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9-4-2019

**September 4, 2019**

The Daily Mississippian

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**Recommended Citation**

The Daily Mississippian, "September 4, 2019" (2019). *Daily Mississippian*. 4.  
<https://egrove.olemiss.edu/thedmonline/4>

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## Cheers!

The wait for alcohol at sporting events is (almost) over.

**JOSHUA CLAYTON**

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Ole Miss has approved alcohol sales at Vaught-Hemingway Stadium for the 2019 season.

Beer and spiked seltzers will be available in general area seating for the last three home games of the season, starting with the Texas A&M game on Oct. 19.

The approval includes all sporting events on campus, meaning fans should expect alcohol sales at The Pavilion and Swayze Field next season.

Ole Miss is the seventh SEC school to approve alcohol sales since the conference lifted its ban earlier this summer.

“The university has been deliberate in our approach to making this change,” Ole Miss Interim Chancellor Larry Sparks said in a statement. “We have assessed the relevant issues and focused on an implementation timetable that works best for our university. Maintaining the safety of our patrons and participants and maintaining an atmosphere suitable for families is of utmost importance. We appreciate the support and patience of our fans as we implement this change.”

Fans will also be able to purchase beer before the game in the Coca-Cola Rebel Fan Fest on the plaza outside the stadium. Dedicated kiosks inside the stadium will begin selling alcohol as soon as the gates open two hours before kickoff. Those kiosks will close with three minutes remaining in the third quarter.

Purchases are limited to two beers at a time and there will be no alcohol sold in the three concession stands under the student section.

“This is another opportunity to enhance what is already one of the premier gamedays in college football,” said Interim



ILLUSTRATION: KATHERINE BUTLER

Athletics Director Keith Carter. “I want to thank Chancellor Sparks and the rest of our university administration for their leadership and support during this process. We expect this decision to help reduce incidents associated with overconsumption on gamedays. The athletics department will work hand-in-hand with other campus officials and within the guidelines of the SEC to ensure a safe and responsible environment for all fans.”

Ole Miss also announced a modification to the student party section that was revealed in August. Capacity for the section has jumped from 800 students to 2,450 and will be entirely general admission. The original plans for the section were changed due to safety concerns during construction.



### LANDSHARK DEFENSE LOOKS TO CAPTURE POTENTIAL AGAINST ARKANSAS

The Rebel defense showed improvement against Memphis in the season opener, but they'll need more answers against an SEC attack.

SEE PAGE 5



### LOCAL GIN DISTILLERY THRIVES IN UNIQUENESS

There are three distilleries in the world that use rice to make gin, and two are in Japan. The third? Right down the road in Taylor, Mississippi.

SEE PAGE 3

## Meet the man who wants to be the next chancellor

A vision for the university that puts athletics on equal footing with academics, keeps controversial names on buildings and creates an oversight committee for academic excellence.

**DANIEL PAYNE**

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Everyone wants to know who the next chancellor will be, but with the search committee bound by nondisclosure agreements and many candidates not publicly speaking about their interest, it's hard for the university community to know what's going on.

Gerard Gibert is changing that: he has spoken openly about wanting the position. He's the

first candidate to openly campaign for the job.

Gibert, the former founder of Venture Technologies and current vice chairman of the Mississippi Lottery Board, is not the candidate that would normally apply for the position. He has little experience in academia and holds only a bachelor's degree.

He said that unifying the community would be his first priority, if he were to get the job.

“I think the first thing I

would do is to find our identity,” he said.

Gibert believes that new names on buildings should not be a part of that identity, even though some are named after individuals that created legacies of racism and violence in Mississippi.

“Let's see if we can figure out a way to get on board with things we should all be concerned about, such as academic excellence,” Gibert said concerning his plan on handling controversial academic building names.

“That was really the point: that, golly, the product that comes out of those buildings is way more important, in my view, than the name affixed to the outside of them.”

When it comes to the Confederate monument, Gibert doesn't believe the chancellor should make a decision.

“I don't think such power should be conferred to any individual, such as a chancellor, on anything that's this significant and

this major, that those are decisions that need to be made by multiple stakeholders,” he said. “I think the student senate and the faculty senate are key stakeholders in that and should have a voice in that, but (it) seems to me that there are a number of other stakeholders as well in what goes on at the university.”

