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THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Monday, August 23, 2021

theDMonline.com

Volume 110, No. 1

Hug me, sister: Bid Day 2021



HG BIGGS

thedmphotos@gmail.com

Bid day 2021 was a far cry from that of 2020. Sorority recruitment in 2020 was held via Zoom, and bids were sent out via email on Bid Day. 2021 marked a return to normalcy as 1482 Potential New Members (PNMs) were able to experience recruitment on campus and visit the sorority houses in person. Unlike previous years, however, recruitment was held before the start of classes. PNMs moved in early and started recruitment the week of Aug. 16.

On Sunday, Aug. 22, the PNMs gathered in the Grove to receive their bids. At noon, the bids were distributed and opened, and the girls ran to their sororities' letters in the Grove. Afterwards, the new members were released to run home to the sorority houses on Rebel Drive and Sorority Row. Not even the sweltering Mississippi heat could temper the new members' excitement as their sisters welcomed them home.

SEE BID DAY PAGE 3

Meet the interim dean of the SMBHC

VIOLET JIRA

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Longtime professor Ethel Young Scurlock has been selected as interim dean of the Sally McDonald Barksdale Honors College. She assumes this position from Douglass Sullivan-González, who held the position for over a decade.

The bookshelves that line the walls of her new office are almost bare, but the first-floor office is brimming with positive energy. Cheerful welcome notes cover the whiteboard directly across from where Scurlock sits, welcoming, behind her desk.

Growing up in Memphis and attending The University of Tennessee for undergrad, Scurlock decided she wanted to spend some time in the Midwest. She describes her time in the Midwest, earning her master's and PhD in English at Bowling Green State University, as enlightening.

"It really stretched my understanding of identity and difference and expanded my intellectual base of course but I



VIOLET JIRA / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Ethel Young Scurlock

wanted to come back down south," Scurlock said.

Scurlock accepted a position as a professor of English and African American Studies in the late nineties, planning to be elsewhere by the turn of the millennium. But like many, she found herself stuck in the Velvet Ditch.

"I came here in 1996, thinking that I would be here only four or five years, and it's been 25 years," she said.

SEE SCURLOCK PAGE 2

Opinions arise over new mask mandate

BRITTANY KOHNE

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Faculty and students hold differing opinions after the temporary mask mandate was issued on Aug. 4 by Chancellor Glenn Boyce.

The University of Mississippi requires all vaccinated and unvaccinated people to wear masks in indoor facilities.

According to the Mississippi Department of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the American College Health Association (ACHA), universities should require masks in all-indoor facilities in addition to six-feet of social distance.

James M. Thomas, an associate professor of sociology, said the mask mandate was "woefully inadequate."

"I have a 200 person intro class that's scheduled to be in that auditorium, it is impossible to socially distance in Nutt Auditorium with 200 students," said Thomas.

Lisa Stone, the strategic communications director, said if faculty and staff want to switch teaching modalities, they must go through their department chair and it must be approved by the dean and the provost.

As for changing to a bigger classroom, faculty also have to go through their department chair to make adjustments.

Fara Shook, a writing and rhetoric professor, said she was relieved after reading the new mandate.

"I was extremely anxious about going into a classroom with the percent of unvaccinated people, as well as how transmittable the Delta variant is," said Shook.

With the rising levels of COVID-19 cases, combined with all in-person classes, Shook is apprehensive of the future.

"We put a classroom at maximum capacity, that is going to be extremely detrimental and students are going to get sick," Shook said.

However, Shook continues to have

SEE MANDATE PAGE 2

SCURLOCK

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“They have been years of joy, celebration, love and support.”

Though she began as a professor, Scurlock has always had a passion for student engagement and frequently works with students outside the classroom. She served as the advisor of the university’s gospel choir, leading them to a Grammy nomination. During her time as the program’s advisor, they traveled around the country performing and it was through this proximity to the students and their families that Scurlock realized the impact she could have on students’ lives.

“Though I was a professor, it almost felt like I was in student affairs because I was arranging these trips and travelling with students and getting to know families. And that made me fall in love with Mississippi. Those families became a part of my family,” she said. “So, I realized early on that the weight I was carrying was not just about me and not what I would ever give to this space academically. It was about what it meant to emotionally and spiritually change what it meant to be a student at this place, especially for African-American students.”

It was that same passion for student engagement that led

her to assume the position of Senior Fellow of the Luckyday Residential College, a position she has held since the RC’s opening in 2010. Scurlock also has a long history of involvement with the Honors College, teaching in the college for almost 20 years. She has also led several student theses, served on the advisory council and has been a member of the admissions committee for about four or five years.

“I’ve always been a vocal advocate for honors education,” she said.

Sullivan González’s last day was set to be Aug. 17, but by the time of the interview on Aug. 13, Scurlock had already assumed all duties.

“Doug (Sullivan-González) was very helpful. He came in and talked about some of the policies and practices they have as a college, but also was like, it’s your turn. Have your way, we trust your leadership,” she said. “He stepped out of all decision making, but in a very cordial way. He didn’t abandon the program, he stepped out to allow a full and robust and effective transition. It’s been really good.”

One of the first things Scurlock wants to do is call attention to all the work Honors College staff does, behind the scenes.

“The staff members we have are incredible. I mean, they’re just fabulous from the recruiters to the associate deans, they work so hard but the work that they do is really invisible,” she said. “We don’t highlight it. We don’t publicize it. And I want to celebrate their work and publicize their work a lot more.”

In addition to publicizing the work that Honors College staff does, Scurlock wants to place emphasis on access. That is, making sure Mississippians statewide know about the potential opportunity they have at their state’s flagship.

“They’ve done a great job recruiting Mississippi students. I mean, being on the admissions committee, we’re always looking at Mississippi students, but I want to make sure that more of our Mississippi students know who we are,” she said. “We don’t have a lot of kids that apply from Ruleville or Greenwood. I mean, there are just a lot of areas that we miss.”

Scurlock strives to make the presence of the Honors College known, while fostering an environment of inclusivity that all students can thrive in.

“If they look at us and decide they don’t want to apply, fine, but what about the ones that never have the

opportunity to look at us? I want more Mississippians to at least look at us and apply,” she said. “I want to make sure that students in rural areas know that this is available for them to apply for, too, and I also want students who feel excluded by this because of race or gender identity, whatever it is, I want everybody to feel like this is a place where they that they know about that they can apply and that they can come here and thrive.”

Moving forward, Scurlock wants to continue to produce the family environment that draws so many to the Honors College.

“I feel like this is an incredible place to be in and I feel like we should have more of a family atmosphere. I think we need to make sure we’re producing it for our freshmen and sophomores. We have to be ever aware of the fact that our sophomores missed a true genuine freshman experience,” she says. “So, I want to make sure there’s a family environment where people understand that our doors are always open to support them in every way that we can academically.”

Scurlock said she also wants to continue creating spaces where Honors College students are encouraged to push boundaries, intellectually.

She is also striving to improve retention.

“I want to make sure that students feel like they’re being intellectually challenged and pushed continually. That they feel like they’re in the classroom with the best professors, that they’re having real life, high impact experiences,” she said. “We’ve been increasing our graduation rate. And I want to make sure that we continue to increase it – that we’re not losing scholars because we’re not having a touching impact.”

When asked what advice she had for all university students, Scurlock offers simple but powerful advice.

“My parents always taught me you’re not better than anybody else. And you’re not lower than anybody else. Always treat every person as if you are on the same level. And as if they matter, because they do.”

Overall, Scurlock said she is thankful for this opportunity to preside as interim dean of the college, and plans to move forward with her motto in mind.

“I try to do the best I can, in all the places that I can, to all the people that I can. That’s kind of my motto. I just do the best I can every day,” she said. “I’m always at peace because I know I’m giving my best in every moment.”

MANDATE

continued from page 1

hope for the upcoming school year and urges everyone to get vaccinated.

Similar to Thomas and Shook, sophomore biology major, Catalina Llanos said the new mask mandate put her at ease.

“I believe that reinforcement is definitely necessary, because we can’t tell today who’s vaccinated and who is not,” said Llanos.

She said that wearing masks provides safety to not only the student body, faculty and staff, but to everyone’s family as well.

