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MISSISSIPPIAN

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Semester in review



PHOTOS BY: DM STAFF

BRIANA FLOREZ

thedmnews@gmail.com

August

Six Oxford residents were killed Aug. 14, in a plane crash traveling from Northport, Alabama, to Oxford. Drs. Jason and Lea Farese, Dr. Austin and Angie Poole, and Dr. Michael and Kim Perry were heading back from a dental seminar when their plane began to experience engine difficulties. No passengers survived. Nearly 2,000 people gathered in the C.M. Tad Smith Coliseum to honor the couples with a vigil.

September

The 2017 Miss Ole Miss race was close on Sept. 15. With 54.93 percent of the vote, Acacia Santos became the first African-American non-Greek candidate to win the title in a runoff. Cole Putnam was named Mr. Ole Miss for the 2016-2017 year.

More than 100 members from the Ole Miss community occupied the Lyceum on Sept. 23 for nearly five hours in response to a student's comment on Facebook that referenced lynching. The student's comment was made in response to a post about the riots in Charlotte, North Carolina. Ole Miss Chancellor Jeffrey Vitter released a statement addressing the protest, saying that he and other university leaders condemned the student's comment and that the university does not approve of any racist or violent acts.

October

The University of Mississippi named Katrina Caldwell vice chancellor for diversity and community engagement on Oct. 18. Caldwell was previously the assistant vice chancellor for diversity and equity at Northern Illinois University from

2012 to 2016.

The Daily Mississippian released a special Red Zone issue to address sexual assault on campus on Oct. 27. The 16-page issue included personal stories, discussions with students and police officers and more all revolving around the issue of sexual assault on the Ole Miss campus and continue the conversation surrounding it.

Senior journalism major Leah Gibson was named Ole Miss' 68th Miss University Scholarship pageant winner on Oct. 26. Her pageant platform was "iChoose," which promotes highway safety. Gibson is the station manager at Rebel Radio and a member of the Columns Society. Gibson will compete in Vicksburg at the Miss Mississippi pageant during the summer.

November

Donald J. Trump defeated Hillary Clinton in the 2016 presidential election on Nov. 8. Trump received 306 electoral votes to Clinton's 232, pushing him over the top. The results came as a shock to many. Mixed emotions buzzed from students, faculty and staff across campus. While many were satisfied with the turnout of the election, many others were fearful. The university hosted discussions and forums to address students who had concerns following the election results.

The investiture of Ole Miss Chancellor Jeffrey Vitter took place Nov. 10. U.S. Sens. W. Thad Cochran, Roger F. Wicker, Lt. Gov. J. Tate Reeves, Speaker of the House Philip A. Gunn and Mayor Pat Patterson were in attendance as well as Vitter's wife, children, siblings, family and friend, Morgan Freeman. Vitter spoke about his vision for the future of the university and his gratitude for the support of his family.

Morris Stocks returns to the classroom this spring

SLADE RAND

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University Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Morris Stocks will step down from his administrative role at the start of the spring semester.

Earlier this month, the university announced Stocks will return to his faculty position Jan. 1, teaching and working with students in the classroom.

Stocks served as provost and executive vice chancellor for nine years and as an adminis-

trator for 17. He joined the university faculty in 1991 and was the Elise M. Hood Outstanding Teacher in 1998.

"The university has provided me with an absolutely rewarding professional career, and I look forward to continuing to contribute to our mission as a faculty member," Stocks said.

He said over the last nine years, countless dedicated, bright and industrious people have worked to make many wonderful things happen on campus.

"As provost, I have been privi-

leged and blessed to be a part of the process," Stocks said.

At the end of the Stocks era, the provost reflected on the changes he has seen in his tenure at the university.

He said the most noticeable changes were increased enrollment and an improved physical campus. Stocks is also proud of the campus' increased diversity, he said.

"We continue to grow and



FILE PHOTO

SEE **STOCKS** PAGE 3

Morris Stocks

“Finals have me *feline* some kind of way.”



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear editor,

As a native Oxfordian whose parents were employed by Ole Miss for decades, I am writing to encourage you to support the students who seek to make the university a safe haven for immigrants.

As you well know, Oxford is incredibly fortunate to be home to Ole Miss. Because of the university's influence, our schools are better, our local economy is more diverse and vibrant and our values are stronger. Without Ole Miss, it is quite easy to imagine a less fortunate Oxford.

The values of any academic institution, if it is truly such, represent open-mindedness, an acceptance of different ideas and peoples so long as they are not threatening, and an embrace of knowledge, which of course can only be complete if it is holistic and examines multiple perspectives.