Other stakeholders that most agree should have a say in the decision include alumni, financial

SEE CHANCELLOR PAGE 8



# Theesfeld indicted by grand jury

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Brandon Theesfeld, the 21-year-old former University of Mississippi student, was indicted by a grand jury on a capital murder charge on Friday.

“[Theesfeld] did unlawfully, willfully and feloniously and without authority of law and with or without deliberate design to effect death, kill and murder Alexandria Madison Kostial, a human being, by shooting her with a firearm,” the signed indictment reads.

The indictment also states that Theesfeld murdered Kostial while kidnapping her.

Theesfeld is charged with the murder of fellow student Ally Kostial, whose body was found near Buford Ridge in Harmontown on July 20. The preliminary autopsy report confirmed that Kostial died from multiple gunshot wounds.

Theesfeld was arrested July 22 and has been held at the Lafayette County Detention Center since.

On Aug. 22 at Theesfeld’s bond hearing, his defense team — comprised of Tony and Steve Farese and Swayze Alford — withdrew their request for a bond hearing, and instead requested a psychiatric evaluation.

At Theesfeld’s bond hearing, both his defense team and Attorney General Ben Creekmore acknowledged the length of time it takes for a psychiatric evaluation to be completed through the state hospital. There is no known timeline for his evaluation process at this time.

Despite the indictment, Theesfeld maintains his innocence, according to defense attorney Tony Farese. Farese said that Theesfeld intends to enter a plea of not guilty.

# Student drag queens take center stage at Code Pink

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Drag is an artful form of expression for Wes Ngo and Greg Parker.

Ngo and Parker, co-presidents of the UM Pride Network, took the Lyric stage Friday night in drag for the semester’s first mermaid-themed Code Pink party.

Ngo performed as “Lily Koi” in a blonde-and-black ombre wig, white bodysuit, black corset and thigh-high heels. Parker drifted down the runway as “Grace,” in goth makeup and a bodysuit with tulle glued to it, simulating a wedding dress. Lily Koi performed “Like a Girl,” and Grace performed recent chart-topper “Truth Hurts,” both by singer and rapper Lizzo.

“Lily Koi is like the embodiment of me from middle school all the way to the end of senior year,” Ngo said. “If you went to a cosplay convention, you would see Lily Koi.”

Parker grew up imitating female pop culture figures, like Natalie Portman in “Star Wars,” Britney Spears, Hannah Montana and Lady Gaga, emulating their personalities and mannerisms.

“Everybody has their drag persona, but I feel like I’ve always been my drag persona,” Parker said. “She is like me, uncensored, unfiltered.”

Under strobing lights, the crowd was a jostling frenzy upon hearing the song selections, further adding to the chaos from the plastic, blue jellyfish hanging from the ceiling and a woman in a mermaid costume swinging from the rafters over a kiddie pool that housed an inflatable orca and a rainbow.

“They felt so connected,” Ngo said. “This might have been a really messy party. However, they were living for it.”

Ngo, 20, is from Ocean Springs. Self-proclaimed “second-hand popular,” he never had serious issues with being openly gay.

Formerly involved in theatre, choir and band sparked Ngo’s interest in drag and performing, especially after winning a fundraiser beauty pageant in sophomore year of high school as Sarah Cha, a sentient sriracha bottle.

Parker, a 21-year-old senior and Lucedale native, was terrified before premiering his alter ego



PARKER GALLOWAY/ THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

A mermaid swings above the crowd at Code Pink. The Lyric hosted Code Pink on Friday.

Grace at Code Pink. He’s done makeup since 2017, but never participated in performing arts.

“I’m an education major,” Parker said, “and I’ve kind of gotten used to talking in front of people but not dressed up in high heels.”

Ngo and Parker met through mutual friends. At previous Code

ate that their drag inspires other people.

Lily Koi unveiled a poster during her performance with political messages on either side. As a first generation Vietnamese-American, politics are important to Ngo, and he would like to continue to incorporate a political message in his performances, like immigration.

“It may be at some times vulgar,” Ngo said, “but that’s the only way you can catch people’s attention sometimes.”

Once they were the kids looking up to other drag queens, and now the roles have reversed. Underclassmen approach Ngo and Parker to sing praise.

“It just makes me want to cry,” Parker said, reminiscing about his time as a freshman seeing Amnesia Devereaux, or former UM Pride Network president Spencer Pleasants, perform.

