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review Inside



Thursday, April 23, 2015

Volume 103, No. 124

MISSISSIPPIAN

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI SERVING OLE MISS AND OXFORD SINCE 1911 🏧 Visit theDMonline.com 💟 @thedm_news

Students bring die-in from campus to Oxford Square



PHOTO BY: LOGAN KIRKLAND

Antajh Boggan, sophomore political science major, chants "black lives matter" at a die-in at the foot of the Confederate Statue on the Square.

LANA FERGUSON

Infergus@go.olemiss.edu

Nearly two dozen students sprawled beneath the Confederate war memorial in front of the Oxford Courthouse to bring awareness to the importance of black lives Wednesday afternoon.

The protesters shouted "black lives matter" in response to recent police violence against blacks. "Are you next? Am I next? Are we next?" the protesters asked.

A similar protest with the same purpose was held two weeks ago in front of the Student Union.

"I participated in the last one and there wasn't a lot of black participation in it. I thought that was a problem," said senior Jalisa Giles, who helped organize the event.

Giles collaborated with sophomore Allen Coon to prepare the protest, and the two decided to move the demonstration off campus and into the Oxford community. Coon and Giles chose the Confederate war me-

SEE **DIE-IN** PAGE 3

Walking away

The Ole Miss campus needs a new basketball arena and space for big events. But the loss of the Tad Smith Coliseum will rob a community of walkers of the place they have enjoyed for nearly 50 years.

By Clara Turnage

lows her father onto the concourse of the Tad Smith Coliseum. It doesn't take long for her to tire. Soon she's resting on the seat of her walker and watching people pass. Sometimes she waves. Sometimes she sits still. But she never speaks.

Paige Wilkerson, 21, has a condition known as Angelman Syndrome. The rare affliction causes ambulatory issues, cognitive disabilities, seizures and

completely immobile.

"Fortunately, Paige has been ambulatory most of her life but it's getting more difficult for her," said her father, Woody Wilkerson, who walks every day with Paige at the coliseum. "The best thing for her is just to get as much exercise as possible that's why we started walking

The Tad Smith Coliseum welcomes dozens of walkers such as Paige. Around 5 p.m. you can see

he grabs the handles communication issues. Some of them; some walk quickly, head- January of 2016. Although there ers amble, speaking more than they walk. Some come on a daily basis; others only visit when the weather does not permit outdoor exercise.

Doors have been open to walkers since the Tad Smith Coliseum opened nearly 50 years ago. But construction of a new arena - one that lacks an uninterrupted concourse – threatens this small community.

The Pavilion, the new Ole Miss basketball arena, is set to open in Smith Coliseum, many of the walkers don't know where they will go after it is demolished.

Some will switch to outdoor walking tracks, such as Avent Park, the Whirlpool Trails, FNC Park or Pat Lamar Park. For Paige, however, there are many reasons this isn't possible.

"Paige needs room," Wilkerson said. "When she gets in that walker, you don't know exactly where she's going – she's just going. She needs a wide track."

The flat surface of the Tad Pad of the walker and fol- the few affected become almost phones in and music loud. Oth- is no set date to close the Tad stabilizes her walker; the handicapped parking spots allow her and her father to easily access the building.

> Faculty, staff, student and community walkers have their own reasons to go each day.

"I kind of forget everything; it's a stress relief mechanism when I go," said Daisy Cheng, a senior catalog librarian and associate professor who has been walking for eight years. "For

SEE WALKING PAGE 4

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Earth Day Keynote Speaker

Check theDMonline.com



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olnion

THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

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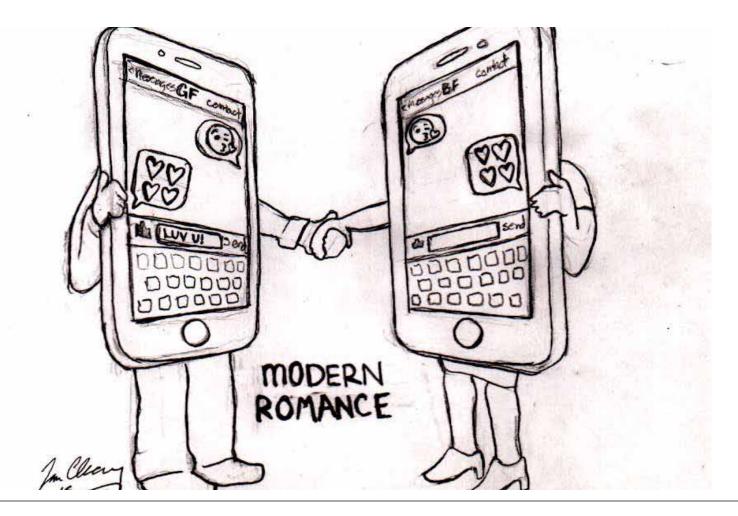
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COLUMN

Black Lives Matter

CAMERON JOHNSON

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I walk about campus on a Thursday like I do every weekday. As I approach the Union, I am surprised to see a crowd formed out front. Many are lying down on the pavement. Others are holding signs. Their content varies; some have slogans like "Hands up, don't shoot!" but the most prevalent one is: "Black lives matter."

I check my phone. I rarely use the application Yik Yak because usually I'm just not interested by what my fellow students have to say on there. For many that use it, their lives revolve around Greek life, and that is not something I personally care about.

This day, however, Yik Yak is filled with something completely different. Something frustrating, something ignorant, something uncaring. "Why 'Black lives matter'? Why not 'All lives matter'?" in as many possible phrasings as they could manage.

The fact of the matter is that policemen have been using excessive and deadly force on African-Americans since their entry into this country; only now, technology and media make such incidents common knowledge that spread nationally and globally.

This, coupled with the common

individual having the capability to record live events as they happen-take for example the murder of Walter Scott after a policeman stopped him for driving without a tail light-provides irrefutable proof of the wrongdoing that occurs against black people by law enforcement every day.

There is no denying at this point that an inordinate number of black men are profiled by police and often killed without justification for using the most extreme of all measures, and yet my student body cannot stop saying "Why 'Black lives matter'? All lives mat-

Why "Black lives matter"? Because it is apparent that many people don't think they do. Where do those three words indicate that other lives do not matter? Where does it say black lives are more valuable than white lives or the lives of other races? Why do my fellow non-black students have to insert themselves into a movement that is not about them in the slightest? Why would they take issue with people saying "Black lives matter" at all, unless they think otherwise?