“If I were to travel back home to see my elderly grandma, I would never want to try to give any sort of exposure to her whatsoever,” Llanos said.

Seth Gerus, a senior accounting major, said he was disappointed with the new issued mandate.

“I think with the progress we’ve made with vaccination,

and other research of the virus I figured we were on a forward trajectory, but with this development it kind of looks like we’re backsliding and it’s a lot to handle,” said Gerus.

If the mandate is lifted, Gerus said he will not continue to wear a mask, unless one of his professors enforces them.

“I’m a big proponent of having the choice. (My choice) might not necessarily agree with a mask mandate. I definitely understand why it is important that we would like to respect it,” Gerus said.

However, faculty’s choices can only go so far.

Stone said “once that requirement is lifted, faculty cannot require masks in class or during office hours.”

Faculty can still encourage their students to wear masks, but they cannot not enforce masking.

Despite the differing out looks on the temporary mask mandate, the university looks



FILE PHOTO: CODY FERRIS / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

As the sun begins to set, Brian Tran (left) and Tiffany Nguyen (right) laugh at a joke from SAA tour guide Harrison Grimes in October 2020.

forward to the upcoming school year.

“We are excited to return to in-person learning and the traditional, vibrant on-campus experience for which our university is so well known,” said Stone.



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The state of Mississippi, Division of Medicaid is soliciting proposals to lease 8,000 square feet of office space in the northern most area of Lafayette County in Oxford, Miss. Proposal forms and detailed specifications may be obtained free of charge by emailing property@medicaid.ms.gov, or calling 601-359-6041. Documents may also be picked up at 550 High St., Suite 1000, Jackson, MS 39201.

Proposals shall be submitted by 12:00 p.m. on September 24, 2021.

The Division of Medicaid reserves the right to return any and all proposals not in compliance with proposal packet guidelines.

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposal packets shall be read at 1 p.m. on Friday, September 24, 2021, and all bidders are invited to attend. Location of opening will be the 4th floor conference room, Walter Sillers building, 550 High St., Jackson, MS 39201.

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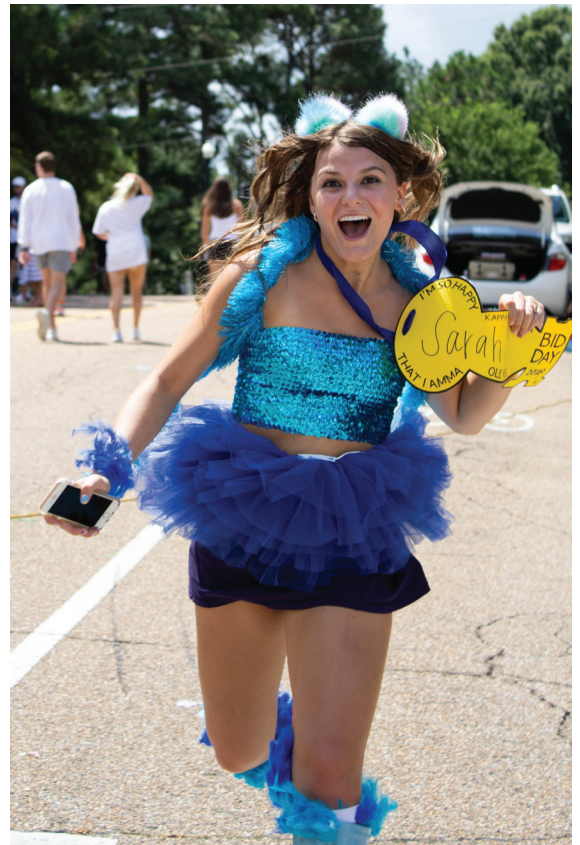
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Bid Day 2021

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JESS COOLEY / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Top: A new member of Tri Delta hugs one of her new sisters.

Above: An active member of Kappa Kappa Gamma runs down Rebel Drive.

Left: Kappa Delta sisters chant and cheer outside of their sorority house.



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When it is decided that The Daily Mississippian will take an editorial stance on an issue, the following positions will make decisions as the Editorial Board: editor-in-chief, managing editor, copy chief, sports editor and opinion editor.

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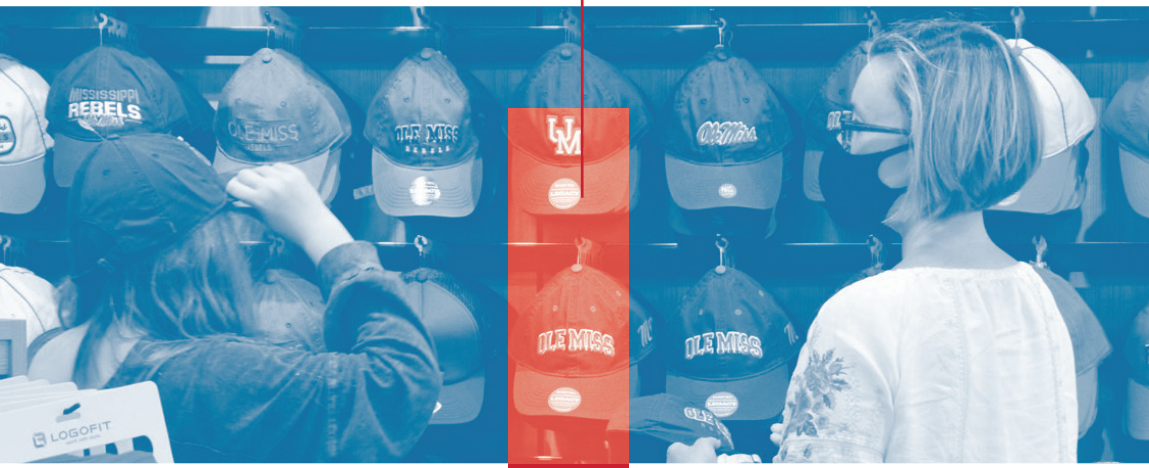
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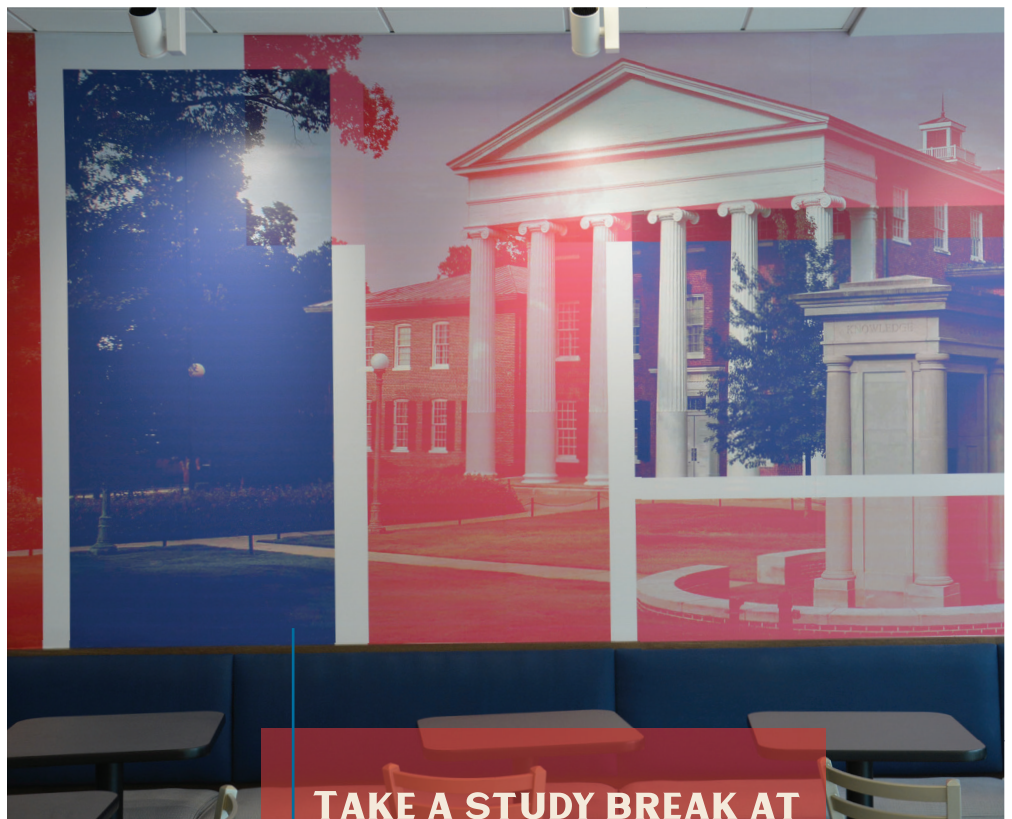


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Welcome Back



“What are you excited about this year?”



