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Reeves wins governor race

ASSOCIATED PRESS
thedmnews@gmail.com

JACKSON (AP) — Republicans are keeping their hold on the governorship in Mississippi, despite facing the best-funded Democrat to run for the position in more than a decade.

Lt. Gov. Tate Reeves on Tuesday defeated Democratic Attorney General Jim Hood and two candidates who ran low-budget campaigns.

Reeves will succeed Gov. Phil Bryant, who is limited by state law to two terms.

President Donald Trump and Vice President Mike Pence both traveled to Mississippi in recent days to campaign for Reeves, who is completing his second term as lieutenant governor after serving two terms as the elected state treasurer.

Reeves, 45, campaigned on keeping taxes low and limiting government regulation of businesses. He also said that a vote for Hood is akin to a vote for “liberal” national Democrats, including U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

Hood, 57, is finishing his fourth term as attorney general. For three of those terms, he has been the only Democrat holding statewide office in Mississippi.

Hood’s high-profile gubernatorial race came four years after the party’s nominee was Robert Gray, a long-haul truck driver who didn’t vote for himself in the primary, raised little money and lost the general election by a wide margin.

Hood this year campaigned on improving schools and highways and on expanding Medicaid to the working poor. Expansion is

SEE GOVERNOR PAGE 8

‘Not a problem’

Rodriguez downplays concerns with QB rotation



FILE PHOTOS: BILLY SCHUERMAN / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

In a press conference on Monday, offensive coordinator Rich Rodriguez mentioned that he did not think the two quarterback system was a problem. Plumlee has limited passing ability, and Corral has thrown only a few passes since his injury.

JOSHUA CLAYTON
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Ole Miss offensive coordinator Rich Rodriguez addressed the media on Monday about the continued struggles on the offensive side of the ball, especially in the passing game, downplaying the lack of rhythm in the two-quarterback system the team has deployed in the past four games.

“The quarterback thing — switching them back and forth — in my opinion, is not a problem. I think those guys have handled it terrifically. They’ve had a great attitude,” he said. “The quarterback rotation is not a concern of mine as far as it affecting the execution. I don’t think it is, but that’s my opinion. It’s open for conversation,

I’m sure.”

Quarterback play for Ole Miss has been cloudy since Matt Corral went down in the week four matchup against California. Since then, true freshman John Rhys Plumlee has captured the starting job along with the intrigue of the fan base, but the Rebels have only captured one win over a lowly Vanderbilt squad in the past six games.

Plumlee has proven to be one of the most dynamic ball-carrying quarterbacks in the nation (he’s completed only 48.5% of his passes this season), starting five games while Corral has made only 39 pass attempts since his injury and didn’t see the field in the second half of the loss to Auburn.

Rodriguez has used both

quarterbacks, but with heavy dependence on the run, especially with Plumlee’s limited success passing the football, the offense has a lack of rhythm.

“We’ve said that since spring that we should be comfortable in stressful situations going fast because the whole thing’s built around that,” Rodriguez said. “I think there’s times we want to play faster, but you’ve got to get first downs. It’s hard for us when we don’t get first downs early to get in a rhythm.”

The coach said he is exploring all options to improve the offense in the final three games of the season, whether it calls for keeping both or moving forward with one full-time quarterback.

SEE QUARTERBACKS PAGE 8

Shooting suspect arrested

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The Oxford Police Department arrested Bobby Parks, 22, in connection with the shooting at Buffalo Wild Wings on Sunday.

The shooting was reported at Buffalo Wild Wings on Sunday around 2 p.m. No one was injured, and OPD apprehended the suspect.

Parks, from Sarah, Mississippi, was reportedly involved in an altercation the night before at Buffalo Wild Wings, where he was an employee. On Sunday, he was outside Buffalo Wild Wings when he mistook a patron on the patio for the other employee involved in the altercation.

Parks was then picked up by an unknown person in a silver BMW and proceeded to fire approximately six shots toward the patron and Buffalo Wild Wings, according to a press release from OPD. The weapon was recovered by OPD as well.

OPD officers found Parks shortly after the shooting, and he was taken into custody without incident. Parks was arrested and transported to the Lafayette County Detention Center, where he was booked for shooting into a dwelling. A justice court judge set Parks’ bond at \$200,000.

