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THE DAILY

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2013 | VOL. 101, No. 93

MISSISSIPPIAN

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

MEAL PLAN DISCOUNT THIS WEEK

The Plus One Meal Plan has been successful in its first year of use, and this week only, Ole Miss Dining Services will be selling it for \$200 less than its normal price.



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY TYLER JACKSON | The Daily Mississippian

BY LOGAN KIRKLAND
lkirkla@go.olemiss.edu

Ole Miss Dining Services announced that the Plus One Meal Plan, which is normally \$700, will be available for \$500 this week only.

Students can purchase the meal plan at the ID center with cash, credit, debit or check.

"This gives lots of flexibility to the students," said Jason Phillips, senior food service director. "It saves the students Flex and cash."

Phillips said University Dining Services' introduction of the Plus One Meal Plan in fall 2012 was the first of its kind for any university in the country. The plan guarantees students to have \$7.00 toward one meal every day of the school year.

It can be used just like a traditional meal plan, but it cannot be used for concessions at athletic events or at the Starbucks in the Student Union.

Phillips said the process of using Plus One is simple. The person working the register will ask the student meal, Flex or Plus One. The Plus One Meal Plan is accepted at many locations including the Student Union and the Crosby Market, providing students with several options around campus.

The original idea for the plan surfaced after a survey was sent out to students asking what they wanted out of a meal plan, Phillips said.

The freshman meal plans all currently have Plus One attached to them, so undergraduate freshmen will have a Plus One regardless of what meal plan they choose.

While it has been successful thus far, Phillips said the new plan has run into a couple of problems.

Since no one had used Plus One prior to fall 2012, dining services spent two to three weeks educating students about how to use it.

"It was a full marketing blitz," Phillips said. "We put representatives near registers to educate the students."

Phillips also said that if he could change anything about Plus One, it would be to have the students better informed, and for them to attend the meeting about dining during orientation so the students and their parents can ask questions.

"I'm not going to sell you something you're not going to use," Phillips said. "We have multiple meal plans because every student's eating habits are different."

Henry Harris, a pre-pharmacy freshman, said he wished he was better informed of how the Plus One

Meal Plan worked, but he felt it was a good idea nonetheless.

"It's really useful because last semester I ran out of meals," Harris said. "Even if you run out of your meals, you still get a meal a day with your Plus One."

Marketing sophomore Derek Francis said he was not informed that well and did not know what the Plus One Meal Plan was until about a week after school began.

"It wasn't explained as well as I hoped, but it turned out to be okay," he said.

Francis also said he thinks the meal plans are expensive, but the Plus One Meal Plan allowed him to utilize the money spent, especially since he could use it on things like coffee or any kind of snack.

Austen Poynter, a mechanical engineering freshman, said the first time he was exposed to the Plus One Meal Plan was during orientation. He said it is not that hard to understand and explain, but it is hard to exemplify.

Poynter also said that he was signing up for the meal plan again without a doubt.

"I like it, and I think every college should implement it at some point because everybody does need a meal every day," Poynter said.

Conference for the Book celebrates 20 years

In celebration of the Oxford Conference for the Book's 20th year, readers and writers are coming together in March to explore English as a learned language.

BY WAVERLY McCARTHY
wcmccart@go.olemiss.edu

Writers and book lovers will come together later this semester for the 20th annual Oxford Conference for the Book held at The University of Mississippi.

Beginning on March 21, the conference will include three days of writers, journalists, poets, publishers, bloggers, teachers, students and literacy advocates gathered to speak about a wide range of topics relevant to the literary arts.

Author Ralph Eubanks, director of publishing at the Library of Congress and an Ole Miss graduate, will open

up the conference with his talk "Of Books and Libraries: Why Libraries, Publishing, and Storytelling Still Matter."

Eubanks' talk will be held on at noon in Archives and Special Collections on the third floor of the J. D. Williams Library March 21.

"Oxford is a town of book lovers, but one with several distinct audiences: the academic community at the university, those interested in literary fiction, a vibrant group interested in writing for children and young adults and several others," said Becca Walton, associate director of

See BOOK, PAGE 5

Rebel Relief reaches out to Hattiesburg, USM

Rebel Relief for Hattiesburg collections end today in front of the Student Union. The athletics equipment truck will be parked and available for donations from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SHAYLYNN EVENS

Shaylynn Evans and Shaniqua Williams load donations onto a truck

BY TAYLOR JONES
tjones3@go.olemiss.edu

Ole Miss' Rebel Relief program is collecting donations to relieve victims of the EF-4 tornado that hit Hattiesburg on Feb. 10.

The tornado, which reached speeds of 170 miles per hour, destroyed roughly 800 homes in Hattiesburg and damaged multiple buildings on the University

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COLUMN

El café de los lunes



BY LEXI THOMAN
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For most people, learning a new language is a daunting task. Even with required courses, the level of language acquisition the typical student achieves after only four semesters of standard classroom instruction (the liberal arts graduation requirement) is nowhere near fluency, and most students let the language skill atrophy until it disappears altogether.

There are many reasons why only a limited level of proficiency is achieved through con-

ventional classroom instruction. For one, students are often intimidated by their professors or peers and embarrassed to make mistakes in a classroom environment. Even with the fantastic instructors that the Department of Modern Languages has to offer, a one-hour class that meets two or three times a week is simply not enough exposure to master a language. Homework assignments like those on MyLanguageLabs are designed to extend practice outside of the classroom environment, but the long, tedious exercises are often only a source of frustration.