If I were to say I like strawberry ice cream, that would be a simple statement that conveys one specific meaning. My student body instead would grow incredibly disgruntled with this and tell me

"How dare you! All ice cream is good! And what's more, you've excluded my favorite, vanilla ice cream, the most prevalent of all flavors! You always have to in-

It just doesn't make sense. I have become further and further disappointed with many of my peers. I knew when I came to study here that I was in the heart of Mississippi, in the heart of the South, but I refused to believe that we as a university had not overcome our racist history. I considered the hanging of the noose on the James Meredith statue an isolated incident by some rotten apples in the bunch.

Now I am starting to realize that I was mistaken. I am starting to realize that it is no longer socially acceptable for racism to be visible to the naked eye, so now it occurs behind closed doors. It occurs when Greek associations refuse to elect minority officers for image or deny them entry into their society

It occurs when students get irritated over movements that are intended to do nothing but bring awareness to and protect the lives of people of color. Closed-door racism is saying under the cover of an anonymous message board application "You don't ever hear about whites getting killed by blacks!" and "What's the difference between a cop killing a black civilian and a black thug killing a white civilian?" when all they have said is "Our lives matter."

I am white. I understand that this race is the majority. I understand that, as the majority, our culture and society is primarily focused on and catered to my race. I know that there is only a single black member of the Senate, and the first president with African-American heritage only happened within the last decade. I understand that, as a white person, I and my race are included in virtually every facet of American life.

So why can't this student body allow our black students, and further, our black countrymen to stand up for themselves and have their own movements? Why must we insert ourselves into everything? Why can't we all just agree with them, support their cause, and let them advocate a movement the only intention of which is to help save lives and punish those who take them?

I thought racism was dying. I thought we were getting better, but maybe we are just getting better at hiding it.

Cameron Johnson is a sophomore English major from Memphis, TN.

MISSISSIPPIAN

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The Daily Mississippian welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be addressed to The Daily Mississippian, 201 Bishop Hall, P.O. Box 1848, University, MS, 38677-1848, or e-mailed to dmletters@olemiss.edu.

Letters should be typed, double-spaced and no longer than 300 words. Letters may be edited for clarity, space or libel. Third-party letters and those bearing pseudonyms, pen names or "name withheld" will not be published. Publication is limited to one letter per individual per calendar

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.



MEMBER NEWSPAPER

news

DIE-IN continued from page 1

morial located in front of the courthouse, at a major entrance of the Square, as their location.

"If you read the inscription it says they gave their lives in a just and holy cause, and when you think about what that means and what we're actually fighting for, to emphasize that black lives matter, and to fight against racial discrimination there could not be a better place," Coon said. "This is a physical manifestation of the remaining ideology of the lost cause of the Confederacy and the systems of white supremacy."

The black protesters staged themselves on the ground and up the steps, lying down as if they were dead. There were posters positioned on the protesters and propped up so that passersby could read them. White participants stood among their peers, holding signs that read "demilitarize the police" and "black lives matter."

People outside of the protest had varied reactions, some more extreme than others. Cars



Justin Woods, sophomore business management major, lies on the road at a die-in at the foot of the Confederate Statue on the Square.

passing by the protest slowed so they could analyze what was happening. Some honked their horns, throwing a thumbs up out of their windows.

One woman driving by shouted, "Y'all need to get a job."

A few onlookers became participants.

A couple of women that work on the Square, Rebecca Camarigg and Dorothy Laurenzo, saw the protest through a window and decided to join in.

"Rebecca pointed out that they were out here protesting that black lives matter and it matters to us too," Laurenzo

Camarigg said that they appreciated that people were taking a stand for what they believed in.

Senior psychology major Austin Conner had planned to participate in the protest after seeing a video of the Walter Scott shooting. Policeman fatally shot Scott in North Charleston, South Carolina on April 4. This was her first protest.

"I decided to be a part of the protest today because I always wanted to be a part of something that would demonstrate how I feel about things," Conner said. "You know, after learning about the civil rights movement, I admire those people who stood up for what they believed in even though their lives were threatened."

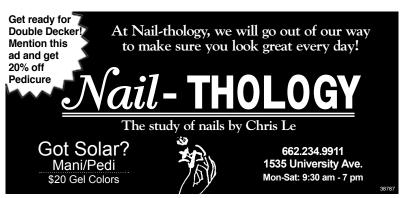
Faculty at the university showed support for the students' cause as well. Susan Glisson, Executive director of the William Winter Institute for Race Reconciliation, was in attendance.

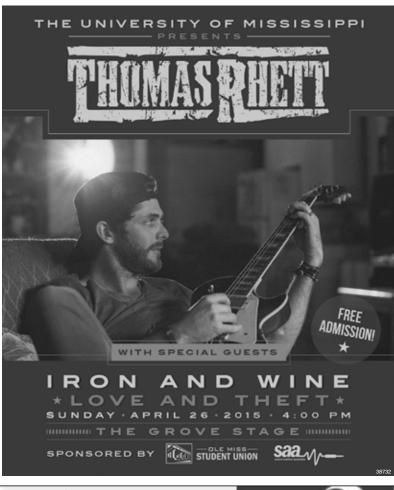
"It's important for the students to protest both on- and off-campus because this issue affects all of us," Glisson said. "It's not just a campus issue, it's not just a Ferguson issue, it's not just a North Charleston issue. All Americans who care about justice and care about equality should be concerned about this issue."

Glisson said she hopes observers will see that the students deeply care about the issue and that there is a need for more people to get involved.

"I'm just really proud of the students that are standing up for things that they believe in and I think that they are picking important things to lift up," Glisson said. "I will always be where students are doing that."

Giles is graduating, but Coon said there is a possibility of more protests in the future, especially next school year.





SENIOR Honors Thesis Presentation

Mary Margaret Locker

B.A. IN ENGLISH

"The Fortunate Ones: Stories"

Directed by: Dr. Tom Franklin

HONORS

Thursday, April 23 at 8:00 am **Bishop Hall Room 107**

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

Aishat Aloba

B.S.C.S. IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

"Estimating the Number of Components of a Spatial-EM Algorithm: An R Package"

Directed by: Dr. Yixin Chen

Thursday, April 23 at 9:00 am Weir Hall Room 213

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

Murray Miller

B.A. IN INTERNATIONAL **STUDIES**

"A Global Perspective on **Ethical Consumerism:** A Study of Advertisements from Social Enterprises to Identify the Ethical Consumer." Directed by: Dr. Jeffrey Jackson

Thursday, April 23 at 9:00 am Croft Hall Room 305

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news

WALKING

continued from page 1

us, especially we who are doing technical aspects of library tasks, we're sitting. So, I need some kind of exercise."

Cheng walks seven loops-to-amile in the Tad Pad.

"The university encourages people – especially the faculty and staff – to have an exercise or fitness program," she said, noting that there is no other free indoor recreation facility on campus. Membership at the Turner Center runs \$300 to \$750 for faculty, staff and community members for one calendar year.