Parks is a former student at the University of Mississippi, according to his Facebook page.

The investigation is still open, and more arrests could be made, according to OPD. OPD is encouraging anyone with information about the case to contact CrimeStoppers.



WAFFLE HOUSE PLANS TO COME TO OXFORD

The Oxford Board of Aldermen approved a plat of land off Highway 7 to be designated as Oxford’s upcoming Waffle House location.

SEE PAGE 3



OLE MISS RIFLE SETS PROGRAM RECORDS VS. NO. 1 WEST VIRGINIA

Junior Abby Buessler set an aggregate school record on Saturday in the Rebels’ loss to top-ranked West Virginia.

SEE PAGE 5

How 2 women saved 200 campus cats

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Among the Grove squirrels and few students you could encounter during a late-night walk back to your dorm, you may also notice feral cats roaming the dark, empty campus.

Many students have run into them across campus, including near the student health center, outside the library and around their apartments. They can be seen nestled under bushes, quietly trotting down dark sidewalks and lounging in parking spaces in the sunlight.

Olivia Cusimano, a senior international studies major, lived at Northgate Apartments last year and frequently saw cats lounging on porches and greeting students.

"There's an orange tabby there that everyone calls 'Pizza.' He's very sweet. I saw two little kittens there at one point, too," Cusimano said. "Pizza would sometimes walk home with me. Like, he'd follow me from the opposite side of Northgate to my door. The girl in the apartment next to me bought a plush pumpkin animal bed and put it outside during October, and sometimes Pizza would sleep in it when it was really cold out."

Another Northgate resident,

junior international studies major Ben Hager, said he enjoys the cats' presence, and that his neighbor even feeds the cats sometimes.

"They are really chill," Hager said. "(Pizza) is nice and will let you pet it. Some people leave food out for them, which is why they hang around the area, I think. My neighbor leaves food out for them, so the orange (cat) likes to chill on my side of the complex."

These few cats living outside of Northgate Apartments are among the 20-30 cats living on the university campus that are cared for by Feral University Rebel Rescuers (FURR). Started in 2002 by Lisa Hartman, the athletics travel coordinator, FURR was a solution to the overpopulation of stray cats on campus.

"There had been some discussion by administration of how to handle the cats on campus, so the group did some research and found that numerous campuses in the U.S. and around the world practiced (the trap-neuter-return method)," Hartman said. "With their guidance, and the approval of our administration, FURR was born."

Natascha Techen, a senior research scientist in the department of pharmacognosy, came to the university in 2002 and got



PHOTO COURTESY: BEN HAGER

Pizza is one of several cats inhabiting the Northgate community. FURR protects and feeds 25-30 feral cats living around the university.

involved with FURR as an animal trapper.

"There were about 200 cats on campus unfixed. They were just running around everywhere. You would see them run over ... It was a total mess. It was really bad," Techen said. "So, the university didn't like how it looked, so they decided, 'We need to find a solution,' and these animals have to be caught and removed, which means killing."

Techen said Hartman, along with other university employees, were unhappy with this solution, so they offered an alternative.

"That's when they offered the trap-neuter-return (TNR) method at no cost to the university," Techen said. "The university agreed to the project, and it was very successful."

The population of these cats is controlled by the TNR method, enacted by FURR. The TNR process is conducted by trapping the cats near their usual "home" on campus and taking them to a participating veterinary clinic in Oxford, where they are vaccinated and spayed or neutered. The cats' ears are tipped to identify and monitor them. Once the cats heal, they are released back on campus, where they were originally trapped.

When the program began in 2002, there were around 200 cats living in the bushes and under porches of university buildings.

"We've caught about 180 animals. 80 of them were just too wild and had to be returned on campus, and the others were adopted out," Techen said. "Now

we are probably down to 20-30 animals on campus. They're all fixed, vaccinated against rabies and monitored. If they were to fall ill for some reason," Techen said, "we'll go out and catch them and provide medical care for them."

FURR is also responsible for feeding the cats using feeding stations at secret locations across campus. The stations' locations are kept secret, as people found them in the past and poisoned the cats.

