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Commemorative edition

Friday, November 11, 2016

THE DAILY

Volume 105, No. 59

MISSISSIPPIAN

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI SERVING OLE MISS AND OXFORD SINCE 1911 [Visit theDMonline.com](http://theDMonline.com) [@thedm_news](https://twitter.com/thedm_news)

Just imagine.



PHOTO BY: CAMERON BROOKS

EDITORIAL STAFF:

CLARA TURNAGE
editor-in-chief
dmeditor@gmail.com

LYNDY BERRYHILL
news editor
thedmnews@gmail.com

SLADE RAND
BRIANA FLOREZ
assistant news editors
thedmnews@gmail.com

PATRICK WATERS
opinion editor
thedmopinion@gmail.com

ARIEL COBBERT
CAMERON BROOKS
photography editors
thedmphotos@gmail.com

LANA FERGUSON
managing editor
dmmanaging@gmail.com

MCKENNA WIERMAN
ZOE MCDONALD
lifestyles editors
thedmfeatures@gmail.com

DEVNA BOSE
assistant features editor

BRIAN SCOTT RIPPEE
sports editor
thedmsports@gmail.com

CODY THOMASON
assistant sports editor

MAGGIE MARTIN
copy chief
thedmcopy@gmail.com

ADVERTISING SALES MANAGER
Ben Napoletan
dmads@olemiss.edu

SALES ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
Cary Allen
Ethan Gray
Kathryn Hathorne
Blake Hein
Danielle Randall
Sharnique Smith

ADVERTISING CREATIVE DESIGNERS
Grace Baird
Ellen Spies

ISSN 1077-8667

PATRICIA THOMPSON
Assistant Dean, Student Media and Daily Mississippian Faculty Adviser

S. Gale Denley Student Media Center
201 Bishop Hall,
P.O. Box 1848
University, MS
38677-1848

Main Number: 662.915.5503
Business Hours: Monday-Friday,
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MISSISSIPPI
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THE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
FACULTY AND STAFF CONGRATULATE
CHANCELLOR VITTER ON HIS INAUGURATION AS
THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI'S 17TH CHANCELLOR.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING OUR TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE IN
BUSINESS EDUCATION UNDER YOUR LEADERSHIP.



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Get to know your chancellor

Quick facts

New Orleans native
Graduated from Notre Dame in 1977
Got his Ph.D. from Stanford in 1980
Three children - Jillian, Scott and Audrey
Has served at Brown University, Duke University, Purdue University, Texas A&M and the University of Kansas

The chancellor's favorites

Color: dark blue
Songs: "I can't stop loving you" by Ray Charles, "He stopped loving her today" by George Jones
Holiday: Christmas
Starbucks drink: latte
Book: "War and Peace" by Leo Tolstoy, "A Confederacy of Dunces" by John Kennedy Toole
Movie: The Music Man
Most influential professor: Don Knuth, computer science professor at Stanford

The Division of Administration and Finance

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congratulates Chancellor Vitter

on his inauguration as the seventeenth Chancellor of the University of Mississippi



The First Lady of Ole Miss



PHOTO BY: ARIEL COBBERT

LANA FERGUSON
dmmanaging@gmail.com

Oxford is a little different from the town in eastern Kansas where Sharon Vitter grew up, just an hour away from the University of Kansas.

She remembers living on a farm and family vacations being if it rained on a Thursday, her dad would pack the family up in the car, and they'd drive to his aunt's house in Colorado.

After graduating high school, Sharon moved the hour way to attend the University of Kansas, graduating with a pharmacy degree in

1978. She worked at a hospital in Kansas City for about six months, while taking the state board exam and receiving her license when a friend made her an offer she couldn't refuse.

"I had a friend moving to California," she said. "I hadn't been west of the Rocky Mountains or east of Kansas City, so you know, young people take adventures, so I moved to the Bay Area."

She moved to California in early 1979 and worked at another hospital until she passed the California board test, got her license and landed a job at the Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford.

Stanford was where Chancellor Jeffrey Vitter was finishing his Ph.D and where the Vitters would meet.

"I don't know if we can say that," Sharon laughed softly, covering her smile with her hand, laughing a little louder. "We met in a bar."

Happiness fills her eyes when she tells the story of how they first met.

"This was before cellphones and texts," she said. "There was a Chinese restaurant in Menlo Park; it was a little hole-in-the-wall restaurant, so if you ordered takeout, you would show up, place your order, and they'd send you across the street to the British Bankers Club, which was a bar-restaurant to wait, then you'd wait 15-20 minutes to get your food."

After a 12-hour shift at the hospital, Sharon had gone to the British Bankers Club to meet up with some fellow nurses. As fate and circum-

SEE FIRST LADY PAGE 7

The Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College Faculty, Staff and Students congratulate Dr. Vitter on his Investiture as the Chancellor of the University of Mississippi

32778

Patterson School of Accountancy congratulates Dr. Jeffrey Vitter on becoming the 17th Ole Miss Chancellor

30050



Congratulations! Welcome Chancellor Vitter



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30040



The School of Education congratulates

the seventeenth Chancellor of the University of Mississippi

1848

Dr. Jeffrey S. Vitter

education.olemiss.edu

30054

Congratulations to Dr. Jeffrey Vitter

17th Chancellor of the University of Mississippi

Best Wishes from the Staffs of



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— AT OLE MISS —
HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER

30131



CHI OMEGA

Congratulates

CHANCELLOR

VITTER



Thank you so much!

30036

The Division of Student Affairs

congratulates

the Seventeenth Chancellor of the University of Mississippi,

Dr. Jeffrey S. Vitter

We are honored to serve under Chancellor Vitter's leadership.

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congratulates

the Seventeenth Chancellor of the University of Mississippi, Dr. Jeffrey S. Vitter

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The University of Mississippi
**COLLEGE OF
LIBERAL ARTS**

30180

FIRST LADY
continued from page 4

stances would have it, as she was moving to leave, Sharon met Jeff.

“We visited for maybe five or 10 minutes and I was like, ‘I’m going to take my friend home,’ and he goes, ‘Can I get your name?’ I said ‘Sharon Weaver.’ He goes, ‘Can I get your phone number?’ I said, ‘I’m in the book’ and left.”

The next week, her phone rang, and Jeff was on the other end.

“I was pretty impressed that he tracked me down,” Sharon said. “So, we went out for dinner to a Chinese restaurant but a different one so we could sit-down and eat.”

