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HELSEL MAKING THE MOST OF OPPORTUNITIES P. 8



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THE DAILY

TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2013 | VOL. 101, No. 135

MISSISSIPPIAN

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

OXFORD'S BIG BAD BREAKFAST EARNS INTERNATIONAL ACCLAIM



ANGELINA MAZZANTI | The Daily Mississippian

BY KAYLEIGH SKINNER
kaskinne@go.olemiss.edu

Oxford residents can now say they have access to one of the best breakfasts in the world, according to Travel + Leisure. Last month Big Bad Breakfast (BBB) was named to the magazine's top-10 list of "Best Breakfasts Around The World."

Published on the CNN website and in Travel + Leisure magazine, BBB took the No. 5 spot on the list that included nine other eateries in locations including London, Tokyo and Istanbul, as well as cities across the United States. The Oxford restaurant serves typical American breakfast food, and according to the list it "will have you praying for more."

"BBB is one of the best breakfasts I've ever had, especially since I'm not a big breakfast person," junior psychology major RT Cantillo said. "The first time I heard about (the appear-

ance on the list) I was kind of surprised that they would even consider a small town in Mississippi, but I think that's pretty awesome."

Located in the Mid-Town Shopping Center, the restaurant is positioned away from more traveled, iconic places such as the Square. This facet makes the honor of making the top 10 list more satisfying, according to BBB owner and chef John Currence.

Currence said being included on the list is "insanely flattering," but he is most happy about the attention it brings to Oxford.

"I love it whenever we get mentioned in this sort of breath because of how it validates Oxford," Currence said. "It's sort of a little town that can be dismissed because we're in the middle-of-nowhere Mississippi in some people's eyes."

Currence also owns the Oxford restaurants Bouré, City Grocery and Snack-

bar, and in May of 2008 he opened Big Bad Breakfast in an attempt to have a restaurant that only served breakfast food. He said he was proud that his work has been recognized among the best in the world.

"I'm just glad we set out five years ago to do something remarkable with BBB," he said. "We wanted to do something that reflected how we looked at lunch or dinner at any of our other restaurants, but give (breakfast) that same kind of respect."

Since the list was published, BBB has attracted more customers from out of town, according to server Jed Hannaford. He said some people have traveled more than 1 1/2 hours to eat breakfast at the restaurant.

"It's funny because the people we weren't reaching – the tourists we weren't reaching – we started to reach once they saw that," Hannaford said.

Company offers help to aspiring bands



COURTESY TWEELX | The Daily Mississippian

BY PETE
dmnews@gmail.com

A Nashville company is offering help to unsigned, up-and-coming bands in order to spread their music via social media in the digital age.

TweelX, which was started by Jeff Tweel and his son Chase, is a music publishing company that provides a way for bands to break the traditional barriers of entry to

the industry, and it gives the artists a leg up in the always-competitive music business.

The company starts by building a catalog of songs through a digital publishing agreement, allowing the artists to publish their songs instantly online. Once a song is published, the company converts a portion of the publishing and royalty rights into standardized shares. Next, TweelX uses digital as well as brick-and-mortar

marketing strategies to pitch their artists' songs to TV, radio, labels, management and more. When the song begins to make revenue, TweelX collects the money and takes a small percentage, usually around 25 percent, before distributing the rest to the artist into an account that manages earnings on a song-by-song basis.

Although it's still in its early stages, the company offers different appealing features to help get the word out about its bands. One feature is a Facebook app the company launched last year, according to marketing coordi-

See OFFERS, PAGE 4

Oxford Eagle to host election forum

BY DM STAFF REPORT
thedmnews@gmail.com

In an effort to inform Oxford-Lafayette area residents of the candidates running for city offices and their platforms, there will be an election forum at the Oxford Conference Center at 6 p.m. tonight. The event will be moderated by Curtis Wilkie, University of Mississippi Overby fellow and Kelly G. Cook, chair of journalism.

The contested positions are mayor and seven alderman positions. There will be candidates from wards one, two, four and five.

This year's Oxford mayoral

candidates are Jason T. Plunk, Todd Wade and the incumbent Mayor Pat Patterson.

Ney Williams, E.O. Oliver, Ulysses Howell and Preston E. Taylor are incumbent aldermen who will be participating in the forum.

