim Caple: "Tailgating in the Grove is an experience so sublime even native son William Faulkner would be at a loss to describe it" – I beg your pardon! – The verbose novelist from New Albany at a loss – for words? The Grove is unique, but a fitting description can be written.

A brick pathway, designated the "Walk of Champions," runs from the Student Union through the Grove and is lined on both sides by oaks, elks, and magnolias. Aesthetics vary from tailgate to tailgate, but

the standard setup includes a stand-up tent supplied with a table topped with food and a cooler packed with drinks; more extravagant tents may include flat-screen TVs with satellite access, fine china and even a hired security guard to watch over such a setup when the tailgaters leave for the game.

And all of this is endlessly enchanting, no doubt, but on paper this description (sans the fine china) does not separate the Grove from any tailgating experience worth its weight in salt. The Grove is a vibrant space, and we do fill it with style, but the "mystique" that is so often spoken of has less to do with all the material objects crammed into it on game day and more to do with the Dionysian attitude shared between Ole Miss fans. An attitude that emanates ecstasy all around and predisposes one toward ritualistic madness.

"Groovers" arrive on Friday nights before game days to claim a spot and set up their tents. On Saturday morning they wake near dawn, pack the car with food and drink and proceed to party for hours on

end – win or lose, rain or shine.

Many of my friends have moved on to new cities the last few years – Grove Saturdays are the only time of the year I get to see some of them. A toast is always in order for that which brings us home again.

In short, it is the very attitude that compels so many Ole Miss fans to produce such a blissful atmosphere and the feeling of homecoming experienced simultaneously by thousands of people that make the Grove worth experiencing.

However, there is more to the Grove than all of the satisfying things I have to say about it. Perhaps those who have been sold on the perfect innocence of our sacred space should put me down now.

You are free to disagree, but I will argue from experience that there is a strong correlation between our overflowing spirit and the other "spirits" that fill the Grove. While a genuine zeal for returning home, seeing old friends and catching a football game contribute to our ecstatic state of mind, I find it dismissive not to mention the widespread use of a consciousness-altering drug – how

Dionysian would the Grove be without its alcohol content?

To answer that question, take a stroll to the game and observe how many of our fans are sitting on their hands. Some would even sacrifice the game itself in favor of experiencing the Grove – watch as the population I'm referring to leaves a close game at halftime.

But my aim is not to moralize. I approve of the use of such a consciousness-altering drug, provided it is used responsibly. Alcohol, in true Dionysian fashion, liberates its users from petty self-consciousness and frees them to dance. Furthermore, I can't really blame fans for choosing to leave for the Grove at halftime if the game is not even close. The spirit of the Grove is infinitely more worthwhile than a football team with the spirit of gravity.

After a long week of classes for students and a long time to be gone for returning alumni, Dionysus beckons: "Truly I tell you: Soon you will be with me in paradise."

Andrew Dickson is a religious studies senior from Terry. Follow him on Twitter @addoxfordms.

## THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

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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.



MISSISSIPPI  
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MEMBER NEWSPAPER

## SMOKING, continued from page 2

alarming rate (I'm looking at you, PATRIOT Act, NDAA and SOPA/PIPA) we've still got the opportunity to smoke a cigarette, after we pay the exorbitant taxes on them, of course. There are laws about where people can smoke and how far away from doors they have to be. Smokers have largely been forced to go outside and huddle in a far off corner if they want to engage in their vices. But really, I'm okay with that. When you're doing something that has a possibility to negatively affect passersby's health, it makes sense to put you in a corner away from passersby. It does not, however, make sense to tell you that you can't smoke anymore, which is exactly what has been done.

The ASB and the administration have gone about this absolutely the wrong way. Never did the students, staff or faculty at large get the chance to vote on such a measure. Before the ban, we had smoking areas. People largely smoked in the smoking areas--which were

poorly labeled and even more poorly enforced--but some folks didn't, and as often happens, they were the ones on whom anti-smokers chose to focus.

The next logical step would be to increase visibility of the smoking areas, both so that the smokers knew where to go and so that nonsmokers who were particularly opposed to cigarette smoke would be able to take an alternate route to class. Additionally, the existing fines for smoking outside of the smoking areas could have been enforced. Between UPD and Cobra, the manpower was there. But for some reason, the logical thought pattern to the ASB and the administration was to see that a small percentage of people were not abiding by the existing rules and then decide to just place an outright ban on smoking instead of simply enforcing existing rules.

Of course, looking at this as a skeptic, one will recognize that the University profits from this in the form of a PR boost and the revenues from the fines on those who will continue to smoke on campus. Maybe the tuition

hikes and increase in price for the parking decals just weren't plugging the holes in their budget. But I digress.

This smoking ban is bad. It doesn't just affect the guys coming from Fraternity Row after lunch with a trail of cigarette smoke behind them, who have largely (and quite unofficially) been identified as the individuals who were not following the smoking area rules. This affects all the students, including the ones who are required to live on campus their freshman year. This affects all of the faculty and staff. This affects our alumni, who pay hundreds or thousands of dollars to the University for season tickets each year. This affects our guests, who travel to the University for football, guest speaking opportunities and a number of other occasions every semester. This affects everyone.

I understand that smoking kills. I know that it is dangerous and could even be dangerous to people that don't smoke but are around smoke. Smoking is bad, and if you do it long enough, it's more than likely going to kill you. That's a really good reason for me not to smoke.

It's a terrible reason for me to stop you from doing it. The smoking areas were a good compromise; if you wanted to smoke, you were to stay in areas that non-smokers could easily avoid. Going back to that and actually attempting to enforce

the rules is a perfect way to respect personal freedoms and allow people to protect their good health.

*Alexandra Williamson is an accountancy senior from Frisco, Texas. Follow her on Twitter @alyxwi.*

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## Opinion

### Confessions of the Black Bear

Dear Ole Miss fans,

I know it's not normal for mascots to write columns. Who really cares what a fake bear has to say about current events. But I've been the subject of a lot of news about town, and a lot of gossip, so I figured it was my turn to talk.

Things started out pretty good for me and Ole Miss back in 2010. I was an unemployed mascot doing what I needed to do to get by; the occasional odd job, waiting tables, and waiting for my big break. When my agent called me early one morning and told me I was in the running to be the new mascot at Ole Miss, I was about as pumped as a bear can be.

When I got the news that I won a contest, that I got the Ole Miss gig, it was the happiest day of my life. I got notes from family, friends and my buddies in the mascot community. It was a month long celebration. I was an SEC mascot. I hit the big time!

Then things slowly turned from good to bad. As I prepared to move to Oxford, I learned that the contest I won didn't exactly field the toughest competition. The only real challenger was a ... Land Shark? In Mississippi? Come on, people!!

It wasn't a real election, my agent told me, because the real fan favorite wasn't on the ballot. The truth, I soon learned, was this: the fans and students didn't really want me. They chose me because the mascot they loved was pushed into early retirement.

Whatever your thoughts on the matter, I was -- and am -- a rebound mascot. And for anyone who has ever been a rebound boyfriend or girlfriend, it stinks!

Those are the facts. That's how I got here. I took the job knowing those facts, and hoping that over time, folks would warm up to me, and

move past that old mascot.

There are some Ole Miss fans of good will who love me, and many good people who don't. For those of you who don't, I want you to at least hear what my 1st year was like here in Oxford. I want you to walk in my fur for a moment as we enter this exciting new year of Ole Miss sports. A year of new beginnings.

And so I ask you, did any of you ever think for a minute about what it was like to be me on game day last year? Let me tell you, it wasn't fun. I had anxiety attacks every day from the first football game on. On Thursday night -- especially Thursday's before home games -- the dread would set in. By Friday morning, I was so stressed out that even my acupuncturist couldn't calm me down. Friday nights would have been sleepless without the assistance of a good local pharmacist (you know who you are), and my yoga coach. And some very strong green teas.

It's so wrong for a mascot to be afraid of home games. So terribly wrong.

Then came the games. By kick-off, I was so skittish about things that I found places to hide during the game, and snuck on the field at Vaught-Hemingway Stadium only when I saw fans heading to get a drink. Or a hot dog. Or to take a Hotty Toddy potty break.

In just one year, I'd gone from the highest of highs to the lowest of lows. By November, I'd become a pill-popping, bipolar bear, sneaking around his own stadium, afraid of his own fans.

And I had to wear a jersey while doing it. Bears don't wear jerseys!

Worse still, I didn't see my likeness anywhere around campus. Or around town. I'm not an egotistical mascot, but it would be nice to see my image somewhere. On a bumper. On

a tee shirt. On a hat. On a key chain. Heck, I don't even see my mug on Ole Miss mugs.

And yet everywhere I go around town, there he is -- that old mascot. He's on t-shirts, he's on posters, he's on billboards, and there are statues of him in front of homes all over town. I can't even go to my favorite local watering holes without seeing a picture of him. He's everywhere, which is disappointing, because I was promised by the powers that be that the old mascot's image was being thrown into some kind of lock box.

It's all so humiliating! And I don't know how much more of it I can stomach, friends. I talk to other mascots. I know the USC Trojan.

Great guy. When he races on to the field, the hopes and dreams of USC are released as this symbol of force and strength stirs the USC faithful at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum.

Chief Osceola at Florida State is a good friend. He can't wait until game day to get on ol' Renegade and gallop out to mid field, the Seminole fans going wild in Tallahassee. Mike (LSU's Tiger), Big Al (Alabama's elephant), Albert and Alberta (Florida's Gators), Cosmo (BYU's Cougar), and Sparty (Michigan State's Spartan) -- I know them all. They love their jobs. And why? Because their fans love them.

There's only one mascot I know who doesn't love his job -- the Blue Hen at the University of Delaware. When he laces up each Saturday, he doesn't feel very tough. Or scary. He longs to be a Wolverine. Or a Sooner. But he's a Blue Hen! That's something he'll have to work out with the people of Delaware. And his psychiatrist.

But this I know from my years in mascot-dom; traditions matter. And symbols matter too, sometimes more than people even know. Or care to admit.

**"Whatever your thoughts on the matter, I was -- and am -- a rebound mascot. And for anyone who has ever been a rebound boyfriend or girlfriend, it stinks!"**

Know this about me, my Ole Miss friends. I am not a bottom line bear. I got into this life because I thought it would be fun. And I don't know how much longer I can take being the Ole Miss mascot. Because no matter how often well meaning leaders insist that fans move past that old mascot, they might not.

