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TUESDAY, April 4, 2017 THE DAILY Volume 105, No. 117 THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI SERVING OLE MISS AND OXFORD SINCE 1911 Visit theDMonline.com @@thedm_news

WHAT'S INSIDE...

It is time to turn to renewable energy sources

"Ghost in the Shell" trailers are better than the movie

Ole Miss baseball prepares for Southern Miss



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Pro day: Players work to improve draft stock





(LEFT) Former Ole Miss tight end Evan Engram participates in a drill during Ole Miss' pro day on Monday. Engram was one of the few Rebels to attend the NFL combine earlier this year. (RIGHT) Former Ole Miss quarterback Chad Kelly warms up before starting drills during Ole Miss' pro day.

SAM HARRES

thedmsports@gmail.com

ith the NFL draft less than a month away, Ole Miss players showcased their talents on pro day at the Manning Center.

Chad Kelly's morning was cut unexpectedly short after the former Ole Miss quarterback re-aggravated a wrist injury during a passing drill.

"The whole week it felt good," Kelly said. "Then I just threw one and turned my wrist over pretty hard, and it felt weird."

After just more than a dozen scripted throws, Kelly decided not to push his injury any further. Monday marked the first time he had thrown the ball since coming off the field injured against Georgia Southern last season.

"The guys decided to call it quits for the day and hopefully come back in a week or two and see how it is," Kelly said.

After transferring to Ole Miss as a junior in 2015, Kelly accumulated 6,800 passing yards and ran for more than 800 over two seasons in Oxford. Now, after declaring his intention to enter the NFL, Kelly's wrist adds yet another questionable dimension to his already controversial draft stock.

Redshirted by Clemson in 2012, Kelly debuted as a Tiger in 2013 before the Clemson staff asked him to leave the team due to off-field con-

SEE PRO DAY PAGE8

Mississippi Today editor receives Silver Em

JONATHAN GIBSON jgibson@go.olemiss.edu His career began in the 1970s when he enrolled at the University of Mississippi and started searching to find a ma-



Fall brings new prices, zones for parking

DANIEL DUBUISSON RACHEL ISHEE

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With roughly 14,000 spots but more than 21,000 students and faculty, that leaves 7,000 people who might potentially call the parking department any given day to complain.

In response, Director of Parking and Transportation Mike Harris said the matter can be summed up into three words.

"Enough, cheap and convenient," Harris said. "You can pick two, but you'll never get all three ... and we have every combination on this campus."

That's not to say he doesn't have a few tricks up his sleeve. In fact, the department has several projects in the works for the 2017-2018 school year, starting with the change in cost of each type of permit.

Residential permits will rise to \$250, commuter to \$200 and Park-n-Ride to \$100. But perhaps the biggest difference is the price of permits for the parking garage attached to The Pavilion.

Dennis Moore, a prolific journalist and graduate of the University of Mississippi, will receive the Silver Em award Wednesday.

The award, presented by the Meek School of Journalism and New Media, is one of the highest journalism honors given by the university.

It is reserved for natives of Mississippi or those who have spent a large amount of their journalism career in Mississippi.

Moore's career has spanned over 40 years, and in that time he has worked for numerous newspapers and magazines, both as an editor and as a writer. jor that suited him.

Moore said that although journalism always fascinated him, he wasn't immediately drawn to it as a career. It took some time before he realized it was where he was supposed to be.

"I had visions of being a doctor, a psychologist; I even dabbled in accounting," Moore said. "But honestly, journalism fit my personality and interests."

Moore said he remembers being consumed with current events all the way back to elementary school, when he

PHOTO COURTESY: ASHLEY F.G. NORWOOD | MISSISSIPPI TODAY

"We're going to lower the price of the garage from \$550 to \$400," Harris said. "It's going to be all reserved spaces, and the gates are going away."

That's a change for which students who currently hold permits for the parking garage are thrilled.

Junior journalism major Alexandra Morris said she cannot wait for the transition, after experiencing numerous flaws in the garage's gate system. Long lines of cars backed

SEE PARKING PAGE3



COLUMN Coal is failing: It is time to turn to renewables



DANIEL PAYNE thedmopinion@gmail.com

President Trump is moving forward with his plan to save the fossil fuel industry by removing the Obama administration's Clean Power Plan. He boasts substantial job growth and a flourishing economy through deregulation, though this is contrary to the facts. Large sectors of the industry, especially coal, are going away, with or without the aid of the government.