“It’s a wonderful experience,” Ngo said. “Blake and Nathan, they were the ones who, like, basically reinvented Code Pink and expanded it.”

Blake Summers and Nathan Adams are the brains behind the newest iteration of Code Pink. The couple took over direction of the event from Jaime Harker and Theresa Starkey in 2016.

“These people really paved the way for us, and that’s why I think it’s important for me and Wes to continue to spread a positive message,” Parker said.

Blake performed as Lilac, a video game-inspired character.

The audience cheered her on as she and backup dancers on stage transitioned from a faux poker match into a dance number, moving along to Lady Gaga’s “Poker Face.”

“There are small moments where I look around the club and almost cry,” Summers said, talking about witnessing the camaraderie in the crowd during the party. He has ‘excitement attacks’ as opposed to anxiety attacks when planning the events. “We want to give magic to people. And that’s why we do so much world building with the themes we pick.”

Code Pink is still a work in progress. Summers also wants to have events that aren’t alcohol related, and events to focus on networking or having speakers for LGBTQ sexual health. He wants to funnel the money Code Pink makes back into the community to cultivate stronger bonds between people.

Summers and Adams co-founded Out Oxford, an off-campus community LGBTQ organization, which now hosts Code Pink instead of the UM Pride Network.

“I do want people to love themselves like I never did,” Summers said. “I learned a lot from Jonathan. He taught me that I’m worth loving. And that I can teach people how to love other people. That’s what we want to do, rebrand what it means to be gay in the South.”

Expect the next Code Pink around this Halloween and a mythology theme in November.

“Everybody has their drag persona, but I feel like I’ve always been my drag persona,” Parker said. “She is like me, uncensored, unfiltered.”

- Greg Parker  
Co-president of the UM Pride Network

Pink events, Parker would wear makeup, and Ngo and other friends would try to encourage him to go in full drag.

“I wasn’t ready for all the heels, corsets, padding and everything,” Parker said, “but whenever we started performing we became closer, for sure.”

“They just really pushed me into it,” Parker added, “and I said if I keep pushing it off I’m never going to do it. It’s my senior year, so I said yes.”

Parker said that we will absolutely see Grace at future performances. “As long as I have their support, I can keep going.”

Ngo and Parker also appreci-

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# 3 friends and some gin: Wonderbird Spirits thrives in Oxford

**KENNETH NIEMEYER**  
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What happens when an entertainment lawyer from Los Angeles, an IT consultant and a financial manager walk onto a plot of land in Taylor? For Chand Harlow, Rob Forster and Tom Alexander, it's Wonderbird Spirits, the only grain-to-glass gin distillery in the state.

The trio found its way into the gin business through personal connections from college and a desire to find a field that would let them leave the monotony of corporate jobs.

"(Rob and I) were roommates a long time ago in college, and we've known each other for a very long time, best men at each other's weddings kind of thing, and we had been talking about leaving our corporate gigs and doing something more entrepreneurial and getting to spend more time with our families," Alexander said.

Before Wonderbird, Alexander was an entertainment lawyer in Los Angeles, Forster was an IT consultant and Harlow worked in finance. Alexander and Forster were introduced to Harlow through a mutual friend and discovered that they all had a mutual vision to leave their 'corporate gigs.'

The trio found it difficult to brand and name their new gin



BILLY SCHUERMAN/ THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Thomas Alexander of Wonderbird Spirits smells the contents of one of the ten types of botanical ingredients included in their No. 61 gin. The distillery is Mississippi's first grain-to-gin distillery.

distillery because most names were already taken. The idea for 'Wonderbird' as a name for the gin came suddenly after a break from trying to brand the product.

"We had decided to take a break and stop going crazy thinking about it, and then I went to Tom's one afternoon to pick up some keys and saw that he had a Birds

of Mississippi book sitting on his coffee table that was fairly worn and looked after," Forester said. "I said, 'Have you been studying birds for the name?' and he said, 'Yes,' then I said, 'Because I have too.'"

Harlow, Forster and Alexander took the sudden appearance of Birds of Mississippi as a 'kick from the universe' and decided on the name 'Wonderbird' to evoke optimism, good feelings and hope.

