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**April 21, 2014**

The Daily Mississippian

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MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2014

VOL. 102, No. 127

# THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

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

## UM landscape is in full bloom

BY MARY DANIEL SIMPSON  
mdsimpso@go.olemiss.edu

Recognized as one of the most beautiful college campuses by Newsweek and The Princeton Review, the University of Mississippi campus is a point of pride for the Oxford community, and Landscape Services has been hard at work upholding that reputation this spring.

Landscape Services divides its roughly \$1.8 million operating budget evenly over the four seasons, but focal points such as roundabouts, main signage and entrance areas use a majority of the budget, according to Jeff McManus, director of Landscape Services.

McManus, along with the entire Landscape Services department, said they attempt to create year-round interest by creatively incorporating plants that create colorful foliage throughout the year.

Director of Public Relations Danny Blanton believes campus landscaping is important to the image of Ole Miss.

"Our landscape service professionals work tirelessly to make Ole Miss the most beautiful campus in the nation," Blanton said. "Countless times we've been told by students as soon as they saw campus, they knew this is where they wanted to be. Their hard work and dedication make Ole Miss the

iconic campus that it is."

Landscape Services employs 33 full-time positions, around 23 of which routinely maintain the campus grounds. Landscapers work outdoors throughout the week, regardless of the weather, even working early weekend mornings to pick up students' trash from the previous night.

"My favorite aspect of Ole Miss' beauty is the landscaping," said Elizabeth Ellis, junior elementary education major. "The flowers year-round bring sunshine to everyone's day."

Ellis specifically noted the spring daffodils and tulips as her favorite flowers on campus.

The tulips, currently around entrances and focal points on campus, were planted last winter in preparation for the spring months.

Once the spring tulips fade out, a variety of heat-tolerable plants, such as lantana and begonias, will be planted in their place. In the fall and winter, pansies are used to create seasonal color beds.

"Campus is open 365 days a year," McManus said. "It has to look good 365 days a year. You don't know who's going to come."

McManus said he believes the hard work is worth it. He said most people who work in landscaping would rather be outdoors, working with their hands, and able to see what they have accomplished at the end of the day.



CADY HERRING | The Daily Mississippian

Tulips are seen at the Lyceum.

## Safe Ride advisory council begins assembly

BY WILL CROCKETT  
jwcrocke@go.olemiss.edu

The Students for a Safe Ride committee received 35 applications for its newly formed advisory council this past week. The committee is responsible for the return of a free busing program similar to the Rebel Ride program in the upcoming fall semester.

ASB President Davis Rogers has been working to bring a safe ride program back to campus.

"Over the past year and a half we've been building a Safe Ride committee following the termination of the previous Rebel Ride program," Rogers said. "The purpose of the committee is to find avenues in which to begin a new Safe Ride program. Students For a Safe Ride Council will be the ones advertising, funding and revamping the safe-ride program, placing the power of the program back into the hands of the students."

According to Rogers, he has already heard from companies that want to provide the buses for Safe Ride.

"Two companies, whose names I cannot list, in the local area have already reached out to us by saying that they're interested in giving bids to become a part of the program and providing the buses needed for the program," Rogers said.

Rogers couldn't give specific numbers, but he knows what kind of budget the uni-

See **SAFE RIDE**, PAGE 4

## Ole Miss Green Week begins

BY MAGGIE MCDANIEL  
mhmcDani@go.olemiss.edu

Green Week for the Oxford and University of Mississippi community kicks off tomorrow. The week is composed of multiple events and activities with the goal of educating students, staff and Oxford residents about sustainability.

According to Kendall McDonald, junior public policy leadership major and Green Week intern, sustainability refers to responsible use of our resources.

"A sustainable society functions in a way that future generations can prosper and the global environment can thrive," McDonald said.

Anne McCauley, assistant director for the Office of Sustainability, said she hopes Green Week will enhance students' understanding of issues related to sustainability.

"We prepare for Green Week by trying to engage many different students, groups and organizations with the planning and implementation of events," McCauley said. "It is

such a big program, and we like to find new ways to involve more people every year."