Trump has suggested the decision to remove regulations that have impeded the growth of coal would make America great again, adding that he is the "last shot for the miners."

Unfortunately, the coal industry is dying, and it has been since 1986, according to the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

Well before the Obama administration, the invisible hand of the free market was making its choice; cleaner forms of energy are on their way in.

It is important to point out that, contrary to partisan rhetoric, the market is choosing alternative forms of energy and has been for many years.

Regulations are not killing coal jobs; capitalism is.

Solar energy, though only a small portion of the country's current energy output, employs twice as many Americans as coal does. While it is expensive and labor-intensive now, its increased development will drive prices down.

The main vision that is leading the market away from coal and other fossil fuels is the future: Companies want energy that will be available for decades to come.

Coincidentally, sustainability is also the reason for increased regulation of high pollution energy sources.

When considering the removal regulations, it is crucial to understand the reasons the laws were enacted in the first place.

The Obama administration put this plan in place to protect the environment and to conserve the resources for the coming generations. The decision to limit pollution and invest in renewable energy was an ethical one for future generations.

The decisions to move forward in energy technology in order to protect our nation from pollution and our globe from climate change are important and shouldn't be removed without serious thought.

Modern society is supported largely by energy, and the way we choose to source that energy is important. If the United States plans to be competitive in the future, it needs to plan its energy infrastructure for the future.

It is not just the smart thing to do; it is the right thing to do. We should actively support renewable energy and a cleaner

environment for ourselves and others. Citizens of other countries will feel the effects of our decisions through drought and flooding, as will future generations of our own nation.

This is the problem with far too many policy decisions of recent months: Few people are as concerned about the interests of others or the facts as they are about the good of their party.

The energy policies of President Trump will only delay the demise of a portion of an industry while allowing that industry to hurt our current and future nation economically and environmentally.

Daniel Payne is a freshman integrated marketing communications major from

Collierville, Tennessee.

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MEMBER NEWSPAPER

The Daily Mississippian is published Monday through Friday during the academic year, on days when classes are scheduled.

Columns 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. Thirdparty 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.

PARKING *continued from page 1*

up trying to exit the garage and the occasional broken gate have left her disgruntled, but she admits she still has her reservations about seeing them go.

"I don't know how they're going to enforce that," Morris said. "The gates are brutal, but all they'll be able to do is give a ticket if someone is in there without a permit, and that's a spot I still can't park in."

Another change expected for next semester is the development of a carpool system, Harris said.

"We're going to have a carpool parking area on campus," Harris said. "You can come in with two or more people and park in this carpool area."

The carpool lot will encourage students to share a ride to campus and leave additional spaces open for other students.

This zone will be located just west of The Pavilion in the lower half of the lot currently zoned for faculty and staff only. It will soon be open to carpoolers with commuter passes and monitored by officers using a camera pointed at the designated lot.

"If our officers see two people get out of the car, then they're good. ... If they see one person get out of that car, it's not good," Harris said. "If you have two or more people in that one car, that's two more spaces open."

Harris also said the department will eliminate some parallel parking zones on campus by August. The entrance to campus on Rebel Drive and the east side of Sorority Row are on the chopping block. "We've got to get people off of these streets and get them into lots," Harris said. "Open these streets up for bike lanes and for shuttle stops because it's becoming a more pedestrian campus."

As for the bus system, several modifications will be completed by the fall semester.

Current university buses will be getting an updated blue exterior, and several new buses will be added to the fleet. Buses are also being equipped with Wi-Fi and charging stations.

"We're trying to get things uniformed ... to trademark all of our buses so that they all look the same," Harris said. "Regardless of the size of the buses, they are all one system."

Americans with Disabilities Act accommodations, such as LED signs and automated announcements to alert people of the next stop, are being added, along with eight new bus stops to make getting from class to class more convenient.

"We'll have two buses running counterclockwise and two buses running clockwise," Harris said. "We have no stop on campus that is more than a four-minute walk from a stop."

The new buses will seat between 38 and 45 passengers and will run every day solely on campus.