Sarah Grace Morris

“I’m most excited for meeting a bunch of new people. I met (my roommate) Sam last week. And it feels like I’ve known her for so long. I’m just excited to meet a bunch of new people.”



Anna Katherine Baker

“I am excited to be able to find new friends and explore subjects that I choose and that I really care about for the first time. I’m excited to have a little bit more freedom than in high school to kind of figure out my own life and what I want to do.”



Savannah Savage

“Just like meeting different people because I’m from a small town and everybody knows everybody that I’ve known my whole life. So just meeting different people with different experiences. I’m really excited about that.”

REPORTING: MICAH CRICK / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN
PHOTOS: HG BIGGS / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN



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Student Organization Spotlight

VIOLET JIRA
thedmfeatures@gmail.com

Ole Miss boasts over 500 registered student organizations: 500+ opportunities for students to get out, get involved and find their community in this university of nearly 24,000. These RSO's vary in size and type. There are large, multifaceted organizations like the Associated Student Body. There are also smaller organizations that focus on a singular interest, like scholarship, academics, the arts, athletics, religion or community service. Here are five interesting ones you may want to be a part of.

The University of Mississippi Chess Club

From grand master to amateur, all are invited to participate in a game of chess with the The University of Mississippi Chess Club. UMCC offers anyone interested the chance to learn, play and compete in the game of chess in a friendly and healthy environment. The club describes their mission as to bring "students and communities to come together through the common interest of chess."

Cover to Cover

For bookworms far and wide, Cover to Cover is the perfect organization to meet other book lovers and discuss books. Affiliated with the English department but open to all, Cover to Cover is the club for anyone with a passion for English literature. They can express that passion through, "community service, social events, or even just discussion."

Student Activities Association

The Student Activities Association is a collective of student leaders who frequently host events and activities with the mission of "enhancing the college experience by providing entertaining campus events." In the past, SAA has curated exciting and memorable experiences, offering a mechanical bull in front of the Student Union in Fall 2020. SAA has several events planned in the near future, like a First Day of School Photo Booth and a Silent Disco – join SAA if you want to see the behind the scenes of Ole Miss' most exciting campus activities.

Ole Miss Card Sharks

If you're feeling favored, try your luck with Ole Miss Card Sharks, the university's

competitive poker team. Specializing in Texas Hold 'Em, this organization welcomes all to lay cards on the table. But if you're strapped for cash, look elsewhere. In compliance with Mississippi State laws, the group wagers no items of monetary value. From one of the club's officers, Kaden Spellman, "If you've never seen a deck of cards or if you have been playing competitively for years, you're always welcome."

Phi Beta Lambda

For students in business related programs at the University, Phi Beta Lambda is the quintessential organization. The organization's mission is to equip business students with a variety of personal and professional skills to aid them in their futures as business professionals and leaders. They do so through providing "unique career development programs, business tours, workshops, and so much more" to ensure members thrive in any business environment.

These five are only a tiny fraction of the organizations university students can gain membership to. To find information on or to join any RSO, look no further than The ForUM.



FILE PHOTO: BILLY SCHUERMAN / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Eliza Peters is thrown around by a mechanical shark in front of the Ole Miss Student Union. The shark was set up by SAA as part of welcome week.






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Best study spots to start the school year

LONDYN LORENZ
thedmfeatures@gmail.com

As we start a new and in-person school year, here are the best study spots for those new to campus, Oxford and for those who haven't been back in a while!

On Campus:

J.D. Williams Library

The other library in Oxford. The library is great for those living on campus or those with time between classes. The first floor, the loudest, is great for group projects that you can no longer Zoom, while the upper floors are perfect for grinding out a research paper or even an entire thesis.

The Lyceum

Few students know about the study spaces in the Lyceum, including board rooms and side sitting rooms. The building is almost intimidatingly quiet, so come prepared with headphones.

Lamar Hall

Lamar Hall is one of the only buildings with extended hours on campus, staying open as late as 10 p.m. on most days during the school year. Lamar also hosts the LGBTQ+ Lounge on the fourth floor.



View from the Graduate Hotel.

FILE PHOTO: DYLAN SMITH / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Off Campus:

Uptown Coffee

Uptown Coffee has both indoor and outdoor seating and a great next-to-the-Square environment. Each coffee shop in Oxford, such as Heartbreak and Common Ground, has a unique environment that caters to certain clientele, but Uptown is my personal favorite.

The Graduate

A bit further down North Lamar is The Graduate Hotel, which is a great spot to study, either in the lobby or their café Cabin 82. You can hop up to their restaurant – The Coop – after studying for a bite to eat and a great view of the Square.

Lamar Park

Lamar Park is a great outdoor venue to study if you're tired of the Grove Squirrels (which I didn't know was possible). Either grab a picnic table or bring a blanket, just be ready to use your personal hotspot for WiFi if you need it.



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Weclome back to campus

To the best students in America: Welcome back!

We're ready for a great year of in-person classes, a slate of exciting athletic seasons, and of course, our highly celebrated and well-known Ole Miss traditions — especially second-to-none tailgating in the Grove, the “Holy Grail” for college football.

Whether you are a first-year student exploring campus for the first time or a senior with a few classes left to tackle, I guarantee Oxford will always remain your home away from home. The best communities are defined by friendship, mutual respect, understanding, and kindness — and Oxford does this better than all the rest.

What makes Ole Miss the flagship university is that our community fosters respect toward one another across a wide spectrum of perspectives different from our own. We do this by embracing a welcoming environment where we are kind to our neighbors, and understand that we all face and overcome challenges in our own ways. Keep this in mind in conversations with your friends, family, classmates, professors, and others in your lives.

As always, make personal wellness a priority by maintaining a balanced lifestyle. Build good habits by visiting the South Campus Recreation Center or the Turner Center regularly to maintain or improve your fitness. If you find yourself overextended or overwhelmed and feel the need to talk to someone about your physical or mental health, visit the wellness center or reach out to a faculty member, academic advisor, or the staff in the University Counseling Center.

Ole Miss offers many resources to benefit your academics and launch your professional careers: make an appointment with the Writing Center for help in writing your first research paper or your senior honors thesis; learn how to use next-level technology at the IDEALab with weekly workshops to sharpen your presentations; stop by the Department of Student Housing's Academic Resource Center to enrich your first-year experience; or, network with the Career Center to support your journey from college student to successful professional.