The events start Tuesday with a panel entitled "Business in the Green" at the Oxford Conference Center from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Oxford-Lafayette County Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Development Foundation will host the panel. Representatives from International Paper, Project Green Fork and Toyota will be sharing information about their sustainable tactics and how they are used within

their organizations.

According to McDonald, the panel will give students and the community members the chance to see how companies take on sustainability.

"These measures are not simply "green-washing" tactics," McDonald said. "They are deeply systematic changes that reflect the core values of these organizations."

Tuesday will also include an Earth Day keynote lecture given by Rob Nixon, author of

See **GREEN WEEK**, PAGE 4

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Go forth and teach them about Easter.



**COLUMN**

## To stay or go?



**BY ANNA RUSH**  
akrush1@gmail.com

As graduation quickly approaches, I find myself, as many Mississippi graduates do, faced with the decision to remain in the state or look elsewhere for home.

My internal debate on whether to stay in the Magnolia State is not one of job opportunity, potential revenue or standard of living. Rather, it is a weighing of wants and needs.

Do I want to stay in Mississippi? Do I want to leave the state? Do I need to stay? Do I need to go? And even, does Mississippi want or need me?

I am a Mississippian through and through. I was raised in

Hattiesburg, I attended Mississippi State University and am soon to graduate from Ole Miss Law. I have been blessed to have lived in and seen the state from top to bottom. There will always be a heartstring that keeps me tethered to Mississippi no matter how far away from it I am.

But do I want to live somewhere else while I'm young?

I have, for a long time, planned on packing up and moving somewhere for a few years after graduation. See the world, see what it's like to live in a "big city," etc., but come back to Mississippi once I've reached that elusive "settled" stage of my life. I want to grow old in the Mississippi heat and see my children and grandchildren grow up here like Delta cotton. Now that I am at the trigger-point, however, I am wrestling with leaving my state.

Am I leaving her when she

might need me the most? If I leave, will too much change in the state in with myself that I may never come back?

I feel as if Mississippi is facing political precipice. (Or perhaps I am just now truly coming to terms with our politics.) It seems as if recently there has been a surge of seemingly backwoods politicians and political agendas trying to creep into mainstream politics in Mississippi. This drive not only has potential to drag Mississippi further down in statistics that we are already at the bottom of the list for and further taint our reputation, but it is driving away our youth.

Young, progressive intellectuals with roots in Mississippi find themselves driven away by the very state that needs them the most. Whether it realizes it or not, Mississippi cannot survive without our generation sticking it out and making a difference.

It may seem that the current state of Mississippi's ideology does not match up with our generation's, but how can that change if we all leave? If we leave, won't the backwoods thinking take over in our absence?

We want Mississippi to reach its full potential. We want to see Mississippi for how great it could be. But how can we expect these achievements if there is a mass exodus of the educated, progressive and passionate?

There is no better time than now for our generation to take the reigns of Mississippi's future and direct her in the path of equality, opportunity and prosperity that she should have been on long ago.

*Anna Rush is a third-year law student from Hattiesburg. She graduated from Mississippi State in 2011.*

**THE DAILY  
MISSISSIPPIAN**

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

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

## The nature of opinion



**BY SIERRA MANNIE**  
sierra.thedm@gmail.com

This is not news. This is a column.

Passive aggressiveness gets on my nerves.

“You have your opinion, and I have mine.”

“If you don’t have anything nice to say, don’t say anything at all.”

Statements like that essentially make up the Southern pseudo-polite way to prove that you would rather stay quiet and duck out of the way of conflict rather than engage people in productive conversation. Instead of this frustrating deference and fear of hurting feelings making you seem polite or like the “bigger person,” this sentiment frustrates the crucial exchange of ideas that makes communication actually meaningful.

The opinion section of The Daily Mississippian exists in order to start conversations.

Although it manages to offend some of you on such a fundamental, existential level that you ask for it to not even be delivered to you any longer,

The Daily Mississippian’s purpose is to inform rather than alienate you.

