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WHAT'S INSIDE...

An argument for neither presidential candidates

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The new Lamar Lounge: From whole hog to red sauce

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New players key for Ole Miss basketball team

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Chancellor Vitter receives international welcome Supreme



The Office of Global Engagement hosted the Ole Miss International Community Welcome and Reception for Chancellor Jeffrey Vitter on Tuesday at The Inn at Ole Miss.

Members of the Chinese Student Association and Department of Music performed playing the violin and flute along with a Polynesian dance performance by the Polynesian Association of Mississippi, "A Welcome in Many Tongues" and an "African Fashion

Walk" displaying the traditional attires of various African ethnic groups.

Following introductions by Nosa Egibor, senior international officer and executive director of global engagement, Provost Morris Stocks, and Vitter, gave remarks to the audience about the value of internationalization at Ole Miss and the power of higher education to transform lives, communities, and the world

Court candidates visit campus

DM STAFF REPORT

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Candidates running for the Mississippi Supreme Court District 3 Place 1 will speak and answer questions from the public.

The forum will be hosted by the Ole Miss Law School Student Body and will include all four candidates: John Brady, Judge Bobby Chamberlin, Steve Crampton and Judge Jim Kitchens. They will speak at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 2 at the Weems Auditorium in the Robert C. Khayat Law Cen-

The forum will be akin to a political panel and will include opening statements, questions from the moderator, questions from the audience and then closing statements.

A reception will be held after the forum has ended.

Oxford family grows through inspiration, adoption

JENNIFEK FKONING

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ennifer Adkins has a full house. Oxford local Adkins and her husband are the parents of six children, three of whom came to the family from foster care. Adkins said she felt like God was calling them to foster children and eventually adopt three of them.

"We had prayed about which direction to go and there are so many different avenues of adopting and we really felt strongly that the Lord was leading us to adoption through the foster system," Adkins said.

According to the Congressional Coalition of Adoption Institution, more than 415,000 American children are living in the foster care system. This number has risen in recent years. The Coalition reports almost 108,000 of the children in foster care are eligible for adoption, but the average child waits four years to be adopted.

A 2012 study of Mississippi adoption showed 423 children were adopted out of foster care that year while more than 800 still waited.

Adkins said her family wanted to explore alternative options for growing their family.

"My oldest two children are biological ... there's 5-and-ahalf years between my oldest and my second," she said. "We

didn't anticipate it being that many years between them."

Adkins said this age difference made the couple consider adoption, so she and her husband became licensed to adopt through the foster system. Their social worker told them about a child in need of a home, and Adkins said she couldn't turn the opportunity down.

The Adkins fostered several children that ended up being reunited with their own families after their living situations improved.

The family's third child Ana came to them after her family's rights had been terminated.

The timing was perfect for

SEE ADOPTION PAGE 3



COURTESY: FACEBOOK.COM



COLUMN: FIRST IN SERIES OF ELECTION COLUMNS

I refuse to vote for the lesser evil in the election Correction



MIKALA TURNER thedmopinion@gmail.com

We are less than a week away from election day (or as I like to call it, doomsday) and the craziness of this election remains surreal to me. It seems like we are being forced to choose between two

extremely flawed candidates. Donald Trump has made a myriad of insulting comments towards women, minorities and all kinds of public figures. On top of that, he lacks the calm and collected temperament needed in a president.

Hillary Clinton remains entrenched in controversy, the most notable being her deleted emails that were sent while she was Secretary of State under President Obama. Just last week, the FBI reopened its previously closed investigation on the topic. While it is unclear what exactly they are investigating, it reinforces the habit of what many view as corrupt behavior.

In what world is this ethical?

Everyone says it is a battle to find the lesser of the two evils, but choosing the "lesser" is harder than it seems, especially when both candidates seem to be equally bad options.

I do not want to settle for the "lesser evil." This is the presidential election; the words "lesser evil" should not even be used when referencing the candidates.

Yet, it is.

I am one of the average 88 million eligible adults that are choosing not to vote at all in this election because I do not see one good candidate that actually has a chance of winning.

Truth of the matter is, media focuses on Trump and Clinton because they are the only ones that seem to be on citizen's radar when thinking of the election.