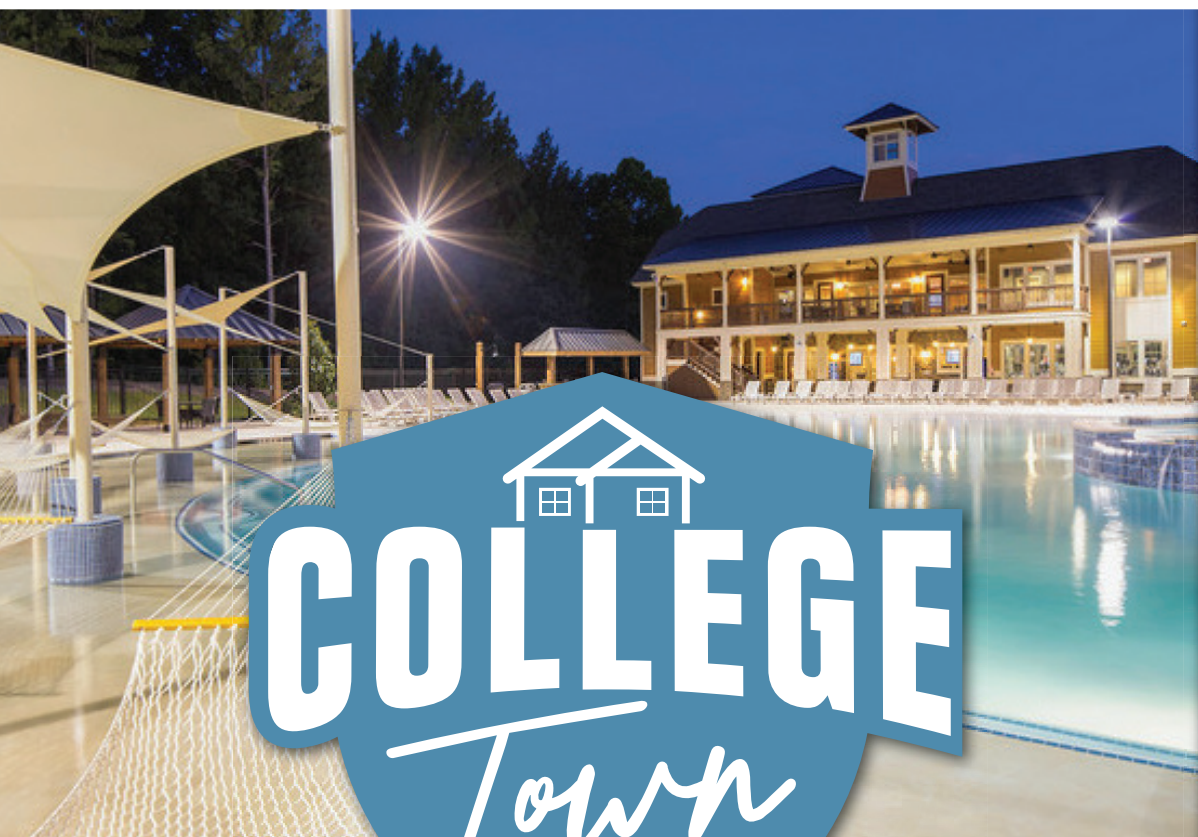
To stay connected with campus life, be sure to read “The Powder Blue” student newsletter, which appears in your Ole Miss Gmail account weekly, and follow @OleMissStudentServices on Instagram and Twitter to learn how the university supports you and your needs.

While we're eager to put the past challenging year behind us, we recognize that our community and our country are still adapting to the effects of COVID-19 including the recent variants. The good news is that each of us, as members of our campus community, can do our part to promote a healthy community — please, get vaccinated. The sooner we all take this step, the sooner that we will be able to put the pandemic behind us.

College is an amazing time in which you will work hard and play hard. There is no time like the present to be yourself, focus on your studies, and get involved. Together, let's make this year the most tremendous year yet for our campus.

Hotty Toddy!

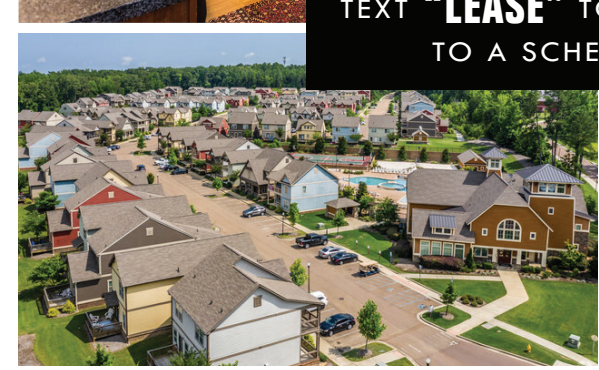
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A message from ASB

It has been a long road to get here, but I am so excited to welcome you all to the University of Mississippi on behalf of the Associated Student Body. Whether it is your first year on our campus or, like me, your last, I am thrilled to have you join our campus community and to experience everything our unique home has to offer.

The mission of the Associated Student Body is to serve selflessly and to represent justly the needs of our student body. Your needs and your voices matter, and we want to ensure that we are providing the platform and resources to legitimize student advocacy at the highest levels. We believe that student voices should be the cornerstone of decision-making at the University of Mississippi.

In addition to this, we develop initiatives and programming to advocate for and connect with students in new ways. We are excited to continue ASB 365, a programming initiative that began last year. We will be on the Union Plaza every other week collaborating with other student organizations not only to plan fun activities, but to also raise awareness for important matters on our campus. Also, we are looking forward to increasing accessibility and inclusion both in our organization and throughout the University. We cannot solve the numerous issues that lie before us without creating a community of collaboration and coordination with other organizations on our campus. Whether we're on the Union Plaza for ASB 365 or in the auditorium for Meet Your Senator Night, we hope you will stop by what is or isn't working for you on our campus.

Lastly, I want to remind you all of the University of Mississippi Creed. The Creed states our beliefs in many ideals that we should strive to uphold, such as academic freedom and fairness and civility, but I would like to call your attention to the parts of the Creed that relate to our community. Respect and dignity, fairness and civility, and good stewardship of our resources will all be essential to rehabilitating our campus community while we are still managing life in a pandemic. As voluntary members of this community, we have the responsibility to care about those around us. We must take responsibility for our personal actions when they have very tangible community consequences. Wear your mask, get the vaccine, and help us protect our home. Our individual choices will determine what the rest of this year looks like. There is so much to look forward to this year, whether it's the Grove, Homecoming, or even just in person classes. All these exciting opportunities are contingent upon the choices we make now. We are going to do everything in our power as an organization to make this year as normal as possible, and we need our students to make the choice to protect your community and your college experience.

Hotty Toddy and Welcome Home,

Morgan Atkins
ASB President



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Dorm Survival 101

Here are some actual dorm room essentials that will make your freshman year better.

JACOB MEYERS

thedmfeatures@gmail.com

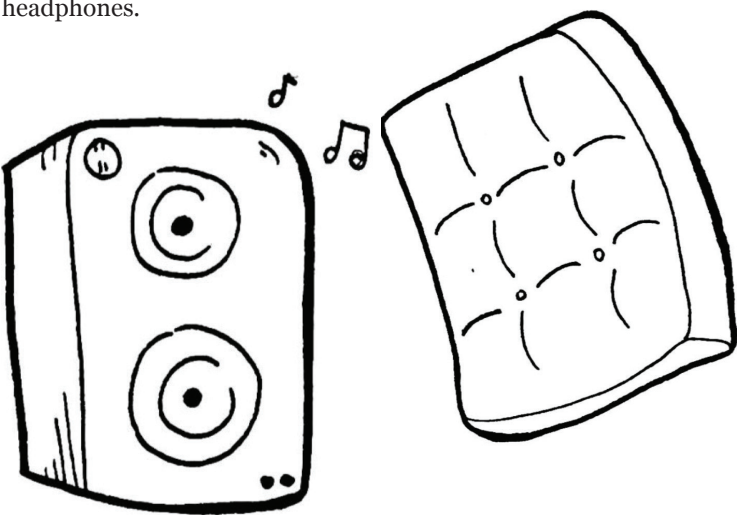
1. Some good lamps

While the dorm room lighting is usable, no one wants to constantly stare at the bright ceiling lights that come with the dorm room. A tall lamp or a few lamps can help make the room look more inviting and give variable levels of brightness that the ceiling lights cannot.



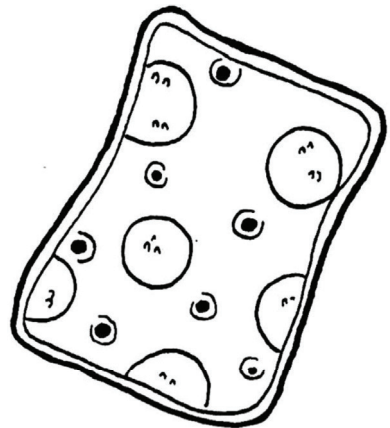
2. A soundbar or speakers

Chances are, there will be a TV in your dorm, and TV speakers can only do so much. When you want to have a group study session or kickback on the weekend and relax with a movie, speakers or a soundbar can go a long way in improving your year in the dorm. Trust me, sometimes you'll want to listen to music that isn't in headphones.