The two began dating in May 1980. After Jeff finished his dissertation, he moved to Providence, Rhode Island, and taught at Brown University, visiting California over holidays and breaks.

“We dated long-distance for about a year-and-a-half. So, we decided we weren’t getting any younger, so either decide to make a commitment and get married or go our separate ways,” Sharon said. “So, we got engaged and were married in August of 1982.”

The wedding was in Sharon’s hometown in the church where her parents were married. They began their married life in Providence and spent more than a decade there. Since, the Vitters have been in many college towns. They’ve been to the University of North Carolina, Purdue University, Texas A&M and the University of Kansas before coming to Ole Miss.

“After being away for 31 years, it was full circle to get to go home,” Sharon said. “It was a good time for me to be there for family and different things going on. It worked out well.”

Jeff is from New Orleans, so Sharon said they have been visiting the South for more than 30 years. She loves the milder climate with the short winters while still having the change of season. She said the Midwest and South are similar in how welcoming and nice the people are.

Sharon said she couldn’t imagine not living in a university town.

“University towns are special places,” Sharon said. “They all have their own vibe. There’s just a great aliveness

to university life that I really enjoy. Just being around young people gives you a positive opinion of the future of the country and what the future will bring.”

Working with all of Ole Miss’ alumni and students has been her favorite part of Oxford. She said being chancellor or first lady isn’t about Jeff or her but rather the respect people have for the university and its figure head.

She said she feels a great responsibility to do what is best for Ole Miss and to make sure her actions are always positive.

“I feel like I am representing the university, so I want to be a good steward, and I think Jeff feels the same way,” Sharon said. “With that there’s so many opportunities to meet great alumni that come back and visit or keep in touch with the university. It’s very inspiring and rewarding to know that these people love Ole Miss as much as Jeff and I have come to.”



Jeffrey and Sharon Vitter pose for a photo on their wedding day in August 1982.

COURTESY: SHARON VITTER



*The Ladies of
Kappa Kappa Gamma
would like to congratulate
Chancellor Vitter on his
Inauguration*

32799

**Congratulations
Dr. Vitter**

We look forward to working together
to advance the transformative power
of higher education.



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30134



congratulates

**CHANCELLOR VITTER
ON HIS INVESTITURE AS
THE 17TH CHANCELLOR OF
*The University of Mississippi***

30177

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Growing up a Vitter:



PHOTO BY: ARIEL COBBERT

Audrey (right), and Jillian (left) sit on the back porch of the Chancellor's House before the Auburn game.

CLARA TURNAGE
dmeditor@gmail.com

To the campus, Jeffrey Vitter is the university's chancellor, a renowned computer scientist and leader, but to Jillian and Audrey, he's just "Dad."

"Seeing people recognize our dad is slightly weird, but it's really exciting at the same time," Audrey said on the

back porch of the chancellor's house before the Auburn football game. "I think we all knew it was his dream. When he came and visited and saw how much Ole Miss meant to the students and the faculty and community, I think it was really exciting for him, and he really fell in love with this place."

Since they were young, Jillian and Audrey said their father has been an advocate

of education.

"I can remember him taking us to school in the morning and asking us math questions in the car," Audrey said.

Vitter would ask them brainteasers and tell them riddles, always challenging them to grow and to question things.

"They've always focused on curiosity and education," Jillian said. "Talking about

cool things that we're learning about at the table, it was a good environment for encouraging us to pursue whatever we're interested in."

The Vitters moved often while growing up; they lived in several states as Jeff's jobs took them from Rhode Island to North Carolina to Indiana to Texas and to Kansas. Jillian and Audrey said this made their family grow close.

"We have lots of fun mem-

ories of family trips," Jillian said. "We got to go to some cool places. He'd be at work, and we'd all tag along. In the evenings, we'd all explore. It was good family time."

The sisters, sitting on the porch side by side with their similar shades of red hair, smile and play off of one another as they talk about their father.

SEE DAUGHTERS PAGE 15

The Meek School of Journalism & New Media

welcomes and congratulates

Dr. Jeffrey S. Vitter



"Die Luft der Freiheit weht."



Jillian, Scott and Audrey

SLADE RAND

thedmnews@gmail.com

Jeffrey Scott Vitter Jr. wants to be an astronaut.

Ole Miss Chancellor Jeff Vitter's 28-year-old son is in his third year of a doctoral program in mechanical engineering at the University of Texas. When NASA opened up public applications for its astronaut program in December 2015, the former U.S. Army ranger said he couldn't pass up the opportunity, but NASA hasn't gotten back to him yet.

In the meantime, Scott is studying water and energy relations in urban settings.

"Right now, I work with smart electricity and smart water meter projects," he said. "Trying to come up with different recommendations for city planners to plan those systems in a better way."

Scott graduated from Notre Dame in 2010, just like his dad did 40 years earlier. The father and son even lived in the same dorm.

"My dad brainwashed me as a Notre Dame fan since a very young age," he said.

The chancellor's son said his time deployed with the Rangers partly inspired him to follow an

engineering path. Scott was on active duty as an engineer officer from 2010 to 2014, primarily stationed at Ft. Brag and Fayetteville. He spent all of 2013 in Afghanistan, where he said his patrol cleared improvised explosive devices along Army routes. Scott said he was fascinated by the country's energy situation and lack of water infrastructure.

"The Army was awesome. It took me right out of high school and helped me grow up pretty quick and helped make me a better person," he said.

Scott was 17 when he decided to join the Army. He said the decision caught his parents by surprise, but they were behind him.

"They're always challenging me to make sure that what I'm doing is what I actually want to do and supporting me," he said.

Scott said his parents have done a nice job offering him advice without trying to steer him one direction. He said even though his dad is passionate about education, he never pushed him to work in academia. Chancellor Vitter has worked in educational administration for decades, but his son said Ole Miss' job offer spurred him.