Sometimes, instructors will take it upon themselves to find the time in their busy schedules to facilitate language practice outside of class, and it makes a real difference in the lives of

their students. Spanish professor Irene Kaufmann did just that.

What started as a small meeting over coffee with two or three of her Spanish students in 2006 became a weekly event in the spring of 2009. By the fall of that same year, "El café de los lunes" had its own Facebook group. Now, it boasts 76 members.

Every Monday in the café of the Student Union, 10 to 15 students gather, push tables together and sit down with Professor Kaufmann to enjoy a cup of coffee, spend time with friends and practice their Spanish. The informal, no-pressure atmosphere makes students at all levels of proficiency comfortable speaking in front of one another, making mistakes and learning together.

Scarlett Andrews, a graduate student at Tulane University and an alumna of the Class of 2011, remembers in a testimony how "El café de los lunes" helped her readjust to Ole Miss after a year abroad.

"At our little weekly cafe," she wrote, "I found a place. A place where I had no excuse to fall back on English, a place where students of all Spanish levels were passionate about helping each other with the language. I went to the 'Café de los lunes' every week I had the chance because not only was it helping me maintain a skill I valued, but the comfortable and casual atmosphere was not forced, and spending time there was more like an afternoon date with

See CAFE, PAGE 3

THE DAILY
MISSISSIPPIAN

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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.



MISSISSIPPI
press
ASSOCIATION

MEMBER NEWSPAPER

COLUMN

Voting Rights Act is unfair



BY TRENTON WINFORD
tgwinford@bellsouth.net

The Voting Rights Act was landmark legislation when it was passed, but it will soon undergo scrutiny from the Supreme Court yet again. At issue this time is if the formula to determine preclearance, which defines which states or counties are under Department of Justice control, is outdated.

In 2009, the Supreme Court decided that the Voting Rights Act was constitutional but that the South had changed in a lot

of ways since it was enacted. From 1965 to 1974, the Department of Justice objected to just over 14 percent of all election changes in the states and counties under its jurisdiction. From 1982 to 2004, that number dropped to below 1 percent.

Despite that, nine states and multiple counties in other states must get every election change approved by the Department of Justice, even if it is just moving a precinct across the street to alleviate parking.

The undue burden that this places on small towns and municipalities is obviously far higher than the benefits of the law.

Moving from the unfairness in the application of the law, the Voting Rights Act is also

unfair philosophically. An American ideal is equality for all under the law. For that to be achieved, all laws must apply equally and fairly to all, at the individual and the state level. The Voting Rights Act does not apply fairly to the states since only a handful out of the 50 states have to abide by the preclearance sections.

What if certain states did not have to abide by the Civil Rights Act, the First Amendment or any other law? People would be screaming in the streets for equal application of the law. However, as soon as a law is framed so that people view it as adding a burden to certain states, rather than exempting states, then the law is acceptable.

Currently, the Department of Justice has objected to voter identification laws in states in which it has jurisdiction, despite the fact that the Supreme Court has found such laws to be constitutional. A factor in the Revolutionary War was the fact that certain laws only applied to the American colonies and not the rest of the British Empire. As such, the Founding Fathers wanted to ensure that laws would be equally applied to all states so as not to be unfair.

The Supreme Court should have never let the preclearance aspect of the Voting Right Act apply in the first place, but it got so caught up in the necessity of the civil rights movement that it allowed the pre-

clearance part to slip by. The first time the Supreme Court allowed it is forgivable due to the fact that most of the Voting Rights Act was needed immediately. However, after some time had passed and the Supreme Court looked at the law more closely, the preclearance sections should have been struck down. Not to mention the fact that Congress renewed the law multiple times without an amendment.

Hopefully, the Supreme Court will get it right this time and ensure that this law applies equally and fairly to all by removing preclearance.

Trenton Winford is a public policy leadership junior from Madison.

CAFE,

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friends than a class or a lesson.”

John Rhodes Martin, an M.D. candidate at Tulane and another Ole Miss alum, echoed Scarlett, and credited the weekly group with showing him how learning and using a language can mean so much more outside of classroom instruction:

“It was conversation at ‘El café de los lunes’ that revealed Spanish as a means to communicate thoughts to their most whole completion, with all subtlety and nuance captured in intonation and inflection –

the same as I would innately do in my native language,” he wrote. “Over cups of coffee, we just talked, and in talking, testified to an absolute truth: Communicating through language is never about reproducing with textbook accuracy the ‘perfect’ sentence in every circumstance, but in all circumstances to be, quite simply, understood.”

I myself never had Professor Kaufmann in class, but I knew that I was always welcome at “El café de los lunes.” After the past three years of sporadic attendance, this semester I finally started going every week. This is the last of my senior year.

After only a few weeks, I can say this now with certainty: I

truly regret not taking advantage of this opportunity earlier in my academic career. It is not often that students have the chance to get serious language practice in this kind of relaxed, informal environment where we are free to be ourselves and practice in the way

that language is supposed to be used – spontaneously through conversation. No judgment, no criticism and no pressure. The hardest part about going to the language conversation tables that take place across campus is sitting down for the first time. Going to “El café de los lunes”

has reminded me that learning a language isn’t about getting it “right” every time, it is about communicating with and learning from others.