I know what you're thinking; there's nothing worse than a whining bear. And given this economy, I should feel lucky that I have a job. But know that my agent and my manager are weighing options. We have feelers out at Cal Berkeley. And Baylor. Somewhere where being a bear means something to the fans. I've even been dreaming about Brown University. Their mascot is a brown bear, and that's nothing a good colorist can't fix!

I sometimes wonder if Ole Miss will ever be my home. And I don't know what to do about it. I'm giving it the old college try again this year. But in the end, I've learned that you can't force people to love anything. Not another person. Not an author or a movie or a color.

Not even a mascot.

Yours truly,



The Ole Miss Black Bear

*Written on behalf of the Black Bear by Lee Habeeb. The Habeebs wish the Rebels -- and the bear -- the best of luck this season.*

## ISAAC,

continued from page 1

Near the Alabama line, Jackson County Emergency Management Agency spokeswoman Monica Cooper said authorities evacuated people Thursday morning as water rose in the Kreole community in eastern Moss Point. She said some were also being rescued in areas of Pascagoula south of U.S. 90 and there were reports of rising waters in Escatawpa. Cooper said residents told authorities that some houses flooded, although it was not immediately clear how many.

Ray Hayes' front yard in the Kreole area had about a foot of water, and he said his family considered leaving.

"It got a little worse in Hurricane Georges," Hayes said, referring to a 1998 storm. "This is not quite as bad."

Many people left the Kreole area when rumors circulated that flood gates would be opened at the Big Creek Lake on the western side of Mobile, Ala.

Mobile Water and Sewer System, which operates the dam on the drinking water reservoir, partially opened the flood gates, said Cooper. Local authorities were "not expecting any great impact from that opening," she said.

The Big Creek Lake drains in to the Escatawpa River, which runs along the northern edge of Kreole. Officials said both the Escatawpa and Pascagoula rivers remained swollen.

Pascagoula Police Department spokesman Doug Adams said a large portion of the city flooded and water blocked U.S. 90 at Market Street, in the heart of down-

town. "Roads that don't usually have water on them are covered and water is deeper in areas that are prone to flooding," he said.

Jackson County real estate broker Mark Cumbest said rising water threatened homes in places that normally stay dry in the northern part of the county, including his parents' house in the Cumbest Bluff community north of Escatawpa, on the east side of the Pascagoula River.

"I've never seen this before," Cumbest said.

Hancock County Chief Deputy Don Bass said Isaac's storm surge left two- to three-feet of sand on the road in spots on Beach Boulevard, which runs along the shore in Bay St. Louis and Waveland. He said a primary concern is flooding along rivers and creeks, which continue to rise from rain further north.

Bands of intermittent rain still pelted the soggy coast and there was gusting wind, but conditions had improved since the height of the storm Wednesday.

Forecasters also say as many as 11 inches of rain could fall by Monday in parts of Mississippi.

Many counties in central and south Mississippi were under a tornado watch until 4 p.m. The National Weather Service issued flash-flood watches.

Many roads remained impassable in some rural and low-lying areas. The Mississippi Department of Transportation reported some road closings because of downed trees and power lines. Federal authorities closed the Natchez Trace Parkway between Natchez and Kosciusko because of fallen trees.

# Mutual respect on the road

With many bike accidents in the past year, Oxford Police Chief Mike Martin strongly encourages bikers to take proper precautions and obey the rules of the road.



ADDISON DENT | The Daily Mississippian

Cyclists at the intersection of Old Taylor Road and University Avenue.

BY JOSEPH SCOTT  
joescottdm@gmail.com

As children, danger seemed a foreign concept as we raced our bikes, devil-may-care, through our hometown streets.

However, bikers face a serious danger in the cars with which they share the road.

Oxford has invested in bike lanes and has strongly enforced the state law of three feet between cars and bicycles, it would seem that bike safety should be the least of our concerns.

For cyclists and motorists across the city, the relationship between the two is one that requires our attention every day on the way to school or work.

Oxford Chief of Police Mike Martin has been dealing with the relationship between bikers and motorists for years now and has seen that there are definitely two sides to the story.

"Cyclists are constantly complaining that they aren't respected on the road, but motorists are constantly complaining that they are dealing with bikers not respecting the rules of the road; going backwards up a one-way street, not stopping at stop signs, etc." Martin said.

Martin said average bikers and motorists have been abiding by the law. The troubles arise due to only a small minority of rule-breakers on the road.

Accounting junior and cyclist Matthew Hart agrees.

"Biking to class every day, you always see other cyclists that cut through intersections and go the wrong way," he said. "You think to yourself, 'Come on man? Is it really worth it?'"

While the state law of three feet between cars and bikes attempts to keep the two out of harms way, it is obvious that road safety is an issue that

could always use attention and improvement.

Martin said there are two things required to make our roads safer.

"First, motorists are going to have to view bikes as street legal vehicles and give them the same respect as another car on the road," he said. "Second, bikers are going to have to obey the rules of the road. It's the only way keep them safe."

Bike safety has remained a prominent issue in the Oxford community as it has not even been a full year since the death of Ole Miss graduate student Kevser Ermin.

She was hit while riding her bike to Lake Sardis last November in a fatal accident that shook the community and reminded us all of the importance of bike safety.

Bike accidents seem to be an inevitability, as a study done by the Christensen Law Firm shows that more than 580,000 people are sent to the emergency room each year by accidents between cars and bicycles.

The study's information does provide us, however, with some information that we can use to make smarter choices if we decide to bike. The study explains that about 91 percent of cyclists killed were not wearing helmets. The study also demonstrates that helmets reduced the risk of head injury by 85 percent. So just by simply strapping on a helmet, bikers can dramatically improve safety on the road.

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## MEREDITH, continued from page 1

in his life, his book allows the reader to learn about Meredith in a firsthand account.

When asked why he was compelled to write his own book after so many books had previously been written about him he said, "about 90 percent of everything written about me is either a lie or not the truth."

Mississippi holds a very dear place in the life of Meredith. He was born in Kosciusko where he graduated high school. Meredith did not go straight to college after graduation. He joined the United States Air Force and was the first black man assigned to the bombing of Japan by a B-29 bomber plane. After nine years of service, Meredith decided to become an agent of change by attending the University of Mississippi.

"I never had anybody ask me why I decided to attend Ole Miss," he said. "The reason I chose this university was because I knew that in order to win your cause you had to receive the best training and be equipped.

"I felt that they offered that. In the 1960s the University of Mississippi held at least 60 percent of all power positions in Mississippi and at least 80 percent of lawyers were from Ole Miss. I knew that they dominated the circle of successful business people in Mississippi and I wanted blacks to become part of the circle."

As recounted in the book, Meredith's biggest inspiration was his father. He felt that his father directed his mission and made sure it got done. He also said that he could not overstate what his great grandfather did by giving him so much hope in Mississippi. His great-great-grandfather was the last chief of the Chickasaw Nation. Meredith wanted to restore power and glory to his bloodline.

"My paternal ancestors came from a line of greatness," he said. "It was in this line that the white supremacy act was established. I wanted to restore power and glory to my bloodline."

Dan Jones, chancellor of the University of Mississippi, attended the book signing and considers Meredith a personal hero.

"I am so grateful to be able to spend time with him personally because he is my hero," Jones said. "He is a great part of the University of Mississippi family, and I am grateful for his challenge and commitment to making Mississippi a better place."

Throughout his book Meredith stresses the importance of public education.

He feels as though it is God's mission for him to change public education.



LAUREN MCMILLON | The Daily Mississippian

TOP: The crowd gathered at Off Square Books looks on as James Meredith talks about his book; BOTTOM: Ole Miss alumni James Meredith signs his book "Mission from God" Thursday at Off Square Books.

"I promised God if I kept living, I was going to change public education; there is no better place to do this than in Mississippi," Meredith said.

Molly Grace Williams, a freshman communicative science disorders major at Ole Miss, was also impressed with Meredith.

"I am so impressed that despite all he has been through he has come back to Oxford and shares a passion for public schools," she said.

Meredith feels that all glory

of his work should be given to God. Moreover, in his book, Meredith writes of his dislike of the statue of him by the library on campus. He goes as far as to say it should be taken down immediately. When asked why he felt this way, Meredith responded by saying, "that statue is an idol, and God is not happy with that."

"I think that it was very courageous of him to put his honest opinion out there," said Anna McCollum, a freshman journalism major at Ole Miss.

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Expand

4h

---

**Keith Carter** @KeithCarterUMAA  
Excited to let #RebelNation know in my first tweet that the #ForwardTogether campaign has reached \$75 million rebs.ms/Rr4VIR

Details

5h

## FORWARD, continued from page 1

million benchmark, construction of a new basketball arena will move into the design phase, and plans are being finalized to make improvement to the Indoor Practice Facility, including a new campus dining facility, sports nutrition center and team meeting room, among other updates.

Carter said the UMAA Foundation and Ole Miss Athletics feels good about where the campaign is and hopes to make more announcements.

"The basketball arena, we said we got to get to a certain point," he said.

"We've thrown out the \$80 million mark and we want to get there. We still stand behind that. We didn't quite get there by the Sept. 1 date that we had thrown out, but we're not far. And we feel like there

are some gifts in the hopper, and we hope that there are some people out there that through this release and through the momentum we have built will step up and help us get there.

"We're hoping to get to \$80 (million), and we're going to keep going from there. And obviously \$150 million is the goal, and we're going to keep rolling, so we just want to continue the momentum. We cannot thank our donor base enough for what they have done. It's huge in this economy with some of the things that we have faced to be halfway to your goal in just over a year. And that's all a credit to our donors, so we're extremely excited about that and we hope to continue it."

Ole Miss Sports Information contributed to this report.

