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Mike Bianco contract extended for four years



HANNAH GRACE BIGGS / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Head coach Mike Bianco fist bumps a fan prior to Ole Miss's game against USM on Sunday, June 6.

KATE KIMBERLIN

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The Delta Gamma chapter of Phi Kappa Tau is receiving a one-year suspension from campus from the Office of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct, according to an email Brent Marsh, the vice chancellor of student affairs, sent on June 17. This action comes from the violation of an agreement made after the chapter faced consequences for a hazing investigation in June 2020.

According to the email, the Office of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct imposed the suspension on Phi Kappa Tau on June 3, and it will last until May 2022.

The Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life have not made an official statement regarding this decision and their website still lists the chapter as active. This is one of two cases of hazing that happened throughout fraternity chapters, including the incident with Pi Kappa Alpha's Gamma Iota chapter.

"While we had hoped for a more favorable outcome upon entering into the 2020 agreement, failure to abide by the agreement makes suspension the appropriate sanction to hold the chapter accountable," Marsh wrote in the email.

The chapter will be eligible to return to campus in May 2022, as established by the same agreement. They will then have to undergo the expansion process through the Interfraternity Council and the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life if they wish to return.

"We hope that our entire fraternity and sorority community can use this as an opportunity for learning and growth," Marsh wrote. "If Phi Kappa Tau chooses to return to the university in the future, we hope that its members will strive to uphold the organization's mission of championing a lifelong commitment to brotherhood, learning, ethical leadership and exemplary character."

LONDYN LORENZ

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Head baseball coach Mike Bianco will be at the helm for another four years, per his and Vice Chancellor for Intercollegiate Athletics Keith Carter's statements. Bianco's extension, which is the maximum for public employees according to Mississippi law, was announced on Sunday.

This came amidst rumors that Bianco would become LSU's head coach, as former coach Paul Mainieri retired. Bianco has many ties to LSU. He is an LSU graduate and former baseball player, and his son, Drew Bianco, is a current player on the team. Bianco interviewed for the position last week, however, he was not offered the position. Bianco's contract extension was announced one day after the Lafayette Daily Advertiser released this news on Saturday.

Bianco has had a successful 21 years as head coach, going 812-462-1. His postseason performances have been less successful, with only seven super regional bids and a single trip to Omaha for the College World Series.

Despite some postseason hurdles, the Rebels are clearly one of the top programs across the NCAA. Just this week, pitcher Doug Nikhazy was announced as a unanimous First Team All-American; Nikhazy, Taylor Broadway and Jake Gonzalez were announced as NCBWA All-Americans and Gonzalez, Derek Diamond and Hayden Dunhurst were named members of the USA Baseball Collegiate National Team.

Despite some grumblings from Rebel Nation and some postseason struggles, Mike Bianco has led the boys in powder blue to become a powerhouse in college baseball.

Phi Kappa Tau suspended from campus for one year



MADDY QUON / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

The Phi Kappa Tau house will stand empty for one year as the Office of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct imposed a suspension on Ole Miss's Delta Gamma chapter of the fraternity.

Alcohol delivery available July 1st in Mississippi

VIOLET JIRA

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The delivery of alcoholic beverages, beer, light-wine, and light spirits will soon be legal in Mississippi. On April 14 Governor Tate Reeves signed into law House Bill (HB) 1135 which legalized alcohol delivery. The measure will take effect on July 1.

Following the coronavirus pandemic, the demand for alcohol delivery service

skyrocketed nationwide as people waited out lockdowns in their homes. Mississippians suffered due to laws that banned any and all delivery of alcohol.

Effective July 1, alcohol delivery will be legal, but not without restriction and regulation. Deliveries can only be made within 30 miles of the store selling the alcohol. Deliveries cannot be made in dry counties or dry municipalities and delivery

drivers must be 21 or older.

Liquor stores in Oxford are already planning to take advantage of this new law and offer delivery, like Kiamie Package Liquor Store on Jackson Ave.

"I feel that Oxford is a great market for delivery. It will allow customers to find the best service, selection, and value without leaving their home," owner AJ Kiamie said. "We will get our permit and plan to start delivery the

second or third week of July."

Licensed alcohol retailers may deliver alcohol once they are granted a delivery service permit. Alternatively, licensed alcohol retailers may engage in a contract with an independent delivery service that has been granted a delivery service permit. The delivery service permit, which must be acquired through the Department of Revenue, will have a \$500 permit fee.

Kiamie Package Liquor

Store has opted to hire their own drivers.