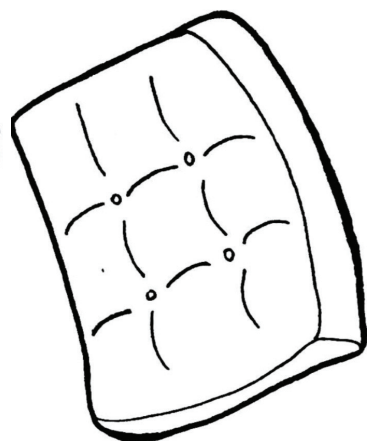
3. Rug

You are going to want a carpet, rugs or something to cover the linoleum floors. They do not stay clean for very long and no one wants to take off their shower shoes and step on sticky floors. Get a rug, your feet will thank you and you won't destroy your socks.



4. Mattress Topper

College is expensive, but don't skip out on your mattress. The blue twin XL beds in the dorms are great for a night or two by themselves, but sleep is important and a mattress topper makes the difference with dorm beds. Spend a couple extra bucks and get a good one. After a long day of walking, going to class or even a night on the square, you will want somewhere comfy to rest your head.



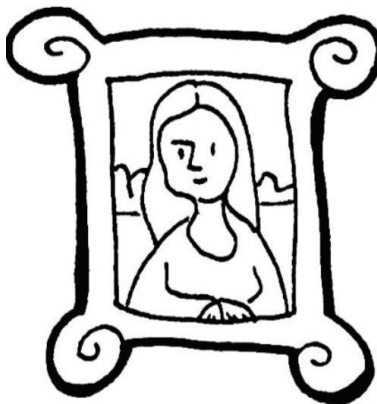
5. Games

While alcohol is a big part of some students' college experience, you probably won't want to go to the bars every night. You're going to want some relaxing days eventually and games go a long way. Not just video games, but board games too. They don't take up precious space in a dorm room, you can't knock it over and break it, they last forever and best of all, they're cheap.



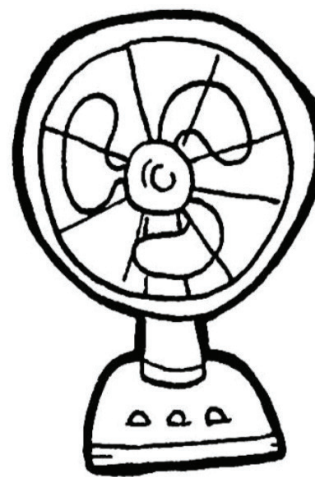
6. Actual Artwork

Posters are great, cheap and there are multiple poster sales throughout the year on campus. If you want your room to look nicer than covered in posters, invest in some cheap art from Homegoods, TJMaxx or Ross. If you want a more personalized approach go print a few 8x10 pictures from Walgreens, buy some cheap frames from Walmart and your dorm no longer looks like everyone else's.



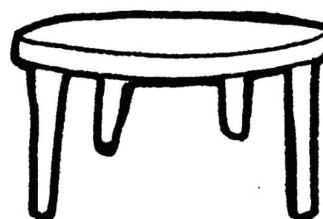
7. A fan or heater

Not all dorm rooms are built the same, and if you're lucky, you can control the air conditioner in your room. However, in the vast majority of dorms you don't get a say in what the AC is on. If you get hot or cold easily, you'll need a fan or heater. When it does get cold in the dorm room, heating only goes so far.



8. Coffee Table

Trust me when I say you can't do all of your schoolwork at your desk or in your bed. Sometimes you'll want to sit on a futon and study. A coffee table helps you not only have alternative places to study in your dorm, but it's a place to put things that can help spice up your dorm. Maybe a plant, oxygen is good for you.



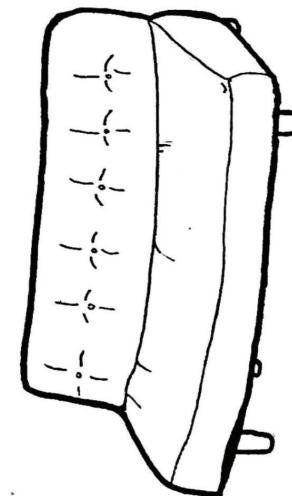
9. Air Purifier

Everything spreads fast in the dorms and central air conditioning is no exception. An air purifier will go a long way in your room and help you have cleaner air to breathe in what can feel like a shoebox sometimes. They even double as a source for white noise if you happen to have a noisy roommate or wallmate. Save yourself the trouble and avoid putting a filter over your main air vent or you'll have problems with mold.



10. Futon

The plastic chairs in the dorms are not that comfortable and you only get two. Get a futon or old couch and use it. You can have a comfy spot to sit that isn't just your bed. If you have friends over, more seating is always a good thing. Again, no one wants to sit on the dorm floors.



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Not another freshman advice column

MADDY QUON
thedmfeatures@gmail.com

Hey freshmen, welcome to college. This is a completely new experience for you, and there's so many things to look forward to. However, you should keep in mind that your end goal is to get your degree, a job and a deeper understanding of your career field. Here's some tips for how to have the best of both worlds: a college experience that is both fun and successful.

Get involved on campus

There are so many organizations on campus, so it's almost impossible not to get involved in something. Being involved in different organizations is a great way to make friends and connections, depending on what you get involved in. Involvement in student organizations is also a great learning experience, whether it be about your career field, the university or even Oxford.

Go to office hours

Believe me when I say going to office hours is worthwhile. Not only is it a great way to get help with whatever class you're in, it's a great way to get to know your professors, and sometimes they'll even offer extra credit for going.

Go to concerts at the Lyric

You'd be surprised seeing the lineups for concerts here in Oxford. Do you remember Mason Ramsey, the yodeling

priced and because it's local, it's convenient as well.

Prioritize your mental health

There's no doubt college

over your classes, your mental health will be affected. My advice to you? If you need it, take the day off to relax. Sometimes, taking the time to take care of yourself is just what you need to recharge and make you feel better and more prepared for classes and whatever else you're involved in.

Tailgate in the Grove

Truly one of the most unique experiences you'll get in Oxford. Tents with televisions, chandeliers and some of the best food you'll ever have, tailgating in the Grove is an all-day event on game days. Feel free to tent hop, try the food and make friends with whoever's there. Be sure to watch the football players walk through the Walk of Champions as well, it's a fun time all around.

Check your email

It might seem like a silly thing, but you seriously need to check your email at least once a day. Your professors will send important information to your email, and any involvement opportunities – both on campus in student organizations and off campus in internships – will be sent there too. You don't want to miss out on any of that!

Try to meet as many people as you can

It might be a little daunting because you're in a new environment, but try to get to know the people on your floor in your dorm, classes or organizations. If you get the chance, become friends with your professors and upperclassmen; they've been through this before and are more than happy to help you. You never know when you'll need someone to give you advice, a study buddy or just a friend.

Actually go to class

Listen, I know that the last thing you want to do is wake up and go to that 8 a.m. class, but attendance really does help. Missing classes at first won't seem like a big deal, but when the final for that class is right around the corner and you have no idea what's going on, you're going to regret it.

Enjoy the moment

Trust me on this one. As a senior, I'm constantly surprised by how fast the time has gone. One minute, you're moving into your dorm and meeting your roommate. The next thing you know, you're working on your thesis and preparing for graduation. It's a crazy ride here, and you'll want to savor every moment of it.