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



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news briefs

DM STAFF REPORTS

GROOVING IN THE GROVE

The Student Programming Board announced that Grace Potter and Jerrod Niemann will take to the Grove stage on April 12 after the Ole Miss baseball game against Alabama.

Senior integrated marketing communications major and director of the Student Programming Board Wil Yerger said that the SPB has worked for some time now to find entertainment for the weekend.

"We spent all of the fall semester and into this semester trying to search for who would be performing," Yerger said.

The concert is free and open to the public.

"It's a really big weekend in Oxford, and a lot of people will be in town," Yerger said. "We are really excited about it."

OXFORD FILM FEST 2013

The 2013 Oxford Film Festival will kick off tonight at 6 p.m. with an opening ceremony at The Lyric. Thacker Mountain Radio will be broadcasting the event. The festival will continue through the weekend with viewings at the Malco theater on Jackson Avenue West and panels at The Lyric on the Square. Visit oxfordfilmfest.com for more information on viewing times and ticket info.

UMMC sets statewide records, plans to expand

After reaching a record 103 kidneys transplanted in 2012, The University of Mississippi Medical Center plans to expand its organ transplant programs to meet the growing needs of Mississippi residents.

BY MOLLIE MANSFIELD
mkmansfi@go.olemiss.edu

The University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson set a statewide record by performing 103 kidney transplants in 2012.

UMMC is currently the only organ transplant center in the state of Mississippi. The growth of the UMMC organ transplant programs will allow residents to receive care closer to home, according to UMMC Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs Dr. James Keeton. He said he wants to achieve an average of 150 transplants per year within five years.

UMMC is also restarting its liver transplant program and is working toward certification as a center for pancreatic transplant care. Keeton attributed the center's success to the faculty and staff as well as the support of the Mississippi Organ Recovery Agency (MORA).

"This record stands as a benchmark as we work toward becoming a complete abdominal organ transplant center," Keeton said.

Dr. Christopher Anderson, associate professor of surgery and division chief of transplant and hepatobiliary surgery, was the first recruit for the new transplant programs.

Anderson said that there are approximately 175 patients



COURTESY UM COMMUNICATIONS

on the UMMC kidney transplant waiting list and that the number changes from day to day, but the number of people needing new kidneys continues to grow.

"Per capita, Mississippi has one of the highest rates of dialysis and kidney disease in the nation," Anderson said. "So if you measure it per capita, we have a high need for kidney transplants, which is one of the reasons why we want to grow our volume so that we can meet that need."

In 2012, the UMMC teams performed the first kidney transplant ever to be done in the Blair E. Batson Hospi-

tal for Children in Jackson. UMMC plans to expand its transplant services to other facilities by sending teams to hospitals throughout the state. However, that portion of the statewide outreach is not finalized.

"It's best for a state this size to just have one center that does transplantations and does it very well," Anderson said. "Instead of patients always having to drive to Jackson, say, once a month at some preset time, a team of doctors would go to a clinic in their community."

The other focus of expansion is community education about transplants. Part of UMMC's mission is to educate people on donations, especially living donations. Statistically, kidneys donated by living people are more vi-

able. UMMC and MORA are working together to re-establish a living-donor kidney program. UMMC will have its first living-donor case in summer 2013, according to Anderson.

UMMC gets its organs from MORA, the federally designated organ procurement organization for most of Mississippi.

MORA Chief Executive Officer Kevin Stump said he appreciates the families who donate and that he is pleased with the success of the UMMC leadership.

"This transplant record at The University of Mississippi Medical Center is wonderful, but it couldn't have happened without the families from Mississippi who said yes to donating their loved ones' organs," Stump said.

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DAVE MATTHEWS BAND'S SAX PLAYER PERFORMS IN OXFORD

Saxophonist Jeff Coffin, member of the Dave Matthews Band, and percussionist Roy "Futureman" Wooten, member of the Flecktones held a Jazz Workshop in the David H. Nutt Auditorium yesterday afternoon.

Angelina Mazzanti | The Daily Mississippian



BOOK,

continued from page 1

projects at the Center for the Study of Southern Culture. "We work to provide sessions that are both generally appealing but also targeted to those groups."

This year's event will pick up where past conferences left off, while also focusing on a specific element: English as a learned language.

Some of this year's speakers include Curtis Wilkie, fellow at the Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics; Tom Franklin, author of the book chosen for the 2012 Common Reading Experience; Ted Ownby, director of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture; and Michael Williams, an assistant professor of history and African American studies at Mississippi State University.

There will also be an event for children.

The Young Author's Fair, on Friday, March 22, is for ninth graders from the Oxford and Lafayette County public schools. This event is sponsored by the Lafayette County Literacy Council and the Junior Auxiliary of Oxford.

Each child will be given a book that they will read along with classmates and teachers during the 2012-13 school year. Square Books Junior will work with local teachers to choose a book that will be relevant to each age group. The authors will both be asked to present programs to each grade and sign books at Square Books Junior.

Those interested in attending any of the ticketed events can register online at oxfordconferenceforthebook.com, and a portion of the \$50 ticket will be tax-deductible. Parking passes are also available through the website.