Gary Johnson and Jill Stein are completely forgotten. They should not be, but they are.

This is why I am not voting. This is the first time I actually can vote in a presidential election, and I choose not to because this election literally seems like a joke. Or maybe the election is like a horrible game of Would You Rather.

You cannot win either way.

Think of it this way. We have two candidates that if they walked into McDonald's today for a job interview, both of them might be rejected for potential criminal activity. Yet, we allow them to run

for president of our country. Make sense? No?

Yeah, I thought not.

I understand that I am not making any contribution to society by not voting, but what contribution would I make if I did?

I would either be voting for one of two people that would make very poor presidents. In my opinion, there is no point anymore.

As the candidates go from state to state, they battle for every person's vote. Well, I can tell them one thing.

Neither of them will be getting my vote.

Mikala Turner is a sophomore social work major from Bruce.

An article on yesterday's front page inaccurately described incidents on election night 2012.

After some students engaged in racially charged verbal confrontations, social media posts erroneously reported there were violent incidents, which in turn led to several hundred students showing up as curious spectators, according to a university committee's review.

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MEMBER NEWSPAPER

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

The Daily Mississippian welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be e-mailed to dmletters@olemiss.edu.

Letters should be typed, double-spaced and no longer than 300 words. Letters may be edited for clarity, space or libel. 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. Letters should include phone and email contact information so that editors can verify authenticity. Letters from students should include grade classification and major; letters from faculty and staff should include title and the college, school or department where the person is employed.

ADOPTION

continued from page 1

the Adkins, and they adopted

Adkins said all three adoption cases were completely different. Ana didn't move in with the Adkins until she was 16 months old. It took almost nine months for her adoption to be completed she was 2 years old before she was officially adopted.

The Adkins family fostered their second adopted child, Jeremiah, before adopting him because he was not eligible for adoption.

Their third adopted child Corbin moved in with the family at almost the same time Jeremiah did.

The longest the Adkins have fostered a child is 18 months, but some children are reunited with their family after only two months. A child has to live with a family for a minimum of six months before the adoption can be legalized, however.

"In the back of my mind is, what if something happens,"

Adkins said. "Three separate occasions now we have chosen to trust the Lord, not always necessarily trusting the system. Not because the system is a failure but just because there are so many 'what ifs."

The Adkins said they treat every child they foster as one of their own. Adkins said it is nerve-wracking waiting to hear if one of their foster children will officially become part of their family. She said adoption's permanency is relieving.

"We just have a complete relief. It is almost like we can begin from that day with permanency," Adkins said. "My goal is to always make my kids think that the day they move in is the day permanency begins. In my heart, once adoption is final is the day permanency begins."

All three of the adopted Adkins children are African-American, and the couple's biological children are white. Adkins said she had no problem adopting children of another race because their close friends and families have been supportive from the be-



According to the 2012 study,

The Atkins children

ginning.

a higher percentage of African-American children wait to be adopted than are adopted each year in Mississippi.

"There's been some people that have not understood why we do what we do," Adkins said. "We take that as their

opinions and we continue on as a family."

Chloe and Will Adkins, biological siblings, were young when their parents adopted their three new siblings. The youngest biologi-Adkins' cal child Nora was not even born. Chloe can drive now and said she loves to pick the kids

up from school. She and Will help out with the rest of the kids as much as possible. Nora stays with Adkins when she isn't working. Adkins said all of her children have adapted well to their constantly changing sibling situation.

"We do have to talk through our emotions when children come and leave," Adkins said. "Before a child comes, we always try our best to prepare. There's an excitement among the kids when there's someone new coming. A new brother or sister brings that excitement."

The Adkins never set out saying they were going to adopt a certain number of kids. Adkins said she thought four children was a nice number, but now they have three boys and three girls.

"The more kids we have, people kind of start to question, okay what are y'all doing? When are you going to stop?" Adkins said. "The answer for when we will stop is when we feel like God is not calling us to parent any more children, that's when we'll stop."







