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**April 29, 2014**

The Daily Mississippian

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# THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

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

## '...and everything was just quiet.'



THOMAS GRANING | The Daily Mississippian

A demolished Shell gas station is seen along Gloster Street after a tornado in Tupelo Monday.

Monday afternoon, tornadoes ripped across the state, devastating many communities. UM Associate Provost and Crisis Action Team member Noel Wilkin sat down with *The Daily Mississippian* to explain how students and faculty members should react in the event of severe weather on campus.

BY LACEY RUSSELL  
dmeditor@gmail.com

Severe weather conditions including thunderstorms, hail and tornadoes plagued a number of counties across the state of Mississippi yesterday, leaving much chaos in their wake.

Though Lafayette County and Oxford managed to avoid most of the damage, the city of Tupelo, located approximately 50 miles east of Oxford, experienced significant tornadic devastation just minutes after the National Weather Service issued a warning at 2:30 p.m.

Kayleigh Webb, a senior English major at The University of Mississippi, saw the effects of the cyclone with her own eyes.

On Monday after her classes, she and her boyfriend decided to make the trip to Tupelo to visit his mother in the western part of town. As they approached the city, she noticed the weather grow progressively worse.

"The wind was insane, and it was raining so hard that you could barely even see the rain," Webb said. "There was dime-sized hail, and that lasted for like 30 minutes. Then it slowly tapered off and everything was

just quiet."

Though she did not personally see the now-viral images of demolition on Tupelo's North Gloster Street, she saw many traces of large debris, downed light poles and fallen trees.

Despite the massive devastation, Webb said that just hours after the tornado hit, she saw numerous city workers as well as citizens coming together to clean up the mayhem the tumultuous twister had left behind.

"It seems like the city of Tupelo is already in gear to getting stuff back in line," Webb said. "There are people dragging limbs off the street. Some areas have power again."

According to The Weather Channel's website, the months with the overall greatest number of tornadoes are April, May and June. In the Southeast region, however, the peak season for these natural disasters is February through April.

Incidences of tornadic weather on college campuses are not an uncommon occurrence.

In late evening of April 27, 2011, the University of Alabama was devastated by a violent EF4 multiple-vortex tornado. Leav-

ing a path of destruction of over 80 miles, the tornado killed 64 people, including six University of Alabama students, and caused approximately \$2.4 billion of property damage.

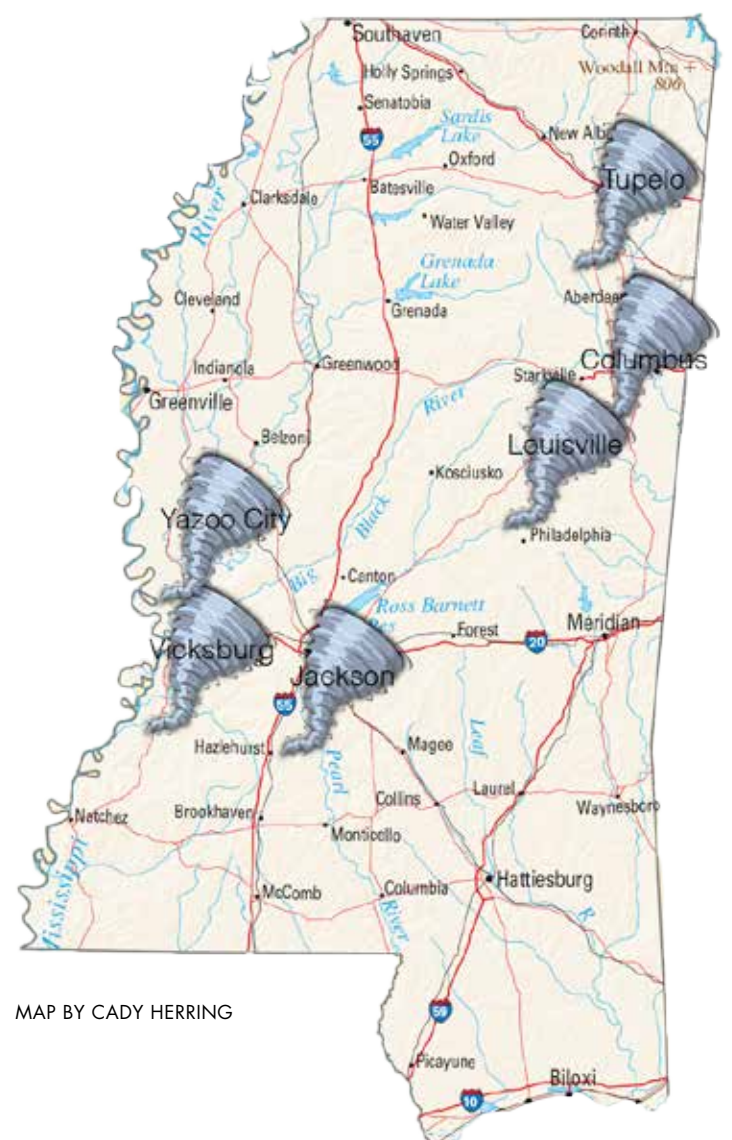
Over the past two days, various RebAlerts regarding tornado watches and warnings were issued to students and faculty members of The University of Mississippi.

