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See inside for the 2017 Double Decker edition

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Volume 105, No. 133

ISSISSIPPI

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI SERVING OLE MISS AND OXFORD SINCE 1911 DM Visit the DMonline.com 💟 @thedm_news

OPD prepares for 60,000 at Double Decker Budget

BRIANA FLOREZ

thedmnews@gmail.com

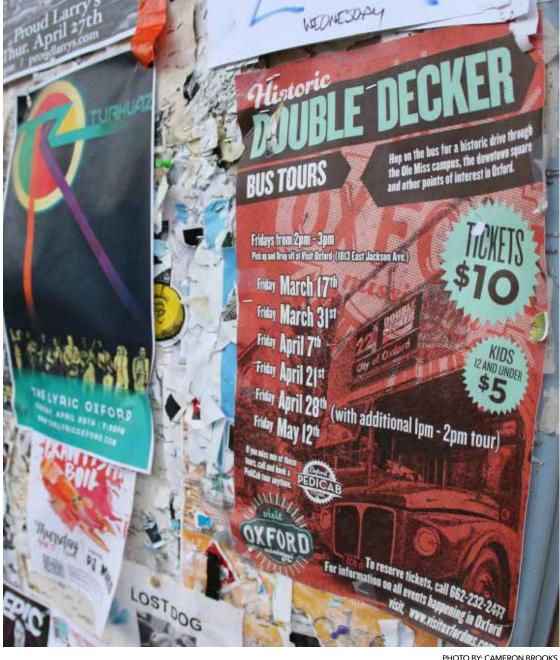
More than 60,000 people will venture to the Square this weekend for the 22nd annual Double Decker Arts Festival.

Double Decker is arguably Oxford's most popular event. Created in 1996, the event was inspired by the Double Decker bus Oxford imported from England in 1994. Since the festival's beginning, it has demonstrated the great passion Oxford has for the arts and boasted the town's diverse food and music taste.

During its first year, the festival's musical artists played in the bed of a pickup truck, and only a few art and food vendors participated in the event.

Now, 166 art vendors, 25 food vendors and 11 musical artists will be featured for a variety of entertainment.

Jimmy "Duck" Holmes, an award-winning country blues musician, will kick off the festival's entertainment Friday night, in addition to Thacker Mountain Radio, a live radio show hosting a range of musical performances, as well as author readings.



SEE DOUBLE DECKER PAGE 4 More than 60,000 people are expected at the Square this weekend for the 22nd annual Double Decker Arts Festival, featuring musical artists, art and food vendors and other entertainment options.

cuts may affect public library

JAQUELINE KNIRNSCHILD

thedmnews@gmail.com

With the recent rollbacks in the Mississippi state budget, the Lafayette County and Oxford Public Library may have to cut down on staff.

According to the Associated Press, in the current budget vear, Gov. Phil Bryant has reduced budgets across the state by a total of \$171 million.

Judy Card, interim director of First Regional Library, said that as of now, she is unsure if those cuts will affect library budgets.

The Mississippi Library Commission, an independent state agency serving public libraries, will notify the First Regional Library if any cuts are made, Card said.

"We will just have to wait and see," Card said. "We will hear from them as soon as they know."

Laura Beth Walker, the head librarian of Lafayette County and Oxford Public Library, said she thinks budget cut decisions could come out in the next couple of months.

"The federal government is looking at cutting the Institute of Museum and Library Services,

SEE LIBRARY PAGE 4

NFL executive balances tradition with technology

BRIAN SCOTT RIPPEE

thedmnews@gmail.com

In some aspects, Michelle McKenna-Doyle's job is about balance. Balancing the time-honored traditions of a game that is 100 years old, while innovating new forms of technology in order to avoid being archaic.

Oh yeah, and she does this for the most successful professional sports league in the history of the world. McKenna-Dole is the vice president and chief information officer of the National Football League. She's responsible for overseeing and implementing new technology into the game of football. But she also understands that a mix between

game creates the best prod-

"We definitely take a lot of feedback and try our best to meet their requirements," McKenna-Doyle said. "Depending on the type of technology, for example, anything we put on the sideline and we've put a lot in the last two years around player health and safety, and how we review that data and who reviews it. They don't get a lot of input on that. That's very much a league policy. But how they use those tablets and what they use, not only do we get their feedback but give them the option to use it in their game preparation."

Another example of mixing

that and the traditions of the tradition with evolution is the NFL draft, which begins Thursday night. It's become a tradition to enter the pick via phone and submit it on a card, when in reality picks could be entered into a computer in an instant.

"We choose to preserve the tradition and the honor of that," McKenna-Doyle said. "It's great television."

She's overseen the implementation of tablets teams can use on the sidelines during game preparation and during the game to study coverages, schemes and defensive lapses.

McKenna-Dovle also helps grow the game. The NFL is



COURTESY: PAGE 23 MEDIA

McKenna-Doyle will speak at the C Spire Tech Experience at 5:30 p.m. today in The Pavilion.

SEE NFL PAGE 4

COLUMN

A crossroads of discipline and comfort in Bryant



LIAM NIEMAN thedmopinion@gmail.com

There's a heavy rain falling outside. Those fat, summerstorm droplets are hitting, then sliding down, the leaves of the Catalpa tree outside the window. I'm lying on one of the big, comfy couches in the living room of Bryant Hall, waiting for my classmates to finish their tests.

This was nearly two years ago, in the summertime, when I took my first two college classes, one of which was Philosophy 103 in the upstairs lecture hall of Bryant, in a high school summer program at the university.

Since then, I've taken it upon myself to defend Bryant as the best place to get work done on campus and the second most beautiful building on campus, behind Barnard Observatory.

Built in 1911, Bryant originally housed the main university and medical school libraries, along with the university museum, reading rooms, faculty offices and a makeshift gymnasium in the basement. The current name came in 1984, in honor of former Vice Chancellor W. Alton Bryant.

It's changed hands a few times, becoming the "fine arts" building in 1952 and housing the arts and theater departments until 2007, when it became the home to the departments of philosophy, religion and classics after a renovation.

Part of that renovation was the cozy sitting room, designed by alumna and 1960 Miss America, Lynda Mead Shea. It features beautiful rugs, well-worn armchairs and a strange painting of a fish and a flowerpot. Without the wall murals and furniture you're scared to break, it's sort of a poor man's Lyceum.

I don't remember exactly what it was that first struck me so much about Bryant.

Maybe it was intricately designed iron gate at the top of the stone steps that guards the building. Or that huge, in-your-face globe right when you walk in that spins so slowly you'd never notice, mimicking the Earth. Or those massive, reaching windows in the main room that fill it with natural light during the day.

Whatever it was, it's kept institution. me coming back.

Even when it's full of students lounging on the couches, working quietly at the tables and talking among themselves, Bryant is a refuge. I might be working to turn something in by an imminent deadline, but I never feel too stressed when I'm doing it in one of those homey, beat-up leather armchairs.

There's something about comfortable inspiring the inside of this building is, considering that Bryant appears megalithic and imposing on the outside.

With its combination of detailed, ordered architecture that makes the outside stately and the deliberate, inventive interior design that makes the inside welcoming, Bryant is a melding of the comfort that makes Ole Miss home and the discipline that makes the university a rising academic

I rarely have a reason to be in Bryant. Besides that single introductory class two summers ago, I haven't taken a philosophy, religion or classics course, and I'm not sure that I ever will. I've only ever gone to a few meetings that took place there.