"All of these things that we're doing, they all work together for the same reason, and that reason is to get the most out of the parking that we have and to try to do it as economically and efficiently as possible."

This article was submitted to The Daily Mississippian from an advanced reporting class.

ASSOCIATED PRESS Storms sweep through Southern states, 5 killed

JACKSON - A Mississippi woman who desperately tried to direct rescuers to her sinking vehicle after it skidded into a rain-swollen creek was among five people killed in storms across the South.

Jacqueline Williams, 52, was running a newspaper delivery route when her car slid off a road into a creek in her hometown of Florence before dawn Monday, authorities said. She dialed 911 from the car as it went down, said Rankin County Coroner David Ruth.

Ruth said Williams was trying to relay her location to a dispatcher as the car settled into the swirling waters. "She was trying to tell the dispatcher where she was, and she could actually hear the sirens," Ruth said.

The two lost contact, and Ruth said a swift-water recovery team later found Williams' body in the creek outside the car.

Florence Police Chief Richard Thomas said the current where Williams died was fast and strong.

He said authorities got a call from a woman saying her car was being swept into the water. Authorities immediately began looking but couldn't find her in time. Records from the county's 911 center show the first call came at 4:35 a.m., responders were dispatched within 17 seconds and arrived at 4:42 a.m.

Williams' body was eventually recovered, and authorities pulled her small vehicle out of the water about three hours later.

In the tiny Mississippi Delta town of Glendora, the mayor's wife died Sunday when strong winds toppled a tree onto the couple's house. Mayor Johnny B. Thomas was briefly hospitalized with injuries after his wife Shirley was killed, said town clerk Aquarius Simmons.

Two other people died earlier in Louisiana, and a man died Monday in South Carolina after storms swept through the state.

Some schools in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama canceled or delayed the start of classes Monday so students wouldn't travel in heavy rain or on flooded streets.

Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards signed a statewide emergency declaration Monday before embarking on a trip to survey storm damage in two central and southern parishes.

Some of the heaviest rains fell in central Louisiana from Sunday into early Monday. C.S. Ross, a National Weather Service hydrologist in Shreveport, said nearly 8 inches of rain was reported in Grant Parish in the north central part of the state. A tornado flipped a mobile home Sunday in Breaux Bridge, Louisiana, killing a mother and her 3-year-old daughter, while on Monday a weather event authorities also believed to be a tornado flipped a mobile home in Union County, South Carolina, killing one person, said Kim Bailey, administrative assistant to Union County Sheriff David Taylor.

J.C. Matthews Jr., 65, was dead by the time emergency help arrived at his destroyed home in Whitmire, the county coroner's office said Monday.

In Louisiana, the storm also brought hurricane-force winds, large hail and sparked flash flooding. Breaux Bridge is about 50 miles west of Baton Rouge.

St. Martin Parish Sheriff's Office spokeswoman Maj. Ginny Higgins told The Associated Press the tornado in Breaux Bridge touched down seconds after a warning was issued.

"It hit the trailer, flipped it and tore its side off," Higgins said.

Higgins said 38-year-old Francine Gotch and 3-year-old Nevaeh Alexander were pronounced dead at the scene. Witnesses told KLFY-TV that the father was at the store when the storm hit and returned to find the bodies amid the splintered debris.





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MOORE continued from page 1

asked his parents to buy him subscriptions to Newsweek and Time magazine.

"I didn't understand half of what was in there," Moore said. "But it was fascinating to me."

During his time at the university, Moore worked on the staff of The Daily Mississippian as a reporter and later as the assignment editor. He completed his degree in 1975, going on to work at the Clarion-Ledger in Jackson and then the Orlando Sentinel in Flori-

If he had any doubts before choosing journalism as his career, they quickly subsided. He dove in, taking in all the experience he could. The choice, Moore said, would end up being more lucrative than he could have ever hoped.

"I didn't dream big; I dreamed of getting a job," Moore said. "And I got that job. That's why I went to Orlando. It offered a news organization with bigger resources and bigger ambitions. I was able to grow and have much broader experiences. My ambitions grew as my experience grew."

He went on to work as managing editor of the Life section of USA Today, which he called "the pinnacle of pop-culture coverage in journalism."