Individuals who will be running against the incumbent aldermen are J.P. Hughes, Robyn Tannehil, Arnold B. Pegues, Ron Shapiro and Carol Flemmons.

The candidates featured will be on the ballot for the May 7 primary for the city of Oxford general election on June 4.



PET-A-PUPPY during **Stress Less Week**
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COLUMN

Y'all still have segregated proms?



BY TIM ABRAM
toabram@go.olemiss.edu

De jure segregation (segregation by law) was officially abolished with the passage of the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964, but de facto segregation (segregation by choice) still exists in pockets of our society.

For example, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once said, "It is appalling that the most segregated hour of Christian America is 11 o'clock on Sunday morning."

However, segregation in the church is not what I would like to discuss today.

I would like to discuss the headline in the Washington Times that reads "Georgia county hosts first racially integrated prom in school history."

This news headline would be no shocker if it appeared in the late 1960s or 1970s.

Sadly, this headline appears 49 years after the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Technically speaking, the segregated proms were not illegal as they were private events sponsored by the parents. Headlines such as these further confirm the negative perception that people from the outside have on race relations in the South. Although this example is the exception rather than the rule, it speaks to how far the South has to

come in addressing race relations.

For example, my parents graduated from high school 20 years ago. Both of them can recall having black prom kings and queens and white prom kings and queens. With that being said, we are not as removed from racial separation as we think we are and we are not as far behind as outsiders would say.

However, the focus of this article is not to condemn the school for prolonged progress, but rather to celebrate the students that came together to fight racial injustice.

According to The Washington Times, "Two black and two white friends banded together this year, though, and started a Face-

book campaign, 'Integrated Prom,' to fuel support for a single dance."

The page has garnered over 27,982 followers.

To put that number into perspective, according to the latest U.S. Census Bureau, Wilcox County only has a population of 9,298.

The "about section" from the Facebook page reads, "We live in rural south Georgia, where not too many things change. Well, as a group of adamant high school seniors, we want to make a difference in our community. For the first time in the history of our county, we plan to have an integrated prom."

This is a shining example of the potential change that can emerge from a con-

See PROMS, PAGE 3

THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

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Letters are welcome, but may be edited for clarity, space or libel.

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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

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

This week we all were fortunate to witness an exemplary act of courage by one of our students, Sean Higgins, when he stood alone for something that he believed in against all of the voices of his colleagues in an ASB Senate Committee meeting. Regardless of whether or not you agree with Sean's proposal, he should be admired and respected for his unselfish willingness to stand up like a man for a cause he supported, demonstrating maturity and professionalism beyond his age. His dedicated action and commitment to service through civil discourse is something that we strive every day to instill in our students while they are here at Ole Miss. Unfortunately, we also have witnessed, once again, how some in our community choose to react disrespectfully when they disagree with an idea, proposal or recommendation. Although Sean has received a great deal of support for his courage from many on our campus and in the larger community, there have been others who harshly attacked him in a cowardly fashion through anonymous tweets and on anonymous sports blogs. It is these cowards who deserve scrutiny for their poor behavior, not Sean. They can only hope to one day develop the strength of character and powerful presence that he has exhibited.

*N. Camp Best
Student Advocate
Vice Chancellor's Office for
Student Affairs*

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

In last week's article, "ASB Rejects Resolution to Ban Dixie" Sean Higgins became the latest administration sock puppet to strain at a gnat and swallow a camel. Sean said, "I think it's offensive..." speaking for the nameless, faceless, never quoted multitude he believes he represents in denouncing the song Dixie for being the Confederate anthem (even though it was written by a northerner and was a favorite of Abraham Lincoln).

Mr. Higgins and his ilk will invariably overlook the real offense in the bands repertoire: Rock and Roll Part 2. The author Gary Glitter was arrested and convicted of child pornography, was deported from Cambodia for suspected child sexual abuse, had a similar arrest and conviction in Vietnam, is on the sex offenders list for life, and that is a brief and modest description of his exploits. Anyone that claims Dixie is offensive and winks at the band playing Gary Glitter's song is only looking for a political feather in their cap.

*Ricky Martin
Ole Miss Band Parent*

Make the DM part of your morning ritual



Can we at least discuss Mississippi traditions?

BY PHIL MCCAUSLAND
pjmccaus@go.olemiss.edu

My friend told me that his girlfriend tried to renew her driver's license yesterday but couldn't because the DMV was closed for a holiday. I asked what holiday, and he explained that the state of Mississippi was celebrating Confederate Memorial Day.