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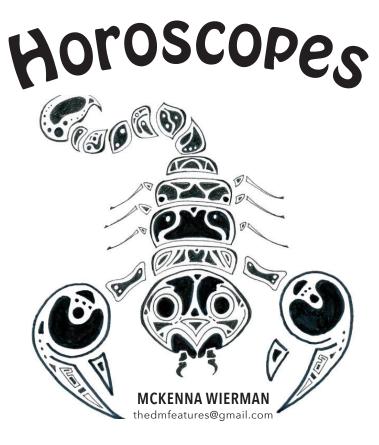
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Capricorn, the Goat: Dec. 22- Jan. 19

Strange and marvelous things are about to happen for you this November. You've been taking on project after project, and while you've handled it all gracefully, you do need to rest. The universe is determined to give you a little break from your busy life, and Pluto, the forgotten planet, is playing a major role in your life, Cap. This month you're going to get some great sleep, you'll have plenty of time to work out (though whether or not you actually do is up to you,) and you'll get to spend time with friends and family. Look forward to a happy surprise around the 22nd. Also, you will be transported into the realm that separates the living from the dead on the night of the next full moon for eight hours.

Gemini, the Twins: May 21- June 20

You're so lucky this month, Gem! The stars know how stressful life can be, and how easily you're emotions are touched, and they appreciate all the hard work you've been doing. Expect some good news around the 4th, and a surprise gift of love around the 21st. This month Neptune will be pulling on your aura in the strangest of ways, making you irresistible to dogs. You're basically going to become the dog whisperer, which is so cool because you're going to get to touch a dog every day this month.

Aquarius, the Water Bearer: Jan. 20- Feb. 18

Your friends and family need you, Aquarius. November is a time for family and celebration, but lately vou've been feeling the winter blues. Maybe it's been the hustle and bustle you've been dealing with recently, or a small personal tragedy has caught you off guard and left you feeling vulnerable and small. Worry not, my pet. You'll feel all better soon. Love is coming to you from every direction this month, as Venus is holding a very intense power over the houses of the zodiac. The stars also tell me that the ghost of a jazz musician will be visiting you in the night several times this month. My advice is just roll with it, honestly. Jazz ghosts are pretty cool, they tend to smoke a lot but other than that they're rather charm-

Cancer, the Crab: **June 21 - July 22**

You've been a little spoiled crab, haven't you, Cancer? Things are going pretty good for you, and on a larger scale, will continue to go well for the rest of the year. There may even be the development of a significant relationship in your near future. Love is in the air. However, in order to restore cosmic balance, the universe will have to take some action. This November, you will be cursed by an array of minor inconveniences. It will be very annoying, but you're just going to have to tough it out and look on the bright side. Without experiencing some bad luck every now and again, it builds up around you and then comes crashing down with fiery biblical vengeance, and no one wants that.

Pisces, the Fish: Feb. 19- March 20

Feeling a little out of it these days? For the past few weeks, Pisces, your life has felt like a puzzle you can't figure out how to put together. For a while it's because you thought there was a piece missing, but maybe you've been building the wrong picture. It's OK to start from scratch sometimes, and this month especially, your friends and family are here to support you. Things should feel really clear around the 24th, and light some candles. Lay off inyou'll know what your next step should be. This November Saturn is aligned with the moon in such a now is perfect for drawing out way that your aura will be radiating with confidence. Take advantage of that strength! Speaking of strength, yours will be super enhanced by the light of the moon, giving you super human powers whenever you're exposed to lunar rays. You should, like, go lift some probably be scary so mentally cars or whatever.

Scorpio, the Scorpion: Oct. 23- Nov. 21

Last month was kind of tricky, hey Scorpio? Time away from your family has been especially hard lately, and no matter how much you sleep, you never feel rested. Treat yourself to some new pajamas and your world will be turned upside down. Venus, a key planet this month, will be doing some crazy stuff in the cosmos. It's alignment in relation to Aries is hyper-intensifying the planet's power over life on earth, and doing some wacky things to the zodiac houses. In your case, it will soften the veil between life and death for you, but in a very mysterious way. The stars tell me that from the 19th to the 26th you will acquire the ability to resurrect any bird of your choice. Choose carefully.

