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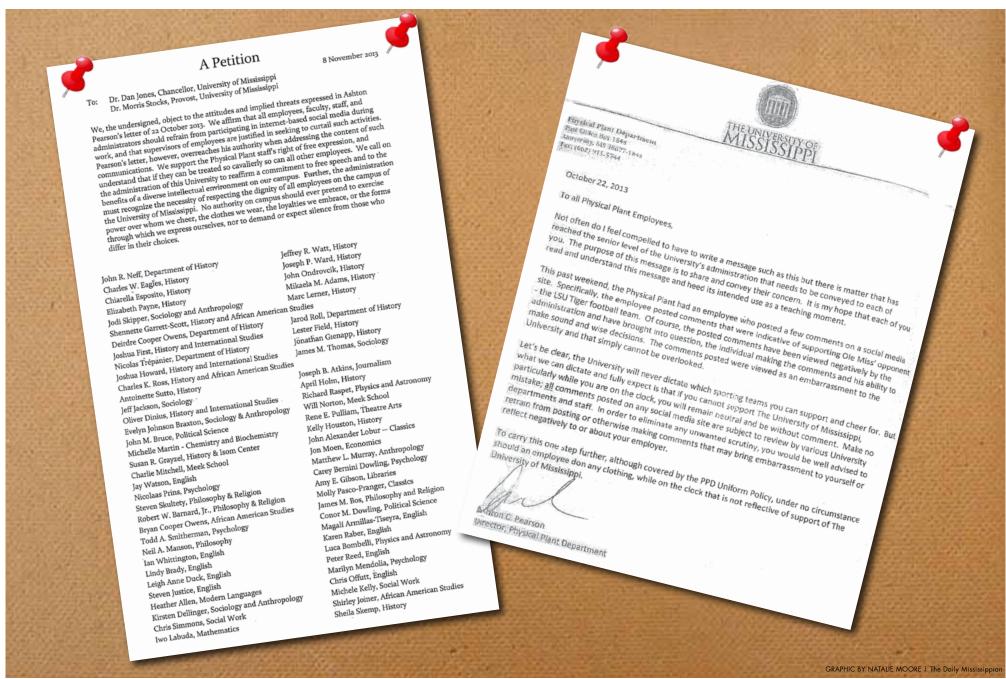
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# THE DAILY SISSIPPIAN THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2013

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

# Faculty sign petition regarding physical plant letter

Sixty-six faculty members signed a petition that addressed the letter Physical Plant Director Ashton Pearson sent to his employees Oct. 22. Pearson's letter, pictured below on the right, addressed a social media post by an employee while on the job. The petition, pictured on the left, called for the university to release a public statement addressing some of Pearson's provisions in the letter to his employees.



#### BY ADAM GANUCHEAU

dmeditor@gmail.com

Sixty-six faculty members representing 20 University of Mississippi departments Physical Plant Director Ashton Pearson distributed to all physical plant employees Oct. 22. The petition's author, associate professor of history and director of the university's Center for Civil War Research John Neff, delivered the petition, which can be found in its entirety on page one of today's issue of The DM, to the offices of Chancellor Dan Jones and Provost Morris Stocks on Nov.

8. Pearson's letter is also printed on page one.

"This petition is about respect for all employees," Neff said. "I felt certain that the university would not cheerfully or schools signed a petition agree with many of the providrafted in response to a letter sions in (Pearson's) letter. This was an effort to try to give the administration an opportunity to distance themselves from some of (the letter's) components."

> Jones gave The Daily Mississippian a statement Wednesday afternoon in response to the petition.

> "The Provost and I share a commitment to free speech and a diverse intellectual environment and agree that super

visors have the right to curtail the use of social media during work hours," Jones said. "We have shared our personal commitment to those values in conversations with faculty who expressed concern, and those who have ongoing con-

Neff drafted the petition and distributed it via email to several department heads, faculty and staff members on campus. He never received a response from the chancellor or the provost – something he is hopeful will be changed before the end of the week.

"I would like the administration to make a public announcement about where they stand in relationship to Ashton Pearson's more outrageous comments about intellectual restraint and demanding silence if you can't support the university," Neff said. "Someporting social media post was so grievous that it inspired Pearson to think he has enormous amount of control over what his employees say, think or do."

According to Neff, one part of the petition cites the last provision of the university's Institutional Core Values: "The University of Mississippi honors the dignity of all employees and compensates them fairly."

"The administration must recognize the dignity of all employees on the campus of the University of Mississippi," the petition reads. "No authority on campus should ever pretend to exercise power over we continue to be available to how the sin of an LSU-sup- whom we cheer, the clothed we wear, the loyalties we embrace, or the forms through which we express ourselves."

> Neff said the petition is not an attack on the university and does not intend to accuse the university of any wrongdoing.

"We are all employees of the university and there should never be any rules that suggest that some have access to certain rights over others," he

#### OPINION:

TAR BALL SQUABBLE: BP & THE SPILL

HER NAME WAS RENISHA **McB**ride

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NO THREAT FOUND AFTER SUSPICIOUS PACKAGE **REPORTED** 



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COLUMN

# Tar ball squabble: BP & the spill



BY NEAL MCMILLIN tnmcmill@go.olemiss.edu

"I was out there yesterday and stepped all in it," said Gulf Shores tourist John Henson this summer to the AP reporter Jay Reeves. Over three years after the Deepwater Horizon Gulf of Mexico oil spill, tar balls still plague the soles of sandy feet. British Petroleum (BP), the company most responsible, is anxious to wash its own feet of the publicity, environmental and social fiasco.

