

University of Mississippi

eGrove

---

Daily Mississippian (all digitized issues)

Daily Mississippian

---

3-31-2022

**March 31, 2022**

The Daily Mississippian

Follow this and additional works at: <https://egrove.olemiss.edu/thedmonline>

---

**Recommended Citation**

The Daily Mississippian, "March 31, 2022" (2022). *Daily Mississippian (all digitized issues)*. 1370.  
<https://egrove.olemiss.edu/thedmonline/1370>

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Daily Mississippian at eGrove. It has been accepted for inclusion in Daily Mississippian (all digitized issues) by an authorized administrator of eGrove. For more information, please contact [egrove@olemiss.edu](mailto:egrove@olemiss.edu).

## Second lynching marker dedication to take place Saturday



FILE PHOTO: REED JONES / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

A plaque memorializing Elwood Higginbottom, the last man to be lynched in Lafayette County, in 1935. The marker was placed in 2018.

## How masks affect the hearing impaired



FILE PHOTO: BILLY SCHUERMAN / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

BRITTANY KOHNE

thedmnews@gmail.com

For most people, COVID-19 created obstacles to communication and connecting with others. But for those with hearing impairments who read lips to understand a conversation, masks cut them off from the rest of the world.

Max Hawkins, a freshman business major, was born deaf and received cochlear implants at age one.

A common struggle for Hawkins is comprehending conversations he has with others. Although he can hear the conversation, it takes a bit longer for him to fully engage in the conversation.

When COVID-19 hit in 2020,

SEE MARKER PAGE 3

SEE MASKS PAGE 3

VIOLET JIRA

thedmnews@gmail.com

A marker dedicated to lynching victims, placed on the grounds of the Lafayette County Courthouse, will be dedicated Saturday, over a year after the Lafayette

County Board of Supervisors unanimously voted to construct the marker. The marker was erected in fall 2021, however, the COVID-19 pandemic caused the public ceremony to be postponed until this weekend.

The marker has the names

of seven Black men who were lynched in Lafayette County.

The courthouse was selected as the most appropriate place for the marker because it will memorialize all seven victims at the center of the community according to April

Grayson, a member of the Lynching Memorialization in Lafayette County steering committee. This will be the second marker the group has put up, the first plaque being placed to memorialize Elwood Higginbottom, the last Black man to be lynched

## UM works to fill FSL vacancies

VIOLET JIRA

thedmnews@gmail.com

Since the resignation of Arthur Doctor was announced in June 2021, the University of Mississippi's office of Fraternity and Sorority Life has been in search of a director. The office is also hiring two assistant directors.

The office has experienced a number of changes in leadership over the past year. After the resignation of Doctor, who had served in the director position since 2018, was announced, Brooke Hubbard, who had previously served as an associate director, then assumed the position of interim-director. Hubbard departed from the role

after the conclusion of the fall 2021 semester.

Since early January, Brent Marsh, assistant vice chancellor and dean of students, has simultaneously served as interim-director of FSL. Alongside him, Jordan Freeman, associate director, Julia Brechtel, assistant director, and Brian Greene and Taylor Pierce, graduate assistants, make up the Office of Fraternity and Sorority life.

The director and assistant directors of FSL are part of a network of individuals in the university community who provide leadership, guidance and vision to the FSL community at UM. FSL, which operates within Student Affairs, exists

to "support the individuals, chapters, and organizations affiliated with our community through a holistic and student focused approach," according to the FSL website.

Greek life is a core part of the University of Mississippi experience for a large portion of students. Over 39% of undergraduate students at UM are Greek affiliated.

"We have some true rock stars in FSL including Jordan Freeman, Julia Brechtel and our graduate assistants: Brian Greene and Taylor Pierce. I'm thankful for and proud of each of these four individuals for their tremendous work this semester," Marsh said. "In addition, our three council presidents and

SEE FSL PAGE 2



ILLUSTRATION: MICAH CRICK / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

## FSL continued from page 1

their executive teams along with the FSL student workers have been invaluable. I'm proud of how we're all working together to manage every program, responsibility, and situation to get the job done."

The office has faced a number of challenges throughout the past three years, navigating multiple instances and allegations of hazing and misconduct within UM fraternities. Last year, two fraternities were suspended within two months — Pi Kappa Alpha in November and Kappa Alpha Psi in December — due to hazing allegations. According to Marsh, candidates will be

aware of the challenges like these confronting Greek organizations.

"Qualified candidates will be knowledgeable of the challenges that face Greek-letter organizations across the nation and how college and university leaders seek to address these challenges, so we have honest conversations with our candidates about those issues as they relate to our University community," he said.

The office is actively recruiting three positions: director, an assistant director to advise the Interfraternity Council and another assistant director to advise the National Pan-Hellenic Council.

Marsh acknowledges that the current job market has made it more difficult to fill these positions, but is confident that

the office will be able to find and hire highly qualified individuals.

"The national job market is in a major state of flux as the well-documented phenomenon known as 'The Great Resignation' has led millions of Americans to rethink their career paths and what they want to do after two years in the COVID-19 pandemic," he said.

The "Great Resignation" is an ongoing economic phenomenon that has been characterized by a wave of resignations nationwide. People are, at an unprecedented rate, voluntarily leaving their jobs in search of more fulfilling lifestyles.

"Higher education is feeling that impact as hiring managers are seeing smaller candidate pools for a wide range of positions," Marsh said.

"At the same time, Ole Miss and Oxford are highly sought after destinations with great opportunities for advancement, so I am confident we will fill these positions with highly qualified individuals."

The university is consistently pointed to as one of the top schools to attend for those looking to have one of the best Greek and campus life experiences in the country.

"For the fall 2021 semester, our chapters raised over \$530,000 in philanthropy, logged nearly 30,000 hours of community service and offered close to 100 educational programs. Collectively, our chapters' GPAs continue to be higher than the all-University averages for men and women," he said. "With nearly 6,500

affiliated students from across the country and around the world, we emphasize to potential applicants the broad scope and significant impact that fraternities and sororities have on campus life, and the important role that Fraternity & Sorority Life fills in providing services and comprehensive support for our members, alumni, advisers, organizations and councils."

Applications for assistant director positions opened on March 24 and first round interviews for the director position are slated to begin soon. Marsh is optimistic that all positions will be filled by the end of this semester with all new staff on board by the summer.

# Verdict reached in UM lawsuit

STACEY SPIEHLER  
thedmnews@gmail.com

A lawsuit against the University of Mississippi alleging denial of accessibility for a deaf alumnus has concluded. The District Court for North Mississippi handed down its ruling on March 7.

James Sisco, the defendant, failed to prove that the university waived its immunity from the suit as a state actor under 11th Amendment protection, so his suit against the university was dismissed without prejudice. A future suit is possible if Sisco exhausts administrative remedies, such as filing a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Chancellor Glenn Boyce, who was also named in the lawsuit, is not entitled to the same immunity, and Sisco's case against the chancellor remains ongoing.

Sisco, a University of Mississippi graduate with a profound hearing impairment, filed the lawsuit last March alleging that the university failed to provide captioning on videos in his classes, programs produced

by the university and the university's televisions.

Sisco was diagnosed at an early age and raised by his mother, who is also deaf. His first language was American Sign Language. Sisco attended the university between 2015 and 2020 and has been a fan of Ole Miss Athletics, especially football, since 2013.