Aries, the Ram: March 21- April 19

It's been a little rough lately for you, Aries. Frequent travel has left you weary and put you in a strange mood. You're charm is rubbing off, and you're starting to act like kind of a jerk. You need to take a break from it all and set aside some time for yourself. Turn off the TV, put away your phone, and go relax somewhere peaceful and quiet. Listen to jazz, read some poems, toxicating substances for a while too; the moon's positioning right all the negative energy you've been building up over the past few months. You'll be back in the swing of things in no time. This month, you will be visited by 10 ghosts. I don't know what they are going to do to you, but it will prepare for that.

cher: Nov. 22- Dec. 21

Sagittarius, the Ar-

You need to stay on top of your health this November, Sag. Working so hard last month has left you feeling kind of low, and you'll need to boost your strength for the holidays. Make time to relax every day; hang out with friends, watch a movie, or cook yourself a nice meal. But be warned: there are strange things happening in the universe this time of year, and Venus is behind it all. The planet has moved into a particular alignment that will mess with your mouth in a creepy curselike way. Everything you eat will taste like sand until you drink the recommended daily intake of water each day. But honestly, you should be drinking that much water anyway to stay healthy. So work harder to stay hydrated than you were before.

Taurus, the Bull: April 20- May 20

You've finally managed to perk up a little, Taurus. Spending time with friends and family will do you good this month, buddy, and you can look forward to some words of encouragement from a loved one around the 13th that will make your whole year. Someone is noticing your talents, and wants to pay you to do something you love. Money is in your future. The stars have also warned me that Venus is doing some strange things this month, and starting on the 9th, anything you make out of clay and/or paper mâche will come to life. It may animate immediately, or even within your lifetime, but it will eventually live. You pretty much have the power to create souls. Be wise.

Virgo, the Virgin: Aug. 23 - Sep. 22

October was a busy month for you, to say the least, Virgo. Your schedule was jampacked, and you felt like it was never going to end. Well, don't worry, November is here and it promises to be a lot kinder to you. You'll still have a lot to do, and there are definitely some large projects in your future, either at work or at home. Make sure you stay organized, and you'll tackle everything with ease. Venus is smiling on you, and since we started the month off with a new moon, the planet of life has bestowed life upon you. You will have nine lives this month. Try not to use them all — no exchanges or refunds - lives expire at 11:59 p.m. on Nov. 30th, restrictions apply. Results may vary. Not redeemable in all 50 states.

Leo, the Lion: July 23 - Aug. 22

Leo, November is the perfect time for you to get in touch with your softer side. Stress from school, work or your social life has been building up inside you, and you need to get it out. Take long walks and get as much sunshine as you can. Around the 15th, Jupiter will fall into a special position just for you. The gravity of the planet will soften your soul, making it easier and more comfortable for you to open up to people you trust and feel at ease. The aura of communication you develop will temporarily grant you the ability to understand the language of the beetles. Not the Beatles, just bee-

> Libra, the Scale: Sep. 23- Oct. 22

Great things are in store for you this November. Libra, you're going to get some exciting and happy news from a family member this month. Mars has positioned itself perfectly in relation to Mercury, which heightens your primal instincts, making you alert and focused. You're going to get a lot of work done in the next few weeks! Pluto's positioning is also warping the balance of space and time that keeps you tethered to the present. As a result, you will gain the ability to time travel, but only while you are asleep. And, since you're going to be so productive this month, you're going to be really tired, so you probably won't wake up while you time travel and therefore probably won't notice.



Currence transforms Lamar Lounge into Italian joint

ETHAN DAVIS

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If you frequent Lamar Lounge, you have probably been feeling a bit deprived these past few weeks because the restaurant closed at the beginning of October for renovations and a revamp. But the wait is almost over. According to City Grocery Restaurant Group owner John Currence, the new and improved Lamar Lounge, which he's renamed "Fat Eddie's" will open on Monday.

Currence said the decision to change from a whole hog barbecue establishment to a Delta red sauce joint came after he and his team realized the old model simply wasn't working. The restaurant's update will include a new, Italian-focused menu.

"After three years of running the place, it just became abundantly clear that, no matter what we did, we couldn't support the financial demands of trying to run a whole hog barbecue restaurant," Currence said. "Whole hog has a lot of challenges ... You really end up with a finished product that costs about five times as much as it would to cook a shoulder."