The Tad Pad has always been free. So many, like Cheng, only use the Tad Pad when weather is bad. During the heat of the summer, the cold of the winter or the stormy days in between, men and women flock to the covered, climate-controlled concourse.

Rachel Bost, interim director of procurement services, walks with her 15-year-old daughter, Taylor, when they have time. Bost said there are many reasons the Tad Pad is the best choice for her

"I personally don't necessarily like going where there's a lot of young college age students working out. I'd rather go somewhere like the Tad Pad where I'm out of all that," Bost said. "I like a contained area to walk. I don't like trying to dodge cars and bicycles or people trying to get to class."

For others, it is an issue of safety. Stephanie Carter, a fifth grade teacher at Lafayette Middle School, said she has walked at the Tad Pad off and on for almost 25 years.

"I know of no other place that you feel as secure as you do on campus," Carter said. "Somebody would hear or see something if something happened. You would always have someone there. You feel safe there."

Carter said there is no other free indoor walking track that she knows of in Oxford and said she believes this is something the



PHOTO BY: KAYLA BEATTY

A woman walks at the Tad Pad. Where construction of the Pavilion looms outside the window.



PHOTO BY: KAYLA BEATTY

Paige Wilkerson takes a break from walking around the Tad Smith Coliseum's concourse. She and her father walk daily.

university should have thought about when constructing the new facility.

"I think they should have taken into account the people of the community," Carter said. "You have elderly that come out there and walk as well and I don't think they would feel as comfortable or as safe walking on the trails."

Carter said she has seen a community form around this facility.

"When you're going there on a consistent basis, it's kind of like

you build a walking community within the coliseum," Carter said. "I saw one lady that was there walking with her baby and her little boy. She didn't have to worry about traffic because we were all watching out for each other. Now, everyone is losing that."

The community's relationship with the coliseum is reflective of its relationship with the university, said Robert Khayat, chancellor from 1995 to 2009.

"Every time we have something that the community can use to make it a better place to live we want them to use it," Khayat said. "It's really important for the university to be public and be accessible in a place like Oxford."

This builds a reciprocal relationship between the Oxford and Ole Miss, Khayat said, each knowing they would not be the same without the other. Khayat said the doors to the coliseum have been open seven days a week from 5 a.m. - 10 p.m. since it was first built in 1966.

Even so, he said the Tad Pad has long passed complete functionality.

Once demolished, the Tad Smith Coliseum will become a landscaped area called South Circle, according to a Campus Master Plan Report from 2009.

These plans are still in effect, according to Director of Facilities Planning and university architect Ian Banner. But it's uncertain when the coliseum will be torn down.

"Nothing is going to happen to it in the foreseeable future," Banner said.

University Athletics Director Ross Bjork said, because walking in the Tad Pad isn't a university-orchestrated program, it's hard to know who walks there or where they might go.

"It grew organically into a neat convenience," Bjork said. "What happens moving forward when it closes is a broader discussion."

Many of the walkers said they hoped the Pavilion would also be open to them, but Bjork said it simply isn't possible. Enclosed areas that will house the Pavilion Club and a food court block the concourse of the building, making it unsuitable as a track.

"The purpose of the Pavilion is really to provide a multipurpose entertainment venue on campus," Bjork said. "Athletics – basketball, volleyball – concerts, graduation, family shows, the circus – whatever it might be we want it to be a multipurpose venue in the modern day."

Many of the walkers said they understand the need for a new arena, but will miss their tradition.

"Whatever's the best for the university," Bost said. "I'm just one cog in the wheel."

The only question left is where to go next. Woody Wilkerson said he understands the change, too. But he still wasn't sure what he and Paige would do.

"It'll be kind of melancholy," Wilkerson said. "We'll just have to see how it works out."

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Schedule of events

FRIDAY

10:00 a.m. Preview art market by Oxford Artists'

Guild (ends at 5:00 p.m.)

11:00 a.m. Art Demonstration - Debbie Myers Experiments

in Watercolor

12:00 p.m. Art Demonstration - Pam Locke Watercolor/

Abstract Painting

1:00 p.m. Andi Bedsworth Texturizing Mixed Media with

Ink and Stencils, Double Decker Bus Tour departing from City Hall (tickets are \$5)

2:00 p.m. Art Demonstration - TBA

3:00 p.m. Art Demonstration - Red Byrd Assembling Toys

6:00 p.m. Music - Water Liars

7:00 p.m. Thacker Mountain Radio Show **8:00 p.m.** Music - Reverend John Wilkins

SATURDAY

7:30 a.m. Double Decker Spring Run 10k Start **7:45 a.m.** Double Decker Spring Run 5k Start

9:00 a.m. Double Decker Spring Run Kids Fun Run Start

10:00 a.m. Festival opens, Double Decker Bus Rides begin, Square Fair Begins

10:15 a.m. Music: Greater Pyrenees

10:30 a.m. Best Dressed Pet Contest sponsored by the Oxford-Lafayette

County Humane Society

11:30 a.m. Music - Daniel Karlish Trio1:00 p.m. Music - Kenny Brown2:30 p.m. Marcella & Her Lovers

3:30 p.m. Final Double Decker Bus Rides4:00 p.m. Music - Elliot Root, Square Fair ends

5:00 p.m. Artists shut down

5:30 p.m. Music - St. Paul & The Broken Bones, Food Vendors shut down

7:00 p.m. Music - JJ Grey & Mofro8:30 p.m. Music - Trampled By Turtles

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The Food of Double Decker

AUDREY HALL

alhall3@go.olemiss.edu

This year Visit Oxford has renewed the focus on locally grown produce and products. The food vendors who will be selling on the Square this weekend tells you all you need to know about where Oxford's priorities lie. It's all about family and hard work here. Local produce continues to be at the helm of the food vendors.

"Because we work with local farmers, we will have tacos with locally-provided brisket, which is my favorite," Melody Sharp, owner of Living Foods Oxford, said. "Local sweet beans are on the menu too, as well as Sweet Magnolia Ice Cream with organic sugar cones. That ice cream comes straight from the Delta, which is one of the reasons we love it so much."

Proud Larry's is also excited to bring dishes straight out of Southern cookbooks, according to one of Proud Larry's servers, Brandon Carter.

"We'll have shrimp gum-

Senior Honors Thesis Presentation

Meredith Oliver

B.S. IN PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES

"From Lazarus to Theophilus:
How Manuscript Digitization Led
to the Historical, Chemical, and
Technological Understanding of Iron
Gall Ink and its Counterparts"
Directed by: Dr. Jason Ritchie

Thursday, April 23 at 10:00 am Thad Cochran Research Center 2066

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

Emily Ortega

B.S. IN COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS

"Standardized Articulation Test Performance of African American Preschoolers in Mississippi"

Directed by: Dr. Lennette Ivy

Thursday, April 23 at 10:00 am George Hall Room 204

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

bo served over a bed of Louisiana rice, which is the favorite," Carter said.

