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MISSISSIPPIAN

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI | SERVING OLE MISS AND OXFORD SINCE 1911

DM STAFF REPORT

Will the university relocate its Confederate statue?

It could happen. Student leaders at the University of Mississippi are taking steps toward removing the Confederate monument from the center of campus.

Campus senators met with local historians and administrators this month to discuss options for removing the university's Confederate monument from the Circle, and on Tuesday night, Associated

Student Body senators approved a draft of a resolution in committee which would call on university administration to relocate the monument.

The monument, erected in the Circle 1906 and dedicated by residents of Lafayette County, served as a rallying point for neo-Confederate protesters this past weekend. In 1962, students rioting against James Meredith's integration of the

university gathered at the base of the same monument.

According to a memo dated Feb. 26 released by the Associated Student Body Senate's committee on inclusion and cross-cultural engagement, senators plan to seek support from the Faculty Senate, Graduate Student Council, Staff Council and administration in order to relocate the monument to the town's Confederate

cemetery. These groups represent some of the same university bodies that were involved in the school's decision to remove the state flag from campus in 2015 and to remove Ed Meek's name from the School of Journalism and New Media in 2018.

An earlier draft of that memo dated Feb. 22 showed Erica McKinley, the university's general counsel, implying

that the university or another "governing body" could make the decision to remove the monument. That memo, which was obtained by The Daily Mississippian, explains that the authority to remove the monument does not lie exclusively with the state government "unless an attorney general deems otherwise."

SEE **STATUE** PAGE 4

Sparks yet to comment on players' protest



PHOTO COURTESY: AP PHOTO/MARK HUMPHREY

Ole Miss guard Devontae Shuler shakes hands with head coach Kermit Davis after the team defeated Vanderbilt on Jan. 5.

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The silent protest from eight men's basketball players during the national anthem was seen and felt across the nation, putting the national spotlight on the city of Oxford, yet again.

While most of the national sports media outlets have returned to their discussions of Zion Williamson, LeBron James or the NFL Combine, the players' protest of the neo-Confederate groups will not be forgotten anytime soon in Oxford.

Voices flood both sides of

the aisle in the conversation about the protest, and the sentiment from some national media personalities has been that the form of the players' demonstration is ineffective.

"No, I don't think (kneeling during the national anthem) is effective," Jason Whitlock of Fox Sports told The Daily Mississippian. "It's exactly playing into the hands of bigots, white nationalist groups (and) KKK groups. (They) are fringe elements of American society and are looking for attention and are looking to provoke a response from people."

The national story may have been that players were simply protesting neo-Confederate

presence on campus, but it forces Oxford and the university to get to the root of why those groups were here in the first place.

Students and faculty across campus are calling for immediate action from the administration to address its identity. Director of the university's African American studies program Charles K. Ross, who has a doctorate in African-Americans in sports from Ohio State University, said that the events over the weekend are all the more reason to take down the university's Confederate statue.

"These groups came on campus because they have

identified with the University of Mississippi and its Confederate past and the fact that the University of Mississippi has the strongest identity of any school in America to the Confederacy and what it represented," Ross said. "The University of Mississippi has worked hard, to an extent, to try to distance itself, but there's also an argument that there's a whole lot more that the university could be doing."

He said the university should be focussed on its students rather than its athletic reputation.

"This issue is bigger

SEE **KNEELING** PAGE 8

Students criticize campus housing

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Ole Miss students are questioning campus housing's approach in managing problems with its residents, and some have voiced concern with housing employees' recent reliance on law enforcement officials.

University Police Department is called to residence halls approximately two to five times nightly and more on the weekends, according to UPD Crime Prevention Coordinator Bishop Lewis.

Lewis also said housing relies heavily on UPD for enforcement of rules, specifically in regards to potential criminal offenses.

"There should always be restraint before you go to law enforcement, especially with some of the minor issues," Associated Student Body Judicial Chair Alex Crouch said. "We need to have some tolerance for minor

SEE **HOUSING** PAGE 3



BLACK HISTORY MONTH SPEAKERS EXPLORE RACIAL HISTORY

Tim Wise and Joy Degruy, prominent scholars on race, delivered the Black History Month keynote address on Monday. They addressed racial problems of the past and what can be done to move forward.

SEE PAGE 4



OLE MISS FACES CENTRAL ARKANSAS ON THE ROAD

Ole Miss softball plays its final road game until mid-March on Wednesday against Central Arkansas before starting 14-game home stand. First pitch is set for 5 p.m. in Conway, Arkansas.

