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**March 21, 2016**

The Daily Mississippian

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# MISSISSIPPIAN

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI SERVING OLE MISS AND OXFORD SINCE 1911 Visit theDMonline.com @thedm\_news

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Crime Blotter



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Julien Baker at Proud Larry's



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Diamond Rebels win weekend series



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## Contextual plaque faces criticism



PHOTO BY: ARIEL COBBERT

**LANA FERGUSON**  
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Criticism from multiple parties has surfaced since Chancellor Jeffrey Vitter announced plans for a contextual plaque in front of the Confederate soldier statue in the Circle on Friday, March 11.

The news release contained the proposed text for the plaque, which was drafted by a committee Provost Morris Stocks appointed.

Later that day, the UM NAACP released a statement in opposition to the wording of the plaque. The group called for the administration to “revamp the proposed language” so it more accurately explains the memorial’s original intent and its history.

“The administration of this incredibly diverse university woefully fails its students, faculty and staff when it does not accurately acknowledge the true history of the Confederacy,” the statement said, citing slavery as a motivation of the Confederate party during the Civil War.

A meeting to discuss the plaque’s language will take place Thursday between Vitter, the contextualization committee and the UM NAACP.

The news release Vitter sent out in a mass email to the campus community said the plaque is part of the University’s continued efforts to recognize its history.

The plaque is designed to contextualize the history of the memorial statue. A concrete pad for

the plaque has already been laid and the plaque itself is planned to be in place by the end of the month.

Stocks appointed four committee members to draft what the plaque would read. The committee members included: assistant to the Chancellor for multicultural affairs Donald Cole, African American studies director Charles Ross, Professor Emeritus of history David Sansing and retired chief of staff to the Chancellor Andy Mullins.

Both a copy of Vitter’s news release and the UM NAACP’s statement can be found at thedmonline.com.

The Daily Mississippian will follow the story as it develops.

## Power outages on campus to continue

**AUSTIN HILLE**  
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Campus squirrels have raised eyebrows in the facilities planning department.

Spontaneous loss of power has been a consistent problem for the past handful of months throughout campus. While the causes of these planned and unplanned outages vary, the squirrels are chief among them.

“The most common cause for the power outages experienced on campus is directly related to the squirrel population,” Ashton Pearson, facilities management director, said. “More often than not, squirrels will make multiple phase contact on overhead lines, which creates a short circuit. When this occurs, it causes fuses to blow.”

Pearson said other common reasons for loss of power include routine equipment failures, such as fuses blowing because of transient voltage.

“This is what occurred (on March 6) when a line fuse blew in the residence hall area of campus,” Pearson said. “The line fuse that

blew caused a voltage spike at the switchgear in the Grove, resulting in additional fuses blowing.”

While facilities management is constantly working to prevent these sorts of system failures, many of these incidents are merely unavoidable in order to ensure the overall safety of students and longevity of electrical equipment, according to Pearson.

Additionally, facilities management requires planned outages in order to complete various construction projects across campus, some of which may also occur throughout the rest of the spring semester.

“It should be understood that fuses act as a first line of defense to protect the campus circuits and electrical equip-

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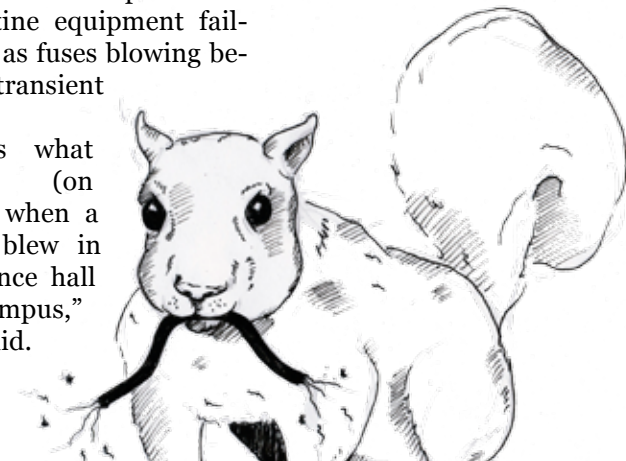


ILLUSTRATION BY: JAKE THRASHER

## Toastmasters teach communication and leadership

**ANNABELLE KNEF**  
agknf@go.olemiss.edu

The Ole Miss Toastmasters, a public speaking club, will celebrate its third year on campus this June.

