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Plus/Minus system receiving mixed reviews



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY PETRE THOMAS | The Daily Mississippian

If a student were to receive two A's, two B's, and one C for 15 hours of credit, they would receive a 3.2 gpa, but if a student received all minus on those letters, then they would receive a 2.9 gpa.

BY JACOB BATEE
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There has been much debate on the Ole Miss campus about the plus/minus grading system, dating back to when the idea was originally brought forward in 2004.

Nicolas Trépanier, assistant professor of history, said that when he came to teach at Ole Miss, he was surprised that they did not already use the plus/minus system.

"I think it gives a better reflection of the student's performance," he said, adding that he

will be using the system in his class.

"It was high time we did something about it," Trépanier said.

Other professors differ, including Neil Manson, philosophy professor, who said he will not be using the new grading

system.

"I think A through F is enough of a grading range, and I can't get more fine grain than that," he said.

Manson said he has posed a question in relation to the plus/minus grading system to his classes.

"Do you think you are more likely to have what would have been an A get bumped down to an A-, or have a B that gets bumped up to a B+?"

Manson said most of his students did not favor the change.

Student opinions range from acceptance, to anger and even ambivalence.

Cheslin Clemons, senior secondary education major, said she likes the plus/minus system.

"It gives the students more room for mistakes," Clemons said.

Clemons did note that there is one aspect of the system she is not in favor of.

"It's not my favorite because an A isn't just an A anymore," she said. "I would hate to have an A-."

Because of this aspect, Senior

Caroline Novy said she is concerned that she may be cheated out of a 4.0.

"Say I take biochemistry and I make a 90," she said. "Well, biochemistry is a hard class. Just because I barely made an A doesn't mean I did not deserve an A."

The Leakesville native said the minus will detract from students who do well in classes and misrepresent their hard work.

"Let those who made A+'s be content with themselves," Novy, a biology major said. "I deserve an 4.0, too."

Daniel Edney, first year law school student, said he expects many students will be upset with the new system.

"I think it is going to make it more difficult for students to get that 4.0, and not everyone will be happy about it," Edney said.

While acknowledging that the new system could make life more difficult for the average student, Edney believes the system could be good for some students.

"I think it'll end up reward-

See PLUS/MINUS, PAGE 5

The Square security cameras are now rolling

BY AVE MAYEUX
avemayeux@gmail.com

The Oxford Police Department is watching you.

Security cameras have been placed outside various bars and businesses on the Square at a reported cost of \$50,000 and will be monitored by dispatchers at the OPD.

These 10 new cameras have wide angle views, each with four views, essentially doing the work of 40 cameras. The cameras can zoom if needed, and footage can be reviewed to get a closer look at suspects if a crime takes place.

Oxford Police Chief Mike Martin said the debate on installing the cameras has been on going

for years, but was not approved by the mayor and the Oxford Board of Aldermen until recently.

When the installation of the cameras was first mentioned, the issue of "Big Brother" was raised. However, recently there has been less negative talk about them, Martin said.

"In today's society, wherever you go, most places have cameras," Martin said. "Is it 'Big Brother?' So to speak, it probably is, but is it useful? Very much so.

"Do you have any expectations of privacy? No, you don't out in the public."

Massey Bowie, a 21-year-old Oxford resident, said she does not think the public will take the security cameras on the Square seriously.

"I think they will be spray paint-

ed over by next Thursday," Bowie said. "It's a joke. What's next, RoboCop?"

The cameras were placed on the Square as a crime deterrent. They will aid in keeping Oxford businesses and citizens safe, along with the work that the police department currently does.

It is not uncommon to have thousands of people frequent the bars on the Square nightly, Martin said, and police can only see so much at once.

"With that number of people and with alcohol involved, inevitably it results in a fight somewhere, and what we've had in the past is some pretty severe instances of people being assaulted outside of the bars," Martin said.

See BIG BROTHER, PAGE 5



PHOTOS BY ADDISON DENT | The Daily Mississippian

RIGHT: A close up shot of one of the new cameras placed on the square, LEFT: located on Van Buren by the Lyric Theater.

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New hydration stations help the environment

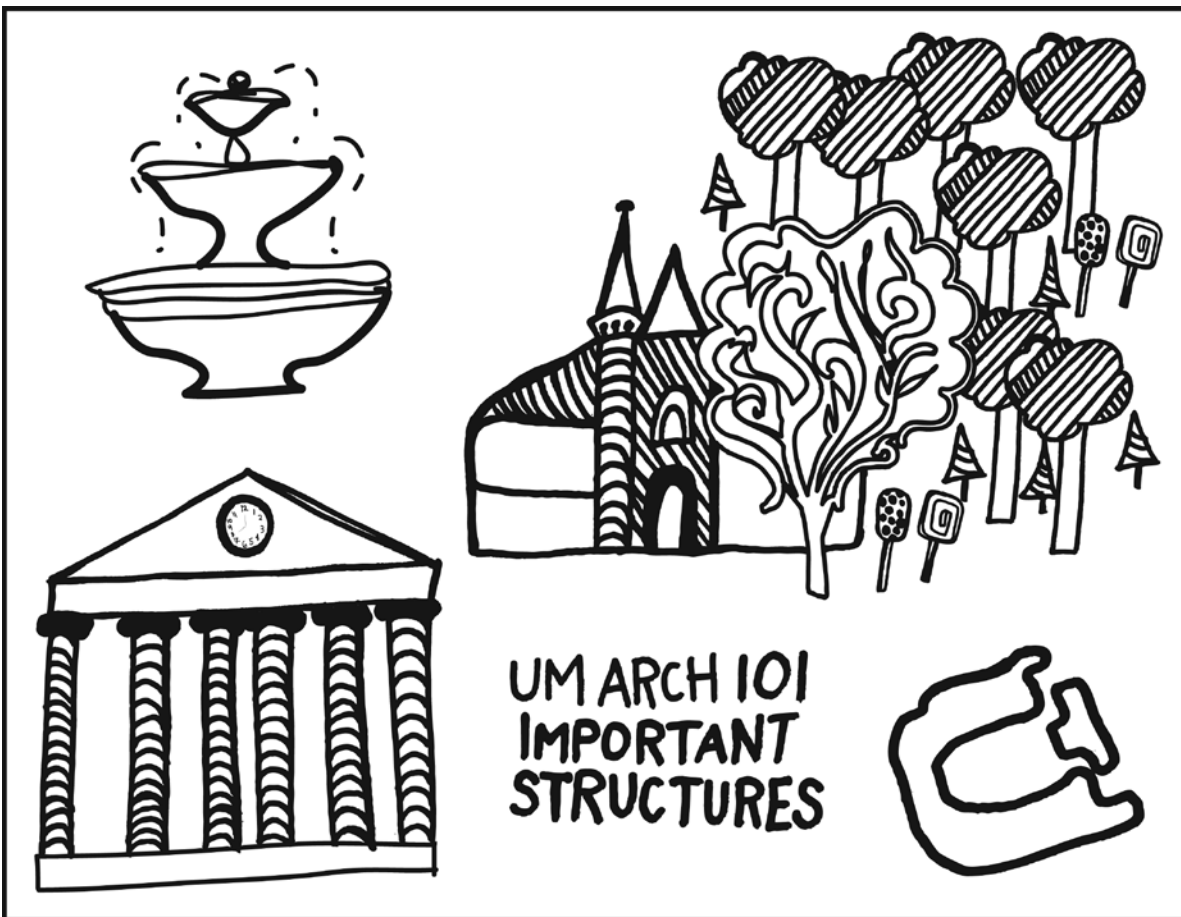
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Burns eyes improvement in the secondary

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KRISTEN VISE | kmvise@olemiss.edu

Tea Party hurting America

BY JAY NOGAMI
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The recent Iowan Republican debate has kicked off the 2012 presidential campaign season.

Republicans nationwide are sizing up their options for a new president, while Democrats are checking out what President Obama's competition in 2012 might be.

One thing is clear from these debates though: The Tea Party mentality of modern Republicans can only hurt our nation.

An informal poll conducted at the debate showed that every single Republican present would walk away from a deal that would cut spending \$10 for every \$1 in tax increases.

Looking back at the last three Republican presidents (George W. Bush, George H. W. Bush and Ronald Reagan), we can see that each did not have hard-line stances like those being seen today.

First, during the terms of Presidents Reagan and George H. W. Bush, our national debt swelled by about 10 percent of GDP in each term.