SEE SON PAGE 15

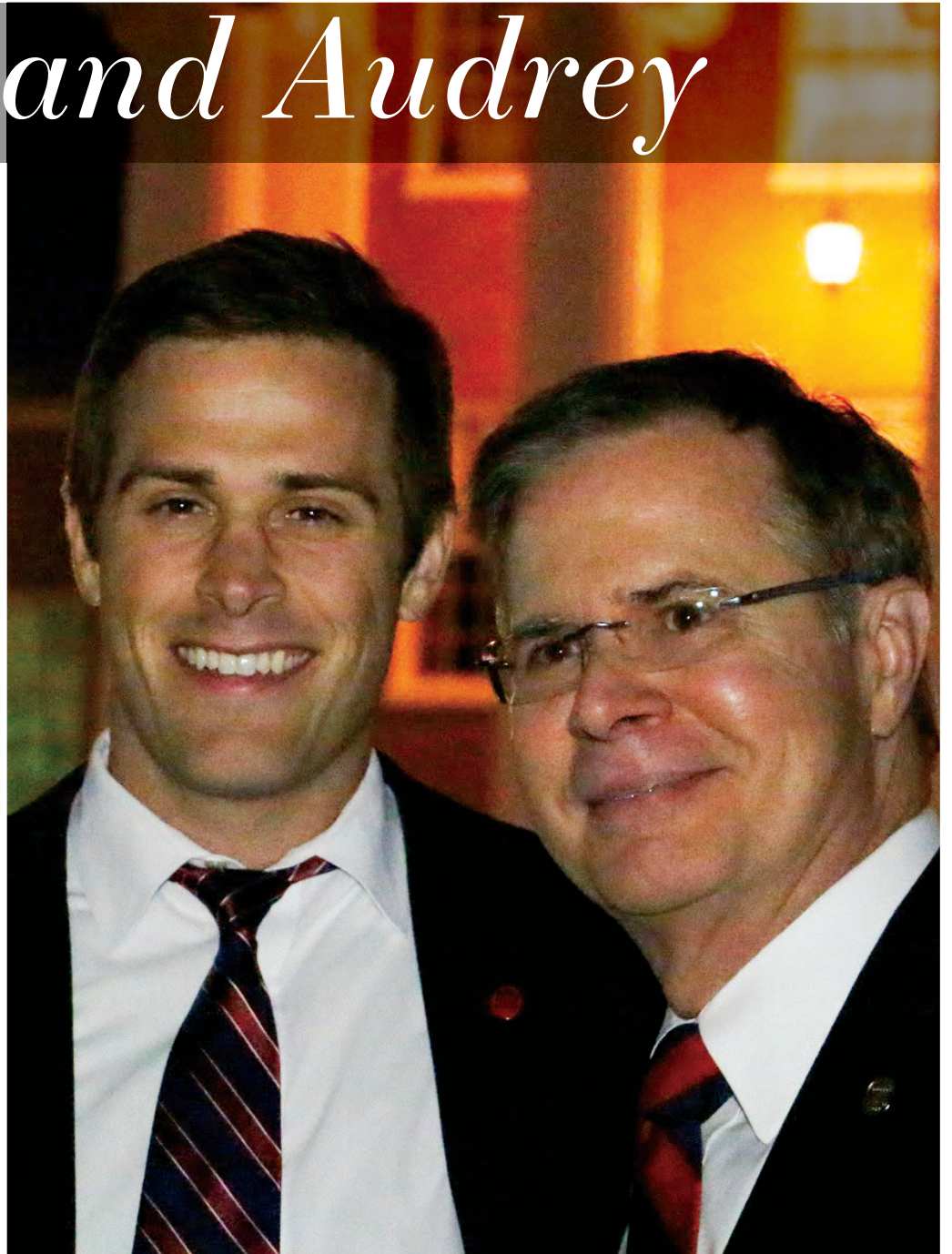
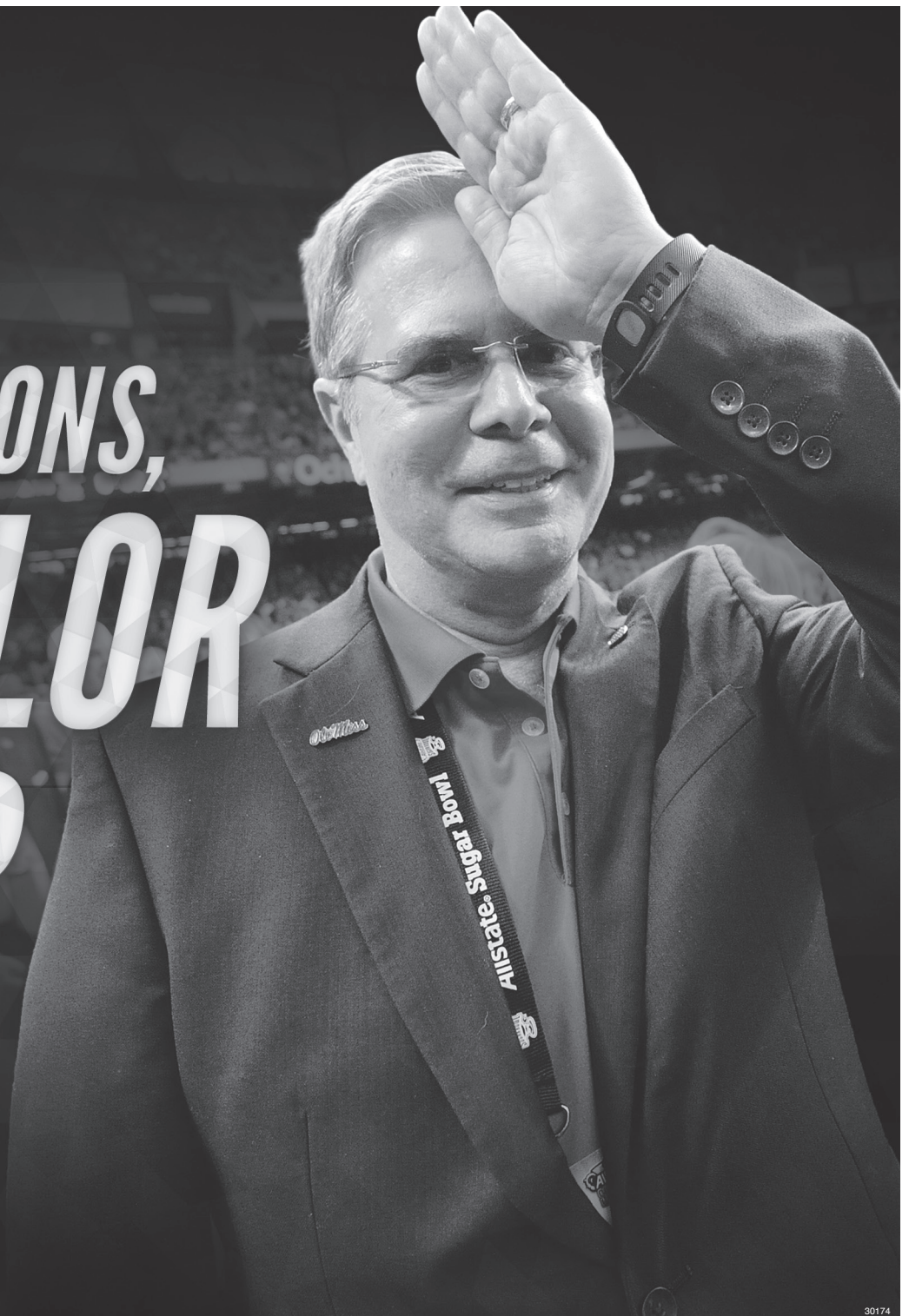