Wonderbird gin is made from a jasmine variety of rice grown at Two Brooks Farms in Sumner and is one of three distilleries in the world that uses rice to make gin. The other two are in Japan.

The distillery is home to a cat named Koji, who shares the name of a Japanese mold spore that is soaked, steamed and mixed with rice to create the gin. After the rice is cooked, it is put into fermenters for seven days, which creates 15% alcohol Asahi beer.

The liquid is then pumped into a still to have its alcohol stripped, which creates a base spirit. The spirit is then put in vapor distillation stills and combined with ten different botanicals, that give the gin its flavor.

"Most distilleries in the world

do what's called a 'single-shot method' where they combine all of their botanicals into the gin basket ... they combine all of their botanicals at one time, heat up their alcohol and the vapors go through the botanicals and extract flavor," Harlow said. "We do everything through dry vapor distillation the same way, but we do each botanical individually."

A batch of Wonderbird gin takes around ten times as long to produce as a normal batch of gin because each batch is run through ten different distillations with each botanical. It takes around 20 days to produce a batch, and each batch produces around 600 bottles.

"The reason we do that is because it allows us to have greater control over the quality of each one," Harlow said. "It's a lot more work, and it's a bit of a storage issue, but we feel it's the way we have to do it to make the best gin we can."

Several university development executives recently held an event at the distillery. Forster said that the university is the common thread that brought the trio together because they all have deep family connections to the university.

"We all kind of came to Oxford

through these deep family connections. Ole Miss had a big meet and greet here two weeks ago," Forster said. "We gave them an introduction to our distillery, and I said to them, 'without Ole Miss this would not have happened.'"

Tommy Bruce, manager of Star Package Store on Jackson Avenue, said that Wonderbird has been a popular item on the store's shelves since they began carrying it in May. Bruce said that they have sold an average of five to six cases per month since they began carrying the alcohol.

"We've ordered more of that than we have the other stuff," Bruce said. "It's local and everybody wants to try it."

Wonderbird is made in Mississippi from the ground up. The rice is grown in the Delta and the gin is distilled and bottled in North Mississippi.

"The important thing to us, instating this business was doing something that we were passionate about doing and doing it at a very high level and making a product that the people of this state could own and feel proud of and feel like something world-class was coming from right here," Forster said.



BILLY SCHUERMAN/ THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Applying the label to a bottle of Wonderbird Spirit's No. 61 gin can take multiple tries as they are all hand labeled. Wonderbird is Mississippi's first grain-to-gin distillery.

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# Volleyball hitting the road after winless Rebel Invitational

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The Ole Miss volleyball team dropped three matches this weekend, losing to Rice, Iowa State and Central Florida.

The Rebels' 0-3 mark in the Rebel Invitational showed several weaknesses in the Ole Miss team.

"We brought in three top-40 teams, which I talked about that last Monday how it was going to be a tough opening tournament," head coach Steven McRoberts said. "A mistake on my part was not scheduling an exhibition match. All three of the other teams came in with that, so lesson learned from a coaching standpoint."

On Friday, the Rebels fell to Rice in straight sets (21-25, 22-25, 21-25) but remained competitive throughout the game.

The third set was also closely contested, as Ole Miss led for the majority of the time before Rice rallied to score four of the final five points to close out the match.

Senior outside hitter Emily Stroup led the team with 11 kills on a disappointing .114 hitting percentage. Freshman

outside hitter Anna Bair was second on the team with eight kills in the match on a .185 clip. Senior middle blocker Nayo Warnell led the team with three total blocks, and junior setter Lauren Bars led the Rebels with 24 assists.

In the second match of the weekend the Rebels fell to Iowa State 3-1 (14-25, 18-25, 25-22, 21-25).

Stroup again led the Rebels in kills with 12 in the match, but hit an abysmal .020 percentage. Warnell was much more efficient, contributing 11 kills and a block on a .529 clip.

Bair provided another 11 kills on an improved .321 hitting percentage. Bars put on an impressive performance, registering two kills, 39 assists, 11 digs and three blocks.

The final game of the weekend was perhaps the most disappointing for Ole Miss as the team won the first two sets before dropping three straight to lose the match 3-2 (26-24, 25-21, 21-25, 21-25, 10-15).