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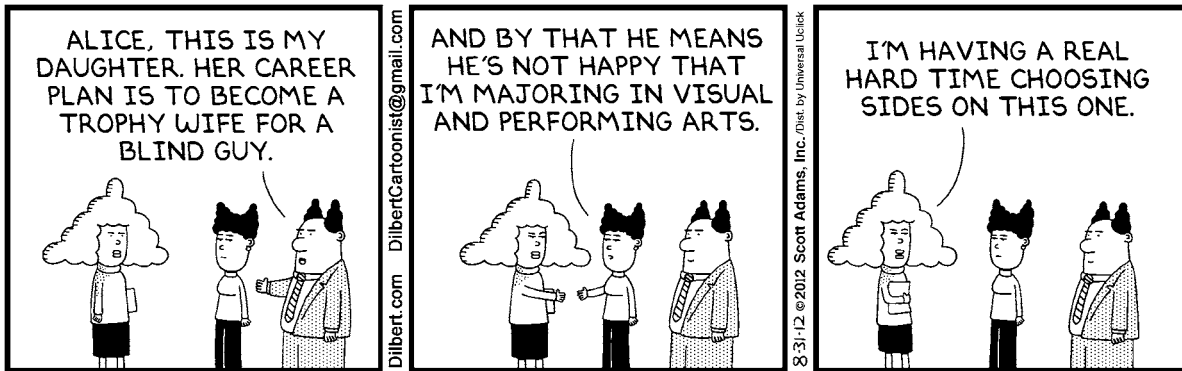
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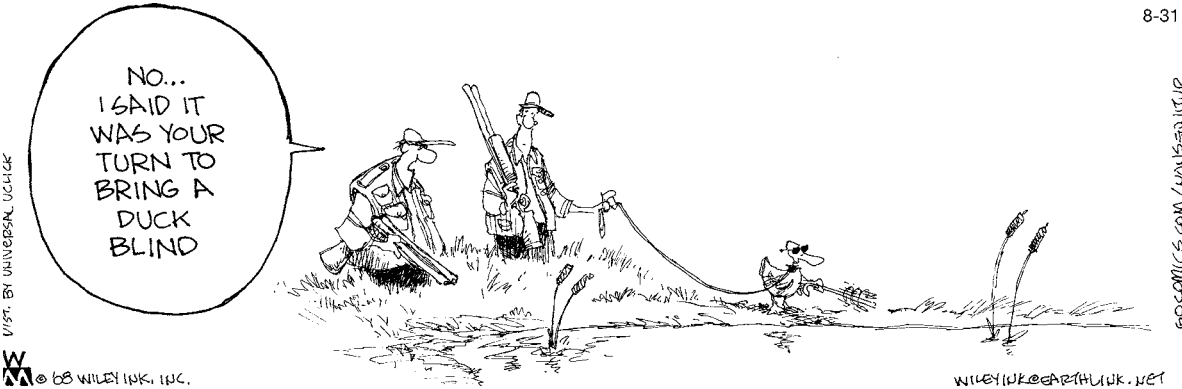
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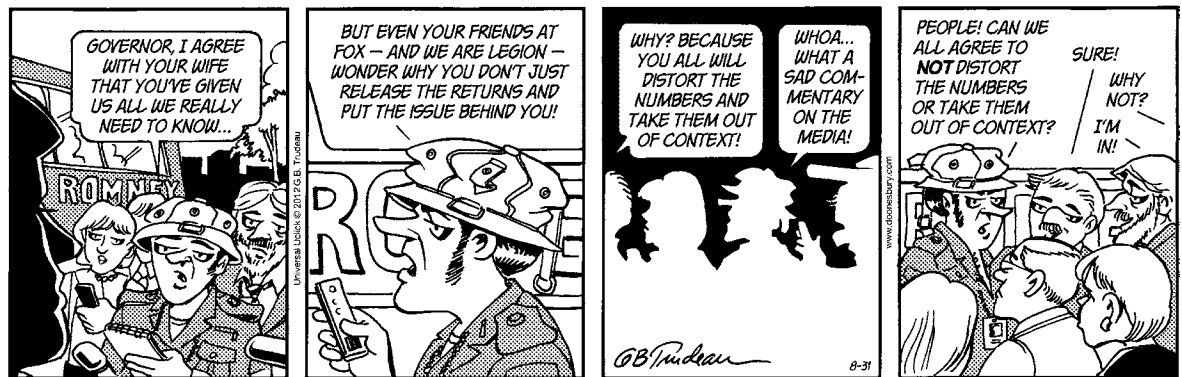
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8-31



### DOONESBURY

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



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

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**INTERMEDIATE**

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

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- 4 Japanese canine
- 9 White-hat wearer
- 13 Oklahoma town
- 14 Leaf junctures
- 15 Partial darkness
- 16 Very bright star (2 wds.)
- 18 Fables
- 19 Metric measure
- 20 Move with one's mind
- 22 Pointed monolith
- 25 Starlet's dream
- 26 Fishing net
- 28 Explosions
- 32 Pipe mtrl.
- 35 Fence parts
- 37 Singing cowpoke
- 38 Downtown Chicago
- 40 Kirk and Spock's friend
- 42 Mutant heroes of comics (hyph.)
- 43 Pinnacles
- 45 2.2-pound units
- 47 Casual wear
- 48 Drew closer to
- 50 Ranch stray
- 52 Music notation
- 54 Hong Kong boats
- 58 Microbe

#### DOWN

- 62 La Scala city
- 63 Martini garnish
- 64 Gingerly treat (2 wds.)
- 67 Bat's navigational system
- 68 Restaurant patron
- 69 Give - - break
- 70 Foot part
- 71 Breaks like a twig
- 72 Peculiar

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P	I	P	S	H	O	P	M	A	R	S	H
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- 27 Heston flick (2 wds.)
- 29 Mo. bill
- 30 Trunk possessor
- 31 "Auld Lang -"
- 32 Organize
- 33 Sot to -
- 34 Deep sleep
- 36 Recital pieces
- 39 Round Table knight
- 41 Hatha -
- 44 Vendor
- 46 Almost boils
- 49 PC key
- 51 DeMille genre
- 53 Uses solder
- 55 San Antonio landmark
- 56 Not clad
- 57 Golfer Sam -
- 58 Claptrap
- 59 Sunburn remedy
- 60 Motion picture
- 61 Period of time
- 65 Sade's "Is - - Crime?"
- 66 Fleshy mushroom

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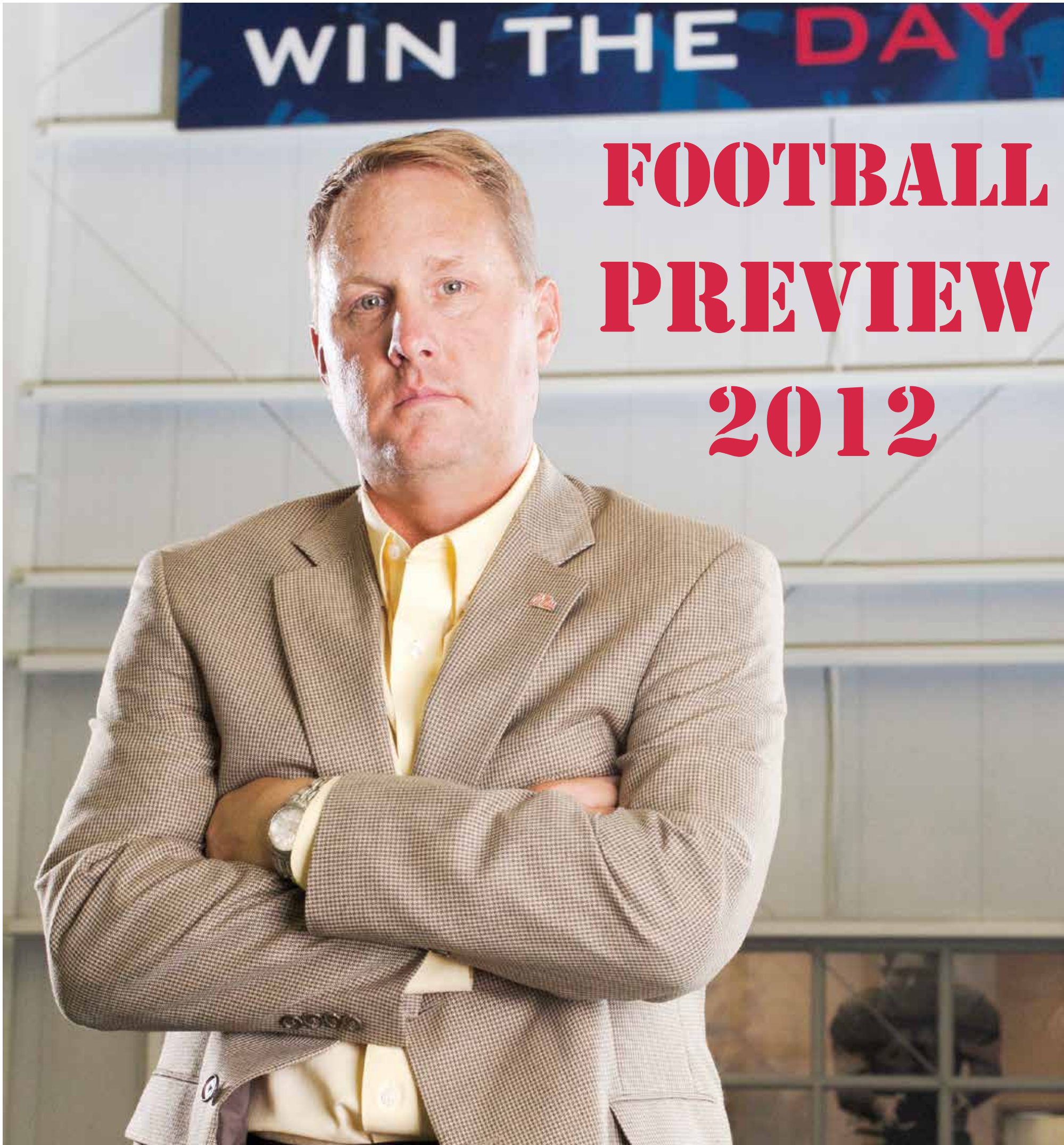


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WIN THE DAY

# FOOTBALL PREVIEW 2012



ALEX EDWARDS | The Daily Mississippian

Ole Miss head coach Hugh Freeze has been counting down the days to football season. With that milestone in his coaching career near, Freeze has been happy with the progress that has been made in his program. However, he knows that in order to achieve the success he strives for, the Rebels have a long way to go.

BY DAVID COLLIER  
thedmsports@gmail.com

Win the day.

That was first-year head coach Hugh Freeze's message when he spoke before the Rebel faithful for a capacity crowd at the Gertrude Ford Center last December after being named the new Ole Miss head football coach. Today – one day before he coaches the first game of his tenure – the message remains the same.