Really guys?

Is the state of Mississippi trying to be a target? Celebrating this holiday, as well as allowing people to decide whether they would rather celebrate Robert E. Lee Day or Martin Luther King Jr. Day, is like Mississippi putting a huge "kick me" sign on its own back.

I moved here from Pennsylvania, so you may call me a carpetbagger or what-have-you, but I have a very real love for this state. It has afforded me a greater feeling of home than anywhere else, and it really hurts me when I see another thing that feeds into the stereotype of Mississippi that the world has created.

Yeah, I said world.

It's another reason for people to dismiss this rich

state as just a geographic region filled with backcountry folks that don't know anything worth considering, which is untrue.

This is a very culturally rich area and deserves much more attention than it receives. I know people that are afraid to visit Mississippi because of the outside perception of this state. That boggles my mind because their fear is based on a very different Mississippi than the one I know.

I'm not saying it's right, but I am saying that there are things that can be done to help stop this perception of Mississippi from continuing.

The first thing that would help is to get rid of holidays like this or, at the very least, not close the DMV or schools for it.

I know how important tradition is to the South. I know how important history is to the South. But some of the traditions and history that are celebrated here do not allow this state to achieve any sort of progress. It is as if we are, at times, allowing or even electing to let our traditions paralyze us. Colonel Reb, Dixie, the heavy

presence of the Confederate flag and these holidays are all examples of this.

It's not wrong to have traditions, but we cannot allow them to consume Mississippi's identity and exclude entire groups of people.

The kind of reactions I saw to the removal of the Colonel Reb title and the mere proposal that we think about removing Dixie from being played at games often bordered the line of offensive and did cross the line more than once.

All that I am proposing to you is that we think about these traditions and discuss what they are adding to the atmosphere of this state and its flagship school.

If we continue to think of it as all or nothing, then we will continue to be nothing more than the aforementioned stereotype.

I just want others to feel the same love and joy that I, a white middle-class male, have felt since I've lived here. I think we can offer that same feeling to everybody.

Phil McCausland is an English senior from Carlisle, Pa.

PROM,

continued from page 2

certed effort from a group of individuals dedicated to change. In addition, this also speaks to the power of social media to bring forth change.

The year 2013 is not an ideal time for the first integrated prom in school history, however, as the old adage goes, "Better late than never."

I hope more students in other rural counties throughout the South gather the courage to combat ar-

chaic ideas on race held by older members of their communities.

Gandhi once said, "If we could change ourselves, the tendencies in the world would also change. As a man changes his own nature, so does the attitude of the world change towards him ... We need not wait to see what others do."

Some of the students at

Wilcox County High School understand this concept and their integrated prom is the result. I fully commend them on their valiant efforts.

Way to go, seniors at Wilcox County High School.

Tim Abram is a junior public policy major from Horn Lake. Follow him on Twitter @Tim_Abram.

SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION

Kathryn Trabue

International Studies

"Reforming Education to Target Inequality: The Chilean Experience Since the 1980's"

Tuesday, April 30th
4:00 p.m.
Croft Institute

The defense is open to the public.

If you require special assistance relating to a disability, please contact Penny Leeton at 662-915-7266.

31267

SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION

Sabrina Bradford

Anthropology

"Shifting Local Ecologies: Biocultural Interactions and Ecuadorian Public Health"

Tuesday, April 30th
4:00 p.m.
Honors College
Room 107

The defense is open to the public.

If you require special assistance relating to a disability, please contact Penny Leeton at 662-915-7266.

31269

SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION

Benjamin Cunningham

Criminal Justice

"Man Date: A Comedy"

Tuesday, April 30th
4:00 p.m.
Honors College
Room 311

The defense is open to the public.

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RICIN TRIAL POSTPONED TO LATER THIS WEEK

OXFORD, Miss. — A Mississippi man charged with making a deadly poison sent to President Barack Obama and others was ordered held without bond until a hearing later this week when prosecutors are expected to describe what evidence they have against him. James Everett Dutschke made a brief appearance Monday in federal court wearing an

orange jumpsuit with his hands shackled. Authorities spent several days last week searching Dutschke's home and former business but have said very little about the suspect beyond a news release announcing the charge of making and possessing ricin over the week-end.