Working for a national newspaper had its differences from regional papers like the Clarion-Ledger, Moore said. The essence of what he knew as a journalist, however, didn't change.

"The basics are the same: accurate, fair reporting; interesting, inviting writing," Moore said. "The grand thing about working for USA Today is everyone returns your phone call. You get to meet big stars, big government officials, big names."

Moore said that throughout his time working he would remind himself to go back to his roots, to focus on the ethics and honesty that had been drilled into him his entire life.

"It's a real rush," Moore said. "But you have to remember the roots of journalism because even though you're on a bigger stage, you must employ the same skills and ethics. That doesn't change."

Moore currently works as a co-editor for Mississippi Today, a digital news site providing nonpartisan reporting on Mississippi issues. He works alongside co-editor Fred Anklam, another Ole Miss alumnus.

Moore said helping start Mississippi Today was an ex-

citing new adventure for him.

"This had been percolating for a few years," Moore said. "How many opportunities does one get to create something from scratch? Especially a news organization unlike anything the state has ever seen. You combine your love of journalism, your love of Mississippi and your ambition to make the state a better place. We've enjoyed every bit of it."

Mississippi Today celebrated its first anniversary on March 28.

The people Moore has worked with over the years attest to his professionalism and excellence as a writer and an editor.

"He's calm and even-keeled, and that's really a quality an editor needs - and not all editors have," Lee Ragland, vice president of public relations at the Godwin Agency in Jackson, said. "He's someone who can

remain calm within the storm. He's likeable, easygoing – just a good guy and a top-notch editor."

Despite all his accomplishments and achievements over his lifetime, Moore said he was surprised to hear he would be receiving the Silver Em from the university.

"I certainly do not believe that I have had the career of the caliber of some of the people who have won this award before me," Moore said. "I have not risked my life in a war, and I have not uncovered corruption in the civic arena. My career has been a bit different, but I hope that I have applied the same rigorous, ethical parameters to that news as anyone else does."

The Meek School will present the award to Moore at the Best of Meek dinner in the Ballroom of The Inn at Ole Miss.

'Ghost in the Shell' trailers are better than movie

DANIEL PAYNE

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The trailers for "Ghost In The Shell" promised exciting action sequences, mesmerizing special effects and intriguing plot twists. Unfortunately, trailers cannot accurately depict other aspects of the movie, such as dialogue, performances and overall experience.

While the movie delivers as a film for trailers, there are other shortcomings not evident until you walk into the theater.

The story, as promised in the previews, is filled with interesting twists and turns. The story centers on a future where humans have become more like machines than men. The idea of physical improvement through manufacturing is epitomized in the main character, Major (Scarlett Johansson).

There are so many twists in the plot that the audience may find itself lost through the first portion of the film.

While this is frustrating, it is for a purpose. The decision to keep vital information from the viewer while keeping the same information from the protagonist builds both suspense and a



PHOTO COURTESY:IMDB.COM

Major doesn't receive this critical information for a while, making the first portion of the movie extremely disorienting. The audience has a difficult time interpreting the events it watches, meaning key details are almost certainly missed on the first viewing.

Unfortunately, some aspects of the movie may leave many viewers without the desire to see it again. The acting is unimpressive, especially in the first half of movie, leaving them to believe

the film. Like the decision to keep information from the audience, the cold, seemingly bad acting could be a decision to express a movement in the plot.

Major's lines are short and emotionless at the opening of the film but grow in length and expression as time goes on. Once again, this is frustrating for the viewers, as they may not understand the character dethey have wasted their money through the first 40 minutes of the film.

However, the assumption that the dialogue is weak is not unfounded. While Johansson has the acting ability to make the transition from machine to man, there is no way she could have salvaged some of the lines given to her by the writers.

The dialogue is continually choppy, confusing and awkward, with little improvement as the movie progresses. Exchanges between characters can seem almost silly at times from the sheer discomfort they add to the scenes.

Where dialogue fails, the movie's score succeeds.

After on-screen conversations that were as uninformative as they were uncomfortable, the music relieved tension and fit perfectly into the futuristic, urban aesthetic. Electronic, rhythm-driven lines moved the plot forward, as aerial shots portray time passing or action sequences provide major developments in the war against the antagonists.