According to the Huffington Post, after spending \$14 billion on cleanup, the BP-funded crews have stopped cleanup work throughout the Gulf Coast, sans South Louisiana. The company has spent an estimated comprehensive total of \$42 billion on spill related

costs. To put that number in context, \$42 billion is almost half of Mississippi's yearly GDP. The relevant questions are: will the company be able to abdicate further responsibility for the damages? Has BP paid its dues?

In a room with no microphones, BP would probably scream that it has paid more than enough for the company's damage. After all, the company has provided a steady supply of American oil for decades. Does the past count for nothing?

Now, BP's attorneys are disputing the proper payout for a multi-billion dollar settlement in Louisiana. Apparently, the courts are responding to the pressure. In October, the 5th Circuit panel rejected U.S. District Judge Carl Barbier's previous agreement with the company's disaster compensation package.

Just last month in a rare admission, BP executive James Dupree affirmed that the company's lack of emergency preparedness worsened the spill's

damage. The company used a capping stack to stop the spill 87 days after the explosion. The capping option was not the first strategy employed. Blaming the initial spill-stopping engineering failures is less beneficial than to realize the reason for the delay. BP had not built a device for capping potential spills.

The company must have realized the risk of equipment failure. Standard practice is to consider all devices deployed in open salt water as destructible. The lack of foresight to have a capping device ready to deploy should be punished. Businesses seek to cut cost by storing less spare infrastructure, accepting risk and moving maintenance repairs to the next quarter. Like a student skipping a class, the companies have a right to reduce cost. Yet with that license, companies have responsibility to remediate the consequences of their negligence. The frustrating aspect of Dupree's admission is that constructing a capping stack could have

been done cheaply prior to the spill.

BP is not afraid to go directly after the U.S. government. According to the Houston Chronicle, this August the company convicted of manslaughter sued the government to contest the EPA sanctions. BP has been a major oil supplier to the military. Now the sanctions cost the company an estimated \$1.9 billion in foregone military contract revenue.

The company keeps dodging two non-monetary numbers. The explosion also cost 11 lives and bled more than 200 million gallons of oil into the Gulf's azure waters.

The Huffington Post reports that BP has claimed to encounter widespread fraud in the settlement payments. Two attorneys in Mobile were sited for dishonest claims. Judge Barbier has stated that accusations of rampant fraud are baseless

BP has also challenged the

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## MISSISSIPPIAN

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

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



MEMBER NEWSPAPER

# OPINION

**COLUMN** 

# Her name was Renisha McBride



BY HOPE OWENS-WILSON

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It is extremely early in the morning. It is dark. You are alone, and you have just been in a car accident. You are confused and cannot find anyone around to offer assistance, so you walk a mile in the direction of a residential area to ask for help. You are hoping someone will be kind enough to call 911 for you, maybe even let you sit in their house while help comes. You arrive at a house. It looks friendly enough. You knock on the door and the next thing you know there is an impenetrable darkness. All you wanted was help.\*

The story of Renisha Mc-Bride is a sad one with no definitive answers. Initial reports stated that her body was dumped, and she was murdered, but eventually as interest in the story grew, it became known that she in fact was killed while attempting to ask for help.

These stories of black people asking for help and being killed should come as a

surprise, but the unfortunate problem is these occurrences are far more normal than one would think. Just two months ago a young man named Jonathan Ferrell was killed under similar circumstances except this time he was killed by the very people who were meant to help him, the police. Some may say these killings have nothing to do with race and that the George Zimmerman case settled these issues, but I beg to differ.

How long can we continue to ignore the senseless killing of people of color, transpeople and people from religious minorities? The names of these people are piling in a litany of the forgotten, whose souls cry for us to take heed and stop this violence. I, for one, refuse to forget. Her name was Islan Nettles. His name was Jonathan Ferrell. His name was Trayvon Martin. Her name was Paramjit Kaur. Her name was Renisha McBride.

\*This portion is in no way meant to reflect the exact events of what happened to Renisha McBride. It is meant as an anecdote only.

Hope Owens-Wilson is senior African-American studies major from Jackson.

#### $BP_{2}$

continued from page 2

math. The company contends that 34 million gallons emptied into the Gulf were "recovered" and thus should not count against them. In the drawn-out legal process, the company has much greater leeway than the workers on the platform or the fauna on the beaches did during that summer. The lesson is to expect BP to press any advantage it sees.

The company continues to pursue a woe-is-me rhetoric. Do not feel sorry for the corporation. A BP representative said the payments are "historic resolutions that avoid years of lengthy litigation." Likely, the speaker intended to emphasize the company's rapid benevolence towards the affected. In reality, quicker settlements help the company's public perception and future earnings.

BP plays a PR game. The company has spent over \$100 million for positive advertising since the spill. After a reluctant concession, BP now happily touts the \$105 million payment to Gulf Coast health programs, as if it were an inspired country club golf tournament charity donation. Still, a Huffington Post poll determined that 43 percent of Americans harbor a negative view towards the company.

One area where haste is strenuously avoided by BP is the courtroom. Like opponents to school integration,

the company has employed abdicates responsibility. a delay, delay, delay strategy. Federal courts have often complied. For example, the trial of David Rainey, a BP vice president, has been delayed five months to March 10, 2014. The reason given was to allow Rainey more time to construct his defense against the obstruction of justice charges.