"We will start with our own drivers. We are currently working on a digital marketplace that will allow customers to shop our entire store with live updates on inventory," Kiamie says. "Delivering our own orders should allow our customers to save on fees and markups from 3rd party delivery

SEE ALCOHOL PAGE 3

ALCOHOL

continued from page 1

companies and allow us to keep the level of service to our own standards.”

While Oxford liquor stores prepare to offer their own delivery services, local entrepreneurs are also gearing up to capitalize on this new market.

Colton Miller of local start-up Booze Cruise plans to dive head first into this new venture, partnering with local liquor stores to offer delivery service.

“We’re launching in five different spots,” Miller said. “At first, it probably won’t be to where I need multiple drivers. But if business picks up, then I’ll hire more.”

Miller and Booze Cruise plan to begin operations in Oxford and other locations as soon as possible.

Andy Priddy of Oxford Wine and Spirits explained that it was more cost effective, for both the business and the customer, to form their own delivery service as opposed to partnering with a local one or a third-party company like Doordash.

“The problem with Doordash and stuff like that is we’d have to increase our prices for delivery stuff,” he says. “People might be willing to pay those prices for delivery, but we figured we might as well try it on our own.”

In anticipation of this new business venture, Oxford Wine and Spirits have designed their own app to make their delivery service easily accessible, but expressed uncertainty about the rules. They’re hoping for clearer guidelines when they are able to put in their application for a permit July 1.

“We’ve made an app, our own app, that people can order through and get delivery through,” he said. “But we haven’t gotten a ton of information about it...like the rules. Because we’ll have to check ID somehow and all that stuff.”

To prevent the abuse of alcohol delivery services, retailers must “obtain from the customer a confirmation that he or she is at least twenty-one (21) years of age at the time the order is placed.” Age must be verified again upon delivery with a valid photo-ID and delivery drivers must utilize “identification scanning software technology or a state-of-the-art alternative at the point of delivery,” as specified in HB 1135.

Delivery service permit applications will be available beginning July 1, after which alcohol delivery services will be available for the first time in Oxford and across Mississippi.



KATHERINE BUTLER / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

A new law which will take effect July 1, 2021, legalizes the delivery of alcohol in Mississippi without restriction or regulation.



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Taxi drivers wary of Safe Ride Home initiative

JACOB MEYERS
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Drivers voiced their concerns at the Board of Alderman meeting last week about how the Safe Ride Home initiative would affect their business and local taxi drivers were wary of the initiative.

Per the Safe Ride Home initiative, vehicle for hire drivers are being directed to two designated pickup areas: the City Parking Garage and 14th Street. They were chosen for being well lit, secure areas spacious enough to accommodate a queue of vehicles. Each area was chosen with the goals of the initiative in mind: reducing congestion, creating foot traffic focused downtown area and providing safer pickup locations for riders.

The taxi drivers around Oxford lack access to the same technology Uber or Lyft has. They depend on walk-ups and word of mouth for customers.

In Oxford, taxi drivers are required to follow rules and regulations, including cameras in their vehicles, while Uber and Lyft have little to no regulation.

"I would much rather ride with friends than in an Uber or Lyft because I feel safer and you do not know who the driver is," Mallory Moffett, a senior biomedical engineering major, said, "Sometimes they can be odd and make you feel uncomfortable."

In Oxford, taxi drivers are required to have a business license and permit from the city and possess a Mississippi commercial "class D" drivers license. Taxicabs must

permanently display a rate card and a sign that states, "Driver is required to offer a receipt at the conclusion of each trip."

Taxi vehicles are also required to have an annual vehicle inspection by a licensed automobile repair business at the driver's expense. Uber and Lyft do not require anything other than being 21 years of age, a background check, vehicle insurance and a four door vehicle.

"This is Oxford, Mississippi. This town is unique. We are one of the few towns in America where people still use taxis. If this comes into play, for our businesses, it's just a matter of time," Alfonso Jordan, the owner of Zoe's taxi, said at the meeting.

The taxi drivers have struggled in the pandemic following the decline of drivers

in the city over the past few years.

"We started off with 20 taxi companies when I started, and now we're down to nine or 10," Jordan said.

Uber and Lyft struggle with drivers taking an extended pause and passengers no longer using the app. Now both are facing a supply shortage as previous customers and newly vaccinated customers start to use the apps more. This shortage of drivers and surplus of passengers has caused increased wait times and higher fares.

The pandemic has shifted the focus of many drivers to food delivery services. Fetcht is a local delivery company in Oxford that has created many jobs for drivers who would rather have contactless interactions with customers.