RELIEF,

continued from page 1

of Southern Mississippi campus.

Rosie Nelson, graduate assistant for volunteer services, said the program is asking for canned foods, school supplies and personal hygiene products for the victims.

"Our final plan is to send the Ole Miss football equipment truck filled with donations down to Hattiesburg," Nelson said.

Collections held at the baseball home opener and men and women's basket-

ball games this past weekend showed great participation among fans and students.

Volunteers also collected donations yesterday at the softball doubleheader against Southern Miss.

All students and group organizations can participate by donating at the Ole Miss athletics equipment truck, which will be parked outside of the Student Union today from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Anyone interested in helping with further donations or future relief efforts can sign up at the Office of the Dean of Students, which is located on the top floor of the Student Union.



CAIN MADDEN | The Daily Mississippian



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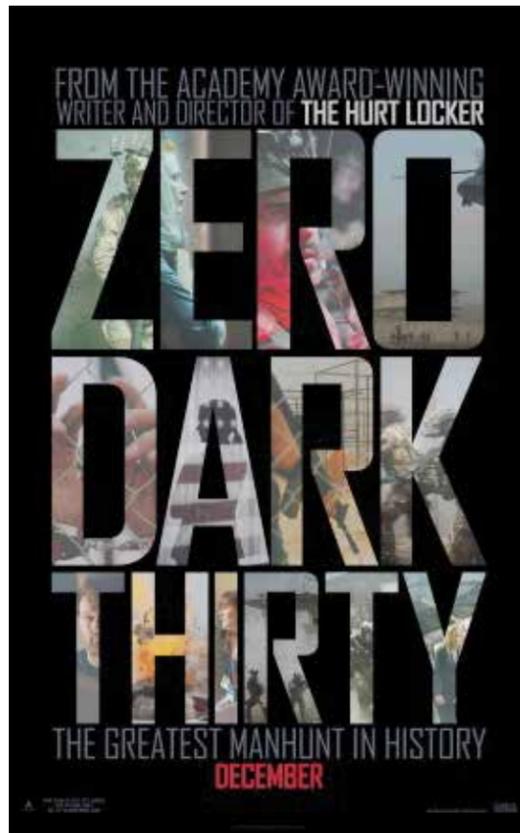
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26031



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MOVIEPOSTERDB.COM

COLUMN

The Oscar rundown

BY JOSH PRESLEY
joshpresley551@gmail.com

Hey, look, it's Oscar time again. As Hollywood's big night and one of the only awards shows I can stomach sitting through approaches, many people are wondering who will be taking home a little gold man on Sunday night.

And by "many people are wondering," I mean, "Many people think it's pretty obvious," but still, I shall take this time to add my two cents

