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THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

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

Track and field complex closed for testing

BY LOGAN KIRKLAND
ltkirkla@go.olemiss.edu

University of Mississippi track and field home meets have been cancelled while the facility undergoes additional testing on recently discovered cavities.

University officials suspended the use of the Ole Miss Track and Field Complex while the grounds are investigated for worsened conditions, according to a press release sent April 3.

Athletic Director Ross Bjork said as soon as the issues of the facility were recognized, they immediately tested the field and discovered potential cavities under the surface, according to the press release.

“Safety and security are our first priority,” Bjork said. “Engineering experts are being brought in for further research and to help determine the best course of action for the short and long term.”

Joey Jones, associate director of Media and Public Relations for Ole Miss Athletics, said the issue was discovered because facilities are encouraged to look for improvement.

Jones said there was a concern for collected moisture on the surface around the facility. To be safe they decided to cancel meets at the complex, until more information can be acquired.

“It’s all up in the air right now,” Jones said. “You never want to put student-athletes or fans in harm’s way.”

Ashton Pearson, director of the Physical Plant Department, said the university is investigating this matter with a geotechnical consultant, and the area under the facility will be assessed with a ground-penetrating radar in order to determine the magnitude of the problem.

“Sinkholes are inherently dangerous due to the surface feature collapsing suddenly and unexpect-

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ASB tables Approval Voting Act of 2014



THOMAS GRANING | The Daily Mississippian

ASB senator Paul Neubert discusses a bill during Tuesday’s meeting.

BY ALLISON SLUSHER
thedmnews@gmail.com

The Associated Student Body senators voted Tuesday to table the Approval Voting Act of 2014.

The Approval Voting Act of 2014 was written to change the current ASB voting system.

The university currently uses a plurality voting system for personality elections and a runoff system for government elec-

tions. If the bill is passed, the voting system will change to an approval voting system. This would allow students to vote for as many candidates on the ballot as they so choose as well as write in one candidate.

Sen. Paul Neubert, member of the committee on governmental operations, presented the bill. Neubert said he thought writing the bill would help the student body by promoting democracy.

“It helps voters to express themselves better, more fully,” Neubert said. “That’s the point of democracy. That’s the point of upholding elections so voters can express themselves.”

Some senators spoke in support of the bill. Sen. John West said that while he voted to table the bill, he thought the bill offered a way to improve the election process on campus.

“I support the bill because I feel like it’s time to try some-

thing new,” West said. “I want for the senate to do more research on this, that’s why I support tabling this because I think it has the potential to make the voting process at Ole Miss more democratic. I think that, ultimately, that is what we should be striving to do. I don’t think the best system is the best system necessarily just because it’s the one we’ve been using for a long time or because it’s the one

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ASSOCIATED PRESS BRIEF

Judge OKs delay in Dutschke sentencing

OXFORD, Miss. (AP) — A federal judge has granted a request to provide the attorney for a man who pleaded guilty to sending poison-laced letters to President Barack Obama and other officials more time to review a pre-sentencing report.

James Everett Dutschke entered guilty pleas in January to

manufacturing ricin, mailing threatening communications and threatening the president.

WTVA-TV reports no sentencing date had been set while federal officials prepared the pre-sentencing report.

On Tuesday, the judge signed an order granting the attorney two more weeks.

ASSOCIATED PRESS BRIEF

Oxford to survey student sentiments

OXFORD, Miss. (AP) — Some students in the Oxford school district will be asked to take a survey on the quality of the learning environment at their schools.

Authorities tell WTVA-TV that participation by the district’s sixth, eighth and 10th graders will be voluntary.

The survey, called the

Pride Survey, asks questions based on teacher-student relationships, school safety, student engagement, bullying and drug and alcohol use. Responses are to be submitted anonymously.

District officials say parents can view a copy of the survey at the principal’s office of their child’s school.