In what proved to be a pivotal third set Ole Miss battled back and forth with the Knights but were derailed by mistakes down the stretch that cost them the set. The tension was palpable in the stands, and

a disappointed home crowd seemed to be overcome with a lingering sense of dread after seeing what appeared at first to be a dominant win slip through their fingers.

Stroup led the team in kills once again with 21 in the match on a .246 clip and also contributed 14 digs and two assists. Bair recorded 19 kills on a .179 hitting percentage.

The Rebels were better at contesting shots at the net in the final match, led by Warnell's six blocks. Bars and sophomore outside hitter Lauren Thompson registered four blocks each as well.

Ole Miss will head to New Orleans for the Allstate Sugar Bowl Collegiate Volleyball Classic next weekend where they will face Houston Baptist, Missouri State and Tulane.

"Well I hope our road record is better than our home record," McRoberts said. "I saw a lot of progression over the weekend. We're excited about getting another opportunity this weekend going down at Tulane. Tulane played Iowa State in the finals of the NIVC last year."

McRoberts is confident the Rebels will pick it up in the



PHOTO: NATALIE PRUITT/THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Nayo Warnell (16) and Lauren Thompson (20) go up for a block in the game against Rice. Ole Miss lost to Rice 0-3 on Friday.

second weekend of the season.

(We're) going to work on some things we need to work on this week and hopefully go into next weekend with a lot more confidence and get some wins

so the team starts believing and gets more confidence from that standpoint," he said. "Tough weekend to start but looking forward to making progress as the season goes on."

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PHOTO: REED JONES/THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Royce Newman sets a block for quarterback Matt Corral. Ole Miss lost to Memphis 15-10 on Saturday.

# Ole Miss focused on O-Line improvement

**JOSHUA CLAYTON**  
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The biggest question for the Ole Miss offense manifested itself in disastrous fashion in the Rebels' 15-10 loss at the Liberty Bowl on Saturday.

Scottie Phillips and Jerrion Ealy were unable to find a rhythm, the receivers couldn't find separation and Matt Corral's poor decision-making throughout the game was magnified, all due to the offensive line's struggles.

"It's obviously not what we expected," head coach Matt Luke said. "I think we've got the right pieces in place. We've got some young guys and we're going to get them better. Obviously there were some mistakes made, but we can put them in a little better position."

The Memphis defensive front took advantage of Ole Miss's inexperience up front, sending several different stunts and blitzes at the Rebels throughout the game to disrupt rhythm.

"I think it doesn't all fall on the offensive line. It all works together," Luke said. "There are obviously some things that we can do better and I think

playing more guys is one of those things."

Luke said that they will add freshman Nick Broeker to the rotation this week and he hopes to have eight linemen ready for their matchup against Arkansas.

"That's a position that's really difficult for a true freshman to play," offensive coordinator Rich Rodriguez said. "It's so much they've got to learn and be ready for, but we have a really good group of true freshmen and there's one or two of them that will probably get in this weekend."

Starting right tackle Alex Givens played 37 of the Rebels' 53 total snaps and seems to still be on a snap limit moving into practice this week as the freshmen get ready for playing time against an SEC defensive front.

The Arkansas interior defense will likely be bigger and stronger than Memphis's, so if Ole Miss doesn't improve from last week's drubbing, Ole Miss could easily be 0-2 on Saturday night.

"You make your biggest improvement from week one to week two. Especially with a young team that we've got that'll be very important."

# Landshark defense looks to capture potential versus Arkansas

**JOSHUA CLAYTON**  
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In a somewhat unexpected turn of events, it was the Ole Miss defense that served as the bright spot for the Rebels in the disappointing loss on Saturday.

The defense showed vast improvement from last season, when the squad ranked toward the bottom of the FBS defensive rankings.

Defensive coordinator Mike McIntyre's new 3-4 defense allowed 13 points out of 15, all of which were scored in the first half.

An improvement from last year, however, it was still not good enough as the Rebels allowed 364 total yards, making way for 128 rushing yards and one touchdown from Memphis running back Patrick Taylor Jr.

"We played hard. It's just really disappointing that we couldn't get them out there in that last drive," McIntyre said. "We had a couple of opportunities to make some plays and just couldn't get it done like we'd like to, but I thought overall they played hard."

Head coach Matt Luke was pleased with his defensive front in the season opener.