ILLUSTRATION: MICAH CRICK / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

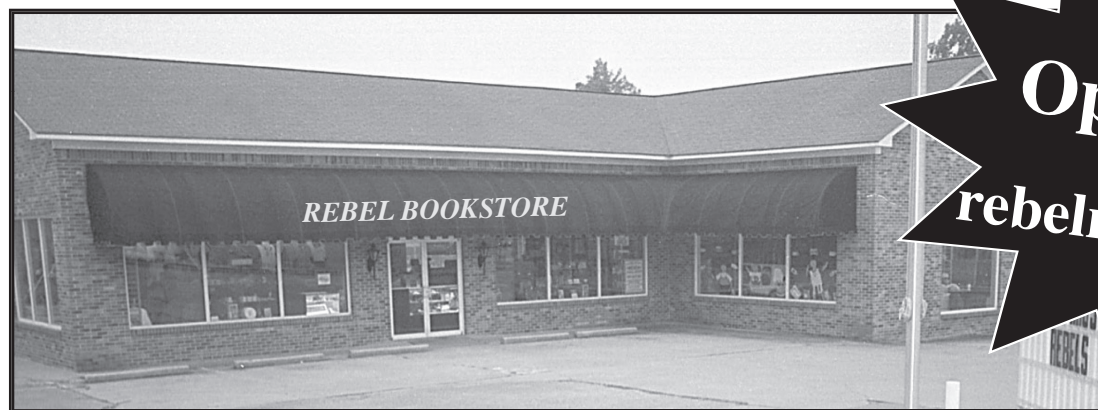
Upcoming shows at the Lyric

kid in Walmart? He performed at the Lyric two years ago. It was an amazing experience. I highly recommend going to some concerts here when you have the time. It's reasonably

will take a toll on your mental health. Whether it be now, adjusting to being away from your family for the first time and living independently, or later when you're stressing

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Hidden Gems of Oxford

JACOB MEYERS

thedmfeatures@gmail.com

These are some hidden things around Oxford that are worth a visit before you graduate.

End of All Music Record Store

Hidden upstairs on the Square, End of All Music is the closest place to get old or new records. Not everyone cares for vinyls, but if you like music it is a cool place to check out. They even sell record players if you need a new one or decide to start a new collection of vinyl.



JACOB MEYERS / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Entrance to The End of All Music

Oxford Skate Park

Oxford actually has a skatepark that was donated by the Tony Hawk Foundation. Off of Bramlett Blvd. by University Ave, the skate park is a tucked away, but lively place. Skateboarding is an inexpensive hobby that's even in the Olympics. Bring your board, or even your roller skates and stop by the park. Since the early 50's, skateboarding has been a great way to get some exercise, get outside and get a girlfriend.

Secret Grilled Cheese

The name says it all. For a one-of-a kind experience, check it out. Look around on the Square sometime, and find the black door with a skull knocker. The password is always changing, but maybe an upperclassman could help you out a little...

Thacker Mountain Trail

Not too far from campus sits Thacker Mountain trails. They're great for walking or biking, and there are numerous cool things to see on and off the trail. At some point there is an old painted bus and an abandoned Fire Tower. However, the firetower is on private property and trespassers will be prosecuted, so don't climb it, like actually. It's probably not safe either.

Sardis Lake

About 20-30 minutes out of Oxford is Sardis Lake. Sardis is a great place to go fish, hike, picnic or go on a boat. If you want to take a night and stay in the great outdoors, camping is also an option. There's numerous activities at Lake Sardis, including more "beach" areas if you want to get in the water. Give it a try when you're tired of drinking every weekend.



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Door knocker of Secret Grilled Cheese

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Play-by-play: an ultimate guide to the Ole Miss Football experience

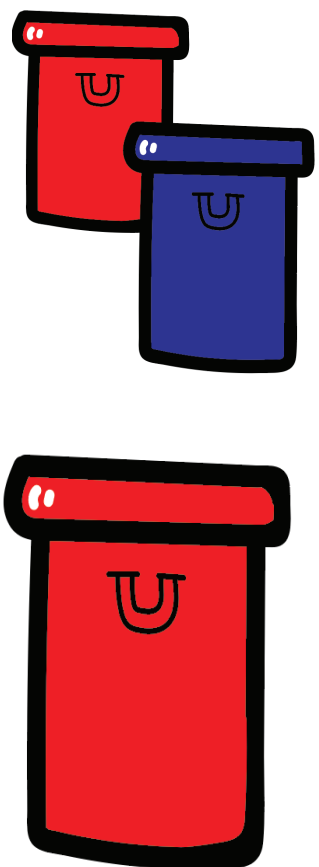
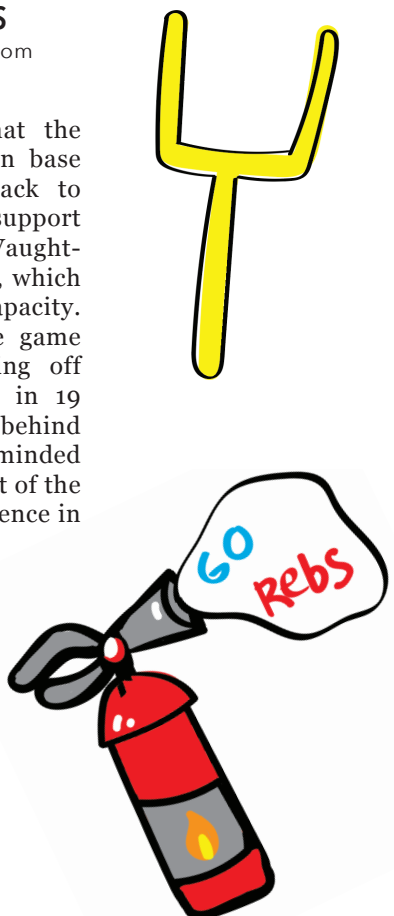
CATHERINE JEFFERS
thedmfeatures@gmail.com

It's no secret that the Ole Miss football fan base is itching to get back to the Grove and support their Rebels in Vaught-Hemingway Stadium, which can now be filled to capacity. With the first home game of the season kicking off against Austin Peay in 19 days, it's time to get behind your Rebels and be reminded how to make the most of the best tailgating experience in the country.



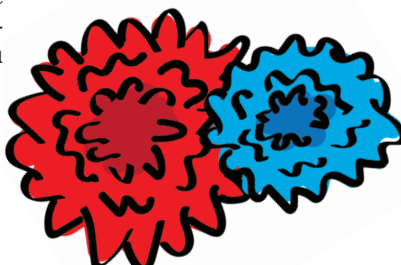
Originality never hurt anyone

After finishing last season on a high note, with the Egg Bowl in our possession and a bowl victory against a Top-25 team, the Rebels are looking to build on that momentum in 2021. With Rebel wins, come Rebel-level celebrations, like junior tight end Jonathan Hess's now infamous fire extinguisher celebration. After a touchdown late in the third quarter against LSU on Dec. 19, 2020, Hess took a lone fire extinguisher, spraying the loose powder into the air. After the same celebration took place in the 2021 Grove Bowl, we're eager to see if it continues this season. Getting behind your team is essential to their success, and this might be just the opportunity for a little excitement.



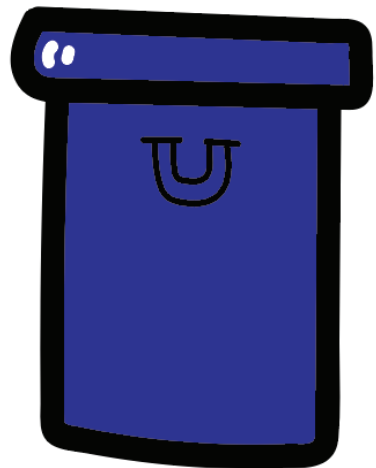
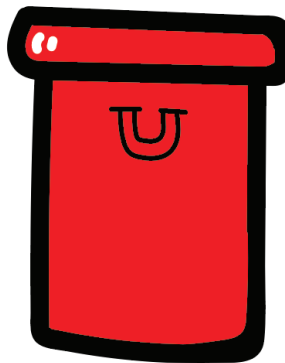
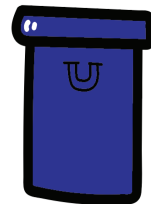
Mighty Lane Train

It's hard not to be engaged in Ole Miss Football when Lane Kiffin is at the helm. With as big of a personality as his, coupled with his dominant social media presence, he has been dubbed the NCAA head football coach with the "most swagger." We can most definitely look ahead to seeing his unparalleled game day outfits plastered on our phones and TVs, sporting jerseys of former and current Rebels. A new experience for everyone will be Kiffin leading the team down the Walk of Champions for the first time, before taking his team into Vaught-Hemingway, something you won't want to miss.



Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: Trash Can Friday

Often overlooked on Saturday's, though never underappreciated on Friday's, are the quintessential Trash Can Friday's before every home game. Hundreds of red and blue bins filling the Grove and Circle can only mean one thing: Rebel Football is back. If you open up Snapchat or Instagram stories on a Friday before a home game, you're likely to spend several minutes clicking through an influx of photos showcasing the cans that will soon hold leftover food, dirty plates and thousands of styrofoam cups. The sight to see one day quickly becomes a passing thought when it's time to cheer on the Rebels.