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**THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN
EDITORIAL STAFF:**

LACEY RUSSELL
editor-in-chief
dmeditor@gmail.com

PHIL MCCAUSLAND
managing editor
dmmanaging@gmail.com

GRANT BEEBE
senior editor

SARAH PARRISH
copy chief
thedmcopy@gmail.com

CATY CAMBRON
ALLISON SLUSHER
news editors
thedmnews@gmail.com

TIM ABRAM
opinion editor
thedmopinion@gmail.com

EMILY CRAWFORD
lifestyles editor
thedmfeatures@gmail.com

CLARA TURNAGE
asst. lifestyles editor
thedmfeatures@gmail.com

HAWLEY MARTIN
sports editor
thedmsports@gmail.com

CASEY HOLLIDAY
KENDYL NOON
online editors
thedmweb@gmail.com

BRACEY HARRIS
multimedia editor
thedmweb@gmail.com

THOMAS GRANING
photography editor
thedmpotos@gmail.com

TISHA COLEMAN
NATALIE MOORE
design editors

ADVERTISING STAFF:

MATT ZELENIK
advertising sales manager
dmads@olemiss.edu

EMILY FORSYTHE
DAVID JONES
JAMIE KENDRICK
EVAN MILLER
account executives

MARA BENSING
FARRELL LAWO
KRISTEN SALTZMAN
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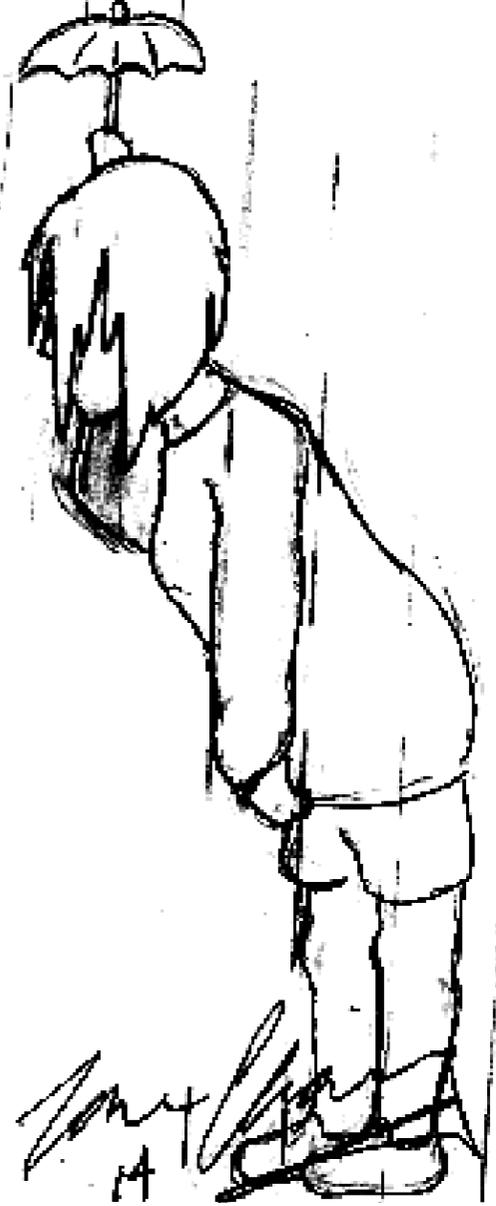
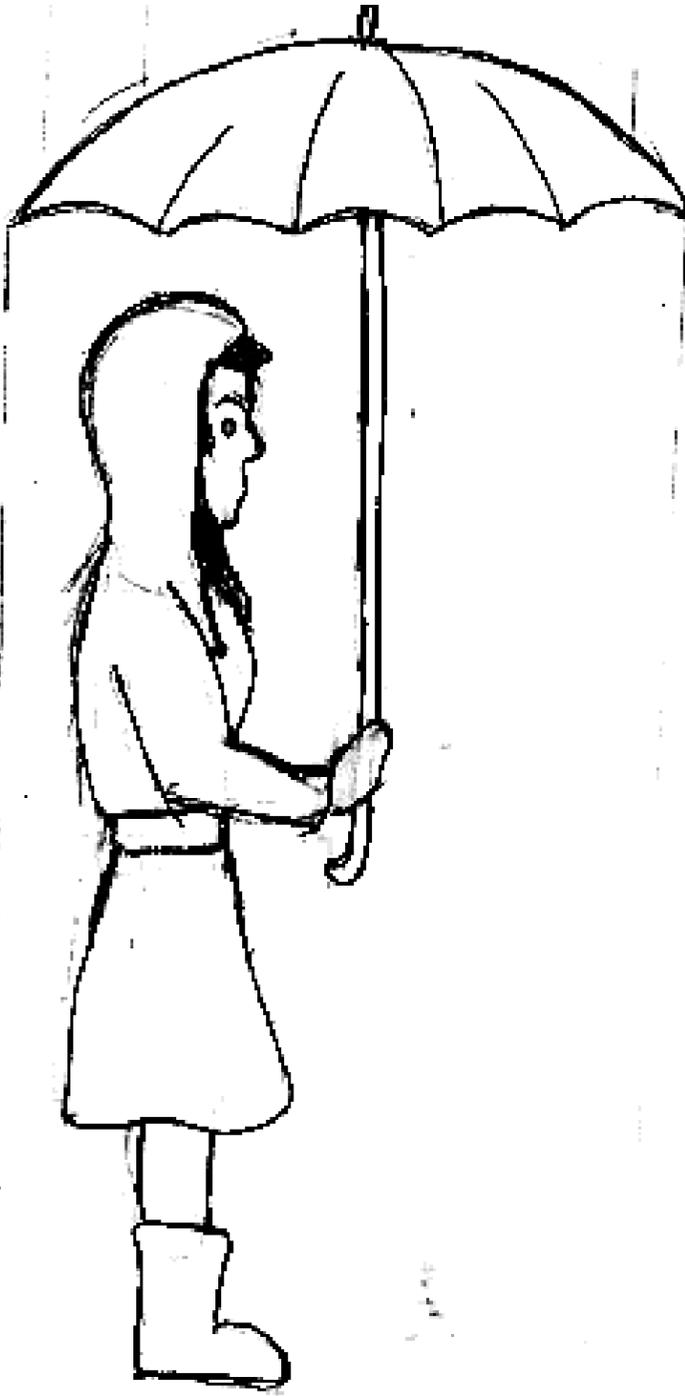
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COLUMN