"Fetcht is a family. You're not going to run into situations with Uber or other services where someone isn't on the other end to help," Austin Green, a senior integrated marketing communications major and Fetcht driver, said. "It is comforting to know we have a dispatcher right on the square to help at any time we are open."

Most students prefer to be picked up by a friend for free on the Square rather than pay the increased ride fares or walk to a designated area.

"I would rather get a friend to drive me home, because it is cheaper and more convenient for me," Lili Hansen, a senior marketing major, said.

The Board of Alderman will vote on the initiative at their next meeting in one week.

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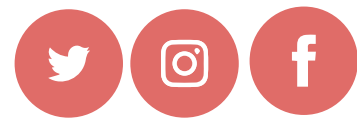
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New director of Oxford ARC announced

SOPHIA JARAMILLO
 thedmnews@gmail.com

Nicole Young was announced to be the new director of the Oxford Animal Resource Center (ARC), the shelter that will be taking over as the animal shelter for Oxford following the closing of Mississippi Critterz.

Young, most recently a supervisor at Memphis Animal Services, relocated to Oxford to work as the director of the ARC after city officials visited Memphis Animal Services in search of a new director. Young has worked in animal welfare since age 15, from working as a kennel attendant to a veterinary technician.

“Once I started reading what had happened and veterinarian reports, I felt like I didn’t have a choice,” Young said. “My brain and my heart didn’t give me a choice.”

After the allegations surrounding Mississippi Critterz were confirmed, the city of Oxford severed ties with

the shelter, first by terminating its contract with Mississippi Critterz at a Board of Alderman meeting in March, then quickly removing all animals from the shelter. After three months of not having shelter services, the ARC will provide Oxford with a place to house stray animals as well as adoption services.

Young said that she knows trust is not something that can be forced, but she has plans to earn back the trust of the Oxford community.

“One of the biggest ways to earn back that trust in the community and with all the people here is to be honest and transparent,” said Young.

One way the ARC will be increasing transparency is by creating a social media presence.

“If people know what you’re doing, then they’re more likely to trust you because they feel like they were led astray or didn’t know the truth and didn’t know what was happening

behind those doors,” Young said.

While the social media platforms – Instagram, Twitter and Facebook accounts – will be used for increasing transparency, they will also be used to let people know which animals are up for adoption.

“It’s all about meeting people where they are, and one of the biggest things is how big social media is nowadays,” Young said. “So putting an ad in a print paper or on a poster is less likely to get attention than if you’re scrolling on Facebook.”

Young hopes to earn the trust of the Oxford community, as well as improve the wellbeing of the stray animals of Oxford.

“At the end of the day, even with everything that happened with the previous leadership, I’m here for the animals,” Young said, “and that’s the most important thing to me is that every single one of those animals is a life that needs to be cared for.”



SOPHIA JARAMILLO / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Nicole Young is the new director of the Oxford Animal Resource Center.

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 IN THE DM CLASSIFIEDS

ACROSS

- 1- Complacent;
- 5- Adjust to zero;
- 10- Go out with;
- 14- Table d’_____;
- 15- Blessed sound?;
- 16- Son of Aphrodite;
- 17- Western writer Wister;
- 18- Racket;
- 19- Support for a broken limb;
- 20- Beginning;
- 22- Coins;
- 24- Emptiness;
- 27- “Peter Pan” dog;
- 28- Perforated container;
- 32- Nuisances;
- 35- Rage;
- 36- Ancient region of Asia Minor;
- 38- Lachrymose;
- 40- Got older;
- 42- Hungarian composer;
- 44- Small drink;
- 45- Paddled;
- 47- Ditto;
- 49- Hindu title;
- 50- Thermoplastic yarn;
- 52- Caribou;
- 54- “On the Waterfront” director Kazan;
- 56- What confused

- people don’t have;
- 57- Marsh plant;
 - 60- Organization;
 - 64- Bahnt spender;
 - 65- Raccoon-like carnivore;
 - 68- Aggregate;
 - 69- Syrup brand;
 - 70- Greek epic poem;
 - 71- Former spouses;
 - 72- Amenable;
 - 73- Nest;
 - 74- Gossip;

DOWN

- 1- Beat it;
- 2- Cut down;
- 3- Western Native Americans;
- 4- Swiss city;
- 5- Campaigned;
- 6- Author Umberto;
- 7- Type of guard;
- 8- Reddish dye;
- 9- Boot part;
- 10- Dead;
- 11- Asian sea;
- 12- Chuck;
- 13- Cornerstone abbr.;
- 21- Author Morrison;
- 23- Understood;
- 25- Graven image;
- 26- Fabric of jeans;