OFFERS,

continued from page 1

nator Matt Cameron.

"The app really got going in January," Cameron said. "So far we have just been getting artists trying to build up the catalog. Now, we will push the artists and really try to get their names out there. These pages should be a great start."

Another feature the company provides is a digital tip jar, which is a no-strings-attached feature that gives bands a profile for social media sites.

This profile information, including the songs' stream boxes, will appear in news feeds and gives people the opportunity to give an artist money with the click of a button.

Cameron said the tip jar is a great way to connect with a band.

"If you hear a band but have no way of contacting (them) or seeing them live, it's a way to reach out to them," Cameron said. "We do take a small percentage of the earnings, but we're providing them the platform to be featured on, so it's a fair trade."

TweelX relies on the work of interns to do a large part of its work. Although the company has five full-time interns located across the country, it also hires 20 to 30 interns for the summer through a work-

study program worth 3 hours of college credit.

Each intern is in charge of spreading the word about the artists in their market, a process that gives them a taste of what it is like to be a band manager.

Though the company is based out of Nashville and features mainly country artists, interns will be located throughout the country trying to bring in new artists of all genres.

Lance Ingram, a marketing associate for TweelX, is in charge of the Tennessee/Mississippi area and says there have been some Oxford bands that have shown interest in the company.

"We've spoken to a few Oxford bands, but they either had other commitments or didn't make a move," said Ingram, a Brandon native.

Will Freeman, guitarist in the Oxford bands Gunboat and Swampfoot, says he and his bands would be very interested in TweelX.

"I think we would be very interested in the features that TweelX offers," Freeman said. "With everything going digital, the company seems to help bands like us make that next step and at the same time adjust to the changing music landscape. That's exactly what we need."

ROTC HOLDS TRAINING DRILL

Members of the Army ROTC, Arabic language department and Meek School of Journalism participated in an end of the year training exercise titled Operation Rebel Charge Thursday. Photos by Austin McAfee and Thomas Graning



SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION

Zack Huffman

Public Policy Leadership
"Evaluating the Evaluations: The Search for Effective Measures of Teacher Performance"

Tuesday, April 30th
8:30 a.m.
Odom Room 101

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

SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION

Robert Miller

Classics
"A Pseudo-Panathenaic Amphora by the Nikoxenos Painter"

Tuesday, April 30th
12:30 p.m.
Museum Room 103

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

SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION

Jesse Xie

Pharmaceutical Studies
"Design and Synthesis of Selective Sigma Receptor Ligands with Cocaine Antagonist Activity"

Tuesday, April 30th
2:30 p.m.
Faser Hall Room 205

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

SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION

Claire Douglas

English
"The Blue Hour, a Poetry Collection"

Tuesday, April 30th
2:30 p.m.
Honors College Room 309

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

SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION

Brianna Van Stekelenburg

International Studies
"Mixed Record: Water Privatization in Latin America"

Tuesday, April 30th
3:00 p.m.
Croft Institute

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

In Summation: The Summer Movie Preview



COURTESY OF MOVIEPOSTERDB.COM | The Daily Mississippian

BY JOSH PRESLEY
joshpresley551@gmail.com

After two years of some of the best damn movie reviewing you'll ever (never) read, we've finally come to the end of the third act. The climax. The conclusion. The resolution. The end. I'll try to do it better than "Lost."

What's left for me to say? Well, there's a summer movie season to preview, of course.

The season kicks off Friday

with "Iron Man 3." Marvel has released a movie on the last day of class every year that I've been at Ole Miss, so I'm happy that this year will be no different. "Iron Man 3" has a tremendous amount of hype, being the first post-"Avengers" Marvel movie and with writer/director Shane Black at the helm. Black previously wrote and directed Robert Downey Jr. in the fantastic "Kiss Kiss Bang Bang," and I'm hoping that magic will be rekindled here.

"Star Trek Into Darkness" opens on May 17 and is the movie I'm second most excited about this summer, or this year really (more on number one in a sec). J.J. Abrams' first foray into "Star Trek" produced one of the best films of 2009, and I'm predicting "Into Darkness" is another home run before he moves on to resurrecting "Star Wars."

The next weekend we get "The Hangover Part III" (ugh) and "Before Midnight." Diligent readers of my column (both of them) will know that "Before Sunrise" and "Before Sunset" are two of my favorite films, so I'm downright giddy

at the idea of this third film in probably the most unlikely trilogy in history.