Freeze walked into an ugly situation at Ole Miss. The Rebels had just completed one of their worst seasons in history, winning just two games for the first time since 1946.

There were so many internal problems, and Freeze acknowl-

edged that would be one of the biggest obstacles to overcome in the first few months on the job.

"You have to have personal accountability for what's required of you, and you have to be faithful to do that," Freeze said. "I think that somewhere along the way that was kind of missing, from everything from classroom attendance to social behavior to the decisions we make on the field and off the field. That's been the biggest challenge, but again, we're making progress."

Although it may be hard to see that progress in terms of wins and losses, it is certainly being made.

When Freeze took over, there were many players who were in trouble of being academically

ineligible this fall. Those players bought in to what Freeze said and nearly all of them got themselves straightened out in the classroom.

"I think the buy-in percentage is up toward 80-90 percent of our team," Freeze said. "It's been a process and will continue to be, but the attitude is starting to be one that you can sense is a team that is hungry to change."

And according to Freeze, he expects things to turn for the better pretty soon.

This year's Ole Miss team may not have depth to be in every game, and a brutal road schedule doesn't help. However, there are plenty of positives to look at in the future, and when Freeze was asked where he sees his program two to three

years down the road, he didn't hesitate to answer.

"Competing for the SEC West Championship," he said. "That's where we want to be. We want to be positive citizens and vital parts to the University of Mississippi. The message is patience and positivity. Give us some patience, but be positive with us. We're asking our team and our coaches to do the same, and I think we'll get it there."

Freeze understands it will be a process, but he's up for the challenge. In fact, it's a dream come true for Freeze. He's wanted to be a football coach since he was a sophomore in high school. He grew up in Senatobia, and when he was growing up, Freeze only had a few options.

"It was basically in my com-

munity that you either go coach ball or go milk cows," Freeze said. "I knew that coaching was what I wanted to do."

Growing up so close to Oxford, Ole Miss has always meant a lot to Freeze.

"One of my first memories is standing in line as a 10-year-old to get Archie Manning's autograph and coming to the Grove on game day with my family and seeing the love and passion that people have for this place," Freeze said. "I wake up with the desire every day to deliver to these people. It's a special fan base. Rebel Nation is a very passionate and loyal group, and I want to give them what they deserve."

See FREEZE, PAGE 17

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# Four Downs: Central Arkansas

This is the first installment of a weekly feature in which The Daily Mississippian's football beat writers Bennett Hipp and Matt Sigler, sports editor David Collier and managing editor Austin Miller answer a series of four questions surrounding the week's matchup.

**1. What is the biggest question mark?**



**Bennett Hipp (@jbhipp), football beat writer:** The biggest question mark is how will Hugh Freeze's up-tempo, no-huddle offense fare in its first game? While the competition level isn't close to Southeastern Conference level, it'll be interesting to see if there are some kinks and issues early that have to be worked out. It's the first chance to see how the offense looks and how it fits the players at Ole Miss in a game setting.

**Matt Sigler (@SigNewton\_2), football beat writer:** The biggest question mark is whether or not the offense will be able to execute the fast-paced tempo correctly. With the pace Freeze is hoping for, I wouldn't be surprised to see a lot of confusion in week one, or for the staff to tone things down if things go awry.

**David Collier (@DavidLCollier), sports editor:** In my mind, the best question mark is the psyche of the team. How will they respond when something goes wrong? The earlier Hugh Freeze and staff can figure out how the team handles adversity, the sooner they know how far along

this team is and how close they are to taking the next step.

**Austin Miller (@austinkmiller), managing editor:** The biggest question mark will be how does Ole Miss' depth hold up. The Rebels are thin in a lot of areas, and it's no secret Ole Miss was outplayed in the second half of games last season. The offseason season strength and conditioning program and the buy-in factor will be put to the test Saturday.

**2. Will a quarterback emerge?**



**Hipp:** I don't think so. Freeze has said that he plans to play both quarterbacks against Central Arkansas and next week against UTEP. I think Bo Wallace clearly has the better game, but both will play and by the end their impact will have been similar.

**Sigler:** A quarterback will emerge during week one. Which one? No telling. One will find it in themselves to realize that this is their true audition for the starting role, and one will be considerably better in the first game in my opinion.

**Collier:** I think Bo Wallace will show that it is his job to lose, but both quarterbacks will play against UTEP despite who has the

better game. Wallace will execute the offense more efficiently and emerge as the starter to be named later.

**Miller:** Both quarterbacks will play, and I expect Freeze to go with the hot hand if a quarterback finds success early in the game. I think Bo Wallace will carry the momentum from his two successful scrimmages into Saturday's game and emerge as the starter by the Texas game, if not by the UTEP game.

**3. Which freshman will make the biggest impact?**



**Hipp:** I'll go with Jaylen Walton. The freshman running back from Memphis is more of a change-of-pace back compared to fellow frosh I'Tavius Mathers, but Walton has shown great playmaking ability along with a knack for avoiding a big hit. He also could help Ole Miss out in the return game, giving him more chances to affect the game.

**Sigler:** I'Tavius Mathers. Mathers has some size to him, which will allow him to run between the tackles, but also has the quickness to make a run on the outside. He also rushed for 100 yards in the scrimmage on 13 carries, so it appears that the coaching staff will rely on him to make some runs.

**Collier:** I want to say Jaylen Walton, but instead, I'll go with Issac Gross. The South Panola product has already proven he has the talent, and I expect him to make a couple of big plays early on Saturday to set the tone for the rest of the game.

**Miller:** With Jeff Scott listed as "doubtful," Jaylen Walton will be the change-of-pack back to go along with Randall Mackey in the backfield. Walton also figures to be a factor catching the ball out of the backfield.

**4. What are the keys for Ole Miss to avoid the upset?**



**Hipp:** The main keys are to get off to a good start offensively, and in turn avoid turnovers. If Ole Miss isn't able to come out and execute offensive early (whether due to kinks in the offense or turnovers), that will allow Central Arkansas to hang in the game and gain confidence.

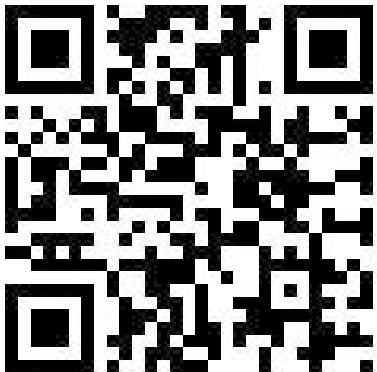
After losses to Jacksonville State and Louisiana Tech the past two seasons, the Rebels can't afford to let another small team hang in the game late.

**Sigler:** Put the past in the past. Forget about last season's opener and the team's continual. The team must also believe in the new staff and the things they are trying to implement.

**Collier:** The biggest key for Ole Miss is to play with the lead. Get some distance from Central Arkansas early and, at the very least, keep them at arms length. If they can avoid turnovers and mental mistakes, I believe Ole Miss can grab a two-touchdown lead by halftime.

**Miller:** Don't let Central Arkansas hang around into the fourth quarter. Central Arkansas is a quality FCS opponent, not unlike Jacksonville State two years, with Division I sprinkled throughout its roster. One of the quarterbacks finding a rhythm to make the offense hit its stride will also be important.

For continuing coverage of Ole Miss football, follow @thedm\_sports.

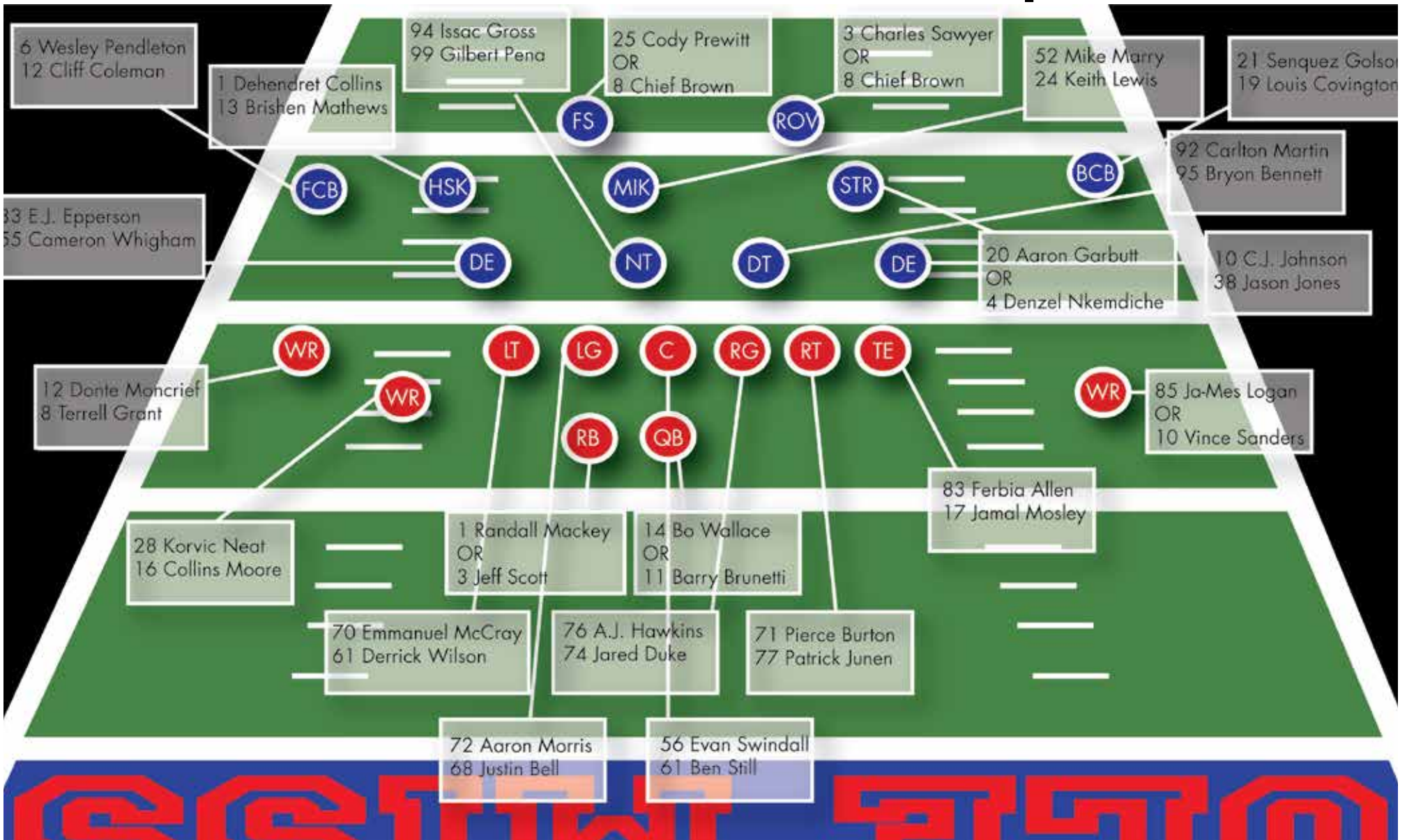


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# 2012 Ole Miss Rebels Depth Chart



This is the depth chart as released in the game notes on Monday.