"We have 9-10 feeding stations on campus where we provide food and water in the morning, and they have to eat it up during the days so that there's nothing leftover for the raccoons when they come out in the evening," Techen said.

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UM Gospel Choir celebrates a new season

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The University of Mississippi Gospel Choir (UMGC) celebrated its first concert of the semester at Tallahatchie-Oxford Missionary Baptist Association on Saturday. The performance focused on the theme “A Season of Miracles, Signs & Wonders.” The concert featured guest artists C. Ashley Brown-Lawrence and Bishop Zedric Clayton.

Clayton was choir director Jasmene Mitchell’s bishop from Clarksdale, or “The City of Truth,” and was there to help lead worship.

“I brought someone in that I felt like could basically shift the atmosphere and be able to reach people whenever we weren’t on stage and be able to take full control of the momentum of the concert,” Mitchell said.

The concert was free to the public, but, because of the expenses, the group ran a

fundraising campaign through crowdfunding platform Ignite Ole Miss. The group raised \$3,269 out of a \$7,300 goal.

The campaign is the largest one the choir has had since the group’s Grammy nomination 20 years ago.

The theme was curated by Mitchell, who has served as director since last semester. Mitchell has been with the choir for the last year and wanted her first concert with the group to be meaningful. The theme was focused on the group’s mission and purpose.

“You think of God, (and) he’s a miracle worker. He’s a waymaker. He’s everything that you could only believe and the reason why faith exists.” Mitchell said. “This is a new season, a new semester and a season of miracles, signs and wonders.”

Mitchell knows that gospel has transformed into a more modern form and aims to implement it more into the choir’s performances to further reach the hearts of those that hear them sing.



KERRIGAN HERRET / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

UM Gospel Choir’s recent concert focused on the theme “A Season of Miracles, Signs & Wonders.” See thdmonline.com for a video of the choir performing.

The group furthers its outreach into Oxford’s community through work with Boys and Girls Club, which encourages children to continue their education.

“Our mission is to minister the Word of God through songs and praises and to allow kids on this campus a place to express themselves,” Presi-

dent Makayla Scott said. “It is a place where they can feel safe with other people who are just like them and just come together as one.”

The UMGC is continuously growing and accepts new members at the start of every semester.

“Come as you are, which allows for a diverse group of

people who inevitably love Jesus, but they may showcase it in different ways,” Chief of Staff André Smith said.

The UMGC will perform at 7:30 p.m on Nov. 7 with Ole Miss Wesley Foundation and will have future performances this semester that will be advertised on their Facebook page.

Board of Aldermen approves land for Waffle House location

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The Oxford Board of Aldermen approved the final plat of lands for what has previously been identified as the upcoming Oxford Waffle House location on Tuesday.

Oxford Planning Director Ben Requet presented the Request Approval for the amended final plat named “Lot 1, The Summit, Phase I.” The lot is located on Commonwealth Boulevard, off of Highway 7 at Oxford Commons, the site of the Malco movie theater and bowling alley. Requet did not name Waffle House directly, only referring to the use of the site, which the city of Oxford recently annexed as a “new business.”

The approval comes after

Senior Associate Planning Director Judy Daniel presented a plat with the same location at the Oct. 14 Planning Commission meeting. Daniel did named the “new business” as Waffle House at the Planning Commission meeting.

Daniel said that the purpose of the lot is “to accommodate a new restaurant — Waffle House.”

While many Oxonians have been advocating for an Oxford Waffle House location, including Mayor Robyn Tannehill, who sits on the Board of Aldermen, no construction plans have been released. Waffle House has yet to release an official statement, although they company did bring a food truck to Oxford in September. The truck visited Oxford as part of a tour to different towns that did not currently have a Waffle House.



FILE PHOTO: BILLY SCHUERMAN / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

The Oxford Board of Aldermen approved the location of the upcoming Waffle House. The breakfast chain visited Oxford in September for National Waffle Week.

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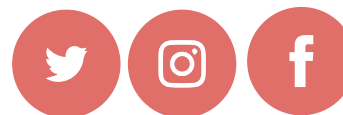
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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Rebels dominate MVSU in season opener

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Valerie Nesbitt dribbles past a defender in the exhibition match against MVSU. Nesbitt finished with six points against the Delta Devils.