The opinion section is sandwiched between several pages of reporting on issues and events unique to this university and the city of Oxford.

By all means, if you pick up this paper at all, read the actual news first — allow the newspaper to do for you what it intends to do every time it gets printed, and only allow the written ramblings of your peers to inflame your senses after that.

Be careful and engaged readers. Have a filter that allows you to pick out what is important, what is legitimate, what is a mistake when you give something your attention.

You do not have to like everyone, and you definitely do not have to respect every opinion ejected into the atmosphere, but it is dangerous to shut out the opportunity for exchange and critical thinking because something you read might challenge you or make you feel uncomfortable. Stay woke, fam.

If you can believe it, not everyone on campus is a fan of my opinion pieces, a fact that I would tell you keeps me up late at night if I felt like lying to you. To be quite frank, I do not care whether or not you care about mine — I am merely a human, attempting to graduate

and resisting the urge to self-immolate, just like everyone else.

“Why does The DM publish this trash?!” you Tweet angrily in response to mine and whom-ever else’s commentary.

The Daily Mississippian, being a newspaper and possessing the prerogative to stamp whatever text it wants on this newspaper in your hands or on your browser, has an opinion section, and thus hires writers to fill it, and, unlike some of you, does not feel the need to silence my commentary on sexuality, gender, race or whatever else I feel like saying.

In fact, despite my misgivings about some of the thoughts of my fellow opinion writers, The DM does not feel the need to silence them, either, or any of you when you choose to write letters to the editor.

Welcome to Obama’s America, where, regardless of what your one aunt publishes on Facebook, public discourse exists, and more than that, it matters.

Do not get caught in the passive cycle. Engage in public discourse, and try not to shut down opportunities for real discussion. We all will be better for it.

*Sierra Mannie is a junior classics major from Ridgeland.*



## Rebels React

After a review of the Mississippi Alpha Chapter, the board of directors of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity decided to close the chapter on the University of Mississippi campus on April 17. The following are reactions from Twitter.

### Sigma Phi Epsilon @officialsigep

The National Board of Directors votes to close our chapter at the University of Mississippi. #OleMiss <http://www.sigep.org/blog/sigma-phi-epsilon-closes-chapter-at-university-of-mississippi.html> ...

#### Kris Wright @DrRightnow

I’m confident that Sig Ep did the right thing at #OleMiss.

#### Matt Barnthouse @MattBarnthouse

@\_macdaddy\_21 Sig Ep got suspended from Ole Miss because some of them put a noose on the James Meredith statue. Not a great chapter

#### Thomas Taylo @thomas\_taylo15

Looks like sig ep is getting kicked off ole miss campus... Whoops...

#### Kevin Martinez @Kevin\_X

Well Sig Ep is gone from Ole Miss. Headquarters has to be highly upset to have to close the fraternities from the two biggest schools in MS.

#### Daniella Howard @\_Ella\_Enchanted

wait did Ole Miss permantly remove Sig Ep??

#### Shaina Hombach @shainahombach

It’s sickening that some of these sig ep “men” @ Ole Miss are condoning their racist behavior. You’re such an embarrassment to Greek life.

**Tweet your reactions to @thedmopinion**

**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**

**Brea Rich**

B.S. IN PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES

*“Perceptions of Health Information on General and Medical Social Media Sites”*

Directed by Dr. Donna West-Strum

**Monday, April 21st at 9:00 am**

**Faser Hall Room 217**

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

**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**

**Frances Sullivan-González**

B.S.C.H.E. IN CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

*“Performance and Stability of Room Temperature Ionic Liquid Membranes for the Dehumidification of Methane”*

Directed by Dr. Paul Scovazzo

**Monday, April 21st at 11:00 am**

**Brevard Hall Room 209**

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

**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**

**Mary Elizabeth Smithson**

B.A. IN ANTHROPOLOGY

*“Disaster, Displacement, and Voluntourism: Helping Narratives of College Student Volunteers in Post-Katrina New Orleans”*