Maybe this whole thing seems ridiculous, that I'm writing with such passion about some random building on campus, but I don't really care. Go check it out and fall in love for yourself.

If it's a busy day and you've got some free time, duck into Bryant Hall at the center of campus for what will surely be a well-spent pause.

Liam Nieman is a freshman economics and Southern studies major from Mount Gretna, Pennsylvania.

COLUMN

Highlighting a rising star in Mississippi's legislature



NESTOR DELGADO thedmopinion@gmail.com

It was spring of my junior year of high school, and I was sitting on the stage of an auditorium at Mississippi State University for the annual Boys State Convention.

I looked up and began hearing a younger gentleman named Jeramey Anderson, youngest American elected to a state legislature in United States

history, speak about reaching for your dreams and ways to make a difference in your local community, even at a young age.

opened my eyes and provided insight into something I didn't realize before: Even the common man, no matter his age, can run for office, win and make a lasting impact in his community. He showed me that the stereotypes of running for public office had become obsolete and the political climate was changing across America.

Before Anderson's speech at Boys State, I had been involved in student government but never saw the importance of politics at a post-graduate, professional level. His speech changed my perspective on civic and national levels.

I discovered that it's not just the president or your senators who make a difference; even our state legislators have a lasting impact on our daily lives.

Following his speech, I reached out to Rep. Anderson about getting involved, possibly even engaging in an internship. The following fall, he gave me, a senior in high school, the opportunity to get involved in policy research and understand the day-today life of a state legislator.

And let me tell you: It was the greatest experience ever. To see a man, at only 22 years old, make such a significant impact in his community was empowering, to say the least.

Following his legislative initiatives in Jackson throughout the past few years and his involvement engagement at the local, state with organizations at all great nation. I know for a

find that Rep. Anderson of Moss Point is a model public servant whom future state legislators, both Democratic and Republican, should look

His level of engagement and passion for the community are second to none, especially his recent work with Rep. Toby Barker, a Republican from Hattiesburg. established the Mississippi Future Caucus, a caucus of Republican and Democratic state legislators under the age of 40.

Anderson's role speaks volumes to his character and passion for his state to end partisanship in the legislature and move in a cohesive, rather than divisive, direction.

He truly cares for the citizens of Moss Point, the state of Mississippi and our civic levels, I have come to fact he will continue to make strides in the work he is doing at the state level.

The lessons he taught me through his speech, as well as my internship, gave me the drive to pursue public policy and the desire to give back to my local community.

He taught me to engage in political reasoning rather than political affiliation. Cooperation rather than division. Understanding rather than a lack of sympathy.

And for this, I thank him.

Rep. Anderson is a rising star in the legislature and one whom I encourage all citizens, Republican and Democrat, to follow and learn lessons from on becoming a proactive leader in their communities.

Nestor Delgado is a sophomore public policy leadership major from Pascagoula.

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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. 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.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

It's clichéd but true that all that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing. For this reason, everyone – not just the "left" – has an obligation to stand up for political prisoners like Rasmea Odeh.

On Wednesday, this paper printed an ad hominem attack on Odeh and her supporters. The author labeled her a "terrorist," ignoring the fact that the 69-year-old woman's confession was obtained after torture, including rape and electric shocks, by the Israeli military. He further asserts that Odeh is linked to a Marxist-Leninist group.

These bogeyman buzzwords have been used against past freedom fighters, as well.

Nelson Mandela was on the U.S. terrorism list until 2008 for being a Communist, and the similarly left-wing Kurdistan Workers' Party — our ally in the fight against ISIS — remains on it today.

Odeh has been targeted in an attempt to undermine her advocacy for Palestinian liberation. She has called attention to the fact that Israel, guilty of the crime of apartheid, illegally occupies Palestinian land and subjects the Arab population to countless indignities.

Palestinians are regularly shot in the streets. They are subject to arbitrary imprisonment and torture. Many live with the memory and under the constant threat of missiles exploding over their heads, killing their loved

Segregated by 26-foot concrete walls, their homes and gardens are destroyed and illegal Israeli settlements constructed on the ruins. Food, medicine, and other supplies are ruthlessly restricted. Palestinians are seldom allowed to travel, even to see family members or obtain life-saving healthcare.

When we stand up for Rasmea Odeh, we contribute to the fight for justice. We celebrate the resilience, strength and determination that Odeh embodies. Her present plight presents us with a choice: shall we stand with the oppressed or be the oppressor?

Jaz Brisack is a sophomore general studies major.

On April 22, hundreds of thousands of concerned scientists and science-supporters from around the country and the world participated in the March for Science, which is pretty unprecedented.

While many detractors would paint this movement off as a partisan stunt, it is anything but. There has been simmering concern in the scientific community about how science is used, or not used, in informing policy.

Science is objective and needs to be used as a tool to help advance our society.

It is important to note that this was not because of the inauguration of Donald Trump, but that did provide a catalyst to make it happen. His proposed budget, with deep slashes to the sciences (such as the EPA, NIH, NASA and NOAA), raised alarms in the scientific community.

But this did not start with him; these have been issues stewing for years. We

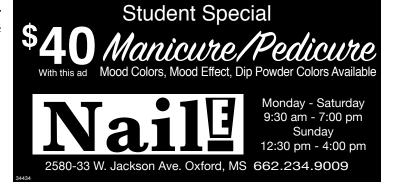
have big problems facing our society and the planet.

With issues such as climate change, GMOs, and vaccines, all of which the science is settled on, we need policy informed by science to avoid what could very well be a global disaster. We cannot afford to write off scientists as out-of-touch liberals in their Ivory Towers

For all of these reasons, I found myself very disappointed upon opening my Daily Mississippian on April 24 and seeing absolutely no coverage of the march that happened here in Oxford (nor could I find it online). At least 200 people marched from the Lyceum to the Square to help advertise the importance of science in our society.

Science touches us all, and when thousands of scientists found around the world, with one voice, say there is a problem, we need to listen. And the press needs to give voice to those people.

J. P. Lawrence is a Ph.D. student in biology.



SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION

James Joseph DeMarshall

B.A. IN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

"To Donate is Glorious: The CCP, Chinese Civil Society, and the Wenchuan Earthquake" Directed by Gang Guo

Thursday, April 27 at 9:00 am Croft Hall Room 305

The defense is open to the public.

If you require special assistance relating to a disability, please contact Penny Leeton at

662-915-7266.

SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION

Grant DePoyster

B.A. IN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES, CHINESE

"Are Chinese Firms
Attracted to Political Risk:
Locational Determinants of
Chinese Outward Foreign
Direct Investment"

Directed by Nilufer Ozdemir

Thursday, April 27 at 10:00 am Croft Hall Room 305

The defense is open to the public. If you require special assistance relating to a disability, please contact Penny Leeton at 662-915-7266.

SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION

Meredith Cuilik

B.A. IN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES, CHINESE

"Effects of the Senkaku/ Diaoyu Island Dispute on Sino-Japanese Economic Relations" Directed by Gang Guo

Thursday, April 27 at 11:00 am Croft Hall Room 305

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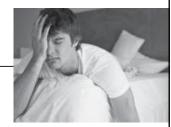
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PICK UP YOUR YEARBOOK

APRIL 27th 9am - 1pm The Pavilion



DOUBLE DECKER continued from page 1

Oxford Police Department Maj. Jeff McCutchen said traffic preparations for the event will begin early Friday morning.