See OSCAR, PAGE 9

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GRACE

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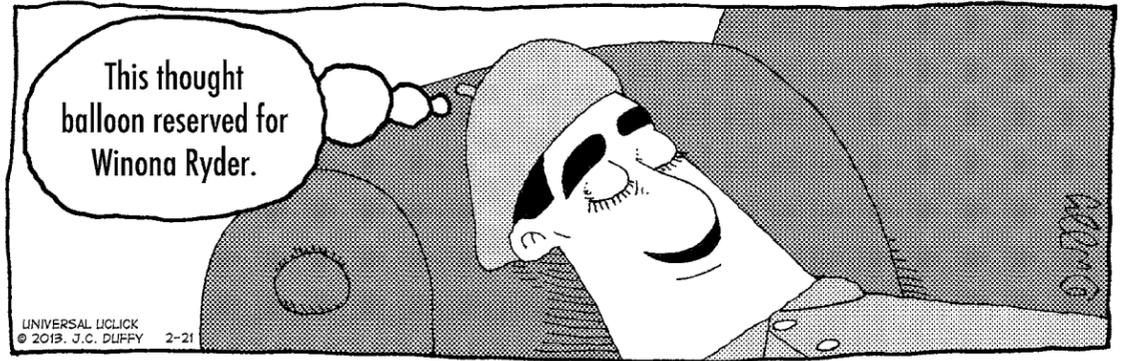
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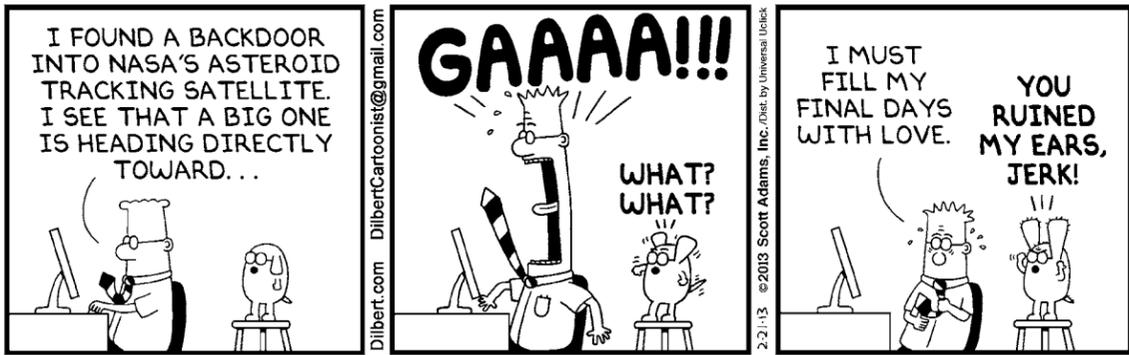
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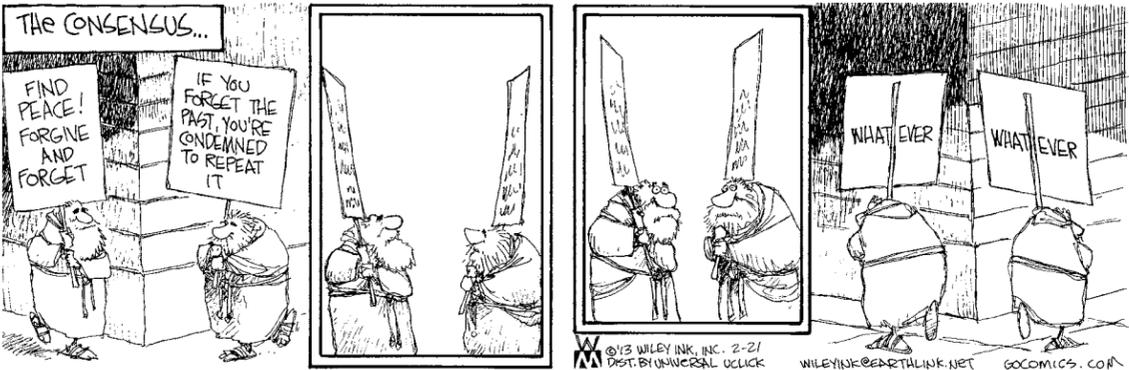
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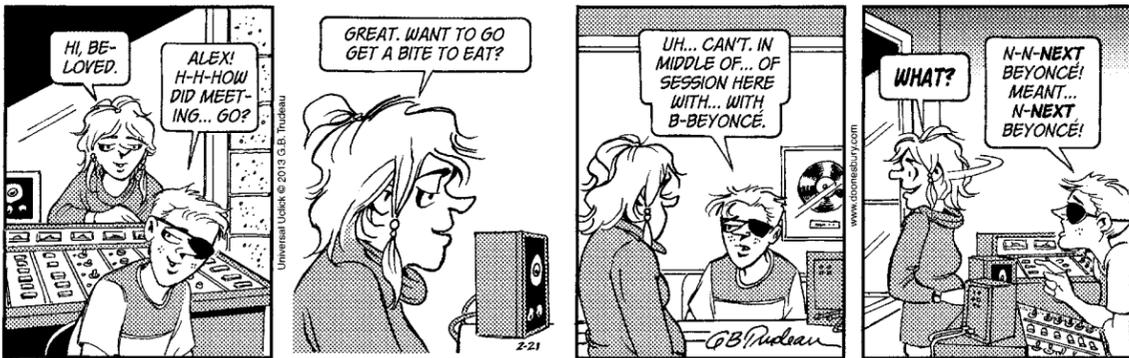
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Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 with no repeats.

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6	4	2	8	8	7	9	9	1
9	4	2	8	8	7	9	9	1
1	7	9	5	6	4	3	8	8
8	3	8	1	9	2	7	6	9
7	4	1	4	6	8	9	3	5
9	8	8	2	7	5	6	4	1
2	5	2	6	3	4	1	8	7
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- 22 Frees, as a dresser drawer
- 24 PC key
- 26 Noteworthy periods
- 27 Poolside delight
- 31 Before
- 32 Listened
- 33 Keokuk native
- 36 Sugar amt.
- 39 Tynan portrayer
- 40 Kind of accident
- 41 Candle lover
- 42 Drop — line
- 43 Where the Blue Grotto is
- 44 Vietnam capital
- 45 MS Word item
- 46 — effects
- 48 Flour infester
- 51 Payroll deduction

DOWN

- 2 Water or tel.
- 3 Pickle or smoke
- 4 Subarctic tribe
- 5 Rather than
- 6 Engine stat
- 7 Kauai neighbor
- 8 Like a hermit
- 9 Say out of turn
- 10 Piece together, as rope
- 11 Hunt illegally
- 12 Hits on the head
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- 25 Cricket sound
- 27 Sam the — of "Woolly Bully"

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- 28 River in Zaire
- 29 Goose egg
- 30 Bikini half
- 34 Not 'neath
- 35 Violin middle
- 36 Cager — Kukoc
- 37 Ancient colonnade
- 38 Noted groundhog
- 40 With ease
- 41 Rain slicker, in London
- 43 Inlet
- 44 Insect
- 45 Give, as time
- 47 Cry of disgust
- 48 Inflict, as damage
- 49 Bright and —
- 50 Quay
- 52 Hardy heroine
- 53 Fence part
- 55 Singer Vikki —
- 56 Two lbs., plus
- 57 Big heads
- 58 Places to winter
- 61 Carpet pile

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COLUMN

A good day to die bored

BY JOSH PRESLEY
joshpresley551@gmail.com

This year is getting off to a rough start for all your favorite action heroes from yesteryear.

Schwarzenegger bombed with "The Last Stand."

Stallone bombed harder with "Bullet to the Head."

Now comes the ever-reliable Bruce Willis with another installment of the sometimes-reliable "Die Hard" franchise.

But is "A Good Day to Die Hard" a worthy entry in the series, or does "Die Hard" just need to die?