PHOTO BY: ARIEL COBBERT

Chancellor Vitter and his son Scott pose for a photo in the Circle after the investiture.

**CONGRATULATIONS,
CHANCELLOR
VITTER**

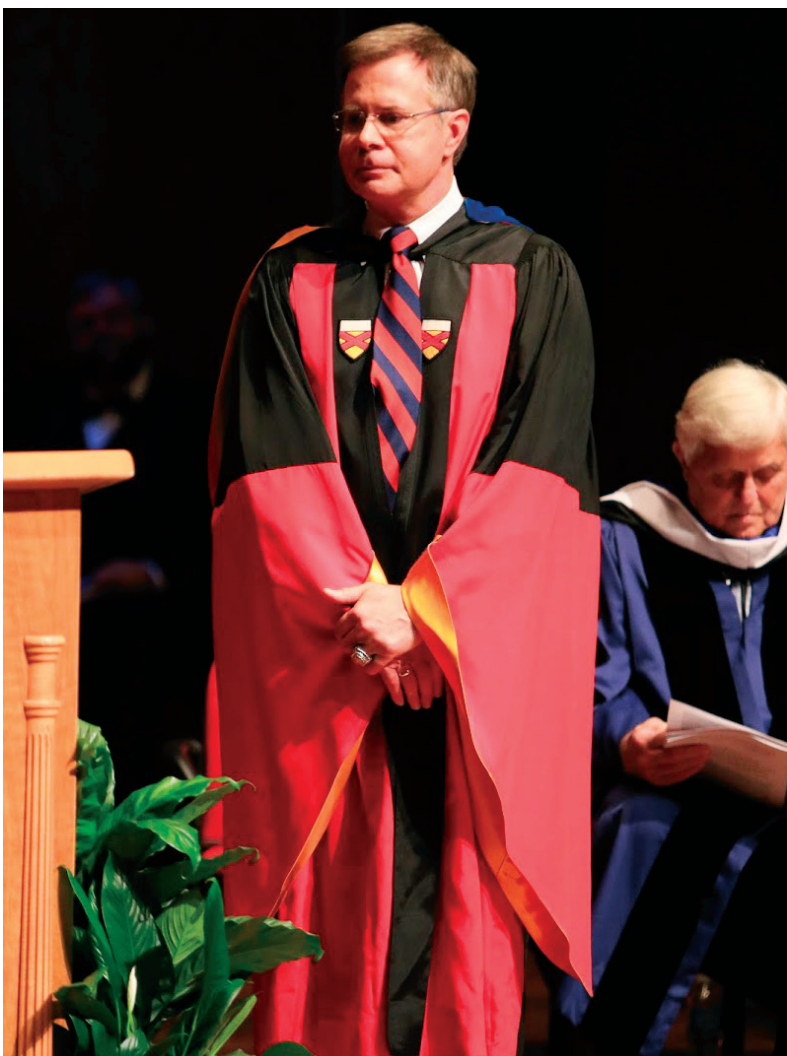
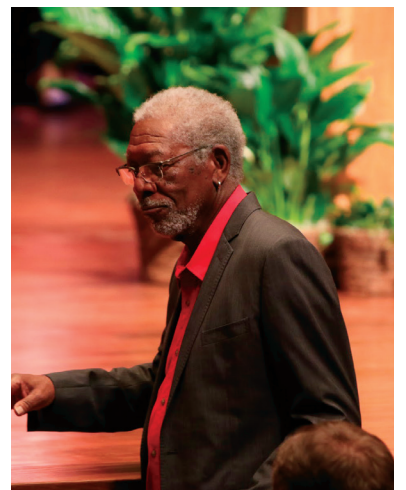
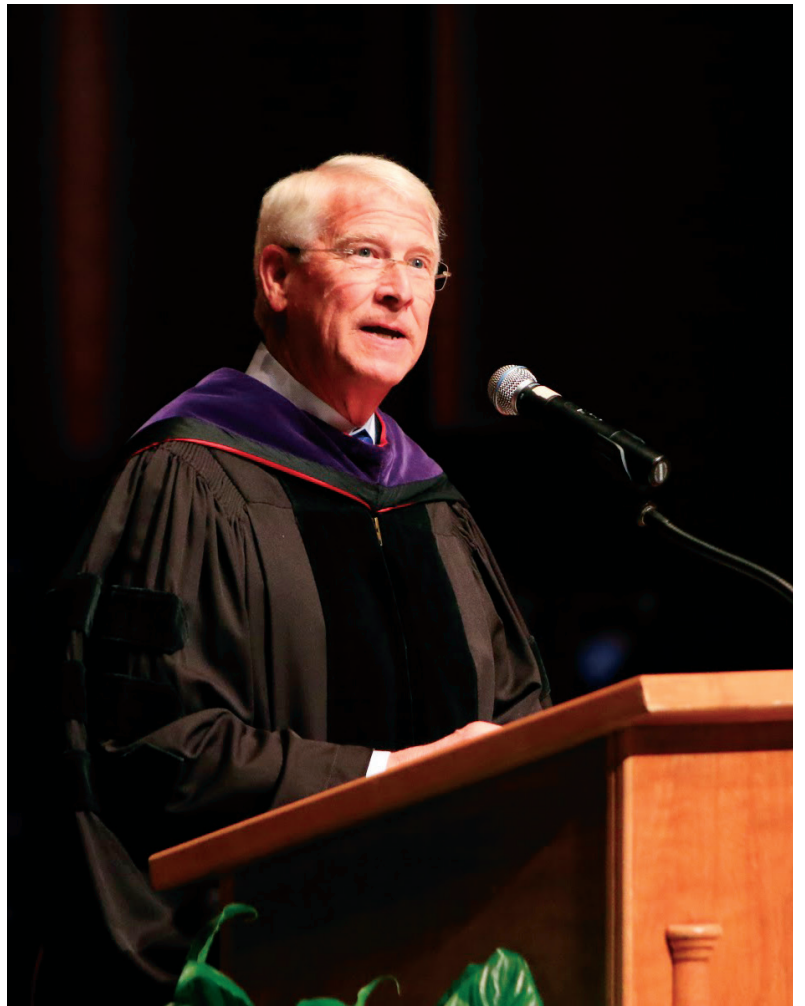
**Ole Miss
ATHLETICS**