During his time at the university, Sisco spent time with his friends at the Pavilion, eating lunch and attempting to watch the TVs, but could not understand because the videos were not captioned. After numerous complaints to Student Disability Services, the TVs were captioned, but it lasted "only for about a week," according to the case text.

Although the university has the capabilities to add captions to any video, Sisco's lawsuit alleged that it failed to do so on several forms of media. Social media videos from the university were rarely captioned during his time here, including episodes of "The Season," a reality show about UM's athletic team.

NewsWatch is a student-run TV news station



FILE PHOTO: KATHERINE BUTLER / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

A lawsuit against the University of Mississippi alleging denial of accessibility for a deaf alumnus concluded on March 7.

produced by university students and airs on UM's website, a local cable channel and the university's cable system. It was rarely captioned during Sisco's time here, meaning he missed useful information.

The TV in the Guyton Hall Provisions On Demand "played videos of students announcing important dates and events without captioning," and Sisco could not understand what was being said when he was there for his education classes.

In the last example listed in the lawsuit, Sisco describes his challenges in his Chinese history

class taught by Joshua Howard, Croft professor of history and director of the interdisciplinary minor in East Asian studies. Student Disability Services informed Howard before the semester began "that, because there was a deaf student in the class, he needed to obtain captions for any videos played in class."

SDS provides captions for all videos with sufficient advance notice. According to the lawsuit, Howard still "played uncaptioned videos in class on three separate occasions," including one video for an after-hours extra credit opportunity.

"Howard tested material from these videos on quizzes and exams and provided extra credit for students who wrote a paper on the extra credit video," reads the lawsuit. Sisco credits the lack of captioning for his C in the course.

"I have provided written documentation to the university demonstrating how I worked with Student Disability Services to accommodate Mr. Sisco's needs," Howard said. He declined to comment further due to the ongoing nature of the lawsuit. All other entities named in the case text declined similarly.



# WE ARE HIRING

Managing Editor  
News Editor  
Arts & Culture Editor  
Sports Editor  
Opinion Editor

Visuals Editor  
Design Editor  
Audio Editor  
Assistant News Editors  
Assistant Sports Editor

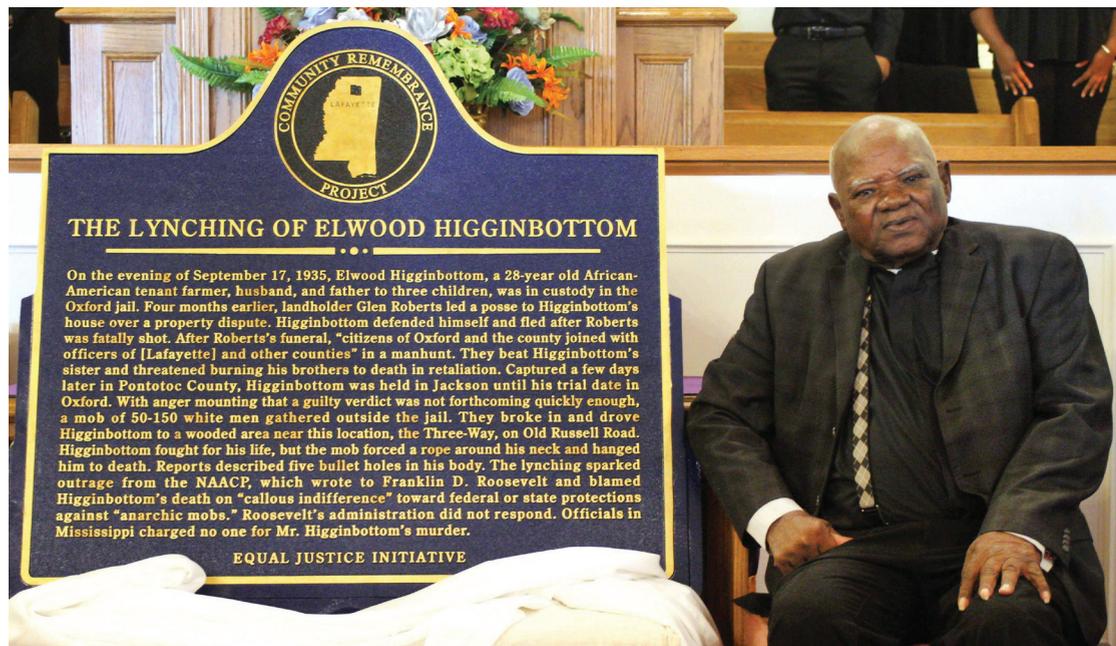
to apply, visit  
[thedmonline.com/apply](https://thedmonline.com/apply)

# MARKER

*continued from page 1*

in Lafayette County in 1935. The marker dedication will take place at 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 2, on the Square. Representatives of the Lafayette Community Remembrance Project, The Alluvial Collective (formerly the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation), Equal Justice Initiative, Civil Rights and Restorative Justice Project, descendants of local lynching victims, the UM Gospel Choir and other local leaders and performers will participate in the ceremony. The ceremony will be followed by a processional

of family members to the marker on the east side of the courthouse lawn. Following the conclusion of the marker dedication on the Square, the dedication of a bench honoring the memory of Rev. E.W. Higginbottom will take place at the bench located at the Old Armory Pavilion at the corner of Bramlett and University Avenue at 5 p.m. The dedication comes on the heels of President Biden's signing of the Emmett Till Antilynching Act of 2022 on Tuesday. Named for Emmett Till, a Black boy from Chicago who was brutally murdered in Mississippi, the act designates lynching as a federal hate crime for the first time in American history.



FILE PHOTO: REED JONES / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

E.W. Higginbottom, the son of Elwood Higginbottom, who was the seventh and last recorded person to be lynched in Lafayette County, sits in Second Baptist Church during the dedication of a new plaque to memorialize his father.

# MASKS

*continued from page 1*

masks created a disconnect for people with hearing impairments. "That's probably the biggest challenge I've ever faced in my entire life. COVID-19 just blew things away," Hawkins said. "It was a very heavy reliant to read lips and with masks you can't see their lips." When Hawkins started at the university, he made sure to sit in the front of class to be able to hear better during lecture. The Student Disability Services also provided special technologies for professors who had students with hearing impairments. "They would wear a special microphone or a mask with clear covering on it so I can see their mouths and read their lips," Hawkins said. "I've definitely learned to adjust, so I don't have to use those

anymore. I just kind of just sit in the front more now and I just pray that they talk loud." After two years of wearing masks, Hawkins has learned how to rely less on lip reading and focused more on listening to the conversation. Xavier Vazquez, adjunct professor and director/producer of marketing and communication, was diagnosed with tinnitus in his right ear when he got out of the military. Tinnitus is the constant ringing or buzzing within the ear. Vazquez said that the only time he truly notices the ringing is when he is in complete silence. He first realized the ringing one night when the power went out from a storm and realized his music that he normally played while sleeping was off. "I said, 'What is that? Where is that coming from?' And then finally I start coming to and it's like 'Oh, it's coming from inside my head,'" Vazquez said. "Then I started realizing now I know

exactly what this is, I made an appointment at VA medical and sure enough they're like textbook tinnitus." Once COVID-19 hit for Vazquez, he said the hardest thing for him was to decipher between accents. "When COVID-19 first hit, I was in Los Angeles. When I had to come to the South, that's when I started listening to y'all, but this is the first place I've ever actually heard the southern accent," Vazquez said. "That's when I just realized I was like, I don't understand you. It's a little upsetting because I have to say 'Can you repeat yourself?'" One request that Vazquez gave his students was to speak louder when asking questions. "You'll see me literally focus my entire body on a student asking a question. I try my hardest to zone in. Luckily, it just worked out this way: the students that I have in class really don't have thicker accents," Vazquez said. In order to hear people



GRAPHIC: MICAH CRICK / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

to the fullest extent, Vazquez tends to lean towards the left to the person speaking. Both Vazquez and Hawkins both said that it's important for people to speak up when they are talking to a person with a hearing impairment. In addition, when someone with a hearing impairment

asks for the speaker to repeat themselves, patience is always encouraged. "Everyone wears masks just for any blanket idea, no matter what it is, always assume there's a portion of the population that's probably going to be negatively affected," Vazquez said.

## THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN EDITORIAL STAFF

- MADDY QUON**  
*editor-in-chief*  
dmeditor@gmail.com
- JACOB MEYERS**  
*managing editor*  
dmmanaging@gmail.com
- ZACH SPOONER**  
*copy chief*  
thedmcopy@gmail.com
- VIOLET JIRA**  
*news editor*  
thedmnews@gmail.com
- BRITTANY KOHNE**  
*assistant news editor*  
thedmnews@gmail.com

- RABRIA MOORE**  
*assistant news editor*  
thedmnews@gmail.com
- CATHERINE JEFFERS**  
*sports editor*  
thedmsports@gmail.com
- RUBY DRAAYER**  
*assistant sports editor*  
thedmsports@gmail.com
- HG BIGGS**  
*photo editor*  
thedmphotos@gmail.com
- LONDYN LORENZ**  
*opinion editor*  
thedmopinion@gmail.com
- KATE KIMBERLIN**  
*arts and culture editor*  
thedmfeatures@gmail.com

- VANESSA CLARK**  
*design editor*  
thedmdesign@gmail.com
  - MICAH CRICK**  
*visuals editor*  
thedmvisuals@gmail.com
  - CAROLINE BEACH**  
*social media editor*  
thedmsocialmedia@gmail.com
  - ARIANNA SWENSEN**  
*online editor*  
thedmonlineeditor@gmail.com
- 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.*



## S. GALE DENLEY STUDENT MEDIA CENTER

- PATRICIA THOMPSON**  
*Assistant Dean/Student Media*
- DENNIS MOORE**  
*Editorial Director/Student Media*
- ROY FROSTENSON**  
*Assistant Director/Advertising*
- JAYLIN JONES**  
*Advertising Sales Manager*  
dmads@olemiss.edu
- SALES ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES**  
Beau Broussard  
Adrienne Fleming  
Morgan Green  
Brenna Labyak  
Hailey Pompeo

## FOLLOW US



- THE DM INSTAGRAM  
@thedailymississippian
- THE DM NEWS TWITTER  
@thedm\_news
- THE DM SPORTS TWITTER  
@thedm\_sports
- THE DM DESIGN TWITTER  
@thedm\_visuals

# Newly proposed redistricting plan not likely to affect Oxford residents

**RABRIA MOORE**  
thedmnews@gmail.com

The Mississippi Joint Redistricting Committee presented and approved a redistricting plan Sunday afternoon in an effort to match population shifts reported in the 2020 census.

Lafayette County has had a population growth of nearly 8,500, while Oxford has grown by nearly 6,500 according to the U.S. Census. However, the redistricting plan will likely not affect Oxford nor Lafayette County.

Few changes will result from the plan, including the deletion and addition of districts in different parts of the state.

The districts of Republican Sen. Melanie Sojourner of Natchez and Democratic Sen. Albert Butler of Port Gibson were combined to create a single-majority Black

district. According to a story from US News and World Reports, Senate President Pro Tempore Dean Kirby said a new majority-white district was established in Rankin and Smith counties.

In the House, two districts were absorbed by surrounding districts due to stagnant populations.

A new district was created in Desoto County, and another district was created in Harrison County.

Mississippi's majority Black districts will remain the same under the new plan. The Senate will maintain 14 districts, and the House will maintain 42.

Every 10 years, the Legislature is required, by state and federal law, to redraw the 174 House and Senate districts.

The Mississippi House of Representatives has 122 districts, while the Senate has

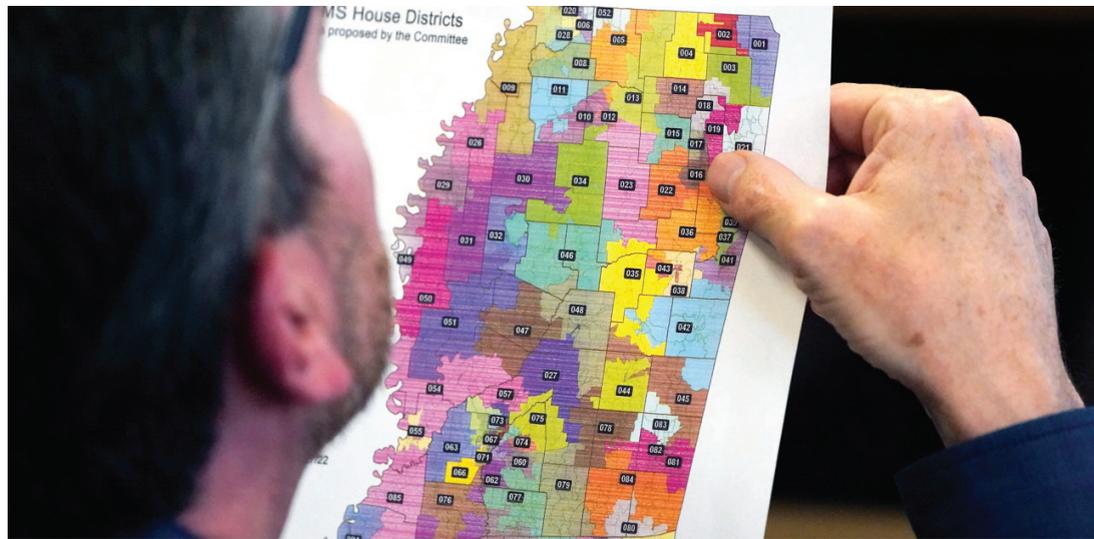


PHOTO COURTESY: ROGELIO V. SOLIS/ AP PHOTO

Rep. Dan Eubanks, R-Walls, examines a copy of the House redistricting map during a meeting of the House Legislative Reapportionment Committee on March 27, at the Mississippi Capitol in Jackson.

52. All 122 seats in the House are up for reelection in 2023. Republicans currently hold majorities in both chambers. The redistricting map will

be considered by the House and Senate before the end of the session on April 3, and it must be approved by the full membership of the

Mississippi legislature. Since legislative redistributing is done through a resolution, Gov. Tate Reeves will not need to sign the plans.

# Baptist reports zero COVID-19 cases for first time since March 2020

**RABRIA MOORE**  
thedmnews@gmail.com

Baptist Memorial Hospital-North Mississippi reported zero COVID-19 cases for the first time since March 18, 2020.

“Today (March 24) is a great day for our hospital and community – the first day with no COVID-19 patients since March 18, 2020,” said Baptist NMS CEO and Administrator Bill Henning in a statement to The Oxford Eagle. “We are very grateful for the reduction in COVID-19 patients in our community, region and state.”