While the intent of these weather alerts was to inform students about possible hazards on campus, confusion surfaced regarding the degrees of danger to which the terms "tornado watch" and "tornado warning" refer.

The university's Crisis Action Team, formed in 2008, is responsible for monitoring and notifying students and faculty of possible threats to the Ole Miss campus. The most common concern seen by the group is associated with weather. Associate Provost Noel Wilkin is a member of this team.

"A tornado watch means that the conditions are favorable for the formation of a tornado,"

See QUIET, PAGE 4



MAP BY CADY HERRING

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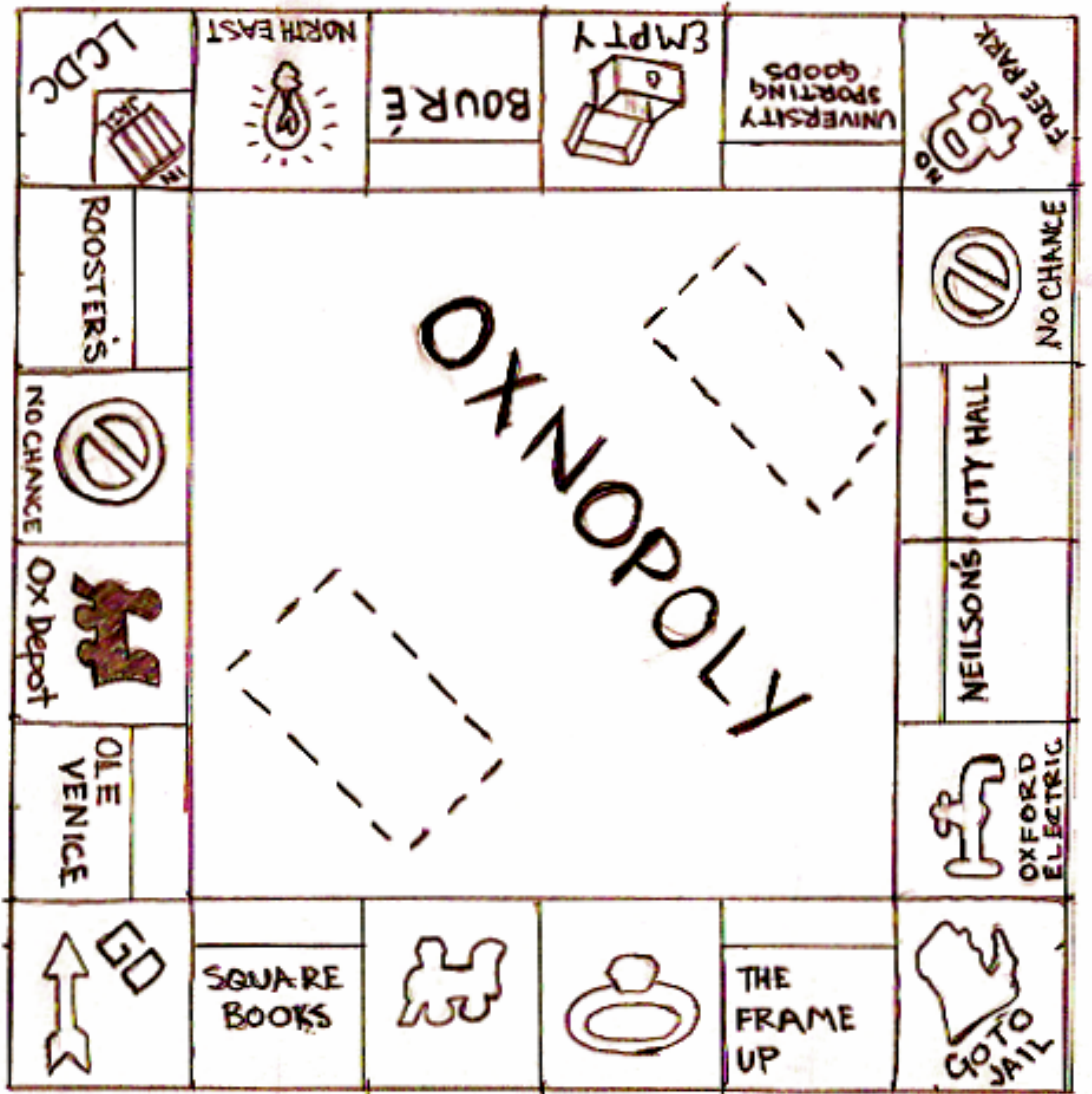
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*Orion Wilcox*  
14