Ole Miss stands for these ideas. It is home to students from around the country and the world. It hosts outstanding programs for honors students and international studies, and it has grappled with its racial legacy in an admirable manner. Oxford and the state of Mississippi should be proud of Ole Miss.

But Ole Miss can only be Ole Miss, can only REMAIN Ole Miss, if it continues to stand by the values of curiosity and openness. These mindsets engender empathy, a better understanding of the world and the inevitable progress that comes when capitalize in the abilities that all of us bring to the world in our own manners.

Though it is not without political risk and will invite backlash, making Ole Miss a safe haven for those whom it is able to help and support will only make the school and the town stronger.

These are, after all, people who are looking for nothing more than someone from Aberdeen, Batesville or Pascagoula: an opportunity.

I urge you to be the strong leader Ole Miss and the nation need at this time, not to fear what is different or unpopular and to help improve our town and the university.

Will Stanton is a resident of Oxford.

COLUMN

Trump's cabinet picks are off to a good start



PATRICK WATERS
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The weeks and months that follow the election of a new president bring a flurry of new appointments to Cabinet and senior level White House positions. Almost every day, there is a new Cabinet member or senior advisor announced, leading to an abundance of rumors and nail-biting.

As the picks have taken shape, I am enthusiastic about the Americans President-elect Trump has chosen to lead with him. Conser-

vatives across the country who worried he would not live up to the promises he made are breathing a sigh of relief.

Alabama Sen. Jeff Sessions, President-elect Trump's pick for attorney general, is a former federal prosecutor and U.S. Senator. He will enforce our laws and stick to conservative principles.

At the same time, he is known in Alabama for bringing economic growth to minority and rural communities.

Reince Priebus is an outstanding choice for President-elect Trump's chief of staff, in both practical and ideological terms.

He has run what some consider the counterpart of the Democratic White House, the Republican National Committee, since 2011.

During his tenure, Republicans slowly but surely built the infrastructure needed to keep House majorities, retake the Senate in 2014 and (against all odds) winning the presidency in 2016.

Betsy DeVos is a bold, exciting

pick for secretary of education. Just like Trump, she brings an outsider approach to the Department of Education, and her advocacy for students as chairwoman of the Alliance for School Choice will give a fresh perspective to an often outdated public school system that sometimes fails students, especially in minority and rural communities.

The choice many conservatives (including myself) are most impressed with is South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley for the position of ambassador to the United Nations.

During her time as governor, Haley has made great strides to improve the image of both South Carolina and the entirety of the South.

Her leadership after the tragic church shooting in Charleston impressed many across the country, Democrats and Republicans alike.

She made the difficult decision to advocate taking down the confederate flag from the South

Carolina statehouse grounds and brought people together to honor the victims. Her model of leadership is something to which men and women across the South should aspire.

She will be a strong voice for all Americans at the United Nations.

Many Republicans were skeptical of candidate Donald Trump and if he would really deliver the conservative leadership he promised.

Would it be full of Hollywood A-Listers?

Or maybe former "Apprentice" contestants?

Luckily, none of these worst-case scenarios came to fruition. President-elect Trump is selecting some of America's best and brightest for his administration.

Patrick Waters is a sophomore accounting major from St. Louis, Missouri.

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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.

Student body changes election process

ETHEL MWEDZIWENDIRA
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In efforts to promote equal opportunity and engagement, the Associated Student Body is working to revise its election procedure to allow more representation within ASB and throughout campus.

The first change applied has been the Election Timeframe Bill, which has already been passed by the senate. With the implementation of the new bill, senate elections will be moved from the fall semester to the spring.

The current election procedure has caused confusion among students in the past, according to Levi Bevis, co-chairman of the Election Task Review Force.

Bevis said students would think they are electing all of the ASB offices at once and were confused as to why there were two sets of elections each year.

“By having both senate and executive officer elections on the same day, elections will be more succinct and students will be able to quickly and efficiently choose all of their student leaders at one time,” Bevis said.

Originally, senate elections have been held the second Tuesday of September and executive officer elections the fourth Tuesday of March. With the passing of this bill, both senate elections and elections for executive

officers will be held at the same time instead of in two separate semesters.

Additionally, senate elections were placed in the fall semester so freshmen would have the opportunity to run for a senate position within their residence halls. However, ASB Senate reapportioned the seats in 2015, taking away residence hall seats and replacing them with student organization representatives.

This fall, ASB had 10 open seats in senate, which were reserved for students in Registered Student Organizations.