"I thought we knew what to do. Very rarely was anybody running free. They had their eyes in the right place. They were gap sound. There wasn't any really just huge plays," Luke said. "We protected our edges. I think Qadir (Sheppard) and Sam (Williams) did a good job coming off the edge and Luke Knox kind of



PHOTO: REED JONES/THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Austrian Robinson watches the ball in the game against Memphis. Ole Miss lost to Memphis 15-10 on Saturday.

showed up."

Laskia Henry also played well on 59 of the Rebels' 84 defensive snaps.

The defensive backs flashed real promise on Saturday. Myles Hartsfield and Keidron Smith played the run and short passing game well on the perimeter, while Armani Linton and Jon Haynes executed well on the top of the defense.

"What really showed up to me was the DBs playing the deep balls, knocking balls away, not running with their backs to the ball," Luke said.

The Rebel defense will face an SEC rushing attack from Arkansas feature back Rakeem Boyd, who has historically had field days against Ole Miss. The back had 114 yards and one touchdown in

the Razorbacks' win over Portland State last weekend.

"He's a good back. He's somebody who's been there for a long time," Luke said of Boyd. "I just remember vividly in the game last year, he has the ability to run through you. He can make you miss. He's just a very, very good back."

Ole Miss's potential new and improved defense will need to clean things up quickly with their first conference game coming as an important one.

"We've definitely got some things that showed up that Arkansas can take advantage of when you watch it on film," McIntyre said, "but we played extremely hard, gave good effort and communicated pretty well together."

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# OPINION

## Dems, get in line.

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On the day of the gubernatorial primary elections, conservative group Mississippi Strong released an attack ad against Jim Hood. It worked to portray the attorney general as a Washington elite, “standing with the radical liberal resistance.” The ad ends with an image of Hood surrounded by Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Hillary Clinton and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi. Similarly, Republican gubernatorial candidate Tate Reeves has taken to Twitter to lament the dangers of the radical liberal agenda.

Anyone who possesses a vague understanding of the politics of AOC, Pelosi and Jim Hood understands that their commonalities largely begin and end with

the letter “D” beside their names. These characterizations, like most discussion in our current political climate, lack the nuance necessary to capture Attorney General Jim Hood and his campaign.

Hood’s campaign platform does little to give away his political affiliation. Watch one of Hood’s 30-second campaign videos, and you will find a life-long Mississippian who loves the outdoors, Sundays and the value of hard work. You will find support for the most sensible of policies such as combating domestic violence and raising teacher salaries. You will also find a shot of the attorney general alongside Gov. Phil Bryant.

There is not much about the former attorney general that makes him akin to a particularly mainstream national Democrat. He supports Medicaid expansion (which Republican Bill Waller

does as well), free community college tuition, and gender-based pay equality. Yet he is distinctly pro-life and is unlikely to be a champion of gun-control, pre-requisites for any national Democrat. But, again, Hood is not running a national campaign.

For many Democratic voters, being pro-life alone would be a deal-breaker. If not a deal-breaker, a reason to refrain from actively supporting the campaign. Perhaps, if this were a different state at a different time, Hood would be any another Republican on the ballot.

Regardless of whether or not he fits into the ideal Democratic (or Republican) mold, Jim Hood is the candidate poised to do the most tangible good in the state of Mississippi. Expanding Medicaid would improve access to healthcare for rural communities and cover 300,000 Mississippians in need of health

insurance. The least we could ask of our elected officials is to invest money in, instead of funnel it away from public education. These are distinct, sensible, pragmatic policy proposals that would be the change for which Mississippi is long overdue.

Jim Hood may not be the idealistic candidate for either party, but he certainly is the candidate with the most equitable vision of Mississippi, and that is exciting. While he makes no claims of running on Obama-esque hope, he is running a competitive statewide campaign that is certainly hopeful. As a Mississippian and as a Democrat, it is refreshing to support a candidate who requires and acts with the same degree of nuance and pragmatism demanded by our state.