Experience the Grove in Full Swing

In 2020, the most unprecedented time many of us have experienced, we went without the backbone of Ole Miss Football, tailgating in the Grove. However, a sigh of relief was heard around Northeast Mississippi on the morning of June 1, 2021 when Athletic Director Keith Carter announced that the Grove would be operating as it did pre-pandemic for the 2021 football season. While specific details are still being finalized, we can expect to enjoy all of our favorite things, with a few added bonuses. Prepare for the overload of food and beverages and university traditions like the Grove Show, featuring Ole Miss Spirit Squads and the Pride of the South. The Grove is poised to come back to life.

Bottom Line: Be Safe

At the end of the day, we all want to feel a sense of normalcy, but with that luxury comes doing everything in your power to keep yourself and others safe. While specificities for festivities will be updated as needed, follow them accordingly as the times are still changing. Be kind to others and continue practicing safe habits in order to make the most of your Ole Miss game day experiences.

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FOOTBALL

Offense versatility continues

RUBY DRAAYER
thedmsports@gmail.com

After wrapping up the 2021 football fall camp this week, there has been a lot of speculation on the offense and how the new system will work. All eyes will be on Jerrion Ealy and John Rhys Plumlee this season.

In the 2020 season, Ealy mostly thrived in the backfield and ran for 745 yards and nine touchdowns in only nine games. His athleticism cannot be denied, which is why this year he will probably be used all over the field. Jerrion Ealy suffered a shoulder injury during the season that required surgery, but it has not hindered his playmaking ability at all.

“If I’m out in the slot, that gives another back the opportunity to be in the backfield. If we have two backs there, that would be a dangerous thing. Henry (Parrish Jr.) can move out, too. That gives our offense a little more fire,” Ealy said

regarding his role’s versatility.

The running back room has incredible depth this season with plenty of players who can move into that role. Snoop Conner, Henry Parrish Jr. and Kentrell Bullock. All three backs took reps last season, so there will be no problem having people step up. With so many offensive weapons, it will be very exciting to see the different ways head coach Lane Kiffin and offensive coordinator Jeff Lebby utilize every player.

After observing practice this week, there is a very likely chance that we will see him in a slot receiver position. Replacing a guy like Elijah Moore will not be easy, but if there is anyone that can do it, it’s Jerrion Ealy.

When discussing his thoughts on Ealy’s playing ability, Coach Lebby stated, “he needs the football. If I’m smart, I’ll give him the football...the guy needs the ball. He’s special. We’re going to find ways to get it to him for sure.”

John Rhys Plumlee lost the starting quarterback job to Matt Corral last season and spent a good amount of time on the bench before switching to a receiver in the Outback bowl. In his debut at the position, he had five receptions for 73 yards.

Corral also took to the discussion on Plumlee’s ability to play in the slot. “He is still a QB mentally, and he is going to think like one. He knows what I’m looking for him in the slot, the slot does a lot of work in this offense. From being a QB going to slot receiver...he did good against Indiana, but now he has footwork,” he said.

With more time and practice, Plumlee will be able to gain a further understanding of the position and become an even better weapon in this already dominant offense.

The Rebels take on the Louisville Cardinals at the Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta on Sept. 6. Fans can also watch the game on ESPN.



Above: Three Rebel defenders attempt to tackle one of their teammates during a scrimmage on Saturday, Aug. 21.

Top Right: Jalen Jordan catches a high pass during practice on Saturday, Aug. 21.

Right: Snoop Conner dodges a defening teammater and runs toward the endzone.

Photos by HG Biggs



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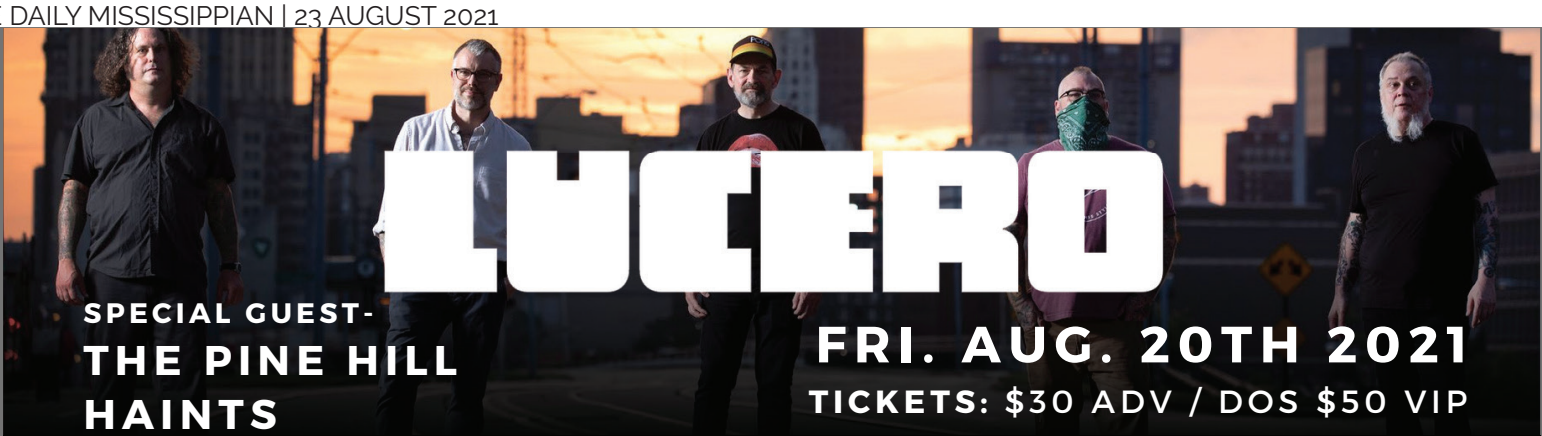
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Ole Miss soccer looks to continue success

CATHERINE JEFFERS
thedmsports@gmail.com

After an anti-climactic start to the 2021 regular season, Ole Miss Soccer is looking ahead to their second official home opener, with hopes to get the season off on the right foot. What was supposed to be the team's first home game since April turned into a rained out match against East Tennessee State University on Thursday, Aug. 19.

The Rebels look to continue their dominant home game performances in the newly designated home opener Thursday, Aug. 26 against Middle Tennessee State University.

Despite an irregular 2020 season, played mostly in the spring, the Rebels made full use of their home field advantage at Ole Miss Soccer Stadium. Even in front of a reduced capacity crowd, the Rebels finished 7-0 with five straight wins at home. In the 2020 NCAA Tournament, the Rebels seemed unstoppable, advancing to the Sweet 16 after beating the No. 8 overall seed on penalty kicks. Ole Miss eventually fell to the No. 6 seed 1-0, ending their NCAA Championship run in the round of 16 for the second time in team history.

Last year's dominant performances by Senior goalkeeper Ashley Orkus did not go unnoticed. Leading up to the home opener this Thursday, Orkus has been placed on the TopDrawerSoccer Preseason Best XI First Team, SEC Preseason watchlist and has been named to the MAC Hermann Trophy Watch List.

Senior forward Channing Foster also landed on the watch list for the MAC Hermann Trophy, the highest award given to the nation's best Division 1 soccer player. Along with Orkus, Foster was also named to the SEC Preseason watchlist. This will be Foster's final season as an Ole Miss Rebel before she heads to the National Women's Soccer League to play for the Chicago Red Stars. During her time at Ole Miss, Foster has become the leading goal scorer, as well as a four-time SEC honoree.

Three other Rebels earned their way onto the 2021 SEC Preseason Watchlist, including senior midfielder



PHOTO COURTESY: JOSHUA MCCOY/OLE MISS ATHLETICS

Saydie Holland heads the ball in a match against Memphis on March 1, 2021 at the Ole Miss Soccer Complex in Oxford, MS. The Rebels went on to defeat the Memphis Tigers 3-1.

Molly Martin and senior defender Sydney Michalak. Another mainstay on the starting lineup is senior midfielder Haleigh Stackpole. Stackpole earned her spot on the Preseason Watchlist after leading the team last season with 16 points, including four goals and eight assists.