Ole Miss defeated Mississippi Valley State University 72-53 on Tuesday.

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The Ole Miss women's basketball team opened their season with a 72-53 win over Mississippi Valley State on Tuesday.

Taylor Smith led the team in scoring with 18 points with six rebounds and Deja Cage had 16 points. The Rebels shot 47.1% after a slow start to the game. Torri Lewis also made her return to the starting lineup after a year away with 11 points.

"Good to start the season off with a victory," said Ole Miss head coach Yolett McPhee-McCuin. "As you can see, we're a young team, so the goal is to just continue to find things that we can get better at every game and focus on those things."

McPhee-McCuin and the Rebels are looking to improve on their 9-22 record a season ago. With several new freshmen and transfer additions. They'll welcome the Louisiana-Monroe Warhawks to The Pavilion on Sunday at 2 p.m.

SOCCER

Rebels eliminated from SEC Tournament by Razorbacks

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The Ole Miss soccer team's SEC Tournament run came up short with a tough loss to the No. 6 Arkansas Razorbacks in the quarterfinal on Tuesday.

Top-seeded Arkansas (15-2-2) notched the deciding goal in the 24th minute when Madison Smith was called

for handling in the penalty box. Taylor Malham put the penalty kick in the back of the net past Ashley Orkus, who made only two saves in the match.

Coming off a dramatic 2-1 win over Mississippi State, the Rebels (10-7-3) entered the quarterfinal round of the SEC Tournament with a lot of momentum, but the Razorback defense did not

give the Rebels any quality chances in the remaining minutes of the first half. As a result, the score remained 1-0, and both teams headed in for halftime.

Ole Miss gave Arkansas a struggle in the second half with a couple of chances, one of which came in the 56th minute when Gabby Little nearly found Channing Foster in the 18-yard box.

Arkansas goalkeeper Katie Lund slid to collect the ball before Foster had a chance to capitalize. Lund recorded six saves in the match.

Little once again had the opportunity to equalize in the 81st minute as Ole Miss countered off a Razorback corner, but Lund denied Little again.

The Rebels failed to produce a goal despite having multiple chances throughout the second half of the match. Arkansas was able to fend off a barrage of late-game desperation shots to eliminate the Rebels from the tournament.

"I thought we really had a great performance," head coach Matt Mott said after the loss. "I thought we had a couple of real good looks on the match and just couldn't find the back of the net. I'm really happy with the team and the performance. The work we did down here was really strong for us for sure, and hopefully we get a chance to continue on."

After their thrilling win in the opening round against

Mississippi State and a close loss to the top-seeded Razorbacks, Ole Miss holds a spot on the bubble in the NCAA Tournament. The Rebels held a No. 48 RPI ranking after the Mississippi State game and the loss to Arkansas is not likely to hurt their resume with the Razorbacks ranked No. 5 in the RPI.

The Rebels will wait to see if they qualify for the NCAA Tournament on Monday, with the

NCAA Selection Show at 3:30 p.m. The NCAA Tournament begins on Nov. 15 and runs through the beginning of the College Cup, which is Dec. 6-8 in Avaya Stadium in San Jose, California.

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RIFLE

Ole Miss rifle sets program records vs. No. 1 West Virginia

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West Virginia's top-ranked rifle team left Oxford with a win over Ole Miss on Saturday, but the Rebels continue to make their mark in record books.

Despite suffering their first loss early in the season, the Ole Miss rifle team (2-1) shot a program-high 2,372 in the air rifle event, making it the third-highest total score in the program's history.

Junior Abby Buesseler shot a 597 score in air rifle and tied her personal best in smallbore with a score of 586. Her combined aggregate score of 1183 broke the previous 1180 aggregate score from Ali Weisz in 2016.

"Coming into this match, I just tried to keep it really simple and then thought about the things that I wanted to accomplish and what it took to get to that point," Buesseler said. "Then I just put it together and try to be really patient with it and not over think it."

The Mountaineers (3-0) took the match 4704-4674 and won the smallbore event with a score of 2342.