I'm sure some of you are old enough to know that the original "Die Hard" is the best action movie ever made.

The first three sequels are all pretty entertaining, too, but obviously they pale in

comparison to the original. Still, I always greeted word of a new "Die Hard" sequel with excitement, figuring that even if it didn't blow me away, it would at least be entertaining.

"A Good Day to Die Hard" certainly blew me away, but not in a good sense.

I was blown away by how dull it was, despite the action sequences being more over the top than ever. I was blown away by how humorless the whole thing was, despite many, many lame attempts at comedy. I was blown away by how awful the dialogue was with gems such as "I can't believe this, this is unbelievable."

Also, a fun (or potentially hazardous) drinking game would be to take a shot every time a character says, "Shut up."

A series known for its

witty banter has been reduced to the cleverness of an 11-year-old.

The plot, such as it is, involves our hero John McClane, played by Willis, heading to Budapest posing as a Russian to rescue his son, who appears to be involved with some bad guys there. Why? Why do we need to see John McClane go to Russia? Why, after seeing that McClane's daughter Lucy was relatively normal in "Live Free or Die Hard," do we need to have his son Jack being some sort of international super spy?

It doesn't help that Jack, played by Jai Courtney, has about as much charisma as a doorknob and spends much of his screen time being thoroughly unlikeable.

Speaking of lack of charisma, in a series known for its villains, "A Good Day to

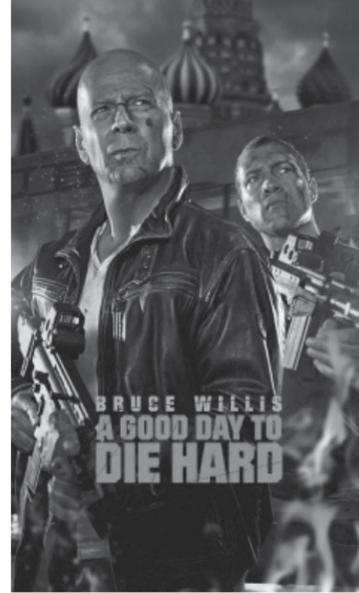


PHOTO COURTESY OF MOVIEPOSTERDB.COM

"Die Hard" contains possibly the most bland, generic villain I've seen in years. I get that the filmmakers probably realize that trying to match or top Hans Gruber is completely pointless and

therefore decided to go in another direction, but this is the best they could come up with?

Director John Moore conducts the whole joyless affair without making a single shot visually interesting or a single action scene remotely exciting, and his handling of the characters seems to be a complete afterthought. The whole experience was like expecting a cold, refreshing soda and getting lukewarm tap water. Even Bruce Willis looks bored.

So is this the last "Die Hard?" Well, if things continue in this direction, I hope so. Willis has said his days dying hard are numbered anyway.

Although I do wish they would do one more and finally bring back Carl Winslow. That's what America wants.

OSCAR,

continued from page 6

and predict the winners of the 85th Academy Awards.

Obviously, I'm not going to cover every single category, but I'll at least hit the high notes. Here goes:

In the Best Supporting Actress category, all signs seem to point to Anne Hathaway for her performance in "Les Misérables," and you'll get no argument from me. Not because she's so great but more because the rest of the nominees aren't that interesting.

Sally Field could be a spoiler, as the old men of the academy seemed to love her horribly miscast role of Mary

Todd Lincoln. To clarify: I love Sally Field, and I loved "Lincoln" — I just don't think she's right for the part.

Best Supporting Actor continues to be one of the most interesting categories for me. While other categories tend to yield some pretty boring choices, Best Supporting Actor has been uniformly golden for the past five years or so and often the category where it's most difficult to pick just one winner.

This year I'd look for Christoph Waltz to take home his second Best Supporting Actor award, and I'd also look for this to be the only award that "Django Unchained" receives. He's fantastic and deserves it, but a potential spoiler could be Robert De Niro for "Silver Linings Play-

book."

It's by far, and, boy, do I mean far, De Niro's best performance since "Heat," and it was great to see the De Niro of old instead of the De Niro of "Little Fockers."

Best Actress comes down to Jennifer Lawrence for "Silver Linings Playbook" or Jessica Chastain for "Zero Dark Thirty."

Lawrence has been the front-runner so far, picking up the Golden Globe and a plethora of other awards, and I won't be too upset if she wins here since I loved "Silver Linings Playbook" so much I'd marry it if state law permitted.

However, if I were being completely objective, I'd give the award to Chastain. Her performance really carries

"Zero Dark Thirty."

Both of these ladies will be back in years to come, though, so neither should feel too bad if she doesn't win.

Your Best Actor is Daniel Day-Lewis. The end.

According to the academy, "Argo" directed itself, as did "Django Unchained" and "Zero Dark Thirty."

So for me, the Best Director category is a complete joke this year. Look for Steven Spielberg to take this one home for "Lincoln," though if I had my choice among the nominees, it would go to David O. Russell for "Silver Linings Playbook."

As for Best Picture, I've seen six of the nine nominees, but that's OK since only three of them stand any chance of winning anyway.

It will come down to "Argo," "Lincoln" and "Silver Linings Playbook." "Django Unchained" and "Zero Dark Thirty" won't win for political reasons, and the rest of the nominees are just there to fill out the category.