GRAPHIC BY CAIN MADDEN | The Daily Mississippian

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## 2012 SEC HELMET SCHEDULE

	1-Sept.	8-Sept.	15-Sept.	22-Sept.	29-Sept.	6-Oct.	13-Oct.	20-Oct.	27-Oct.	3-Nov.	10-Nov.	17-Nov.	24-Nov.
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### SEC WESTERN DIVISION

Ole Miss	UCA	UTEP	TEXAS	@Tulane	@Alabama	TEXAS A&M	AUBURN	BYE	@Arkansas*	@Georgia	VANDY	@LSU	MSU
Alabama	MICHIGAN*	W. KEN.	@Arkansas	FAU	OLE MISS	BYE	@Missouri	@Tennessee	MSU	@LSU	TEXAS A&M	W. CAR.	AUBURN
Arkansas	JAX ST.	UL MONROE	ALABAMA	RUTGERS	@Texas A&M	@Auburn	KENTUCKY	BYE	OLE MISS*	TULSA	@S. Car.	@MSU	LSU#
Auburn	CLEMSON*	@MSU	UL MONROE	LSU	BYE	ARKANSAS	@Ole Miss	@Vandy	TEXAS A&M	NM STATE	GEORGIA	ALA. A&M	@Alabama
LSU	N. TEXAS	WASH.	IDAHO	@Auburn	TOWSON	@Florida	S. CAR.	@Texas A&M	BYE	ALABAMA	MSU	OLE MISS	@Arkansas#
MSU	JACKSON ST.	AUBURN	@Troy	S. ALA.	BYE	@Kentucky	TENNESSEE	MTSU	@Alabama	TEXAS A&M	@LSU	ARKANSAS	OLE MISS
Texas A&M	@La. Tech Hurricane Isaac	FLORIDA	@SMU	S. CAR. ST.	ARKANSAS	@Ole Miss	@La. Tech	LSU	@Auburn	@MSU	@Alabama	S. HOU. ST.	MISSOURI

### SEC EASTERN DIVISION

Florida	BOWL GRN	@Texas A&M	@Tennessee	KENTUCKY	BYE	LSU	@Vandy	S. CAR.	Georgia*	MISSOURI	UL LAF.	JAX ST.	@ Fla. St.
Georgia	BUFFALO	@Missouri	FAU	VANDY	TENNESSEE	@S. Car.	BYE	@Kentucky	FLORIDA*	OLE MISS	@Auburn	GA SOU.	GA. TECH
Kentucky	@Louisville#	KENT ST.	W. KEN.	@Florida	S. CAR.	MSU	@Arkansas	GEORGIA	@Missouri	VANDY	BYE	SAMFORD	@Tennessee
Missouri	SE. LA.	GEORGIA	ARIZONA ST.	@S. Car.	@UCF	VANDY	ALABAMA	BYE	KENTUCKY	@Florida	@Tennessee	SYRACUSE	@Texas A&M
S. Carolina	@Vandy#	E. CAR.	UAB	MISSOURI	@Kentucky	GEORGIA	@LSU	@Florida	TENNESSEE	BYE	ARKANSAS	WOFFORD	@Clemson
Tennessee	NC STATE*#	GA. STATE	FLORIDA	AKRON	@Georgia	BYE	@MSU	ALABAMA	@S. Car.	TROY	MISSOURI	@Vandy	KENTUCKY
Vanderbilt	S. CAR.#	@N'Western	PRESBY	@Georgia	BYE	@Missouri	FLORIDA	AUBURN	UMASS	@Kentucky	@Ole Miss	TENNESSEE	@W. For.

GRAPHIC BY CAIN MADDEN | The Daily Mississippian

\* Denotes neutral-site game | # Denotes non-Saturday game

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# Johnson hungry for success

Ole Miss sophomore defensive end C.J. Johnson devoted himself in the offseason to get bigger to handle the challenges that come with playing on the defensive line in the SEC. Johnson has been "an animal" in fall camp, according to Hugh Freeze, and he's poised to make a big impact this season.

BY BENNETT HIPPI  
jbhipp@go.olemiss.edu

For many college football players, the offseason is spent dropping weight and reshaping bodies in preparation for the grind of another college football season.

In the case of Ole Miss sophomore defensive end C.J. Johnson, much of his offseason and fall camp was spent making sure he was eating enough in order to gain weight.

After shifting from linebacker to defensive end during his freshman season, Johnson found himself undersized for the position, especially compared to other Southeastern Conference defensive ends.

"I've actually gained a few pounds," Johnson said. I'm almost close to the 240 (pound) mark right now. It's just more of the things that they're asking me to do and the way they want me

to play, it requires me to gain a little bit of weight, but I'm sure that won't be a problem."

Although he is still considered small compared to others at his position, an offseason spent on learning technique and buying into Hugh Freeze's system has the Rebels' first-year coach laying high praise on the 6-foot-1, 231-pound Philadelphia, Miss. native.

"I think he's our best player," Freeze said. "I think we need to keep him healthy. I expect him to be a major factor in our pass rush schemes. I wish he were a little heavier; that'll take a toll on his body probably as the stretch goes on."

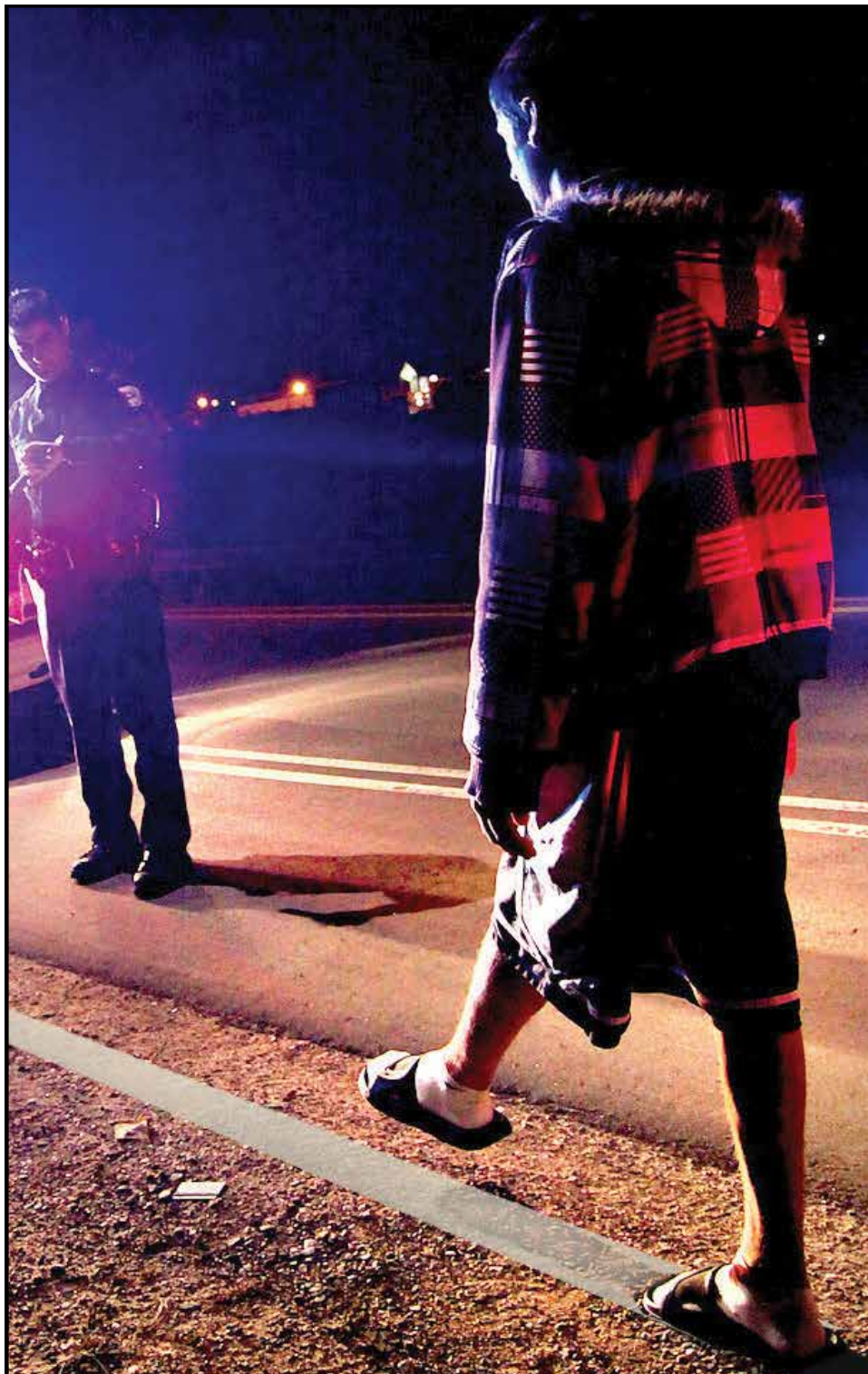
"Couldn't be more pleased with the way he's bought in and the way he's practiced up to this point."

Johnson added some weight and says that camp gave him

See JOHNSON, PAGE 17



ALEX EDWARDS | The Daily Mississippian



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COLUMN

## From your sports editor



BY DAVID COLLIER  
thedmsports@gmail.com

As the old saying goes, "Just wait until next year."

Yes I know, that always seems to be the excuse when it comes to Ole Miss football. But if you said that after last season's 2-10 debacle that handed Houston Nutt a ticket out of town, you were right.

That "next year" is finally

here, and really, things have nowhere to go but up.