Then, national debt grew by 7 percent of GDP during President George W. Bush's first term in office and 20 percent in his second. There were no major outcries by Republicans during any of these timeframes.

In fact, George H. W. Bush and Reagan actually signed off on tax increases.

Arguably the most admired Republican of our time, Reagan, realized that taking a stance on anything so firm that you wouldn't make any compromises was bad for the country.

This stubbornness led to the Standard and Poors downgrade of the United States' credit rating.

They spoke specifically about the huge discrepancies between the two parties' ideological beliefs when it comes to fiscal

policy.

This movement of hard-line politics was largely spearheaded by the Tea Party, a group of, if you will, super conservatives who fall farther right on the spectrum than Republicans in the past. They built a successful campaign in 2010 based on no compromises with Democrats on tax increases and large cuts to any and all federal programs.

Now, consider for a second the proposal mentioned in the Iowan debate: 10-to-one cutting to taxation.

To put this in perspective, the roll back of the Bush-era tax cuts on the upper class would have added an estimated \$900 billion to government revenue. This means that for the deal to be 10-to-one, Democrats would need to find \$9 trillion in cuts.

Our current debt is approximately \$14 trillion. This is a

See TEA PARTY, PAGE 3

A reality star's suicide and the inevitable lawsuit

BY BRITTANY SHARKEY
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Early last week, Russell Armstrong, a cast member of the Bravo hit "The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills," committed suicide.

For those of you who don't obsessively follow the travails of the vapid celebrities who inhabit the various Real Housewives franchises, Armstrong was the husband of housewife Taylor. The two had a notoriously turbulent relationship, and their marital problems provided numerous story lines for the show.

Just weeks before his death, Armstrong gave interviews in which he talked about the added stress and pressures that accompanied appearing on a reality show. Now in the wake of his suicide, his family is dealing with the grief by threatening to sue Bravo and hold the network accountable for his death.

I have a lot of problems with this. Armstrong committed suicide; he was not killed by a rogue catering truck hired by the network or the victim of some freak microphone accident while filming the show. Armstrong's family is clearly grieving his sudden and untimely death.

However, using the legal system to bring a frivolous lawsuit in an attempt to hold someone responsible and get some measure of compensation is not the way to grieve. When these kinds of suits are brought, it diminishes the actual function of the civil court system, which is to provide legitimately injured people some measure of compensation.

Bravo was not responsible for Armstrong's death. He was a fully capable adult who agreed to have his life filmed and broadcast on a television show.

While filming the show, gossip websites uncovered Arm-

strong's shady financial past, which included charges of fraud and embezzlement and a few bankruptcies. Details of Armstrong's troubled personal life also began emerging after the show began airing. Allegations of abuse from former girlfriends and his current wife, Taylor, have circulated, as well.

This begs the questions: If someone knows that they have a checkered past, why agree to be on a reality show? Why agree to put yourself in the public eye and invite that kind of scrutiny?

Even with all of these unanswered questions, it doesn't change the fact that Armstrong willingly appeared on the show. As fans of the series know, there are many husbands and boyfriends who choose not to appear on the show. Another option could have been to leave the show — numerous housewives and partners have left the show for various reasons over the years.

The choice to appear on the show and stay on the show was ultimately Armstrong's, and it was a choice that may have contributed to his untimely death. But that choice is not the responsibility of the network.

Unfortunately, Armstrong had some personal demons he was not able to overcome.

This is a case where the fault lays solely with Armstrong, who for reasons unknown, agreed to have his life filmed and put on display. It's a tragic situation, one that should give pause to any potential reality stars.

Ultimately it is not a situation for which television networks should be held accountable.

Brittany Sharkey is a second-year law student from Oceanside, Calif. She graduated from NYU in 2010 with a degree in politics.

Follow her on Twitter @brittany-sharkey.

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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.



Sexing it up

BY ALAN-MICHAEL WHITE
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Your body is a beautiful, natural work of art and you should be ashamed of it.

At least, that was the mantra I encountered growing up. Sex education was a couple of days in health class; get the flu and you miss it.

We mainly talked about how since condoms were 99 percent effective in 1970 and birth control was 99 percent effective in 1970, we shouldn't have sex because there was a one in 10,000 chance we'd have a baby.

Apparently, abortion was right-out not an option.

We were no fools. As naïve as I was, I knew more about sex than the public school system wanted me to know. How could I not?

Thanks to the Internet, I knew

about lots of subject material my courses weren't teaching me — extrasolar planets, "To Kill a Mockingbird" and evolution. As it turns out, however, I was lucky.

Apparently Internet saturation in Mississippi is almost criminally low. Only 56.6 percent of homes in Mississippi even have the worst quality Internet access, and this was in 2010.

This basically means that many Mississippians are living in the same world as my grandmother.

She, at the age of 17, married and got pregnant. Apparently her society's refusal to discuss sex at all meant that even after she'd given birth, she had no idea that sex had lead to her first child. This was 1951.

In the following years, there were far more consequences than just an unplanned pregnancy from unprotected sex, with the

rise of HIV/AIDS.

Additionally, not only does Mississippi have poor Internet saturation, but some of the highest rates of AIDS in the country.

Our state government's solution to this brilliant problem was Bill 999, which requires sex education in the state to include abstinence and prevents it from demonstrating condom use.

I mean, it's not that hard to figure out, but the point remains that ignorance is the enemy of humanity.

So not only are our high school-aged brethren and sisteren not being taught how to properly avoid perfectly avoidable diseases and pregnancies, but if they do become pregnant, they'll have to go out of state to get an abortion once Amendment 26 passes.

It's almost as if the powers want our generation to be ignorant, powerless, stupid and so far gone

that it'll be another two generations before our progeny can pull themselves out of the quagmire they've imposed on us.

Can we realistically expect organisms to not do the one thing that allows our species to continually exist?

If not even Sarah Palin can seem to implement an effective abstinence program in her own home, what hope is there for the rest of us who genuinely don't believe we should be ashamed of what billions of years of evolution has made us?

I understand that Mississippi is predominantly religious, and therefore the laws reflect that. Yet, despite my own atheistic leanings, most of my friends are religious.

Interestingly enough, they're smart enough to understand that they cannot impose religious morality upon a populace no mat-

ter how strongly they believe in something.

Keeping our public school system's rigor flaccid won't serve any greater purpose than disenfranchising and victimizing the students in it.

Society can't justify making religious-leaning laws when religious belief affects the population at large, helping drive such a ridiculously avoidable problem.

Because you're all adults and no one can tell you what to do, enjoy your body, though not at the expense of others. Use protection; you can get condoms at Student Health Services for free, last time I checked.

It is more sex education than I ever got.

Alan-Michael White is a senior English major and linguistics minor from Dumas.

Follow him on Twitter @nintfjr.

TEA PARTY,

continued from page 2

program that would almost completely erase our debt problems, but every single Republican candidate for president would walk away from the offer, no questions asked.

They were all serious about not accepting a deal with any amount of tax increases, no matter what.

This isn't just sticking to your political beliefs or to your morals. This is plain ignorance.

Republican candidates for president truly believe they can have everything their way without any compromises. But that isn't the way anything works, much less in the political scene. Tea Party "ideals" are hurting this nation.

Jay Nogami is a sophomore public policy leadership major from Denver, Colo. Follow him on Twitter @Jay-TNogami.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Newcomer/Driver,
 In case you were wondering, it is ok here to use your turn signal!

Don't expect the driver in the car behind you to be able to read your mind and know when you are about to turn.

Only very few people possess mind reading ability! Actually, mostly only fictional characters...

Please don't look surprised

if your failure to use the turn signal causes a near-accident.

Please also be aware that we have in town multiple two-legged creatures, called pedestrians, trying to cross a street where there are the stripes painted on the ground. These creatures do not have any bumper protection and will leave nasty smears on your hood if you

run them over.

Please give them their deserved right of way.

The big red signs with the funny eight-sided shape are meant to indicate STOPPING PLACES.

This means your speedometer shows "zero," and, if applicable, you can also use it as a golden opportunity to give the before-mentioned pedestrians their legal right of

way.

I appreciate your cooperation in making this town a safe place for the people living here.

Natascha Techen, Ph.D.
 Research Scientist- Plant Molecular Biologist
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Pulitzer Prize winner talks U.S. debt history



CAIN MADDEN | The Daily Mississippian

Paul Ingrassia, Pulitzer Prize winning writer, talks to students, faculty and Oxonians about his experiences as a journalist. Ingrassia is the deputy editor-in-chief of Reuters News.