"We'll start towing Friday morning and clear North and South Lamar, Van Buren," McCutchen said. "We'll basically clear everything off around the Square. All the Square's access points will be blocked and restricted to traffic."

The merchandise booth will be located on North Lamar Boulevard in front of the music stage, and the Oxford art demos and sales will be take place on the plaza between City Hall and Square Books, according to Kinney Farris, deputy director of Visit Oxford.

The Double Decker Spring Run is another event happening in unison with the festival on Saturday. A health-oriented events company called Start2Finish joined the Oxford-Lafayette County Chamber of Commerce to host the run. The 5k and 10k runs will start at 10:30 a.m., after the kids run at 9 a.m.

"There is a shuttle from Oxford High School, \$5

SENIOR

Honors Thesis

Presentation

Danielle Marie

Hollingsworth

B.A. IN PSYCHOLOGY

"Taking Things at Face

Value: Typeface and Its

Influence on Reading,

Memory, Judgement and

Time Perception"

Directed by Matthew Reysen

Thursday, April 27

at 11:00 am

SMBHC Room 331

The defense is open to the public.

If you require special assistance relating to a

disability, please contact Penny Leeton at

SENIOR Honors Thesis Presentation

Taylor Grace Moore

B.S. IN GEOLOGY

"Comparing Field and Laboratory Measurements of Hydraulic Conductivity in the Mississippi Delta" Directed by Andrew O'Reilly

> Thursday, April 27 at 11:00 am SMBHC Room 311

The defense is open to the public. If you require special assistance relating to a disability, please contact Penny Leeton at 662-915-7266

SENIOR

Honors Thesis

Presentation

Lyncyn Louise

Rosquillo Reliquias

B.A. IN BIOCHEMISTRY

"The Analysis of the Hydrophobic

Interactions of Twenty-Three

CB1 Selective JWH Compounds

According to Their Structural

Groups with an Active-State

CB1 Receptor Model"

Directed by Murrell Godfrey

Thursday, April 27

at 1:00 pm

Coulter Hall Room 201

The defense is open to the public.

f you require special assistance relating to a

disability, please contact Penny Leeton at

662-915-7266

SENIOR Honors Thesis Presentation

Connor Holeman

B.A. IN INTERNATIONAL **STUDIES**

"Succès de Scandale: The Roles of Satire in French Society" Directed by Anne Quinney

Thursday, April 27 at 1:00 pm Croft Hall Room 306

The defense is open to the public. f you require special assistance relating to a disability, please contact Penny Leeton at 662-915-7266

round trip for the Double Decker Run this year, from 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. dropping off by Handy Andy,' Farris said. "For the festival, a shuttle will run just like last year from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., dropping off by Something Southern on Jackson Avenue."

While making many safety preparations for the festival, McCutchen said a rise in underage drinking this weekend is not a huge fear.

"We usually don't have an issue with that. We usually have good compliance from those that are out, and most act accordingly," Mc-Cutchen said. "We are going to have a lot of officers out monitoring the coming and going of everyone, and everyone is usually pretty respectful."

Sophomore psychology major Zoe Elizabeth Weiser-Dalton said she is eager for the weekend and is looking forward to tasting the many foods offered on the Square.

'We're excited to eat good Southern food and explore the Square," Dalton said. "Everyone comes to Oxford for Double Decker weekend, so I'm hopeful this will be one of the best weekends yet for me and my friends."

continued from page 1

expanding worldwide. It had four regular season games in London and one in Mexico City this past year. The league knows if it wishes to remain the most powerful sports league in the world, continued growth is the lifeblood of that.

"We never let that sink in. We act like we are a scrappy, still-trying-to-make-it league every day," she said. "That is our culture, and we never take it for granted. We know our games are the top-watched television that day, but we never get comfortable.'

McKenna-Doyle's schedule is busy, and her job is demanding. But she's always loved the game of football and wanted to work in sports in some capacity. Her brother played football at Alabama. She chose to go to college at Auburn.

McKenna-Doyle spent 14 vears working for Disney and worked in part with Disney's ESPN Wide World of Sports.

Then the NFL came calling, which exceeded her wildest dreams.

"I didn't expect I'd ever come from little ole route one Enterprise, Alabama, to 345 Park Ave. That was a little bit of a stretch, even in my own mind," she said.

McKenna-Dovle is one of the featured speakers at the C Spire Tech Experience at 5:30 p.m. today in The Pavilion.

SENIOR Honors Thesis Presentation

Mary Margaret Gagnet

B.A. IN PUBLIC POLICY LEADERSHIP

"The United Nations Cluster Approach to Humanitarian Aid: A Critical Analysis and Reform Proposal Based on Focused Mitigation Efforts" Directed by Weixing Chen

Thursday, April 27 at 1:00 pm Odom Conference Room

The defense is open to the public. If you require special assistance relating to a disability, please contact Penny Leeton at 662-915-7266

SENIOR Honors Thesis Presentation

Samyukta Krishnamurthy

B.S. IN PHYSICS

"Measurement of the Verdet's Constant for a Previously Uncharacterized Fused Quartz Glass" Directed by Robert Kroeger

Thursday, April 27 at 1:30 pm **Lewis Hall Room 228**

The defense is open to the public. you require special assistance relating to disability, please contact Penny Leeton at 662-915-7266



PHOTO BY: CAMERON BROOKS

Lafayette County and Oxford Public Library

LIBRARY continued from page 1

which is where library grant money comes through and provides collection enhancement funds through the Library Services and Technology Act,' Walker said.

If the library does end up losing money, Card and Walker said libraries will have to start slowly decreasing staff num-

"We have some people who are leaving, and I'm not sure if we'll be able to replace them," Walker said. "I'm nervous about it. If we lose staff, it's going to be difficult, but we will do the best we can to continue to serve the community."

One of the future plans that could be jeopardized with a lack of staff is a program to bring electronic resources and books to the Boys and Girl Club and Lafayette County residents who are otherwise unable to go to the library themselves.

"It's all going to come down to if we have enough staff to be able to do that," Walker said.

The Lafayette County and Oxford Public Library is a busy library in a small town.

"We do a quarterly user account of people who come in the library, and our last one was in March and for a seven-day period," Walker said. "We had 2,000 people come in the door, and that's why we need staff."

In addition, during that seven-day period, the library answered more than 1,000 ques-

"We are definitely busy and need people," Walker said.

If funds for the Mississippi Library Commission decline, the Lafayette County and Oxford Public Library will feel the

"The library commission supplies us with personnel and grants, which help us in terms of keeping up our staff," Card said. "They provide us with training and staff development.'

The commission also trains specialists on how to improve summer reading programs, which are crucial to sustaining reading levels year round.

In June, the Lafayette County and Oxford Public Library, in junction with the Lafayette County Literacy Council, will begin one-on-one coaching to aid people in finding work.

"For a lot of people in Lafayette County, we're the only way they can get on the internet or have Wi-Fi, so we have a lot of patrons who need help with online job applications and creating a resume," Walker said.

Freshman international studies major Ally Weatherly, who graduated from Oxford High School, said she loves the library and thinks the possibility of budget cuts is disheartening.

"Before I could drive, I would just walk there every day and go to the upstairs quiet area with stacks and stacks of books," Weatherly said. "It makes me so sad to hear this.'