In addition to the monetary issues, there were service issues that arose and had to be addressed.

"When we took over Lamar Lounge, we didn't want to change anything about it ... We very deliberately took a sort of hands-off approach to the service and the food and feel of the place and tried not to change anything," Currence said. "We didn't really fulfill the promise of providing what it is that we have become known for providing, as far as quality of service and caring and warmth. That was something that always struck me: You didn't feel warm when you walked in here; people didn't greet you like they do at our other restaurants."

Currence and his team are taking care to make sure Fat Eddie's does not repeat the mistakes of its predecessor. The past month's work will soon reach a head with final decisions on a menu and an official opening.

"We're working very deliberately through the recipe process. Then, we'll start training the staff to prepare those things," Currence said. "We'll probably do a little bit of service next Sunday night, sort of a soft opening with friends and family, very quietly invite some folks by to check it out. Then we'll open for good on Monday for supper. We'll see how long it takes to get our feet underneath us and get some folks hired to run a lunch

Despite the closing, Currence believes the updates will be far more successful because the new menu will tap into a demand that he has noticed since he has been

"Barbecue, for me, was a little bit of hubris because it's something that I've always wanted to do, and I thought that I could. I expected it to work," Currence said. "I never heard anybody say, 'We really need a whole hog barbecue place.' But this is something I've listened to consistently for 25 years: 'We just need an Italian

Senior English Major Ariel Young has eaten at Lamar lounge several times before but is excited to see what comes next.

"My friends and I ate there [Lamar Lounge] about once a month, and I always liked it. It was the kind of comfort food that you just crave," Young said. "But I'm looking forward to seeing what they come up with for the new menu because Italian food is my favorite, and I think a more casual place to enjoy a good meal will work really well."

The physical aspects of the restaurant will not change extensively, and neither will its spirit. Currence still wants to make the establishment a tool for bettering

"The intent remains...[for Fat Eddie's] to be the place where, at the end of the year, we can make a sizable donation to a different charity that we identify," Currence said. "That's always been a component of this place. Eating here



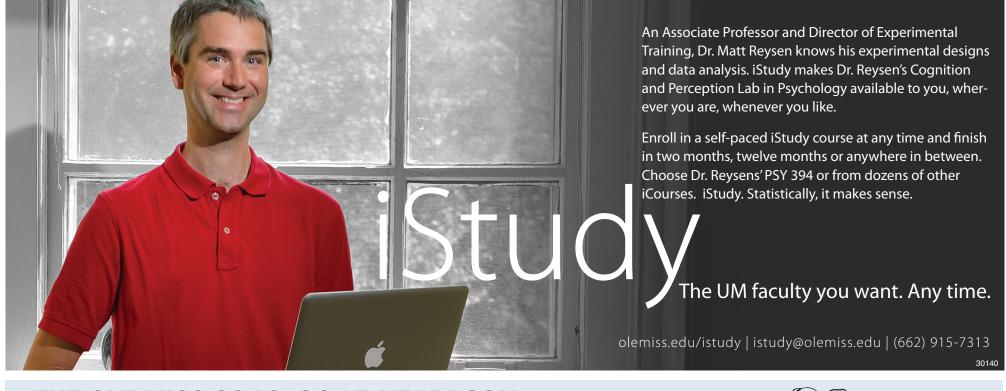
John Currence is transforming Lamar Lounge into Fat Eddie's, a Delta Italian red sauce joint set to open Monday, Nov. 7.

is giving back to the community."

Currence believes that this restaurant will reopen and fulfill all expectations his customers have come to expect.

"I hope this resonates with folks a little bit better," Currence said. "I'm very excited about it. This is the food that I started my career in the kitchen cooking. It's all very familiar to me and I have a deep love for it. We're very excited about it and hope that that excitement and enthusiasm carries to the public as well."

If you are interested in getting some previews of the changes, be sure to visit Lamar Lounge's Facebook page for more information. This month, a Fat Eddie's Twitter account also emerged along with a promising recipe test photo. If Currence is right, this will be the new go to place for simple, homey Italian food in Oxford.