“For the upcoming senate election in the spring of 2017, hopefully we, in ASB, will be encouraging those in RSOs that were not represented to run for senate and have their voice and the voice of their constituents to be heard,” said Emily Hoffman, chair of the Government Operations Committee.

“One of the major benefits of moving senate elections to the spring is so that freshmen students will have ample time to discover campus and learn what they want to do improve it from senate,” Hoffman said.

The new election period will bring together ASB

elected officials and instill efficiency by having all the elected officials begin and finish their terms together, according to ASB President Austin Powell.

The 2016 ASB administration has also created the Elections Review Task Force in order to assess the student body’s input and recommend policy changes to ASB with the goal of creating a better election process.

The Task Force held a forum in early November to discuss the ASB election process, ideas for elections and the current legislation system.

Hoffman said the Review Task Force hopes to learn more about campus attitudes toward the ASB election process in order for it to be more fair for every student. As well as putting an emphasis on reaching the underrepresented student groups and filling every allotted seat in the senate.

“We hope to continue asking questions of students and formulating ideas of things that be implemented next semester,” Hoffman said.

STOCKS continued from page 1

increase the number of truly excellent educational opportunities for our students,” Stocks said. “I won’t attempt to list all of those exceptional academic programs because I would undoubtedly fail to mention one or two.”

Stocks said serving as provost gave him a chance to observe the remarkable and transformative things happening on campus every day. He also looked back on the challenges he faced these last nine years.

“I am not sure that the challenges we faced in recent years are very different from those faced by other public universities,” he said.

Stocks said the university has been successful in meeting those challenges to date. He said the university has grown to address a changing higher education landscape without sacrificing affordable tuition or faculty quality.

Stocks said with the help of

Vice Chancellor Larry Sparks, the university increased its academic budgets by 50 percent over nine years.

“That is a remarkable accomplishment during a period of difficult economic times,” Stocks said.

Chancellor Jeffery Vitter announced that Senior Associate Provost Noel Wilkin will serve as interim provost and executive vice chancellor until the university finishes its national search for a permanent replacement.

Stocks said he worked side-by-side with Wilkin for nine years and has absolute confidence in his ability.

“[Wilkin] deserves much of the credit for the progress we have made as a university,” Stocks said. “He is a man of character and integrity, strong academic vision, unbelievable energy, and he loves our university.”

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Attendance at one of the information sessions is MANDATORY. Your application will not be considered if you fail to attend.

All applications must be turned into the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Office (Lyceum 233) by 4pm on Friday, February 3rd.

For questions or additional information, please contact MarKeicha Dickens at mdickens@go.olemiss.edu

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Ford Center hosts ‘Miracle on 34th Street’ performance

SARAH SMITH

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Get in the holiday spirit with “Miracle on 34th Street” at the Ford Center. The touring musical, brought to Oxford by Capstone Theatricals of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, is a classic Christmas story sure to inspire for the upcoming holidays.

This is the first year the Ford Center is having “Miracle on 34th Street” performed, according to Kate Meacham, marketing director at the Ford Center.

Many of the folks working at the Ford Center love this classic tale and are excited to see the production themselves. Lyndsay Goschke, the front house director at the Ford Center, said she admires the message in the story.

“My favorite part of this Christmas story is the underlying concept of sharing love for those around you. I think it’s a very important thing to remember year round, but especially during the holiday season,” Goschke said.

The traditional story of “Miracle on 34th Street” follows a man, Kris Kringle, who steps in to play Santa at the annual Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade. He quickly becomes popular as Santa and continues to play the role of Santa every year. However, it causes problems for Macy’s because Kringle stands out

on 34th Street and sends Macy’s customers to other stores where they can get better deals on products. This causes havoc, and eventually he has to go on trial for his sanity claiming that he is the real Santa Claus.

“Miracle on 34th Street” is a classic tale loved by many families, but the folks at the Ford Center said everyone can enjoy elements of the production.

“This show appeals to all ages. Anyone who wants to get into the spirit of the holidays will enjoy the songs and story of good cheer, a giving spirit and the ‘gift’ of kindness extended to all people,” Julia Aubrey, Ford Center director, said.

Despite the family-oriented vibe, it’s great for anyone in search of some holiday cheer.

For the Ford Center staff, holding events like this is rewarding.

“Getting to bring professional touring shows like this to Oxford and the university. Being able to provide the same shows that come to the Orpheum here in Oxford so that people can enjoy great shows like this without driving to Memphis.”