Directed by Dr. Barbara Combs

**Monday, April 21st at 11:30 am**

**Leavell Hall Room 212**

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

**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**

**Hollie Ables**

B.S. IN BIOLOGY

*“Simulated Diabetes Testing Experiment Using Artificially Manipulated Livestock Blood”*

Directed by Dr. Carol Britson

**Monday, April 21st at 2:00 pm**

**Shoemaker Hall Room 219**

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

**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**

**Ryan Kirchner**

B. A. IN PSYCHOLOGY

*“Boredom and Memory for Positively and Negatively Valenced Words”*

Directed by Dr. Matthew Reysen

**Monday, April 21st at 2:00 pm**

**Peabody Hall Room 209**

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## GREEN WEEK,

continued from page 1

“Slow Violence and the Environmentalism of the Poor,” at 7 p.m. in the Overby Center.

According to Ann Fisher-Wirth, lecture host and faculty sponsor for Students for a Green Campus, the lecture is based on Nixon’s book.

“Professor Nixon’s talk will address ways in which artists of all sorts can help raise world environmental awareness to fight against this ‘slow violence,’” Fisher-Wirth said.

Fisher-Wirth said she wants all students to participate in Green Week and be aware of the state of our environment.

“We are in a global situation of environmental crisis, but it is still too easy to ignore it because we personally have everything we need,” she said. “Green Week provides a lot

of opportunities for learning and reflection and, I hope, for meaningful action.”

Wednesday, a sustainability fair will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the Union Plaza. The fair will allow students and the community to interact with local vendors, farmers, businesses, students and departments at the university.

The annual Eco-Fashion Gala, which combines fashion, art and sustainability, will also take place Wednesday. The gala will start at 7:30 p.m. in Bryant Hall.

A workshop on the Udall scholarship, which is for students dedicated to careers related to the environment, will be held at 4 p.m. Wednesday in Honors College Room 311.

The events will conclude Friday with an Arbor Day tree planting and celebration in the Grove at 11:30 a.m.

## SAFE RIDE,

continued from page 1

versity needs to shoot for.

“I can say in years past, Rebel Ride was a program that involved about \$75,000 to run and maintain operation,” Rogers said.

Rogers stressed that student involvement is the key to the future success of this new program.

“We’re trying to approach the application and interview processes differently than we did with other programs,” Rogers said. “This isn’t a program meant to be a resume builder. This program won’t work without fully dedicated and skilled individuals who want to make this happen. We need students capable of answering the calls that the program needs to run. Specifically students who are adept at fundraising and advertising.”

Rogers wants to start with the process of choosing the company to provide the buses.

“The following week after that the first meeting will take place,” Rogers said. “We look forward to having that meeting, and hopefully within the semester, we will be meeting with the companies who have given bids to make progress on the Students For a Safe Ride program.”

Carly Eason, director of the Student Activities Association and a member of an advisory council to the Students For a Safe Ride program, also stressed student involvement.

“By restarting this organization we have made a proactive step toward providing a safe ride option for Ole Miss students,” Eason said. “The students who are selected will influence everything about the program. Members of this student organization will be charged with advertising and fundraising to insure students have a safe ride.”

Rogers expressed that Safe Ride will be similar to Rebel Ride but under a new name. The plans will install the same running schedule that Rebel Ride operated on as of last year, with buses running Thursday through Saturday, according to Rogers. His goal is to have two to three buses running on an average weekend and four to five buses for home football games weekends in the fall or special-events weekends in the spring.

“Along with our decisions in fundraising and assembling the students to be a part of this process, we’ve also reached out to students to find the best routes for the buses to take,” Rogers said. “The new routes would possibly include

places like Whirlpool and others around the area.”

Sophomore history major Robert Bobo is in support of the effort to bring a safe ride back to Ole Miss.

“I feel like it’s a great opportunity for the university to do some good,” Bobo said. “The number-one priority we should have is looking out for the safety of our students, and with a free busing program running from campus to the Square back in place, I can’t help but think that it will have to discourage students from driving under the influence.”