The strategy makes sense. The courts have occasionally questioned company representatives harshly. Michael Kunzelman reported that BP executive Mark Bly was challenged for the firm's insistence that only rig worker mistakes caused the spill. Transocean attorney Brad Brian asked a hard question: "Did you think it was relevant to your investigation whether the people on the shore were making decisions that increased risk in order to save money?" Bly retorted that the internal investigation was "more driven by the accident." By focusing on the mistakes of the true victims, the rig workers, the

One senses that BP would rather write a humongous check than have the narrative of the spill change from "accident" to "disaster caused by blatant cost-saving negligence." The squabble over the technicalities of the 2010 spill will continue. Do not expect the spill to cause structural change. BP is fiercely resilient. In the meantime, expect more petroleum ads to be shown before your next You-Tube video.

Neal McMillin is a senior southern studies major from Madison.





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#EverybodysTent

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# No threat found after suspicious package reported



THOMAS GRANING | The Daily Mississippian

BY THOMAS GRANING thedmphotos@gmail.com

No threat was found after an employee in Martindale Hall

reported a suspicious package Wednesday afternoon.

According to Noel Wilkin, associate provost and a member of the Crisis Action Team, officials were called to the scene about 10:30 Wednesday morning after an employee opened a letter.

"An employee opened a transcript and had a reaction through some itchiness in her hands and felt flushed," Wilkin said. "She contacted (University Police Department)."

Officials from UPD, FBI, the Oxford Fire Department Hazmat team and paramedics from Baptist Memorial Hospital responded to the scene. One lane of All American Drive was blocked by emergency vehicles, slowing traffic at the scene.

"They contained the office and secured the package," Wilkin said. "They tested the package to make sure it contained no bio-hazards or threats. There were no threats or bio-hazards identified."

Wilkin said the scene was determined not to pose any threat, and an all-clear was given by noon.

Adam Ganucheau contributed to this report.



Officials investigate a suspicious package at Martindale Hall on Wednesday.

# Nisolo Shoe Brand stops in Oxford today

**BY CATY CAMBRON** 

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Socially-conscious brand Nisolo is set to stop in Oxford today as part of its two-part Holiday Tour. Nisolo was founded in Oxford by Ole Miss alumnus Patrick Woodyard, CEO of Nisolo, just over two years ago in October of 2011.

Based out of Nashville, the Nisolo shoe brand sells handmade leather shoes and accessories for both men and women. All Nisolo products are created by members and artists of the Trujillo community in Peru. Nisolo means "not alone" in Spanish.

"This company is a social enterprise striving to empower impoverished artisans through Mendez and Roxana. iob creation by offering a "A major key to our success"

quality-driven, stylish line of handmade leather footwear," Woodyard said.

Nisolo's mission is essentially to present a socially conscious brand to a society of consumers while giving the chance for talented people to make a living. Nisolo is set to tour 20 different cities across the U.S. as part of their Holiday Tour.

Woodyard believes his company stands out from the rest of similar shoe ideas, such as TOMs, because Nisolo aims to focus on quality, comfort, price and style while sharing the story of empowerment and change through their brand.

Woodyard and the Nisolo team spent two years working in Peru before they met their four shoemakers: Willan, Juan,

is the ability to maintain a quality and transparent brand that consumers can rely on," Woodyard said.

Junior international studies major and host of the event Murray Miller believes that the growing trend of conscious consumerism amongst college students and young people is what makes Oxford a perfect stop for the Holiday Tour.

"So many people here, students, faculty, fraternities, sororities and other organizations, want Nisolo to do well and want to support the company," Miller said. "People want their purchases to serve a greater good."

The Nisolo Oxford open house begins tonight at 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. The show is located at 1527 Garfield Avenue in Oxford.



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# COMPASSION

on—a—stick-

OCTOBER 31, 2013

Bringing the Oxford-University Community Art, Music, Literature and Culture on a Stick

VOL. 1 NO. 4

# Us

-on-a-stick-

## BY EMILY CRAWFORD & CLARA TURNAGE

thedmfeatures@gmail.com

With the semester coming to an end, the stress of projects, papers and extra curricular obligations that have taken over our lives, the only thing on our minds is the light – Thanksgiving Break – at the end of the tunnel.

But with the holidays just around the corner, it's good to take a step back and remember how fortunate we are to live in a community that cares so much about our university. Sometimes we forget that the city is made up of more than students, the campus and the Square.

This issue of On-A-Stick is dedicated to giving back and providing service opportunities for Oxford. We hope you learn about some of the selfless services that Oxford provides for the community and that they inspire you to give back.

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# Oxford Boys and Girls provides education

BY MCKENNA WIERMAN

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As the holiday season approaches, many people take a moment to reflect on the things for which they are thankful and try to do their part to give back the community.

One organization that people are partaking in is the Boys & Girls Club of Oxford-Lafayette County, which is giving back to the community in a big way. Providing a weekday after-school program and summer camp, the Boys & Girls Club exists solely to serve the youth of the community.

"We are not a babysitting service," said Zell Long, chief professional officer for the Boys & Girls Clubs of North Mississippi. "We are a youth development organization, offering the opportunity for the youth in the community to have a safe place to go in the afternoon."

In the late afternoon, particularly the hours of 3-6 p.m., many boys and girls are left by themselves while a parent or guardian is working. It is during this time many of these children and young adults are at the highest risk for making unsafe decisions.