Freshman Claire O'Neel and junior Alana Kelly also set personal records in the air rifle event. O'Neel had a score of 593, and Kelly followed with a score of 592, improving her personal best by three points.

"I am excited the team set the school record in air rifle today," head coach Marsha Beasley said. "JP Lucas



JOSH ALINSUB / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN
ILLUSTRATION BY KATHERINE BUTLER

and I have been seeing many excellent scores in practice, and I'm so glad we were able to put it together in a match."

The Rebels will face two more top-10 teams this weekend, as they travel to Lexington to face No. 3 Kentucky and No. 10 Akron.

The undefeated Wildcats have recent wins against No. 4 Air Force, No. 14 Nebraska and No. 19 UTEP.

In their last match, Kentucky scored a shining 2377 in the air rifle event, tying the nation's highest air score so far this season.

Kentucky shooter Mary Tucker fired a 598 in air and Will Shaner seconded with a score of 597.

Akron, also undefeated, upset Navy in mid-October with a score of 4669-4654 after senior Kera Kaufman's outstanding performance.

Kaufman shot a smallbore of 587 and beat her aggregate by two points.

The Rebels will face a challenge in their first road trip this weekend, but their performance against other top-25 teams shows potential for the upcoming season.



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A computer, a keyboard and a professor: music comes to Bryant Hall

CAROLINE NIHILL
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Michael Gardiner, associate professor of music, performed ambient music in Bryant Hall as part of the First Tuesdays in Bryant Hall on Tuesday.

Until this point, the new series has featured classical music. The November performance was the first of its kind, with Gardiner using his computer and keyboard to generate improvised electronic music.

Gardiner has been at Ole Miss for six years and has spent most of his time researching music theory. This is his first year back to composing, and he expects to have more performances in the future.

"I would like to see this as maybe a precursor for a longer concert," Gardiner said. "I'm also thinking of collaborating

with some of the saxophone professors and flute professors here."

Tuesday's performance template took Gardiner a month to create but is not a blueprint for the entire progression of the concert. The outline is arranged and randomized throughout the live performance with the help of Gardiner's laptop and keyboard.

"Describing electronic music can be very strange," Gardiner said. "I'm interested in the sounds (and) actually how you weave them together within the software."

Gardiner compared his process for creating his music to working in Photoshop, where tools are customizable.

Music program coordinator Lynn Wilkins attended the concert to support Gardiner in his first year composing at the university.



CAROLINE NIHILL / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Michael Gardiner performs ambient music in Bryant Hall as part of the First Tuesdays in Bryant Hall on Tuesday.

"Normally, we've had more traditional programs, even though they sometimes mixed contemporary music and traditional," Wilkins said. "It's fine to have something that's just out of left field, and that kind of makes you think about sound and music in a slightly different way."

Freshman Caroline Cross went to the concert and expressed her interest in the sound of music performed.

"It was different," Cross said. "It was kind of spooky, but it wasn't, like, scary. It kind of had a 'Stranger Things' vibe."

The First Tuesdays in Bryant Hall is slated to have performances for the rest of the year.



CAROLINE NIHILL / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Gardiner was the first performer in the series to not play classical music.