June 14 brings the movie I am most excited about this year: "The Man of Steel." I'm a big Superman fan and am cautiously optimistic about this one based on the epic trailers we've seen so far. I can't imagine "The Man of Steel" having any middle ground. It will either be terrible or one of the



COURTESY OF MOVIEPOSTERDB.COM | The Daily Mississippian

best movies of the year.

"World War Z" looks nothing like the book, "This is the End" looks hilarious, and "Byzantium," "Pacific Rim," and "The Wolverine" all look promising.

I'm rushing now. How can you possibly go through a summer's worth of movies and sum up two years worth of writing in one short column?

I can't. I can thank you for reading it, though. If you've read and gotten any enjoyment out of anything I've ever written, even if it was that frivolous Col. Reb column from a few weeks ago, then I thank you.

I thank/blame Jacob Batte for having the bright idea that I should start doing movie reviews for The DM two years ago. So now you know it's all his fault.

I thank the section editors and copy editors who've had to deal with my egomania. Cain Madden and Kristie Warino in particular had to endure more complaining from me than they probably thought was humanly possible, and I thank them for having the patience of Job.

I hope I've made you laugh and maybe encouraged you to



COURTESY OF MOVIEPOSTERDB.COM | The Daily Mississippian

see some movies you wouldn't have otherwise. I may not take myself seriously, but I take film very seriously.

A kind reader once asked me what I loved so much about movies and, in closing, I'll share my response with you now: To begin with? Everything.

For more entertainment musings and general silliness, follow Josh on Twitter @joshuapresley.

Student Disability Services would like to congratulate the recipients of the 2012 – 2013 Access Award!

Dr. Carl Jensen

Director of the Center for Intelligence & Security Studies
and

Barbara Leeton

Assistant to the Dean, College of Liberal Arts

This award is given annually to one faculty member and one staff member, each of whom has been nominated by students with disabilities at the University of Mississippi. The awards are given for "Extraordinary Support, Creativity and Encouragement while Providing Access for Students with Disabilities."

Dr. Jensen and Ms. Leeton join previous Access Award recipients:

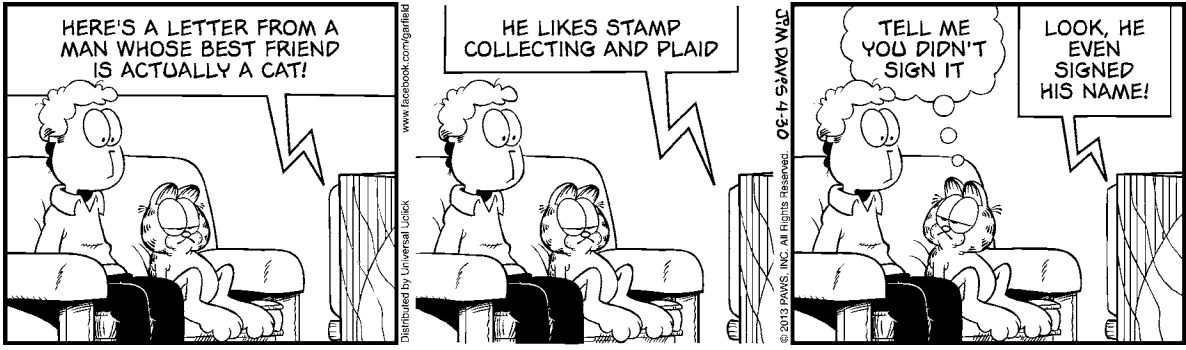
2009 – 2010 Dr. Denis Goulet and Natcha Knight-Evans