The Toastmasters group promotes communication and leadership skills and is open to students, faculty and staff, welcoming members at all levels of experience.

Deetra Wiley, who works in the Office of Information Technology as a systems analyst and business communications spe-

cialist, has served two terms as Toastmasters’ vice president of membership. Wiley said she appreciates her position because it allows her to promote the club, interact with guests and establish stronger relationships with existing members.

Ole Miss Toastmasters was chartered on June 12, 2013, and Wiley joined around this time while also acting as joint member of the city of Oxford’s Tallahatchie Toastmasters group.

Wiley earned her master’s degree in higher education and student personnel in 2012;

during the same year, she began her ascent in earning top honors from the organization. First, it was the “Competent Communicator” education award. Later, in March 2015, she received the “Advanced Communicator Bronze” distinction and then “Competent Leader” in September of 2015.

Wiley said she has plans to work toward becoming a “Distinguished Toastmaster,” the highest honor within the organization, which demonstrates a superior level of leadership



FILE PHOTO: OLE MISS TOASTMASTERS

Toastmaster club members pose for a photo at a meeting.

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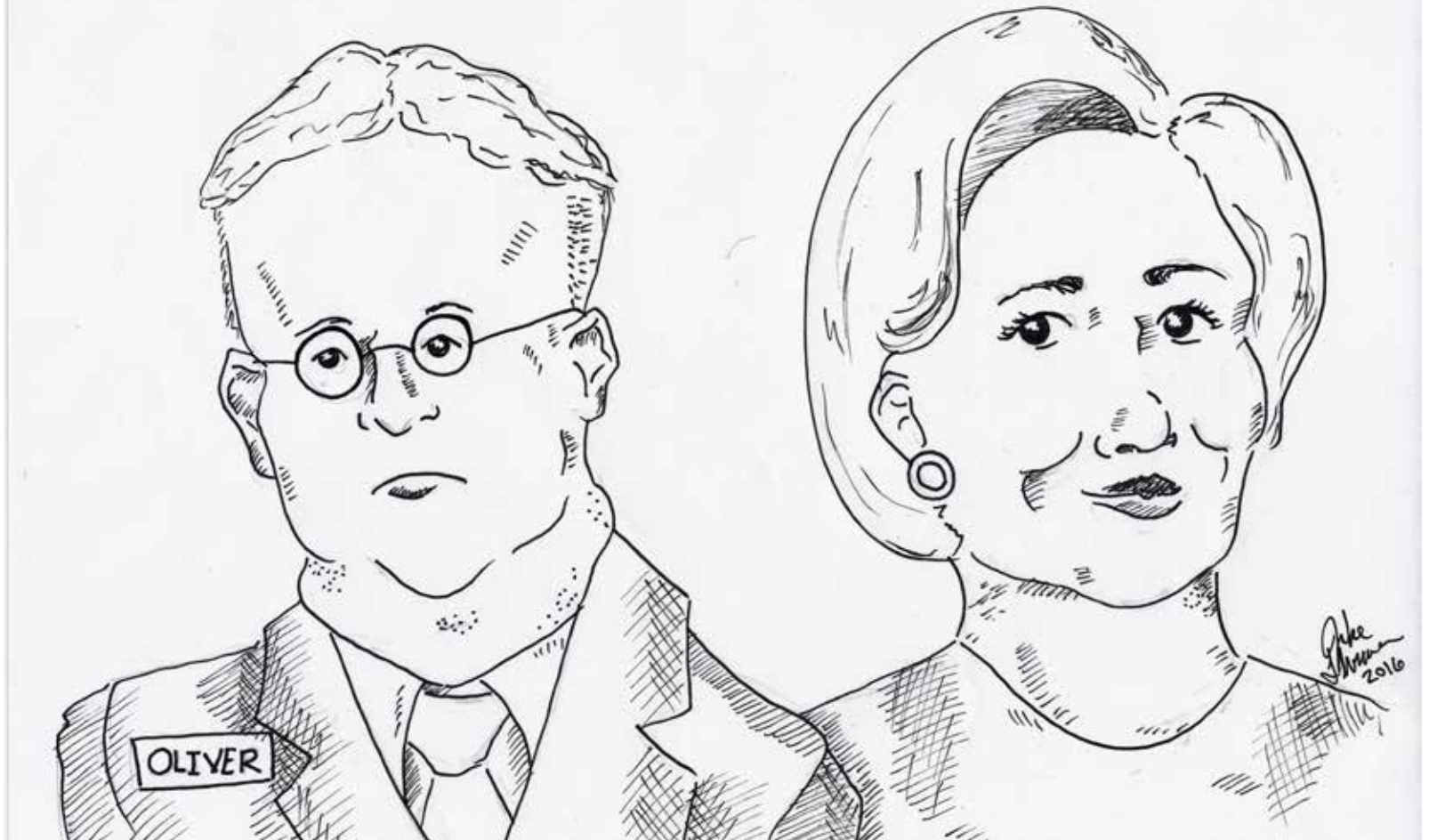
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*“You know, Rep. Karl Oliver, I can teach you a thing or two about handling emails”*