"There will also be jambalaya with sausage, shrimp, cream sauce and roast beef sandwiches marinated the whole day beforehand."

In LB's Meat Market, the emphasis is on business and hard work, Greg Jones, who works in sales at LB's, said.

"We butcher in-house, with a local touch," Jones said. "We'll have smoked sausage dogs and Philly cheese steaks for lunch. It's all about people from Oxford treating the people who come in, letting them know what Oxford is about."

Honey Bee Bakery likes to add an artistic touch, co-owner, Shannon Adams, said. "We have Double Decker Bus Ice Sugar Cookies, as big as your hand, that come on a stick," Adams said. "When I started out in the art community, I was all about pottery, so now this gives me a chance to dip into my creative side while cooking. It's our seventh year to have them and they are hand-made from scratch."

For some businesses, multiple items sell well during Double Decker. For others, there's a clear best seller.

"Eggrolls," said Lisa Wu of Ming's Kitchen. "We serve a lot of egg rolls, with fresh cabbage. They are a huge hit during Double Decker, especially."

Funky's and Old Venice

Pizza Company are bringing their best this weekend as well.

"My favorites are the spicy crawfish pizza and the macaroni and cheese pizza," Lee Harris, owner of Funky's, said. "We'll also serve the New York-style pizza and virgin daiquiris."

Old Venice Pizza Company's, in front of the Ox-

ford-Lafayette Courthouse, will have three kinds of pizza and cotton candy, according to manager Natalia Burgon.

"We've been prepping a lot," Burgon said. "I think my personal favorite of ours would be the Chicken Parmesan."

The festival and food vendors open at 10 a.m. on Saturday.



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- 6pm Water Liars
- 7pm Thacker Mountain Radio
- 8pm Reverend Wilkins

Saturday, April 25

- 10:15am Greater Pyrenees
- 11:30am Daniel Karlish Trio
- 1:00pm Kenny Brown
- 2:30pm Marcella and Her Lovers
- 4:00pm Elliot Root
- 5:30pm St. Paul and the Broken Bones
- 7:00pm JJ Grey and Mofro
- 8:30pm Trampled by Turtles

ART & FOOD

 ART and Food vending on Saturday, April 25th 10am-5:30pm

SHUTTLES

• Shuttles will run from Oxford High School on Saturday, April 25th from 10am-10pm, cost is \$5 per person, round trip

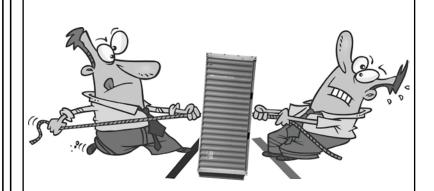
PLEASE NOTE

• Friday, April 24th at 4am any cars left on North Lamar and Monroe Ave. will be towed. Saturday, April 25th at 4am any cars left on the Square, North Lamar, South Lamar, Van Buren, East Jackson and any City of Oxford public parking lot will be towed. ***Double Decker Arts Festival and City of Oxford are not responsible for any towing fees.

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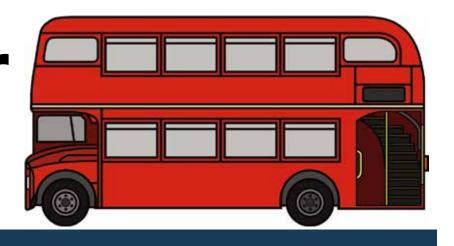
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On April 25, double decker bus rides will take place from 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. for the 20th anniversary of the Double Decker Arts Festival.



SENIOR Honors Thesis Presentation

Caleb Robinson

B.S.C.S. IN COMPUTER Science

"Modelling Global Climate Variables with Cellular Automata Networks"

Directed by Dr. Dawn Wilkins

Thursday, April 23 at 10:00 am Weir Hall Room 213

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

Passengers will receive a tour from the Square to the Grove and back. Buses will depart at the corner of Jackson Avenue East next to Roosters and Oxford Grillehouse.

"The bus rides are a popular part of the festival (and) we wanted to offer a way for attendees to plan their day," Wayne Andrews, Yoknapatawpha Arts Council (YAC) Director, said.

This year, for the first time since the rides began, visitors can buy golden tickets to the earliest bus ride available.

"This allows Double Decker fans to enjoy a ride on the historic buses and then directly explore the art exhibits and music," Andrews said.

The bus will get back early enough for visitors to fully experience the festival, bus coordinator and Director of Parking, Matt Davis, said.

"Riding the Double Decker buses adds to the overall feel of the festival," Davis said. "It gives them a chance to connect with actual reason for the festival."

Fast Pass Tickets will be available online from 1 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday. This gives ticket buyers five chances to ride the bus.

"There are \$2 tickets that are Fast Pass tickets that get you in front of the line so you don't have to wait," recreation administration student, Daniel Michiels, said. "But if you wanna just ride

the bus just for free, that's the lower deck with no viewing of upstairs."

A bus leaves every 30 minutes and the rides last 30 minutes. Double Decker bus rides during the arts festival serve more than one purpose for the city of Oxford, Michiels said.

"All the proceeds of the ticket sales go towards offering a thousand dollar scholarship for 4 years, \$1,000 a year to a graduate, a high school graduate in Lafayette County," Michiels said.

This is put on in part by The Rotary Club of Oxford, a service organization. Tickets can be purchased at doubledeckerfestival. com or rotaryoxford.com.

SENIOR Honors Thesis Presentation

Brent Treadway

B.A. IN BIOCHEMISTRY

Effects of Synthetic Blood Plasma on Calcium-**Dependent Dimerazation** NCAD12"

Directed by: Dr. Susan Pedigo

Thursday, April 23 at 1:00 pm **Honors College 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

Erin Dyer

B.S.CH.E. IN CHEMICAL Engineering; B.A. IN CHINESE

"Economic Optimization of an Ethylbenzene Process"

Directed by: Dr. Adam Smith

Thursday, April 23 at 2:30 pm Carrier Hall Room 209

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MCKENNA WIERMAN

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Music flows like water in Mississippi, traveling through cities and towns, carrying local bands out into the world for all to see. This year at 20th annual Double Decker Arts Festival, one local band is flowing back to their roots right here in Oxford.

The Water Liars are kicking off Double Decker at 6 p.m. tomorrow live on the Oxford Square. Band member Andrew Bryant said he is excited to take part in a festival he grew up with.