2010 – 2011 Julie Anderson and Sue Hodge

2011 – 2012 Sam Thomas and Linda Colley

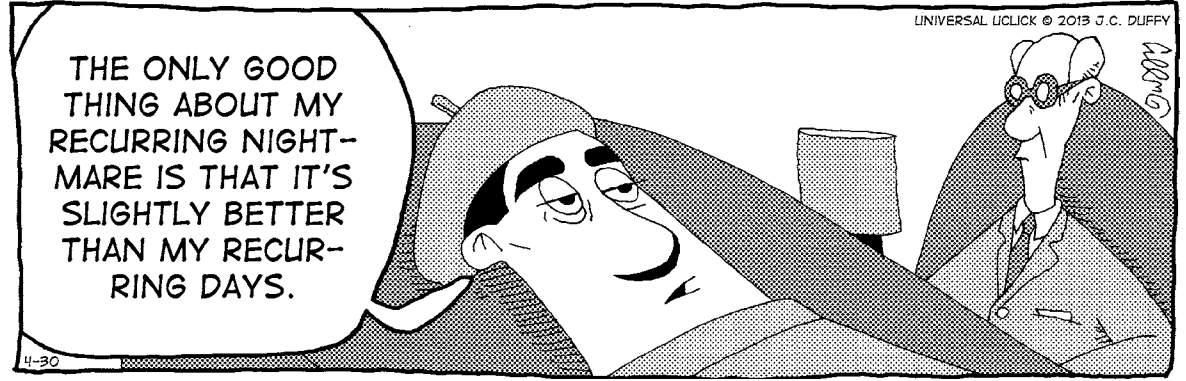
GARFIELD

By JIM DAVIS



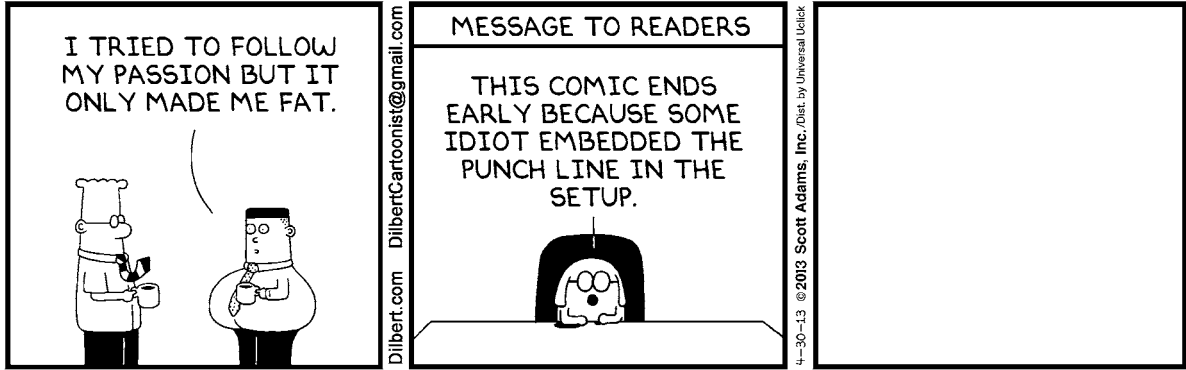
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By J.C. DUFFY



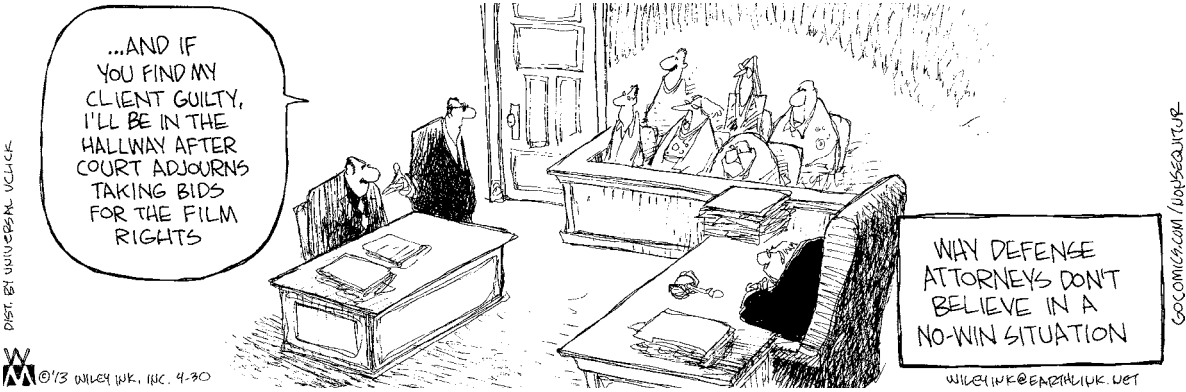
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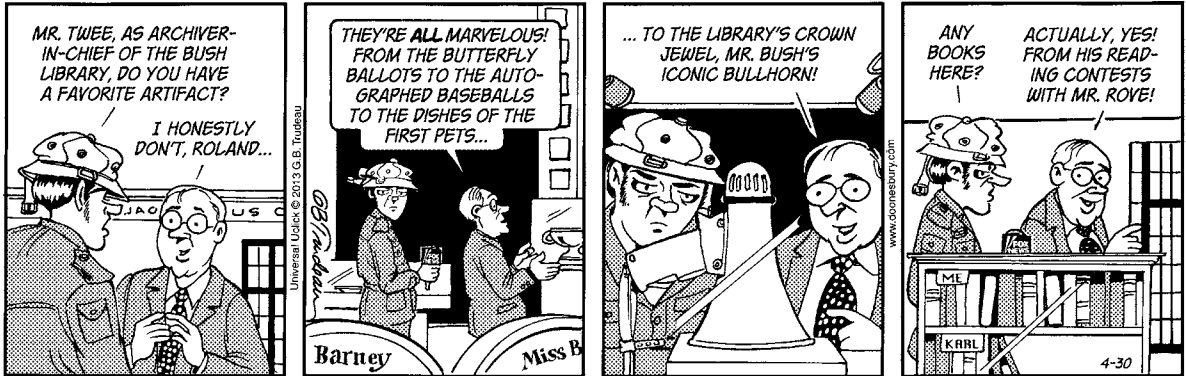
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HOW TO PLAY