Weatherly said she feels those who will be most impacted from these cuts will be children who rely on the library for schoolwork.

"There's so many kids there who literally need the computers to do their homework because of how school is these days - everything is online," Weatherly said. "How are you going to expect so much from these kids if they don't have the

Walker said she encourages people who care about libraries to contact their state and even national representatives about the potential budget cuts.

SENIOR Honors Thesis Presentation

Jeffory Taylor Wallace

B.S. IN CHEMISTRY

"An Analysis of the Acid Profile of Coffee Brews: Caffeine and Chlorogenic Acid Concentrations in Different Coffee Brews" Directed by Jason Ritchie

Thursday, April 27 at 2:00 pm Coulter Hall Room 201

The defense is open to the public.

you require special assistance relating to a disability, please contact Penny Leeton at 662-915-7266

SENIOR Honors Thesis Presentation

Alicia Michelle Dixon

B.A. IN CLASSICS

"Whore or Hero?: Helen of Troy's Agency and Responsibility from Antiquity to Modern Young Adult Fiction"

Directed by Molly Pasco-Pranger

Thursday, April 27 at 2:30 pm **Bryant Hall Room 006**

The defense is open to the public. f you require special assistance relating to a disability, please contact Penny Leeton at 662-915-7266



Music of Double Decker

Double Decker, a celebration of arts and culture in Oxford, continues to draw stellar musical acts year after year, and 2017 is no exception.

FRIDAY'S LINEUP



6 P.M. JIMMY "DUCK" HOLMES

BY OLIVIA MORGAN

69-year-old singer and guitarist Jimmy "Duck" Holmes will pick up his guitar at 6 p.m. on stage at the Double Decker Arts Festival, but his musical journey began when he first started picking on the guitar at age 10.

Holmes is currently the owner and operator of one of the oldest juke joints in Mississippi, the Blue Front Cafe in Bentonia. First opened in 1948, the joint was passed down to him from his parents, Carey and Mary Holmes.

"I remember when I was a kid, I used to have to get in a chair to look across the counter and lean over it to see what people were doing," Holmes said.

Even though music has been a part of his whole life, he says he never had intentions to be a professional musician or even make recordings.

He also organizes a festival of his own, the Bentonia Blues festival, and formed his own label, Blue Front Records, "dedicated to the preservation and promotion of Bentonia, Delta, Hill Country and other raw honest blues," according to the artist's Facebook page.

Holmes has released several CDs since his debut in 2006, including "Back to Bentonia" and "Done Got Tired of Tryin." His album "It is What it is" was released as the inaugural record from Blue Front Records in June 2016.

In the past, he has performed in Oxford at Proud Larry's and for Thacker Mountain Radio Hour.

"One of my greatest rewards is that people appreciate what I do and invite me to come do it for them," Holmes said. "I really don't look at crowd sizes. I'm just making sure I do what I do well enough so that people enjoy it."



7 P.M. THACKER MOUNTAIN RADIO HOUR

BY ANNA KATHRYN HODGES

Thacker Mountain Radio is set to keep the party going the first evening of Double Decker at 7 p.m. Friday.

Thacker Mountain Radio's weekly radio show consists of literary readings paired with musical performances and has been a highlight of life in Oxford for nearly 20 years.

You can catch the show every Thursday from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Rebel Radio or on

the following Saturday at 7 p.m. on Mississippi Public Broadcast. Instead of just listening to the broadcast, folks can enjoy the show live at the quirky, locally owned bookstore Off Square Books.

The performance is one for the Oxford-Lafayette locals, as well as out-oftowners, and will certainly not disappoint for a night of laughter and sweet Southern comfort.

"We encourage people to bring their lawn chairs and enjoy great music in a laid-back setting – a good ole-fashioned street party," radio host Jim Dees said.



8 P.M. MUDDY MAGNOLIAS

BY DEVNA BOSE

Indie-rock band Muddy Magnolias will be performing at Double Decker, not too far away from its origin city of Nashville, Tennessee.

Songwriters Jessy Wilson and Kallie North formed the duo is 2014, and the band's distinct sound reflects both Wilson's Brooklyn roots and North's Southern background.

North was inspired to write music af-

ter her move to the Mississippi Delta region 10 years ago. She became captivated by the landscape and culture, and after being gifted a guitar, she began writing songs.

While touring as a background vocalist for mentor John Legend, Wilson sparked her first co-songwriting session after following Legend to the studio. She then landed her first major cut on his albums and branched out to work with other hip-hop and R&B artists like Keyshia Cole and will.i.am.

The Muddy Magnolias characterizes its sound as a "mix of Southern blues, soul and gospel with a rock 'n' roll twist," but its songs have been often expressed as "city grit meets Delta dirt," an apt description of the unique duo. The New York Times described its music as "merging soul and country on a shared foundation of gospel and blues," neither solidly Southern nor Northern, but a harmonization between the two.

The two settled on their name after Wilson and North stumbled upon a Muddy Waters album in a Nashville record store.

They are happy to return to Oxford after a single stint at Proud Larry's.

"I've always loved Double Decker and have been a huge fan of all of the bands that have played over the year. I've been coming to Oxford for years



COURTESY: FACEBOOK

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22ND ANNUAL DOUBLE DECKER ARTS FESTIVAL MUSIC LINEUP

FRIDAY, APRIL 28

6:00-7:00PM - JIMMY "DUCK" HOLMES

7:00-8:00PM - THACKER MOUNTAIN RADIO HOUR

8:00-9:00PM - MUDDY MAGNOLIAS

SATURDAY, APRIL 29

10:15-11:15AM - THE MISSISSIPPIANS JAZZ ENSEMBLE

11:30AM-12:30PM - AMELIA EISENHAUER AND

THE PERUVIAN FARM GIRLS

1:00-2:00PM - ROBERT FINLEY

2:30-3:30PM - SERATONES

4:00-5:00PM - JAMES MCMURTRY 5:30-6:30PM - LUTHER DICKINSON

7:00-8:15PM - DR. JOHN & THE NITE TRIPPERS

8:45-10:00PM - NATHANIEL RATELIFF & THE

NIGHT SWEATS

SATURDAY'S LINEUP



10:15 A.M. THE MISSISSIPPIANS JAZZ ENSEMBLE

BY JACQUELINE SCHLICK

The Mississippians Jazz Ensemble has lent the town of Oxford its soul and big band sound since the late 1890s, making it one of the oldest jazz bands in the country. This 18-piece ensemble is comprised of both graduate and undergraduate students and is led by director Michael Worthy.

"You can look at the photographs of this group in the annuals from 1897 through the swing era, and you might as well be looking at pictures in a jazz history text in that they illustrate how the music and

instrumentation of the jazz ensemble evolved," Worthy said.

The ensemble has toured around the country and performed last year in the Notre Dame Jazz Festival and at the 2012 national convention of the Jazz Education Network in Louisville, Kentucky. The student musicians become part of a rich and dynamic history that brings them together as they go throughout their season.

'It is so easy to have a great time playing jazz, and to be able to share that with other members around me has and will continue to be one of the most rewarding moments at the University of Mississippi," baritone saxophone player Christopher Scott said.

Ole Miss was one of the first universities to allow a jazz band to be affiliated with the school, giving Double Decker and The Mississippians a tight connection. The group performed for the earliest Double Decker festivals and was even the opening act of the first one in 1996.

