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MISSISSIPPIAN

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news

See this week's Mississippi in brief

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lifestyles

The all-female comedy that's all laughs

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sports

Diamond Rebels rely on new depth

Page 6





TOUSLEY LEAKE taleake@go.olemiss.edu

After a year of fundraising for Blair E. Batson, the only children's hospital in Mississippi, RebelTHON is hosting a 12-hour dance marathon finale event at 6 p.m. on Friday at the Turner Center.

RebelTHON is part of the Miracle Dance Marathon, a national organization of colleges and high schools that raise money for the Children's Miracle Network Hospital in their community. One of Dance Marathon's main slogans is "For The Kids," or FTK.

The Ole Miss chapter supports Blair E. Batson Children's Hospital in Jackson. This year, the University's donation will be made in honor of Alison Turbeville, an Ole Miss student who died last semester and who received treatment at Blair E. Batson.

The RebelTHON team fundraises all year with different Spirit Events, like the Soulshine Pizza Party, FTKarakoke at Taquería El Milagro, Local's Percentage Nights, Grovin' with the Batson Families, Insomnia Cookies Percentage Day and Pie-a-Rebel.

Junior management major Charlie Walker is Rebel-THON's fundraising committee chairman.

"Our biggest nights were probably some of our bar percentage nights at restaurants, raising around \$3,000 consistently," Walker said.
Another fundraising event

this semester was Pie-a-Rebel, where students paid to pie campus favorites, like Miss Ole Miss and senior public policy leadership major Mary Elizabeth Kakales, in the face.

"I think it was so successful and it was definitely worth getting pied in the face," Kakales said. "It was

just fun to see everyone get so into it, and it was a new and creative way to fundraise, so I think that drew a lot of attention too."

RebelTHON's goal this year is to raise \$60,000, surpassing last year's goal by \$20,000. Immediately following the dance marathon, which ends at 6 a.m., the grand total of money raised will be announced.

Senior international studies major Maia Cotelo, the executive director for Rebel-THON, said she can't spoil the big reveal, but the organization has already raised

SEE FTK PAGE 4

Millennial influence on the vote

AMY ROSENTHAL

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A new style of political campaigning has emerged in this year's election race. A strong focus on social media presence has caused a rise in young voter participation.

Major social media outlets continue to feature the presidential race, with Snapchat creating new filters and live stories for caucuses, Facebook publishing political polls and election-related hashtags trending on Twitter and Instagram.

When it comes to catering to the 18-24 year old crowd, Republican businessman Donald Trump and Democrat Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont are winning the game. These two candidates are often credited for bringing young voters to the polls.

"Undoubtedly, Trump and Sanders are appealing to our generation. They have tapped into frustration that our democracy is controlled by special interest groups," Greg Manz, deputy state director for the Carson America campaign, said. "However, I think we're seeing more political engagement by millennials because of their realization that a \$19 trillion debt is unsustainable and puts their future at risk."

Fox News correspondent Kimberly Guilfoyle said Sanders' ex-

SEE ELECTION PAGE 4

Startup predicts employee satisfaction by the numbers

MORGAN WALKER

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As graduation draws near, the top priority for college seniors is landing a job. This reality can be intimidating, considering the unemployment rate for young college graduates currently sits at 7.2 percent, according to the Economic Policy Institute.

In today's workforce, finding a job may not be the most challenging issue — however, finding one you enjoy is an even more daunting task. According

to a report conducted by the Conference Board, 52.3 percent of Americans are unhappy at

Zyn Careers, a new startup business in Oxford that specializes in cultural fit, is attempting to change this statistic.

Alex Ray, co-founder of Zyn, Ole Miss alum and Harvard Business School MBA candidate, said he realized job satisfaction was an issue after interning for a company where he felt he didn't fit in with the company culture.

"I needed to be able to figure out what would make me happy at work," Ray said. "So, I started researching job satisfaction and couldn't really find anything that would give me direction."

Ray came across the idea of cultural fit, how well an employee will fit in with the culture of a company. After months of research, Ray and co-founder and chief technology officer Caleb Robinson developed an algorithm designed to predict cultural fit and how happy an individual would be working for a certain company.