BY EMILY ROLAND
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A man boasting an extremely prestigious award spoke about the historic parallels debt has made in our country yesterday in the Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics.

Paul Ingrassia, deputy editor-in-chief of Reuters News, received a Pulitzer Prize in 1993 for his coverage on the General Motors bailout, authoring a book about the topic. His own son described the best-seller as being “a book about people more so than cars.”

The Laurel native spent his first visit to the University of Mississippi discussing recent

historic breakthroughs and breakdowns in the United States. Lecturing to a room half-filled with glassy-eyed students and older Oxonian residents, the auditorium was atmospherically light as Ingrassia delved into thick issues including our nation’s past and current debt, a recession that has yet to turn into a depression and simple ways that may lead out of the deep hole.

Ingrassia quickly dove head-first into his topic of the historical parallels in our country’s past and present and how those similarities can be used to help the future economy. Using a time-line of the up-and-down economy that is America, Ingrassia pointed out the numerous government

bailouts, while adding that independent comebacks are possible, illustrated by Ford’s own rebirth in the 1970s.

In 2008, Ingrassia said the U.S. made leaps and bounds in both positive and negative directions. He spoke of the election of President Barack Obama, the first African-American President, as a historic breakthrough before pointing out a few historic breakdowns in the bank and corporate bailouts that quickly followed.

Ingrassia’s focus on history stems from his personal crusade as a journalist to help people learn from the past.

“There is too much focus on fighting and not on finding solutions,” Ingrassia said of the

past and current economic state.

Instead of the constant push and pull on Wall Street, Ingrassia suggested “recasting” the issues in an attempt to find new solutions. A few audience members indulged in his suggestions, nodding in agreement to what should be an obvious path to reconciliation.

Ingrassia left his audience with one, simple question that is on the minds of every suited man and woman in the country: “America bailed out GM, but who will bail out America?”

Paralegal studies freshman Rahmana Pittman found the lecture to be very interesting and eye-opening, never before considering that automobile industries, large banks, business corporations and the national economy were all interconnected.

“You look at (the economy), and you don’t realize how many years have gone by since all of this has gone on,” the West Point native said. “To hear it and actually let it soak in makes me realize how it all affects us as a whole.”

While the debt ceiling and U.S. credit rating have been at the top of every news outlet in the country, some in attendance felt the topic was a bit less enticing than Pittman.

“I thought a lot of the things he was saying were true, but like he said, it will probably get worse before it gets better,” said Shaakirah James, a freshman journalism major from Gulf Port.

“It’s scary because that’s my future,” Shaakirah said. “We are borrowing so much and we are owing so much that when it comes time for us to get jobs, it’s going to be harder on us.”

Academics not forgotten

BY JAKE THOMPSON
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While the university has taken great strides to promote athletic fundraising over the past month, the school’s administrative staff doesn’t want the University of Mississippi community to forget about their efforts in UM2020.

Earlier this month, the university, along with UMAA Foundation, announced a capital campaign called Forward Together that includes a new basketball arena adjacent to the current C.M. “Tad” Smith Coliseum and enclosing the North End Zone in Vaught-Hemingway Stadium.

Announcing this new athletic financial campaign brought up a few questions: What happens to UM2020? Will both financial campaigns work hand in hand together?

For those new to campus this semester, UM2020 is the new vision for the future of Ole Miss that was announced in the spring semester.

It is a plan to better Ole Miss and enhance the academic culture of the school by the year 2020.

In a letter sent out to the university faculty and staff on the day of the Forward Together campaigns announcement, Chancellor Dan Jones answered some of those questions.

“In the coming months, there will be both internal and external communications regarding development (fundraising) issues for the university,” Jones said in the letter. “UM2020, our current strategic plan, is being finalized and will provide key priorities for the next major capital campaign.”

The letter went on to say that planning was still moving forward and that more information will follow as plans mature.

In regards to the UMAA fundraising campaign, Jones gave his stamp of approval.

“The university leadership supports this campaign and encourages this campaign,” Jones said.

Jones also wanted to stress that since all athletic’s communication would come prior to any communication on the academic effort, that new efforts for the academic programs are indeed in the planning stages.

There are people who feel that with the UMAA effort coming first, that it will in fact help the cause of the academic fundraising.

“The record shows that if there are good athletic facilities it should improve the quality of the school,” said Will

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REACTION,
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Norton, dean of the Meek School of Journalism and New Media.

Norton also said the school has reached a great accomplishment when it comes to the endowment of the school.

"There was no fundraising before (former chancellors) Gerald Turner and Robert Khayat were here," he said.

At one point, the school did not have an endowment.

"It should be one of the greatest stories in higher education history," Norton said.

Adam Brown, senior journalism major, said that he thinks the focus on fundraising for athletics could take the focus off of the academic side.

"I feel with the new athletic campaign being introduced, that the UM2020 program will become second in priority for the university," Brown said.

Freshman psychology major Barney Thompson does not share the same sentiment.

"With the Forward Together campaign, I think that



Dan Jones, chancellor, speaks on behalf of the UMAA Foundation announcing a capital campaign called Forward Together. Jones has also said that plans for academic programs fundraising are in the planning stages, as well.

the school can benefit from the new arena and updated football stadium," Thompson said. "It could only help the academic side of Ole Miss."

Provost Morris Stocks said the UM2020 strategic plan will be presented to the university community this fall.

"The plan identifies sev-

en priorities of excellence that will guide the university through the next 10 years," he said.

Stocks said the capital campaign will be announced in order to help raise support for the "priorities."

"The campaigns to support athletics and the priorities of

excellence will progress simultaneously and will collectively form the university-wide capital development effort," Stocks said.

Forward Together will begin its process in the near future with UM2020, not having a starting date for any of their programs yet.

PLUS/MINUS,
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ing those students who really put in hard work in their classes and hopefully give an incentive for other students to do the same," Edney said.

While many students are worried about having teachers that will enforce the new system, some do not have to worry about it.

Junior Hamp Hickman has a very laid back view of the new grading system, like many students.

"I don't like it unless it helps me," Hickman said.

The Memphis native doesn't consider this issue too big of a deal, however, since teachers have the option of using the system.

"I mean, none of my teachers are using it anyway," Hickman said.

Regardless on what side of the fence you reside on, the new system is in place, and according to Associate Provost Maurice Eftink it is here to stay.



BIG BROTHER,
continued from page 1

In previous cases of fights on the Square, the person who was assaulted is rendered to the point of unconsciousness and has no recollection of who their attacker was. Usually, bystanders do not want to get involved and it is difficult to find witnesses; however, these new cameras provide an alternate method to solving the case, Martin said.

"These cameras are good

enough to where if it occurs in a location where we have cameras, we can quite possibly develop suspects that were involved in instances or even witnesses," Martin said.

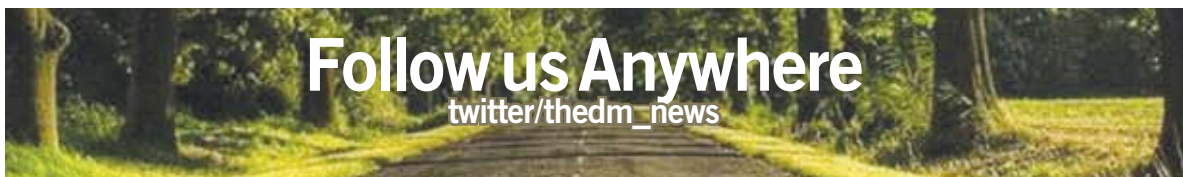
The main areas OPD is looking at right now are the north side of the Square toward the federal building, 11th Street toward the Library, up and down Van Buren by the Lyric, South Lamar and the downtown Square itself. The police department hopes to add more cameras in the future to cover the outlying areas of the Square, including parking lots.

Though some don't believe the cameras will work, senior marketing communications major Dani Gartman has a positive outlook on them.

"I think it's a good idea because it should lessen crime, and it makes it easier for security or cops to monitor activity on the Square," Gartman said.

The feeds from the camera are already up and running in the police department.

"When people know that a camera is on, most of the time, people tend to behave themselves," Martin said.



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BURUNDY ROOM

f t

New campus hydration stations to help the environment

BY MEGHAN LITTEN
mmlitten@gmail.com

If you are in the Union or Martindale, you are only a click away from hydration.