"Being from these parts, I've known about DD for years.

I've been to a couple. I saw Deer Tick and Felice Brothers when they were here," said Bryant. "I'm really excited to play for the first time."

Bryant, who grew up just 30 miles outside of Oxford, began playing music at about age 13. Before long, he started making his own records from his bedroom and touring when and where he could in the early 2000's, before Oxford had developed its independent music scene.

"Most of my early exposure came from church music, but as a teen I got into punk and started playing in bands involved in primarily the Memphis punk/DIY scene," Bryant said.

In the mid-2000's Bryant met up with bandmate Justin Kinkel-Schuster for the first time and, just a few years later, the Water Liars were born.

"I met Justin in about 2005 when I was playing a show in St Louis," Bryant said. "We became friends, and later got together in 2011 when we made the first Water Liars record, Phantom Limb. We were both a little bummed with what we were doing at the time and that's how this band started."

Water Liars has a rare sound - a real jewel of the South. Whatever miracle united the Water Liars continues to inspire them to produce that music that isn't just "good southern music" but truly great. Their voices and melodies flow effortlessly together, their lyrics are honest and soulful. Think Mumford and Sons, but with a purer sound.

"I don't really know how to describe our sound. I'd say just rock and roll, I guess," said Bryant. "We're all about 'the song'. When we perform we like to put on a good show. We really like to let loose and get loud."

"Loose" may not be the right way to describe what it's like listen to the Water Liars perform, however. "Liberating" might be more fitting because that is how nearly every song the Water Liars have produced feels. Their newest self-titled LP, released in February of this year, does a fantastic job of capturing a snapshot of the Water Liars' soul. Besides having several just plain catchy tacks, songs like "Let it Breathe" and "I Want Blood" possess a certain element of honesty just isn't found in every Southern-Rock band. Water Liars is the kind of record you listen to over and over in the car on road trips; friendly, familiar and exactly what you want to hear.

"We're really proud of our self-titled album," Bryant said. "We feel like it reflects where we've been and where we're going. I think it most nearly represents our live sound as well."

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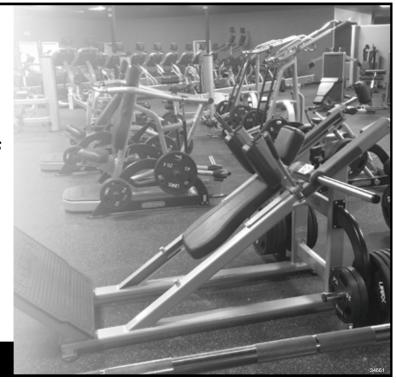
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1996: The first Double Decker Arts Festival

CLARATURNAGE

Scturna1@go.olemiss.edu

In 1995, 24-year-old Robyn Tannehill had recently been made director of the Oxford Tourism Council and was making waves in a somnolent Oxford.

"I decided when I became tourism director that I really thought that Oxford should have a festival," Tannehill said. "Oxford was just primed and ready to explode. I wanted to do something to be a showcase."

Tannehill said she wanted to exemplify the three things that characterized Oxford to her.

"I wanted it to showcase music, food and art and I wanted it to be good music, food and art,' Tannehill said. "I knew we needed something that would brand it as an Oxford thing, and we had just gotten the double-decker bus.'

That year, Tannehill and her team organized the first Double Decker Arts Festival.

There were problems with her plan, of course. Though she knew the community would welcome an event that displayed Oxford's talents, the mayor and the majority of the board of aldermen didn't think it was a good idea.

"There were several that said 'Okay, little girl.' They didn't buy in completely," Tannehill said. "Pat was one of the few who agreed wholeheartedly."

Pat Patterson, current mayor of Oxford and owner of University Sporting Goods, was a member of the board at that time. The board began to support it more, Patterson said, once the local businesses were made aware of how lucrative it could be for them.

"A stroke of genius was letting the Square businesses sell mer-

chandise out on the sidewalk," Patterson said. "When the businesses started backing it, the political opposition headed for the

After convincing the board that she could handle the task of organizing such an affair, Tannehill was faced with the daunting prospect of living up to her promise.

"I knew I could do it. I was so young and dumb; I just knew I could do it," Tannehill said. "We way underestimated what this festival was going to be from so many aspects."

The first issue was that of money or, rather, the lack thereof. The first festival only had two sponsors, A&B Distributors and Coca-Cola, each of whom gave \$10,000 to the festival. This could only buy so much, however,

and a stage wasn't in the budget. If Tannehill wanted to have music, she had to have a stage. Luckily, the man she put in charge of entertainment, Bill Russell, had a solution, albeit a peculiar one.

"Bill Russell had friends that drove 18-wheelers. So, he talked them into dropping the flatbed of the truck on the Square," Tannehill said. "Then I spent a ridiculous number of hours staple gunning burlap around them so it wouldn't look like we couldn't afford a stage."

Coca-Cola donated large, unmarked plastic signs to the festival for advertisement purposes. Tannehill didn't have the money to get anything printed on them.

"So, I used Sharpie markers and made all the signs that said 'Square Fair,' 'Stage one,' 'Sponsored by whatever," Tannehill

Then came other issues, such as

stagehands.

"I had Bubba Bonds - he was a good friend of my little brother's," Tannehill said. "I talked him into us paying him minimum wage and he managed all the stagehands. It was all Ole Miss football players."

Despite the money troubles, Tannehill refused to allow an admission fee. The only revenue the festival made was from selling Coca-Colas, t-shirts and posters.

"I was determined that it would

'I knew we needed something that would brand it as an Oxford thing, and we had just gotten the doubledecker bus.'

- Robyn Tannehill

be a free festival - that it would be something that anybody that wanted to come could come," Tannehill said. "They didn't have to pay anything; it was open to everybody."

Finally, after months of planning, the first Double Decker Arts Festival opened in the spring of

"We thought that we'd have a thousand or two people," Tannehill said. "We had over 9,000 people. It was a lot more than we had envisioned."

The festival had other unforeseen repercussions - an explosion of neon colored feathers in the courthouse courtesy of the first headlining band, Bo Dollis Jr. and the Wild Magnolias; an unexpected shortage of change for the vendors; and, perhaps the most vexing, the realization that they had forgotten to hire a cleaning crew. The latter resulted in Tannehill and four others staying until 4 a.m. that night to clean the

Square.

Despite this, Patterson and Tannehill agree that the festival didn't suffer any major setbacks.

"I don't think we've ever had a serious problem," Patterson said, knocking on the wood of his desk. "We've been so

lucky."

Tannehill said the first festival - and those thereafter - couldn't have worked without the support Oxford gave.