The Boys & Girls Club is a national organization, which provides a safe space for children and adolescents to go to after school. It's a place where they can be constructive, creative and cared for. Going to the Boys & Girls Club in the afternoon allows participants to gain confidence needed for life success as well as prepare them to take on future responsibilities.

"Most people think of a club as a quiet place, where there's no talking and no fun," Long said. "The Boys & Girls Club isn't like that — it's fun. Fun with a purpose."

Arts and crafts, healthy life-

styles, education and career development programs are just some of the many things the Boys & Girls Club has to offer. Special programs, such as Passport to Manhood, SMART Girls and SMART Moves, focus on teaching participants vital developmental skills such as decision making, developing a healthy lifestyle, developing positive self image and growing leadership skills.

"We also have speakers who come and talk with the boys and girls," Long said. "It's all to enhance the program."

The Boys & Girls Club also provides after-school recreational activities, academic assistance, holiday activities and computer assistance. Each activity is geared towards the strengthening of the individual, character development and building a strong support system for participants.

Currently, the Oxford Boys & Girls Club serves about 125 youths between the ages of 8-16 every weekday.

The Boys & Girls Club in Oxford held a pep rally Wednesday featuring the Ole Miss Rebel cheerleaders and band members.

"It's really just in preparation for the game, to get the kids excited," said Lamont Watkins, director of the Boys & Girls Club on Washington Avenue.

Watkins encourages any of the Ole Miss faculty, staff and students interested in volunteering at the Boys & Girls Club to come by and fill out an application.

"We hope to do a Thanksgiving meal in the future, but that's still in the works," Watkins said.



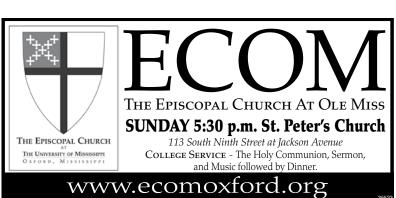
KATIE WILLIAMSON | The Daily Mississippian



KATIE WILLIAMSON | The Daily Mississippic

Rebel and the Ole Miss cheerleaders visit the Boys and Girls Club in Oxford Wednesday.







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# Feeding the hungry in Oxford



FILE PHOTO (THOMAS GRANING) I The Daily Mississippian

Volunteers work to unload a shipment of food at The Food Pantry in Oxford in April.

#### BY AUDREY HALL

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Mississippi's nickname, "the Hospitality State" is well-earned, and Oxford is adding to the tra-Pantry and More Than A Meal for the hungry. Here are details at The University of Mississippi,

every Tuesday afternoon at 5 good food.

ty. More Than A Meal is a great fundraisers. time for our community to come the charity's board.

In fact, at each meal there are tutor and play with the kids or month of November. serve food to the attendees. Sin- Located on Molly Barr Road

gle mothers, senior citizens and the goal of the Pantry is to profamilies who struggle to get by on a daily basis are among those whom More Than A Meal aims and people over 65 years old on

Mingling and talking is sometimes the most important duty dition this holiday season. The for volunteers on these Tuesday night gatherings, continuing the are two local nonprofit charities theme of fellowship and commuthat provide more than just meals nity. Volunteers are still encouraged to come as early as 4 p.m. to on how everyone, especially those help set up and get the food ready.

Ole Miss's Greek system has can give back to their community. already begun to reach out to Following the school calendar, More Than a Meal and serve More Than A Meal takes place their community through donations. Kappa Sigma and Alpha p.m. to provide dinner that night Omicron Pi have donated, their at the Stone Center on Washing- gifts highlighting the campus's ton Avenue. The food is for all generosity. It is another example who are hungry, but not just for of what students at Ole Miss can do for their community, as most Christian mentality of More Than A Meal's funds makes a difference in a communi- come from private donations and

Similarly, the Pantry receives together and share in a meal," most of its support through monsaid Kristy Bridgers, president of etary donations. They also take edibles.

"We don't turn down any

vide food to those who need it. They provide food for shut-ins Thursdays, while on Wednesdays they serve families younger than 65. According to Wedge, this past Wednesday saw 78 families receive a warm meal and this past Thursday helped 58 families.

The Pantry is supported with more examples of generosity from local churches. Oxford-University United Methodist Church makes its contribution through a project called Empty Bowls, and Oxford Church of Christ is also a big supporter of the Pantry.

Opportunities for volunteers are on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8:45-11:30 a.m., when the food is served.

Both More Than A Meal and the Pantry rely on the support of the city of Oxford. Their missions are to feed as many families as they can. Therefore, they create wonderful opportunities for the students and faculty of The University of Mississippi to get involved in their community. For opportunities for Ole Miss stu-food," said Carol Wedge, the those students who are also lookdents and volunteers to come Pantry's food manager for the ing for service hours, this is a phenomenal way to give back. Go and experience it for yourself.

# Christmas store provides toys to kids

BY GILLY DREYER

ngdreyer@go.olemiss.edu

The Christmas Store, one of Oxford's fine Christmas traditions, is gearing up for its 34th year of service. Sponsored by The Rotary Club of Oxford-Ole Miss and the Interfaith Compassion Ministry, Christmas Store collects donations to help provide toys and gifts for children in Oxford and Lafayette County. Every holiday season the Rotary Club and the Interfaith Compassion Ministry team up in order to make the store a success.

"Last year we served over 800 children from over 325 families," said Jonathan Maddox, Rotary Club service chairman and Christmas Store contributor.