"Many people in Oxford aren't aware that real authentic jazz is being played and performed right in their backyards, so I am extremely excited to share that with them,"

The set list this year includes pieces such as "Mercy Mercy" by Josef Zawinul, "Boo-Dah" by Billy Strayhorn and "Feeling Good" by Leslie Bricusse and Anthony New-

'What's better than music, art and food?" Worthy said. "Nothing. See you at Double Decker."



5:30 P.M. LUTHER DICKINSON

BY SLADE RAND

Luther Dickinson's father raised him on the north Mississippi blues. Now, with a career of his own, Luther has left his mark on the muddy, frontporch grown style of rock 'n' roll.

Jim Dickinson's influence shines through on Luther's most recent record, double-album "Blues & Ballads (A Folksinger's Songbook) Vol. I & II." The 2016 release features fresh record-

ings of 21 songs from different points in Luther's childhood and songwriting career.

"That whole record is about being as stripped-down as possible," Luther said. "A third of it is guitar and voice, you know, so definitely it's all about the songs and lyrics."

"Blues & Ballads" power comes from Luther's relationship with each of the songs he picked. The album paints a picture of a north Mississippi hill country childhood surrounded by reverends of the blues.

"I grew up hanging out in Oxford; that's definitely home away from home," Luther said. "The culture, the arts, the writing, the food, the music and vou know."

Luther said recording this new album taught him a lesson in using the oral tradition of folk music to hold true to the repertoire and its history while also expressing his own feeling.

"If you follow the Mississippi River all the way up, you get to the home of Bob Dylan," he said. "It's like the main vein of America."



Some people say Dr. John is a product of the New Orleans music scene. More people would

Dr. John was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2011, and his sixth Gram-

my award came in 2013. His album "Locked Down" (released under The Black Keys' Nonesuch label) won him his second award for Best Contemporary Blues

This national acclaim and a Top 20 hit with 1973's "Right Place Wrong Time" haven't led Dr. John astray from his cypress knee-like roots. In 2014, the Dr. set his sights back on the sound he helped raise from the bayou and recorded an

of The Band's legendary final concert, filmed by Martin Scorcese for "The Last Waltz," and a Tennessee music festival borrowed its name from the Night Tripper's 1974 album, "Desitively Bonnaroo."

Dr. John's throne in the blues scene sits next to those belonging to the Funky METERS, Eric Clapton and the late great Allen Toussaint. He's written songs and recorded tracks with the industry's best and played festivals in each corner

of the world. Now, he's for his first Double Decker performance.

Some of Dr. John's most recent work was creating music for the soundtrack of the hit Disney movie "The Jungle Book." The movie's popular song "The Bare Necessities" was released by Dr. John and the Nite Trippers in

Double Decker is sure to be a hit Saturday night with a legend like Dr. John turning the Square into a hazy funk fest all music lovers will enjoy.



7 P.M. DR. JOHN AND THE NITE TRIPPERS

BY SLADE RAND AND LEXI PURVIS

tell you it's the other way around.

The 76-year-old New Orleans native was born Malcolm John "Mac" Rebennack. His stage name of "Dr." actually became official in 2013 when Tulane University awarded him an honorary doctorate in fine arts.

album-sized tribute to Louis Armstrong. His influence has left a deep mark on American culture. The Dr. was a part

making his way to Oxford

spring 2016.



High Pointe

SATURDAY'S FULL LINEUP

10:15 A.M. THE MISSISSIPPIANS JAZZ ENSEMBLE 11:30 A.M. AMELIA AND THE PERUVIAN FARM GIRLS 1:00 P.M. **ROBERT FINLEY** 2:30 P.M. SERATONES 4:00 P.M. JAMES MCMURTRY 5:30 P.M. LUTHER DICKINSON 7:00 P.M. DR. JOHN AND THE NITE TRIPPERS 8:45 P.M. NATHANIEL RATELIFF AND THE NIGHT SWEATS See the full list of band profiles at thedmonline.com

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Artists of Double Decker

MIRANDA GARDNER

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The time has once again come for Oxford's famously fun Double Decker Arts Festival to grace the streets of the Square. This year, the festival will house more than 160 booths and vendors featuring crafts, drawings, glass, painting, photography, printmaking and sculpture. Among the many participants, the following artists will have booths featured in the annual festivities.

PEYTON HUTCHINSON

Mississippi native and Ole Miss alumna Peyton Hutchinson can be found at booth No. 101, near Hinton & Hinton. Her paintings, which are vibrantly colorful and wonderfully serene, are reminiscent of the impressionist movement.

Her love of painting and landscapes began when she was studying abroad in Provence, France. It is no surprise that the gorgeous scenery and rich history of the city inspired her and her artwork.

"I recently returned from a plein-air painting excursion to Lake Como and the Tuscany regions of Italy. The enchanting and romantic villages surrounding the lake provided ample opportunities for creative ex-

pression," Hutchinson said. "Here, I employed the plein-air painting techniques developed by such French impressionist painters as Monet, Van Gogh

and Cezanne." Hutchinson said this style helped her capture scenes through the use of vivid color and

light. In Tuscany, she applied this technique to her paintings of wine country and poppy fields.

Aside from gorgeous European landscapes, Hutchinson now draws influence from both everyday life and reminders of places she loves. Her paintings, which can be found in both solo exhibits and galleries, are lovely displays of both color and emotion.

From bright fields of sunflowers to calm, hazy riverbanks, her work acts as a warm reminder of the beauty found in everyday life and nature.



PHOTO COURTESY: FACEBOOK

TIM PACE

Recycled metal artist Tim Pace will also be present on the Square at booths 129 and 130, set up beside Proud Larry's. Tim makes art from worn-down, scrap pieces of metal, repurposing them into wonderful sculptures.

"Basically, if it can be welded, I can use it," he said in his artist's statement.

Using welding tools and his imagination, this eco-friendly artist creates both decorative and functional art. From the 20-foot-tall praying mantis standing outside a Jackson library



to the beautiful wine racks featured on his website, it seems this artist has it all.

According to the artist, "Pieces range in height from works that fit on a tabletop to 8-foottall sculptures and include an assortment of people, animals, flowers, insects and abstracts, to name just a few."

Each piece Pace creates is uniquely handcrafted, signed and numbered by the artist himself. Surprisingly, Pace was actually never trained in the arts.

"I have no formal art training and was an electrician by trade before deciding to pursue my art full time in 1998," he stated.

His passion drove him to create these special sculptures that now grace many homes across the country.

B. J. WEEKS

B. J. Weeks, another Mississippi native, will exhibit her work at booth No. 153, which will be near Insomnia Cookies. As a multimedia artist, Weeks works with everything from wall murals to refurbished furniture. Primarily, she works as a painter. Her pieces tend toward abstraction and make excellent use of color and multimedia.

In reference to her fine art, Weeks noted, "When working on an abstract piece, I enjoy adding various mediums such as plaster, metals and paper for added interest. Multi layers of paint are often added to my designs. Many of my paintings



PHOTO COURTESY: FACEBOOK

are finished with a high shine; it pulls you into the art and enhances the colors so vividly."

Weeks also finds time outside of painting to work on household pieces, such as restored antique furniture and painted ceilings. Murals are one of her strong suits; she's painted play rooms and wine cellars alike. Most noteworthy of all, however, is Weeks' art studio on the go, Splatter.