Shaking up college athletics

BY CHRISTINE DICKASON
cdickas@go.olemiss.edu

Last week, the National Labor Relations Board in Chicago ruled that football players at Northwestern University are, in fact, employees of the university, and therefore, can organize a union. The reactions were swift and often divisive, as the decision threatens the status quo in college athletics.

First, what does being an employee entail?

To begin with, an employee has a signed contract with the employer — in this case, the university. Check.

Second, an employee participates in certain activities and is

paid in return. College athletes play football in return for scholarships, so, check.

Finally, and perhaps the most controversial, employers exert significant control over the employees.

In the case of Northwestern University, the labor board found several key examples that led them to agree that football players were indeed controlled by the university, including, but not limited to, restrictions on what activities they can engage in (specifically for pay), requirements on living arrangements, and significant power over the athletes' class schedules.

Kain Colter, the former Northwestern quarterback who led the charge on this issue, has begun

to travel to Washington, D.C., to clarify the players' positions and intent in seeking the ability to form a union.

So what exactly are the players asking for?

They are not asking for "pay-for-play," despite media reports to the contrary, as they acknowledge their scholarships are a form of payment (thus making them employees). Instead, their primary requests revolve around health and academic issues.

Brain injuries are a growing concern for athletes at all levels. In 2012, a study found that the rate of concussions among college football players had doubled since 2010. A report published in the journal

Neurology in December 2013 noted that even players who did not display the typical warning signs of concussions, or other head trauma, still can face problems in the future due to small, frequent hits during the training and the regular season.

Did you know universities are not required to pay for medical treatment resulting from sports-related injuries? A scholarship that covers basic costs is certainly not going to cover a \$10,000 medical bill. Even more shocking is that some universities will revoke scholarships from athletes who suffer injuries, leaving them unable to complete their degree, or pay their medical bills.

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THE DAILY
MISSISSIPPIAN

The University of
Mississippi
S. Gale Denley Student
Media Center
201 Bishop Hall

Main Number:
662.915.5503
Email: dmeditor@gmail.com
Hours: Monday-Friday,
8 a.m.-5 p.m.

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

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The Daily Mississippian welcomes all comments. Please send a letter to the editor addressed to The Daily Mississippian, 201 Bishop Hall, University, MS, 38677 or send an e-mail to dmeditor@gmail.com.

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

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



MISSISSIPPI
press
ASSOCIATION

MEMBER NEWSPAPER

COLUMN

Letter to the editor

Dear Editor,

Over the past few weeks, the very men that were criticized for their lack of action have been collaborating amongst peers and administrators to be a more inclusive and socially aware community. Several meetings have been held in which administrators and fraternity men have discussed the need for a change within our communities. A good portion of these meetings were in fact suggested

and encouraged by the Presidents that were humiliated by comments in this paper.