The Rotary Club is an international organization with the purpose of bringing together business and professional leaders in order to provide humanitarian services, encourage ethical behaviors and build peace and goodwill throughout the world.

The local branch of the Rotary Club began in the fall of 2005 and officially received its charter as The Rotary Club of Oxford-Ole Miss on April 25,

Along with the Christmas Store, Rotary also currently supports the Power Sharing of Knowledge, Tunes and Tails and the Pantry: all of which are local community service

The Interfaith Compassion Ministry has a similar mission. Funded by the nonprofit organization United Way of Oxford-Lafayette, the ministry is a consortium of churches that assists individual need through crisis situations, explained director Lena Wiley. The ministry strives to provide aid and support with certain basic

needs such as rent, utilities and prescription drug programs in convenient locations for those in the community facing these challenging situations.

"The Christmas Store is under our umbrella because of our charitable status," Wiley said.

Each year the Christmas Store receives applications from schools, churches and the Interfaith Compassion Ministry for eligible children up to age 14. After the applications have been received, a committee of volunteers assembles in order to confirm need. Following this process, the parents of eligible children are invited to pick up a book and two toys

The 2012 holiday season was a great success for the Christmas Store.

"Participation from the local community is just as important as monetary contribution," Maddox said.

The Christmas Store provides many ways and opportunities for Ole Miss students and the Oxford community to get involved.

"Monetary donations are a great need in order to cover the cost of the two toys and one book that we purchase for each child," said Maddox.

Dec. 7 is the sorting and preparation day and the big event is on Dec. 14, both of which are in need of volun-

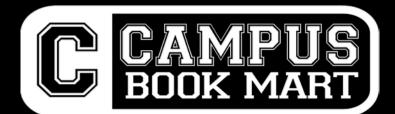
The Christmas Store is an easy way to bring Christmas to everyone around Oxford.



# BASKETBA

The Daily Mississippian and Rebel Radio are giving away 3 season tickets to all Men's and Women's Ole Miss basketball home games!

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Only one entry per person.

Winner will be announced in a live drawing on Rebel Radio during the morning sports show Wednesday, November 20, 2013 between 10 and 11 a.m. Enter today at Campus Book Mart. Keep listening to 92.1 Rebel Radio to find out who wins!

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# Kids grab books at the library and 'Read with Rover'

BY SARA KIPARIZOSKA

skipariz@go.olemiss.edu

Have you ever wanted to read and tell stories to someone who is always there to listen? The Lafayette County & Oxford Public Library and the Oxford Lafayette Humane Society are now making this possible for kids in Oxford through Reading with Rover.

The two nonprofits have collaborated to create an innovative opportunity for young readers to practice their reading skills while being surrounded by the friendliest dogs of the city. The best part about Reading with Rover is that kids (as well as kids at heart) can be a part of it. The local humane society invites enthusiastic volunteers to help with the popular program.

Reading with Rover happens on the second Saturday of each month from 10:30-11:30 a.m. at the Lafayette County & Oxford Public Library. Reference librarian Corey Vinson is usually at the library on Saturdays and always enjoys seeing the happy

"Reading with Rover adds a really nice bit of a pleasant surprise," Vinson said "It brightens up a lot of the kids that would happen to be here anyways especially if their parents were using the library. Reading with Rover is not just fun for the kids and the volunteers, but it also allows the young readers to practice reading in a comfortable environment."

Regardless of the child's reading level, anyone is welcome to attend the program. Reading with Rover gives the community a fun, innovative way to spend a Saturday morning.

Reading with Rover not only encourages young members of the community to be more engaged, but also gives the dogs a change of scenery and a break from the shelter.

For the kid at heart, Reading with Rover provides an opportunity to connect with the community and help instill the importance of reading in the younger generation. Expectations of a Reading with Rover volunteer include transporting the dogs from



SARAH KIPARIZOSKA | The Daily Mississippian

Kids participate in Reading with Rover event at the Lafayette County and Oxford Public Library on a Saturday morning.

the shelter to the library and back. Additionally, the volunteers must accompany and supervise the dogs during the program.

courages anyone over 16 humane society's director at years of age who loves dogs and kids to participate in the

To become a Reading with The Humane Society en- Rover volunteer, email the

OLHSdirector@gmail.com or call the Humane Society at (662) 236-7631 on Monday-Saturday from noon to 5 p.m.



# The Tad Pad @ 7 pm

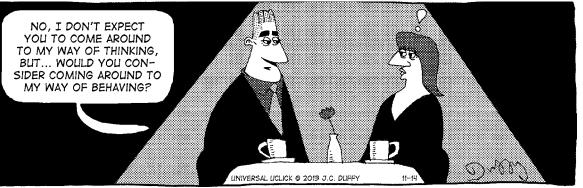




By Jim Davis I'M CHANGING YOUR NAME TO ROSCOE! TIME

THE FUSCO BROTHERS

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**DIFFICULTY LEVEL** 

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ON-A-STICK | 14 NOVEMBER 2013 | THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN | PAGE 9

# Mississippi Blood Services: 15 Years of Saving Lives

BY CLANCY SMITH

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Saving three lives in approximately 45 minutes comes at the small price of a pinch and a prick for people who visit and donate to Mississippi Blood Services.

This nonprofit donation organization services 49 hospitals in the state of Mississippi. Misssissippi Blood Services has nine drawing centers throughout the state with distribution hubs in Jackson, Oxford and Greenville, and its corporate office is located in Flowood.