Rogers said he feels that the reinstatement of a busing program is vital to the university.

“The emphasis is on the students now,” Rogers said. “It’s more than apparent that a Safe Ride program is something that all the students would look forward to again, but it’s in the students’ hands to make that a reality. I hope that we can gather support over the year and fill our goal of creating a sustainable Safe Ride program for The University of Mississippi.”

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### SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION

Stacy Wolff

B.S. FORENSIC CHEMISTRY

*“Mercury in Fish and Sediment from North Mississippi Reservoirs: Statistical Analysis, Risk Assessment and Application of Remote Sensing”*

Directed by James Cizdziel

Monday, April 21st

at 3:00 pm

Coulter Hall Room 442

The defense is open to the public.

If you require special assistance relating to a disability, please contact Penny Leeton at

662-915-7266.

### SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION

Amanda Hall

B.A. IN BIOLOGY

*“The Tutte Polynomial Formula for the Class of Twisted Wheel Graphs”*

Directed by Dr. Laura Sheppardson

Monday, April 21st

at 3:00 pm

Hume Hall Room 321

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662-915-7266.

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## Feature Photos: Ole Miss vs. LSU



IGNACIO MURILLO | The Daily Mississippian



IGNACIO MURILLO | The Daily Mississippian



IGNACIO MURILLO | The Daily Mississippian

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: Ole Miss fans react after Sikes Orvis scores a home run against LSU Thursday. Austin Bousfield dives back to first as LSU first baseman Conner Hale catches an attempted pick-off throw. Sam Smith pitches the ball Saturday.

### STREET CLOSINGS/TOWING

Please be mindful where you park your car beginning on **Thursday** evening as parking will be limited or closed in some areas.

On **Friday, April 25th** North Lamar and Monroe Ave. will be closed to traffic as the stage is being set up. Cars will be towed on North Lamar and Monroe Ave. beginning at 4am on Friday, April 25th.

On **Saturday, April 26th**, towing will begin at 4am on all streets on the Oxford Square.

Shuttles will be provided for the festival and will be available from the MDOT lot on campus off of Old Taylor Rd. From 10am – 10pm.  
Shuttles will cost \$5. Questions? Call 662-232-2477.  
Handicapped parking will be available in the parking lot directly behind the University Club and accessed from Jefferson Ave.

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\*Free for students who have paid full tuition for the 2013-2014 school year.

**GARFIELD**

BY JIM DAVIS



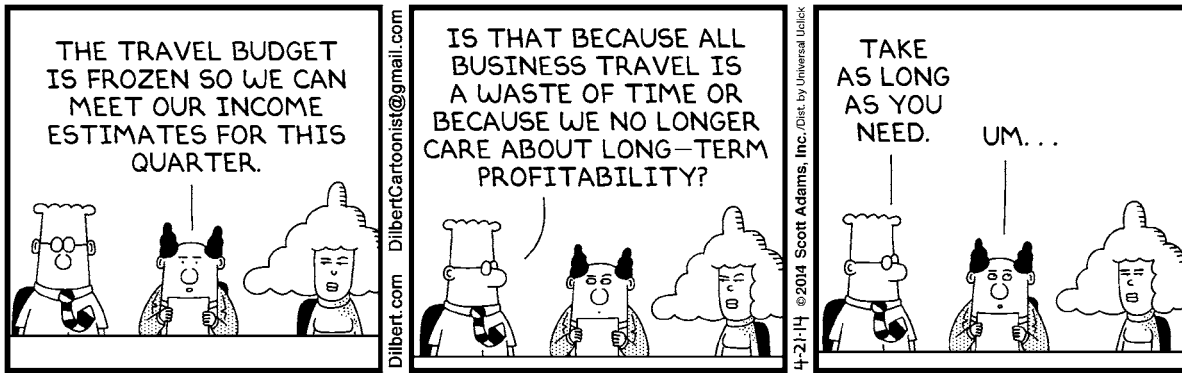
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BY J.C. DUFFY