I would like to pose a question to not only you but also the entire university.

What would you like a group of young men to do in the matter of six short weeks regarding significant issues that this university has been troubled with over the past fifty years? I read the article and I waited for some of your suggestions to our IFC Presidents. I

found none but I did not necessarily expect to find any. This is a problem that has existed for many years and there is no easy solution that will fix the problems that exist within our university, this state, and our nation as a whole.

Now, are there significant issues within the Greek community? Obviously. Have these issues existed for significant periods of time? Absolutely. And it goes without question that it is time for a change. There has been a call to

action and that call is trying to be answered. I am asking for every single person, not as a student but simply as a human being to please help one another. We have all fallen in the face of adversity. We have all needed that harsh criticism and that reality check to put things back into perspective for us. However, when we criticize another let us not belittle the other but instead offer them our advice and that outside perspective in a respectful and compassionate manner.

Your ending the other day was beautifully said:

“Respect your university and treat her people with dignity, and do what you said you would do. Be fair and civil to us, and live up to your word.”

I ask you do the same, I ask everyone to do the same, for the love of Ole Miss.

Respectfully,
Austin Dean

COLLEGE, continued from page 2

As expected, the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) — who, let’s not forget, made nearly \$1 billion in total revenue last year — issued a swift response, criticizing the ruling. A spokesperson from the NCAA said, “We want student-athletes, 99 percent of whom will never make it to the professional leagues, focused on what matters most: finding success in the classroom, on the field and in life.”

What a disingenuous statement. A survey conducted by the NCAA itself in 2006 found that college

athletes devoted nearly 45 hours per week to their sport, which well exceeds the NCAA’s “20-hour” rule. Moreover, of Division I athletes, two-thirds felt that their GPAs would have been higher had they not participated in athletics in college. Currently, college football and basketball players have about a 1 in 2 chance of graduating. The NCAA should be ashamed.

At the very least, the actions by the players at Northeastern have

started an important dialogue about college athletics and the NCAA. Perhaps, it points to the beginning of a bigger trend: the revival and strengthening of labor unions around the country. One can only hope.

Whatever the outcome might be, I don’t think anyone would disagree that the discussions to be had and decisions that will be made in the months to come will be interesting.

Correction

We are clarifying the information in an article and photo caption about Abner’s incorporated that ran in Tuesday’s Daily Mississippian. The bankruptcy protection was filed by just one company in the Abner’s group. That company is Abner’s Inc., which owns the two Oxford locations.

There are four other companies that own Abner’s entities and are not associated with the bankruptcy: Abner’s of Tupelo LLC, Abner’s of Starkville Inc, Abner’s of Cordova LLC and Abner’s of Brandon LLC. As the article stated, no Abner’s are expected to close as part of this bankruptcy.

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Library Ambassadors to host poetry slam

BY MCKENNA WIERMAN
mckenna.wierman@yahoo.com

Cool vibes, snaps and student poems — all that and more is what awaits at the Library Ambassadors sponsored poetry slam this evening at 7 in the Student Union Ballroom.

The poetry slam is being held in honor to celebrate the month of April which is recognized in the United States as national poetry month.

Several students plan on attending the poetry slam; some to support friends as they share their work with an audience, others to

earn a few extra credit points assigned in classes, and still others simply to enjoy the satisfaction of hearing a good poem read out loud, exactly as it was meant to be its author.

Library Ambassadors had sign-up tables set up in the Union during lunch hours April 2-4. Those lucky enough to grab a spot at the poetry slam were invited to read their personal works aloud to an audience and to nationally recognized judges, Shaniqua Wesley, Emily Cooley and Chiyuma Elliott.

One freshman education major, Alex Tubbs, is eager to attend the



COURTESY OF THE JD LIBRARY

slam with friends.

“I think it will be fun to go with friends,” Tubbs said. “I am honestly most excited for the pizza.”

Integrated marketing communications freshman Taylor Cook is excited about the poetry.

“I think it will be interesting to

see the variety,” said Cook. “I’ve always loved poetry, and I am excited to be a part of a community where there are people interested in the same things.”

