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### Inesday, April 12, 2017 MISSISSISSISSIPPI/ Wednesday, April 12, 2017 Volume 105, No. 123 🖿 Visit theDMonline.com 💟 @thedm\_news THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI SERVING OLE MIS

WHAT'S INSIDE... Edward Snowden: Did he do the right thing?

Take back the night with the Oxford and university community



SEE LIFESTYLES PAGE 4

# Students combat veteran suicide rates





**Disc golfers** head to nationals in South Carolina

SEE **SPORTS** PAGE 7

## Students promote sexual assault awareness

JENNIFER FRONING

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Rebels Against Sexual Assault will join thousands across the nation in this year's campaign to "engage new voices" by hosting a variety of educational and discussion-driven events for national Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

The new national campaign puts the focus on involving more faith leaders, Greek Life and other bystanders with preventing sexual assault.

RASA president Corbin Smith said she believes the events will help educate students on Ole Miss' campus this month and spread how important this month is.

"The importance of Sexual Assault Awareness month is to spread awareness about consent. resources and sexual assault in general," Smith said. "The hope is that people become more aware of what sexual assault is and become more sensitive to survivors of sexual assault."

A group of 30 men and women joined forces with the Ole Miss Student Veterans of America to raise awareness of veteran and military suicide rates for the second-annual Mission 22 walk Tuesday. Members from ROTC Navy, Alpha Tau Omega, Beta Theta Pi, Alpha Phi Omega and Army ROTC participated in the walk and push-up competition.

## League of Women Voters returns after 36 years

#### SLADE RAND WILLIAM SMITH

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The League of Women Voters returned Tuesday night for the first registration meeting in 36 years.

Mayor-elect Robyn Tannehill spoke to a crowd at the Oxford-Lafayette County Public Library and signed up to join the League alongside nearly 60 locals and students. She spoke about the League's potential benefits for today's political scene.

"I think that the League of Women Voters is an important organization," Tannehill said. "It's nonpartisan, which

is critical in making things happen, especially at a local level."

Tannehill said North Mississippi would certainly benefit from the League's emphasis on informed and active participation in government.

"I do think that women are uniquely suited for political participation," she said.

Tannehill said Oxford is developing outwards as it moves forward, and quickly becoming a not-so-small town. She promised the crowd of women voters that her office and the city are focused on protecting what the town holds dear.

"Everybody in this town has a role," Tannehill said. "What is your role? How do you plan to play a part? How will you serve?'

The League of Women Voters has promoted informed political action across the country since 1920, when they formed to unite women voters around the ratification of the 19th Amendment. According to their website, the League has worked to protect the rights of working women, and supported the Social Security and Food and Drug Acts. The League is open to men and women older than 16 years old and welcomes students.

Tannehill said in a town

SEE LEAGUE PAGE 3 Library on Tuesday night.

PHOTO BY: TAYLAR TEEL Dianne Fergusson, president of the Oxford and North Mississippi Chapter, speaks to community members at the League of Women Voters meeting at the Oxford Public





### **COLUMN** Edward Snowden: American patriot or traitor?



ANDREW WILDMAN thedmopinion@gmail.com

It has been nearly four years since Edward Snowden leaked thousands of documents that detailed just how extensively we were monitored by the U.S. government.

Since then, a question has been burning in my mind:

He was, to my surprise, not championed by either major political party.

I assumed that the Republicans, being champions of small government, would have a parade in his honor because he revealed how under a Democratic administration the government was so massive it was even violating our Fourth Amendment right to privacy, even though the USA PATRIOT Act was enacted by the Bush administration.

I was equally amazed that the Democratic party, the party of social progress, did not praise him for revealing a severe overreach of a warmongering government.

Regardless, Snowden was equally persecuted from both sides of the aisle, to the point

The question remains: Was what he did right?

An argument I hear all the time when government surveillance is brought into a discussion is "I don't care, I don't have anything to hide."

But, the argument was never do you or do you not have something to hide. The argument is about why you should not have to say that in the first place.

We as the American public have a certain expectation of rights. So much so that we have the Bill of Rights that clearly states our rights, one of which is our Fourth Amendment right to unwarranted search or seizure.