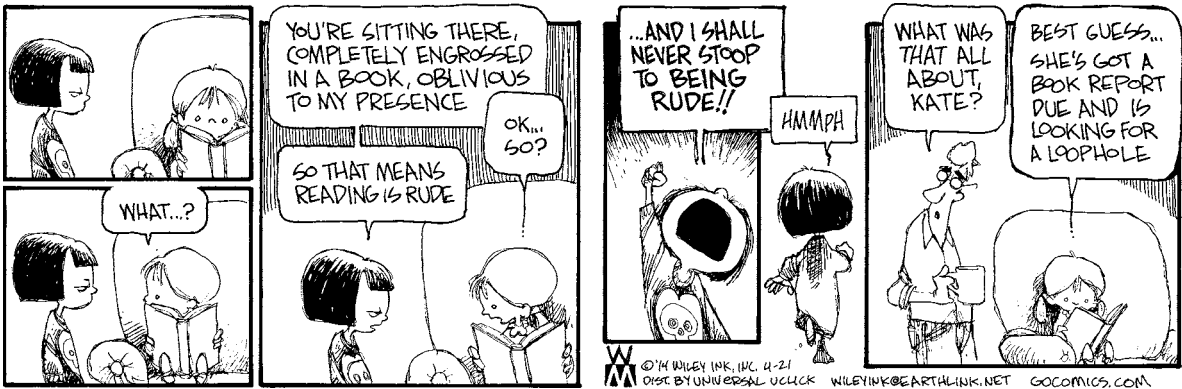
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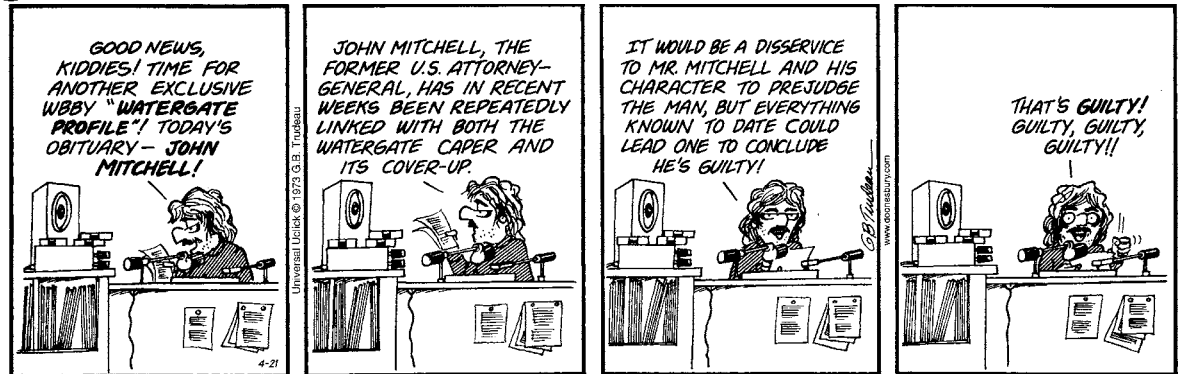
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2			5	6				4
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		3					8	
			3				7	

**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 INTERMEDIATE**

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

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**ACROSS**

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- Rub
- Clancy's Jack —
- Thin gold layer
- Raw rubber
- Seine feeder
- Mr. Kazan
- Small land mass
- Plateau
- Leftover fabric
- Short verse
- Stick-on design
- Familiar with (2 wds.)
- Charm
- Burning desire
- Maine campus site
- Complimentary
- Save a coupon
- Lime cooler
- Accurate
- E. Lansing campus
- Alan or Cheryl
- Shaman's quest
- Censor
- Ms. Barkin of films
- Persuades
- Costa — (Spanish riviera)
- Adventure tales
- On the rocks rock (2 wds.)