Henning went on to say that although they are celebrating zero COVID-19 cases, he still wants people to be cautious and protect themselves against the virus.

Oxford Mayor Robyn Tannehill also celebrated the hospital's milestone with a Facebook post, noting that it is understood that COVID-19 is still around.

“We are celebrating NO COVID-19 patients at Baptist Memorial Hospital-North Mississippi today for the first time since March 18, 2020,” Tannehill said in the post. “Thank you, Oxford, for being responsible, for sticking with us for two

long years, for loving your neighbor.”

The state reported 90 new cases across the state on Wednesday, the lowest reported rate since the pandemic started.

According to the Mississippi State Department of Health, 12% of the state is fully vaccinated and boosted; 3% is fully vaccinated and not eligible for boosters; 28% is fully vaccinated and eligible for boosters; 56% is not or is only partially vaccinated.

Vaccination is still the best protection against COVID-19 infection and transmission, as it greatly reduces the chance of severe



FILE PHOTO: RACHEL ISHEE / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

On March 24, Baptist Memorial Hospital-North Mississippi reported zero COVID-19 cases for first time since March 2020.

illness and death from the virus according to the MSDH.



**BOOK YOUR NEXT EVENT WITH US!**

**Swaps  
Date Parties  
Parents Weekends  
Weddings  
...and More!**

Inquiries: email [abby@lamaryard.com](mailto:abby@lamaryard.com)

Please Drink Responsibly,  
Must be 21 to Enter and Drink

# Florida "Don't Say Gay" law has far-reaching impacts

**VIOLET JIRA**  
thedmnews@gmail.com

As more and more Republican-led states pass restrictive legislation with regards to the rights of LGBTQ+ people, there are concerns that Florida's new law, dubbed the "Don't Say Gay" law could have far reaching impact beyond the sunshine state.

"I'm devastated by laws like this," Rob Hill, state director of Human Rights Campaign Mississippi, said. "They impact the youth in Florida, but the news of this spreads beyond Florida and has an impact on LGBTQ+ plus folks all over the country."

On March 28, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis signed into law a bill that makes it illegal for teachers to educate students on sexual orientation and gender identity from kindergarten to third grade. The law will officially go into effect on July 1.

"Classroom instruction by school personnel or third parties on sexual orientation or gender identity may not occur in kindergarten through grade three or in a manner that is not age appropriate or developmentally appropriate for students in accordance with state standards," reads the bill's text.

Titled the "Parental Rights in Education" bill, House Bill 1557 was passed by Florida's Republican House and Senate by leaders who argue that the legislation is for students' protection.

"We will make sure that parents can send their kids to school to get an education, not an indoctrination," DeSantis said in a speech before signing the bill.

DeSantis and the Florida legislators who advanced the bill are receiving blowback from individuals and organizations who maintain that the law marginalizes and infringes on the rights of LGBTQ+ individuals. Hill and the Human Rights Campaign, a nationwide organization that fights for LGBTQ+ equality and inclusion, oppose the new law.

"This is very dangerous. I mean, the facts are already of the most vulnerable in our student population," Hill said. "We know that 86% (kids) reported being bullied, assaulted, and they're in their school setting. We know that, you know, LGBTQ+ youth, disproportionately attempt suicide."

Research and statistics indicate that LGBTQ+ youth are at a higher risk for committing suicide, primarily because of how they are mistreated and stigmatized in society according to The Trevor Project.

"Laws like this (by) leaders who are elected to protect us to make us safe, they send an opposite message," Hill said. "And they also, embolden those who are prejudiced, bigoted against LGBTQ+ people and in any marginalized community."

Cat Llanos is a University of Mississippi sophomore biological sciences major from Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. She was upset to hear that the legislation was advancing and eventually signed into law.

"I think it's ridiculous, the fact that instead of moving forward in time, we are now going backwards only because specific politicians believe that they should



PHOTO COURTESY: DOUGLAS R. CLIFFORD/ TAMPA BAY TIMES VIA AP

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis signs the Parental Rights in Education bill at Classical Preparatory school on March 28 in Shady Hills, Florida.

infringe their beliefs on us and that they have the power to move a bill forward just because they are who they are," she said. "I don't think this law protects children at all."

Familiar with both Mississippi and Florida, Llanos believes it is likely that similar legislation could be passed in Mississippi.

"I think that there is a big possibility that it can come down the pipe in Mississippi just as it has in both Florida and Texas," she said.

Hill expressed similar concerns.

"It's always a possibility. I would hope that our leaders would see the kind of response that this negative legislation has evoked from leaders, from corporate leaders, from any number of folks in opposition to this. Mississippi already struggles economically. A bill like this would set us back," he said.

"Who wants to come to a state where there is legislation that is intended to hurt people, in this case, LGBTQ+ youth and their families and their teachers?"

Mississippi has already advanced and passed its share of controversial LGBTQ+ legislation, most recently with Gov. Tate Reeves' signage of SB 2536, a law that forces public schools, public institutions of higher learning or institutions of higher learning that are members of the NCAA, NAIA, MHSAA or NJCCA to designate athletic teams or sports according to biological sex.

Robert Foster, former Mississippi state representative and candidate for governor, has recently come under fire recently for tweeting that supporters of transgender rights should be "lined up against the wall before a firing squad and

sent to early judgement."

Florida's new law will likely face legal challenges due to questions of unconstitutionality and possible violation of free speech laws. Hill says that the key to fighting legislation like this is to share your story and keep legislators accountable.

"We need young people to speak out, to show up at the capitol, to call your legislators and have conversations with them, especially LGBTQ+ students. Talk to your legislator, whether he or she is a Republican or a Democrat, tell your story," he said. "That's the number one way to change hearts and minds around these issues and perhaps to avoid bad legislation like this in the future. And if your stories aren't listened to show up at the Capitol now demand that leaders reject this kind of discriminatory legislation."



S. GALE DENLEY  
**STUDENT  
MEDIA  
CENTER**

## Now Hiring! Advertising Sales Position

POSITIONS AVAILABLE FOR 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

**Must** have at least **two semesters** to complete before graduating.

**Must** have strong communication skills and be comfortable interacting with local business professionals.

**Must** be highly motivated, organized, dependable, and attentive to detail.

**Previous** sales or retail experience preferred **but not required.**

Earnings are based on commission. This is excellent work experience for a resume or future employer.

Contact [dmads@olemiss.edu](mailto:dmads@olemiss.edu) for an application.

# Ole Miss looks to have a better weekend against the Wildcats



HG BIGGS / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Ole Miss second baseman Peyton Chatagnier slides past Oral Roberts catcher Brody Gibson to score a run during a game on March 11.

## RUBY DRAAYER

thedmsports@gmail.com

After a subpar start to SEC play, the No. 10 Rebels will look to find their rhythm against Kentucky in a three games series in Lexington after getting swept at home by No. 1 Tennessee last weekend.

This will be the third SEC team that Ole Miss faces in as many weeks, after winning the first series against Auburn 2-1 and falling to the Vols 0-3. The Rebs are currently sitting at 17-7 overall and 2-4 in conference play.