Not the click of dropping coins in a vending machine for bottled water, however, as students can now use one of the three hydration stations on campus to fill up their water bottles with cold, filtered water.

The hydration stations, one near the food court, monitor how many plastic bottles are saved when people refill water bottles instead of buying bottled water. The stations were purchased by the Office of Sustainability and cost approximately \$1,500 each. The filters have to be replaced a few times a year and cost around \$30.

Associated Student Body vice president Abby Olivier sponsored a resolution to support the installation of the hydration stations on campus last fall when she was an ASB senator.

"I was an intern for the Office of Campus Sustainability when Anne McCauley and Jim Morrison came up with the idea for hydration stations," said the Hattiesburg native. "It passed pretty easily."

Jim Morrison, director of the Office of Campus Sustainability, said campus sustainability needed ASB.

"Student participation is critical for the success of sustainability for our ability to



Shimin Bao, senior psychology major, fills up a reusable water bottle at the new water fountain in the Student Union. The water fountain is designed to fill water and also counts the number of bottles that were saved by using it.

CAIN MADDEN | The Daily Mississippian

change the culture on campus," Morrison said.

The original plan was to put hydration stations in the Union and the Turner Center, but they ran into infrastructure and plumbing challenges.

"The Turner Center was actually one of the buildings we identified as a top priority," Morrison said. "We are still looking to bring hydration stations to the Turner Center."

Morrison said the reason they put the other station in Martindale was because admissions and recruiting offices began giving out water bottles to visitors and prospective students this summer.

"We wanted them to have access to the hydration station when they received the water bottles," Morrison said.

Olivier, a senior public policy and leadership major, said she has heard a lot of positive feedback about the new hydration stations.

"I personally walk by the hydration station in the Union and there will be a group of

people around it," Olivier said. "They will be 'ooing' and 'ahhing' over it. I like to stop and show them the difference they are making."

Kendra Wright, sophomore international studies and Spanish double major from Tuscaloosa, Ala., uses the hydration stations because they are convenient and help save money.

"It helps me reduce my water bottle waste," she said.

Wright said she thinks there should be more hydration stations on campus.

"I think if we had more hydration stations on campus,

students would not have an excuse for not bringing a water bottle and using it throughout the day," she said.

Olivier agrees with Wright and hopes students will take advantage of the hydration stations and show the administration that we need more of them.

"It is not easy to convince everyone to save the environment, but everyone wants to save money," Olivier said. "That is the important thing about the hydration station."

Buying bottled water can add up, Olivier said.

"If you bought a bottle of water every day, you would spend over \$30 a month just on water," she said. "Why should students have to pay for water?"

"The hydration station is filtered so it tastes better, it is cold and it is free."

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Oxford continues growing green efforts with truck

BY JOSEPH SCOTT
jwsco11.olemiss@gmail.com

The city of Oxford will be making one more effort to decrease its carbon footprint by purchasing a hybrid truck.

During the Board of Aldermen meeting Aug. 19, Superintendent Lynn Robbins submitted a request to bring the city a 1-ton bucket truck.

The official request documented and granted was to apply for a reimbursement grant from the Tennessee Valley Authority and Electric Power Research Institute.

The hybrid truck would be used by the Oxford Electric Department (OED) to work on maintenance across the city and prove an example that green is the way to go, Robbins said.

"The opportunity came up so that we might apply for this grant that will allow us to both upgrade our OED equipment and do so at a minimum cost to our citizens," he said.

According to a report by NPR, the United States accounts for about 18 percent of carbon emissions in the world, second only to China. The emissions are created by many sources, including the exhaust of motor vehicles.

The OED is planning to reduce its carbon emissions by employing the use of this hybrid low-emission bucket truck.

"First, the investment will benefit OED by having most of the investment covered by the grant, and second, it will allow OED to have an environmentally-friendly truck that will reduce carbon emis-

sions," Robbins said.

The cost for this modestly ambitious initiative will prove to be surprisingly low to the tax payers, thanks to the Tennessee Valley Authority grant.

"The actual cost will depend on the suppliers of the equipment after bids are made, but we expect the total cost to OED to be about \$30,000 for equipment worth about \$200,000," Robbins said.

The Tennessee Valley Authority is a corporation owned by the U.S. government and provides electricity for 9 million people in seven Southeastern states. The TVA, which receives no taxpayer money and makes no profits, also assists state and local governments with utilities and economic development.

Robbins said Oxford has a strong commitment to green

initiatives and explained those made by the OED.

"OED supports many energy efficiency programs by helping our customers find ways to save energy and use what is needed more efficiently," he said. "We support solar energy through a TVA Generation Partner program where customers can install solar panels and sell the excess power to OED."

Robbins also said the OED provides various ways to help all Oxford citizens who do not understand how to make a greener community.

"We have a solar demonstration trailer that has a complete solar installation to show the actual equipment and operation of a solar setup," he said. "We have a program in the schools where students learn about energy and energy conservation."

Katrina Hourin, assistant city planner, said the green initiative has been a focus all around the city.

"City hall has done a lot to help the city become environmentally friendly, including the Landscape Ordinance in 2007," she said.

This mitigated restoration of trees removed by developers, requiring them to put up a bond that goes into replacing trees they remove.

"Besides that, the implementation of the transit system has definitely been geared toward promoting fewer carbon emissions by our city," Hourin said.

The Oxford University Transit Commission is a system used by many in Oxford to get to and from work in a manner that will emit less carbon.

Oxford submits MDOT grant for Old Taylor Rd. pedestrian bridge

BY MEGHAN LITTEN
mmlitten@gmail.com

Walking or biking across the Old Taylor Road bridge when students are rushing to get to class can be a dangerous proposition.

It could change, soon, however. The city of Oxford is submitting an application for a City Transportation Enhancement Grant to the Mississippi Department of Transportation to build a pedestrian bridge that would connect Old Taylor Road across Mississippi Highway 6.

The current design for the pedestrian bridge is near 250 feet long and about 8 to 14 feet wide. Tim Akers, Oxford city planner, said it will be similar to the bridge over Jackson Avenue.

If the city is awarded the grant, 80 percent of the cost to build the pedestrian bridge will be covered

by MDOT, and the city will provide the remaining 20 percent of funds needed for completion of the proposed project.

The estimated total cost of the project is \$850,000.

"The grant application is due at the end of the month, and we'll probably know if we have been awarded the grant by spring time," Akers said.

The city has been looking to build a pedestrian bridge across Mississippi Highway 6 for several years to make it less dangerous for pedestrians to walk to campus from Old Taylor Road.

Akers believes the pedestrian bridge will make it safer and will encourage more people to walk.

The current two-lane bridge across Miss. Highway 6 discourages many students from riding their bikes or walking to campus.

Mitch Adolphson, senior risk

management and insurance major, didn't ride his bike from his apartment complex on Old Taylor Road as much as he would have liked last year because of the potential dangers bikers face when crossing the bridge.

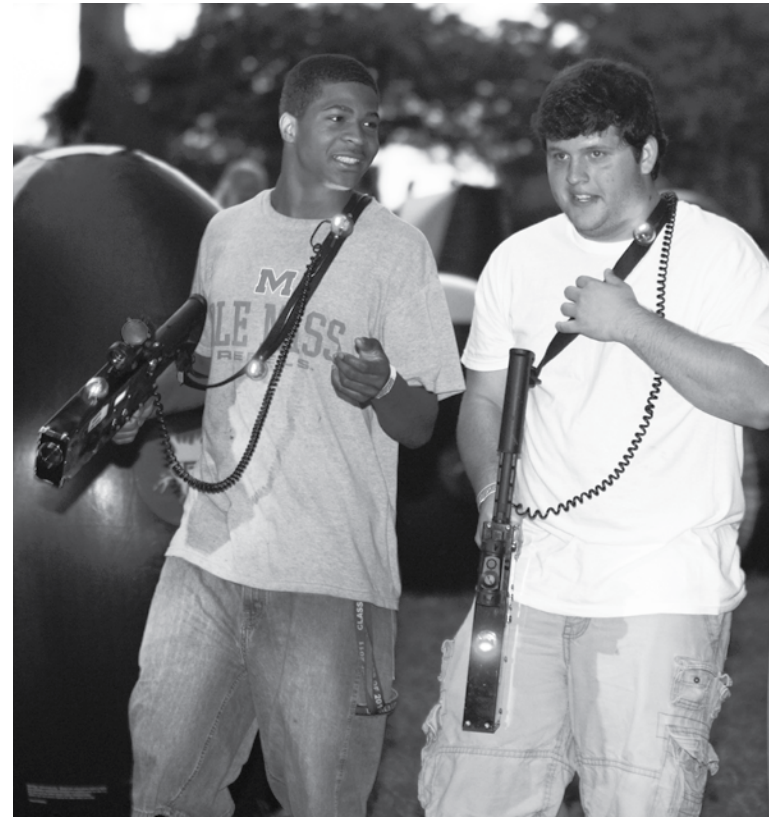
"The current bridge is too dangerous for bicyclists because people do not give them enough room on the road," he said.