Splatter paint parties are an opportunity to allow one's creativity and inner child out for a fun afternoon among family and friends. This business is a way for Weeks, a strong supporter of the arts, to share her passion for painting with others.

"I love, love, love painting, creating and truly feel blessed that I have been given this amazing gift," she said. "I thank God daily for my blessings and the gift of sight to see all of the beauty that surrounds me."

PAGE GREGORY MATTHEWS

Hailing from Texas, Page Gregory Matthews is a young and talented artist. This weekend, her display will reside in booths No. 8 and 9, close to Ya Ya's Fro-

Matthews founded her company, Page Gregory Matthews Designs, with a love for both painting and fashion. Her passion for jewelry began at a young age and carried her all the way through college at the University of Texas at Austin, where she formally trained in the arts. After working with several interior designers in the Houston area, she established herself as an artist and grew her brand from there. Her gorgeous paintings, from soft abstracts to tranquil landscapes, PHOTO COURTESY: PAGE MATTHEWS can be found in homes all across the country.



On several occasions, Matthews has painted custom pieces for clients, tailored to their needs and spaces. Her work often features a wide array of calming, cool tones ideal for any environment in need of a personal yet artistic touch. Matthews continues to create accessories, selling expertly crafted bags and jewelry. These chic pieces often feature leather and beadwork, as well as antlers and natural stones.



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Food at Double Decker

LEE CATHERINE COLLINS

lcollins@go.olemiss.edu

Many Oxford residents have one important question on their minds: "What will there be to eat?"

In a town with its own food culture and a plethora of well-loved restaurants, festival-goers can expect local favorites like Proud Larry's, Taylor Grocery, Ravine, Ming's Kitchen and Casa Mexicana to be in attendance.

Ramiro Muñoz, manager of Casa Mexicana, said the restaurant plans to serve "customer favorites, like nachos, tacos and cheese dip." He said he plans to introduce aguas frescas, a light, non-alcoholic beverage made of blended fruits and sugars, to customers.

Several chain and franchise restaurants like Dominos, Beagle Bagel, Gus's Fried Chicken, Chicken Salad Chick, Neon Pig and Abner's Famous Chicken Tenders will also be represented at the festival. Those interested in pizza will have a variety of options to choose from, including Old Venice Pizza Company, Fergndan's Wood Fired Pizza, Funky's Pizza and Dodo Pizza.

Locally known for handthrown crusts and a portable wood fired oven, Fergndan's will be serving the "Dan," a homemade cheese pizza, as well as the "FergE," a pepperoni pizza with all-natural cured pepperoni. This year, Fergndan's will be offering quarter, half or whole pizzas for sale.

"Dan will be hand-throwing and stretching the dough, and FergE will be cooking the pizzas on site at 850 degrees for an amazing personal pizza experience," owner John Ferguson said.

Dodo Pizza, a second-time participant in the festival, is looking forward to the exciting crowds and hungry customers. Last year, its Jackson Avenue store was swarmed by festival attendees as soon as the music stopped on the Square.

Dodo's will serve classic cheese and pepperoni by the "big slice," complete with drinks and ranch sauce at its booth.

For art lovers in need of something sweet, Oxford welcomes MEMpops as a first-time vendor at the festival.

The Memphis-based ice pop shop said, "Festival-goers and Oxford residents will love the refreshing pops, which are a healthier option than other frozen treats."

MEMpops specializes in all-natural, handcrafted ice pops in a variety of flavors. At Double Decker, visitors can expect traditionally delicious flavors like strawberry, orange vanilla, Mexican chocolate and coffee dulce de leche. It will also reveal a surprise pop flavor for the festival.

Snow Biz and Southern Sweets & More will also sell

ialral,

PHOTO BY: CAMERON BROOKS

their addictive treats on the Square.

For lighter options at the festival, Living Foods Organic Café will offer last year's favorites: a shrimp and avocado salad and a special quinoa dish.

Heart Break Coffee will serve its famous smallbatch brew, as well.

The weekend's barbecue options include Rebel Barn BBQ, as well as B&E BBQ and more.

All food vendors will be set up around the court-house at the center of the Square. For a complete list of food vendors for the Double Decker Arts Festival, visit www.doubledeckerfestival.com.

Double Decker fashion



ILLUSTRATION BY: MARISA MORRISSETTE

ALEX PRESLEY

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This standout weekend is the prime time to see and be seen in Oxford. And, of course, you want to be seen looking your best.

Here are some of the spring's top trends to work into your Double Decker outfit, originating on the runways and now incorporated into streetwear.

For any outdoor event, sunglasses are the one staple accessory that can level up any outfit.

Colored glasses are the new thing. Yellow, green and bright blue shaded lenses used to only be worn by a select few, but they are now catching on with some of fashion's biggest trendsetters.

Styles featuring smaller lenses popular in the '80s, '90s and early '00s are especially hot right now. Don't invest in an overly expensive pair — once the look becomes widespread,

colored glasses may go "out" as quickly as they came "in."

Giant Vintage has an extensive selection, and all styles are in the \$20-\$30 range.

Spring is the season where even your friends who "only wear black" branch out of their comfort zone and throw on a bright T-shirt (even if it's just once).

No one can fully resist the effect that spring has on one's mood, and that is often reflected in an outfit choice. There is always one color that has the spotlight during a season, and this season, that color is pink.

While there is an undeniable stigma around pink for being girlish and innocent, people are thinking differently about the color this season.

Pierpaolo Piccioli, the creative director for Valentino, has been vocal about his thoughts on the color and how he incorporated it into Valentino's latest collection.

"To me, pink is punk," Piccioli said. "It's not sweet. I think black is a state of mind."

To make your look fresh and current, go for a pale or flamingo pink dress, blouse or skirt, or opt to add in blush accessories.

The theme of everything old becoming new again continues with the resurgence of big sleeves. On the runway, they have mostly come in the form of long sleeves; however, this isn't the most practical choice for a late April day outside in Oxford. Instead, choose a shape that is still architecturally different by picking short, gathered sleeves, ruffles or sleeves with padding in the shoulders.

Adding a corset belt to your outfit is a quick, simple way to instantly appear on-trend. For an easy way to incorporate this style, pick an oversized T-shirt and wear a matching lace-up corset belt around the waist for a monochromatic, clean look.



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Spring Run's new route accommodates vendors, runners

JACQUELINE KNIRNSCHILD

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For the first time in 22 years, the Double Decker Spring Run, sponsored by the Oxford-Lafayette County Chamber of Commerce, will change its course.

The Spring Run has always and will continue to consist of 5- and 10-kilometer runs and a 1-mile kids fun run, but various issues called for organizers to completely redo the 5k and 10k tracks this year.

The courses will both start going down North Lamar as usual, but this year, the 5k takes a longer path down University Avenue instead of running through the Square and the Grove. The 10k now bypasses campus to run along Jackson Avenue.

Pam Swain, event organizer and senior vice president of the chamber of commerce, said the new route aims to alleviate and accommodate various issues that have arisen over the years.

"The resolution of the issues have been in the works since last year's run in April," Swain said. "The parts of campus we've always run through are now closed for construction, so we had to take a step back and basically redo the courses."

In the past two years, the race has grown by approximately 500 runners.

"Putting that many more people zigzagging their way through the Square just wasn't safe anymore, so we decided to keep them on University Avenue a little bit longer," Swain said.