"Everybody in the community supported it. We had so many volunteers. Everything was manned with volunteers," Tannehill said. "I would venture to say we had one to 200 community volunteers that made it happen."

At one point, Tannehill said she found herself on the balconv of

First National Bank looking out at the crowd.

"I remember standing on the corner of that balcony and just being like 'Oh my goodness, we did it!" Tannehill said. "I remember that as my snapshot of the day."

This year, the Double Decker Arts Festival is projected to host 60,00 people with nearly two hundred art vendors for it's twentieth annual event. The fest stretches over two days and requires far more than triple what the first budget allowed. It's grown to be the biggest event that Oxford hosts all year - next to some of the more prolific football matches, perhaps. Tannehill, too, has grown. After years of running Double Decker, she is now Alderman of Ward II in Oxford. But that's not how it started.

"It's so funny to look back now at how it's grown," Tannehill said. "It could have panned out like a lot of other communities festivals. There are a lot of them that start and barely inch along for three years. We had to prove ourselves."

Patterson, who sold cokes in one of the booths that day, said he remembers how hard Tannehill worked on that first festival.

"So much of the credit goes to her," Patterson said. "This is so trite to say, but I'm not sure it wasn't better then."

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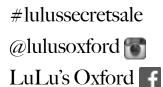
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Ole Miss alumnus creates Double Decker poster art

ZOE MCDONALD

zkmcdona@go.olemiss.edu

Memphis native Frank Estrada would not have believed you if you had told him in high school he would become an artist – much less the featured poster artist for Oxford's 20th annual Double Decker Arts Festival.

After Estrada created the design for Oxford's Art-er Limits Fringe Festival last year, Wayne Andrews, the executive director of The Powerhouse, suggested he submit designs to be in the running for Double Decker.

Out of the five designs Estrada submitted, his print containing the double decker bus, the stage and the courthouse — all framed by the Oxford square backdrop and an undulating blue sky - was the chosen design to represent the 20th annual Double Decker Festival.

"I don't think they've had the courthouse in the design ever, so they liked that idea," Estrada said. "I tried to incorporate everything that goes into (the festival), or what Double Decker's about."

Estrada, an Ole Miss alumnus, began school pursuing a business degree. He struggled, and eventually found himself on academic probation. Though he dabbled in art classes during



COURTESY: FRANK ESTRADA

Frank Estrada works in his print shop.

high school, he had eventually lost interest after transferring schools. The summer after his sophomore year, though, Estrada began as an art major.

"Junior year I took my first printmaking class, and pretty much after that I was hooked... I never knew what printmaking was... I'd never done it before until I got here," said Estrada.

Now, Estrada has established himself in Oxford. He produces a number of popular prints such as roosters and sugar skills.

Estrada created his prints

his spare bedroom into a printmaking studio. One side of the room contains an etching press, which he uses to evenly transfer the designs from the woodblocks onto sheets of paper. The other side is made up of shelves that contain a plethora of woodblocks, ink and tools. His studio has almost begun to burst at the seams with old and new designs and prints.

Lately, Estrada has found himself toiling away into the night creating art.

This past year, he converted ing I still have this energy to keep on going."

The process of creating a design is made up of several parts. First, Estrada must draw out the design, with all the words in reverse. Using sharp chisels and gauges, he carves the design into medium-density fiberboard, or MDF, a compressed particle wood. Once he has done this, he can roll on the ink, place paper on top, and crank it through the etching press.

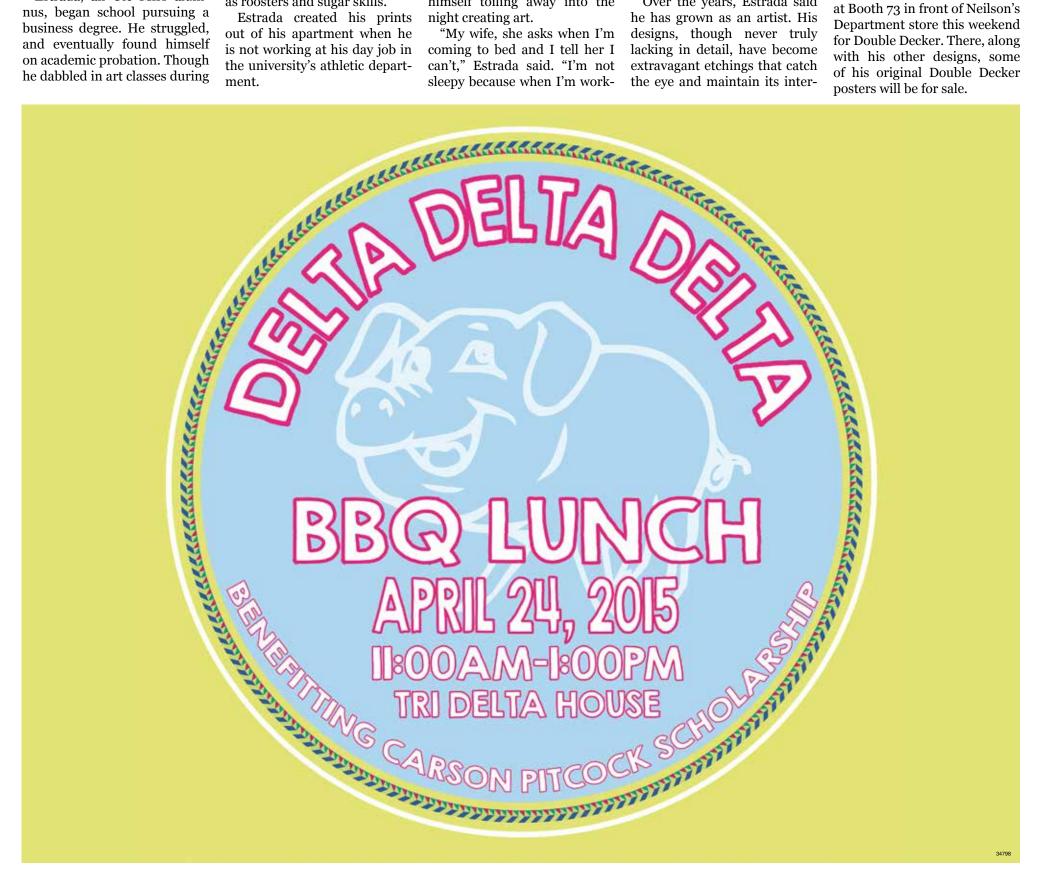
Over the years, Estrada said he has grown as an artist. His designs, though never truly lacking in detail, have become extravagant etchings that catch the eye and maintain its inter-

Estrada's first attempt at the poster actually didn't come out as planned. The design was much too dark after the print, so he went back and painted in the colors by hand, creating the vividly colorful print seen now. The entire process for the poster's creation. Estrada said. took him around six hours, but he's worked for up to two days on projects like one 4-by-8 foot print he crafted for a group show.