There has been a lot of discussion over the disastrous weekend against Tennessee and whether or not this truly is a championship team. There was a lot of noise prior to the season that this would finally be the year that head coach Mike Bianco took the Rebs to Omaha and won. Unfortunately, Ole Miss

was unable to show up and showcase that they deserved that No. 1 spot. It's going to be a long way back up to the top.

Ole Miss got right back to work after their disappointing showing, beating North Alabama at Swayze Field on Tuesday night. The Rebs showed up on offense scoring 20 runs in only seven innings. The day was highlighted by the five home runs hit and a nine run fourth inning, bringing the hope back into Rebel hearts everywhere.

Kentucky has a similar record with an overall 17-9 and a 2-4 record in the SEC. The Wildcats have faced both Arkansas and Georgia. They were swept by Arkansas and managed to walk away with a win over Georgia. Kentucky is coming off of a midweek 3-6 loss to Eastern Kentucky University at home, marking it their fourth midweek loss

of the season. They will be looking to earn their 2,000th all-time win as a program against the Rebels. The Wildcat to watch this weekend is junior infielder Chase Estep who has managed to reach base safely in 25 of his 26 games this season.

Bianco mentioned following the game against North Alabama that the pitching for this weekend is still to be determined. He did allude that there would be a change to the pitching rotation after it failed this past weekend. The offense needs to stay hot in order to see the desired results. Justin Bench and Calvin Harris in particular will continue to lead the team with a .353 and .571 batting average.

Ole Miss will take on the Wildcats at Kentucky Proud Park on April 1-3 with the first pitch on Friday at 5:30 p.m. CDT.



HG BIGGS / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Ole Miss baseball captain and first baseman Tim Elko and center fielder Justin Bench play tag before a game against Tennessee on March 25.

**Please**  
**RECYCLE**  
**your DM!**

**Prepare for Power Outages & Save Money**

**GENERAC PWRCELL**  
SOLAR + BATTERY STORAGE SYSTEM

PWRcell, Generac's fully-integrated solar + battery storage system, stores solar energy that can power your whole home during utility power outages and save you money on your electric bill.

**REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!**

**ACT NOW TO RECEIVE A \$300 SPECIAL OFFER!\***  
| (844) 355-7099

**\$0 DOWN FINANCING OPTIONS!\***

\*Offer value when purchased at retail.  
\*\*Financing available through authorized Generac partners.  
Solar panels sold separately.

# No. 10 Ole Miss obliterates North Alabama

**DILLON CADER**  
thedmsports@gmail.com

The Ole Miss baseball team scored 20 runs off of 16 hits in just seven innings in a midweek victory over the University of North Alabama. The Rebels defeated the Lions 20-3 to improve to 17-7 on the year. Five different Rebels hit long balls and four had a multi-hit game as the team looked to be letting out some frustration from last weekend.

## Welcome back Calvin

After missing nearly three weeks, Calvin Harris was back in the lineup and picked up where he left off. Harris was hitting over .500 when he got injured and after Tuesday's game his average has propelled to .572. Harris went three for four with five RBIs, including a home run and a double. Getting Harris back is a great sign for a team

that has struggled at the plate as of late. Usually catching or designated hitting, Harris started the game in left field, which says the coaching staff is trying to find a place for him in the lineup. Hopefully for Ole Miss, he can add a spark to the offense and can help hit to their potential in SEC play.

## Justin Bench is hot right now

Justin Bench went two for four in the game with three RBIs and hit his first home run of the year. Bench was the only Rebel who put up solid at-bats for most of the Tennessee series. Bench was calm under pressure at the plate, not swinging at wayward pitches and proved his ability to work a pitch count. Bench was also the saving grace for the Rebels, breaking up no-hitters on Friday and Saturday. He has improved his average to

.353, which leads the team. He has recently moved up to the third in the lineup, and with the way he has been hitting, one can only assume that's where he'll be for a while. Kevin Graham should be back in a couple of weeks, and if a few more hitters can get hot over that stretch, Ole Miss will have its lineup back looking the way it should in the heat of SEC play.

## Nice job shaking off the weekend

I was a bit worried that the team might come back out a little flat and emotionally hungover after the thumping that they took against Tennessee last weekend, but to their credit, they came out ready to dominate. North Alabama isn't exactly a worthy opponent, but it's a program that did beat Ole Miss in a midweek game in 2019, so it wasn't impossible for Ole Miss to lose its fourth straight



JACOB SMITH / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Jack Washburn pitches during a game against North Alabama on March 29.

game. The team looked like they were letting out some frustration, and hopefully for them the blowout is just what they needed to get their minds right for this weekend when they will try to bounce back against Kentucky and win another SEC series on the road.

# Rebels fall in game three to Tennessee

**DILLON CADER**  
thedmsports@gmail.com

The No. 1 ranked Ole Miss baseball team lost to Tennessee at home on Sunday 4-3 to finish off a brutal weekend for the Rebels. Here are my three takeaways from the disappointing outing.

## Pitchers did their part

I've said time and time again that Ole Miss doesn't need great pitching performances on Sunday due to the offense's ability to mass-produce runs on Sundays, but this Sunday the pitchers did better than anyone could have asked of them as the stagnant Rebel offense just wasn't able to perform as they normally do. Derek Diamond was able to make it through 4.2 innings while only giving up three runs, which is an improvement upon his previous performances. His outing was followed up by dominant outings from Riley Maddox and Brandon

Johnson, who were able to hold the Vols to just one run for the rest of the game. When your pitching staff holds any team to just four runs on Sundays, you are supposed to win that game easily as Sundays are typically higher scoring games. This wasn't the case as the Rebel offense had no answer for the Vols' pitching all weekend. Hopefully, the pitching staff can build off their solid performance and continue to pitch well on Sundays.

## At least this game was competitive

After being blown out in the first two games of the series, the Rebels were able to fight hard enough to keep this one within reach. After being held scoreless through seven innings, Hayden Dunhurst provided the only life Ole Miss had seen all weekend with a three-run homer to cut Tennessee's lead to one run. Unfortunately for the Rebels, they weren't able to score anymore

but it was nice to see the team fight hard after an embarrassing Friday and Saturday at Swayze.

## If the offense isn't elite, then lower your expectations

It's certainly not fair to judge the team after one bad weekend, and I think the offense will bounce back and play the way they can. But it makes one think that maybe the offense isn't as good as advertised, and if that is the case, then it's not going to be a very fun year for this team. The offense is the bread and butter for this team, and in order for Ole Miss to make a postseason run the offense has to be nothing short of elite. The pitching staff isn't very good, but the goal for them as a staff is simply to just keep the team in the game so the offense can win it. If the offense can't perform to the highest of their ability then the pitching staff is not going to be able to keep Ole Miss in games. I don't think this weekend means that Ole Miss



HG BIGGS / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Ole Miss second baseman Peyton Chatagnier takes a moment for contemplation before a game against Tennessee on March 27.

isn't really good offensively, but if it turns out that the offense is overrated then Ole Miss isn't going very far this year. It's up to them to bounce back and hit like they are capable of doing or this ship is going to sink.