**COLUMN**

## Equality of human ability



**BY ORION WILCOX**  
opwilcox@go.olemiss.edu

“You do not take a man who for years has been hobbled by chains, liberate him, bring him to the starting line of a race, saying, ‘you are free to compete with all the others,’ and still justly believe you have been completely fair . . . This is the next and more profound stage of the battle for civil rights. We seek not just freedom but opportunity — not just legal equity but human ability — not just equality as a right and a theory, but equality as a fact and as a result.”

The above quote is how President Lyndon B. Johnson laid out the concept of affirmative action in a speech at Howard University in June of 1965.

The purpose of the policy, first set in motion through an executive order issued by President John

F. Kennedy, was to ensure fairness in the hiring process while also recompensing African-Americans and other minorities for centuries of mistreatment and discrimination.

Over the past half-century, the Supreme Court has struggled to define the limits of affirmative action.

In *Regents of the University of California v. Bakke* (1978), the justices ruled that quotas set aside for minority applicants equated to a discrimination of the majority. Today, although universities cannot set quotas for minorities, they can consider race and the institution’s diversity as a factor in determining admissions.

Last Tuesday, the Supreme Court ruled once again on an affirmative action case.

In *Schuette v. Coalition to Defend Affirmative Action*, the court ruled 6-2 in favor of a Michigan referendum that bans race-based admissions policies at the state’s institutions of higher education. In this ruling the justices made clear that the place for decisions on affirmative action policies is the ballot

box and not the courtroom.

In light of this decision, more states should take to the ballot box to put an end to race-based admissions policies. Affirmative action is not the proper policy tool to achieve “equality as a right and as a result.”

In a famous paper, University of Chicago economist Thomas Sowell found that in many cases minorities admitted to elite universities based on affirmative action policies found themselves unprepared for the high standards. Sowell argued that these students may have been more successful at less competitive institutions.

Sowell’s point was not that minorities were less capable than their peers, but instead that when an individual is admitted to a university on any factor other than his intellectual ability, she or he may not be properly prepared for the rigors of that institution.