Hugh Freeze miraculously found a way to make his football team buy in to his system and get several guys academically eligible for the fall. Ross Bjork has been reuniting the fan base since he took over as athletics director in the spring. And the Forward Together campaign is halfway to its goal of \$150 million, as of Thursday.

So yes, things are progressing – slowly but surely.

It's a new era for Ole Miss athletics, and it's going to be a process. Just remember that as you head in and out

of Vaught-Hemingway Stadium this season. There will undoubtedly be some highs and lows.

Freeze and his staff are building a program to be a winner for years to come. Once it's where it should be, there should be no more 4-8 and 2-10 seasons. It's a process, but it can and will happen if everyone – like the players – buys in to Freeze.

As for the other sports, there are some question marks.

Andy Kennedy and the Rebel basketball team seem poised to make another run at the NCAA Tournament,

and I, for one, think they'll make it. They have a good group of returning players led by Murphy Holloway, and the additions Kennedy made in the offseason could pay off dividends come March.

On the baseball diamond, Mike Bianco will have to rely heavily on his pitching staff to get the Rebels over the hump and onto Omaha. With Bobby Wahl and Mike Meyers toeing the rubber on Fridays and Saturdays, respectively, they have a chance. If they can get some guys to fill the void that Alex Yarbrough and Matt Snyder

left in middle of the lineup, they could be one of the nation's top teams.

There's definitely been a cause for frustration towards the entire athletic department, but things are changing. Just make sure you're along for the ride. If Ole Miss is to ever become what the fans want, it takes a complete buy-in from not just the players, coaches and administrators, but also you, the fans.

*David Collier is a journalism junior from Frisco, Texas. Follow him on twitter @DavidL-Collier.*

COLUMN

## Headed in the right direction



BY BENNETT HIPPI  
jbhipp@go.olemiss.edu

For the first time since I began covering Ole Miss football for the Daily Mississippian, there seems to be a sense of calm around the program as the season approaches.

Sure, there are questions marks, and plenty of them. The difference is that there isn't any pressure on Hugh Freeze to deliver a multitude of wins in what is the first of a multi-year rebuild of a downtrodden program.

Two years ago, there was pressure. Almost exactly two

years ago, Jeremiah Masoli's waiver to play immediately at Ole Miss was denied.

The atmosphere around the program was chaotic as Houston Nutt tried to get Masoli in, knowing that the 8-4 season and second straight Cotton Bowl appearance a lauded season earlier, had actually been a disappointment.

As we all know, Masoli was cleared, and Ole Miss lost its first game to Jacksonville State. All in all, Masoli had an above-average season and basically kept Ole Miss from winning just one or two games in 2010 to instead finish 4-8.

Last year, Randall Mackey was set to start for Ole Miss at quarterback in the season opener, but an off-the-field incident ended that possibil-

ity. Instead, Barry Brunetti was thrust into the starting role, and Zack Stoudt played as well.

Ole Miss rotated its quarterbacks at will throughout the year, sacrificing offensive continuity and hit rock bottom with a 2-10 record, ending Houston Nutt's tenure in Oxford.

Flash forward to now, and there is no such pressure or chaos surrounding the 2012 football program. The quarterback position is unsettled, but Hugh Freeze has had a plan regarding the two quarterbacks since the beginning and hasn't changed course.

This season won't be a pretty one for Ole Miss, as no amount of Hugh Freeze optimism can hide Ole Miss' severe lack of game-changing talent and legitimate

depth.

The Rebels can ill afford injuries at a myriad of positions, including wide receiver, cornerback and offensive line. They're starting a 270-pound freshman at nose tackle. A starting defensive end was a fullback not too long ago.

Even though Ole Miss could certainly be an improved team compared to last year, the win-loss record might not show that. That's not the worst thing in the world, as wins and losses at this point don't matter for Freeze and company.

The more important tasks for the Ole Miss staff is to develop talent for the future, continue to change the attitude around the program both on and off the field and attempt to show future re-

cruits that a program in the dumpster just a year ago has turned things around.

None of that is out of reach, but it will be interesting from my perspective to cover a team with such different expectations for it than the teams of the past two seasons.

As evidenced by the quarterback plans for the first couple of games, Ole Miss enters the season with a head coach who is in control and has a plan. That same thing probably can't be said for Freeze's predecessor.

That alone makes this upcoming Ole Miss season one to follow.

*For continuing coverage of Ole Miss football, follow @thedmsports and @bennethipp on Twitter.*

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# FREEZE ERA BEGINS SATURDAY



The Hugh Freeze era at Ole Miss is set to begin tomorrow against Central Arkansas. The Rebels are coming off a 2-10 season last year and are hoping to take a step in the right direction in Freeze's first game.

BY MATT SIGLER  
mcsigler@go.olemiss.edu

Hugh Freeze will make his Ole Miss head coaching debut this Saturday against a familiar opponent in Central Arkansas. Last season when he was Arkansas State head coach, Freeze and his team defeated Central Arkansas 53-24. Freeze said he and his team are anxious to get on to the field and get the season underway.

"We're just like all the other coaches and teams just very anxious to get started," Freeze said in the SEC teleconference Wednesday. "A little bit tired of hitting on each other and seeing each other's schemes. We're ready to see someone else's. I've been very pleased with the attitude and effort our kids have given throughout fall camp. I'm very anxious to get us out and see where we are and what the truth really is."

Freeze hopes that his team's confidence will be high going into Saturday's game.

"I hope it's good," Freeze said. "I want them to be loose and have fun. They need to enjoy this process and they need to forget and not pay attention to all the naysayers and talk about last year, this coming year and two years ago. It doesn't matter. What matters is how their going to choose to perform on Saturday, and that is all I really want them concentrating on."

In his last meeting with Central Arkansas, Freeze and Arkansas State racked up 375 rushing yards and 271 passing yards for 646 total yards of offense. Freeze had high praise for head coach Clint Conque and Central Arkansas, which finished 9-4 and reached the second round of the FCS play-off last season.

"I'm very familiar with the job that Clint Conque and his staff do there," Freeze said in Wednesday's teleconference. "I have great respect for them.

They made a big run deep into the playoffs last year and had a tremendous season. The biggest concern we would have I guess is they have good schemes, number one, and that they are always picking up the division one transfers that move down."

Perhaps the most notable Division I transfer on the Central Arkansas roster is former Ole Miss wide receiver and kick returner Jesse Grandy. Grandy was a home run threat as a Rebel and last season for UCA and led the team in receiving with 49 receptions for 788 yards and nine touchdowns.

Freeze named sophomore Bo Wallace the starter for the opener over junior Barry Brunetti, but still emphasizes that both will have their fair share of playing time. He also added that junior running back Jeff Scott is doubtful for the game with a lower back injury.

"He went to a specialist (Thursday)," Freeze said. "It didn't show anything more than that same irritation he's got in one of the discs. I still say I think he is doubtful, but he is day-to-day."

Ole Miss junior safety Charles Sawyer feels that the team has a good grasp on what Central Arkansas will throw at them Saturday.

"They run a spread," Sawyer said. "Pretty basic. In the skill positions they have a good group of receivers, running backs and a quarterback who can run, but they're just a spread team. They don't go fast

like coach Freeze so that is a bonus, but they are just basic."

Defensive coordinator Dave Wommack is seeing improvement from his defense and believes they will play hard on Saturday.

"I think we've narrowed down some of the things we are doing on defense," Wommack said. "They're getting closer and closer. Still have some mental work to do, but they're practicing hard, and I think we are going to play extremely hard. So, we're getting there."

The Rebels enter the game with a lot of question marks they are hoping to answer. When the official depth chart was released earlier this week, Ole Miss had 10 positions where two players were listed with "OR" in between them, meaning a decision had yet been made on who the starter would be. The new offense hopes to run a lot of no-huddle, but with only spring and fall practice to install the offense, it could prove to be a challenge for the Rebels.

"They call it, we run it," senior offensive lineman A.J. Hawkins said. "So if he wants to go two minute the whole game, we'll do it."

Ole Miss and Central Arkansas will kickoff at 6 p.m. at Vaught-Hemingway Stadium on Saturday and is available on pay-per-view.

*For continuing coverage of Ole Miss football, follow @thedmsports and @SigNewton\_2 on Twitter.*



PHOTOS COURTESY THE ECHO | LEE HOGAN

TOP LEFT: Ole Miss head coach Hugh Freeze; TOP RIGHT: Central Arkansas junior quarterback Wynrick Smothers; BOTTOM RIGHT: Central Arkansas senior wide receiver Jesse Grandy

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# Hipp's Tips: Central Arkansas

This is the return of a weekly feature in which The Daily Mississippian football beat writer Bennett Hipp gives his keys to the week's matchup.

BY BENNETT HIPPI  
jbhipp@go.olemiss.edu

## 1. First impression

Saturday gives Hugh Freeze his one shot at a great first impression on the field. By all accounts, Freeze made a great first impression off the field in his introductory press conference back in December at the Ford Center.

Now, he'll be showcasing his up-tempo offense and trying to prove that Ole Miss is on the rebound from two disastrous seasons in a row. Expectations aren't high, but so much has been made of Freeze's "basketball on grass" offense that early touchdowns and a consistent offensive performance would go a long way in pleasing a fan base that appears desperate for any success.

## 2. Wallace gets first shot

Ole Miss enters Saturday's game with co-number ones at quarterback in Bo Wallace and

Barry Brunetti. With that said, Wallace will take the first snaps Saturday night.

While Hugh Freeze has said he wants to play both quarterbacks equally, he's also said that if a quarterback gets hot, he'll stay in for a few more drives.

What that means for Wallace is that if he comes out firing and Ole Miss is able to move the ball down the field, he could take that first step toward showing he's the quarterback for Ole Miss going forward.

On the flip side, if Wallace comes out and struggles, Brunetti could come in and show he's the guy going forward.

## 3. Smother Smothers

Central Arkansas quarterback Wynrick Smothers has the unfortunate task of replacing former FCS All-American quarterback Nathan Dick, who threw for an astounding 3,275 yards and 32 touchdowns last season.

Smothers has some experience under his belt, having

played in 12 games the last two seasons -- including one start, which came against Hugh Freeze and Arkansas State last year. Smothers was 16-of-31 for 224 yards, one touchdown, 37 yards rushing and even caught a touchdown pass.