SEE STARTUP PAGE 3



PHOTO BY: KAMERA GRIFFIN

Drew Maliniak, chief operating officer at Zyn Careers, helps predict employee satisfaction.

opinion

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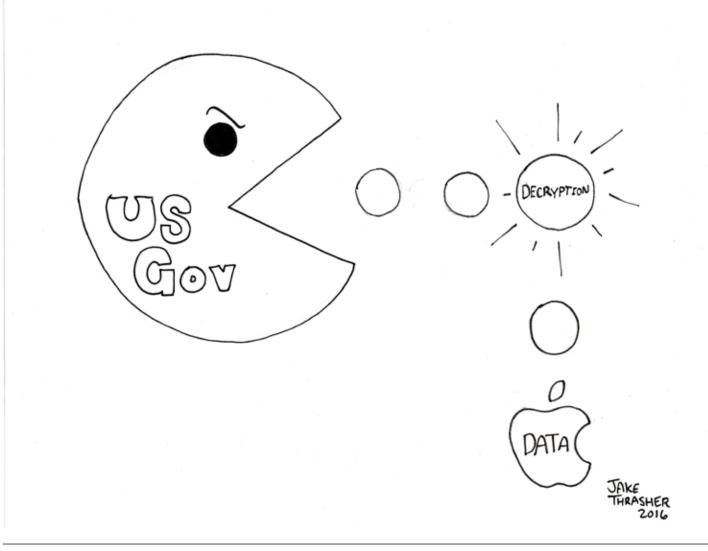
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COLUMN

How I learned to be black in Mississippi

MIA SIMS

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I have many views on what being black in America means, most of which contradict one another.

For years I believed it meant fear, discrimination, anger, pain and long suffering. I believed the depiction of a history that's been drilled into our minds repetitively, but never truly explained. The South forced me to believe these assertions were true, and the world beyond the South proved even worse.

It started with my grandmother. The narrative I will tell is a combination of my perception of what happened to her and with stories I was told growing up, neither of which came from her, but are factual, to say the least.

She was young and innocent. She cleaned houses with her mother for a living. It was unusual that she cleaned alone, but this day Mary took on double duty at Mr. Jones's home, deciding she could handle the task herself. As she cleaned, he watched her and pondered his next move. He knew that if he acted on his thoughts, no one would ever catch him. He knew she'd stay silent forever, or else.

Then it happened: the rape. Her innocence was torn into pieces, encrypting the memory in her mind forever. Her soft cries for help went unnoticed by anyone who could hear; a despicable crime to be solved by no one.

The rape damaged her, and even worse, the product of that evening was growing inside of her. She was taunted, ashamed. But she never showed fear, worry, anger or hate.

She had a baby boy. Mr. Jones's wife wanted him dead. Mary protected him. She loved him unconditionally. He survived.

That child is my father.

It's worth mentioning that Mr. Jones isn't the actual name of my grandmother's rapist. We never discovered who he was. His identity died with her. I never met my grandfather, and neither did my dad.

My grandmother died this year from a brain hemorrhage while she was cleaning a house. She was 77. The family that she worked for was aware that she was ill, and they still allowed her to work. She was abused during life and death. From the story the medics told us, the family found her slumped over, unconscious on a bed. No one knew how long she'd been there, but one thing was certain: she was dead when EMTs found her.

Those people never contacted us, not to explain what happened or to share their condolences.

What I've realized from my grandmother's tragic experi-

ences and my own personal experiences with discrimination is, if you live a life full of peace and equality, outside parties can't interfere.

My grandmother was raped and died under the hands and noses of white people, but did not once speak negatively about them.

For a while I didn't quite understand it, but now I do— and it forces me to ask myself why something as simple as the color of another person's skin should effect me at all.

We are all human, each person varying in characteristics and interests. What does color have to do with anything?

I've started to believe that race was a label created to keep humans separated forever, hating each other to keep control.

If we're all human, why can't we act like it?

Mia is a junior journalism major from Wren.

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 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.



MEMBER NEWSPAPER



Alex Ray chief executive officer of Zyn Careers, poses for a photo in The Graduate.

PHOTO BY: KAMERA GRIFFIN

STARTUP

continued from page 1

The system is designed to work through a series of employee surveying and scientific personality tests.

"We go and talk to companies to get an understanding of what their culture is," Ray said. "Then, a job seeker goes and takes a five minute personality test, where he rates different aspects of culture either important or not, and then we use that to figure out what types of companies would match him best, based on a company's pro-

Once an individual takes the personality test, he or she will receive a "Zyn score" ranging from 1-100, which is how well the individual will match with a particular company.