So of the three, which will win? My money is on "Argo." It has built up a lot of momentum this awards season, and it happens to also be the actual best picture of last year, so it deserves to win.

I'll be live-tweeting the Oscars again this year, so if you're remotely interested in my lame observational humor and old-man complaining, give me a follow @josh-uapresley.

Yes, this entire column was just a ploy to get more Twitter followers.

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Lady Rebs look to rebound against No. 10 Texas A&M

The Ole Miss women's basketball team will travel to face Texas A&M tonight for the third time in program history. Tipoff is set for 7 p.m.



Junior guard Valencia McFarland

FILE PHOTO (THOMAS GRANING) | The Daily Mississippian

BY JOHN LUKE McCORD
mccordjohnluke@yahoo.com

Ole Miss will travel to College Station, Texas, for the first time ever tonight to face No. 10 Texas A&M. It is the third all-time meeting between the Lady Rebels (9-16, 2-10 Southeastern Conference) and Lady Aggies (20-6, 10-2 SEC), which is also the first game between the two programs not on a neutral floor. Texas A&M is the first of three top-25 teams over Ole Miss' final four regular season games.

The Lady Aggies sit at third in the league standings behind Tennessee and Kentucky. Texas A&M had won eight straight games before a 70-66 loss to another top-10 foe in Kentucky on Monday.

Interim head coach Brett Frank said feels his team is ready for the matchup in College Station tonight because of its game this past Sunday against South Carolina.

"The team we will face on Thursday is a very similar opponent," Frank said following a loss on Sunday. "Those two teams are evenly matched and do a lot of the same type strategies offensively and defensively."

Frank said that his team knows what it has to change for tonight's game now after its 62-47 loss to South Carolina this past Sunday.

"Continue to focus on our box-outs, be sure we don't give up second-shot opportunities, work on our 50-50 balls and our spacing on offense," Frank

said.

On the offensive end of the court, the Lady Rebels look to ride the hot hand of junior point guard Valencia McFarland. In the two games last week, McFarland averaged 17.5 points, 7.0 rebounds and 6.0 assists per game.

"We feed off of her a lot," sophomore forward Tia Faleru said after a win against Mississippi State this past Thursday. "When Valencia comes to play, it's like everybody comes to play."

The Lady Rebels and Lady Aggies will tip off tonight at 7 p.m. from Reed Arena.

For continuing coverage of Ole Miss women's basketball, follow @JLgrandin and @thedm_sports on Twitter.

Lady Rebs split doubleheader against Southern Miss

The Ole Miss softball team split a doubleheader with in-state foe Southern Miss Wednesday, dropping game one, 7-4, and game two, 3-0. The Rebels host the Red and Blue Classic beginning Friday.

BY ALLISON SLUSHER
ajslushe@go.olemiss.edu

GAME ONE: SOUTHERN MISS 7, OLE MISS 4

The Lady Rebel softball had a tough start against in-state rival Southern Miss in the first game of a doubleheader Wednesday afternoon, as the Golden Eagles (6-8) defeated Ole Miss (4-8), 7-4.

The Golden Eagles scored three runs in the first inning before adding two more in the second. Ole Miss chipped away at the lead in their half of the second, scoring two runs on a two-run triple off the bat of freshman second baseman Melina Preciado, but Southern Miss came back with two more runs in the third.

"The game was really frustrating," head coach Windy Thees said. "We had some strange calls from the umpire, and the zone was really tight."

Junior Carly Hummel got the start for Ole Miss, but she lasted just 1/3 of an inning before Thees brought in freshman Madi Osias, who pitched the rest of the contest.

"We had to make a switch really quick, and we went to Madi Osias who had warmed up all the way before the game, but I don't think she really hit her stride until the third inning," Thees said.

GAME TWO: OLE MISS 3, SOUTHERN

MISS 0

The Ole Miss softball team bounced back in the second game of the doubleheader Wednesday against Southern Miss, as the Rebels (5-8) went on to a 3-0 shutout win over the Golden Eagles (6-9).

"I told the girls they need to get in touch with their angry side," head coach Windy Thees said. "They need to get mad about losing. They need to attack the frustration and not let it build in them, but take it out on the other team."

Senior pitcher Erinn Jayjohn got the message. The Justin, Texas native was on the winning end of a pitchers' duel, tossing a complete game shutout, giving up seven hits to go along with five strikeouts and a walk.

"Defense was behind me, and it was a good game," Jayjohn said. "As a senior, I wanted to lead and come out. It was a good time. I'm glad my team had my back, and we hit today, so it was good."

Thees was certainly impressed with Jayjohn, who picked up her first win of the season.

"Erin has a lot of attitude on the mound," Thees said. "She was really confident and helped our youngsters on the field by showing them how they were supposed to act out there."

Southern Miss' freshman pitcher Kaitlin Wilson was also dealing on the mound, which made it tough for the Lady Rebels to get the bats going.

However, Ole Miss managed to scratch across a run in each of the fourth, fifth and sixth innings on a RBI single from junior second baseman Marina Parra and a home run from junior center fielder R.T. Cantillo as well as an error on the Golden Eagles in the sixth.

Ole Miss will now look to prepare for the Red and Blue Classic this weekend as they will host McNeese State, Tennessee-Martin, Drake, Middle Tennessee State, Mississippi Valley State and Arkansas-Pine Bluff in the tournament.