**COLUMN**

## Vietnam memorial: Scars from an unjust war



**HOLLY BAER**  
thedmopinion@gmail.com

I'm a staunch pacifist, but I love war memorials. There's something about giant granite or marble slabs honoring the heroic dead that produces stillness in my heart.

Over spring break, I had the opportunity to go to Washington, D.C. for a day. It's impossible to cram much of the historic city into the few hours that we had, but we walked through the National Mall and saw the

big monuments. I walked past the Washington Monument. I stood on the spot where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke about his earnest dream for America. I read the words of Lincoln and felt small as I walked along the pillars of the World War II pavilion.

None of these created the quiet sadness that the Vietnam Memorial did.

The Vietnam Memorial stands alone, a short walk from the other monuments. A black granite slab sits built into a small hill, and the names of the Vietnam dead — as well as those missing and unaccounted for — are carved into the wall in the order that they were lost to us.

In one moment, I felt the weight of humanity wash over me.

The average age of the people killed on the American side of the war was 22. As I approach

my 22nd birthday, the weight of that number hung even heavier on me. Twenty-five percent of these men were drafted and had no say in whether or not they'd join the war front. They weren't inherently patriotic or duty-bound. They just lost the luck of the draw.

I ultimately think the Vietnam War was unjust. While I would never support the degradation of those who served, staring at the wall carved with dead men's and women's names solidified how needless and cruel such violence is. Too many people die in these conflicts that have no obvious moral root. Like the Korean War, the Vietnam War was another proxy war for the Cold War. Communist and anti-Communist forces fought and died in a false battle for ideological supremacy.

In those wars, neither side truly wins. Leaders of nations

watch and direct the carnage and decay of human life and dignity, claiming to seek justice — either for the proletariat or for American ideas of social justice and development. We sent our sons to die for a cause they didn't necessarily believe in because we had to prove our national worth in bullet holes rather than diplomacy.

As I walked silently along the wall, I read the names of the dead and wondered how many more men and women will die in wars with no winner, no victory. How many more men and women will die because those directing the hand of violence find plenty of enemies, but few victims and even less humanity.

I'm haunted by the cries of soldiers who have yet to die.

*Holly Baer is a senior religious studies major from Flowood.*

**THE DAILY  
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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.



**MISSISSIPPI  
press  
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MEMBER NEWSPAPER

## TOASTMASTERS

continued from page 1

and communication skills. She hopes to achieve her goal by 2018.

“Always push yourself to new heights,” Wiley said. “It’s when you’re not pushing that you may be digressing or failing.”

A typical Toastmasters meeting consists of three member speeches averaging seven minutes in length, which are evaluated by a designated club member. Other activities in a club meeting are outlined by an agenda set by club officers.

Wiley said the group is an ideal place for anyone who feels uncomfortable in front of audiences, as well as those who already are polished speakers.

Mentors are available to help facilitate progress at any level of accomplishment, she said,

as well as provide constructive feedback to encourage further success.

“Whatever weakness or strength you may have when it comes to speaking, presenting or leading, we can help push you to greater heights,” she said.

Wiley said the group provides members with the opportunity to become effective leaders by letting them assume different leadership roles in club meetings.