Ray said the results from the matching system have been extremely favorable so far.

"The people we said would be happy at their jobs or internships were generally pretty happy, and the people we said wouldn't be happy generally weren't," Ray said.

Graduate accounting student Madison Blankenship said she used the Zyn job-seeking system last summer and scored a

Zyn score of 92 out of 100 with PwC, PricewaterhouseCoopers.

"I took the survey during my search for an internship and ended up working for the firm Zyn suggested," Blankenship said. "I absolutely loved it and now I am going to work there full time."

Zyn Careers is the first system created to help employers optimize their cultural fit and help job seekers find satisfaction within their careers.

"We think you can get the most happiness by enjoying working with people and being in a company you care for," Ray said.

Zyn Careers intends to increase their company database from 125 companies to 250.

Princeton graduate and UM law student Drew Maliniak, chief officer of operations, said Zyn hopes to reach its goal and be "up and running" for job seekers by May 2016 - preferably, in time for graduation.

Currently, individuals visiting the Zyn website are encouraged to provide their email address in order to register for the job seeker application. UM students, specifically, will gain early access to the website one week before anyone else if they sign up via email before the launch date, Maliniak said.

Zyn Careers also offers resume building and career coaching for \$99 for UM students as well. Maliniak said he believes he can use his real world experience to help UM

students build their resumes and ultimately land a great job.

"I have probably sent out four to five hundred resumes, and I went through learning how to network, what kind of jobs I was looking for and where I would fit in," Maliniak said. "I can give people a quick game plan in 30 minutes based on my experience."

Zyn Careers ultimately aims to increase retention, employee productivity and job satisfaction by building a matching system which includes a vast number of companies, job seekers and new college graduates.

"The way it ends up running is essentially like an eHarmony for jobs," Maliniak said. "We bring common sense to a computer algorithm."





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news

FTK

continued from page 1

more money than previous years.

According to RebelTHON's Facebook page, RebelTHON raised \$42,876 earlier this month. There will also be a bigger turnout in 2016, since 1,100 dancers and counting are registered, and only 612 dancers participated last year. The top fundraising teams for RebelTHON are Kappa Alpha Theta, Phi Mu and Chi Omega, all having raised more than \$5,000 for the cause.

At the finale, participants will get to meet and hear stories from patients at Blair E.

"It is a tough 12 hours — you get tired, both physically and emotionally — but the pain is part of the dance marathon and it is absolutely worth it," Cotelo said. "We are standing in solidarity with all of the patients that go through much more pain and with the parents and doctors that stand for more than 12 hours when attending to the kids or performing surgery."

Junior political science and journalism major Bess Nichols is a morale captain for RebelTHON and will be keeping people motivated throughout the dance marathon. She said participating in the dance marathon is a reminder to not take blessings for granted.

"We have legs, we're in good health - so many people aren't," Nichols said. "(The) dance marathon is a great way to raise awareness of the struggle that patients and their families face everyday."

VOTE

continued from page 1

plosive growth is an "exciting way" for students facing oppressive debt to get involved on "Fox and Friends." At the Iowa caucus on Feb. 1, Sanders' campaign cheered, "What Iowa has begun tonight is a political revolution."

Millennial voters are excited about the possibility of getting behind the beginning of an exciting new era in politics, and it certainly doesn't hurt that Sanders has tailored his campaign specifically to them.

Sanders has more than 1.3 million followers on Twitter and has experienced the most rapid Twitter growth this year, with Donald Trump following closely behind him. But Sanders' popularity isn't limited to cyberspace: at his University of Iowa rally Jan. 30, Sanders drew a crowd of over 4,000.

Students waited in line for over 12 hours to hear from the senator and his lineup of allstar supporters who catered to

TAKE THE ONLINE POLL: WHICH CANDIDATES SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE IS THE STRONGEST?

B. TED CRUZ A. HILARY CLINTON C. BERNIE SANDERS D. DONALD TRUMP

HAVE YOU USED SOCIAL MEDIA TO STAY UPDATED WITH THE ELECTION?

A. YES B. NO

WOULD YOU VOTE FOR A CANDIDATE SOLELY ON THEIR SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM?

A. YES B. NO

the millennial crowd. Vampire Weekend performed and actor Josh Hutcherson fired up the crowd of hopeful, excited voters.