**DOMINO'S**  
**WEST &**  
**OLE MISS**  
**CAMPUS**

1603 WEST JACKSON AVENUE

**662.236.3030**

**DOMINO'S**  
**EAST - NEW**  
**LOCATION!**  
**OPEN NOW!**

1920 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
NEXT TO LARSON'S CASH SAVER

**662.236.3844**



**NOW HIRING**  
**DRIVERS**

Earn \$12-\$18 per hour

Apply in person – 1603 W Jackson Ave  
or 1920 University Ave  
or online at [jobs.dominos.com](https://jobs.dominos.com)

ORDER ONLINE [DOMINOS.COM](https://dominos.com)



**OPEN LATE!** SUN-WED 10:30 AM-2 AM  
THURS-SAT 10:30 AM-3 AM

**OleMiss**  
CAMPUS RECREATION

**Doubles Pickleball Tournament**  
Registration Deadline  
4/5

Turner Center Room 112  
[imsc@olemiss.edu](mailto:imsc@olemiss.edu)  
662.915.5573

# SNOOPerstar

**OWEN PUSTELL**

thedmsports@gmail.com

This article marks a continuation in the series highlighting the changing of the guard in Rebel football. I will be taking to the film in order to watch, breakdown and evaluate notable Ole Miss athletes who have either declared for the draft or are transferring into the program.

## Stat Breakdown

H/W/P: 5'10, 220 lbs, RB

Pro Comparison: Chris Carson

In a Nutshell: Conner is a short yardage back at heart, but has shown the vision and explosiveness required to become a more versatile threat. He has a compact frame which he uses to his advantage when pass protecting or running inside the tackles.

## Strengths

First and foremost, Conner is physical. He invites contact and is more than willing to use his body blocking in the open field, falling for extra yards or picking up a blitz in pass protection. He is also a bigger guy, coming in at 220 despite being just 5'10, which Kiffin loved to take advantage of by using Conner as a lead blocker on jet sweeps. This would entail lining Conner up next to Corral in the shotgun away from the slot receiver, then motioning the receiver pre-snap and giving him the ball. Conner would then lead the charge and attack the edge, picking up the first colors that showed to him. Conner was able to execute this quite well and showed impressive vision and control when deciding when he should commit to picking up a defender.

One of the best examples of Conner doing his job on these outside runs came on the first offensive snap against Tennessee. Henry Parish Jr. came around in motion and got the ball. The Tennessee slot corner was left un-blocked at the line of scrimmage, leaving Conner one-on-one with him. Conner attacked him straight on as opposed to picking a shoulder, which was the right call as Parish had not yet committed to a gap. Conner then shot his hands into the defender just outside the shoulder to restrict him from shedding the block for half a second. This was not long

enough to draw a holding call, but just long enough for Parish to rush by him.

Being able to block is a huge skill for Conner, who will likely be a complementary back at the next level and will need to pick up as many small skills as possible. Kiffin also used this same formation/motion combo to run a deadly option, with Corral being able to hand it to Conner for a strongside run or keep it himself if a backside gap opened up. This was the bread and butter of the Rebels' run game. With Conner as a bruiser, defenses had to respect his ability inside, but if they collapsed on him, Corral had the option to keep it himself.

As a runner, Conner has flashed a number of valuable traits, but the most impressive has been his speed when compared to his size. At 5'10, 220, Conner is more compact than a lot of running backs in the NFL, but has shown the ability to hit home runs. Against Arkansas, Conner put this on display with a 51-yard touchdown run where he identified a whole, hit it and then outran everyone on the field. The guards did a good job of getting upfield and cutting off the linebackers, then Conner read the block perfectly and beat the DBs in the open field for the touchdown. Although he did not directly break any tackles, Conner showed something even more valuable — that he doesn't have to. Most power backs are confined to interior runs where they find a defender, run into him and fall forward for yardage. Conner has flashed the ability to make people straight up miss. It will always be more valuable in football to be able to keep tacklers from touching you as opposed to going through them, and speed is the best way to do that.

## Weaknesses

The biggest drawback for Conner is volume. He has flashed the ability to beat defenders with speed, strength or with a straight up juke move, but he never had the volume to truly prove himself. Though Conner has rushed for a very impressive amount of touchdowns in his career, he has never been the feature back in an offense. He has eclipsed 15 carries just once in his career (In 2020 against Alabama when he ran for 128 yards), but had 5 games in 2021 alone where he did not reach



PHOTO COURTESY: ROGELIO V. SOLIS / AP PHOTO

Running back Snoop Conner sprints after catching a pass during a drill at the Mississippi football pro day in Oxford, Miss., Wednesday, March 23, 2022.

10 carries. That sort of load management makes projecting Conner tough, which could scare NFL scouts away until the later rounds of the draft.

In all honesty, if Conner were to transfer to a program where he could be the feature back, he could have a chance to play himself into a day-2 pick after the 2022 season. On the field, Conner could also work out improving as a receiver. He has shown how strong he can be in pass protection, but adding some route running finesse and the ability to catch the ball would take his skillset to the next level and allow him to be a true three down back. Once again, there is not much to critique about his game because finding meaningful film on him is tough.

## Takeaways

In all honesty, Conner is a guy whose draft stock would skyrocket if he returned for another year. He was the victim of a three back system, splitting time with Henry Parish as the backup to Jerrion Ealy.

Ealy has gone on to the NFL, Parish has transferred to his home school of Miami

and Zach Evans has come in as the running back of the future for Ole Miss. The Rebels were desperate for a change-of-pace back to compliment Evans to give him a breather, and Conner would have been the perfect guy for the job. Evans is a true do-it-all back, but having a power specialist in the stable would be great to give Evans a breather on the more violent reps. The Rebels did bring in running

back help by hitting the portal and getting Ulysses Bentley from SMU, but he is a joystick-type player and will be operating mostly as a scat back.

I fully expect Conner to get picked somewhere on the third day of the draft, and declaring early will have minimal impact on his NFL success, but he is certainly being overlooked by scouts due to his collegiate situation.

## Prepare for power outages today

WITH A HOME STANDBY GENERATOR

**\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS**

Contact a Generac dealer for full terms and conditions.

**REQUEST A FREE QUOTE**

CALL NOW BEFORE THE NEXT POWER OUTAGE

**(844) 316-8630**

FREE 7-Year Extended Warranty\*  
— A \$695 Value!

\*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

37079



# NOW ACCEPTING OLE MISS *Flex*

PIZZA  
**PAPA JOHN'S**  
INDEPENDENTLY  
OWNED & OPERATED

PROUD PARTNER  
with OLE MISS DINING  
— Carryout Only —

# Ole Miss Women's Golf finishes 11th in Liz Murphey Collegiate Classic



PHOTO COURTESY: TODD DREXLER/ SESPORTSMEDIA.COM

Andrea Lignell competes during the 2021 NCAA Women's Golf Championship.

**JANE ROB PANNELL**  
thedmsports@gmail.com

The Ole Miss Women's Golf team tied for 11th place overall at the Liz Murphey Collegiate Classic in Athens, Georgia, this weekend with a three day score of 922 (+58).

The Rebels were led by junior Andrea Lignell, who shot a 78 (+6) in the opening round, followed by improved rounds of 73 (+1) on both Saturday and Sunday. Lignell finished tied for 16th, her seventh top 20 finish of the season. Lignell also led the Rebels in birdies with 11 and in par-4 scoring (E).

Not far behind Lignell was freshman Natasha Host Husted, tying for 23rd overall with scores of 72, 76 and 78. Host Husted found eight birdies over three rounds of play and led the team in par-3 scoring at 4-over.