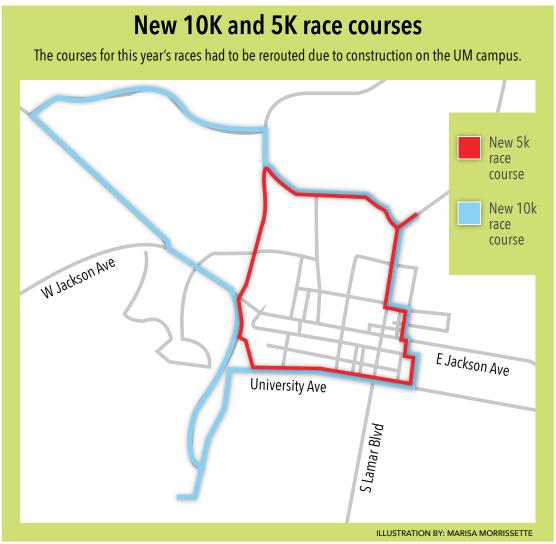
Swain said they wanted to avoid taking the runners down roads on which vendors will be loading in for the festival. She said the goal is to decrease traffic and collisions between vendors and runners.

In addition, the new track allows for the 5k and 10k to have the same starting line, as they were previously 50-100 yards apart.

The advantage of having the starting points match, Swain said, is that runners will be able to have a customized chip that starts their time exactly when they run across the starting mat, as opposed to when the time started with the fire of the shotgun.

The Double Decker Spring Run organizers worked hand in hand with a company called "Start2Finish" to incorporate the customized time chips.

Swain said she was thrilled about the opportunity to reroute because she wants the race to be a great experience for everyone, even veteran Spring Run participants. She said the route changes would allow racers to experience parts of the community they might not have



been exposed to before.

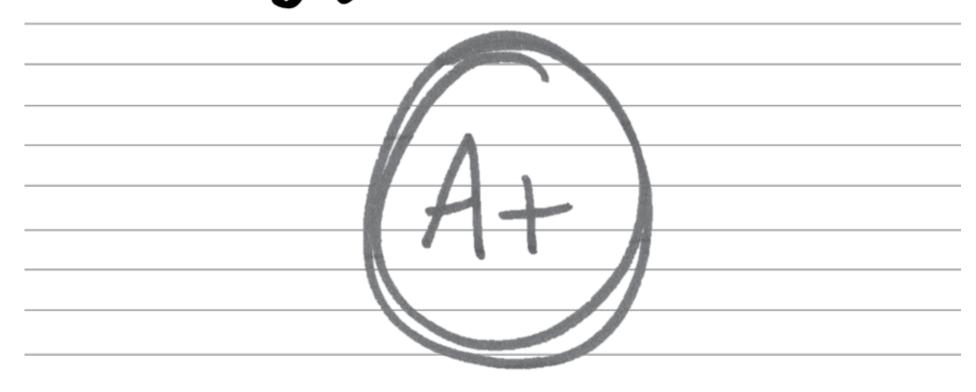
Oxford resident Bev Thompson, who recently returned from running the Boston Marathon and ran the Spring Run for eight years, hit the new 10k course earlier this week. She

said she is looking forward to this year's Spring Run, especially since one of her daughters will be running the 10k with her.

Participants can still register for the 5k, 10k and 1-mile runs

for \$35 online through the 28th or for \$40 before the race begins at 7:30 a.m. April 29 outside of the Oxford YMCA.

Looking for Extra Credit?



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34445

Walk-off win lifts Ole Miss over Jacksonville State

TYLER BUTLER

thedmsports@gmail.com

After a disappointing series sweep in Gainesville, the Rebels kicked off a five -game homestand last night with a win against Jacksonville State. Three consecutive losses to the top-ranked Florida Gators dropped Ole Miss only two spots to No. 20 in the nation coming into the game. Ole Miss, claiming one of the toughest schedules in the NCAA, entered the matchup against Jacksonville State with 31 wins. The Gamecocks of JSU began the day with 34.

The matchup of high-energy offenses began on a sore note for the Rebels. JSU outfielder Stephanie Lewis' hit brought in Taylor Sloan to put Ole Miss down one run in the top of the first inning. After the early slip, Rebel pitcher Kaitlin Lee refused to let the game get out of hand and shut down Jacksonville State's offense, only allowing four hits in the remainder of the matchup.

On the offensive end, the Rebels battled through the next two innings but were unable to bring runners in due to a series of base-running blunders. In the third inning, all the pieces came together, and Sarah Van Schaik connected on a hard-driven shot to third base that brought Elantra Cox home, tying the score at one.

Bats on both sides seemingly stalled for the next 3 1/2 innings, as neither team was able to break the tie. In the bottom of the seventh, Ole Miss turned up the in-

tensity with its last opportunity to stop the losing skid before heading to extra innings. After quickly loading the bases with one out, Miranda Strother came to the plate. With ducks on the pond, she executed perfectly. A hard grounder to the JSU shortstop allowed Ashton Lampton to reach home plate with ease and gave the Rebels the 2-1 walk-off victory. The game winner was the third walk-off hit of the season for Strother.

After the game, head coach Mike Smith admitted that the tough series against Florida had taken a toll on the team's mojo.

"I'm proud of the team's ability to bounce back and get 10 hits against a great team and pitching staff in Jacksonville State," he said.

Looking forward, Smith said he hopes the Rebels can carry the success into the weekend's nationally televised game of the week against in-conference foes Alabama. Going into the team's final two home series, crucial in improving its record before postseason play, Smith's focus will be on consistency and making sure his team stays the course. His sights are set on a strong performance in the final weeks before the SEC Tournament and what will presumably be a regional

No. 20 Ole Miss continues its five-game homestand this Saturday through Monday by hosting No. 13 Alabama. Saturday's series opener will be Senior Day for the Rebels' four seniors, and Saturday and Sunday's contests will begin at 6 p.m., both on SEC Network.



COURTESY: JOSHUA MCCOY | OLE MISS ATHLETICS

Ole Miss softball against Arkansas earlier this season. Miranda Strother hit a walk-off grounder against Jacksonville State.



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Senior Honors Thesis Presentation

Natalie Louise Minton

B.A. IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

"Cognitive Biases and Reflexive Control" Directed by David Bath

Thursday, April 27 at 4:00 pm CISS Room 123

The defense is open to the public.

If you require special assistance relating to a disability, please contact Penny Leeton at 662-915-7266.



EDITORS' PICK

SAM HARRES, GRAYSON WEIR & ETHAN WRIGHT



EVAN ENGRAM

ETHAN: Late first, maybe early second-round

pick. Impressive receiving chops and solid

blocking could make him a huge asset to any

team with a flailing offensive attack (Browns,

SAM: A good combine took his draft stock

from early second round to late first round.

Probably projects more as a slot receiver due

GRAYSON: While his magnificent combine

performance and his first-round receiving

talent will appeal to pass-centric offenses,

his lack of size at the tight end position and

struggles blocking in the trenches will see

Engram drop to the second round. Also, don't

be surprised if he is drafted with intentions

toward a transition to wide receiver.



QUINCY ADEBOYEJO

ETHAN: Adeboyejo's mediocre senior year should cast some doubt on his ability to perform in the NFL. He has the size, but I can't see him going earlier than the sixth round.

SAM: He has talent and size but may lack the drive to succeed in the NFL. Adeboyejo could play at the next level, but any team that drafts him earlier than the last round is taking a risk.