"It's his passion," Brad Blay-

lock, a general studies major and Sanders supporter, said. "He wants to help the people. He loves people. I trust that Bernie will always do the right thing. His ideas are new. I think our system is broken. We don't need a better version of the system, we need a new system, and Bernie is offering that."

Jack Walecki, an intern for Carly for America Super PAC, said the new technology-based forms of communication, like Twitter, have forced candidates

to use them as well. Throughout this debate season the candidates haven't been able to escape social media: moderators for debates have incorporated questions asked by Facebook users and have also streamed questions submitted by YouTube stars.

"They've also allowed voters to have more input in the political process as they can voice their opinions at any time on the Internet," Walecki said.



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'Anton': The all-female comedy that is all laughs

BERNARD BLISSETT

bblisset@go.olemiss.edu

With warm weather just around the corner, why not lift your damp spirits and give those abs a little workout? The University of Mississippi theatre department is now performing this season's spring comedy, "Anton In Show Business," at the Meek Auditorium from now until the end of February.

"Anton," written by Jane Martin, is a hilarious look into life in the theater and struggles of the stage. The play follows three actresses— Lisabette, Holly and Casey— as they pursue their dream of performing Anton Chekhov's "The Three Sisters" at a small theater in San Antonio, Texas. As the three women navigate through the colorful world of American theater, meeting equally animated players in the preforming arts, they soon discover what "show business" is really all about.

"Since it's a theater piece about how the theater works," Dex Edwards the show's director said. "They'll get a good sense of how directors work with actors, how actors work in rehearsals and how rehearsals run or fall apart. They'll think, 'Oh, that's what theater is like from the inside."

Every role is portrayed by a female actress, including the male

"My favorite thing about the show is that it's all women," Mary Kate Halpin actress said. "I think this will really connect with viewers because women in comedy is such a hot topic and the women in the show are hilarious. They all do a great job of playing men and women equally.'

Actress Jordin Bell, who is the understudy for the show's character 'Casey,' said she felt the same

"I think it's incredible," said Bell. "In many movies and television shows today, the majority of the main characters we are supposed to care about are men. I think it's very important for people our age



Ole Miss Theatre students during final dress rehearsal of "Anton in Show Business." The show will run February 18-28 in Meek Auditorium.

partment."

The Ole Miss Theatre faculty's committee is assigned to choose a season of shows each school year, and base their decisions around having a variety of shows.

"In the fall, the department did a classic musical from the '60s called 'Hair," Edwards said. "They also did a serious and edgy play titled 'Teddy Ferrara'. And now, to continue that balance, we're doing a contemporary comedy."

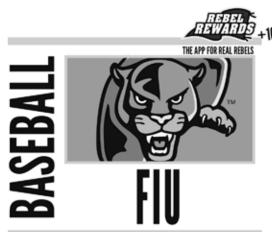
"Anton In Show Business" will run until Feb. 28. Tickets can be purchased at the Student Box Office inside the Union.



THIS WEEK IN OLE MISS SPORTS







SWAYZE FIELD • 4 PM

SATURDAY



PALMER/SALLOUM TENNIS CENTER • 1 PM



SWAYZE FIELD • 1:30 PM

SUNDAY





SWAYZE FIELD • 12 PM





PALMER/SALLOUM TENNIS CENTER • 1 PM



THE PAVILION • 4 PM On Man

sports

Diamond Rebels look to use improved depth in 2016



Errol Robinson throws the ball during a game last year.

FILE PHOTO: THOMAS GRANING

BRIAN SCOTT RIPPEE

bsrippee@go.olemiss.edu

Coach Mike Bianco might feel differently about his roster when Ole Miss takes the field Friday in its season opener.

Depth is important to any baseball team, but its importance is amplified in a league like the SEC, and depth was not a luxury Ole Miss enjoyed in 2015. That team lost a lot from the world series team a year before, and a lot of guys were taking on major roles with little-to-no experience.

"Last year, in this moment in front of the microphone, I wanted to believe that we returned a good group of kids from the 2014 team that went to the College World Series," Bianco said at a press conference on Tuesday. "The truth of the matter is, we returned three freshmen that really were outstanding, but were in a totally different role."

Those freshmen are now sophomores, and the sophomores are now juniors with even more experience. The Rebels return seven of nine starters from a year ago, as opposed to three in 2015. If you count junior outfielder Connor Cloyd, who started late in the year, then it's really eight out of nine.