Family, faculty, friends and students gathered in the Gertrude Ford Center for Jeffrey Vitter's investiture. He was inaugurated Thursday evening as the University of Mississippi's 17th chancellor.

Photos by: Cameron Brooks, Ariel Cobbett and Cady Herring



Investing in our future



PHOTO BY: CAMERON BROOKS

LANA FERGUSON

dmmanaging@gmail.com

“Dr. Vitter, do you accept this charge?”

“Hell yeah. Damn right,” Chancellor Jeffrey Vitter responded, a smile on his face.

For the 17th time in the 168 years since the University of Mississippi was founded, a chancellor was inaugurated.

Vitter’s first day in the office was spent in New Orleans celebrating a Sugar Bowl win in red and blue confetti. In the year since moving to Oxford and taking on the chancellor position, Vitter has been tugged on by both the university’s past and future, trying to find a happy medium between the two. Through his Flagship Forum initiative, he has worked to hear ideas from the Ole Miss community on how to improve the university. Three hundred and fourteen days have passed.

Last night, Douglas Rouse, president of the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Education, placed the

University Medallion around Vitter’s neck, officially inaugurating him as chancellor.

The ceremony opened with one of Vitter’s favorite songs, “Clarinet Marmalade.” The jazz music flowed into the crowd, giving a taste of his New Orleans hometown roots.

More than 1,000 seats in the Gertrude C. Ford Center were filled with federal, state and local government officials, delegates from more than 50 higher education institutions, elite alumni and current staff and students from the Ole Miss family.

Vitter sat onstage next to former Chancellor Robert Khayat, the predecessor to former Chancellor Dan Jones, who was not in attendance. His wife Sharon, and children Jillian, Scott and Audrey, and Vitter’s siblings sat on the front row.

“I am privileged to be your partner in building a vibrant Mississippi through higher education,” Vitter said.

He thanked the Ole Miss family for welcoming his family

with open arms.

“Though they are too numerous to name, I would like to acknowledge the many mentors, collaborators and friends whose support has made it possible for me to stand before you today,” Vitter said. “I’m especially grateful to the IHL Board and to my siblings, family and friends, who not only encouraged Sharon and me to move to the South but to move to the best possible place in the South, right here at Ole Miss.”

Vitter said he was sorry his parents were not in the audience because they were the ones that instilled in him and his siblings the importance of higher education and the importance of using education to help people.

Tears filled Vitter’s eyes and he began choking up as he spoke about his parents and how proud he was of his family.

The crowd applauded, giving Vitter a chance to collect himself.

“And of all the things I say today, none will be more heartfelt than the statement that I would not be here today if it were not for Sharon,” he said.

He said for the past 34 years, Sharon has been his life partner, chief advisor and champion.

“Anyone who has met Sharon knows she was the real reason I was hired,” he joked.

Speakers before Vitter also raved over Sharon and all she is doing to help the university and Vitter.

Next, Vitter moved to look to the future. He said higher education creates opportunity as well as ideas and innovations that drive economy and society forward.

“There is nothing more important to the future of

our society than higher education,” Vitter said. “It is the great enabler that helps people lift themselves up above their circumstances and disadvantages.”

He said higher education is the most powerful tool there is to change the world.

“Success of this magnitude is a shared legacy left to us by the thousands faculty, staff, students, alumni, government leaders and friends who have invested their time, talents and resources in this university.”

He said when he arrived on campus more than 300 days ago, the dialogue about great-

pressing issues as Mississippi’s flagship university.

“Underneath our persona as a great public international research university beats the heart of who we are,” Vitter said. “At our core, Ole Miss is a family. It is in our DNA to enable every student, from the least prepared to the most prepared, to thrive and succeed.”

He said the power of higher education touches people everyday. He said without alumni who have invested themselves back into Ole Miss, the university would not be where it is and would not be able to dream of where it could be.

“Underneath our persona as a great public international research university beats the heart of who we are. At our core, Ole Miss is a family.”

- CHANCELLOR JEFFREY VITTER

ness and the hallmarks of a flagship university.

“When I arrived at Ole Miss 314 days ago, not that I’m counting,” Vitter said. “We began a dialogue about greatness and the hallmarks of a flagship university.”

Vitter wants Ole Miss to go from great to greater and he continued that dialogue through his Flagship Forum, which were events across the campus and town he conducted during his first 100 days as chancellor.

He said this 10-month conversation can fuel imagination for a bright and exciting future.

“While great institutions share many things in common, none is more primary than the relentless drive to be ever greater,” he said.

Vitter said academic excellence is the foundation for everything else. Along with academic excellence, the university brags the highest rate of enrollment it has ever had, bigger and better programs, the best retention rate in the state and taking on the responsibility of addressing the state’s most

“We are standing atop a peak in our history, and from where we now stand, we can see that there are higher peaks,” Vitter said. “In becoming what we are, we have created greater capacity for what can be.”

He said the conversation must shift from what makes Ole Miss a great university to what it can do to become greater. Vitter said the roadmap to this focusing on the four themes that emerged during the Flagship Forum were: academic excellence, building healthy and vibrant communities, athletics excellence, and the enabler of them all, people, places and resources.

Expanding the international presence on campus and teaching students to prosper in a global society was another goal he set.

“No one person or discipline has the full breadth of knowledge capable of solving the world’s grand challenges,” Vitter said.