GRAYSON: Adeboyejo was underwhelming his senior year, and that's going to cost him. His size is consistent with NFL standards, and his athleticism is certainly uncanny - just look at the Tuscaloosa Tip. Unfortunately, he just doesn't have the on-field tape to have his name called this weekend. But don't count the resilient Rebel out; he will make an NFL roster and could make a splash if he lands in the right system.

D.J. JONES

ETHAN: Jones' lack of height could be made up for by explosiveness off the ball at defensive tackle. While he lacks the big name-recognition of others in the draft, look for him to slide in during the mid to late rounds as a capable asset to any team looking to bolster its defensive line.

SAM: A solid fourth or fifth rounder, Jones won't start in the NFL next year, but he has the tools to improve and contribute two or three years down the road.

GRAYSON: Jones is a fifth-round physical specimen with the balance and lateral movement reminiscent of a swing-dancing bison. Off the field, his size, strength and speed make up for a lack in production numbers during his two years in Oxford. Jones is a solid pick for a team that needs to beef up its depth in the defensive interior but will require a little wiggle room for development.

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Puzzles by KrazyDad

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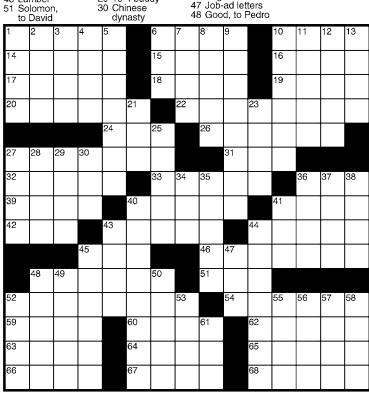
HOW TO PLAY

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 with no repeats.

DIFFICULTY LEVEL

TOUGH

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NFL EDITION 2017 Rebels Draft

The sports desk made predictions about which Ole Miss standouts will accomplish their dreams of being drafted into the NFL today or tomorrow.



CHAD KELLY

ETHAN: Undrafted. Kelly's gunslinger mentality on the field and questionable activity off of it make him too big of a risk for most NFL teams. It's most likely that the former Rebel QB will end up signing as a free agent or being taken in the compensatory draft, a la Tom Brady with the Patriots.

SAM: This might be controversial, but I think Kelly is the second best quarterback in the draft. He won't go early, and he may not go at all, but if he does, it will be late in the sixth or seventh rounds.

GRAYSON: Chad Kelly ... Where to begin? Kelly has undeniably the best arm in this year's draft, and his size, speed, accuracy and bloodline make him the biggest sleeper. However, his off-field shenanigans and recent injury-prone stretch will see him go undrafted but make a splash as a free-agent signing. Hopefully he doesn't go Manziel on us.



DAMORE'EA STRINGFELLOW

ETHAN: Stringfellow, a big-bodied athlete with impressive measurables and even better hands, has struggled with off-field antics, too. He could pop up anywhere between the third and sixth rounds but might go even earlier, depending on the direction of the draft.

SAM: Another athlete held out of the combine due to trouble with the law, Stringfellow is anything but a known entity. He would add a lot to a number of NFL teams, but don't expect him to go earlier than the fourth round.

GRAYSON: Minor off-field issues aside, Stringfellow is clay waiting to be molded. Size being of no concern, his ability to track and win the ball away from cornerbacks will be his biggest upside. Should his routerunning improve, Stringfellow could make a name for himself as a consistent role-player on Sundays, within a West Coast offense in particular. Depending on which team believes the hype and to what extent, he could be chosen anywhere beyond the mid-third round or not at all. Most likely, look for his name on the board near the fifth or sixth.



FADOL BROWN

ETHAN: His senior year was cut short by a foot injury, which could impact his placement in the draft. Catch Brown later in the draft being picked by a team looking for extra depth to add to an already-established defense, like the Steelers or Seahawks.

SAM: Possibly the best DE to play in Oxford in recent years, Brown could add depth to any number of NFL teams. He won't project as a starter, though, and that will keep him out of the first few rounds.

GRAYSON: Fadol Brown is the epitome of well-rounded. His size and strength, his drive and his ability to stop the run are there. That being said, his lazy hands and relative ineffectiveness as a pass rusher will couple with the seasonending foot injury and leave him hoping for his phone ring Saturday, if at all.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY: CAMERON BROOKS

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Week of April 23, 2017

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Stakes high for Rebels as they travel to Arkansas

ETHAN WRIGHT

thedmsports@gmail.com

It's almost May, and as the temperature outside raises each day, so do the stakes for Ole Miss baseball. Following Tuesday's defeat at the hands of No. 7 Mississippi State, head coach Mike Bianco and his band of Rebels will seek to finally break past the .500 barrier in conference play against the No. 15 Arkansas Razorbacks.

The series will find Ole Miss treading into enemy territory for just the fifth time this season. The results of the three-game slate could have wide-reaching impacts across the SEC and the national baseball sphere as a whole. This series, in particular, could be an important win for both teams, as they each head full-speed into the conference tournament. Here are some important things to look out for this weekend:

The Bianco Effect

Despite Arkansas' consistent top-level play under esteemed head coach Dave Van Horn, Bianco and his

Rebels have held the Razorbacks in check the past few matchups. In fact, Bianco has won four of the last five series against Van Horn, totaling a record of 10-5 over that five-year span, including last year's home series sweep. While Van Horn's squad this year is certainly dangerous, boasting a 33-10 record on the season, Bianco's Rebels have history on their side in this matchup of SEC coaching talent.

Streaky Situation

Ole Miss has been streaky from the plate lately. Some games have seen hits come in boatloads, while others have failed to surpass five. The up-and-down play from Rebel batters will need to be on the upward end in order for them to defeat Arkansas. However, the Razorbacks' own streaky pitching could help keep Ole Miss in the game even without an offensive resurgence.

The Razorbacks have limited great teams' scoring on a couple occasions this year but have also allowed offensive showcases from lesser opponents. March's series against MSU saw Arkansas hold the Bulldogs to just one

run in two games. The Razorbacks turned around and gave up 12 runs over two games to SEC West punching bag Alabama. The results of this weekend's clash will be largely dependent upon which teams show up to play: the soft-swinging Rebels and the lockdown Razorbacks pitching staff or the power-hitting Rebels and the home-run gifting Razorbacks.

Defusing the Baum

While Ole Miss has fended off Arkansas in four of its last five series meetings, the sole loss occurred in Arkansas' Baum Stadium, one of the nation's most well-known college venues. Teams often play better at home, but the 'Baum Effect' is something else entirely, with Van Horn and his players having gone a head-spinning 24-3 while playing there.

The stadium can squeeze in up to 11,000 people, but even half of that number could be enough to get in the heads of Bianco's young players. To make it through the series unscathed, Ole Miss must first destroy the home-field advantage. To



PHOTO BY: CAMERON BROOKS

Will Golsan rounds first after a two-RBI double against Arkansas last year. Ole Miss hopes to break past the .500 barrier in conference play this weekend against Arkansas.

do this, the Rebels need to strike fast and score early, maintain a tempo through the course of the game and maybe sprinkle in enough big plays to fend off any of the opposition's momentum from the crowd. If they can do so, the Rebels may just have a shot at knocking off one of the best in the SEC West and breaking through the .500 conference-play threshold. Doing so would help lock down a higher seed for the tournament and move Ole Miss one step closer in the journey to Omaha.