Being able to provide quality live productions is a goal of expanding the Ford Performing Arts Center. National tours provide more opportunities to experience art in our small and humble city of

Oxford, with hopes of increasing business and encouraging more people to visit.

As of Tuesday, Meacham said it’s expected to be a sell-out show with only a couple hundred tickets left. It’s expected to be a big hit and hopefully kick off a wonderful holiday season.

Musicals have the ability make the world feel a bit lighter and happier for the holidays. They also have a superpower to make one feel inspired. Aubrey said that once a year they have a holiday-themed musical or play, such as “The Nutcracker,” and this year, “Miracle on 34th Street.”

“Everyone loves holiday music,” Aubrey said.

Anyone who needs brightening over the holiday season will enjoy the bright happiness this musical will bring to your Christmas celebration. Goschke shared some fun and festive information about treats for guests at the

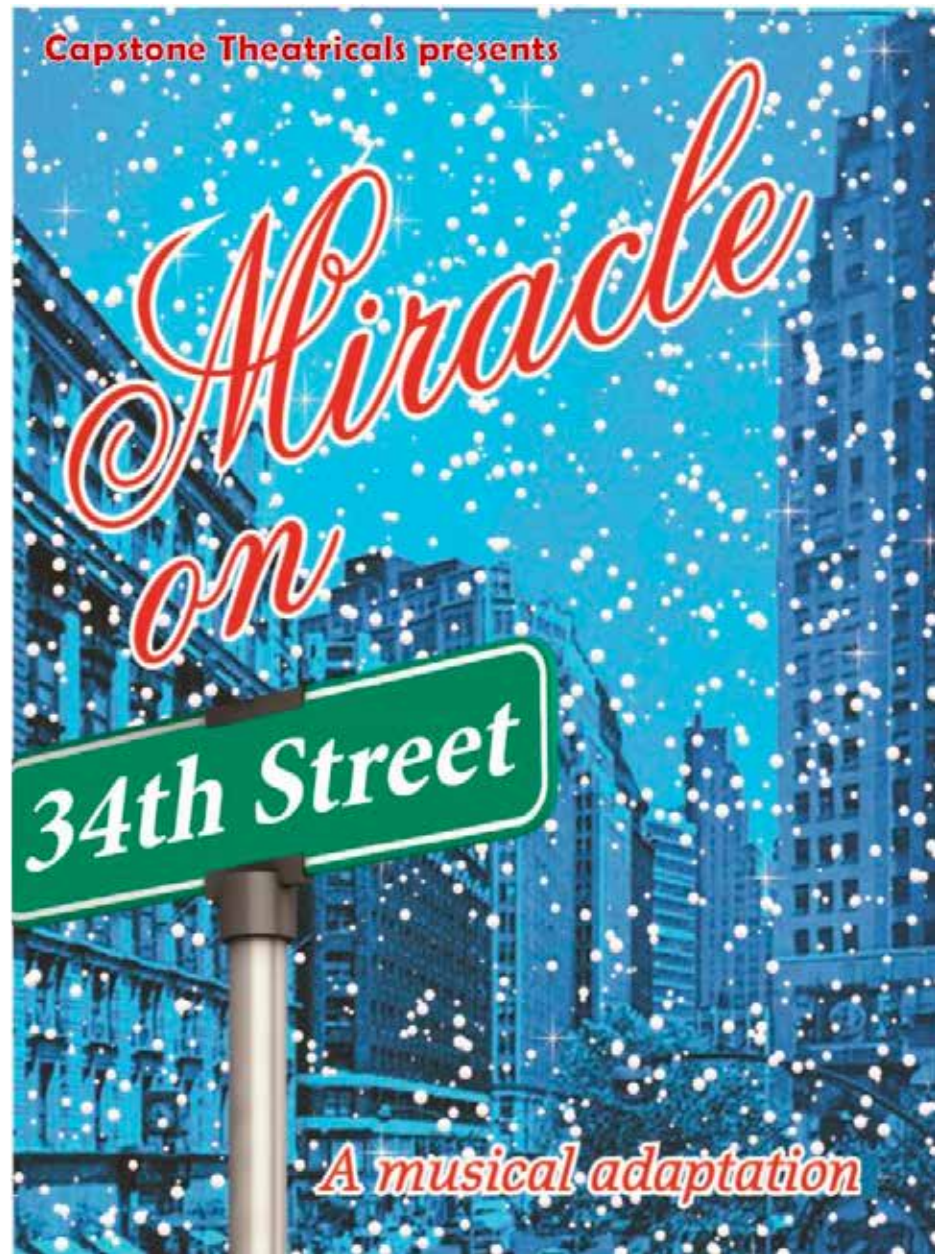
show.