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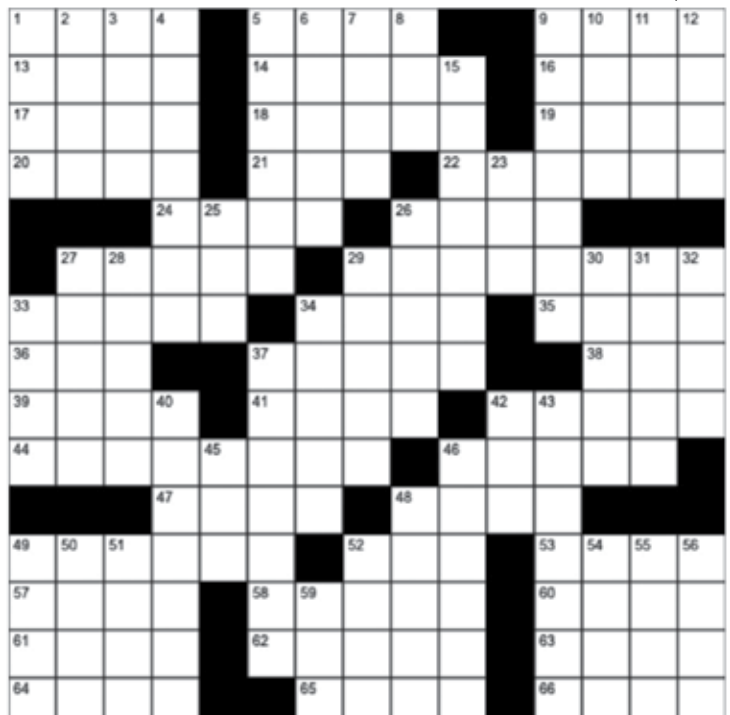
- ACROSS**
- 1- Child, who has no home;
 - 5- California wine region;
 - 9- Blue-pencil;
 - 13- Like ___ not;
 - 14- Shake like ___;
 - 16- Fork feature;
 - 17- Fourth little piggy's share;
 - 18- Outspoken;
 - 19- Sea-going eagle;
 - 20- Cut, old-style;
 - 21- Writing fluid;
 - 22- Female beast;
 - 24- This is fun!;
 - 26- Qom locale;
 - 27- Diarist Nin;
 - 29- Lively;
 - 33- Signs off on;
 - 34- Dosage amts.;
 - 35- Traditional knowledge;
 - 36- Chair part;
 - 37- Cry out loudly;
 - 38- Women's ___;
 - 39- Makes a row?;
 - 41- Canvas shelter used on camping trips;
 - 42- Bounce;
 - 44- Move in waves;
 - 46- Actress Scacchi;
 - 47- Water. Sp.;

- 48- Sketched;
- 49- Reduce;
- 52- Acapulco aunt;
- 53- Middle of QED;
- 57- Small purse;
- 58- Necklace fastener;
- 60- Come up short;
- 61- Other, in Oaxaca;
- 62- Bring forth from the egg;
- 63- Destroy;
- 64- Actor Penn;
- 65- Go by;
- 66- Affirmative votes;

- DOWN**
- 1- Triumphs;
 - 2- Lots and lots;
 - 3- Actress Skye;
 - 4- Toll-free turnpike;
 - 5- Fleets;
 - 6- Unescorted;
 - 7- Quarter bushel;
 - 8- Small battery size;
 - 9- Endless;
 - 10- Urgent;
 - 11- Places to stay;
 - 12- Driving aids;
 - 15- Retailer of flowers;
 - 23- Looker's leg;
 - 25- Towel word;
 - 26- Two cents, so to speak;
 - 27- Ohio city;



- 28- Titled;
- 29- United;
- 30- Apartment sign;
- 31- Author Jong;
- 32- It's outstanding;
- 33- Island of Hawaii;
- 34- 8th letter of the Greek alphabet;
- 37- Steadfast;
- 40- Exhortation;
- 42- Palindromic proposition;
- 43- Objects of personal adornment;
- 45- T-shirt size;
- 46- Mathematical diagrams;
- 48- Flat circular plates;
- 49- 13 popes;
- 50- Novel conclusion?;
- 51- Chapter of the Koran;
- 52- Toodle-oo!;
- 54- Cad;
- 55- Home to most people;
- 56- Change for a fifty;
- 59- Child seat?;



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	6		5						
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3	1	6		4		2			
9					6		7		

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

EASY

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

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OPINION

Why you shouldn't go on that mission trip

KATIE DAMES
thedmopinion@gmail.com

College is a time to seek meaning and boost one's resume, and some students see short-term volunteer mission trips as an opportunity to find both. Most of the 1.6 million volunteer tourists going abroad every year are people between the ages of 20-25, not older experts who have master's degrees in international development. I've seen Instagram posts that ask for funds to 1 go to "Africa" to volunteer, as if Africa were a city rather than an entire continent with 54 distinct countries.

What is most worrisome about young people with a lack of expertise going on these mission trips is that, no matter

the good intentions, aid work without significant training can cause systemic damage to communities.

One volunteer tourist organization, known for targeting college students, advertised a two-week visit to an orphanage with the description, "Do you have a heart for orphaned, vulnerable, and impoverished children and youth?" Of course, I have a heart for children in need, but showing a child attention for two weeks and never contacting them again creates a cycle of abandonment.