Catherine Hultman, who works for the University’s Distance Education Testing Lab, is a two-year member of Toastmasters and currently serves as the club’s vice president of public relations. In her position, Hultman said she is responsible for publicizing the group to prospective members.

Hultman said there are a number of reasons anyone should join the club. For her, joining Toastmasters was about finding a social network.

Hultman said the University’s Toastmasters Club comprises a diverse group of people with a common set of goals, from private business owners to international students who are trying to perfect their English-speaking skills.

“Toastmasters Club is a really fun and supportive group of people,” Hultman said.

Toastmasters members meet the second and fourth Thursday of every month in Holman Hall. Prospective members are invited to attend club meetings as guests. Members are required to pay semi-annual dues and a new member fee.

There are approximately 20 Toastmasters members in the University’s club and approximately 12 attend club meetings, dependent on individual members’ schedules, Hultman said.

“I think Toastmasters is a good resource for students to have better skills in communication,” Hultman said.

## OUTAGES

continued from page 1

ment,” Pearson said. “It would be impractical to say that there will not be any power outages — scheduled or unscheduled — over the remainder of the semester. While we work to minimize outages and the disruptions power outages cause, it is impossible to eliminate all variables.”

Given the frequency of these

losses of power, however, many students still feel the University is not taking the necessary steps to ensure a productive learning environment on campus.

“I definitely do not think the University does enough about the constant power issues,” freshman English major Malloory Dungan said. “When you live in a dorm that houses over 500 girls, it is very scary and dangerous when there is no power. It makes it nearly impossible to get anything done. With almost

all of my homework or studying being done online these days, it makes it very hard when you have no power to be able to complete anything.”

Pearson said this concern may not be something students have to deal with for much longer.

“Facilities management is very sensitive to the reliability of service to the campus and is very aware of the inconvenience this creates for the campus community,” Pearson said. “A new project, referred



MAR. 11- MAR. 17

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Alarm: 36  
Animal Complaint: 7  
Auto Accident: 24  
Burglary of a Residence: 1  
Careless Driving: 16  
Civil Matter: 1  
Disturbance: 13  
DUI: 4  
Harassment (General): 2  
Improper Parking: 4  
Loud Music/Party: 7  
Missing Person: 1  
Reported Gunshots: 2  
Scam: 1  
Shoplifting: 1  
Simple Assault: 1  
Suspicious Person: 19



Burglary: 1  
Careless Driving: 1  
Fraud (False Pretenses): 1  
Petit Larceny: 1  
Public Drunk: 2  
Speeding: 1  
Suspicious Person: 1  
Suspicious Vehicle: 3  
Vehicle Stop: 22

Both the burglary and petit larceny incidents occurred at the JD Williams Library on campus.

to as the Grove Switch Project, is slated to begin in the very near future. This project will replace switchgear in the Grove that has reached its functional obsolescence. Most of the new switchgear will be placed underground.”

Pearson said as more electrical distribution equipment is placed underground, reliability of the electrical distribution system will improve, reducing outages due to weather and animal-related incidents.

In the meantime, however,

students are still concerned with the effects of these frequent outages on their day-to-day lives.

“If it is already dark outside, then it makes it difficult to do normal things in my dorm,” freshman Avery Nader said. “Most of the time the only light source I can use is my cellphone and that won’t work once the battery dies. I don’t necessarily believe what the school is doing is helpful. The outages happen too often for most students’ likings.”

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## Young artists brings honest, emotional show to Oxford

**CODY THOMASON**

csthoma1@go.olemiss.edu

The first thing that becomes apparent when listening to Julien Baker's debut album, "Sprained Ankle," is the unadulterated emotion and honesty that Baker pours into her songs.

Baker is open about struggles with love, death, alcohol and her own mistakes as a lone guitar softly plays off the rise and fall of her voice for much of the album. It's certainly not an easy thing to do, being so honest and revealing, but Baker sees the importance of being so open with her audience.

"I think it does absolutely serve, like, a therapeutic purpose, being



COURTESY: MUSIC.6131RECORDS.COM/ALBUM/SPRAINED-ANKLE

able to write songs about that," Baker said. "I think that's why anybody writes songs, right? To work out an emotion by turning it into art. But then sometimes it's difficult to put that art on display, and it feels really vulnerable, but I think it's rewarding in that, when I get to talk to people that connect with it, or they have shared experiences, it reminds me why it's important to be that transparent."