*Ainsley Ash is a junior public policy leadership major from Meridian, Mississippi.*

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- ACROSS**
- 1- Popular disinfectant;
  - 6- Bric-a-\_\_\_;
  - 10- Stately aquatic bird;
  - 14- Garlic sauce;
  - 15- Seized vehicle;
  - 16- Hindu discipline;
  - 17- Herring type;
  - 18- Arabian Sea nation;
  - 19- Jump lightly;
  - 20- Toward God's abode;
  - 22- Change for a fifty;
  - 23- Coarse file;
  - 24- Before, once;
  - 26- Luggage;
  - 30- Creatures;
  - 34- Disney's Little Mermaid;
  - 35- Anjou alternative;
  - 36- Aft.;
  - 37- Moon valley;
  - 38- Cigarette;
  - 40- Back;
  - 41- Lass;
  - 42- Horse of mixed color;
  - 43- Hair treatment;
  - 44- Spirit;
  - 46- Incinerate;
  - 48- Scratch up;
  - 49- California wine region;
  - 50- Chorus voice;
  - 53- Device with a

SOLUTION TO 8.30.19 PUZZLE



- DOWN**
- 1- Eye shade?;
  - 2- Holy moly!;
  - 3- Marsh bird;
  - 4- Norwegian saint;
  - 5- Actual;
  - 6- Look through casually;
  - 7- Chart anew;
  - 8- On \_\_\_ with;
  - 9- Abridge;
  - 10- Method;
  - 11- Came to;
  - 12- Not fer;
  - 13- Sleeps briefly;
  - 21- Back-seat driver, e.g.;
  - 25- Ocacek of The Cars;
  - 26- Vessel;
  - 27- Puccini pieces;
  - 28- Breathing organs of fish;
  - 29- Set;
  - 30- Hunky-dory;
  - 31- Stadium;
  - 32- Minimum;
  - 33- Bender;
  - 35- \_\_\_ vivand;
  - 38- Athenian philosopher;
  - 39- West of Hollywood;
  - 40- Edge;
  - 42- Genetic inits.;
  - 43- Nuclear-fission apparatus;
  - 45- Chewed the scenery;
  - 46- Packet;
  - 47- LP speed;
  - 49- Ruth's mother-in-law;
  - 50- You wish!;
  - 51- Come up short;
  - 52- Woody plant;
  - 54- "Damn Yankees" vamp;
  - 55- Capital city of Peru;
  - 56- Norwegian saint;
  - 57- Red coin?;
  - 58- \_\_\_ Kross (rap duo of the early '90s);

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

#### HOW TO PLAY

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

#### DIFFICULTY LEVEL

**NOVICE**

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



# OPINION



ELI MORGAN

## Are party decks Athletics' Hail Mary?

**SOPHIA MERUVIA**

thedmopinion@gmail.com

When “never losing a party” is a fundamental part of our culture, it shouldn’t be surprising that Ole Miss is willing to exploit it. The university has spent years establishing our famous culture of tailgating in the Grove, and we’ve done it so well that many fans will skip the game but not the tailgate. Now, it seems the university wants to bring the tailgate into the stadium, which, to me, sounds like a desperate last-attempt plea for ticket sales.

According to olemissports.

com, the new party decks will provide more “in-game social opportunities for the student body.” There is no surprise that Ole Miss has brought a pre-game-esque atmosphere to combat declining ticket sales and student attendance within the stadium. One has to think: Is this really a step in the right direction? You cannot blame the university for trying to bring a more social atmosphere to the game in order to boost student attendance. However, are the comfort of the Grove and lack of alcohol the only things keeping students out of the game?

Let’s be honest, the student section being directly in the

sunlight causes less than favorable conditions, and who’s going to stay to watch a football team that is not performing well? Would you rather watch a game in the cool of a Grove tent, or sit in direct line of sweltering Mississippi heat? The choice is obvious. You can’t argue with the facts. Since the student section moved to the north end zone, ticket sales have steadily declined.

The athletics’ department is ignoring the root cause of ticket sales and attendance decline, and they are instead creating a Grove-like atmosphere where students can continue the “never losing a party” mentality.

According to saturdaydown-south.com, Keith Carter, Ole Miss interim athletics director, has said, “students are absolutely critical in creating a home field advantage at the Vaught, and we look forward to giving them an experience that makes them want to get there early and stay until the end.” I agree that students are a critical part of boosting team morale, but this leaves the question: How many students will actually attend games because of these party

decks?

According to numbers released by the NCAA, the average home game attendance has fallen for four consecutive years. The installation of these student party decks seems more like a desperate cry for attendance than a student luxury.