J.K. Rowling, author of the Harry Potter 2 series, leads the charity Lumos, which aims to reduce volunteer tourism and reveal the harmful nature of the orphanages in which 8 million children worldwide reside.

Although people volunteering in these locations believe they are helping, 90% of these children have living families. However, the popular desire to visit impoverished areas generates income, 3 leaving people with few choices other than to send away their kids. The intended charity work has the opposite effect and deprives children of sustained love from their families.

The efficacy of volunteer work outside of orphanages, such as doing manual labor, is questionable as well. Robert Lupton, a Christian community developer, noted in his book, "Toxic Charity: How Churches and Charities Hurt Those They Help (And How to Reverse It)," that after Hurricane Mitch struck Honduras, U.S. missions groups spent

on average \$30,000 per home to rebuild properties damaged, even though local workers could have spent \$3,000 on each. Not only does this demonstrate a waste of resources, but it also brings attention to another problem.

Local construction builders could have been employed in these efforts, saving on airfare and housing costs for foreign volunteers. Instead, individuals whose livelihoods had been negatively impacted by the disaster were stripped of the opportunity to do work and rebuild their own economies. Economists have found that directly giving money with no strings attached to those in areas generally infiltrated with humanitarian activity can do wonders for sustainable development and can directly raise

the standard of living.

Developmental work is a complex issue, with nuances that could not possibly fit into one opinion column, but it is also a complex issue that cannot be addressed by one week of good intentions of American students alone.

I'm not opposed to all humanitarian aid, but who can better assess the needs of a rural community in the global South: those who live there, or students who could not name the capital of the country they're visiting? Before you sign up for a mission trip, think critically about who it will benefit most and who it might hurt.

Katie Dames is a junior international studies major from St. Louis, Missouri.

LGBTQ students finally have a space. Some Facebook commenters aren't happy.

THOMAS MORGAN
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"I guess OM will be in line for the next Sodom and Gomorrah, don't want to be anywhere near that."

"This is (expletive), when does it stop?"

"Now we will know where the (expletive) hang out.."

These are some of the comments from concerned Facebook users regarding the new LGBTQ lounge in Lamar Hall. Open since last Thursday, it was created to be a safe space for queer students and faculty to relax -- a place where they won't be persecuted. However, hate has already been directed at the LGBTQ community online.

The reality is that the

members of the LGBTQ community have always lacked a permanent place on campus to be themselves, free from the hatred and targeting that still exists in our state. Without this lounge, our queer students would continue to struggle to find a safe environment to be themselves.

Ole Miss is all too familiar with progressive, positive change being challenged by fans around the state who are not necessarily associated with the university. James Meredith made history as the University of Mississippi's first African American student, during the era where our nation's racist policies were being seriously challenged. Despite his peaceful persistence while being admitted, the rest of the state

treated him like a monster.

Anyone who has studied our state's history knows of the hell that Meredith faced while studying here. I'm sure that many people don't want to see that struggle repeated.

The reality on campus still echoes that trauma.

A reflection on just the past couple of years of our university reminds us that hatred and bigotry are central components of this university's foundation. Let's not forget the group that marched on campus last year in defense of the Confederate monuments. Let's not forget the students who posed in front of the Emmett Till memorial, riddled with bullet holes, holding a shotgun and a rifle, smiling.

The bigotry in our commu-

nity doesn't stop with race. My freshman year, I was eating in the student union when a protest for transgender rights and protections started. Immediately, there was a counter-protest -- another person brought in a board with the phrase "Cigs Inside" written on it. Anyone who knows LGBTQ history knows that cigarettes used to be called what many use as a homophobic slur today.

That word gets thrown around a lot on and off campus. I remember last year hearing my roommates call people who play a certain way in Warhammer, a tabletop game, homophobic slurs, and I frequently hear guys in Greek life describe wearing a certain outfit or showing their emotions as "gay." According to some students, being gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, non-binary or anything other than cisgender and straight means being the butt of a

joke. We've been gaslighting a significant portion of our own student body to believe that they are lesser for existing.