Baker, at just 20 years old, has already had an eventful career, despite only just releasing her album in October 2015. One of her songs, "Everybody Does," has topped over two-and-a-half million listens on Spotify, her album made various best-of-2015 lists on publications such as Stereogum and Paste magazine, she's played sessions for NPR and Audiotree and is currently headlining her own tour and booked for several music festivals. Baker said it was still hard for her to believe the success of the album.

"It was strange, and there was a period of acclimation, because I didn't think it would catch on that much," Baker said. "It still is pretty surreal; I don't even believe a lot of the stuff that has happened, so I try to keep it in perspective, prioritize the right things and stay thankful."

Baker played with the band Forrister (formerly Starkillers) while growing up in Memphis, but began writing "Sprained Ankle" after leaving home to attend Middle Tennessee State University.

"I moved away from home in Memphis and moved to Murfreesboro to go to school, and I was just writing stuff that didn't necessarily feel like it fit with Forrister or Starkillers," Baker said. "(I would) just hang out in the practice spaces on the college campus, these little closet rooms with pianos, and just write alone, and I think it kind of lended itself to quieter, more inverse songs."

Baker eventually recorded these songs after her friend, Michael Henger, arranged free recording time for Baker at Spacebomb Studios in Richmond, Virginia.

"We used the free time to record kind of, like, with what we had available, and just did as many songs as we could, and then I released it on Bandcamp for three bucks until 6131 [Records] approached me about it, and was like, 'We want to do a formal release of this,' and then we re-released it at the end of last

year."

Baker has been touring around the U.S. for several months, and in May will embark on her first overseas tour, playing shows in Paris, the United Kingdom and Germany.

"I could never really afford to study abroad as a student, and so now I'm finally going to get to go explore and experience other parts of the world, and with the added pleasure of it being while I am performing music in those new places," Baker said. "So I'm just overjoyed and really excited."

Baker said touring is important because it allows her to connect with people who share a love of music.

"Touring is potentially the most precious aspect of being a musician to me, because you get to interact with so many people, strangers, and you all hang out, and the only reason you're all together in that room sharing that experience is because you all care about music that much," Baker said. "So I knew I would always do that, because I love that environment, but I had written it off as it will have to be something I do and have a day job and have to work around and have to carve out time. So now that I'm able to kind of pull back a little bit and use it to support myself and I can do it full time and have it be my passion and my employment, it's nice. It makes me motivated to do the best I can and make it the best experience for everyone involved."

Tonight will be Baker's first time playing a solo show in Oxford, but Baker has played at an Ole Miss party before with Forrister and Oxford artists Holy Ghost Electric Show and Ben Ricketts.

"It was awesome," Baker said. "It was like a mixed group of people, because we played a college house show, and it was like out on this porch, and there were several hundred people there. I had no idea it was like a big party, and I was like 'What if they don't like us what if we're not their kind of music?' And we finish our first song and they just start flipping out."

"People [in Oxford] just love music, period, and they're not going to judge you if it's not the particular type of music they want or anticipate, they're just fans of all music, so I like it, it's a really cool town," Baker said.

Julien Baker plays at 8 p.m. tonight at Proud Larry's, with Oxford band Bonus billed as the opener.



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## THIS WEEK IN OXFORD

### MONDAY

**5 p.m.** - "Lines Were Drawn" book signing - Off Square Books  
**8 p.m.** - Julien Baker with Bonus - Proud Larry's  
**8:30 p.m.** - Trivia Night - The Blind Pig  
**9:30 p.m.** - DJ Night - Rooster's

### TUESDAY

**11 a.m.** - Ole Miss Baseball vs. UT Martin - Swayze Field  
**6 p.m.** - Oxford Art Crawl  
**9:30 p.m.** - Open Mic Night - Rooster's

### WEDNESDAY

**9 p.m.** - Sister Sparrow & The Dirty Birds with Adrian Dickey - Proud Larry's  
**9:30 p.m.** - Karaoke - Rooster's  
**9:30 p.m.** - Movie Night - Lamar Lounge