With only four players not returning to the pitch from last year's roster, Ole Miss Soccer is bringing back all goals, assists and saves. Nine new freshmen, hailing from across the Southeast and Canada, along with two transfers, Sydney Ash from Virginia Tech and Stella Downing from Memphis, make up the 11 new players rostered.

Rebel fans can also look forward to the return of senior forward Lonnie Mulligan after her junior season was cut short due to an injury in the fourth game of the 2020 season. Mulligan is a dominant force for the Rebel offense and will be looking to add to her two career goals, four assists and 17 shots on goal.



PHOTO COURTESY: JOSHUA MCCOY/OLE MISS ATHLETICS

The Ole Miss Soccer team celebrates after defeating Memphis 3-1 on March 1, 2021 at the Ole Miss Soccer Complex in Oxford, MS.

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OPINION

Islamophobia and anti-Semitism are rising and must be stopped

LONDYN LORENZ
thedmopinion@gmail.com

The pandemic has taken a toll on all of us, pushing us online, limiting our contact with others, and causing growing feelings of isolation. For some, this isolation has resulted in political insulation, where differing viewpoints are never heard unless they are being dismissed or ridiculed. Online filter bubbles resulting from social media algorithms have pushed some into dark cycles of prejudice, encouraging hate against many groups, including Jewish and Muslim communities across the globe.

This cannot be tolerated. Even national figures have spewed this hate, including Congresswoman Marjorie Taylor Greene. Taylor Greene has been cited as saying that

Muslims do not belong in government and that Jewish space lasers caused the 2018 California wildfires, among many other hateful and idiotic lies.

These bigoted falsehoods have long predated the pandemic, but social media feedback loops have allowed them to go unchecked and spread without control. New twisted lies have emerged during the pandemic, as mask mandates and vaccinations are compared to the Holocaust and Democrats pushing COVID protocols and vaccines are compared to Nazis, which undermines the suffering and death of millions of Jews. No surprise, Taylor Greene spread these as well and has surprisingly since apologized, but this damage has already spread to everyday Americans. A rioter at the January 6 insurrection, who has since been arrested,

was seen wearing a “Camp Auschwitz” hoodie alongside other instances of anti-Semitism at the riot.

Political turmoil has also resulted in bigotry. News reports of the decades-old Israel-Palestine conflict, which was featured over the summer as Jewish settlers attempted to displace Palestinians in the East Jerusalem neighborhood of Sheikh Jarrah, ignited anti-Semitic and Islamophobic attacks across the globe, with both sides seeing a sharp uptake in attacks and targeted hate speech. Even more recently, the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan has reignited fears of Muslim men, who are accused of being terrorists, seeking refuge in the US alongside their families and other common Islamophobic claims. Islamophobia will undoubtedly increase as these refugees enter the United

States, and perhaps even Mississippi. Each American has the responsibility to fight it.

As students step foot on campus, some for the first time since March 2020, we must confront this head-on. Students come to UM from across the country and from around the world; many may have been directly taught these harmful misconceptions or have been exposed to them during the pandemic. It is the duty of every student, faculty member and administrator to stop this bigotry in its tracks. Oxford and the UM campus are homes to diverse populations, including members of all backgrounds and worldviews. Respect for all is to be expected and no diversion from this should be tolerated. The Oxford-University community hosts Islamic and Jewish communities, including

the Jewish Federation of Oxford and a sizeable Muslim population attending the Oxford Masjid (Mosque).

When we see these communities, among any other, attacked, we must take a stand and respond. The Ole Miss Bias Education and Response Team (BERT) assists all victims of prejudice and bias-related incidents and helps determine the appropriate next steps. Victims should not have to face these attacks alone, and it is the entire campus’s responsibility to be their ally, regardless of religion, race, sexuality or other identifier.

Lyndyn Lorenz is the opinion editor from Perryville, Missouri, majoring in Arabic and international studies.

COVID protocols are worth the inconvenience

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Over the summer, Ole Miss students received two very different emails addressing what COVID protocols for the upcoming Fall semester will look like. On June 24, the Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs sent an email to students detailing the University’s Fall 2021 COVID-19 protocols. Under these protocols, vaccinated students didn’t have to wear masks, social distance, or quarantine if they were exposed to COVID-19 but remained asymptomatic. However, on August 4, a new email was sent from Chancellor Glenn Boyce that said because of the Delta variant, there would now be a temporary indoor mask mandate for everyone, regardless of vaccination status.

I felt, and I assume other students did too, shocked by this sudden change to what my semester was going to look like. Despite my shock, I understood that the necessity of requiring masks outweighed the disruption it would cause.

While UM is encouraging the vaccine, they are not mandating it despite both vaccine requirements at many other colleges across the country and the fact that IHL does not prohibit it. Even though UM may be refusing to require the vaccine, it still has the responsibility to mandate everyone, regardless of vaccination status, to wear masks. It is estimated that a person infected with the Delta strain will infect 1-1.5 more people on average than they would if they had the original strain.

I understand people that want to have a normal school year. I understand

that the University wants to have a normal year. I spent my Freshman year in a COVID-regulated school year and want to have my first real college experience, one without Zoom, masks and social distancing. I also experienced firsthand how exciting it was to have the real, pre-COVID, world given back to me, only for it to suddenly be taken away again. Being back home for the summer in New Orleans, I was able to have roughly one month of normality where restaurants were back at full capacity and masks were no longer required. During this month, I believed, perhaps naively, that COVID was now behind us, and I was very much taken aback when the Delta variant emerged and mask mandates started popping up again.

My point from all of this is I understand how frustrating it is to have freedom from

COVID at the tip of everyone’s fingertips, only for it to be suddenly ripped away by the Delta variant. What is more important than my wants, other people’s wants, or even the school’s wants, however, are the health and wellbeing of the Ole Miss community. The solution to this disappointment is not to foolishly ignore it and keep using an outdated protocol. Ole Miss must continue to adapt to the current state of the nation and keep changing protocol as needed, despite

the frustration it might cause to save student’s lives and their on-campus college experience. At the end of the day, wearing masks is a small price to pay in order to have all in-person classes.

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- Former Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
- Practiced at his privately owned law firm for 45 consecutive years- located at the same place, being the Oxford Square, Downtown, Oxford, Mississippi.
- Taught the Mississippi DUI Law and 5 different Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure courses each and every semester at the University of Mississippi for 29 consecutive years.
- A member of the Chancellor's Trust at The University of Mississippi since 1981.
- Former Municipal Prosecutor for the City of Oxford, Mississippi for over 6 years.
- Former Municipal Court Judge for the City of Oxford, Mississippi for 8 years.
- Former Vice President and President of the Lafayette County Bar Association; member of the Mississippi Bar Association, etc.
- Appointed by the Mississippi State Bar to the Mississippi Commission on Attorney Ethics and Attorney Violations of the Canon of Ethics and All Mandatory Rules concerning the Practice of Law. Occupied the positions of Vice Chairman and Chairman served for 18 years.
- A Founding Member of the National College for DUI Defense conducted at Harvard Law School.
- Selected as one of the Top 50 DUI Attorneys in Mississippi by the National Advocacy for DUI Defense.
- Selected as one of the Top 10 Best Attorneys of Mississippi for Client Satisfaction Award by the American Institute of DUI/DWI Attorneys.
- Selected as one of the Top 100 Trial Lawyers by the National Trial Lawyers Organization.
- Recipient of the DISTINGUISHED AWARD OF MERIT for 1989 from the Mississippi State Bar given to one Attorney in the State each year for outstanding contributions to the practice of law.
- Voted "Best Attorney in Oxford, Mississippi" in the Grove's Choice Awards.
- Member of the American Association of Premier DUI Attorneys.
- Member of the National League of Renowned Attorneys- Top 1%
- Awarded the United States Congressional Medal of Distinction by RNCC.
- Member of the American Jurist Institute - Top 10 DUI/DWI Attorney for Mississippi
- Member of the American Society of Legal Advocates - Top 100 Criminal Defense Lawyers in the State of Mississippi.
- Selected by the Attorney and Practice Magazine as one of Mississippi's Top 10 Attorneys, et cetera.

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