*Sophia Meruvia is a sophomore integrated marketing communications major from Philadelphia, Mississippi.*

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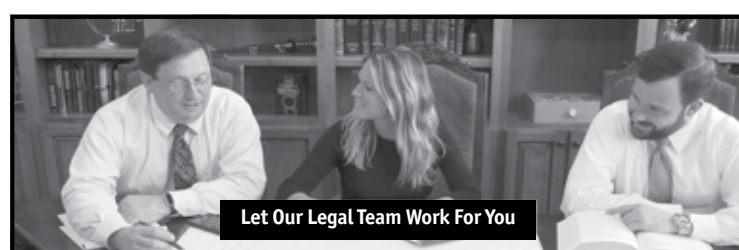
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# CHANCELLOR

*continued from page 1*

contributors, past members of the student and faculty senate, past faculty members, the legislature, the Mississippi's government and residents in the state.

"I think it would be the chancellor's job to take that resolution to these factions, and discuss it and have them weigh in on it as well," he said. "I think it's more about facilitating rather than influence."

Gibert launched a website with the information from a document that was sent to the chancellor search committee to campaign publicly.

"No institution has a greater obligation to bury deep, and face down, the last vestiges of slavery and Jim Crow," he said in the document, under the header of "free expression."

Gibert believes that the

chancellor should not make many unilateral changes and should instead drive organic change within the university. He takes the same view in fostering academic excellence.

In the document sent to the search committee, Gibert wrote that "the chancellor must restore academic excellence." He said that in recent years, the university has fallen down in some academic areas, though he could not point to a particular cause.

His solution, he said,

"I think it would be the chancellor's job to take that resolution to these factions, and discuss it and have them weigh in on it as well," he said. "I think it's more about facilitating rather than influence."

- Gerard Gibert  
Current Vice Chairman of the Mississippi Lottery Board

may be a "blue ribbon team," which would measure performance in academic departments on campus. A blue ribbon team would also be responsible for "proposing ideas and concepts that make sense to ensure that we do stay at the forefront," he said.

Gibert also said that

because he believes the industry of higher education is on the verge of major disruption, resources would likely be concentrated in some academic programs and routed away from others. Interim Chancellor Larry Sparks made a similar assertion in an interview in June.

"I think traditional education is where one just goes off to school and lives in a dorm and goes to various classes in brick and mortar buildings in a in a small amount of acreage; I don't think that's necessarily going to be what the future of higher education looks like," Gibert said.

It's not just academics that are important in Gibert's vision for the university. He believes academics and athletics should be seen as having equal importance by the Lyceum.

"Should (athletics) receive any more or less focus than research and academics? No, I don't believe that," he said.

Gibert said that the university should look to the University of Alabama for an understanding of how sports can improve not just a university, but a state as well.

Though he wouldn't discuss any plans he had for the position of athletic director, Gibert said that Interim Athletic Director Keith Carter should be given every consideration for the permanent position.

Gibert also sees potential disruption in university sports, saying that in the future, athletics at the collegiate level may be franchised by universities.

"It would still be just what we're used to today," he said. "We host games on campus,



COURTESY: Gerard Gibert

Gibert is the first candidate to openly campaign to become the next University of Mississippi chancellor.

and there would be facilities, but maybe there would be private organizations that operate that."

Gibert said he wouldn't pursue that change, but he would "discuss it with peers."

He said that he thinks about the university as an entrepreneur, looking for unique solutions to problems and to sell the university as a product to prospective students and interested parties in the state. His entrepreneurial work is nearly the only reference he has for working as a leader, so even issues like diversity are understood by Gibert through a business mindset.

He touted the diversity of Venture Technologies while he worked there, saying they focused on qualifications in the hiring process, not race. He said that private companies have a right to hire the people that they want, whether that group is diverse or not.

"It just worked out," he said. "We didn't have to press

deliberately to make that happen."

At the university, though, he said that race and ethnicity could be factors in hiring.

"In a public setting, I don't think it's safe to say I wouldn't look at (race) at all," he said. "I do think public institutions should very closely aligned with the composition of the state."

Gibert said he is very interested in the state's role in the university, saying that he sees the chancellor as someone that should be "coalescing" with corporate and political leaders, health-care experts and ethicists, and, "to some degree," activists.

The Campus Search Advisory Committee listening sessions will begin at 9 a.m. at The Inn at Ole Miss on Thursday, Sept. 5.



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