He announced the Flagship

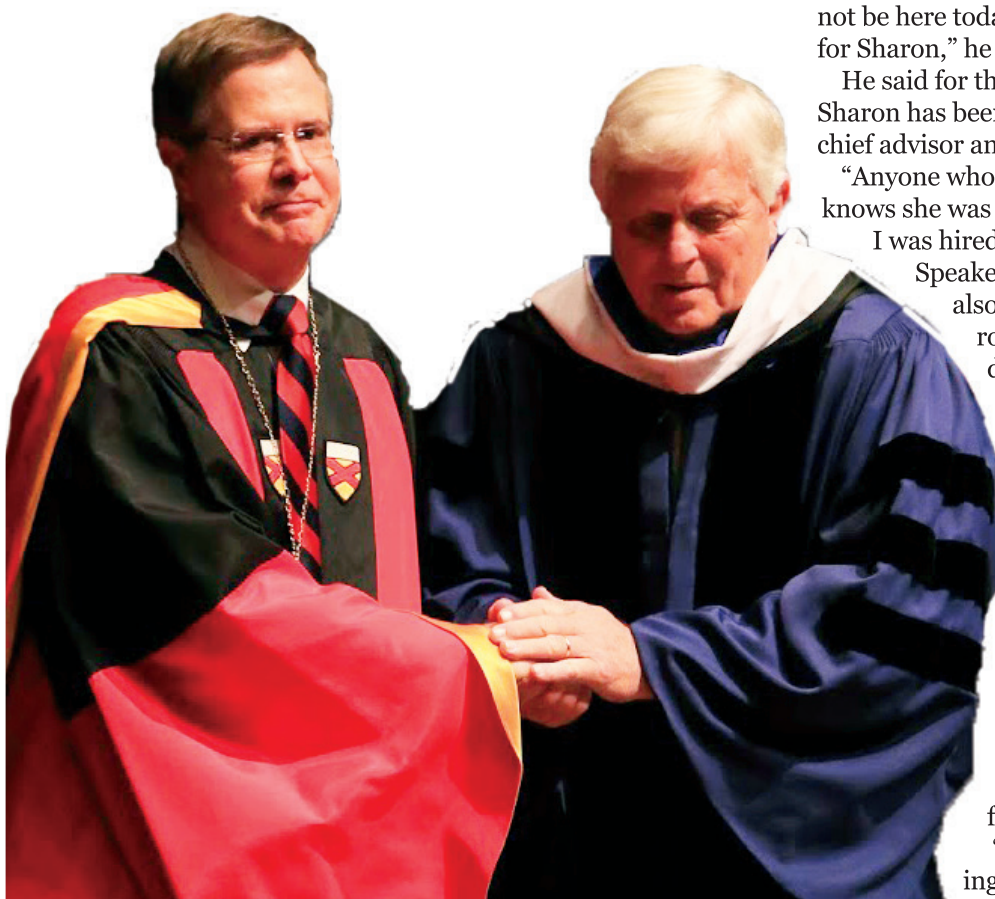
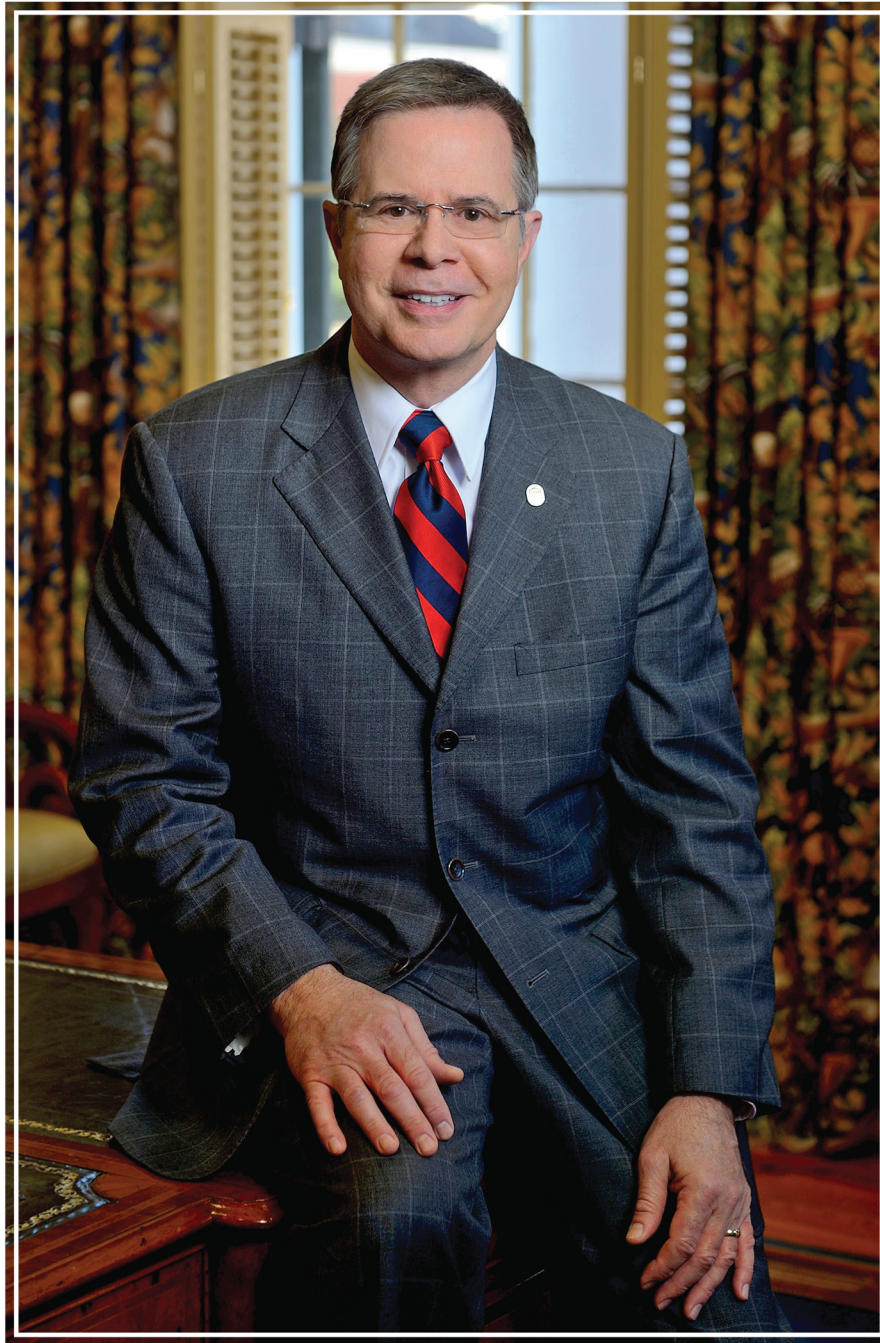


PHOTO BY: CAMERON BROOKS



The faculty and staff of the
University of Mississippi Medical Center congratulate

Dr. Jeffrey S. Vitter

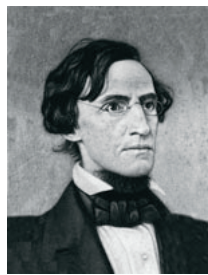
on the occasion of his investiture at the
University of Mississippi.