Yet, in the documents that Snowden leaked, we see that the USA PATRIOT Act

have access to your private life.

If you send an email or text, before it can get to its location, the message must be cached on a server. Tech companies such as Apple and Google rent these servers and they often rent them in other countries, just because of all the server space they need.

As soon as your text or email crosses the border of the U.S., the National Security Agency now has warranted access to it.

Snowden, in revealing these truths, challenged our idea of governmental transparency. The idea that the government had such access to every single aspect of our lives, unnerved him.

This had to be made known to the American people; we deserved to know this.

information was not wellthought-out. Covert operations secrets that and were unnecessary for the people to know were compromised.

While he could have given this information to the people in a better way, I think he ultimately did something that was necessary and good for the American people.

When we look back at all the people we consider great, American patriots, none were perfect. Neither is Snowden. But, in my eyes, he is just as much, if not more, of a patriot than those before him we have called patriot.

Andrew Wildman is an integrated marketing communications major from Laurel.

"Does this make him America's greatest patriot or traitor?"

asylum in Russia.

where he was granted political broadens the cases that gives Admittedly, the way the government the right to Snowden this released

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### **RASA** continued from page 1

RASA will be hosting 10 events throughout the month of April. Some of the events include an LGBTQ Sexual Assault Panel, Nacho Fault taco night to discuss why it is never the survivor's fault and Take Back the Night.

"Take Back the Night is probably our biggest event," Smith said. "We are expecting around 200 people. I believe this is our biggest event because we have involvement from many different departments on campus. ROTC, Greek life and Health Promotions have all offered to volunteer their time and supplies for this event."

Take Back the Night will be held on Wednesday April 12 at 6:30 p.m. at the Grove. This event will include honoring survivors, a group art project, a walk, and a glow stick vigil. This event is open to everyone.

The first nationally recognized Sexual Assault Awareness Month took place in April 2001.

Last month, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Brandi Hephner LaBanc visited a RASA meeting to explain the steps the university is taking to provide better resources for survivors of sexual assault, specifically hiring specially trained nurses and hiring another person in the Violence Prevention Office.

Many organizations around campus are involved in the Sexual Assault Awareness Month events. The counseling center helps plan events and the University Police Department helps with the Take Back the Night march route. UPD and health promotions also donated money for t-shirts as well as food.

"The best way for students to become educated on sexual assault is to attend our events or request a Peer Education training session to a group they are a part of," Smith said. "We have presented to Honors 101 classes, EDHE, Greek life and we are open to presenting to any organization or class that welcomes us."

Smith said the website, umsafe.olemiss.edu, also lists resources for survivors of sexual assault.

Teal is the color of sexual assault awareness and teal ribbons will be handed out at the events to show support for survivors of sexual assault.

"Take Back the Night gives us the chance to show our solidarity for victims of sexual assault, while also letting others know that we as a community will not let assault be normalized," international studies major Sarah Ryanne Kavanagh said.

Kavanagh said she is excited to attend the Take Back the Night event. She said events like Take Back the Night show the community it's OK to talk about sexual assault and how everyone can change the culture and conversation surrounding sexual assault on our campus.

"Whenever we have conversations about sexual assault or participate in awareness events, we are taking steps to end the problem," Kavanaugh said.

SENIOR

HONORS THESIS

Presentation

Mariah Leigh Cole

B.S. IN PHARMACEUTICAL

Sciences

"Synthesis and

**Biological Evaluation** 

of Cannabinoid

Ligands"

Directed by John Rimoldi

Wednesday, April 12

at 8:30 am

Faser Hall Room 347

The defense is open to the public.

If you require special assistance relating to a

disability, please contact Penny Leeton at

662-915-7266

### **LEAGUE** continued from page 1

like Oxford, the issues locals care about are rarely divided across party lines. She said the Board of Alderman is able to carry out its business because its members do not represent any party and can instead focus on the community's best interests.

"Democrats and Republicans both pick up trash and leaves and need police officers and fire fighters in the same way," she said.