It is true that in states where the use of affirmative action in admissions policies has been banned, minority representation at state universities has declined. However, the

goal should not be to simply have more diversity at our public institutions; it should be to have equal opportunity regardless of diversity.

We should scrap affirmative action admission policies for alternatives that ensure all students receive a quality education starting in kindergarten.

We can begin by reforming the process by which we allocate funds for our public schools.

Currently many states employ regressive funding policies, in which education funds flow away from the schools that are most in need. This absurd reality is largely the result of basing school district funding on income and property taxes. Districts whose residents have the highest income and the most valuable property receive the most funding.

In order to achieve truly equal opportunity, we should act affirmatively to make sure every school district in the country, regardless of income or racial majority, receives necessary funding.

*Orion Wilcox is a senior economics major from Bay St. Louis.*

**THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN**

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Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

The Daily Mississippian is published daily Monday through Friday during the academic year.

Contents do not represent the official opinions of The University of Mississippi or The Daily Mississippian unless specifically indicated.

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

ISSN 1077-8667

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

## New Oxford fire station under construction

BY DREW JANSEN  
ajjansen@go.olemiss.edu

The Oxford Fire Department plans to finish construction of its new Fire Station No. 1 on Dec. 2. The site is located on McElroy Drive beside the existing Oxford Post Office.

Construction on the project began in March as a part of a larger reshuffling of facilities to compensate for the growth and changes in Oxford.

The new station will replace the existing Fire Station Nos. 1 and 2 until the department relocates the current Fire Station No. 2 to Sisk Avenue near the Oxford Conference Center and the new Oxford High School.

"We're sort of playing hopscotch, trying to realign the stations in Oxford and better position ourselves," Oxford Fire Department Chief Cary Sallis said.

Fire Captain Jason Gossett commented on the need for reorganization of the department's network of stations.

"Anything we can get to help

add personnel, to better our location and to get to different locations because Oxford's growing so much makes a difference in how prepared we can be," Gossett said.

The temporary operation of three stations instead of four will not affect university or city fire protection during construction, according to Sallis. The two-story, four-base station will be larger than the existing Fire Station Nos. 1 and 2 and facilitate future growth within the department, according to Sallis.

"The new Station No. 1 gives us room to continue the growth we've had," Sallis said. "The department has grown tremendously since the 1970s when we had maybe three or four guys on shift."

The department is also seeking to acquire a roughly 1.5-acre plot for a training facility adjacent to the new, 1.8-acre Fire Station No. 1 plot. The training facility would greatly increase the department's capacity to train and drill on-site, particularly in live fire scenarios.

"We average maybe three or four actual structure fires per year, and the issue is that you risk getting a little rusty," Sallis said.

Lafayette County volunteer firefighter and senior mechanical engineering major Jeremy Roy noted the convenience such a facility would bring to local firefighters.

"Firefighters in the area basically all have to make a trip at one point or another to the Mississippi Fire Academy in Jackson," Roy said. "They have a lot of resources there, but you have to travel and take time off. Having those resources here would make it so much easier for the city and maybe the county."

Also adjacent to the future Fire Station No. 1 is the construction site for the future Oxford Emergency Operations Center. The Oxford Emergency Management Agency began construction after receiving a \$750,000 grant for the project from FEMA in 2011.

Oxford Emergency Management Agency Director Jimmy Allgood expressed the value of



Construction for Fire Station No. 1 on McElroy Drive is seen Monday. LOGAN KIRKLAND | The Daily Mississippian

the facility to the region and local community.

"I really think it's going to be an asset to the community to have a dedicated Emergency Operations Center where we conduct the necessary operations during global or regional disasters and

emergencies," Allgood said.

The Oxford Fire Department has about 60 full-time firemen and 15 reserves. The fire department currently has a class five fire rating with the state insurance rating bureau, according to the city of Oxford's website.