Thank you for your ongoing commitment to
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Former chancellors of the University of Mississippi



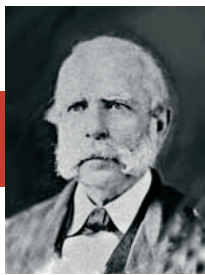
George F. Holmes
1848-1849



Augustus Baldwin Longstreet
1849-1856



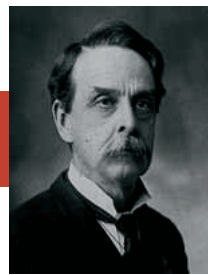
Frederick A.P. Barnard
1856-1861



John Newton Waddel
1865-1874



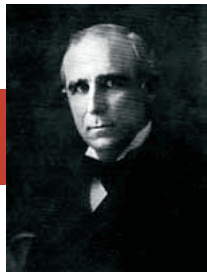
Alexander P. Stewart
1874-1886



Edward Mayes
1886-1892



Robert Burwell Fulton
1892-1906



Andrew A. Kincannon
1907-1914



Joseph Neely Powers
1914-1924,
1930-1932



Alfred Hume
1924-1930,
1932-1935,
1942-1943



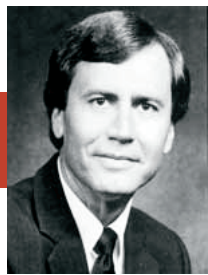
Alfred Benjamin Butts
1935-1946



John Davis Williams
1946-1968



Porter Lee Fortune Jr.
1968-1984



Gerald Turner
1984-1995



Robert C. Khayat
1995-2009



Daniel W. Jones
2009-2015

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Congratulations, Chancellor Vitter

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The ladies of Phi Mu
would like to congratulate our new chancellor,
Dr. Jeffrey Vitter



30035

The Ladies of Kappa Delta



would like to formally congratulate
Chancellor Vitter on his inauguration as the
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30041

The University of Mississippi
School of Law Congratulates
Chancellor Vitter on his
Inauguration



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Ole Miss Law School, visit our
website at law.olemiss.edu



THE UNIVERSITY of
MISSISSIPPI
SCHOOL OF LAW

30048

DAUGHTERS
continued from page 8

Audrey: "As people will learn, my dad loves food."

Jillian: "That's an understatement."

Audrey: "That's a drastic understatement. When I was really little, Jillian would let me bake cookies, and that was a really great honor. So, it was mostly us bonding in the kitchen. I'll rephrase: we could only bake cookies when Papa wasn't home."

Jillian: "Otherwise he would eat them as fast as we baked them."

Audrey: "We would take the cookies and hide them in objects and then hide them around the house."

Jillian: "We'd take those oatmeal cylinders and put the cookies in bags and put the bags in the oatmeal cylinder and put it in the freezer. So it looked like oatmeal. But he was crafty. He would find them."

All three siblings, Jillian, Audrey and Vitter's son, Scott, went to Notre Dame. Audrey said though their father never pressured them to go to his alma mater, it was a place they associated with their childhood.

Now the children are grown and out of the house, but they say the family is still close.

Jillian is now working half-staff at a fellowship in New Orleans after just finishing her residency last June. She said New Orleans is nice because it's only a short drive from Oxford and her family, but she doesn't know if that's where she'll be long-term. After spending a year in France teaching English, she said it's hard to stay in one place too long.

Audrey is working out of Wisconsin now, but as an internal consultant for General Electric, she has traveled to France, Budapest, Hungary and Brazil for work.

"She lives out of one check bag and one carry on," Jillian said of Audrey.

Because Audrey is on the go so often, she considers the chancellor's house to be her home, too.

"This is my home," Audrey said. "I keep all of my other clothes here."

Audrey said coming home to Ole Miss is always exciting because her parents stay so busy.

"Being on campus is weird now that I'm out of school; I feel old. But at the same time, it's fun to see the excitement of Ole Miss people," she said.

Jillian and Audrey have known for a long time that leading a university was one of their father's goals.

"I think we all knew it was his dream ... something he aspired to," Audrey said.

"When he came and visited and saw how much Ole Miss meant to the students and the faculty and community, I

think it was really exciting for him, and he really fell in love with this place."

Audrey said she thinks her father will bring the same values he instilled in them to the university and help it to grow.

"Growing up, our dad always told us to be curious. I think our dad will help Ole Miss ignite their curiosity, to bring innovative cures and ways of thinking and solving business needs," Audrey said. "He's a great supporter. He knows that everyone has great ideas and wants to make sure they're heard."

"He's a great advocate, too," Jillian said. "Once he identifies a need, he does whatever he can to find a solution and move things forward."

Ultimately, however, Audrey said they just want their parents to be happy here.

"If he and our mom are happy, then we're happy, too."



PHOTO BY: ARIEL COBBERT

Audrey, Scott and Jillian Vitter are recognized during Chancellor Vitter's investiture in the Gertrude Ford Center Thursday evening.

SON
continued from page 9

"He saw that as an exciting opportunity to come to a great place and to build something out in a big way," Scott said.

He said his parents and two sisters spent a game day in the Grove last year and have been hooked on Ole Miss ever since. Scott has visited Oxford four times already, including a weekend last spring where he got to watch Ole Miss baseball sweep Arkansas.

"And we went to the Ole Miss Alabama game this year," he said. "Great first half."

Scott understands the pain of being a second-half Rebels fan. He said his dad is looking forward to a big basketball season, and even has a few smooth moves of his own.

"If you ever get a chance to play one-on-one pick up hoops, he's got a pretty nice running hook shot down the lane. I don't know if he's as physical as he used to be, but he could ball."