Adolphson said if there would have been a pedestrian bridge, he would have ridden his bike more often.

"Riding my bike to campus would have been less dangerous and easier," he said.

Adolphson has now moved to Jackson Avenue and does not ride to campus.

"Now, I am close enough to campus to just walk on the sidewalks," he said. "It is a lot less dangerous."



ALEX EDWARDS | The Daily Mississippian
Students participate in laser tag in the Grove on Wednesday. Laser tag was sponsored by the SPB, as part of Welcome Week.



WELCOME WEEK 2011

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO?

CAMPUS AND STUDENT ORGANIZATION FAIR

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NEWS



PHILLIP WALLER | The Daily Mississippian

ABOVE: Actors Lester Farrell and Peter Pinnow sit down to a game of cards in the Kowalski apartment in Theatre Oxford's production of "A Streetcar Named Desire."

RIGHT: Actor Gregg Earnest (Stanley Kowalski) rifles through Stella's jewelry after learning about the loss of the family plantation, angering actress Caren Watts (Stella Kowalski).



PHILLIP WALLER | The Daily Mississippian



PETRE THOMAS | The Daily Mississippian

Cori Benetiel makes good use of her time by reading "The Help," while waiting in line to buy a parking decal. Lines for parking decals stretched from one end of Kinard Hall to the other.

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COLUMN

The era of choice



BY KELSEY DOCKERY
kqdockery@gmail.com

I was just watching “Sex and the City 2,” my favorite of the two movies, and the flashbacks took me back to a time when I was first discovering fashion.

The luscious fabrics, the endless possibilities — it almost made me feel like a little girl playing dress up in my mom’s old clothes again.

It seems as if each decade has a specific look it was famous for.

In the ‘20s, it was simple and chic, the ‘30s was boyish charm, the ‘40s was influenced by World War II, the ‘50s was all about poodle skirts and leather, the ‘60s brought mod to the forefront and the ‘70s brought bold prints and Bohemian charm. With the ‘80s came sportswear and shoulder pads, and the ‘90s had ... nothing good.

But what about the new millennium? Do we have a signature style?

To me, we live in the greatest era. It is the era of choice, the era of creativity.

Never before has fashion been so eclectic and filled with so many different styles and decisions.

In the new millennium, fashion is all about you.

It’s about pairing decades together to create your own look, your own signature style.

We are no longer bound to one idea of what fashion is supposed to be.

And by fashion, I don’t mean wearing the best and most expensive designer clothes because for most, it’s not realistic to spend \$500 on a blouse.

Study magazines. Study the runways and find trends that you like and silhouettes that suit you and incorporate those into your wardrobe.

For example, the designer trio of Missoni will be launching a collaboration with Target this fall.

Rosita, Angela and Margherita



PHOTO COURTESY ADDICTEDTOETSY.COM

have created a wonderful fall collection full of ‘70s-inspired prints with everything from furniture to sweaters.

Finish off the ‘70s trend with a pair of wide-leg jeans, or mix it up and pair a printed sweater with a pair of cigarette pants for a more modern look.

Now, for those of you just starting out in the fashion world, ‘70s prints can be a bit scary, so start small with a scarf or a ballet flat. Or choose an entirely different decade all together.

The ‘20s and ‘30s are great for the jeans and T-shirt kind of girls.

Try simple silhouettes like Calvin Klein’s latest collection shone on the red carpets this year on stars like Emma Stone, Gwyneth Paltrow and Jennifer Lawrence.

For those of you who love a great leather jacket, channel the ‘60s. Pair a motorcycle-style jacket with skinny jeans, pumps and maybe a scarf or statement necklace for a little oomph and modern twist.

The beauty of living in an era where we have so many choices when it comes to clothes is that you can take the trends from the decades you love and mesh them with more modern trends to cre-

ate a truly fabulous and unique ensemble.

When deciding what to wear in the morning, think of your body as your canvas. Be inspired by something, and react to it.

Whether it’s a movie, a painting, a book or a random person walking down the street, get inspired. Take a risk. Fashion should be fun, not a chore ... or a bore.

Trends will still come and go, but there will always be the possibility of choice, the possibility of making our childhood dress up days come true.

You may not like your wardrobe choice 20 years from now, but the way I look at it, isn’t it more fun to know you took a chance? Even if it didn’t exactly work out the way you envisioned, you made a choice and not everyone can say they had the confidence to do that.

Manolo Blahnik once said, “About half my designs are controlled fantasy, 15 percent are total madness and the rest are bread-and-butter designs.”

Be crazy. Go insane. And don’t be afraid to make a choice.

Top 5 things to do in Oxford

BY KHALEAH EVANS
ksevans@olemiss.edu

Ole Miss has always been a hot spot for fun and entertainment for students and the Oxford community.

From its Southern tailgating traditions to its culturally-influenced background, it’s easy to see why.

However, this year I encourage every Rebel to step outside of his or her “football comfort zone” and explore some of the other great things Ole Miss has to offer.

So with that, I present you a list of the top five things to do at Ole Miss this year.

1. Join an organization

With over 250 organizations on

campus, there is definitely a place for each and every student to get involved. Joining a new organization gives you the opportunity to meet new people on campus, as well as network. Whether you like the great outdoors or you’d prefer to be more hands-on, let’s just say “we have an org for that.”

2. Participate in the “Big Event”

Last year, Ole Miss hosted its first annual Big Event. The Big Event is a city-wide community service day for the Oxford and Lafayette County community. Many Ole Miss students participated in the Big Event as a way to give back and show appreciation to a community that gives

and supports Ole Miss so much. With your help, we can continue to make the Big Event bigger and better every year.

3. Go to a Ford Center production

Oxford is a college town, but it is also a culturally-influenced town too. The Ford Center is our go-to place for many performances. Yes, I know it is hard to believe that the Ford Center hosts more than just step shows and pageants. Throughout the year, numerous dynamic speakers, inspiring plays and jaw-dropping dance performances are showcased at the Gertude Castellow Ford Center. Go to www.fordcenter.org to see upcoming events.

4. Check out the Rebel Challenge Course

Looking for some great exercise, or maybe a friendly athletic challenge with some friends? Well, the Rebel Challenge Course is definitely the place for you. Equipped with zip lines, a climbing tower and everything in between, it is absolutely adventurer’s paradise. It is located off Hathorn Road by the intramural fields.

5. Attend a non-football sporting event

Yes, I know football season is probably the highlight of the school year, but with all the chaos that is tailgating, many of us forget about all of our other wonderful athletic teams. In the fall,

Rebel soccer, volleyball, rifle and golf athletic teams are always prepared to represent Ole Miss in any one of their sporting events.

In the spring, track, baseball and basketball teams are willing to do the same. The best part about it all is that many of these events are free to students with an Ole Miss ID.

Check out www.olemisssports.com for the game times of all sporting events and more.

And with that, I challenge all of you to step outside the norm and venture into some of the other amazing things Ole Miss has to offer. You have a whole nine months to complete them all, so why not?

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Applications are now available in the Office of Enrollment Services, 145 Martindale Student Services Center. Applications are due back by **Friday, August 26.**
For more information, please contact Erika Watson at erwatso2@olemiss.edu.

COLUMN

Welcome to the Ole Miss family, freshmen



BY STEFF THOMAS
sdthomas@olemiss.edu

Racing the clock and attempting to remember everything while avoiding foot traffic and not getting lost in the vast unknown of the University of Mississippi is the life of an Ole Miss freshman.

As a newcomer, the beautifully historic buildings just look like buildings.

It takes some time before a person can point to a structure and name it, or even give directions to someone who needs a little help along the way.