**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**  
**Stephen Stone**  
B.A. IN BIOLOGY  
*"Evaluation of Microbial Diversity Present in Herbal Supplements As Revealed by PCR-Based 16S RRNA Sequence Analysis."*  
Directed by Dr. Colin Jackson  
Tuesday, April 29 at 11:00 am  
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. 31594

**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**  
**Adam Weaver**  
B.A. IN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES  
*"North-African Immigration to France: Economic Benefit or Burden?"*  
Directed by Dr. Michael Harvey  
Tuesday, April 29 at 10:00 am  
Croft Boardroom Room 305  
The defense is open to the public.  
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**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**  
**Lindsay Thomas**  
B.S. IN PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES  
*"A Comprehensive Review of Malaria with an Emphasis on Plasmodium Resistance."*  
Directed by Dr. Michael Warren  
Tuesday, April 29 at 11:00 am  
Faser Hall Room 217  
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## QUIET,

*continued from page 1*

Wilkin said. “What we hope is that the alert tells people that they should prepare, know what they need to do in terms of when a tornado happens.”

Wilkin said a warning is the next step meteorologists use to describe the possible occurrence of severe weather. The issuance of a warning indicates that Doppler radar has gathered information that a tornado has formed or a civilian has physically spotted a tornado on the ground.

“The best way that I think about it is, ‘watch’ is plan, ‘warning’ is seek shelter.”

When preparing for severe weather conditions, such as a tornado, Wilkin said there is no such thing as being overly cautious. Familiarity with the recommendations for when a warning is issued is essential.

“You want to go to the lowest possible floor, an interior room with no windows,” Wilkin said. “That’s the safest place to be during a tornado.”

“If they are in class or something is going on when a warning is issued, and the sirens go off, all university activities are automatically suspended,” he

said. “That policy is posted on our website. If the sirens go off, then everybody needs to seek shelter immediately.”

Wilkin stressed that when tornado sirens sound, it is of the utmost importance to pay attention and know what to do.

“The sirens mean that a tornado is headed for Oxford,” Wilkin said. “We don’t set them off when there’s a tornado hitting Lafayette County but not coming anywhere near Oxford. It is when Oxford is in the line of the tornado.”

Wilkin said that he and his fellow Crisis Action Team members will continue to provide the university with accurate and relevant danger alerts in the future, but being well-educated when it comes to weather precautions is the ultimate way to ensure protection.

“We strive for excellence in notifying our campus in what’s happened, what’s happening,” Wilkin said. “It’s up to people to know what to do. Your safety is your own responsibility.”

For further weather and Re-bAlert updates, follow @Re-bAlert on Twitter or visit the [olemiss.edu/emergency](http://olemiss.edu/emergency) webpage.



IGNACIO MURILLO | The Daily Mississippian

A damaged building is seen in Tupelo Monday.



THOMAS GRANING | The Daily Mississippian

Damaged buildings are seen along Gloster Street after a tornado in Tupelo Monday.



ROGELIO V. SOLIS | Associated Press

Ambulances gather outside the Winston Medical Center in Louisville, Miss., Monday after a tornado hit the small hospital as well as several homes in the community.



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**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**

**Kendra Wright**

B.A. IN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES  
**“Bolivian Public Health Care: Interculturation for Indigenous Rights.”**  
 Directed by Dr. Katherine Centellas

**Tuesday, April 29 at 1:00 pm**  
**Croft Boardroom Room 305**

The defense is open to the public.  
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**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**

**Katherine Westfall**

B.A. IN PSYCHOLOGY  
**“Promotion of Environmental Engagement through Positive Youth Development in Tanzania.”**  
 Directed by Dr. Laura Johnson

**Tuesday, April 29 at 1:00 pm**  
**Peabody Hall Room 208**

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**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**

**Susanna Rychlak**

B.A. IN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES  
**“Explaining the Change in Fertility Rates in Post-War Italy.”**  
 Directed by Dr. Susan Grayzel

**Tuesday, April 29 at 2:00 pm**  
**Croft Boardroom Room 305**

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THOMAS GRANING | The Daily Mississippian

Residents survey damage along West Jackson Street in Tupelo Monday.