**DOWN**

- Marathon unit
- Sylphike
- Stunt man (hyph.)
- Boxing hold
- "... luego!"
- Maj. ocean
- Altitude measure
- Squeezes out
- Tot's outfit
- Bond return
- Debit's opposite
- Groovy
- Eur. country
- Fable writer
- Word form for "equal"
- Theft
- Paddock youngster
- Wagner's Earth goddess

**PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED**

ACCT	LOCI	BRAT
SOHO	DIVAN	OURS
THOU	ELECT	ULNA
INURES	RTE	DEER
	IMIT	INFO
CENSURED	DOINGS	
OREM	ENID	GRAIL
CUP	DECAF	OVA
OPALS	TELL	OMEN
ATLAST	SLOPPING	
	SWAG	YORE
BANS	PAW	DERAIL
OLEO	PLATE	ARTY
SORE	ELCID	TEEN
CEOS	DOOM	EARN

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- Nailed obliquely
- Bronco "brake"
- Wife, to a lawyer
- Taos loc.
- "Gotcha!" (2 wds.)
- Litter members
- Price reduction
- Piano-key wood
- Landing phase
- Durable
- Gehrig of baseball
- Vinegar bottles
- Wrapped a gift (2 wds.)
- Quebec school
- Aboveboard
- Bellisle
- Pre-college
- Latin hymn word
- Hoarder's cry
- Goal
- Fetch

	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													67		
68															70

Congratulations

**Giovanni Biffle**

Senior Liberal Arts Major

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The names of more than 750 students who had their portraits taken in October and January for the 2014 The Ole Miss annual were entered into the raffle, and Giovanni's name was randomly selected.

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# NBA Playoffs: Matchups and predictions

BY BROWNING STUBBS  
bbstubs@go.olemiss.edu

The 2014 NBA Playoffs are officially underway. The Daily Mississippian's Browning Stubbs breaks down all the matchups.

## No. 1 San Antonio vs. No. 8 Dallas

This matchup features not only one of the best rivalries in the NBA but also one of the best individual rivalries between Spurs power forward Tim Duncan and Mavericks power forward Dirk Nowitzki. This will be the sixth playoff series between the two future Hall of Famers, with Duncan leading 4-1. The two teams haven't met since 2010 and are both very different clubs. Look for the Spurs to double-team Nowitzki to force guards Monta Ellis and Jose Calderon to make outside shots.

Prediction: Spurs in 5

## No. 4 Houston vs. No. 5 Portland

Strap your seat belts on, boys and girls, because this is going to be a fun ride. Both of these teams rank in the top five in scoring and rebounding this season. Look for the guard play to be the key in this series as Portland's Da-

mian Lillard and Houston's James Harden are becoming the next great future guards in the NBA since Dwyane Wade and Kobe Bryant are slowing down.

Prediction: Rockets in 7

## No. 3 Los Angeles vs. No. 6 Golden State

This is the battle of the West Coast. We got CP3 and Blake versus the Super Splash Brothers. The winner of this series will come down to which duo of stars outscore the other. These teams also have a recent history of getting into scuffles, so look for some "in your face" moments in this series.

Prediction: Clippers in 6

## No. 2 Oklahoma City vs. No. 7 Memphis

In a rematch from last year's Western Conference Semis, the Oklahoma City Thunder look to gain revenge against the Memphis Grizzlies, who knocked them out in five games. This year, Kevin Durant will more than likely be named league MVP after an astonishing 32 point-per-game average. Durant will get his 30, but can the Grizz trade enough punches with perimeter players in Mike Conley, Mike Miller and Courtney

Lee making outside shots?

Prediction: Thunder in 7

## No. 1 Indiana vs. 8 Atlanta

Let's be honest — why are the 38-44 Atlanta Hawks in the playoffs? I have no good answer for you other than that the Eastern Conference is the worst it's been in recent memory. On the other hand, top seed Indiana is struggling after ending the season on a 10-13 note. The key will be to see if Indiana can regain its mojo after such an impressive first half of the season.