The music also adds to the suspense throughout the film. Repeated lines, with small changes make the viewer anxshadow unsettling revelations. Often, the score offers more information about the environment and plot than the dialogue.

The soundtrack finds a way to represent the environmental aesthetic and the plot developments at the same time. The use of props and cinematography, unfortunately, fails to achieve those goals.

Scenes are mostly focused on the viewer imagining a dirty, crowded future without any natural scenery. While this is achieved throughout the movie, it proves to be distracting and boring.

Most scenes have identical colors and textures and are cluttered with props and extras. The scenes are almost always busy but hardly ever interesting. If beautiful, futuristic scenes are what you're looking for in a movie, this one isn't for you.

"Ghost In The Shell" falls flat in many areas, but the special effects allow for exciting action scenes, while the plot allows it to be more than a mindless action movie. The interesting concept of the story doesn't fully translate to the theater and leaves viewers less excited af-

sense of understanding of Major's situation.

ious for what comes next, ter the movie than before they while dark chord changes fore- took their seats. Rating: B-



'LOU Reads' benefit concert this Wednesday

LEE CATHERINE COLLINS lcollins@go.olemiss.edu

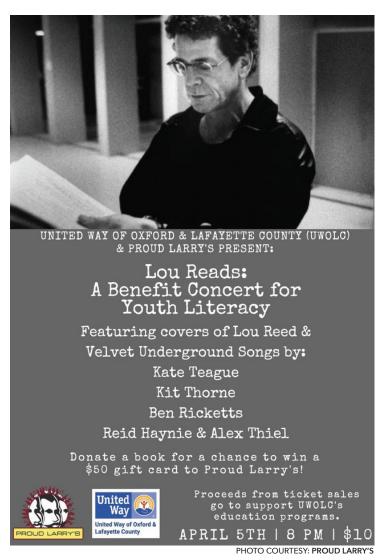
This Wednesday, United Way of Oxford and Lafayette County is partnering with Proud Larry's to present "LOU Reads: A Benefit Concert for Youth Literacy." The concert will feature covers of Lou Reed and Velvet Underground songs by artists Kate Teague, Kit Thorn, Ben Ricketts, Reid Haynie and Alex Theil. Concert tickets are \$10, and proceeds benefit UWOLC's education programs.

The United Way of Oxford and Lafayette County has raised more than \$10.5 million in the community, supporting non-profit organizations for more than 40 years. It helps to promote giving, advocacy and volunteerism by partnering with individuals, organizations and workplaces.

Ben Strassman, an AmeriCorps VISTA and United Way of Oxford and Lafayette County communication and outreach expert, has been an instrumental force in planning Wednesday's event. Strassman said he hopes Oxford citizens will "... reach out and fund programs that benefit the area." Although the UWOLC cannot currently release the names of the programs it will fund this year, last year's list of education agencies and programs included Lafayette County Literacy Council, LOU Excel by 5 Coalition,

LOU Excel by 5 Coalition, LOU Reads Coalition, Boys & Girls Club of North Mississippi, Horizons at the University of Mississippi and the Leap Frog Program.

The Lafayette County Literacy Council provides free children's books, parent education and one-on-one tutoring to promote literacy in families. The LOU Excel by 5 Coalition is committed to preparing children to succeed in kindergarten, while the LOU Reads Coalition works to ensure all children in the community can read proficiently by fourth grade. The Boys & Girls Club of North Mississippi offers a first-third grade Power Hour program that works toward reading skills and on-time grade progression through homework assistance and tutoring. Horizons at the University of Mississippi works to



eliminate summer learning loss, impact perceptions of school and learning and increase student self-confidence. The Leap Frog program offers free tutoring services to 140 first, second and third graders in Oxford City and Lafayette County schools.

As a volunteer tutor for Leap Frog, sophomore Ole Miss student Reagan Tramel meets with three students twice a week. She helps her students with their reading skills, helping them achieve grade-level reading ability. Tramel speaks of the program highly, claiming that the most rewarding part of her work, "... would be when the kids get something right or learn something new because I know then that I'm doing something meaningful."

The United Way of Oxford and Lafayette County relies on community events, volunteers and partners to execute its goals for the community.

"We feel fortunate to have such a talented group of performers who care about the LOU community and understand the value of education," Kurt Brummett, executive director of UWOLC, said.