**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**  
**Wesley Youngblood**  
 B.A. IN BIOLOGY  
*"Parasitism and Feather Reflectance in Mourning Doves (*Zenaida macroura*)."*  
 Directed by Dr. Richard Buchholz  
**Tuesday, April 29 at 12:00 pm**  
**Shoemaker Hall Room 114**  
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**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**  
**Taylor Williams**  
 B.A. IN BIOCHEMISTRY  
*"Effects of Androgenic Antagonists on Spatial Memory In the Zebra Finch."*  
 Directed by Dr. Elaine Day  
**Tuesday, April 29 at 2:30 pm**  
**Shoemaker Hall Room 219**  
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**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**  
**Katrina Briscoe**  
 B.ACCY. IN ACCOUNTANCY  
*"An Examination of the Stockholder Response to Corporate Religiosity and Religiosity's Effects on Operational and Financial Reporting Quality."*  
 Directed by Dr. Victoria Dickinson  
**Tuesday, April 29 at 2:30 pm**  
**Holman Hall Room 230**  
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**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**  
**Kaitlyn Barnes**  
 B.A. IN CLASSICS  
*"Beyond Pederasty: Finding Models for Adult Male Homosexuality in Classical Athens."*  
 Directed by Dr. Molly Pasco-Pranger  
**Tuesday, April 29 at 9:00 am**  
**Farley Hall Room 124**  
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**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**  
**Logan Ramsey**  
 B.S. IN PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES  
*"Patient Perceptions of Medication Therapy Management Targeted for Adherence Following the Provision of Influenza Immunizations by Student Pharmacists: Preliminary Findings."*  
 Directed by Dr. Ashley Ellis  
**Tuesday, April 29 at 9:00 am**  
**Thad Cochran Research Center Room 2066**  
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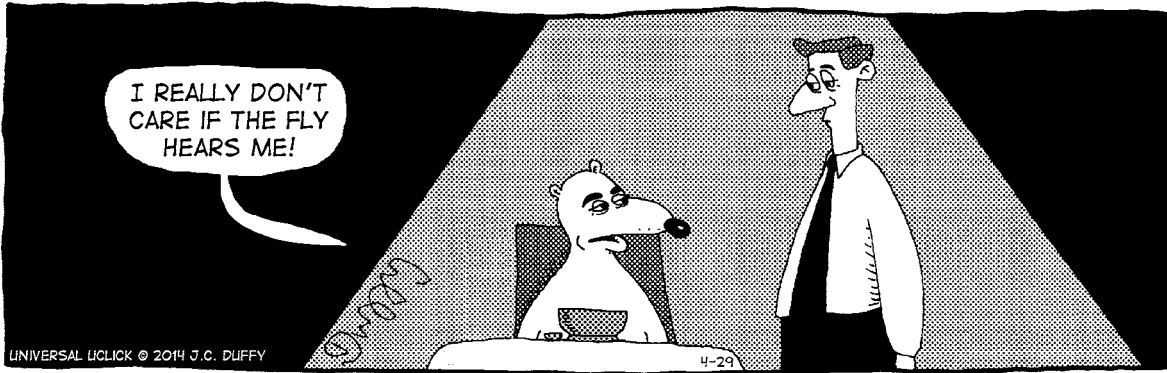
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BY JIM DAVIS