Before Mississippi Blood Services formed in 1979, hospitals that needed blood for their patients were forced to fend for themselves.

"The basic idea was that this would take care of the needs of Mississippi," said Lolita Gregory, the regional manager for Mississippi Blood Services.

The Oxford branch of Mississippi Blood Services was developed in the late 1990s and is going on 15 years of operation. Jennifer Hudson, a local marketing representative for Mississippi Blood Services in Oxford, said being in a college town has helped the organization generate support.

"We have several other hubs that we function throughout the state and certainly we do think that the Oxford hub generates a lot of donations just due to the involvement and interaction that we have with the students on campus," Hudson said.

University of Mississippi students agree that although donating blood may not seem fun, it's a worthy cause.

"Even though it might make

you uncomfortable for a little while it's worth it in the long run because it's saving someone's life," said Kay Kay DeRossette, Ole Miss senior and Miss Ole Miss.

Weekly drives are hosted at Ole Miss on the Student Union Plaza in addition to other theme-related drives hosted by different organiza-

"We love a theme," Gregory said. "Themes seem to work really well."

For the week of Halloween, Mississippi Blood Services hosted a Transylvania Bowl Blood Drive in which Ole Miss students competed against Mississippi State students to see which school could donate the most blood. Ole Miss won and provided a donor from that week the opportunity to receive a \$1500 scholarship.

"We try to keep donating blood a fun experience to keep donors coming back," Hudson said.

Other popular incentives that Mississippi Blood Services offers include gift cards to restaurants and movie passes. A t-shirt is given to everyone who donates blood.

As the leading trauma center in the state, The University of Mississippi Medical Center is the biggest recipient of donated blood. Gregory said it is crucial that the community remain educated about the importance of donating blood.

"We want to be able to take care of Mississippi," Gregory said. "We don't want to have to go outside of Mississippi and ask Tennessee for help or Arkansas, and so in doing that, the strongest message for us is making sure people understand not only the impor-



CHRISTINA HUFF | The Daily Mississippia



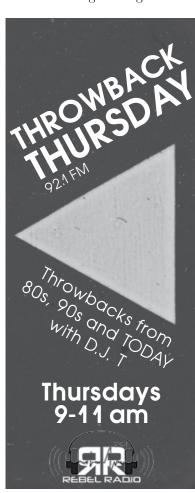
Top to Bottom: Adam Goodman donates blood during a blood drive Wednesday. The Mississippi Blood Services bus during the blood

tance of donating blood but the year. donating blood on a regular basis."

the center hosts throughout

Blood can be donated every 56 days. People wanting to donate blood can visit the

local MBS Hub in Oxford or participate in any of the many drives.







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# Volleyball hosts Georgia, Kentucky this weekend

BY TYLER BISCHOFF

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The Ole Miss volleyball team will host two games this weekend as Georgia (18-8, 8-6 Southeastern Conference) and No. 17 Kentucky (18-6, 10-3 SEC) come to Oxford.

The Rebels just finished a stretch of five games in the first 10 days of November in which Ole Miss (13-13, 3-10 SEC) went 2-3. The back-toback wins Ole Miss posted over Mississippi State and Tennessee were a relief in an SEC season that saw the Rebels start 1-9.

"The best part about this young team is while we have some inexperience, they are very good in the gym every week," head coach Joe Getzin said. "Having a good attitude in the practice gym hasn't been a problem for us at all."

Getzin has relied on youth on all season. Of the 12 players who played in the last match against Texas A&M, seven were freshmen or sophomores; two more players are juniors that transferred to Ole Miss and are playing in their first SEC season.

The Rebels sit at 11th in the 13-team SEC standings, ahead of Mississippi State and Tennessee.

"Overall, the spirits are good, and they're believing in themselves," Getzin said.

Ole Miss has struggled defensively this year, as they are last in the SEC with 12.68 digs per set. Junior defensive specialist Rachel McLamore saw an increase in playing time against Texas A&M and turned in a 12-dig performance. Freshman setter Aubrey Edie has picked up her defensive game by posting 27 digs in the last three matches. Also, junior libero Cara Fisher has posted 43 digs in the last three matches.

"That's one area throughout the year we've put a lot of emphasis on," Getzin said of defense. "We've got to continue to improve on that. And if we can hit the numbers that

we hit over this last stretch, we'll be in a great spot."

Although Ole Miss took a step back offensively against Texas A&M, in the matches prior to that, the offense was hot. Against Arkansas, Mississippi State and Tennessee Ole Miss hit .299 or better in all three matches. Ole Miss has moved up to ninth in the conference with a season hitting percentage of .219.

Sophomore middle blocker Nakeyta Clair has led the way offensively, as she has posted 59 kills and just 15 attack errors over the last four matches. Freshman right-side hitter Melanie Crow has also posted good numbers over the past four games with 45 kills and 19 digs.