Library Ambassadors is a student-led organization, founded in the fall of 2012. Originally,

the group consisted of a mere 33 members, but hopes to grow significantly in the coming years. It hosts a number of literary events and strives to raise awareness on library services and events, as well as create a stronger connection between the J.D. Williams Library and the student body at Ole Miss. All events, which include musical events, open mic nights, library tours and poetry slams, are determined and planned out by the students who participate in the organization.

“This is our first event like this, and we are all very excited to be presenting a poetry slam,” president Jessica Marshall said. “We have been waiting to put on an event like this for a while.”

Marshall sees the poetry slam as a way of connecting the entire Ole Miss campus, no matter what literacy level or academic focus. Marshall believes this event should bring together all different people under one cause: spoken word.

The Library Ambassadors also hope the event helps to increase awareness of the library and all its functions regarding students and the community.

“We hope to inspire students to find out more about the library and its services,” Marshall said.

The event is open to the public and will last until about 9 p.m. Free pizza will be provided to those who attend, and prizes will be awarded to those participants who earn first, second or third place in the poetry slam.

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Be sure to check the Commencement website for weekly updates
commencement.olemiss.edu

For additional questions please contact Christine Wallace
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UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI
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ASB,

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predominately used in America.”

Sen. Sam Hearn said he spoke against the bill because he finds the current voting system to work affectively.

“The main thing for me in the election bill was that it gave one person more than one opportunity to elect a position such as president or vice president or one of the singular positions,” Hearn said. “I think that one person should get to vote for one thing, and I don’t see why we need to change the way that works. I think it would lead to more confusion in our electoral system and also make us a more inefficient electoral body as a student body.”

Neubert said other universities across the nation currently use the approval voting system. He said San Francisco State Univer-

sity, Dartmouth College and the University of Colorado Boulder are included in these universities.

“In terms of universities, San Francisco State University has been using it for more than a decade in all their student government elections,” Neubert said. “The University of Colorado Boulder, they’ve been using it for two or three years, I think 2011 or 2012, and they use that in all their student government elections. They’re really cool because they have the largest student government budget of any university or college in the nation. They’re a pretty big school, and they’re doing this because they know what they’re doing. And then Dartmouth College also uses it.”

Fifty-three senators voted in affirmation of the bill. None voted in negation, and one senator voted in abstention. The bill will be brought back to the senate floor for a vote in two weeks.



ADITYA KHARE | The Daily Mississippian

Former ASB Vice President Morgan Gregory jokingly passes the gavel to Vice President Emerson George during Tuesday’s meeting.

TRACK,

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edly,” Pearson said.

Pearson said the standard procedure when a problem like this is presented on campus is to block off the affected area while crews fix the issue.

“Crews will be called in to excavate down to the bottom of the void in an attempt to determine or isolate the cause of why the soil erosion has occurred,” Pearson said. “Any surface features damaged as a result of the sinkhole would then be reported.”



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Rebel Netters look to bounce back against Arkansas-Pine Bluff

BY DYLAN RUBINO
djrubino@go.olemiss.edu

The Rebels (8-12) return home today to begin their final stand of the regular season against Arkansas-Pine Bluff at 10 a.m. at the Palmer/Salloum Tennis Center.

The rest of the home stand will continue this weekend on Friday against 10th ranked Texas A&M and Sunday against Alcorn State.

The Rebels are coming off a tough road trip over the weekend against South Carolina last Friday and Florida last Sunday. Against South Carolina, the Rebels won the doubles point, but the Gamecocks rallied to win four singles matches and clinched the victory.

Junior Nik Scholtz had a rare off day and lost to Andrew Adams 3-6, 2-6. Scholtz came into the match undefeated at No. 1 singles and carrying the momentum of winning 10 singles matches in a row but just could not pull out the victory.

Sophomore Stefan Lindmark claimed the lone singles match victory.

The Rebels then traveled to Gainesville to face Florida and lost 1-4. Florida won the doubles point and dominated singles play to pick up the victory.

Scholtz bounced back and picked up the win in singles in straight sets against Gordon



FILE PHOTO (ALEX EDWARDS) | The Daily Mississippian

Nik Scholtz reacts during a match earlier this year.

Watson 6-3, 6-2. The match ended with freshman Vinod Gowda losing in three sets to give Florida the victory.

"We are looking forward to the series of matches and the opportunity of playing at home," head coach Billy Chadwick said to Ole Miss Sports Information. "The team is improving with

each match, and we are looking to finish strong and carry the momentum into the SEC tournament."