TRI DELTA
congratulates
CHANCELLOR VITTER
ON HIS INAUGURATION AS
THE 17TH CHANCELLOR
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

1848

30052

The Student Alumni Council

congratulates Dr. Vitter
on his inauguration and
thanks him for the support
and leadership he gives the
Ole Miss family.

30145

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Vitter's inauguration: *jazzy, emotional, inspiring*



PHOTO BY: ARIEL COBBERT

The Gertrude Ford center was filled for Chancellor Vitter's investiture ceremony.

MCKENNA WIERMAN
thedmfeatres@gmail.com

Chancellor Jeffrey Vitter's investiture kicked off with a rousing jazz number, "Clarinet Marmalade," performed by the University of Mississippi Faculty Jazz Septet, that got the whole audience foot-tapping and happy.

Wayne Gray, director of health professions at the university's biology department, said he enjoyed the music.

"The jazz was great. It was the highlight of the evening," Gray said. "He picked some good music."

Gray said he thought the investiture was a wonderful ceremony and that he is very glad to have Vitter's leadership to promote the university.

Gray was one of many university delegates and faculty from Ole Miss as well as numerous college, university and learning so-

cieties across the nation.

Other guests attending included university students, U.S. Sens. W. Thad Cochran and Roger F. Wicker, Lt. Gov. J. Tate Reeves, Speaker of the House Philip A. Gunn and Mayor Pat Patterson. Chancellor Vitter's wife, children, siblings and family friend Morgan Freeman were all seated in the front row.

Aside from the jazz, guests seemed particularly entertained by Vitter's speech, which inspired and motivated listeners. He mainly spoke about his hopes for the future of the university but also talked about how grateful he was for the support of his family, especially his wife, Sharon.

"I would not be here today if it were not for Sharon," Vitter said, getting emotional.

He went on to talk about

SEE CROWD PAGE 19

*The UM Foundation
congratulates
Dr. Jeffrey S. Vitter
on his investiture and looks
forward to this new era of
excellence for Mississippi's
flagship university.*



THE UNIVERSITY of
MISSISSIPPI
FOUNDATION



Congratulations, Chancellor Vitter, on your appointment and inauguration. The University staff looks forward to a bright and successful future under your leadership.

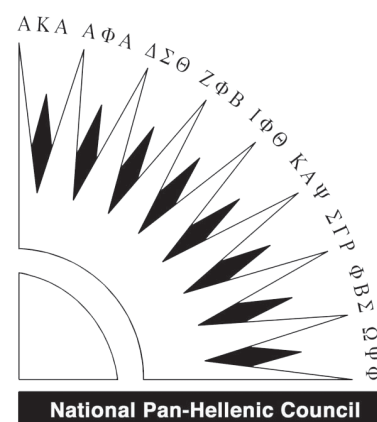
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The ladies of
Delta Gamma
would like to congratulate
Chancellor Vitter as the
Ole Miss Chancellor

30037

IFC, Panhellenic & NPHC



Congratulate Chancellor Vitter on his Inauguration!

30132



The Ole Miss Experience



Vitter @ Virtual Reality

The School of Engineering
congratulates
Dr. Jeffrey Vitter
17th Chancellor
of the University
and
Distinguished Professor
of Computer Science



"The Power of Higher Education to Transform Lives, Communities, and the World"

Dr. Jeffrey Vitter



CROWD

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what it has meant for him and his family to have been welcomed into the Ole Miss and Oxford community, adding, "Ole Miss is a family."

Alumnus Larry Martindale, who attended the event, said he was very impressed by the investiture.

"This investiture was fabulous," Martindale said. "Just fabulous. I really liked his speech; it was very energizing."

Martindale said he wishes the best for Vitter and hopes he continues to keep his vision alive for the university.

"Stay focused," he suggested to the chancellor. "Stay focused."

Katelyn Franklin, a freshman mechanical engineering major, also attended the investiture.

"I might only get to see one chancellor's investiture while I'm here, so I wanted to come see it," Franklin said. "I thought it was really special and unique. I was really excited to be witness to something that historic."

As a student, Franklin said Vitter's speech got her looking forward to the rest of her



PHOTO BY: ARIEL COBBERT

Everyone in the crowd claps to welcome Jeffrey Vitter to the investiture ceremony at the Ford Center at the University of Mississippi, Thursday.

time at Ole Miss.

"I thought his speech was really inspiring," she said. "It definitely made me excited to be a student here and to see

where we're going to go in the next four years."

FUTURE

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Constellation, which is an initiative that will be clusters of faculty, staff, students, alumni and partners to address challenges that will be better solved using a collaboration of multiple viewpoints and perspectives.

Joint degree programs will be established across disciplines and campuses, engage in strategic growth of graduate programs and create partnerships revolving around innovation and entrepreneurship.

"Imagine what we can do when we intersect the arts and sciences, the humanities and technology, to reveal the nexus of where true innovation lies," he said.

Vitter continued to challenge the audience to "imagine what we can do." He spoke about all of the possibilities of a greater and brighter future if the university invested in its students and continued working toward greatness together as a community.

"Sharon and I came here because of the people, because of all of you," he said. "The audacious record of success that the University of Mississippi has achieved is because you imagined what could be and made it so."

He said the greatest asset the university has is its people,

including its talented staff, and announced the endowment of professorships and providing more opportunities for engaged scholarship and creative achievement. They will also work to support the development, retention and engagement of the staff.

"I believe that excellence and diversity go hand-in-hand," he said. "Diversity makes us stronger as a community."

He said the university will model and actualize the UM Creed, sustaining and welcoming atmosphere.

"We will serve as a guide to the nation in learning from our past and creating a vibrant, positive future," he said.

The university's endowment currently sits at \$600 million, Vitter set the goal to more than \$1 billion.

Vitter's final point circled back to the theme of "The Power of Higher Education to Transform Lives, Communities and World."

"Ole Miss has transformed lives, including mine and, I know, many of yours," he said. "Just imagine what more we can do."

He said Ole Miss has a destiny as a flagship university to desire more, give more, be more and leave more behind.

"Just imagine what we will do," he said. "Just imagine."

DIVERSITY AFFAIRS

congratulates



Dr. Jeffrey Vitter

on his inauguration as Chancellor of the University of Mississippi



The Division of Outreach and Continuing Education
congratulates

Dr. Jeffrey S. Vitter
on his inauguration as the seventeenth
Chancellor of The University of Mississippi

and pledges support of his mission to
Transform Lives, Communities, and the World

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