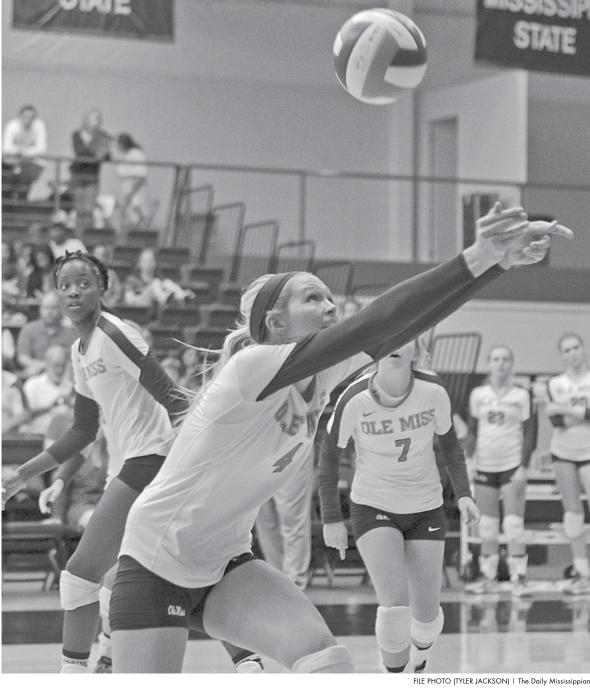
Georgia is fifth in the SEC standings and has won four of their last six matches. The Bulldogs are led defensively by Allison Summers who averages 4.37 digs per set, the fifth-best mark in the SEC. Ole Miss took Georgia to five sets earlier this season before falling 2-3.

Kentucky, which has won five of six, comes in as the third best blocking team in the SEC with 2.53 per set. Alexandra Morgan and Sara Schwarzwalder are both in the top 10 of the SEC in individual blocks per set. They are second best duo in the SEC with 2.19 blocks per set. Ole Miss was swept by Kentucky in early October.

Ole Miss will host Georgia Friday night at 6:00 p.m. and Kentucky on Sunday at 1:30 p.m. at the Gillom Center.

For continuing coverage of Ole Miss volleyball, follow @Tyler RSR and Othedm sports on





Aubrey Edie hits the ball during a match earlier this season.



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**OLE MISS SPORTS INFORMATION** 

# Rebels add talented foursome in fall signing period

OXFORD, Miss. - Ole Miss head coach Andy Kennedy announced the signing of four very talented players Wednesday, as J.T. Escobar, Marcanvis Hymon, Stefan Moody and Rauno Nurger all signed national letters of intent to join the Rebels for the 2014-15 academic year.

A native of Tallahassee, Fla., the 6-1 Escobar is a two-time Florida Coaches Athletic Association Class 3A All-State selection and averaged 18.4 points per game last season at The Maclay School. He was also named the Florida District 1 Class 3A Player of the Year and shot 91 percent from the free-throw line as a junior. Escobar transferred to Florida A&M University High School for his senior season and was elected Class President. He has played with AAU teams the Lee Bulls and the Atlanta Xpress.

"J.T. is an outstanding young man who can play either of the guard positions," Kennedy said. "His ability to stretch the defense along with his ability to facilitate off the dribble makes him a strong lead guard."

Hymon, a 6-7 forward out of Memphis, is rated the No. 132

overall prospect in the nation by Rivals.com and the No. 6 player in Tennessee by ESPN.com. The Whitehaven star averaged 15 points, 9 rebounds and 4 blocks per game as a junior for coach Scooter Lawrence, and helped lead the Tigers to a 19-11 record. Hymon also starred for Nortron Hurd on the Team Thad AAU squad from Memphis.

"Marcanvis is a very talented, versatile forward who plays above the rim," Kennedy said. "His exceptional length, coupled with his ability to knock down face-up jump shots gives him the versatility to help us at either forward spot."

An explosive guard originally from Kissimmee, Fla., Moody earned Sun Belt Conference Freshman of the Year honors at Florida Atlantic last season, posting averages of 15.7 points and 4.2 rebounds per game for the Owls before transferring to play for head coach Brian Hoberecht at Kilgore C.C. (Texas). Moody was also named second team all-conference and made 52 3-pointers at a 35.4-percent clip and 81.5 percent of his free throws. In his last 3 games at FAU, Moody av-

eraged 27.3 ppg while scoring 25 points against Arkansas-Little Rock, 28 points versus Florida International and 29 points against Troy. He averaged 27.9 points per game as a senior at Poinciana High School en route to Parade All-America honors, and was also named to the Florida Class 7A All-State team and the Orlando Sentinel All-Central Florida team as a senior.

"Stef is a 5-10 lead guard who is as explosive a player as we have had in our program during my eight-year tenure," Kennedy said. "His ability to make plays with the ball and the valuable experience he garnered as a freshman at FAU while earning Sun Belt Conference Freshman of the Year give him the ability to make an immediate impact in our program next year."

A 6-10 center originally from Estonia, Nurger transferred to Sunrise Christian Academy in Bel Aire, Kan., for his senior season. Nurger averaged 10.2 points and 5.4 boards per game for the Estonian National Team at last summer's 2013 FIBA U-20 European Championships and finished third among all players with 1.8 blocks



FILE PHOTO (ALEX EDWARDS) | The Daily Mississippian

Head coach Andy Kennedy looks on during a game.

per game. He also posted 10.3 points and 5.7 rebounds per game for Estonia at the 2012 FIBA U-20 European Championships.

"Rauno is a long, active big man who plays with great energy," Kennedy said. "His 7-2 wingspan gives him length and his exceptional timing will allow him to be a defensive presence for us from day one. We believe he has a huge upside."



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# Scott eyes return this weekend



FILE PHOTO (ALEX EDWARDS) | The Daily Mississippian

Jeff Scott runs the ball during a game earlier this season.

#### BY CODY THOMASON

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Ole Miss has had some struggles with injuries so far this season, but during the bye week, most players were able to recover from their injuries. One notable player who did not return to play, however, was senior running back Jeff Scott. The Rebels now look for him to return Saturday.