“The volunteers working the event and I will be wearing festive hats and selling hot cocoa to bring up the holiday spirit, which is something we’re all very excited about and hope it is well received by

our guests.”

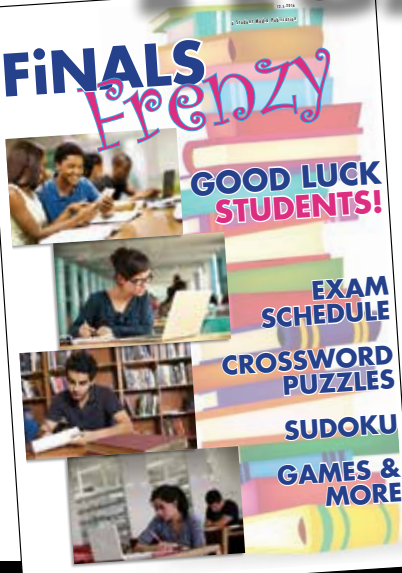
“Music creates an emotional connection that enhances the words and provides a vehicle for touching hearts. It is a true pleasure to watch the audience smile and cheer for this heart-warming story,” Aubrey said.

“Miracle on 34th Street” will show Saturday at 3 p.m. Tickets are available at Fordcenter.org.



COURTESY: FORDCENTER.ORG




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Oxford holiday tradition continues: Gingerbread Village

ETHAN DAVIS

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Picture a quiet, peaceful place to escape from all the exam hustle and end-of-the-semester bustle. You need a break from the grind, and you want to get some good old-fashioned Christmas spirit pumping. Now imagine that place is free. Welcome to the Gingerbread Village at the Ford Center.

Each year, the Ford Center asks local bakers to make gingerbread houses to create a display that is open to the public and gives people a chance to connect to some fun holiday cheer and traditions. According to Ford Center Marketing Director Kate Meacham, the event began six years ago and has only grown since.

"The original idea was Norm Easterbrook's," Meacham said. "He was the director of the Ford Center from 2004 to 2015. Really, it just



COURTESY: GERTRUDE C. FORD CENTER

seemed like it would be fun to do. Norm had seen one while traveling and thought we could do something similar that would be fun for the community. The first year we only had four houses, and this

year we expect over 30."

In fact, the Ford Center is hoping to display 33 gingerbread houses this year, which provides a great variety of decorations to view, and enjoying the designs is half the point.

"It's always so much fun to see people's creations," Meacham said. "The designs cover a broad range from traditional to whimsical."

When asked about the main reason to see the village, Meacham acknowledged there is plenty of fun to be had, but it also has a charitable side. Entrance is free, but visitors can bring non-perishable food and cash donations to help local food pantries, including the Ole Miss Food Bank.

"It's fun! Really, that's the main reason," Meacham said. "It's free and a nice way to enjoy some holiday cheer. We also collect donations for the local food pantries, both the Oxford Pantry and the Ole Miss Food Bank. In previous years, we have collected a substantial amount of food and cash for both."

The Gingerbread Village has become an Oxford tradition and is considered a part of the holiday season in the city that residents and visitors alike should visit.

"The Gingerbread Village

is a great holiday tradition in Oxford," Director of Visit Oxford Mary Allyn Hedges said. "It's a great activity to bring kids to view the houses as well as a visit with Santa Claus. Our office does a big advertising campaign surrounding all of the holiday activities happening this time of year, and this event is definitely a highlight of the holiday season."

The village will be open Dec. 1 through Dec. 16 with several fun activities thrown in along the way, such as pictures with Santa, a Christmas parade after-party and story times. A schedule is available on the Ford Center's website. Group visits are also an option and can be arranged by calling (662) 915-2787 or emailing kmeacham@olemiss.edu.

The Gingerbread Village is an opportunity to spread some good will in a setting that not only is peaceful and beautiful but also gives everyone a chance to experience some Christmas cheer.



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Patience is going to be key with new-look Rebels

BRIAN SCOTT RIPPEE
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Patience is a virtue, and Andy Kennedy is having to spend it on his 2016-2017 basketball team. The Rebels opened the year 2-0 with a couple of tight wins over Tennessee-Martin and UMass, in which they had a sluggish start and were able to overcome it. On Wednesday night against Middle Tennessee, the 48-19 halftime hole the Rebels put themselves in was too large to climb out of.