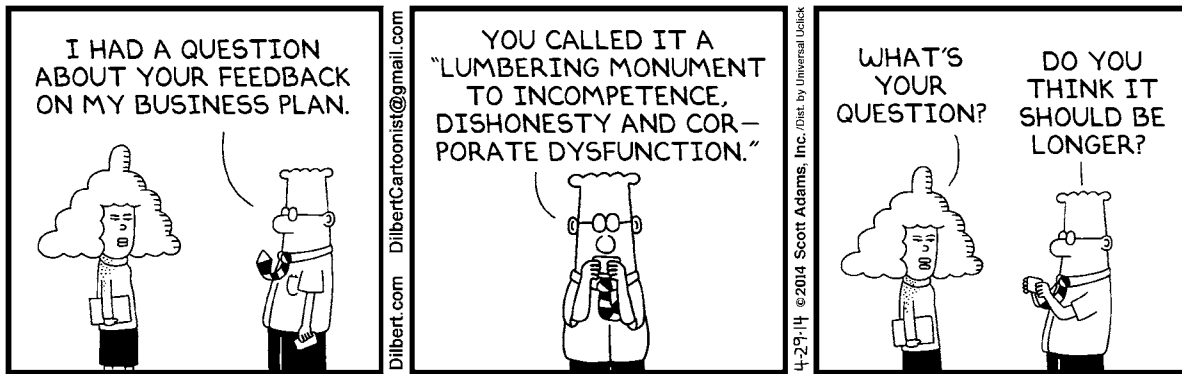
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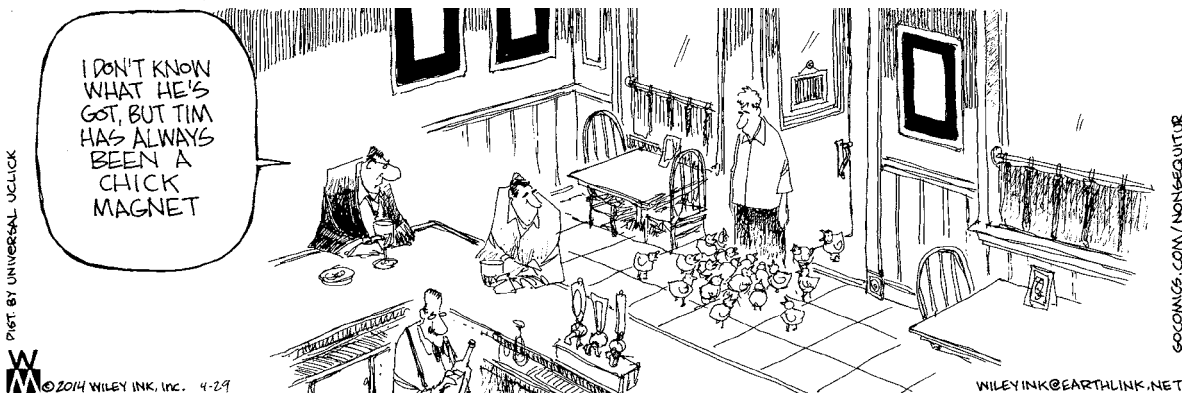
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  - 26 Courier
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  - 35 — Lingus
  - 36 Sinbad's transport
  - 37 — Jean Baker
  - 38 Igneous rock
  - 41 Toss out (hyph.)
  - 43 Did something
  - 44 Cartoonist — Keane
  - 45 Bullring yell
  - 46 Reunion attendee
  - 47 Like some income
  - 50 Off-road vehicles
  - 53 Go for the gold
  - 54 Window-shopper
- DOWN**
- 1 Goodbye, to Gaius
  - 2 Holly genus
  - 3 Obi-Wan portrayer
  - 4 Half of a song
  - 5 Not backside
  - 6 Wind dir.
  - 7 Queen's fliers
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## John Lewis to speak at law commencement

BY MARY VIRGINIA PORTERA  
mvporter@go.olemiss.edu

Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga., will be the keynote speaker for The University of Mississippi School of Law's commencement ceremony May 10.

Lewis was a major player in the civil rights movement. He was an important leader in the March on Washington in 1963 and holds many positions in the U.S. House of Representatives, including senior chief deputy whip for the Democratic Party. He has been awarded numerous honors, including a Presidential Medal of Freedom granted by President Obama.