Senior Julia Johnson played her best round on Sunday with a 74 (+2) to finish in 48th place individually. Ellen Hutchinson-Kay finished tied for 67th after logging an 80 (+8) in her final round. The Rebels were missing an important piece of their team this weekend with Chiara Tambrulini withdrawing from the tournament prior to the opening round due to a wrist injury. Therefore, the Rebels were left with only four counting scores.

As a team, the Rebels finished second in par-5 scoring (-1), fifth in par-4 scoring (+29) and sank a total of 30 birdies on the weekend. South Carolina came out on top in the Liz Murphey Classic with a three-day team score of 874 (+10).

"I thought the team fought hard this week," head coach Kory Henkes said. "The conditions were tough and we were down a player due to injury, so every shot counted."

Henkes said she was disappointed in the outcome of the tournament.

"It wasn't the outcome we had hoped for, but they did their best with the adversity that was thrown at them," Henkes said. "We look forward to a couple weeks of practice and recovery time before the SEC Championships."

The Rebels will round out the regular season at the Auburn Individual on April 4-5 at the Saugahatchee Golf Course before traveling to Birmingham, Alabama, for the SEC Championships beginning on April 13.

T16. Andrea Lignell: 78-73-73-224 (+8)

T23. Natasha Host Husted: 72-76-78-226 (+10)

T48. Julia Johnson: 76-82-74-232 (+16)

T67. Ellen Hutchinson-Kay: 76-84-80-240 (+24)



## SCAM ALERT MEDICARE CARDS

Senior Medicare Patrol is warning Medicare beneficiaries of a new scam involving Medicare cards.

Scammers are posing as Medicare, calling beneficiaries and offering to send new, plastic Medicare cards.



- **Do not** share your Medicare number with anyone who calls, emails or texts.
- Medicare will **never** call you to ask for your Medicare number.
- **Review** your Medicare statements to be sure all claims belong to you.

If someone calls and asks for your Medicare number or other personal information, **hang up** and call your local SMP.

**877-272-8720**

**Tired of seniors being targeted with scams like this one?** Join SMP in the fight against Medicare fraud. Volunteer to give short talks to small groups about healthcare fraud and scams or volunteer to spread awareness about the SMP program at community events in your area. Call today to find out how you can help in the fight against Medicare fraud!

[www.stopmedicarefraud.org](http://www.stopmedicarefraud.org)



SMP is funded by a grant from the U.S. Administration for Community Living, supported by grant number 90MPPG0023, 90MPPG0024 & 90MPPG0049.



## ROCKHOUSELIVE

Grill & Venue *Oxford*

**11AM - 1AM NIGHTLY**  
UNTIL 9PM SUNDAYS

SAT - SUN BRUNCH 11AM - 2PM

Featuring our legendary **RockHouse Burger**, and our cajun Gator bites, and much more!

- Monday** - service industry night
- Tuesday** - \$2 tacos, \$4 margaritas, karaoke at night
- Wednesday** - Whiskey Wednesday & karaoke at night
- Thursday** - Live DJ, Ladies Night and 2 for 1 wine
- Friday** - Live bands and drink specials all night
- Saturday** - Little Black Dress Night, dress to impress & get in free, half off select booze & beers
- Sunday** - Bottomless mimosas and Bloody Marys

**YOUR PLACE TO EAT, DRINK AND ROCK IN OXFORD**

308 S. Lamar Blvd.

(662) 380-5162

[facebook.com/RockhouseLiveOxford](https://facebook.com/RockhouseLiveOxford)



# OPINION

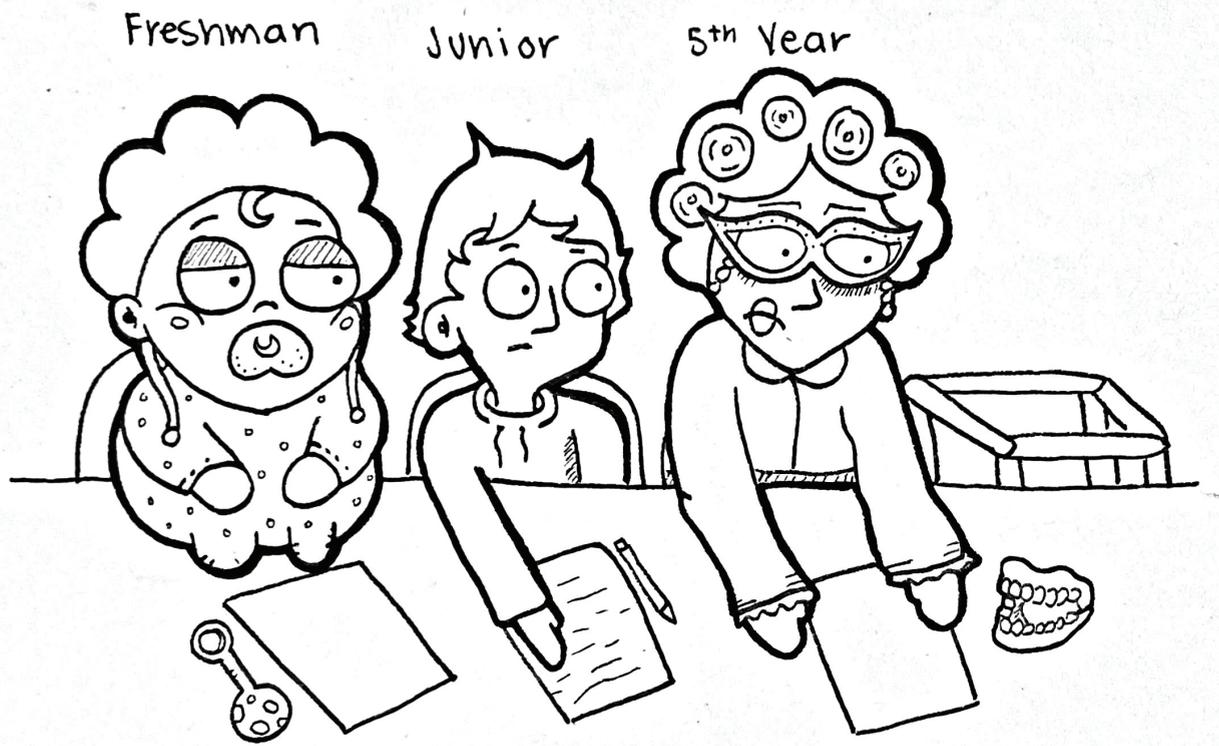


ILLUSTRATION: VANESSA CLARK / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

## Gas prices are Biden's fault, not Putin's

**CASS RUTLEDGE**  
 themopinion@gmail.com

If you have a car, then you most likely have been feeling some pain at the pump. At the time of writing, AAA says that a gallon of gasoline in Lafayette County costs \$3.94, with the national average even higher at \$4.24. These are the most expensive gas prices in history, not accounting for inflation. President Biden has deemed this rise in prices "Putin's Price Hike," but how much are Vladimir Putin and his invasion of Ukraine really to blame?

The White House's claim that Putin is responsible for high gas prices could be believable if gas prices were not already way above normal before Russian soldiers ever set foot in Ukraine. In fact, Biden told

the Federal Trade Commission to investigate high gas prices back in November 2021, long before Putin authorized an invasion into Ukraine. Yes, gas prices have increased because of Russia's invasion, but it only exacerbated an already existing problem.