For a freshman or transfer student, finding one's way around campus can prove to be quite the difficult task.

"The hardest part so far for me has been trying to find my way around campus, as well as dealing with the heat," said Andrew Mann, freshman business major.

If it has not become apparent this week, there are many help tents around campus as well as a table in the Student Union lobby. These are set up to help those who need a little nudge in the right direction.

Some may find that in between classes, there may not be time to stop and chat with these helpers. In that case, it is not frowned upon to stop and ask

Advice from Kermit Tyler, senior business administration major, that may help freshmen and transfer students stay on track this year.

1. Go to class — finals are stressful if you don't.
2. You can enjoy the college experience without ruining your GPA by partying too much.
3. You only get out of your education what you put into it.
4. Most importantly: Take advantage of your freedom and be responsible.

someone on the way.

Southern hospitality is as much a tradition at Ole Miss as anything else.

Anneliese Abboud, sophomore political science major, has been stopped numerous times this week for that very reason.

"The past few days have been crazy, and I have been approached quite a few times by freshmen who need help finding the building they need to be in," Abboud said.

Some freshmen may find that while college has some similarities to high school, it is actually very different.

Not only is the schedule more flexible, but there is more time to study and spend time with friends in between courses.

"College is better than high school," said Tyesha Batteast, freshman biochemistry major. "Having three hour breaks in between classes is the best."

While there is more freedom in college, there is also more responsibility. It is now up to the student to not only get to classes on time, but to also make the most of their education.

Returning students can look back on their freshmen year and remember how difficult time management was.

"As a freshman, I found it hard to prioritize and manage my time as efficiently as I could, and I probably could have done better," Abboud said.

It is important to learn how to balance a social life and school along with other various student organizations.

Because of the cost of going to school, it is becoming more common that students find jobs

on and off campus, as well.

For some, this will be their first job, and they will also have to learn how to budget money.

"Freshman year is rough because there are all these new bills that you didn't have to pay for at home," Starr Dunnigan, sophomore journalism major, said.

"So you have to learn to budget your money to get the most out of it."

But don't fret — if you are a freshman, you will eventually learn the ropes.

By next year, you will be more confident, and it will be you who is giving directions.

"It's so different being a sophomore, but I feel a lot more confident because now I know

what's up," Breze Schmitz, sophomore art major, said.

Not only will the first few weeks or so be difficult for freshmen, but also for transfer students.

"Having to make new friends and start all over is probably the worst part about moving, but I like the accountancy program here a lot better than I did at Florida," Chelsea Dickinson, junior accountancy major, said.

Many of you will feel out of place because you are from out of state, but there is no need to. Not everyone you see around you is actually from here.

"Being away from home isn't so bad, you learn to just deal with it and enjoy your freedom," Abboud said.

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As a representative of The University of Mississippi, Telecounselors contact prospective students to answer questions about Ole Miss and offer a UM student perspective.

Telecounselors must work a minimum of 7.5 hours per week. (Monday-Thursday). New Telecounselors must be able to work the 6:00 - 9:00 P.M. shift at least two nights a week and the 4:30 - 6:00 P.M. shift at least one night a week. Working additional shifts is strongly encouraged.

For more information, please call Jenny Kate Luster in the Office of Enrollment Services at 915-5098, or pick up an application at 145 Martindale beginning Monday, Aug. 22, 2011.

Please note that applicants must have at least a 2.75 GPA to apply and should be at least a sophomore in standing.

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NEWS

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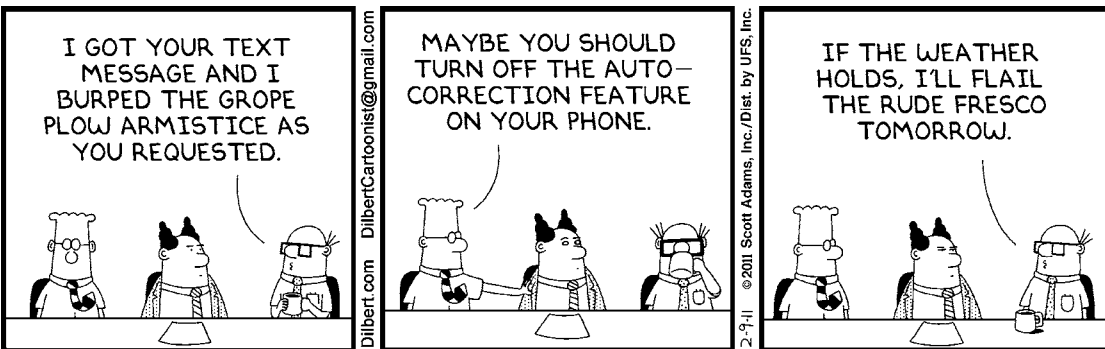
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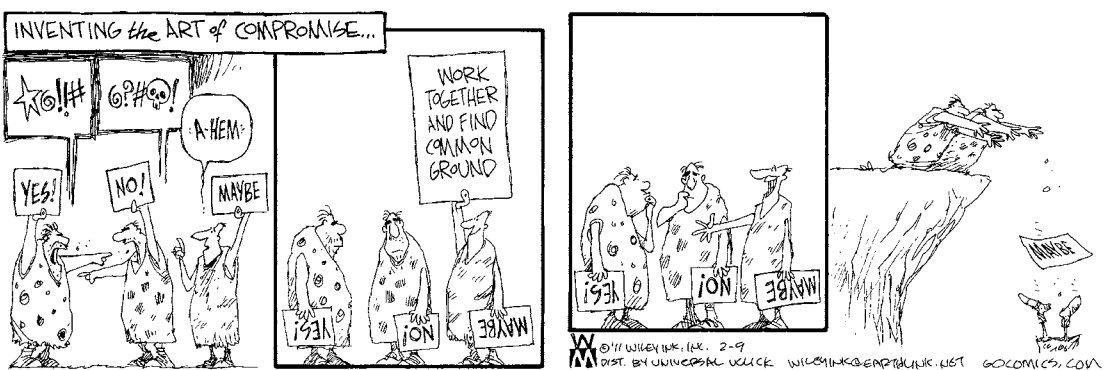
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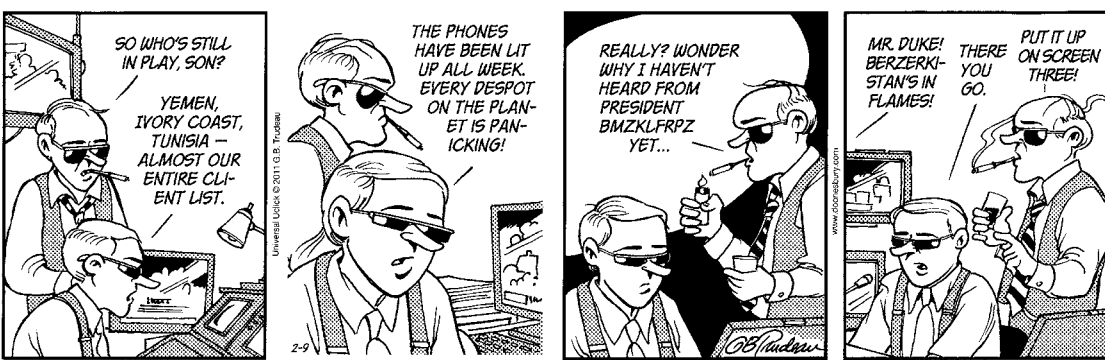
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				3	8	4	
	6	8	1				
3		8		5			6
						3	7
		2	4				1

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

DIFFICULTY LEVEL
IIIIII

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

ACROSS

- Chinese temple
- Sticker stat
- Uncommon
- Gives form to
- Melody
- Designer Cassini
- Straw mat
- Vive le —!
- Eye shade
- Abrupt changes (2 wds.)
- Happen
- Sighs of distress
- Physicist Mach
- Big name in soccer
- Mexican Mrs.
- Come to the plate
- kwon do
- Paramedic's skill
- Bar sing-along
- NASA counter-part
- Latin trio
- Monsieur's wine
- Koan discipline
- Notices
- Overhead rail-ways
- Mare's tidbit
- Film director Spike
- Alps, for short
- Murray or Baxter
- Dark yellow