It wasn't that the talent was not there - it was an experience issue, or lack thereof. A year ago, 71 percent of Ole Miss' at-bats came from first or second year players, according to Bianco, and that number reflects their lack of experience more than anything. Experience often produces depth, and with another year under

SEE BASEBALL PAGE 7



ACROSS

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HOW TO PLAY

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DIFFICULTY LEVEL

EASY

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sports

BASEBALL

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their belts, the young players have gained experience, and the team has gained depth.

"Looking at those guys now, they aren't freshmen or starting their sophomore years anymore. They are juniors," Bianco said. "The truth of the matter is on opening day, the 10 guys more than likely in the lineup would have started last year, including the pitcher."

Bianco noted that this has to be one of the most experienced teams he's had, in terms of position players.

The depth comes in a lot of different areas, too. Freshman D.J. Miller, who is listed as a catcher, will get looks in the outfield as well as designated hitter because of his bat. Kyle Watson, an infielder by trade, started 38 games for Ole Miss a year ago as an outfielder and will be looking to find a role this year.

Pitching is still one area where experience is lacking, but depth is not. Ole Miss signed 11 pitchers in its 2015 recruiting class and hopes to get immediate contributions from some of them.

The weekend rotation will feature returning starter junior Brady Bramlett on Friday, followed by fellow juniors Chad Smith and Sean Johnson on Saturday and Sunday. Johnson and Smith have never pitched in the SEC before, but Bramlett, who was in the same position a year ago, has confidence in the two.

"We're in the toughest conference in the country. Anybody can beat anybody on any given day," Bramlett said. "But I have no doubt in my mind those two guys will be successful."

The increase in depth and experience could also allow Bianco to try different things as a coach, like being more active on the base paths.

"I think we are really going to run. We are going to be able to steal some bases. And not only does that come with the athleticism, but we are older," Bianco said. "It has been my experience that, when you are older, you tend to run more. One of the reasons for that is



Ole Miss infielders talk during a pitching change in a game last season.

FILE PHOTO

the older guys play with a little more confidence."

Ole Miss stole 57 bases in 85 tries a year ago, which was good for 11th in the SEC. That's a number that Bianco would like to improve upon this year.

The Rebels open the season

on Friday against Florida International. First pitch is set for 4 p.m.

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sports

Rebel tennis prepares for tough weekend at home

BRADLEY BLAYLOCK

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The Ole Miss men's tennis team is coming off a thrilling victory against the fourthranked Baylor Bears with a score of 4-3. The Rebels not only won, but looked really good doing it.

The Rebels won the doubles point and split the singles points evenly. This victory was a massive one for the team, and they are now 3-1 for the

The Rebels have a very busy weekend ahead of them this weekend as they take on instate rival Southern Miss Saturday at 1 p.m. Southern Miss is 5-3 and coming off a loss to Samford.

The Eagles are led by their No. 1 singles player Tarun Surat, a senior from Loyola, Louisiana. Tarun Surat will take on the Rebels' No. 1 singles player Stefan Lindmark. It will be a very fun match to watch, but I believe Lindmark will win. This is a match the Rebels should be able to pull out.

On Sunday at 1 p.m., the Rebels are playing the University of Memphis in Oxford. The Tigers are currently sit-



Zvonimir Babic serves the ball in a match last season.

ting at 5-1 and have very impressive wins over Vanderbilt

country.

The Tigers have three really and Harvard, two teams that talented doubles teams led by are both in the top 25 of the their No. 1 team, Louis Ass-

er and Kai Lemke. Their No.1 singles player is Ryan Penis-

This match could very well

come down to the doubles point. Asser/Lemke of Memphis will play against the Rebels' No.1 doubles team, Zvonimir Babic and Filip Kraljevic.

This doubles match alone is reason enough to come out and watch. The Rebels have a tough weekend ahead of them. Ole Miss is looking to host their second consecutive regional this season, and will have an opportunity to garner two quality wins this weekend against these respective universities.

The Rebels have been battle-tested early this season, and have already overcome adversity against Baylor.

Ole Miss is only two weeks from opening Southeastern Conference play, so these matches will prepare them to play in one of the toughest tennis conferences in the land. The Rebels will open on the road in SEC play at Tennessee, before traveling to take on a talented Kentucky team.

My prediction for the weekend is that Ole Miss will beat the University of Southern Mississippi by a score of 4-0 and that they will beat the Tigers in a tightly-contested battle by a score of 4-2.



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