Mary Queyja moved to Oxford in 1969 and served as president of the original Oxford chapter of the League for a year in the '70s. She said when she moved to town, several women had already laid the groundwork to be a part of the national organization.

"We took the national issues and researched them and discussed them," Queyja said. "At the time, we were the ones who started the national debates."

The reinstated North Mississippi chapter will join the other state chapters in Jackson and on the Gulf Coast. Dianne Fergusson is president of the Oxford and North Mississippi Chapter, but was involved before she moved to North Mississippi.

"I started out in the League when I lived in South Carolina, and I really missed it when I moved to Mississippi," Fergusson said.

Fergusson said the organi-

Senior

HONORS THESIS

Presentation

Gretchen Laurel

Harknett

**B.A.** IN **BIOCHEMISTRY** 

"An Analysis of

Stimuli Responsive

**Biomaterials Using** 

Raman Spectroscopy and

Computational Studies"

Directed by Nathan Hammer

Wednesday, April 12

at 1:00 pm

SMBHC Room 311

The defense is open to the public.

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zation is returning to Oxford based on a need for more awareness and to inform voters in the wake of recent elections.

"I think the state that our country's in now, more than ever, voter education and turnout is important when you have only half the population turning out to vote," Fergusson said.

At Tuesday's meeting, Fergusson explained Oxford's chapter of the League will function as a provisional unit for the next year, which means they will have to work to solidify their certification.

Laura Antonow is the director of the Office of College Programs at the University of Mississippi. She said she is excited about what the future will bring with the League back in the area.

"I think it is fantastic that they're reviving the chapter here," Antonow said. "Their timing is good too because of the recent divide in our country from the last election, and the fake news phenomenon."

Anne Phillippi has lived as a retiree in Oxford since 2012. She taught biology at the university for years after moving to Mississippi from Illinois. She was one of a dozen new members of the Oxford League who had previously been a member of another chapter.

The League's next meeting is scheduled for May 16 in the special collections and archives room of J.D. Williams Library. The meeting will feature a presentation on the history of the League in Mississippi and students are welcome to attend.

"Students in political science majors or public policy, or really anyone interested in environmental or women's issues might want to become involved or educated in the League," Phillippi said.







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## Survivors take back the night, share experiences

### **ZOE MCDONALD**

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Rebels Against Sexual Assault will be hosting Take Back The Night, a survivor-oriented community event as part of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, beginning at 6:30 p.m. on the Grove stage.

Take Back The Night will include speakers from the Title IX Office, the Violence Prevention Office and the counseling center. Attendees can also participate in a march around campus and a glow stick vigil. There will also be an opportunity for survivors to share their experiences either anonymously or in person. RASA is taking anonymous submissions through a form linked on their social media. Several peer educators will read the submissions.

Lindsey Bartlett Mosvick, the university's violence coordinator, prevention said the march communicates "the visual force of people who are willing and able to stand up against sexual violence." The glow stick vigil, she added, gives an opportunity for people to "disclose elements of their connection to the issue without having to share their entire story." She said Take Back The Night is the most inspiring event of the year for her.

"It centers on the voices of survivors and their experiences, and others witness their strength, courage and determination," she said.



Anti-violence shirts hang in front of the Lyceum at the Take Back The Night rally last year.

FILE PHOTO

"The University of Mississippi has seen an increase in turnout the past few years, but more than that an increase in the number of survivors who speak out and share their stories."

Kristin Howitt, RASA's secretary and committee head for the event, said the groups tries to make the event comfortable for everyone involved and more people than in the past year have opted to speak out in

person.

"This makes me happy that Take Back The Night and our campus in general is seen as a safe space to share your experience," she said. "I admire the bravery of both anonymous and in person speak outs. Survivors should only do what they are comfortable with."

Howitt, who is also a sexual assault survivor, is one of the peer educators who will be reading anonymous accounts.

Howitt said there will be pizza, Smoothie King and Insomnia Cookies at the event.

Bartlett Mosvick said the speak out gives survivors a sense of community and also helps open peoples eyes to the issue.