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

DIFFICULTY LEVEL CHALLENGING

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

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 24 Goes first
 26 In a frenzy
 28 Rodeo ride
 30 Metallic fabrics
 31 "Who gives —"
 32 Ski slope bump
 33 Realty ad abbr.
 36 Gets an eyeful
 37 Slams, as a door
 38 Windshield option
 39 Cattle feed
 40 Bowling lane
 41 "Lorenzo's Oil" star
 42 Birch kin
 43 "Hotel California" group
 44 Travel downers (2 wds.)

DOWN
 1 Pay-stub acronym
 2 Inland sea of Asia
 3 Go — (fall suddenly)
 4 Vane dir.
 5 Take away from
 6 Hot soaks
 7 Vitamin amts.
 8 Bunny feature
 9 Wheel buy (2 wds.)
 10 Mutt
 11 "— So Vain"
 12 Calculus pioneer
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What a long, strange trip it's been

BY JAKE THOMPSON
jcthomps@go.olemiss.edu

When I came to Ole Miss in the fall of 2010, I had no idea what was awaiting me in the next three years. I decided to become a journalism major with aspirations of a career as a sports writer, which is a tough goal to achieve. Little did I know how close I was to accomplishing that.

Towards the end of my first semester, a teacher asked me if she could recommend me to The Daily Mississippian as she felt my writing was worthy of being on staff there. I didn't see what she was talking about as I had not become confident in my writing skills just yet, but figured I needed the experience and said sure.

I started out in the campus/city news section and worked for Cain Madden,

who was the editor at the time. I took any assignments I could get, ranging from a miracle poison ivy pill to covering a pharmaceutical symposium. Let's just say neither were in my wheelhouse, but it helped me become a better writer in the process.

After a year of covering news under my belt, I finally made my way to the sports section, every college male journalist's goal. Of course, I did not get the popular beats like football, basketball or baseball since I was the new kid on the block, but that did not bother me because I was covering Ole Miss sports. Who cared what sport it was, I had my foot in the door and was not going to let it shut on me.

I have enjoyed my time as a sports writer for The DM. It has opened many other doors for me and

given me opportunities that would not have been available otherwise. I was able to witness Pat Summit walk the court for one of her very last times when the Lady Volunteers came to Ole Miss last season during my tenure as the women's basketball beat writer. I was able to witness up close the complete makeover of the Ole Miss athletics department.

My sports writing experience helped me become the sports editor for The Ole Miss this year, and I was able to write about Ole Miss winning an SEC Championship in basketball, which will always be one of the highlights of my college career.

I will forever be grateful for the time I spent as a writer for The Daily Mississippian and the friends I made during my time there. Hotty Toddy!



IGNACIO MURILLO | The Daily Mississippian

Christian Helsel tosses the ball to second for an out during Friday's game against Kentucky.

HELSEL, continued from page 8

the bench, but I really prepared myself and knew at some point I would get an opportunity," Helsel said. "Luckily now, I'm getting a lot of playing time, and I was prepared for that playing time and playing well, so hopefully I can stay in the lineup."