### THURSDAY

**2 p.m.** - Double Decker Bus Tour - Visit Oxford  
**6 p.m.** - Keith Lee Morris with "Travelers Rest" - Off Square Books  
**6:30 p.m.** - Ole Miss Baseball vs. South Carolina - Swayze Field  
**8 p.m.** - Karaoke - Taqueria El Milagro  
**9 p.m.** - Shannon McNally - Proud Larry's

### FRIDAY

**6:30 p.m.** - Ole Miss Baseball vs. South Carolina - Swayze Field

### SATURDAY

**2 p.m.** - Ole Miss Baseball vs. South Carolina - Swayze Field  
**9 p.m.** - Oxford Artists' Guild Spring Art Show and Sale - Courthouse Lawn



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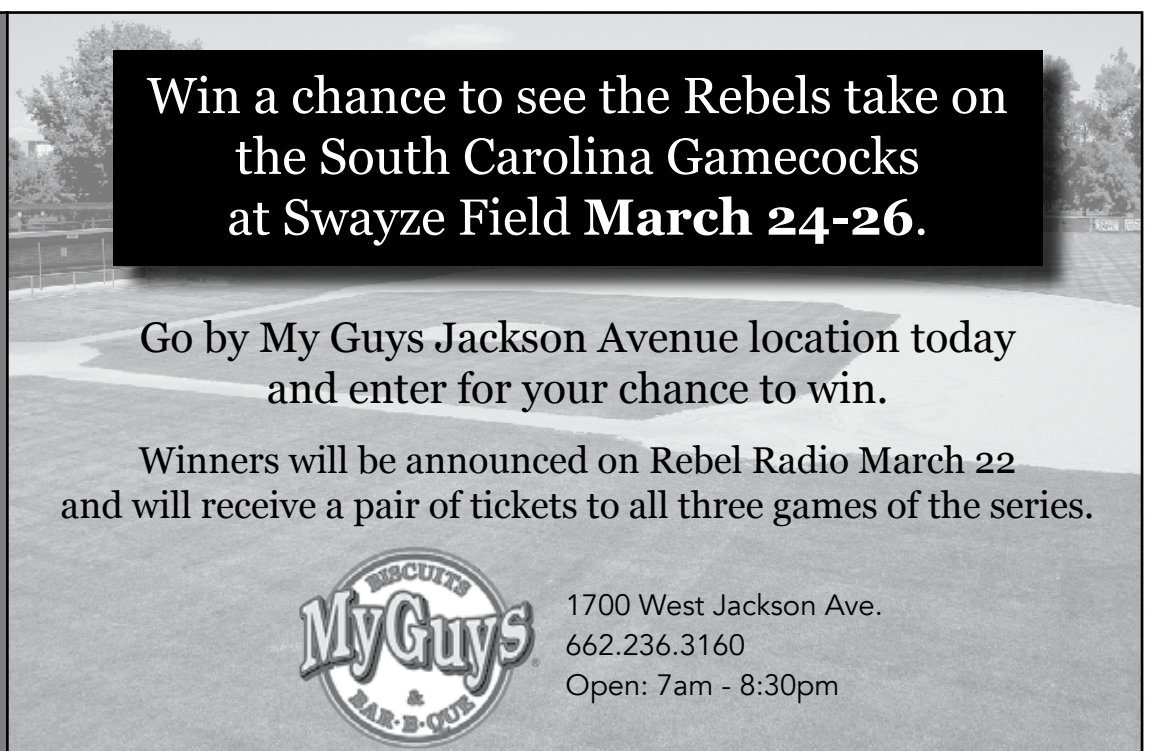
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## Basketball looks to strengthen team for next season

**COLLIN BRISTER**  
thedmsports@gmail.com

For only the third time in Andy Kennedy's 10 years in Oxford, Ole Miss won't be playing in the post-season.

However, it's not entirely fair to put that at Andy Kennedy's feet. To a man, Kennedy did wizardry getting this group to 20 wins and a winning record.

The Rebels, however, as Kennedy admitted throughout the season, were not athletic enough. They didn't shoot well enough. They couldn't put the ball on the floor and score with any consistency. They had one consistent post player in Sebastian Saiz, although Marcanvis Hymon did give the Rebels some help down low throughout the year.