His group has a lot of new faces this season, more so than usual of a Kennedy, which usually has some turnover. But not this much. They've played well in spots. Ole Miss went down to the Virgin Islands and placed runner up

in the Paradise Jam Tournament, beating Oral Roberts and Saint Joseph's before leading for much of the game against a dangerous and very good Creighton team, but it fell just short.

"This group is so difficult for me to read," a frustrated Kennedy said following the loss on Wednesday. "And maybe it's because of the new faces."

Ole Miss has struggled with turnovers in the early going, a symptom of a team looking for cohesiveness. It had 14 in the first half against the Blue Raiders and seven in the first four minutes of the game.

"Maybe this will get our attention. We've got to play harder. We've got to be more locked in. I'm tired of saying 'Guys, let's go. Let's go.' It's unacceptable. We've got to change that," Kennedy said.

The team is trying to find its footing. Cullen Neal and Deandre Burnett make up a new-look back court, while Justas Furmanavicius is still getting adjusted in the front court. Forward Nate Morris has yet to join the team due to some off-court issues, and freshman guard Breein Tyree is still getting healthy.

There is an adequate number of pieces to this puzzle. It's just going to take some time to get them to fit.

"Some of it could be that they're new to me and new to the system and I just don't know how to read them yet," Kennedy said earlier this week. "My goal in the Virgin Islands was to find out more about this team. You play three games in four days in a contained environment, and play a good team in Saint Joseph's, probably our best 40 minutes of the year. Then we came back against Creighton and really answered the challenge of being locked in. Creighton is just really good and made more plays than us."

It just hasn't come consistently. UMass had the Rebels on the ropes before they forced overtime and pulled it out of the fire. It started sluggishly in the season opener as well.

They've played well in flashes, like Creighton and Saint Joseph's. Burnett dropped 41 on Oral Roberts, and the Rebels played better defensively against the Jays.

"We learned (in the Virgin Islands) that we could be a good team. We showed flashes of a good team. We guarded better on the perimeter and in the paint," Burnett said.

The trouble for Ole Miss, is that it's still working out the kinks while simultaneously entering into its toughest



PHOTO BY: CAMERON BROOKS

Junior guard Deandre Burnett runs down court after making a shot in a game earlier this season.

non-conference stretch. Memphis looms on Saturday before a trip to Virginia Tech followed by games against Murray State and Bradley.

"I think once we have more and more time together, it will start getting better," Neal said.

Ole Miss still has time, but it will need to produce some wins before it hits SEC play

to buy some more. The Rebels can help their NCAA tournament résumé in the next few weeks, but they can also hurt it if the losses keep coming.

"I don't think I can be a new guy anymore," Neal said. "I got to act like the veteran I am, because I am a graduate transfer. Now I have gotten my feet wet, so I'm ready to go. It is time to step it up."

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O	T	I	S	P	A	L	I	E	M	I	L	E			
G	A	L	S	S	W	A	P	S	A	N	D	S			
S	L	A	Y	I	N	N	S	T	O	G	A	S			

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- ACROSS**
- 1 Got a ticket
 - 5 Tuned in
 - 10 Kind of pilot
 - 14 "It Walks by Night" author
 - 15 Generous one — vera
 - 17 Hindu fire god
 - 18 Weight unit
 - 19 Thursday eponym
 - 20 Favor
 - 22 Cuba neighbor
 - 23 Took to court
 - 24 Sir's companion
 - 26 English racetrack
 - 29 Most humble
 - 33 Dark ale
 - 34 Gauguin and Simon
 - 35 Phone ABC
 - 36 Like a bow string
 - 37 Lightbulb units
 - 38 Practice pull-ups
 - 39 Turtle-to-be
 - 40 Lord Vader
 - 41 Jangle
 - 42 Go over the lines
 - 44 Frigid and temperate
 - 45 Omigosh!
 - 46 Hairy twin
- DOWN**
- 1 Trauma aftermath
 - 2 Use a beeper
 - 3 Kinds of eagles
 - 4 Seasons firewood (2 wds.)
 - 5 Hacienda brick
 - 6 Is willing to
 - 7 Ms. Hathaway
 - 8 Big bird of myth
 - 9 Sooner than
 - 10 Japanese mat
 - 11 Pre-college
 - 12 Grime
 - 13 Hatcher or Garr
 - 21 Stray dog
 - 22 Greer and Roach
 - 24 Say silently
 - 25 Leather punches
 - 48 Strongly advises
 - 51 Confronting boldly
 - 55 Hoodwink
 - 56 Does perfectly
 - 58 Goddess's statue
 - 59 All, in combos
 - 60 Tells all
 - 61 A Saarinén
 - 62 Nut, actually
 - 63 Groom a horse
 - 64 Widen a hole
 - 26 Late bloomer
 - 27 Phase
 - 28 Flu symptom
 - 29 Espresso with milk
 - 30 Hawke of "Alive"
 - 31 Razorbacks
 - 32 Ice grabbers
 - 34 Do Latin homework
 - 37 Bend out of shape
 - 38 Not as blue
 - 40 Podium
 - 41 Movie mogul
 - 43 Place for shadow
 - 46 Lamprey hunter
 - 47 Brush
 - 48 Alien spacecraft
 - 49 Colosseum site
 - 50 Missing
 - 51 Ethiopian dollar
 - 52 — fixe
 - 53 Director — Ephron
 - 54 Latch onto
 - 56 "Friends" network
 - 57 Amateur-sports org.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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4					8			5
			6	7		3		
	4		7					
6								9
					5		7	
		7		3	1			
2								1
	3	9					5	