"By giving survivors op-

present will feel support in a way they cannot feel otherwise," she said. "For those who only see sexual assault not to report or didn't have as a statistic, the personalizing of the stories by the survivors and their direct experiences raises awareness in a way nothing else can."

Elizabeth Romary, who helped start RASA and served as the It's On Us coordinator this year, said having a huge student group on campus offers survivors a safe space where they can feel comfortable, even if they choose not to talk about their own experience. At the university, there's been a trend of increased reporting of sexual assaults. Romary said her and other RASA members tions on how their story is consider that a positive

shared, the other survivors trend because it indicates more people are comfortable with reporting.

For survivors who chose the opportunity, Take Back The Night's speak out is a way for survivors to reclaim their experience and let their story out.

RASA will also hold other community events throughout the month of April including a screening of "Yeah, Maybe, No," a LGBTQ+ sexual assault panel, and 50 Shades of Consent, a discussion about consent organized by UM Housing.

"It's more survivor-oriented, but it's for the whole community," Romary said. "It's showing survivors that we're here for you. We'll help you. We'll help you in any way that we can."



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## Father John Misty's album calls life 'Pure Comedy'

#### DANIEL PAYNE

thedmfeatures@gmail.com

Father John Misty came out with his new album "Pure Comedy" last Friday — his third experiment in analyzing the world through an album.

The thesis of Father John Misty's album is not taking human existence so seriously, describing life as pure comedy. From our brains being too large for the birth canal as we are born, to committing the very sins we work to eradicate, Misty displays the irony and insignificance of human existence.

From politics and religion, to his music and fans, nothing is off-limits for Misty to prove that humans can take themselves far too seriously.

While the ideas presented in the album are grandiose, the music itself is more mundane. Compared to his first two albums, "Fear Fun" and "I Love You, Honeybear," his new music is slower and feels less exciting.

The folky acoustic guitar paired with pianos, drums and occasional choirs are interesting and effective conduits for his message. There are moments that stand out, such as jazzy saxophones on the first track or powerful brass chords on the third.

Tempo and rhythm, however, may not vary as much as the listener desires. The album, more than anything, is cathartic, and the musical styles needed for such an album are consistently balladic.

Misty acknowledges this aspect of the music as less attractive to his audience on the album itself, writing that this music will make his fans "jump ship" and "want to die."

It is this attitude of not seeing his work as particularly weighty or important that encapsulates the charm of "Pure Comedy."

That being said, this is not a party or feel-good album; it's one to make listeners think and change their perspectives.

Most listeners will come away from this album taking their lives less seriously, humbly accepting the contradictions they hold in their beliefs about themselves, the rest of humanity and God.

The lack of reverence for issues that are usually seen as extremely important, such as climate change, governments toppling or God being dethroned demonstrate Misty's undeniable wit. He is able to offend, intrigue and change the listener throughout the album, allowing him stand out as an artist.

Lyrically the album is smart and entertaining, yet profound and moving. It is one of the few that could be converted into a book of poetry and still succeed.

The importance of the lyrics is expressed musically through Misty's well-executed vocals. Both soft and powerful in the right moments, Misty's voice provides the contrast the listener may crave from mostly homogenous instrumental parts.

The vocals also convey the Misty's ideas and emotions in a way that easily connects to the listener. Unlike music that contemplates specific circumstances, "Pure Comedy" presents ideas about what human existence is and how it looks from an objective perspective. Because the subject matter is so broad, Misty chooses issues that affect a wide array of people, such as climate change, globalization and religion.

Misty deals with these ideas in a way that makes many people uncomfortable, such as considering an insurrection from the inevitably destructive forces of climate change.



This is all in an attempt to move the listener toward the idea that humans are, on a universal scale, insignificant, meaning we shouldn't take our own experiences so seriously.

He counterbalances this point by revealing that the human experience is the only one offered to us and that life within this experience is a gift. The ability to make an album that analyzes the smallness and unimportance of our species highlights the beauty and value of the human experience. The irony that life can be pure comedy and a gift at the same time is a powerful, moving idea that will have listeners coming back to re-

analyze the lyrical genius of

Father John Misty.