It stinks Stefan Moody's last game isn't going to be in the NCAA tournament or the NIT. He was one of the best — if not the best — players that ever put on a Rebel uniform. He was tough as nails. He could shoot the lights out, (and, to be fair, that was a definite possibility before the Pavilion) and he kept Ole Miss in some games that they probably shouldn't have been in.

He's gone, though. He'll never play another game at The University of Mississippi. He'll never walk out to another starting lineup at the Pavilion. Ole Miss has to find scoring elsewhere.

They'll also have to replace Tomasz Gielo, Martavious Newby and Anthony Perez. Newby provided Ole Miss with a pretty decent perimeter defense, while Perez and Gielo had some big time buck-



PHOTO BY: LOGAN KIRKLAND

Mississippi guard Stefan Moody dribbles the ball in a game against Texas A&M. Kennedy will look for a replacement for Moody when he graduates this May.

ets throughout their careers at Ole Miss.

The Rebels do return Donte Fitpatrick-Dorsey to the point guard position, along with Rasheed Brooks at shooting guard. Sebastian Saiz will return down low, as will Marcanvis Hymon. There were bright spots this year for the

Rebels from freshmen guard Terrence Davis, as he may be one of the more athletic players on the team.

Deandre Burnett transferred from Miami this last season, and will likely be considered to replace Moody in the upcoming season.

Ole Miss needs Burnett to

score from beyond the perimeter. Ole Miss shot only 34 percent.

Ole Miss signed combo guard Breein Tyree from New Jersey, who could immediately come in and compete for playing time. The Rebels also added two big men in Tyrek Coger from Cape Fear Junior College and 6-foot-10-inch forward Nate Morris, who will help down low.

It'll be an interesting dynamic next season. Yes, Stefan Moody is gone, but Ole Miss may have more help offensively. They've added some pieces to the post to help Saiz and Hymon. They'll likely add one to two post grad transfers to come in and help immediately.

The Rebels will have a decent non-conference slate in 2015, as they'll play Memphis and Massachusetts in Oxford next year. While those teams weren't successful in the 2016 season, the likelihood is that they'll be better next year and could provide the Rebels quality win opponents before conference play. Ole Miss will also take part in the 2016 U.S. Virgin Islands Paradise Jam, another opportunity to garner quality wins.

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## Diamond Rebels take opening series at Tennessee

**BRIAN SCOTT RIPPEE**  
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Ole Miss capped off a 4-1 week on the road by taking two of three games from Tennessee including a 10-7 win on Sunday that clinched the series.

After overcoming a 3-2 loss in walk-off fashion on back to back two out hits, the Rebels rebounded on Saturday with a 6-4 in large part due to Michael Fitzsimmons two-run home run in the sixth inning that ended up being the difference in the game. Chad Smith went 4.2 innings, allowing two on six hits, and struck out seven, in

the no decision.

Possibly the most telling stat of the weekend, came in Sunday's series clinching win, as the Rebels went 8-17 with runners in scoring position as it scored 10 runs on 15 hits.

**PITCHING MVP: BRADY BRAMLETT**

Though he did not earn the win on Friday night, Bramlett pitched well, allowing two runs on four hits in 5.2 innings. He kept Ole Miss in the game, holding a 1-0 lead going into the sixth before allowing two runs, ending his day.

**OFFENSIVE MVP: J.B. WOODMAN**

The junior outfielder had a extremely productive weekend for the Rebels. Woodman hit a

homerun on Friday night to tie the game at two. Woodman then would add two hits on Saturday afternoon, before hitting a double and scoring a run in Sunday's contest. Woodman hit .571 over the weekend.

Ole Miss did not play its best baseball by any means over the last week, but at the end of the day it went 4-1, and was a walk-off hit away from sweeping its SEC opening series on the the road.

The offense, which had been spotty of late, came to life on Sunday scoring 10 runs, and needing all ten of them as Tennessee mounted a late rally. The pitching was not what it has been for



PHOTO BY: JOSH MCCOY

Sean Johnson celebrates at a game earlier this season.

the early part of the year, but was good enough when it came down to it. The Rebels host Tennessee-Martin in the midweek before playing host to South Carolina next weekend.

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