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

CHALLENGING

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

OLEMISSSPORTS.COM

Rebels win big on Kids Day against Jackson State

In front of a record crowd of 8,088 fans, the Ole Miss women's basketball team picked up an 89-41 win over Jackson State. The win gives Ole Miss its 800th all-time program win and moves Ole Miss to a perfect 5-0 at the Pavilion at Ole Miss this season.

Ole Miss (6-1) had a fairly balanced score sheet with 10 players making their way into the scoring book with Shandricka Sessom (Byhalia) leading the way with her second double-double of the season with a team-best 18 points and 10 rebounds. Senior Bretta Hart (Poplarville) also recorded her second career double-double with 11 points and 10 rebounds.

In total, five Rebels reached double figures—marking the second time this season Ole Miss has had five players in double figures. It also marked the first time in the Insell era in which Ole Miss had two double-doubles in the same contest.

Holding a commanding 54-22 lead at halftime, Ole Miss kept the pedal to the metal in the second half, scoring 35 points and holding the visiting Lady Tigers to just 19 points in the second half, including just three in the fourth quarter on just 7.7 percent shooting in the final frame.

Ole Miss finished the game shooting 50 percent (36-of-69) and snagged a season-best 58 rebounds, after being out-rebounded in its last two contests. The Ole Miss reserves were phenomenal against the Lady Tigers, scoring 50 points. The Rebels had three players in double figures off the bench led by 14 from sophomore Alissa Alston (New Haven, Connecticut), while Shelby Gibson (Murfreesboro, Tennessee) and Hart added 12 and 11 points, respectively.

Both teams started slow from

the floor, but Ole Miss got into the groove of things midway through the half behind six unanswered points from Gibson. The Rebels jumped out to a 10-1 lead at the first media timeout, a lead they wouldn't give up the entire contest. Jackson State got its first field goal at the 3:51 mark of the first stanza, but Ole Miss' offense was good, if not great, in the first quarter. The home team shot 62.5 percent (10-of-16) from the floor in the first half and was led by a trio of players with six points. The Rebels didn't slow down in the second frame and tacked on 26 second-quarter points, en route to a 54-22 half time lead.

FROM THE COACH

On the win...

"They came out and played really hard. I'm real proud of them for that. We played really well. They were 3-1 on the season. We got after it and got after them, forced them into 20 turnovers. We turned it over 20 times, which is something I don't like, but we'll fix that. But that's playing a lot of players. Everybody got a chance to play, and now it's time to turn our focus to Sunday."

On the team's rebounding...

"I challenged them to rebound. Bretta Hart with a double-double, unbelievable, great job there by her. Shandricka Sessom with a double-double, Cecilia Muhate battled on the boards. Looking at the four position, whomever rebounds is going to play. We have to have rebounding in there, and I'm real proud of them for that."

On the team's defensive play...

"It can be as good as we want it to be. When we're locked in, we're pretty darn good defensively, and



PHOTO BY: CAMERON BROOKS

Shandricka Sessom attempts to shoot after rebounding the ball during the team's win over Lipscomb earlier this season.

that's a big part of it. That's something I'm real proud of. We still have room to improve defensively. We're going to get there eventually, but we're further along than we've been in the past. The goal as always with my teams is to be ready in January. And we're right on track to be ready in January."

On Sunday's matchup with West Virginia...

"Two evenly matched teams. Two teams that are very similar. It's a situation where, if we both play our top game, then it's going to be a helluva game. We've got to bring it. They're a tough team. I have a lot of respect for their coach. He does an unbelievable job. We have to bring a lot of toughness if we're going to get that win. If we're going to be a player this year, we have to go on the road and get wins. This is our first opportunity. They're ranked 16th in the country. It's an unbelievable opportunity for our basketball program to see how much we've grown."