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## Three questions before softball's bout with Memphis

#### NATHAN BAILEY

thedmsports@gmail.com

The Ole Miss softball team (26-13) is hosting regional rival Memphis on Wednesday as part of a single-game warm up for their SEC matchup with LSU this weekend. After dropping games last weekend, the Rebels certainly hope to make a statement in front of their home crowd. Here are three questions the team will need to answer before Wednesday's game:

#### Can the Rebels bounce back?

Last weekend, the Rebels dropped two out of three away games to No. 5 Auburn. While close and competitive, the results were ultimately disappointing for head coach Mike Smith. Auburn's nationally recognized pitching and defense dictated the score line throughout the weekend. Memphis, on the other hand, has lost two straight and will not carry much confidence into Wednesday's head-to-head.

Ole Miss will need to capitalize early and often or risk an unexpected upset to the Tigers. Regardless of how the scoreboard reads after seven innings, fans can expect a heated Mid-South rivalry with both teams swinging for the fences.

### Will the pitching dominance continue?

The Rebels boast an elite pitching staff filled with plenty of quality and depth. The starters, namely former junior college All-American Katilin Lee, have displayed dominance against top teams and Ole Miss'

closers rank among the best in the SEC. This season, Lee has kept a low ERA of 2.38 and continues to carry the Rebels to big victories; expect her to play a significant role against LSU and possibly Memphis.

With an eye on the NCAA tournament, Smith's pitchers cannot afford to lose a single step. Going 13-5 at home this year, the Rebels have turned Oxford

into an SEC softball fortress. During their final matchup with Auburn last weekend, the Rebels gave up just five hits. While Auburn eventually emerged victorious, constricting the Tiger's offense should give Ole Miss fans plenty of optimism.

Softball games can turn on a dime and if the Rebels' pitching staff lays an egg against Memphis, momentum could turn quickly against the hosts. With LSU, Florida, Alabama and Missouri remaining on the schedule, dropping a game against Memphis could push the Rebels down a slippery slope.

#### Will the offense show up?

Last weekend summed up the Rebels' offense this year as the Tigers held them to a single run on Friday but allowed the Ole Miss offense to score 10 on Saturday. The Rebels have been moderately successful at placing runners in scoring position but too often they are left stranded.

Elantra Cox was one of few consistently impressive offensive players last weekend. With five hits and three runs on the weekend, the junior slugger and former SEC Player of the Week is rounding into form. She's proven successful as a leadoff batter, in part, due to her base stealing proficiency. Cox stole 30 bases as a freshman, the second most in a single season in Ole Miss history.

If Smith and his team can sort out their offensive woes and rely on pitching prowess, Wednesday could mark an important turning point for a talented but, at times underwhelming, Rebels softball game.

First pitch is scheduled for 6 p.m.

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20 Subtle menace (2 wds.) 23 Portfolio item 65 26 Uh cousins 66 27 Grocery section 28 Alexander's phenomenon 29 Holds 30 Take the title 31 Bikini half 32 U.K. fliers 33 Big rodeo town 37 Lout 38 Hail, to Caesar 6 39 Lime cooler 40 Estuary 41 Made a dull noise 43 Composer Rorem

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PHOTO BY: CAMERON BROOKS

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## Ole Miss' first disc golf team heads to nationals

### EMILY SMITH

thedmsports@gmail.com

In their first year of existence, the Ole Miss Disc Golf Club has secured a spot in the National Collegiate Disc Golf Championships in North Augusta, South Carolina the end of this week.

"We're really excited about the team going to nationals," Brian Veverka, the graduate assistant for intramural sports and sports clubs said. "Hopefully it brings more attention to the sport of disc golf and to the disc golf course on campus."

The club was founded last spring by students Zack Fisher and Alan Logan. They began competing last fall in the Southern Collegiate Disc Golf Conference and Mid South Open. They hold their practices at a course near the intramural fields.

"It's a brand new club that just started in the fall semester and already in the spring they're going to a national tournament," Veverka said. "That's incredible for them to achieve that success so



quickly."