SOLUTION TO 4.29.21 PUZZLE



- 28- So long;
- 29- Church instrument;
- 30- Guarded;
- 31- Stair part;
- 33- Pithy;
- 34- Extra;
- 37- Nahuatl speaker;
- 39- Primordial giant in Norse myth;
- 41- Something removed;
- 43- Labor;
- 46- Blockhead;
- 48- Responsibility;
- 51- Nicotinic acid;
- 53- Judged;
- 55- Garlic sauce;
- 57- Fellow;
- 58- River in central Switzerland;
- 59- Put down;
- 61- Cab;
- 62- Consumer;
- 63- Attention-getting sound;
- 64- Ring result;
- 66- 19th letter of the Greek alphabet;
- 67- Bartender’s requests;

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3				5	6	1		9
	9	5				2	6	
			1			3	7	
			4					2
	3		6		8		1	
2					9			
	5	9			7			
	4	1				5	2	
7		3	5	8				6

HOW TO PLAY

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

**DIFFICULTY LEVEL
 NOVICE**

6	9	4	1	8	5	3	2	7
7	2	5	3	6	9	1	4	8
3	1	8	7	2	4	9	5	6
3	5	9	6	7	1	4	8	2
4	1	6	8	2	6	7	3	5
2	8	7	5	3	4	6	9	1
5	7	3	2	9	1	8	6	4
8	6	2	4	7	3	5	9	1
9	4	1	6	5	8	2	7	3

Crossword puzzle provided by BestCrosswords.com (www.bestcrosswords.com). Used with permission.

OPINION

Juneteenth: there is more work to be done

TIA JACKSON
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Holidays and traditions remind people of the importance of celebrating and enjoying life's journey, while connecting with family, friends and the community. It is a way to remember the past, comfort those in the present and uplift future generations. When it comes to observing holidays, the question at hand is: Should holidays with negative connotations be celebrated and honored?

Confederate History Month, celebrated by seven Southern states, was established in 1994. Mississippi Republican Gov. Tate Reeves

declared April as Confederate Heritage Month in early March of this year.

Democratic U.S. Rep. Bennie Thompson wrote on Twitter, "Unnecessary." Thompson is Mississippi's only African-American congressman. Confederate History Month is considered to be controversial considering its ties to secession from the Union and its opposed abolition of slavery.

Decades later, Juneteenth, also known as Freedom Day, which commemorates the end of slavery, is just now being recognized as a national holiday. While this is a step in the right direction, this shows that there is still much work to be done when it comes to

systemic racism and racial inequalities.

Although the Emancipation Proclamation was issued January 1, 1863, by President Abraham Lincoln, it did not completely free those 4 million men, women and children who were enslaved. The document only applied to those enslaved in Confederate states who were in rebellion against the Union and did not recognize its laws.

It was not until June 19, 1865, when African-Americans in Galveston, Texas, learned that they had been freed. In response, they celebrated by singing spirituals and holding prayer meetings. The 13th Amendment was adopted that December,

officially abolishing slavery.

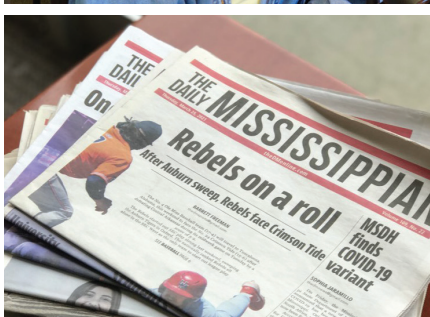
Today, Juneteenth is celebrated by African-Americans throughout the United States. Family gatherings, music festivals and educational events are a few ways in which many people celebrate this monumental holiday. The Juneteenth National Independence Day Act passed through the Senate on June 15, 2021, making Juneteenth a federal holiday. Fourteen lawmakers in the House of Representatives, all members of the GOP, voted against the Juneteenth bill.

Congressman Thompson wrote on Twitter on Friday, "At a time when Critical Race Theory is being challenged, it's never been more critical

to recognize the historical inequalities in our nation."

Many say Confederate symbols and monuments express a deeply rooted racist past, while supporters disagree they believe that it is a way to remember their history. The adoption of Juneteenth as a national holiday expresses progress within the United States, but again, there is more work to be done in order to rebuild unity and a sense of community and justice for all.

Tia Jackson is a graduate student studying journalism from Memphis, Tennessee.



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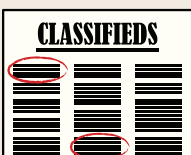
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