Coming into Oxford, Helsel said he didn't expect to see the field immediately, but knew that he would be ready and seize the opportunity, which is exactly what he has done.

"It's not necessarily a negative that I was riding the bench," Helsel said. "I think every freshman has to go through that. I didn't necessarily expect to start because I knew we had an awesome team, but I knew that when I got my opportunity I could play."

Helsel has pleased himself, as well as Bianco and the staff.

"I hate to say anybody is in the lineup that concrete, but he is certainly one of those guys," Bianco said. "I'd be surprised if he isn't starting at second base on Friday."

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HOLLOWAY SIGNS WITH BALTIMORE RAVENS



FILE PHOTO (AUSTIN McAFEE) | The Daily Mississippian

Murphy Holloway poses for portrait.

BY JAKE THOMPSON
jcthomps@go.olemiss.edu

Murphy Holloway is trading his sneakers in for cleats as he signed with the Baltimore Ravens as an un-drafted free agent Saturday night.

Holloway made the announcement through his Twitter account, tweeting "IMA RAVEN!!!!!!" shortly after the NFL Draft ended, which is the time un-drafted free agents can begin signing contracts with teams.

This development came as a shock to some when Holloway mentioned he had NFL teams interested in him after the Rebels were knocked out of the NCAA Tournament in late March. Holloway was not as surprised as teams started talking to him before the season was over.

"I got contacted during basketball season," Holloway said. "They knew that we were going through the tournament, and said they would talk to me when it was over, and they hollered at me right when it was over."

While participating in the Portsmouth Invitational Tournament, Holloway was injured during a game and was shocked at how quickly the NFL scouts were made aware of it when they reached out to him.

"They knew every step," he said. "I got poked in the eye in Portsmouth and got a text right after that said, 'Hope your eye is OK.' They knew everything."

While rumors started swirling that Holloway could possibly be a late round pick in the draft, he was informed he would probably not hear his

name called over the weekend.

"The Ravens let me know that they were probably not going to be able to draft me," Holloway said. "It was a high risk, high reward kind of thing. It's a business, and if they were going to get me, they were going to get me for cheap."

Baltimore was in the lead for Holloway throughout most of the process, but the Kansas City Chiefs, Philadelphia Eagles and Chicago Bears expressed their interest as well.

The Ravens felt the 6-foot-7, 240 pound frame of Holloway would be a good fit for their two tight end scheme. Baltimore only has two tight ends but like to keep three, which is the spot Holloway will be fighting for along with Matt Furstenberg, a tight end from Maryland who was another free agent signing with the Ravens.

Holloway has not played a snap of organized football since his sophomore year of high school, which will put him at a great disadvantage starting out.

"The learning curve for me will be the playbook and learning football technique," he said. "It's the small things that you can do to make yourself better. It's going to be different kinds of workout. I'm looking forward to learning something new everyday because I know I will."

The journey starts this week for Holloway as he will head to Baltimore Thursday for minicamp over the weekend and return Monday to finish school. He will graduate on May 11 and leave for good on May 12.

Helsel making the most of opportunities

BY MATT SIGLER
mcsigler@go.olemiss.edu

Freshman utility player Christian Helsel is a long way from home. The Altoona, Pa., native, however, has found a home on the diamond for the Ole Miss baseball team.

After entering college as a shortstop, Helsel has been thrown into action at four different positions so far this 2013 season: shortstop, first base, second base and third base. Helsel has become a regular in the lineup and has impressed the Rebel coaching staff in his short amount of time so far.

"He's been terrific," Ole Miss head coach Mike Bianco said. "Probably the thing that's been said the least is how difficult it's been. A kid that we throw in at shortstop because Austin (Anderson) pulls his hamstring and most of his reps since the beginning of the fall have been at second and third and really the only reps that have been at shortstop have been to fill in the lineups."

Bianco said that there wasn't really a vision for Helsel to play shortstop.

"He's done whatever we've asked, and he's been kind of thrown into the fire," Bianco said.

In 22 games this season, nine of which have been starts, Helsel is hitting .263 with five RBI. Defensively, he holds a .914 fielding percentage with six errors. Although it took time for Helsel to reach the field, he said he really prepared himself for when the opportunity arose.

"I started off the year riding

See HELSEL, PAGE 7

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