As a first-year sports club at Ole Miss, the disc golfers have been forced to self-finance many of their expenses. The team had a GoFund-Me page on Nov. 28, 2016 after finishing second in the Midsouth Collegiate Open in Jonesboro, Arkansas. Their goal was to raise \$1,500.

"Donations have come a lot from families, people from the community, Shipley Donuts, local business owners, but mainly our pockets," vice president and co-founder of the Disc Golf Club Alan Logan said. "We have paid for 99 percent of our expenses so far."

Any money raised goes directly to travel arrangements and tournament fees for their trip to North Augusta. There is a \$200 entry fee for the tournament and each player is required to join the Professional Disc Golf Association, a privilege reserved for those players that pay a \$75 fee.

"A disc golf team is made up for four players," president and co-founder of the Disc Golf Club Zach Fisher said. "I am excited to go and play on the course. This is the furthest we will have traveled as a team."

While the trip and tournament fees present a considerable challenge for the club's members, every dollar has a purpose.

"The money is to make sure we get there safely, we're comfortable and that we're fed," said Logan. "And that all the dues have been met in order to compete."

The club's members eagerly anticipate their chance to put Mississippi on the disc golfing map.

"We are excited to represent our school and our state on the biggest stage in collegiate disc golf," treasurer for the Disc Golf Club Tyler Flynn said. "Ideally, we will bring home something nice and shiny."

For the team, the message is simple.

"Put the disc in the basket," said Logan. "That's the game."

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

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## Patterson ready to lead Rebels' offense in 2017

#### **ETHAN WRIGHT**

thedmsports@gmail.com

Last Saturday, Ole Miss' spring football practices culminated in the Grove Bowl, the annual spring game that pits Rebel against Rebel in a battle of pride between offense and defense.

While the game itself holds little importance, the fleeting glimpses of different players' talents makes it invaluable for predicting fall success. As many assumed, the star of the game was none other than sophomore phenom Shea Patterson, who currently has the entire collegiate football realm on their toes, waiting for his potential to translate into a full collegiate season.

Patterson finished the day 21-30 while throwing for 341 yards and two touchdowns as the Rebels' offense captured 31-29 victory over the defense, who were spotted a 27-0 lead to begin the game. While it may be worth noting that Patterson's heroics came against a secondary littered with second and third-stringers, it was the young quarterback's grasp of the playbook that marked perhaps the most important takeaway from the

game.

"He's settled in," head coach Hugh Freeze said. "It's taken him a little while. [He had to] learn what drops went with which combinations, the run game, and the checks off of [the run game]. He had a good understanding and I thought he was really efficient."

Freeze's praise of Patterson's ability to retain information and run the offense efficiently speaks volumes of the young quarterback's maturity. Patterson's ability with the football in his hand is undeniable- he was the topranked quarterback recruit in 2016 and stepped up as a true freshman for the final three games last season- but his ability to learn a playbook and run an offense was never certain. Though it seems Patterson has now answered those questions.

And while Patterson's improvement has impressed both fans and coaches, the rising sophomore still has plenty of time to hone his skills and strengthen his understanding of the offense.

"We have the whole summer which is great for us," newly hired offensive coordinator Phil Longo said. "We get to slow it down, we get to teach a lot of the finer points, and [the players] get to work together and do their own thing. All those things will pay dividends in the fall because we'll be past this sort of 'Football 101.'"

From the mood surrounding spring practices and the Grove Bowl, there is no reason a new and improved Patterson will not be ready for full time SEC quarterback duties in the fall. Though, as is often the case, the more things change, the more they seem to stay the same. While Patterson's playbook improvements have been exponential, he still retains that fun-to-watch, Manziel-esque demeanor Ole Miss fans quickly grew to love

"I don't know that he's changed a lot as a person," Freeze said. "He has the same confidence as he did when he was called upon to go in against Texas A&M."

With the same level of confidence and talent, but an improved mastering of the plays and offense, Patterson should be a force to be reckoned with next season. As the Rebel defense found out last Saturday, and the entire SEC will soon learn, the smart money's on Patterson.



PHOTO BY: TAYLAR TEEL

Rising sophomore Shea Patterson throws the ball during the Grove Bowl Saturday.







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