Law school Dean Richard Gershon spoke of Lewis' encouraging presence.

"The congressman is an in-



John Lewis

spiring speaker," Gershon said. "He will remind the graduates that there is more to life than making money. He was a hero of the civil rights movement, and he made many personal sacrifices to make the country a better place for all of us."

The only living "Big Six" leader

of the civil rights movement, Lewis is especially known for his endeavors to safeguard and establish human rights and civil freedoms. He is also a vital member of the House Ways and Means Committee and its subcommittees.

"He does not have a law degree, but he has had an impact on our laws as a member of Congress," Gershon said. "As a student at Fisk University, John Lewis organized sit-in demonstrations at segregated lunch counters in Nashville, Tennessee. He has been awarded over 50 honorary degrees from prestigious colleges and universities throughout the United States."

Marcus Williams, student body president of the law school, commented on why Lewis will be especially influential as the graduation speaker.

"He was so important in the civil rights movement, which was made up of young people all participating," Williams said. "Since we are all graduating and are young, we can appreciate someone doing something at such a young age of especially significant value."

According to Gershon, Lewis spoke at the dedication of the James Meredith statue on campus, so his return is especially timely.

"Recent events make his return to Ole Miss even more compelling," Gershon said. "He is a great speaker, and I know his remarks will be memorable."

The commencement ceremony will begin at 11 a.m. in the Grove and will honor 152 graduates. Gershon, Williams and Mississippi Bar President Guy Mitchell will also speak at the ceremony.



NewsWatch  
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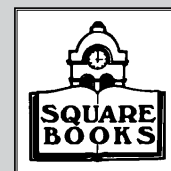
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The Voice of Ole Miss

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OLE MISS SPORTS INFORMATION

## Ellis, Trent named to Pitcher of the Year watch list



Chris Ellis releases a pitch during a game.

FILE PHOTO (TYLER JACKSON) | The Daily Mississippian

OXFORD, Miss. — A pair of Ole Miss pitchers found themselves on the watch list for Pitcher of the Year when right-hander junior Chris Ellis and left-hander redshirt sophomore Christian Trent were tabbed by the College Baseball Foundation for consideration recently.

The duo are part of a group of nine players from the Southeastern Conference to be named to the list, and Ole Miss is one of only two schools in the league to have more than one pitcher on the initial 47-man watch list.

The Pitcher of the Year Award, sponsored by Diamond, will be presented during the National College Baseball Hall of Fame's annual Night of Champions on June 28 in Lubbock, Texas.

Ellis anchors the Friday night spot in the weekend rotation for the Rebels and holds a 6-0 record on the year with a 1.81 ERA through 11 starts. In five of those

starts, Ellis has not allowed an earned run and also tallied a complete-game shutout of Georgia State earlier this season.

The right-hander has posted 46 strikeouts and allowed only 22 walks with 14 earned runs in his 69.2 innings of work this season. Ellis has posted seven quality starts this season.

Trent also holds a 6-0 record on the year as the Saturday starter for the Rebels and has tallied nine quality starts. He also holds a 2.25 ERA this season and his 58 strikeouts and 72.0 innings of work lead the team in both categories. He also has held opponents to a team-best .223 batting average against while walking only 12 batters in his 11 starts.

The southpaw tossed a complete-game shutout of Auburn to help the Rebels post a series sweep of the Tigers, one of three series sweeps in SEC play this season for Ole Miss.

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**William Bumpas**  
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**John Andrew Carter**  
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 Directed by Dr. Matthew Di Giuseppe  
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**SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION**  
**Dominic Antonacci**  
 B.A. IN PSYCHOLOGY  
*"Attaching Meaning to Sex: Attachments Styles and Possible Mediators of Safe Sex Behavior."*  
 Directed by Dr. Carrie Smith  
**Tuesday, April 29 at 11:00 am**  
**Honors College Room 311**  
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