For continuing coverage of Ole Miss softball, follow @allison_slusher and @thedm_sports on Twitter.

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Rebels cruise past UT-Martin in midweek matchup

Ole Miss scored 11 runs in the first three innings Wednesday to grab an easy 15-2 win over UT-Martin. The Rebels face Rhode Island in a three-game series beginning Friday.

BY MATT SIGLER
mcsigler@go.olemiss.edu

Ole Miss didn't face much of a challenge Wednesday afternoon in its first midweek game of the year against UT-Martin. The Rebels (4-0) cruised past the Skyhawks (0-5) for a 15-2 win.

"I'm proud of the way we played today," head coach Mike Bianco said. "I thought the guys were really locked in. We tried to challenge them as best we could during pregame and meetings saying they have to be ready tonight. It was about playing well, and we played as well as you can play I think."

The Rebels had 18 hits on the night, their most in a game this season, and 12 different players had at least one hit in the game. Ole Miss got on the board with two runs in each of the first two innings, then pushed its lead to 11-0 with seven in the third. Ole Miss tacked on two runs in the fifth and seventh innings, while UT-Martin plated two runs in the sixth.

Ole Miss sent six different pitchers to the mound. Sophomore right-hander Sam Smith (1-0), who started the game, earned his first win of the season. He gave up one hit with three strikeouts and one walk in three scoreless innings.

Freshman left-hander Matt Denny, freshman right-hander Brady Bramlett, junior left-hander Austin Blunt and sophomore right-hander Scott Weathersby combined for five innings of scoreless, two-hit baseball, while sophomore right-hander Hawtin Buchanan allowed two runs on two hits with two strikeouts and two walks in his inning of work.

One of the many bright spots in the game for the Rebels was junior Preston Overbey, who started his first game at second base. Overbey, one of the most versatile players for the Rebels, has played outfield, first base, catcher and third during his career. Overbey also went 2-for-5, driving in two runs and scoring twice.



Sophomore right-hander Sam Smith

TYLER JACKSON | The Daily Mississippian

"They actually let me practice their yesterday," Overbey said of playing second. "My brother (sophomore Jake Overbey), (junior) Lance (Wilson) and (senior John) Gatlin helped me learn it real quick. One day that's it."

Bianco said he was pleased with what he saw from Overbey at second.

"We took some ground

balls yesterday, and it was something we wanted to see if it would happen at some point," Bianco said of playing Overbey at second base. "He's got to get in the lineup. We've got to get him at-bats.

He turns a double-play over, and he made two other plays over there, and of course, he swung it well."

Bianco said he also believes Overbey is one of the more versatile players on the team that can play nearly everywhere.

"He is a big, physical kid that is very athletic," Bianco said. "He can do a lot of different things. It gives us some options. We are trying to do some different things and he is the guy that you can move around, so that is nice to have."

The Rebels will resume play with a three-game series against Rhode Island. First pitch for Friday's series opener from Oxford University Stadium/Swayze Field is set for 4 p.m.

For continuing coverage of Ole Miss baseball, follow @SigNewton_2 and @thedm_sports on Twitter.

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COLUMBIA, S.C. -- Eric Smith scored 12 points including the game-winning 3-pointer with 25.1 seconds left as South Carolina upset Mississippi 63-62 on Wednesday night.

The Rebels (19-7, 8-5 Southeastern Conference) led 62-56 with five minutes to go, but missed their last seven shots in a devastating loss for their NCAA tournament hopes. Ole Miss has lost five of its last seven games since starting the season 17-2.

South Carolina (13-13, 3-10 SEC), which began the night tied for last place in the SEC with Mississippi State, broke a six-game losing streak.

Ole Miss had two chances to win at the end, but Lakeem Jackson blocked Nick Williams' layup with 0.9 seconds left and Marshall Henderson's desperation 3-pointer was blocked by Laimonas

Chatkevicius.

Michael Carrera led South Carolina with 13 points and 13 rebounds.

Murphy Holloway, playing against the team he transferred to before heading back to Mississippi, led the Rebels with 19 points and 13 rebounds. Henderson, the SEC's leading scorer at 19.7 points a game, scored 11 points, shooting just 4-of-17 from the field and making just three of his 11 3-point attempts.

South Carolina took its biggest lead of the game, 54-49, with 9:42 left, but the Rebels went on a 13-2 run and took a 62-56 lead with 5:04 left on a basket by Holloway.

Mississippi wouldn't score again.

Reginald Buckner fouled out with 3:39 left for Ole Miss, and Jackson hit one of two free throws. Brenton Wil-

liams hit a 3 with 2:09 left to cut the Rebels' lead to two.

Henderson missed a 3-pointer with just under a minute to go and Williams saved an errant pass. Bruce Ellington missed a layup on the drive, but the rebound was kicked out to Smith, who buried the winning 3 with 25.1 left.

Henderson got a good look from behind the arc on Ole Miss' next possession, but missed. Smith missed the front end of a 1-in-1 with 8.4 seconds left, but Mississippi didn't get its last two shots to the rim.

Mississippi is now in danger of falling out of the top four in the SEC, who all get byes to the quarterfinals of the conference tournament -- a tournament the Rebels may now have to win to make their first NCAA tournament in 11 years.



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