DOWN

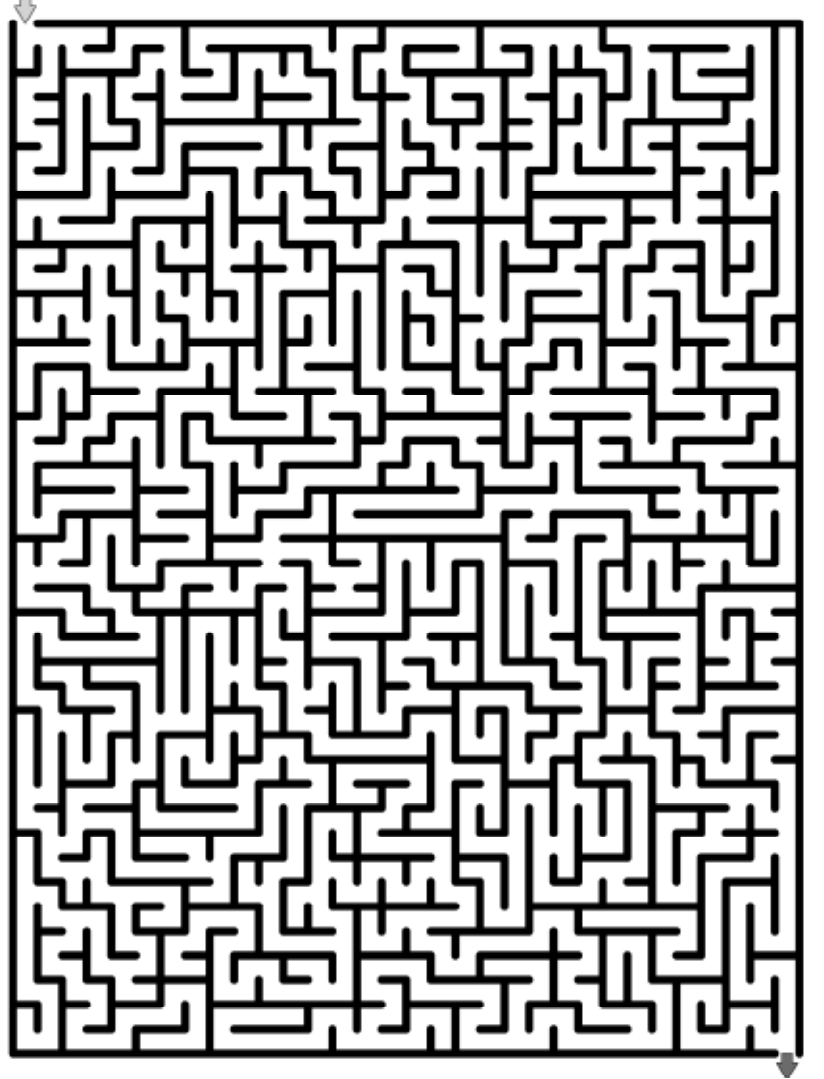
- West Coast hrs.
- I knew it!
- Hood's weapon
- Impervious to light
- Express doubts
- Three oceans touch it
- Zany — Raye
- Monklike
- Forbidding
- Singer Flack
- Poe's middle name
- Enlists again (hyph.)
- Discharge
- Martial-arts star
- Finds out
- Decided on
- and desist
- Football shoe part
- Ill-will
- Quits, so to speak
- Roman orator
- Gripe
- UV blocker
- Reeves of "Speed"
- Put in a log
- Chic
- Nurture
- Warnings
- Young hooter
- Spud garnish
- Dens or burrows
- Campaign topic
- Unobstructs
- Every
- Jane Austen novel
- Right, to Dobbin
- Dawn goddess
- AMA members

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

FELL	MONTH	MOBS
IDEA	INTRO	ALOE
DANS	NOHIT	RISE
EMOTED	PEACOCK	
	ESS	ISLA
MISDEEDS	HULAS	
OOP	TEM	ERICA
ONENESS	BEDEVIL	
LINED	ROM	ENT
ACTED	TAILINGS	
	IDLE	SIR
CUTLERY	SPOKEN	
ECHO	AROMA	NERO
OLEO	GIVER	ENGR
SANK	SCALY	DOOM

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14						15			16				
17						18			19				
20						21			22				
23	24	25				26			27				
28						29			30				
31						32			33		34	35	36
37						38			39		40		
41						42			43		44		
45						46			47				
48	49	50				51			52				
53						54			55				
56						57			58		59	60	61
62						63			64				
65						66			67				



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DEAL

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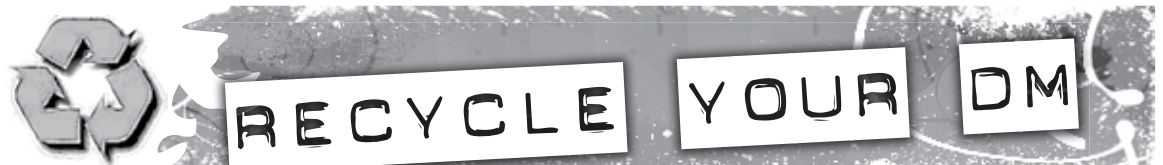
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1 toppings

\$7.77
each

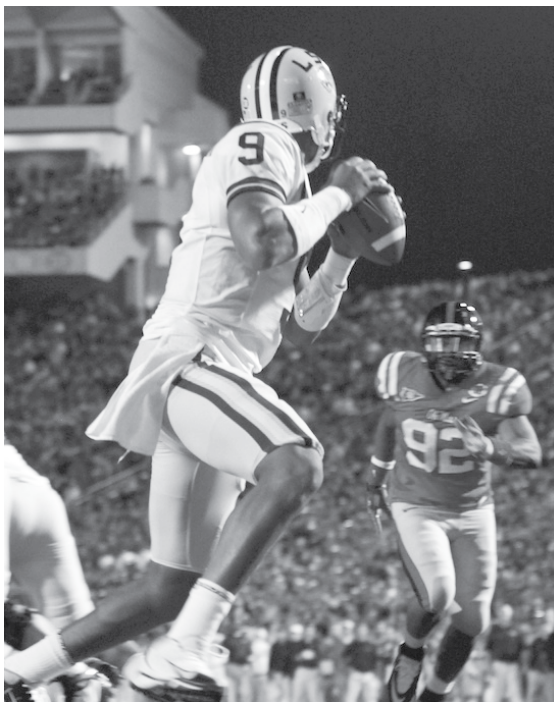
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ASSOCIATED PRESS

News from around the SEC



FILE PHOTOS | The Daily Mississippian

LEFT: Tennessee basketball coach Bruce Pearl; TOP RIGHT: Tennessee safety Janzen Jackson; BOTTOM RIGHT: LSU quarterback Jordan Jefferson.

Police search LSU QB Jefferson's apartment

BATON ROUGE, La. -- Authorities say they searched the apartment of LSU starting quarterback Jordan Jefferson in connection with a bar fight last week that injured four people, the most seriously injured victim has three broken vertebrae.

Baton Rouge Police Sgt. Don Stone says the warrant was obtained Wednesday and Jefferson was home during the search.

Stone says Jefferson cooperated while his attorney also looked on, but the quarterback wasn't questioned by investigators at the scene.

Investigators left with several bags of evidence, which Stone says could help prove or disprove allegations against Jefferson. Stone says he can-

not say what was taken at this time.

Jefferson is one of four LSU players identified by police as people of interest in the investigation, which authorities say could result in arrests on charges as serious as felony second-degree battery.

NCAA hits Bruce Pearl with 3-year penalty

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) -- The NCAA said it wanted to send a clear message by slapping Bruce Pearl with a three-year show-cause penalty: Coaches are responsible for their programs.

The sanctions mean it will be harder for the former Tennessee men's basketball coach to get another college job anytime soon. Before hiring Pearl, a school must tell the NCAA why it wants him and be prepared to face its own penalties

for giving him a job.

"As these allegations are becoming more and more regular, it's very clear that a head coach is being held responsible for his program," said Britton Banowsky, Conference USA commissioner and vice-chair of the NCAA's Committee on Infractions.

The NCAA punished Pearl for lying to investigators about improperly hosting recruits at his home and urging others to do the same. Former Pearl assistants Tony Jones, Jason Shay and Steve Forbes face the same sanctions, except they were only given one-year show-cause penalties for their own roles in misleading the NCAA.

Tennessee will not face any sanctions beyond those self-imposed in response to the two-year investigation into

recruiting by Pearl's program and the football program under then-coach Lane Kiffin.