The event begins at 8 p.m. and is suitable for ages 18 and up. Tickets are available online.



Ole Miss softball ready to take on Central Arkansas

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Ole Miss softball is getting ready to face Central Arkansas tonight before a threegame away series against Auburn this weekend.

The Rebels are 24-11 but just 2-7 in SEC play and are hoping to use their game against Central Arkansas to gain some confidence back before returning to conference play. With postseason play just around the corner, that confidence could not come at a better time.

Since Mike Smith took over as head coach at Ole Miss in 2014, the program has gone from that of a basement dweller to, at times, a legitimate NCAA Tournament contender. Smith is now just five wins away from 100 at the helm of the University of Mississippi's softball program. His unique coaching style and impressive recruiting classes have lent themselves well to Oxford.

The first pitch against the Bears will take place at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the Ole Miss Softball Complex. As Ole Miss' final portion of its season, tonight's game marks its fifth midweek game of the season. Central Arkansas' current overall record is 13-25, including a recent 3-1 loss to Nicholls State University. Central Arkansas has struggled all season, not just with pitching and defense but also on the offensive side of the plate. The Rebels should match up favorably against a relatively young group of infielders and an equally inexperienced pitching core.

As for offense, with recent hitting surges from Sarah Van Schaik and Kaylee Horton, among others, the Rebels should not have any problems driving the ball far and deep against the Bears. Look



PHOTO BY: CHASE ROBERTS

Junior Kaitlin Lee pitches during a game against Kentucky this past weekend. After Ole Miss' rough conference record, the Rebels are looking to get back on track and gain some confidence before returning to SEC play.

for Smith to work tactfully with slap bunts and tricky base running to give his team even more of an advantage.

Central Arkansas is the only opponent left on the Rebels' schedule not ranked in the top 100 RPI. With 20 games left on the docket, the Rebels have the third-toughest remaining schedule of any team in the NCAA. The remaining 10 opponents are a combined 245-110 (.690), and six have a current RPI inside the top 50. Ole Miss needs to win every game possible if it wants a shot at postseason success, and that starts with a strong showing against Central Arkansas.

The Rebels' last game against No. 16 Kentucky was a shutout, and the series win marked the first for the Rebels over Kentucky since 2006, when Ole Miss swept that series in Oxford. The Rebels also started their 19th different starting lineup of the year during the final matchup against Kentucky last weekend. As they search for con-

9

4

2

sistency, the Rebels will need to lean on their upperclassman-heavy roster to help them manage tough games.

Several more conference games lie ahead for the Rebels, including matchups against No. 25 Missouri, No. 12 Alabama and No. 5 Florida. Things will not be getting any easier for the Ole Miss softball team any time soon, and its results over the next week will likely determine the path it continues down for the rest of the season.



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SPORTS

Rebels prepared for match up with Southern Miss

ETHAN WRIGHT

thedmsports@gmail.com

Sitting at 16-12 on the season and just 3-6 in conference play, Ole Miss baseball's Tuesday night matchup against No. 17 Southern Mississippi is shaping up to be a must-win for coach Mike Bianco's Rebels. The 6:30 p.m. game will pit the Rebels, still reeling from a series sweep at the hands of intrastate rival Mississippi State this past weekend, against the Golden Eagles, who are flying high on a 24-5 record.

While the Golden Eagles' schedule may not be quite as competitive as Ole Miss' has been so far, they have still rolled through 15 of their last 16 opponents, including a 7-5 neutral-site victory over the very same Bulldogs that ravaged the Rebels last weekend. Tuesday night's matchup will be played at that same neutral venue – Trustmark Park in Pearl – and if the Rebels do not improve, they, too, may fall victim to Southern Miss.

A recent trend for the Rebels, and that has Bianco rightfully worried, has been the complete disappearance of offensive consistency. In its three game series with Mississippi State, Ole Miss averaged only 2.3 runs per game and were held to a dismal four or fewer hits in two of those games. Yet, the evidence of offensive underproduction stretches even farther back than last weekend.

In fact, during only five of their last 20 games have the Rebels registered more than four runs in a game. Ole Miss has lost 11 of the 15 games they've scored four times or less.