All of Estrada's hard work came to a close when, a couple weeks ago, he began to see his Double Decker Festival poster in different storefronts and restaurants around town. Since then, he's received praise for his design on social media and in public.

After Double Decker - when he has more time - Estrada plans to start focusing on new ideas and pieces, as he leaves behind some if his earlier core themes, such as works conveying his Mexican heritage and Southern home. Estrada said he would like to shift his sights to more pieces about immigration and recent social issues.

Frank Estrada can be found at Booth 73 in front of Neilson's Department store this weekend for Double Decker. There, along with his other designs, some of his original Double Decker posters will be for sale.



Sikes Orvis: Big Passion

DYLAN RUBINO

thedmsports@go.olemiss.edu

Ole Miss senior first-baseman Sikes Orvis plays with intense emotion. One of the strongest displays of emotion he has shown came during a game on June 2, 2014, when Ole Miss hosted Washington in the NCAA Oxford Regional. With a man on first, Orvis roped a triple down the first base line that took a bounce off the right field wall to put the Rebels on top 3-2. After diving into third base, Orvis stood up and let out a loud roar as he thumped his chest, advancing Ole Miss to the NCAA Super Regionals.

"I hit that triple in the regional and I blacked out. I don't even remember what happened," Orvis said. "I play with a lot of emotion, I have a lot of fun playing the game, I just have to let it show sometimes when I'm playing."

"Baseball is a child's game, but you have to play like a man sometimes," Orvis said. "Baseball can be a bitch sometimes. It's one of those games where if you succeed three out of ten times, you're considered successful. You just have to do a good job of handling adversity. Succeeding wouldn't be fun if you did it every time. All the failure makes it seem that much better."

Orvis has quickly become one of the most popular student-athletes on the Ole Miss campus. The big, left-handed, power hitting first baseman brings a swagger and certain persona every time he steps on the diamond at Swayze Field.

The senior from Orlando has received many compari-

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sons throughout his playing days. Ole Miss football defensive end C.J. Johnson called him Chuck Norris on Twitter, but the most popular comparison he has received is Ron Swanson. It started with a burly mustache the first baseman sported starting the series at LSU this season. The mustache was quick to gain fame on social media, which is one of the many reasons Orvis is a fan favorite.

Even with his popularity, Orvis doesn't see himself as that.

"I don't consider myself that. People mention me with Laquon Treadwell and the Stefan Moodys of the world. I'm watching these guys on ESPN and I'm just like, 'these guys are awesome'," Orvis said. "Hearing my name in the same category is funny to me. It's very humbling and the fans appreciate what I do and my personality out there. It's surreal."

Growing up, Orvis dreamed of playing for one of the big three universities in Florida: Florida, Florida State and Miami. Orvis admitted that he really didn't have an idea where he wanted to go in high school and floated around in the recruiting process. He took visits to many schools including North Carolina and LSU.

Orvis first came to Ole Miss his junior year of high school while playing in a high school tournament in Memphis.

"I came here Easter weekend and I drove down Old Taylor Road looking down on the field and I knew right away. I fell in love with the place," Orvis said. "I met with the recruiting coordinator and Coach B (Mike Bianco), and I knew right away this was the place."

Orvis was a key part of the 2014 lineup that advanced to the College World Series. In 69 games played, Orvis batted .294 on the season with 53 RBI's and led the team in home runs with 14 on the year. He was named first team All-SEC by the conference's head coaches as a result of the season.

No one expected the run to Omaha. The 2014 Rebels were picked in the preseason to finish near the bottom in the

confer-

ence and

in the SEC West division. Orvis said it was a perfect storm for the Rebels last season, as senior leadership and young talent were essential to last year's

"It was the perfect combination," Orvis said. "We had

success.

great camaraderie. We had a lot of guys that have been playing together for quite some time. I had some of my best friends on the team. We figured out how to win and it became a lot of fun."

Orvis said it was a similar time this year to last year where the defining moment of the season happened for the 2014 Rebels. Standing at 30-12 overall at ranked 12th in the country, the Rebels traveled to Lexington to take on 17th ranked Kentucky in a three game series. Ole Miss swept the series against the Wildcats and what helped motivate them was a speech by head coach Mike Bianco to fire them up the rest of the way.

"Coach B challenged us. He laid it on the table and said 'Listen. If y'all went out and get a shot at the SEC title, you'll definitely win the West.'," Orvis said. "We came out and we swept Kentucky and we won the next four weekends. We beat some really good teams and at that point we were in the conversation to host and be a national seed in the NCAA tournament."

The 2015 season has been a different story. The Rebels currently own a 21-20 overall record and 8-10 in the SEC. The team stands near the bottom looking up at 4th in the SEC West and have a lot of ground to make up in order to make a run for the NCAA Tournament.

Nine players from last year's team have gone on to the MLB

SEE **ORVIS** PAGE 15



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sports

Left, Right, Repeat: Feldmeier breaks school records

NATALIE ALLEN

thedmsports@gmail.com

Far away from her home in Olympia, Washington, freshman track-star Brooke Feldmeier has made herself right at home at Ole Miss. In just her first season as a Rebel, Brooke has already left a mark on the program.

After breaking the Ole Miss 800-meter record at the Virginia Challenge last week, Feldmeier has been named Southeastern Conference Women's Freshman of the Week.

Feldmeier set the school record at 2:05.29 in her collegiate outdoor debut at 800 meters. She placed second among 68 runners in Charlottesville, which featured a number of top-ranked teams. She also broke the Ole Miss 600-meter record earlier this year at 1:28.42.

The previous school record of 2:06.24 by Sherlonda Johnson had stood since the 1997 SEC Championships, not long after Feldmeier's first birthday.

This is the first SEC weekly honor for Feldmeier, who was recognized as the 2015 SEC Women's Indoor Runner of the Year after a breathtaking performance at the Vanderbilt Indoor Invitational in late January. Feldmeier clocked what was then the No. 1 time in the nation in the 800m and moved herself into second place on the school's alltime indoor 800m list.

She was runner-up at the Indoor SEC Championships with a school-record time of 2:04.34 and did so by flying from sixth place to second during the final lap of the race.

The SEC coaches voted Feldmeier the SEC Women's Freshman Athlete of the Year.

Brooke's work ethic and dedication make her one of the elite runners in the nation. Her constant drive along with her determination for excellence is what caught the eye of Ole Miss head coach Brian O'Neal when he recruited her. With 39 other track scholarship offers, her decision to become a Rebel was an honor for the Ole Miss track program.