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New faces bring excitement to Ole Miss basketball

SAM HARRES

egdavis1@go.olemiss.edu

This year is shaping up to be an exciting one for Ole Miss basketball. With several key acquisitions made in the backcourt, the Rebels look primed for a strong season. Head Coach Andy Kennedy, who is the winningest coach in Rebel basketball history, is entering into his 10th season in Oxford.

"My staff has done a good job of locating the right pieces for us. I have always felt comfortable in our approach. Sometimes, quite frankly, we aren't quite good enough. Sometimes we suffer an injury at an inopportune time and we are like 99.9 percent of the other teams in the country and can't overcome that," Kennedy said. "Hopefully that is not the case this year. But I like this team and the way they are approaching this season. I know we have some really hungry guys. We are looking forward to getting

started."

With two-time All-SEC guard Stefan Moody leaving for Turkey, the Rebels knew that replacing his contributions on and off the court will be difficult. Rasheed Brooks, a 6-foot 5-inch shooting guard returning for his second season, will look to pick up some of that slack.

"Last year I was just a guy kind of out there, helping out in different spots," Brooks said. "This year, we only have two seniors, me and (Sebastian Saiz), and I'm the more vocal of the two so I feel like my role changes in terms of leadership."

The Rebels made no qualms about their desire to supplement their roster in the offseason. With four seniors from last year's team gone, Kennedy went all out in his efforts to bring talent to Oxford. Chief among his acquisitions was Cullen Neal, a 6-foot-5-inch junior transfer from the University of New Mexico. Cullen looks to factor in at point guard and his maturity and skill on the ball have the coaching staff excited.

"Cullen has been tremendous. This has not been an easy transition," said Kennedy, "I have been blown away with how coachable he is because at 22, we are all probably all set in our ways. I know I was at probably 12. He has been really open to terminology and how we do things differently. He has been doing very well."

Adding to Kennedy's perimeter options this year is 6-foot-2-inch junior guard Deandre Burnett. After transferring from Miami's program last year, Burnette was forced to sit out due to NCAA regulations. Burnett is back this year, however, and ready to make an impact. He brings hustle and a three point shooting threat to a Rebel offense that desperately needs someone to fill Moody's

"I've made no bones about that. The kid can score at all three levels and he can be a volume guy for us despite him never scoring a point for us yet," Kennedy said. "But I think he is a guy that can do it."

Perhaps the most exciting new face for Ole Miss basketball will be true freshman shooting guard Breein Tyree. Coming out of Somerset, New Jersey as a top 100 prospect, Tyree turned down offers from Kansas State, UMass and USC before committing to Ole Miss. His 6-foot 2-inch frame is large enough for the college game and his stats at high school basketball powerhouse St. Joseph's back his offensive abilities up. While Kennedy knows transitioning to the college game will take time, he's anticipating big things for the freshman.

"This is sacrilegious for me to say this, but the initial name that



Rasheed Brooks attempts to drive towards the basket during a game against Auburn last season. Brooks' role on the team has changed from being a guy helping in different spots to being a vocal leader on the team.

jumps off the board is that you have a Russel Westbrook-type savage intensity to him. He jumps off the page the way he attacks," said Kennedy, "I have never had a guard like him here. He is not as vertically gifted as (Stefan) Moody, and Moody was cat quick. But he is bigger, stronger off the bounce, more versatile in the things that he can do, and off one leg, he is as good as anyone as we have had prior to the injury."

Brooks, entering his final sea-

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son of eligibility, knows that if his team is going to make noise on a national level, they need to keep their heads down and put the work in now.

"I don't want to talk too much but I think we're gonna be pretty good, we've got a good bond, and we work hard and compete," Brooks said. "Those are some good things but we've still got a lot to work on. I don't want to say we're the best team in four years but we could be."

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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

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Fadol Brown steps up as the season winds down

CODY THOMASON

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The injury bug has been severe on the Ole Miss football team this season, with key players like Kendarius Webster and Eric Swinney going down with season-ending injuries early in the year and multiple offensive lineman picking up injuries during last week's game. One of the first injury casualties, senior defensive end Fadol Brown, has been working his way back from a fracture in his foot and was able to see limited action in the last two weeks.

Defensive Coordinator Dave Wommack said Brown played well against Auburn last Saturday.