Even more concerning

ASSIFIEDS



PHOTO BY:CAMERON BROOKS

Freshman Thomas Dillard reacts after hitting a double during a game earlier this season. Dillard has struggled recently, only getting two hits in the last six games.

for Rebels baseball fans is how well Southern Miss has been pitching lately. The Golden Eagles' pitching staff includes a 2016 Freshman All-American in Nick Sandlin, a 2016 first-team All-Conference USA and preseason All-Conference USA in Kirk McCarty and another preseason All-Conference USA in Taylor Bra-

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ley. Perhaps most impressive among these is Sandlin, who has won five games, saved three and has not allowed a single run in his 11 appearances.

Because of the depth and talent of Southern Miss' pitching rotation, it will be imperative that Ole Miss readjust its hitting strategies and mend any issues at the plate before Tuesday's head-to-head. Much of this readjustment should be focused on the freshmen, only one of whom is batting over .250. Among the first-year starters, Thomas Dillard, in particular, has been unnaturally quiet lately, registering only two hits in the last six games. Dillard, who started the season on fire, actually led the team in batting average for the first few weeks but now sits on the bottom half of the stat sheet.

Dillard and the other freshmen's improvements hitting-wise will be paramount if Ole Miss is to have a shot at taking down the Golden Eagles. While pitching should keep Ole Miss in the game, as it has nearly every matchup so far, the Rebels simply cannot win if the offense fails to show up. If Bianco can light a fire under his young team and its bats, as well, then this neutral-site matchup might just be the turning point Ole Miss needs this season.

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SPORTS

PRO DAY continued from page 1

duct. He then transferred to East Mississippi Community College in 2014, where he led the Lions to a 12-0 record and National Junior College Championship. His performance caught the eye of Ole Miss head coach Hugh Freeze, who extended an offer to Kelly shortly thereafter.

Things were looking up for Kelly until early 2015, when he pled guilty to a non-criminal disorderly conduct charge following an altercation with a nightclub bouncer.

Earlier this year, the NFL decided not to extend Kelly, whose 8.4 yards per pass last season got him ranked second in the SEC, an invitation to the NFL Combine due to its policy of excluding student athletes with criminal records.

"Every decision and everything you do is going to be put in a microscope, and one bad thing can blow up like that," Kelly said. "Of course they bring up the past, but you try to let them know you're not the same person."

Even so, it appears a number of NFL teams are still willing to take a gamble on Kelly, who led Ole Miss to a



PHOTO BY: ARIEL COBBERT

Damore'ea Stringfellow participates in one of the many drills that took place at Ole Miss' pro day. Stringfellow turned some heads during the pro day, despite not getting an invite to the NFL combine due to prior convictions.

course 48-20 Sugar Bowl win over t, but Oklahoma State in 2016.

"There's a whole bunch (of interested teams). I've got some visits set up for later this week," Kelly said. "You just never know. Depending on where I go, I really don't care. I just want an opportunity to show what I can do."

Throughout the morning, a number of other NFL hopefuls demonstrated their bench press, broad jump, vertical jump and 40-yard dash abilities in front of various professional scouts.

Of note, Quincy Adeboyejo improved his vertical jump 2.5 inches from the NFL Combine (now up to 37 inches), Derrick Jones hit a 41 inch vertical jump and 11 foot broad jump and Carlos Davis, weighing just 170 pounds, bench pressed 225 pounds 15 times.

Yet, Damore'ea Stringfellow, with his 17 bench press reps, 10-foot 10-inch broad jump, 38 inch vertical jump and 4.65 40 time, seemed to impress scouts most. The 6'2" junior receiver, who began his career at the University of Washington, also did not receive an invitation to the NFL Combine after pleading guilty to two counts of fourth-degree assault and one count of third-degree malicious mischief that occurred in 2014, shortly before he transferred to Ole Miss.

Stringfellow, however, was locked in Monday morning.

"I don't think anyone expected me to run a fast 40 (yard dash)," Stringfellow said. "I just came to show out and have fun."

Evan Engram and Adeboyejo spent most of their pro day on the sidelines after impressing NFL teams at the Combine in Indianapolis earlier this year.

"I didn't test at all. I was really pleased with my numbers in Indy, so I didn't feel the need to work up and improve on anything," Engram said. "It was kind of a chill day until that last session where we ran routes and stuff."



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