Describing her as a "naturally motivated young lady," O'Neal said that her effort has never been an aspect of her running that he has had to coach.

"One thing I really have to do as a coach is hold Brooke back a little bit. She wants to go hard every single day, every single rep," O'Neal said. "I've had to tell her that there is only so much the body can handle. She's beginning to understand that."

"However, the one thing I never want to hold back from Brooke is competing with passion. Anyone that has ever seen her race knows that she does just that, and she does not like losing," O'Neal added. "That's the number one characteristic that it takes to be a star. You have to be



Brooke Feldmeier runs at the Ole Miss Track and Field at the 2015 SEC Indoor Track and Field Championships in Lexington, KY.

willing to put in the work and not take any short cuts, and that's exactly what Brooke Feldmeier

brings to this team."

Feldmeier said she believes

SEE FELDMEIER PAGE 15

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SENIOR Honors Thesis Presentation

Troy Mannino

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"Process Optimization for the Chemical Engineer" Directed by: Dr. Adam Smith

Thursday, April 23 at 3:15 pm Carrier Hall Room 209

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SENIOR Honors Thesis Presentation

Catherine Abadie

B.A. IN BIOCHEMISTRY

"A Study of the Impact of pH on the Structure and Stability of Epithelial Cadherin"

Directed by: Dr. Susan Pedigo

Thursday, April 23 at 4:00 pm **Honors College Room 107**

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SENIOR Honors Thesis Presentation

Kendal Herring

B.A.Ed. IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION "Effective English Language *Instruction Techniques:* Lessons from Latin American

> Bilingual Programs" Directed by: Dr. Deborah Chessin

Thursday, April 23 at 4:00 pm **Guyton Hall Room 313**

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HOW TO PLAY

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sports

FELDMEIER

continued from page 14

her success on the track is more than just physical fitness and pure ability. Talent and effort are impossible to coach. Those are qualities that athletes have to find in themselves. They have to crave improvement and never settle for mediocracy. Feldmeier knows that having a champion's mentality is one of the hardest parts of her game.

"It's definitely the mental aspect of it. Track is mind over matter for sure, and we have to be positive in everything we do," Feldmeier said. "We have to always keep in mind who we represent everyday, and give 100% effort in all that we do. I try not to take days off. I eat right, and I try to get enough sleep. I want to do everything the right way because every little thing you do affects

your track performance."

Despite the hours of grueling practice and hardcore training she puts in, the transition to independent college life has been a smooth one for Feldmeier. An integrated marketing communications major with a business administration minor, Feldmeier had a 4.0 grade point average during her first semester at Ole Miss. It seems that there is nothing Brooke can't accomplish.

"I think it is exciting what I have accomplished now, but it is just the beginning for me," Feldmeier said about her future goals. "I want to run for a really long time. Most 800m runners don't peak until their mid-twenties, so I believe there is a lot of room for improvement."

The possibilities seem endless for the young track stand-out. With another three track seasons ahead of her, it will be exciting to sit back and watch her make history.

ORVIS

continued from page 13

draft. Many freshman and first-year players have had to come in this season and play large roles on a team that was filled with experience last season. Orvis said the leadership and chemistry from last year's team is the main difference.

"There was more new guys coming in than returning guys. On the field we only had two everyday guys come back in the lineup with me and Errol Robinson. We had to ask a lot from the new guys," Orvis said. "We've had spurts where we beat some really good teams. You can see some of our inexperience sometimes with the inconsistency we play with sometimes will show up."

Orvis said playing more

consistent baseball and coming in more prepared day-in and day-out is what is needed on the team this year.

Ole Miss already owns the top-ranked strength of schedule in the country and the rest of the season does not get any easier.

The Rebels face Alabama at home this weekend, then a weekend series at Missouri, and home against Mississippi State and Texas A&M to end the regular season. Orvis said he has seen the potential in this year's team and believes another run can happen.

"Once this team shows it consistently, I think we're very good. I think we can pitch, I think we can hit, we can steal and run like nobody," Orvis said. "I think down the stretch if we can play some good baseball, we can win some series' and make a run."

From driving down Old Taylor Road his junior year of high school to walking into TD Ameritrade Park in Omaha for the College World Series, there have been many memorable moments for Orvis in his time at Ole Miss. When the passionate, fun-loving first baseman takes off his jersey for the last time, it'll be a sad day for him.

"I love the fans. I've loved every second of it. Being an Ole Miss Rebel has been one of the greatest accomplishments of my life," Orvis said. "I love the University of Mississippi with all my heart. Coming here from Florida, I didn't really know what to expect. I fell in love with the people and the culture and the town itself. It's a very special place that will stay close to my heart for the rest of my life."

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SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION

Garrison Morgan

B.S.Ch.E. IN CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

"Optimization of an Ethylbenzene Process"
Directed by: Dr. Adam Smith

Thursday, April 23 at 4:00 pm Honors College Room 311

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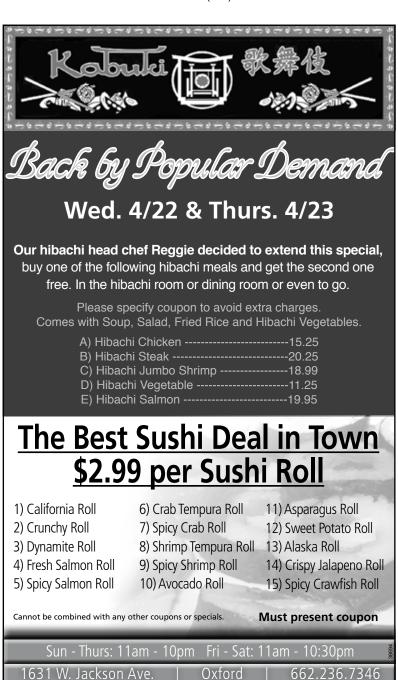
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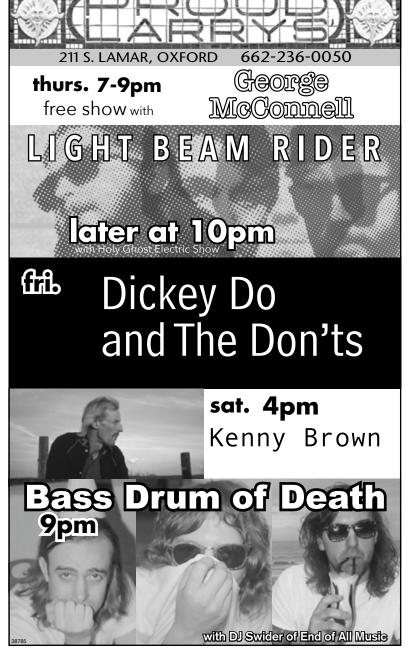
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