7,407, a mark set last season versus Mississippi Valley State.

-With the win, Ole Miss picks up its 800th program win, becoming one of just six SEC schools with 800 all-time wins.

-Ole Miss' 6-1 start equals the best start for the Rebels under Matt Insell. Ole Miss was 6-1 to open the 2014-2015 season.

-Ole Miss had five players in double figures for the second time this season. Ole Miss also had five in double figures against Jacksonville State.

-Ole Miss has now kept opponents to single digits in 12 of the 28 quarters of basketball this season.

-For the first time in the Insell era, Ole Miss had two players record double-doubles.

-Alissa Alston posted a career-high seven assists in the contest.

UP NEXT

Ole Miss hits the road for the SEC/Big 12 Challenge. The Rebels will travel to Morgantown, West Virginia, to take on West Virginia. Tip is set for 3:00 p.m. Central time from West Virginia's WVU Coliseum.

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Week of November 27

COLUMN

From the sports desk: College football pick'em week 15



NO. 10 OKLAHOMA STATE VS NO. 9 OKLAHOMA

Sports Editor Brian Scott Rippee: The Big 12 is suffering due to the lack of a conference title game, and a lot of down programs across the league, none more glaringly than Texas. Mike Gundy's squad should be a one-loss team right now if not for how the officials handled their game against Central Michigan. Oklahoma has looked great over the last month of the season. Sooners win by two scores, but it won't be enough to give them a serious playoff look, no matter what happens.

Assistant Sports Editor Sam Harres: Oklahoma State has looked dangerous all season, and this weekend shouldn't be an exception. While the Big 12 isn't what it used to be, the Cowboys should put up a good fight, but expect a gritty win for the Sooners.



NO. 6 WISCONSIN VS NO. 7 PENN STATE

BSR: For as much emphasis as the committee has put on conference championships the first two years of this circus, they've seemingly gone the opposite way, and part of that is because of how good the Big 10 has been this year. I think the winner of this game should make the playoff, but I'm not foolish enough to think that will happen. Penn State wins this one and adds further madness to this equation.

SH: Wisconsin is going to push the run hard, and it's got the talent to do so effectively. Penn State, on the other hand, is currently shuffling its offense around in response to a number of injuries. If there is any saving grace for the Nittany Lions, it's that their defense has been and will be rock solid. Wisconsin eventually pulls out the win, but Penn keeps it close all game.



NO. 8 COLORADO VS NO. 4 WASHINGTON

BSR: Mike Macintyre has created the story of the college football season. What a turnaround in Boulder. If Washington loses this game, the selection committee will have an absolute mess on its hands trying to select the fourth team. I think it's going to happen. Buffs win by a touchdown.

SH: This game feels about as evenly matched as it gets. Washington is a known quantity, but at the moment, Colorado might be one of the hottest teams in college football. Washington needs this win to secure a spot in the postseason. For that reason, they'll find a way to pull out a win. Huskies win a close one.



NO. 3 CLEMSON VS NO. 23 VIRGINIA TECH

BSR: Justin Fuente has wasted no time getting started in Blacksburg. The Hokies have a chance to win 10 games in his first season, and I think this could be a little tricky for Clemson. But too much Deshaun Watson in the end. Clemson wins a close game.

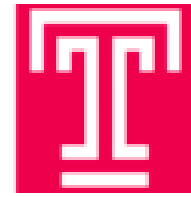
SH: Deshaun Watson is a game changer, beginning and end of story. Virginia Tech has shown a lot of promise this season, but Clemson's high-powered offense should be too much to handle for the Hokies. Clemson wins comfortably.



NO. 1 ALABAMA VS NO. 15 FLORIDA

BSR: If Florida slows the tempo and is able to run the ball, they could keep this respectable. Those are two huge "ifs." Tide wins big.

SH: Alabama wins. Next.



TEMPLE VS NO. 19 NAVY

BSR: Navy could quite literally freeze college football in terms of bowl alignment. If the Midshipmen win, they'd be in line for a birth in a New Year's six bowl game, but wouldn't know for sure until after the Army-Navy game. For the sake of anyone in media relations and travel coordination, Temple better win this thing. Owls win by a field goal.

SH: Temple has shown a few flashes this season, but issues with injuries have left the team in a pickle. The Midshipmen have no shortage of dynamic scoring options, and I fully expect Navy to not only win but also put the selection committee in a very tough position.

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