"I think it's nice to have him back, it's nice to have his mass and his size in there," Wommack said.

Wommack said he hoped he would be able to play more snaps this week against Georgia Southern, who have been very effective running the ball this season.

"I hope he feels good enough to do that because I like his size in there, and his strength, and I think he's a good athlete and when he's healthy and going he's one of our best players," Wommack said.

Brown said while his foot was getting better, he was still dealing with pain.

"It's mental at this point," Brown said. "Man, we're 3-5, I'll worry about that later. I'm just focused on finishing strong and helping this team with whatever



PHOTO BY: MARLEE CRAWFORD

Fadol Brown throws up the landshark after making a tackle during Ole Miss' loss to Auburn. Nearing the end of Brown's collegiate career, it's important for the team to finish strong and attempt to reach out

Brown said he felt kind of rusty in his two games since returning to the field, especially since his practice time has been limited, but felt significantly better against

we need to do."

Auburn last week than he did against LSU. "I'm just trying to get the flow of things and get my groove back,"

Brown said. As a senior nearing the end of his collegiate career, Brown said

it was very important for the team to finish strong and make it to a bowl game.

"We've got to win out, that's just what it is," Brown said. "We have to win every game from this point on and physically dominate up front, and whatever we need to do defensively to get the job done."

Now that he's returned to the field, Brown was prepared to take on more responsibility to help the defense.

"Me, as a leader, and as an older guy, I have to step up and be more vocal, try to provide more energy for the team by making better plays," Brown said. "Just finding a way to impact the game and help my teammates rise up."

As a senior leader on the team, Brown was prepared to do whatever it takes to help the team be more successful in the coming weeks.

"If it's less reps, more reps,

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whatever it takes for us to win I'm

willing to do," Brown said.

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Mageo gets his chance against Georgia Southern

CODY THOMASON

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Another week, another rotation at linebacker. All year Ole Miss has struggled at stopping the run, prompting the coaches to go through a revolving door of linebackers in an effort to shore up the second level, but they've yet to find a group that's stuck.

The Rebels could be without Demarquis Gates against Georgia Southern, as the junior who usually sees a good bit of time at the middle linebacker spot is battling a knee injury.

This week, senior Rommel Mageo will get the start at middle linebacker. Mageo is a graduate transfer from Oregon State who has been unable to crack the lineup again after struggling early in the season. Mageo was named the starter this week despite only playing six plays against Auburn, which shows how desperate the coaches are to fix their run de-

"We're looking for somebody, and he has played more physical than some of the other guys in practice," Wommack said. "We've been a kind of a merrygo-round of who's playing this week and who is playing the next week so it obviously tells you we're searching."

Wommack attributed some of

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Mageo's early struggles to learning a new defensive system on such short notice, as Mageo lined up in a 3-4 defensive front when he played with the Beavers.

"I think anytime you come in and you get there in the middle of the summer and learn some of the things we're doing, you have to be multiple enough to be able to adjust against different personnel packages, and he hasn't been able to do that," Wommack said. "He's got very few reps but he's been listening in the meetings, picking things up and again we're searching and hopefully he'll do."

Mageo said he couldn't wait to get on the field on Sunday and felt he had improved since the beginning of the year.

"I'm more comfortable in the scheme now, I know what we're doing and what we want to do as a whole group," Mageo said. "I'm more comfortable in the playbook and also my teammates."

Mageo and the other Rebel linebackers will need to step up if they hope to slow down Georgia Southern's rushing offense, as the Eagles have gone for 1,912 yards and 15 touchdowns on the ground this season.

"Well, they present a challenge because they recruited or either had transfers that were really talented kids at the skill positions and their speed is concerning,"



Despite struggles earlier in the season, Rommel Mageo will get the start at middle linebacker against Georgia Southern this weekend. Mageo said he felt more comfortable with the playbook and also has improved since the beginning of the year.

head coach Hugh Freeze said. "They create option on almost any kind of blocking scheme, whether it be power, counter, zone. A lot of the time they are

going to have the capability of pulling and running the option and that's not the easiest thing to prepare for when you don't see it that regularly. It is a concern be-

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cause of their speed and athleticism, but also because of the system. We've got a lot of work to do to get zoned in on stopping that."