The junior is a dual-threat quarterback, so it will be interesting to see how successful Smothers is running the ball against Ole Miss' smaller, speedier linebackers.

Forcing Smothers to be one-dimensional in his playing style could severely limit what Central Arkansas does play-calling wise as the game goes on.

## 4. Inexperience on the lines

The matchup of the Central Arkansas offensive line against the Ole Miss defensive line features a bunch of players with little or no experience at the collegiate level.

Bears left tackle Dominique Allen and center Corey How-



WILL STROUTH | The Daily Mississippian

Freshman defensive tackle Issac Gross

ard have started a combined 49 collegiate games. The other three members of the Central Arkansas line have combined to start one game total.

On the flip side, the Ole Miss starting defensive line has combined for five total starts. C.J. Johnson has three at end, and Carlton Martin has two at tackle. Issac Gross has never played a college down yet, and this will be E.J. Epperson's first game at

defensive end.

It will be a fascinating matchup to watch and see if Ole Miss' young defensive linemen can take advantage of the three unproven offensive linemen, or if the two veteran stalwarts hold together UCA's line and keeps the Ole Miss pass rush at bay.

Much has been said about an improved pass rush for the Rebels from last season to this one, and Saturday will be the first glance at whether Ole Miss has improved in that regard.

## 5. Keep an eye on Grandy

Former Ole Miss wide receiver and return specialist Jesse Grandy has found a home at Central Arkansas. The 5-foot-11, 165-pound senior was named to the All-Southland Conference Team last year after success in multiple roles for the Bears.

Grandy was used all over, catching 49 passes for over 700 yards and nine touchdowns, rushing nine times, returning 18 punts and 16 kickoffs.

Expect more of that from Central Arkansas on Saturday, as Grandy possesses possibly the most game breaking ability on the team. He's one of those players that teams have to game plan for exclusively, and Ole Miss could be burned if they fail to keep tabs on Grandy.

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## FREEZE,

continued from page 9

That job was made a little easier in the spring when Ross Bjork was named as the new athletics director at Ole Miss.

Since taking over the reins of the athletic department days before the annual football spring game, Bjork and Freeze have been on a mission to raise Ole Miss to heights it hasn't seen in quite some time.

The dynamic duo traveled throughout the state in the inaugural Rebel Road Trip last spring. Shortly after the road trip, Bjork talked about how the two finish each other's sentences and acknowledged how well they get along. It's easy to see the energy both Freeze and Bjork bring to the table.

"I couldn't ask any more out of Ross," Freeze said. "He's been a terrific boss side-by-side with me trying to reunite the fan base and the people here. I think when they see us together and see that we are on the same side preaching the same message that it can only help us."

Aside from getting the Ole Miss fan base to come together as one, Freeze knows he has to do more than that to get Ole Miss to the level he expects of his program. Because of that, Freeze has spent seemingly every second that he's not on the practice field or in the film room devoted to recruiting.

Freeze learned his first lessons in recruiting from former Ole Miss head coach Ed Orgeron – who is widely considered one of the best recruiters in the country. Freeze said he uses the same 12-month recruiting plan that Orgeron implemented when Freeze served as the Rebels' recruiting coordinator from 2006-07. He knows how vital it is to his program's ultimate success.

"You've got to recruit," Freeze said. "You've got to have talented players, and many of them to create depth. That's what we're lacking in right now."

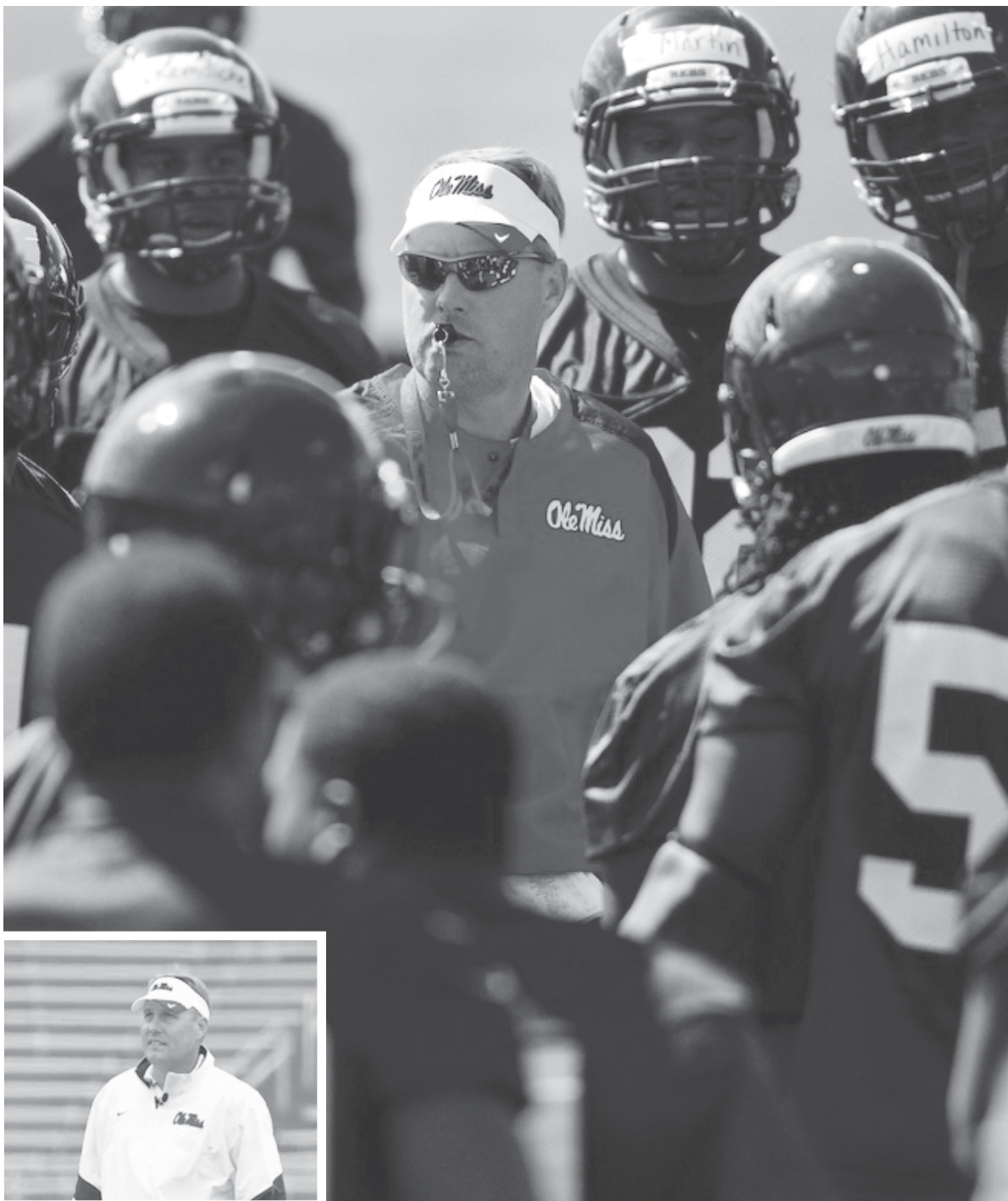
Recruiting is easier when you're winning every Saturday, but right now Freeze doesn't have that luxury. Instead, he and his staff take a different approach.

"We don't talk about last year," he said. "If we want to talk about last year, let's talk about the other past years also – the six SEC championships, the three national championships, 13th all-time bowl wins. If we're going to talk about one past year, let's talk about all of them."

It's easy to see the "it" factor that FedEx executive Mike Glenn and Ole Miss legend Archie Manning saw in Freeze.

And if the energy and passion he brings to Oxford translates to the football field, the check marks in the win column will speak for themselves.

*For continuing coverage of Ole Miss football, follow @thedm\_sports and @DavidLCollier on Twitter.*



FILE PHOTO (AUSTIN MCAFEE) | The Daily Mississippian



ALEX EDWARDS | The Daily Mississippian

## JOHNSON,

continued from page 13

a few weeks to really focus on eating well and often enough to gain a few pounds.

"Just eating after practice in camp helps a lot and being able to eat breakfast and just being able to get full course meals throughout camp, it's kind of helped," Johnson said. "We've had these couple days off, and it hasn't been an excessive amount of running that means requiring burning a bunch of energy.

"I've been able to just sit at home and just eat, really."

Camp also allowed Johnson to show something else he worked hard on in the offseason – better technique when it comes to rushing the passer. Because he got a late start at the defensive end position, he was behind the developmental curve technique-wise.

That, clearly, has changed as

Kiffin) always talks about adding tools to your toolbox, and the more tools you have in your toolbox, the better job you'll have getting to the passer."

In addition to adding more pass rushing moves and improved techniques to Johnson's "toolbox," Ole Miss was able to add a couple of pass rushers to its defensive toolbox in freshman defensive end Channing Ward and freshman defensive tackle Issac Gross.

"Those guys have come on way faster than I even thought they would," Johnson said. "They're just out early every day before practice getting extra reps. They're in practice being very communicative and very coachable."

The trio hopes to erase memories of what was an anemic Ole Miss pass rush a year ago. In 2011, the Rebels ranked last

in the conference and 111th in the country in sacks with just 13 sacks in 12 games.

They also failed to record a sack in the last three games of the season against Louisiana Tech, LSU and Mississippi State. Johnson feels the defense is at a point where that won't happen again.

"I think now we're getting to the point where we can play fast," he said. "Everybody's starting to get the concept of the defense and everybody is starting to understand the scheme, so it's making things go a lot better. Right now, we're looking pretty good."

When Saturday comes around

and Ole Miss' season kicks off against Central Arkansas, Johnson will spend the next four months working on improving on his 32 tackles and four tackles for loss from his freshman season.

He'll also have something to improve upon off the field as he battles to add weight.

"You've just got to keep eating," he said. "I try to eat five or six times a day, but ideally, with the schedule I have, that's kind of hard to do. That'll be the hard part, just to eat."