Prediction: Pacers in 5

## No. 4 Chicago vs. No. 5 Washington

How are the Bulls still one of the best teams in the league after losing Derrick Rose to injury (again) and trading away leading-scorer Luol Deng? The answer is simple: head coach Tom Thibodeau and center Joakim Noah. On the flip side, Washington's young core of John Wall and Bradley Beal have returned the Wizards to the playoffs for the first time since 2008. The big key will be to see if Chicago can score enough points to win.

Prediction: Wizards in 6

## No. 3 Toronto vs. No.

## 6 Brooklyn

In a David versus Goliath matchup, we have the young Raptors as David versus the veteran, tested Nets as Goliath. Can the Raptors compete with the Nets with hardly any playoff experience? We will see, as former NBA champions Paul Pierce and Kevin Garnett have been waiting for the playoffs ever since being traded from Boston last summer.

Prediction: Nets in 6

## No. 2 Miami vs. No. 7 Charlotte

The quest for LeBron James and the Miami Heat to threepeat begins, as they will take on the much-improved Bobcats led by Kemba Walker and Al Jefferson. Miami needs to get Dwyane Wade acclimated back into the lineup, as he only played in 54 games in the regular season. With the Pacers struggling, this could seriously be the toughest matchup all playoffs for the Heat.

Prediction: Heat in 5

For more NBA playoffs coverage, follow @browningstubbs on Twitter.

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OLE MISS SPORTS INFORMATION

## Rebels fall to LSU in series finale

Right-hander Sam Smith turned in another phenomenal start for the Rebels, but the offense couldn't string together a rally as No. 10 Ole Miss (30-11, 10-8 SEC) fell to No. 7 LSU (30-10-1, 10-7-1 SEC) by a score of 2-0 in the series finale Saturday.

Smith (5-3) worked 7.1 innings and allowed two runs on five hits with a walk and four strikeouts as he took the loss despite turning in his eighth consecutive quality start of the season. Left-hander Wyatt Short closed out the final 1.2 innings with a walk and three strikeouts without allowing a hit to keep the Tigers in check and keep the Rebels in striking distance.

Hunter Devall (1-0) picked up the win for the Tigers, working 2.2 innings in relief of starter Alden Cartwright, who went 4.0 innings on the afternoon. Four LSU pitchers combined to hold the Rebels scoreless with six hits, four strikeouts and one walk.

"Early on we didn't get any hits or base runners," said Ole Miss head coach Mike Bianco. "Unfortunately, today was one of those bad offensive days. It happens in baseball over 56 games. We really couldn't mount any-

thing. We had a few base hits but didn't really threaten at all. We rarely, if ever, got the leadoff guy on. It was disappointing offensively."

LSU scored the first run of the game in the third inning when Connor Hale came home from third on a single to center from Andrew Stevenson. Hale reached on a single through the left side and took second on a passed ball on an intended pitch out. A sac bunt moved him to third and set up the score on the Stevenson hit.

A double to left from Mark Laird put two in scoring position as Stevenson went first-to-third on the play, but the Rebels escaped the jam in the next at bat. Jake Fraley flew out to left and Braxton Lee gunned Stevenson out at home for a double play to end the inning and keep the Tiger lead to one run.

The Rebels couldn't get anything started offensively down the stretch, putting runners in scoring position in the fourth, but a double play ended the attempted rally for the best chance to get a run home up to that point.

LSU added an insurance run in the eighth inning when Hale again delivered for the Tigers,



IGNACIO MURILLO | The Daily Mississippian

Chris Ellis releases a pitch during Thursday's game against LSU.

hitting a solo shot into the bullpen in left field to take the Tiger lead out to 2-0.

Ole Miss again got a man in scoring position in the eighth with a double to right center from Sikes Orvis, but couldn't get

him home as a groundout ended the potential two-out rally. LSU again squelched a rally attempt in the ninth to pick up the 2-0 victory and claim the weekend series.

The Rebels will return to ac-

tion Tuesday at Trustmark Park in Pearl, when Ole Miss will take on Mississippi State in the annual Governor's Cup Game. First pitch is set for 6:30 p.m.

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