University officials had self-imposed a two-year probationary period, which begins Wednesday, and have placed additional recruiting restrictions on current basketball coach Cuonzo Martin and football coach Derek Dooley, neither of whom have been accused of any wrongdoing. Tennessee had previously docked the basketball staff's pay, and the Southeastern Conference suspended Pearl from eight league games during the 2010-11 season.

Tennessee dismisses DB Janzen Jackson

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. -- Tennessee coach Derek Dooley dismissed safety Janzen Jackson from the team on Wednesday as the junior's personal

issues had apparently become too much of a distraction.

Jackson withdrew from school in February to address personal issues but enrolled again in July and was reinstated to the Vols earlier this month as fall camp began. Dooley said after Tuesday's practice that Jackson would remain with the team on a day-to-day basis.

Dooley did not specify what actions ultimately led to the Lake Charles, La., native's dismissal on Wednesday.

"Our program has devoted a tremendous amount of energy, resources, support and care in an effort to help Janzen manage his personal challenges," Dooley said. "I will always be there to help him as a person, but there comes a time when a player's actions preclude him from the privilege of playing for the University of Tennessee football team.

"Although I'm disappointed with this outcome, we will never compromise the long-term organizational values and goals we maintain here at Tennessee," he said.

Jackson made 69 tackles and had a team-high five interceptions in 2010 which led to 114 interception return yards. He had made 22 starts in 23 games over two seasons with the Vols and was expected to be a key part of the Volunteers' secondary.

Dooley's decision comes as the Vols wrap up fall practice. The team had a mock game scheduled for Wednesday night and planned to take a few days off before beginning preparation for the Sept. 3 opener against Montana.

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Thomas returns from injury, looks ahead to start of 2011 season

BY MATT SIGLER
mcsigler@olemiss.edu

Senior Regina Thomas, the school's first All-American, returns from injury and leads Ole Miss volleyball into the 2011 season. Expectations are high for both her and the team after last season.

Despite missing the last seven matches of the season with a torn ACL, Thomas was named first team All-SEC and also earned third team All-American honors by the American Volleyball Coaches Association.

"All my work paid off, and everything just came together," Thomas said.

In her injury-shortened junior season, she led the team with 23 solo blocks and finished second on the team with 96 total blocks. She also earned preseason All-SEC honors heading into this season.

Her contributions, however, are not solely on the court, but also with her leadership. She is one of two seniors with Morgan Springer and is also a vocal and emotional leader on the team.

Her favorite Ole Miss volleyball memory also came last season in a shutout win over No. 12 LSU at home.

"We played LSU at home last year," Thomas said. "And we ended up beating them. They were ranked 12th in the nation at the time."

As her career draws to a close with the beginning of her senior season, Thomas has not totally ruled out volleyball in the future. A psychology major, Thomas may also pursue other academic and professional opportunities at the conclusion of her decorated career in the red and blue.

"If my career continues, I will definitely pick it up," Thomas said. "If not, I will be going to grad school and have to be a grown up and get a job."

This season will prove to be a true test for Thomas and her Rebel teammates, who believe

they have a legitimate shot at the SEC title, coming off a 19-11 season and an NCAA Tournament berth.

Ole Miss also looks to improve on its fourth-place finish in the Southeastern Conference and capture the SEC West, after finishing second to LSU in the division standings.

"I am so excited," Thomas said.

"We have a great group together with four new freshmen and 11 returning players. Our experience is really good right now, and our intensity in the gym has been awesome."

Thomas and the Rebels will open the 2011 season at the Burnt Orange Classic in Austin, Texas, this weekend, highlighted by an exhibition against the Israeli National Team and then a regular season match against Final Four participant Texas.

BURNS, continued from page 16

One of those young guys is Golson, who turned down a lucrative offer to play professional baseball from the Boston Red Sox after being drafted in the eighth round of the 2011 Major League Baseball draft.

Golson impressed Burns during fall camp and has worked himself into the cornerback rotation with Temple, Sawyer and Pendleton.

"He is a guy that's willing to learn," Burns said of Golson. "He's very coachable — talented and raw — but he's got everything it takes to be special."

While Golson and the other newcomers are learning on the fly, much of the focus in fall practice has been on sophomore Charles Sawyer. He looks to build on last season, where he displayed some inconsistency, but he also had flashes of brilliance.

"What I've worked on from

last season is just technique and fundamentals — ball skills and looking back for the ball," Sawyer said.

"Everything that a corner needs to be great."

The play of the newcomers has also stood out to Sawyer, who said their play has raised the level of the returning players.

"The freshmen have come in and made plays," Sawyer said.

Sawyer said competition is what this is all about.

"Look at the Philadelphia Eagles — that is how they are getting better," Sawyer said of Eagles players Nnamdi Asomugha, Dominique Rodgers-

Cromartie and Asante Samuel. "They have three great corners, and it's that competition that makes a great player reach his maximum potential."

Even though the defensive backs are young — one senior in the rotation, and a lack of depth at the position, Burns is happy with the unit looking at the season opener against BYU on Sept. 3.

"You couldn't be in a better situation as a coach," Burns said.

"We just have got to continue to get better every day.

"We've got a different standard now, and it's good to see that they are responding to the challenge."

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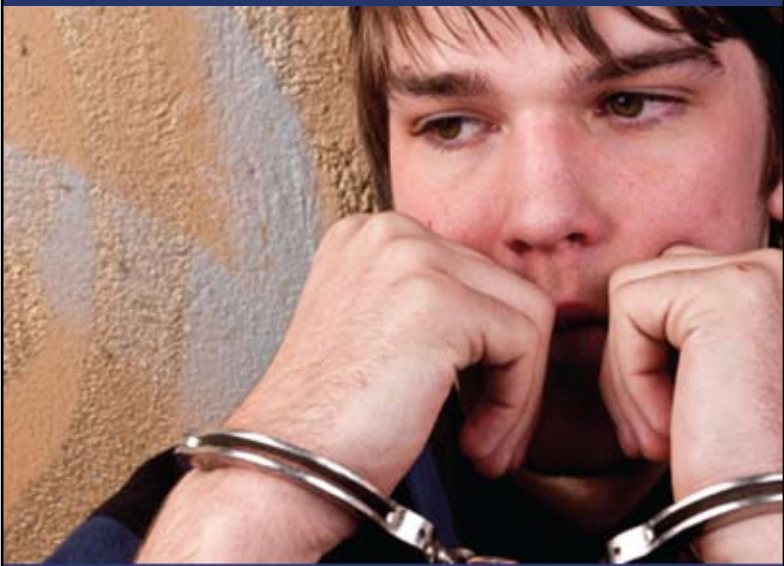
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Burns eyes improvement in the secondary



PETRE THOMAS | The Daily Mississippian

New defensive backs coach Keith Burns, senior Marcus Temple and sophomore Charles Sawyer, both defensive backs, celebrate an interception in fall practice. Temple and Sawyer will figure to contribute at cornerback this season.

BY BENNETT HIPPI
jbhipp@olemiss.edu

After a year when the Rebels secondary finished near the bottom of the SEC in every statistic, head coach Houston Nutt knew he had to make a change.

That something was bringing on new defensive backs coach Keith Burns.

Burns, who is entering his 28th year of coaching, was the defensive coordinator at USC, Arkansas and San Jose State before coaching the Kansas State secondary last season.

Ole Miss also added some new talent to the position with the signings of junior college transfer Wesley Pendelton,

freshman Senquez Golson and freshman Nick Brassell, who will likely get snaps at both wide receiver and defensive back this season.

With the influx of talent, expectations are that the unit will be much improved in 2011, coming off a season in which Ole Miss ranked 11th in the Southeastern Conference in passing yards per game, given up at 246.3 and dead last in the SEC in interceptions with six.

"We've just got great competition," Burns said of the defensive backs. "In the spring, we were a little bit handcuffed because we didn't have Marcus (Temple), but we've got Marcus back, Charles Sawyer, Wesley Pendelton and got a couple of

young freshmen that are pushing and are really talented."

Temple, a senior, missed spring practice due to a sports hernia but returned for fall camp and is pleased with the defensive back unit as a whole. A starter in all 12 games last season, Temple has taken on a leadership role in the young secondary.

"All of the young guys look up to me, and I like that," Temple said. "They get to come to me and ask questions."

Temple said he appreciates what the young defensive backs need because he had some people that he looked up to when he arrived.

See BURNS, PAGE 15

College Sports Talk

with Suzanne Floyd & Erik Ryan Solberg

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