The Rebels will play three matches against Arkansas-Pine Bluff today before taking on Texas A&M on Friday for Senior Day.

OLE MISS SPORTS INFORMATION

Rebels, Morris finish third at Old Waverly

Junior Blake Morris fired a 2-under par 70 to lead the Ole Miss men's golf team in the final round of the Old Waverly Collegiate Championships hosted by Mississippi State Tuesday.

Morris, who posted 13 birdies in the tournament, claimed third place with a three-round score of 8-under 208, marking his third top-five finish this season.

As a team, the Rebels finished in third place with a three-round total of 2-under 862. Host team Mississippi State claimed the tournament title.

"As a group of competitors who want to win we are obviously disappointed in the outcome," head coach Ernest Ross said. "As a coach, I know our guys tried their hardest, and I am proud of them for giving their best effort. Every team and every player wants to win, but the prize goes to the team that prepares the best. We will go back and prepare for our next tournament. I'm extremely proud of Blake and his continued good play. He's having a great season."

Junior Joe Lewis, who tied for 22nd place, carded his best finish of the season, posting a score of 2-over 218. Senior Tom Brown finished in a tie for 28th after firing a 3-under 69 in round two, including four birdies.

Freshman Noah West, who tied for 35th place, posted a three-round total of 5-over par 221. Sophomore Connor Davis finished the tournament tied for 55th place with a three-round score of 223.

The Rebels now look forward to hosting their home tournament, the Reunion Intercollegiate, in Madison April 14-15.

Fans can follow scoring by going to OleMissSports.com and clicking the link in the calendar.



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<http://www.thedmonline.com/classifieds>.

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Diamond Rebs tame Tigers as offense explodes

BY ADAM GANUCHEAU
thedmsports@gmail.com

The Ole Miss baseball team last night avenged their March 5 loss to Memphis, beating the Tigers 9-1 last night at AutoZone Park in Memphis.

The game was controlled by the Rebels from the beginning, powered by a season-high seven extra base hits and a stellar pitching performance by Ole Miss starter senior Jeremy Massie and the Rebels' bullpen.

Massie picked up the win after pitching a scoreless five innings. Memphis starter Ryan Garner got the loss.

"It's not a secret that we haven't played well against Memphis over the last few years, but we've been playing good baseball recently and we played them well tonight," head coach Mike Bianco said. "Massie was terrific. He did what he had to do."

The Rebels got things started offensively in the third inning as junior left fielder Braxton Lee

drove in junior right fielder Will Jamison on an RBI single after Jamison led the inning off with a triple.

The offense exploded in the fourth inning, capped by a senior Preston Overbey two-RBI double scoring senior catcher Will Allen and freshman designated hitter Brantley Bell, which put Ole Miss up by three runs. Two batters later, Jamison knocked in junior first baseman Sikes Orvis to make it 4-0.

A four-run fifth inning padded the Rebels' lead. Senior third baseman Austin Anderson drove junior center fielder Auston Bousfield to make it 5-0. Allen, the next batter, crushed a two-run home run over the left field wall, increasing the lead to seven runs. Two batters later, Orvis annihilated the ball into the Tigers' bullpen over the right-center wall, giving the Rebels an 8-0 lead.

In the top of the sixth inning, Anderson drove in Bousfield on an RBI double, making it 9-0.



Sikes Orvis hits the ball during Saturday's game against Auburn.

FILE PHOTO (THOMAS GRANING) | The Daily Mississippian

Ole Miss sophomore right hander Jacob Waguespack yielded the only run for the Tigers in the bottom of the sixth inning, as Memphis catcher Carter White drove in a run. Bianco brought in junior right hander Scott Weathersby, who finished the sixth without any additional damage.

The late innings were quiet as both teams stayed off the scoreboard after the sixth.

Overbey led the Rebels with three hits in four at-bats, highlighted by the two-RBI double in the fourth. Lee, Bousfield, Anderson and Allen each had multi-hit games as well.

"It was great to get this win," Overbey said. "(The two-RBI hit) opened things up a little, and gave the team some confidence."

The Rebels will play again tonight in Oxford against Murray State. Bianco will go with freshman left-hander Evan Anderson. First pitch at Swayze Field will be at 6:30 p.m.

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