*For continuing coverage of Ole Miss football, follow @thedm\_sports and @bennethipp on Twitter.*

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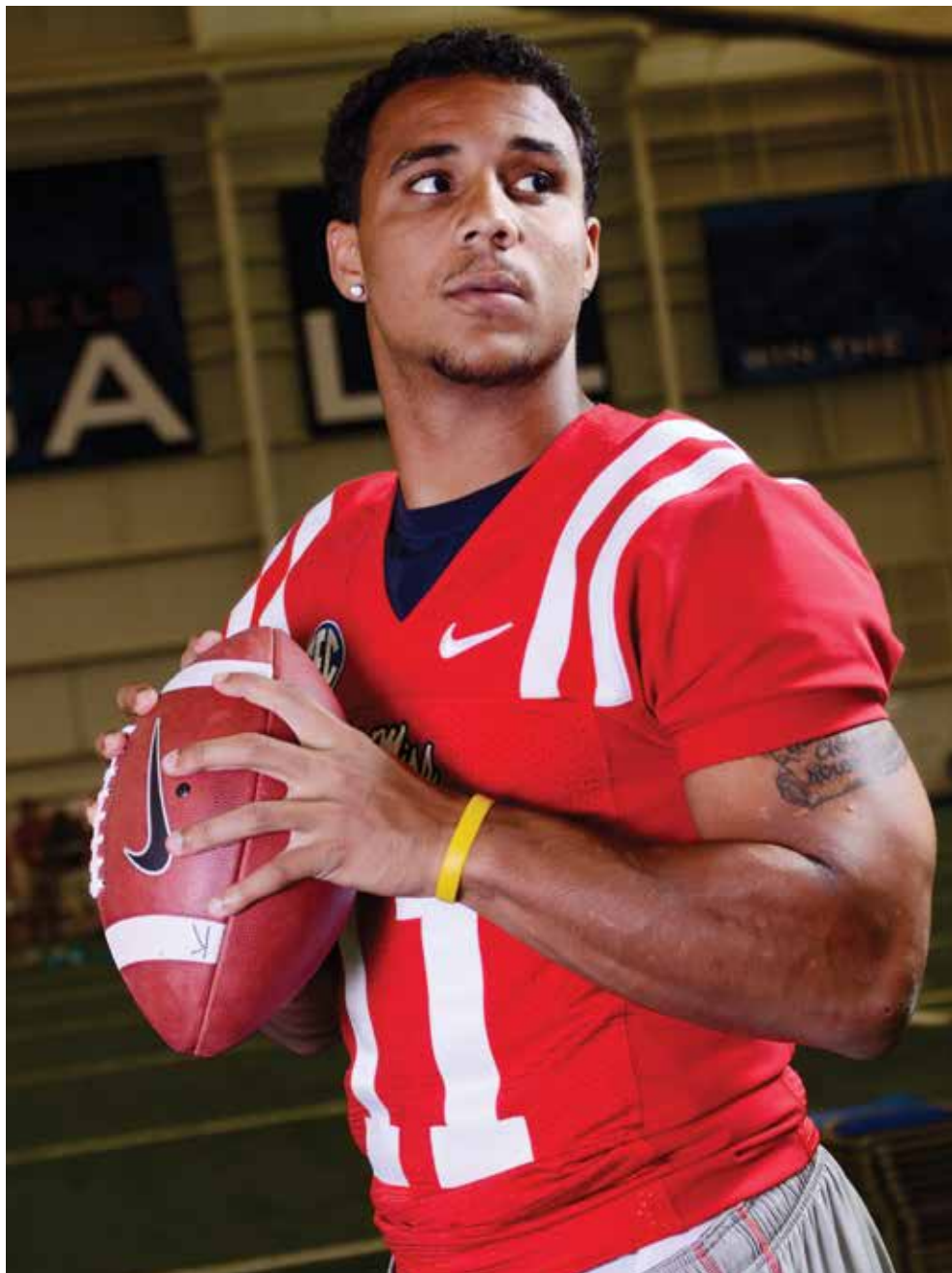


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Fri., Aug. 31	7:00 PM	Villanova at Temple	ESPN-3		4:00 PM	Colorado State at Colorado	FX
	7:30 PM	Tennessee vs. North Carolina State	ESPN-U		6:00 PM	Murray State at No. 7 Florida State	ESPN-3
	8:00 PM	No. 24 Boise State at No. 13 Michigan State	ESPN			Youngstown State at Pittsburgh	ESPN-3
Sat., Sept. 1		Wagner at Florida Atlantic	ESPN-3	7:00 PM	Jacksonville State at No. 10 Arkansas	ESPN-3	
	10:00 PM	San Jose State at No. 21 Stanford	Pac-12 Network		No. 14 Clemson at Auburn	ESPN	
	9:00 AM	Notre Dame vs. Navy	CBS		FIU at Duke	ESPN-3	
	12:00 PM	Appalachian State at East Carolina	Fox Sports		North Texas at No. 3 LSU	ESPN-U	
		Western Michigan at Illinois	ESPN-U		Lamar at Louisiana-Lafayette	ESPN-3	
		Miami (OH) at No. 18 Ohio State	Big Ten Network		Central Arkansas at Ole Miss	Fox Sports	
		Ohio at Penn State	ESPN		Southeastern at Missouri	ESPN-3	
		Northwestern at Syracuse	ESPN-2		Chattanooga at South Florida	ESPN-3	
		Marshall at No. 11 West Virginia	FX		Austin Peay at Western Kentucky	ESPN-3	
	12:21 PM	Buffalo at No. 6 Georgia	SEC Network	7:10 PM	Missouri State at No. 22 Kansas State	Kansas State HD	
	12:30 PM	Elon at North Carolina	ACC Network	7:30 PM	Hawaii at No. 1 USC	FOX	
	3:00 PM	Nevada at California	Pac-12 Network	8:00 PM	No. 8 Michigan vs. No. 2 Alabama	ABC	
		William & Mary at Maryland	ESPN-3		Indiana State at Indiana	Big Ten Network	
		Nicholls at Oregon State	Pac-12 Network		Wyoming at No. 15 Texas	Longhorn Network	
		Richmond at Virginia	ESPN-3		Rutgers at Tulane	CBS Sports Network	
3:30 PM	Miami (FL) at Boston College	ABC/ESPN-2	10:30 PM	Toledo at Arizona	ESPN-U		
	Bowling Green at No. 23 Florida	ESPN		Arkansas State at No. 5 Oregon	ESPN		
	Tulsa at Iowa State	Fox Sports		No. 4 Oklahoma at UTEP	Fox Sports		
	Southern Miss at No. 17 Nebraska	ABC/ESPN-2	Sun., Sept. 2	3:30 PM	San Diego State at Washington	Pac-12 Network	
	Iowa at Northern Illinois	ESPN-U		6:30 PM	Kentucky at No. 25 Louisville	ESPN	
	Eastern Kentucky at Purdue	Big Ten Network	Mon., Sept. 3	8:00 PM	Southern Methodist at Baylor	Fox Sports	
	Northern Iowa at No. 12 Wisconsin	Big Ten Network			Georgia Tech at No. 16 Virginia Tech		

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PHILLIP WALLER | The Daily Mississippian



ALEX EDWARDS | The Daily Mississippian

LEFT: Junior quarterback Barry Brunetti RIGHT: Sophomore quarterback Bo Wallace. Freeze said both quarterbacks will play Saturday, and Wallace will get the first snaps.

## QUARTERBACKS,

continued from page 20

and scoring and not being taken out of the game. If you're scoring every drive, he's probably not going to take you out. That's my main focus right now."

It's always a worry that a quarterback could be looking over his shoulder when he's in the middle of a competition during the season, but Freeze isn't worried about that.

"I think it's a good thing if you're looking over your shoulder," Freeze said. "I think the competition is awesome. I think they better both know that they have to compete and have to produce."

While the competition is still alive, whoever performs better the next couple of weeks will ultimately be the go-to guy at quarterback. However, both Wallace and Brunetti don't let that get in the way of doing what's best for the team.

"You want to go out there and do your part," Brunetti said. "Do what you can do; know what your doing out there. Don't think of your competition. My competition is not Bo Saturday. My competition is Central Arkansas, and that's what I'm worried about. I'm not worried about what he does. I just want to go out there and do what I can do."

Wallace is in his first year at Ole Miss after putting up impressive numbers at East Mississippi Community College last season. Wallace led East

Mississippi to the NJCAA national championship a year ago, throwing for a NJCAA record 4,604 passing yards, 4,810 total yards and 53 touchdown passes.

The Pulaski, Tenn. native said on Monday that his mindset wouldn't change being the starter. He just wants to go out and prove he can get the job done.

"I think we'll see Saturday who can run the offense better with live bullets," Wallace said. "I feel like that's a strength that I've had all throughout the camp. So just go out there and run the offense."

Wallace admitted that the nerves will hit him when he runs out of the tunnel in front of the Ole Miss faithful in Vaught-Hemingway Stadium for the first game of his career on Saturday, but he said the butterflies will go away come game time.

"It's just football, he said. "Once you get out there its the game you've been playing since sixth grade. So its just going out there and playing."

For continuing coverage of Ole Miss football, follow @thedm\_sports and @DavidLCollier on Twitter.

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ALEX EDWARDS | The Daily Mississippian

## Freeze names Wallace starter for Saturday

Hugh Freeze named sophomore quarterback Bo Wallace as the starter for the season opener. Freeze reiterated that both Wallace and junior Barry Brunetti remain co-number ones, despite Wallace getting the first snaps on Saturday.

BY DAVID COLLIER  
thedmsports@gmail.com

After meeting with his coaching staff on Wednesday evening, Ole Miss head coach Hugh Freeze announced on Thursday that sophomore Bo Wallace will take the first snaps at quarterback in the Rebels' season opener against Central Arkansas on Saturday.

Wallace has been in constant competition with junior Barry Brunetti for the starting job, but the 6-foot-4, 204-pound Wallace edged out Brunetti in fall camp to get the nod.

"It's really to me co-(number ones)," Freeze said. "Bo will get the first series, and we'll see how he'll do. But Barry will get his chances too. To me, it's about who can move our football team and produce the first couple of weeks. You have to roll some-

body out there to take the first snaps, and that's all the decision was.

"It was solely based on in the competitive situations we've been in, and (Wallace) graded out a little higher. That doesn't mean that he's going to play better than Barry on Saturday and vice versa. We'll judge them on what happens when the live bullets are flying the next couple of weeks."

Freeze has said that both Wallace and Brunetti will get about equal snaps on Saturday, but also said he will stick with the hot hand.

"I've kind of thought about it, and if I'm named the starter I plan on scoring every drive," Wallace said after Monday's press conference. "I think that's really important going out there

See QUARTERBACKS, PAGE 19

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