This is the reality that the queer students of the University of Mississippi face. Despite what naysayers may claim, the queer community is still not fully welcomed by the student body. The LGBTQ students on campus need and deserve a permanent spot on campus to exist without being targeted or persecuted. Our university has a lot of healing to do that it has put off for decades, and those Facebook commenters are not helping.

Our Creed states that we believe in respect for the dignity of each person. It states that we believe in fairness and civility. This lounge is the first step toward that reality.

Thomas Morgan is a junior public policy leadership and international studies major from Brandon, Mississippi.

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GOVERNOR

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an option under the federal health overhaul signed into law in 2010 by then-President Barack Obama. Mississippi is among the 14 states that have not expanded Medicaid, a decision that Hood said has cost the state \$1 billion a year in federal money.

Republicans have been governor in Mississippi for 24 of the last 28 years. The last Democratic governor, Ronnie Musgrove, lost in 2003 as he sought a second term.



PHOTO COURTESY: TATE REEVES

Tate Reeves was elected the next governor of Mississippi.

QUARTERBACKS

continued from page 1

“Anything’s possible. Why in the hell would I say anything differently right now?” he said. “I wouldn’t tell you if I was. It’s unconventional, but I’ve done it before. Other teams are doing it now. You’re seeing it more now at all levels. You better have two or three of those dudes ready to play.”

Rodriguez noted that the increased use of quarterbacks in other positions, like Taysom Hill of the New Orleans Saints, could change what the staff does in recruiting for next year, but doubted any other use of Plumlee in the system besides quarterback.

“Well, he could do that today, but he’s a quarterback. He’s good enough throwing the ball,” he added. “There’s some issues with his throwing Saturday that I think are really correctable when you watch the film, but he’s a quarterback all the way.”

Rodriguez also said Grant Tisdale’s recent departure from the team could open up an opportunity to recruit another quarterback in the next class. Tisdale entered the transfer portal after only receiving playing time in the loss to



FILE PHOTO: BILLY SCHUERMAN / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Many fans have voiced concerns about Plumlee and Corral splitting playing time.

Alabama when he turned in 56 yards and a touchdown on only two attempts in garbage time. Rodriguez guaranteed that the staff would bring in at least one quarterback recruit in every class and that there would always be competition.

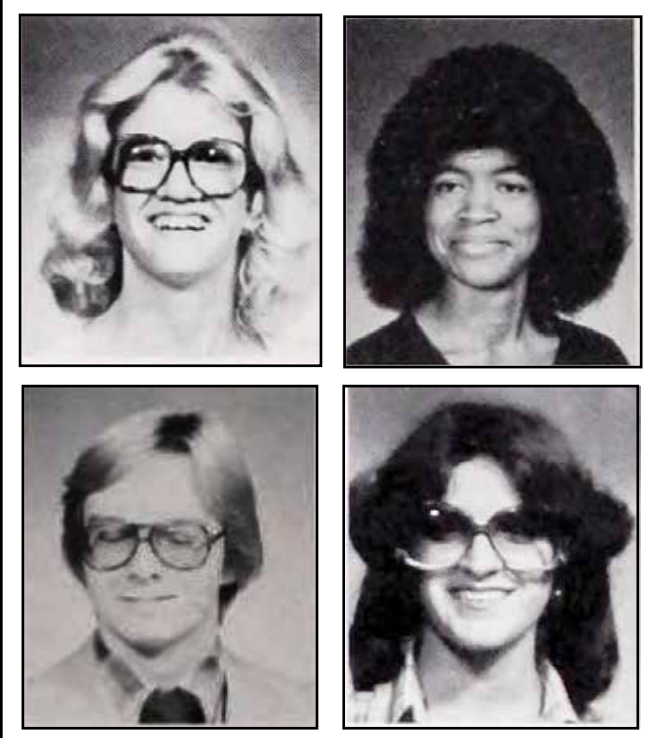
“I’ve said this to our quar-

terbacks. You might start this week, but you’ve got to compete for your job every week,” he said. “That’s at every position, but at quarterback, maybe that’s the difference, (and) maybe they don’t want to hear that... you compete for your job, and I think that’s the best way to build that culture.”

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