"He's doing good, the last few days he's looked great," running backs coach Derrick Nix said on Scott's progress. "We're gonna try to bring him a long slowly for the game on Saturday, have a couple packages to get him involved, just do what he can do and not try to run him into the ground right off the bat."

Scott, who was originally thought to be sidelined with a deep thigh bruise, has Miss footbal been held out because of a dy Thomason bone spur in his back that on Twitter.

has caused a nerve in his leg to flare up. The Miami native was on track for a stellar senior campaign before the injury occurred, as he had racked up 434 yards on 53 carries, an average of 8.2 yards per carry.

The 5-foot-7, 162-pounder hasn't seen game action since Ole Miss' heartbreaking 41-38 loss to Texas A&M on Oct. 12, a game he had just four carries for 10 yards.

Scott was also the primary punt returner for the team prior to his injury, a position he will reclaim depending on his health.

"He had a good day today," head coach Hugh Freeze said. "That's two days in a row, so unless something sets him back between now and then, I feel like he'll do that for us."

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



# 1. Bo Wallace could be an SEC First Teamer in '14

This is usually where I write something about Ole Miss' matchup with the weekend's opponent, but the Rebels are playing Troy and I think I'll pass.

Instead, I'd like to call attention to the fact that Ole Miss' very own Bo Wallace could very well be the Southeastern Conference's first-team quarterback in 2014. This may come as a surprise, but after an analysis of the conference's quarterback situation for next year, it makes sense.

Alabama's A.J. McCarron, Georgia's Aaron Murray, LSU's Zach Mettenberger, Mississippi State's Tyler Russell, Missouri's James Franklin, South Carolina's Connor Shaw and Vanderbilt's Austyn Carta-Samuels are all seniors this year. Johnny Manziel is more than likely leaving two years early for the NFL. And the returning quarterbacks at Arkansas, Auburn, Florida, Kentucky and Tennessee aren't on Wallace's level.

The one dark-horse challenger to Wallace for the distinction is Missouri's Maty Mauk, who's been sensational in place of an injured James Franklin. But if Wallace finishes out the year with more strong performances, I think he'll be the SEC's first-team quarterback in 2014.

# 2. #WeBelieve... not so much

Last year, Mississippi State, then 7-0 entering its matchup with Alabama, launched a campaign called #WeBelieve in support of the Bulldogs' chances of knocking off the Crimson Tide.

Mississippi State then went on to get destroyed by Alabama, 38-7, and then lost four of its five last games. This year, the Bulldogs hold a measly record of 4-5 headed into their matchup — and guaranteed loss — to the top-ranked Crimson Tide.

Personally, I see a correlation between the timing of the #WeBelieve campaign and the Bulldogs' subsequent struggles. The moral of the story: Don't mess with or get cute with Nick Saban. He'll ruin you and enjoy doing so.

## 3. Will Muschamp's hot seat heating up

Will Muschamp's hot seat in Gainesville is so hot right now that it's burning his ass.

Muschamp's Gators are fresh off a loss, at home no less, to Vanderbilt — the team's most recent defeat in a four-game losing streak. Furthermore, Florida, 4-5, must win two of its last three games against South Carolina, Georgia Southern and Florida State to go bowling. I just don't see that happening.

So, unless Muschamp gets a bit of a reprieve for the bevy of season-ending injuries the Gators have suffered this year, I'd be somewhat shocked if Florida athletics director Jeremy Foley doesn't decide to part ways with Muschamp.

# 4. James Franklin should leave Vandy

Unlike Muschamp, Vanderbilt's James Franklin has job security for days.

Since Franklin was hired in 2010, he's completely turned around a culture of losing that's been a mainstay of the Vanderbilt football program. He's attracted top-notch tal-

ent — smart guys who can also ball — and beaten up on teams in the SEC that have far more resources than the 'Dores. Vanderbilt, currently 5-4, could run the table to a second-consecutive 8-3 regular season finish. No doubt, Franklin has been impressive.

But if I were in Franklin's shoes, I'd move on. Franklin has achieved unprecedented success at Vanderbilt — perhaps unsustainable success — and even then fan support has been lacking. I think Franklin has hit the proverbial ceiling in Nashville, and it's time to cash out with jobs such as USC or maybe even Florida attainable.

## 5. Paul's Week 12 SEC Picks

Alabama-Mississippi State: #WeBelieve that Mississippi State has no chance in hell of beating Alabama on Saturday. The Crimson Tide keeps on rolling with a convincing 45-7 victory over the Bulldogs.

Auburn-Georgia: Awkward alert: Auburn quarterback Nick Marshall faces the school where he played defensive back as a freshman. Marshall won't be welcomed back by Mark Richt as he guides the Tigers to a 35-31 win over the Bulldogs

Florida-South Carolina: No offense, but Florida has no offense. Steve Spurrier and his 'Cocks lay the smack down on the Gators 35-10, keeping South Carolina's hopes of winning the SEC East alive.

Kentucky-Vanderbilt: This game should only be watched after consuming copious amounts of your preferred adult beverage because it's sure to be a snooze fest. Nonetheless, I'm picking the 'Dores 38-10 over the SEC's resident cellar dweller.

**Ole Miss-Troy:** Dr. Bo Wallace better feed Donte Moncrief and Laquon Treadwell early on because I doubt they'll be playing much in the second half. The Rebels blow out Troy 56-14, setting up a huge matchup with Missouri next weekend.