High gas prices are an inconvenience for any car owner, however, for many Americans, gas prices are the limiting factor in how much food is on the dinner table, if someone is able to pay their rent on time or if a kid gets the new shoes he desperately needs. Because nearly every good needs gas to be transported, the prices of nearly everything have gone up. Egg prices are up 13.1%, pork has risen 14.1% and chicken rose 10.3% over the past year. In February, as a result of the climbing gas

prices and other factors, such as the supply chain crisis, the Consumer Price Index, which tracks average inflation, rose another 0.8%. That amount seems small but can have devastating impacts for low-income families. This was a pre-Russian invasion trend, and blaming it on Putin is deflecting from the real problem of 40-year high inflation.

While Americans are struggling to pay for things that just a few years ago would be affordable, Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg had a tone-deaf solution. If you cannot afford gas, just get an electric vehicle. Easy, right? An electric car costs tens of thousands of dollars, and when people cannot even afford a tank of gas, they will surely not be able to afford a brand new car. The disconnect between the

Biden administration and the American reality is continuing to grow, and Americans are not clueless enough to forget how and when these price increases started.

President Biden has said he "can't do much" about high gas prices and inflation, but that is not true. Currently, the president has halted new oil and gas leases and has refused to reverse his anti-energy policies. We do not need to rely on Russian oil to keep

prices low; the answer is for President Biden to increase United States oil production to offset any lost oil imports from Russia. It is time to bring back energy independence. President Biden, for the sake of the American people that are hurting, it is time to unleash American energy.

*Cass Rutledge is a freshman majoring in public policy leadership from Madison.*

**Opinion Policies:**

Columns do not represent the views of The University of Mississippi or The Daily Mississippian. The Daily Mississippian welcomes letters to the editor, which should be emailed to [dmletters@olemiss.edu](mailto:dmletters@olemiss.edu). Letters should be no longer than 300 words. They may be edited for clarity, brevity and libel. Third-party letters and those with pseudonyms or no name will not be published. Letters are limited to one per individual per month. Letters should include contact information, including relationship to the university, if applicable.

**THE DM  
 CLASSIFIEDS  
 WORK!**

**PLACE YOUR  
 AD HERE!  
 OR  
 LOOK HERE  
 FOR AN AD!**

**TRYING TO SELL  
 SOMETHING?  
 LOOKING FOR A  
 NEW HOME?  
 NEED A JOB?**

**WOMEN OF OLE MISS**

# "I just have a passion for helping people"

## UM Student continues LGBTQ+ advocacy at the university level

**KHARLEY REDMON**  
thedmfeatures@gmail.com

*"Women of Ole Miss" is a four-part interview series documenting the voices of women attending the University of Mississippi. Each part focuses on a different student, exploring their unique life experiences and accomplishments and what it means to them to be a woman.*

Before 2019, there was no Gay-Straight Alliance at Madison Central High School in Madison, Mississippi.

"There were no pillars in the community that were openly LGBTQ+, and with that, there was nobody for queer kids to look up to," Marissa Maatallah said. "High school is a time where you figure yourself out, especially your sexual orientation and gender identity, and a lot of people needed support."

After initially receiving pushback from the school administration, Maatallah then reached out to organizations like the Human Rights Campaign and the American Civil Liberties Union for support. After receiving this support, Maatallah got the green light from the administration to start the Madison Central Gay-Straight Alliance, which would assist in providing safe spaces for Madison Central LGBTQ+ students.

Maatallah accomplished her initial goal, but her LGBTQ+ leadership and advocacy journey was just getting started. Now a

freshman at the University of Mississippi, Maatallah continues to make an impact on LGBTQ+ communities throughout Mississippi.

Maatallah's advocacy, just like her environment, is a mix of the new and the old. A large part of Maatallah's advocacy is working with statewide LGBTQ+ organizations she got involved with during her time at Madison Central.

Maatallah is also a board member for the Mississippi Safe Schools Coalition, which focuses on improving educational environments for LGBTQ+ students in Mississippi.

"We do a lot of training for teachers, so if they see somebody being bullied who's LGBTQ+, then they know how to intervene and make it a safe space for everybody," Maatallah said. "We also had a Gay-Straight Alliance convention in the state during COVID-19. It was cool to do on Zoom because we could have people from all around the state come to the convention and share ways to get more members involved in Gay-Straight Alliances."

Just like there was administrative pushback against Maatallah starting the Madison Central Gay-Straight Alliance, the Mississippi Safe Schools Coalition often faces a similar challenge, she says.

"Just speaking about trying to start my own club, school administrators saw it as a way to talk to kids about sex, and that is not what discussing sexual

orientation is," Maatallah said. "We do our best to educate them, even though sometimes their bias gets in the way, and there's a disconnect because of whatever beliefs they have."

Maatallah is currently the vice president of the UM Pride Network and the membership coordinator for the UM Psychology Club. While Maatallah's leadership of the UM Pride Network is rooted in her love for LGBTQ+ advocacy, Maatallah's role in the UM Psychology Club is influenced by her aspiration to become a clinical psychologist.

"I've been in therapy and I think it's a really helpful thing for me," Maatallah said. "I just have a passion for helping people. That's another reason why I try to get involved in organizations and represent communities that are underrepresented."

As an LGBTQ+ woman in the South, Maatallah has had to overcome obstacles not only in her advocacy and leadership, but also in her personal life.

Maatallah met Molly Boes, a junior at the university and her girlfriend of five years, in middle school. As an adolescent in an LGBTQ+ relationship, Maatallah dealt with homophobic interactions with peers as well as adults.

"I think in some aspects, college is better but definitely everything more," Maatallah said.

Recently Maatallah and Boes celebrated their five year anniversary of being a couple and went out to eat in Oxford to



KHARLEY REDMON / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Marissa Maatallah.

celebrate. After telling the waitress that it was their anniversary, they were met with a homophobic response.

"She was very rude about it," Maatallah said. "It really threw us off guard because we've been together five years and are really happy, especially because your server is supposed to be nice."

The UM Pride Network hosts events, such as the upcoming Spring Gayla, meetings and gatherings that give LGBTQ+ students a safe place on campus. Although the Pride Network is a good start for LGBTQ+ representation on campus, Maatallah noted, there is still more work to be done.

"I think trying to go across campus and make sure that for different organizations, for the leaders to say that we are here to support you," Maatallah said. "I think that would be good."

Bringing more LGBTQ+ voices like hers to UM is another way that change can be made, Maatallah said.

"I think LGBTQ+ women should come to the University of Mississippi," Maatallah said. "Representation and involvement from LGBTQ+ women is exactly what we need if we want to make places more progressive and evolve. They need to see that there are LGBTQ+ women who are showing up and taking charge and are not ashamed to be who they are."

*Marissa Maatallah's story is a part of the four part series, "Women of Ole Miss." This series will update every Thursday, with a new woman speaking about their experiences at the university and how that has shaped their experience as a woman. Esraa Al Shawakri will be featured next Thursday.*



## 3D TRAINING

1 HEAT 2 INFRARED ENERGY 3 EXERCISE

# A GYM LIKE NO OTHER

## 24/7 ACCESS

### RESULTS & BENEFITS

Sports Recovery	Detoxification
Reduces Cellulite	Lower Blood Pressure
Stress Reduction	Anti-Aging & Skin Rejuvenation
Increased Calorie Burn	Improved Circulation
Pain Relief	Weight Loss