SEE **THEMONLINE.COM**

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GUEST COLUMN

It starts here

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Last week, students, faculty and staff sifted through confusing communiqué and endeavored to make informed decisions about whether it was safe to come to their place of work and study. Meanwhile, students organized to condemn the white supremacist march and the statue.

Student groups collaborated on open letters to the administration, and a separate letter garnered over 225 signatures in just six days. On Thursday evening, the University of Mississippi Gospel Choir raised a Black Power fist at the word “brave” while singing the national anthem at a women’s basketball game. More than 150 students, faculty and staff marched against the statue over two days. Others fled Oxford for the weekend, some students at the request of their concerned parents. According to an article published in *The Daily Mississippian*, some now doubt whether they will return next semester.

Finally, as white supremacists marched on Saturday, eight university basketball players at the nearby Pavilion knelt during the national anthem in protest. Both head coach Kermit Davis and athletic

director Ross Bjork issued statements supporting their players’ decision. Davis said the protest “was all about the hate groups that came to our community to try to spread racism and bigotry.” Bjork added that “we don’t want them on our campus. ... that’s not right because that’s not the Ole Miss that I know.”

But this group of hate-spewing neo-Confederates did not choose just any campus or weekend. They reacted to a student group, Students Against Social Justice (SASI), that has called on the administration to remove the Confederate monument and adopt a hate speech policy. Earlier this year, SASI announced plans for a Students Against Sweatshops convention to be held on Feb. 23. The white supremacists made their decisions in order to threaten those students, a fact university officials have ignored. Narratives about outside agitation obscure the real reason our community was threatened. Those narratives avoid the everyday violence of this symbol of hate and white supremacy at our doorstep. It started here.

The most courageous decisions to organize and protest for racial justice were made by students and student-athletes. Those who remained silent or minimized or misdirected attention from our campus were highly compensated administrators and coaches. Those making the most money showed the

least amount of courage this past week, while our least-compensated and most-vulnerable showed the most.

This is not surprising. The statue glorifies those who fought to maintain slavery, an economic system of racialized labor exploitation, or “racial capitalism.” This same system today shields white administrators from accountability to vulnerable students and employees while entrenching racial hierarchies. The Confederate rally did not originate outside of our campus. It was born from it, and it sought to uphold the same values and the same system from which our administrators benefit.

As our million-dollar head basketball coach and athletic director divert attention to the hate off campus that they “don’t recognize,” the players who made the courageous stand against that hate receive no compensation for their labor and time. As unpaid (indeed, tuition-paying) students in SASI, BSU, the NAACP, University of Mississippi Pride Network, OUTgrads, OUTlaw and campus ministry groups called out white supremacy by its name, six-figure salaried campus administrators sought to accommodate it. Predominantly white institutions like ours use non-white people and their labor to accumulate value, both economic and social. In times of crisis, they use that labor to protect their

own capital and condemn the most obvious symbols of hate as “not us.”

Until our campus reckons with its most prominent symbol to racial capitalism — the Confederate statue — and the system that undergirds it, official statements about our values and commitments remain milquetoast. We must address the relationship between unpaid and underpaid labor on our campus — predominantly by black students, student-athletes and staff — and the statue that venerates that economic system. Our campus community has made it clear: Until the statue is gone, we will not feel safe, welcomed or able to work productively here. We demand that the university take immediate action to remove the statue from campus. It must start here.

CORRECTION:

A front page article on Monday incorrectly stated that the eight Ole Miss men’s basketball players were the first male student-athletes from a major university to kneel during the national anthem. They are not the first student-athletes to do so, but are the first men’s college basketball players from a major university to do so.

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The Daily Mississippian welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be e-mailed to dletters@olemiss.edu.

Letters should be typed, double-spaced and no longer than 300 words. Letters may be edited for clarity, space or libel. Third-party letters and those bearing pseudonyms, pen names or “name withheld” will not be published. Publication is limited to one letter per individual per calendar month.

Letters should include phone and email contact information so that editors can verify authenticity. Letters from students should include grade classification and major; letters from faculty and staff should include title and the college, school or department where the person is employed.



MISSISSIPPI
press
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MEMBER NEWSPAPER

HOUSING

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mistakes so that we can teach our students to grow from something instead of possibly giving them a criminal charge for a minor offense.”

Freshman international studies major Jess Cooley said one of his friends has attended multiple housing hearings and has had the police called on him several times for visitation violations in residence halls.

“He’s getting serious repercussions for this not so serious issue, which is kind of over the line,” Cooley said.

Throughout his term in student government, Crouch said he has tried to emphasize the idea of restorative justice, a system of criminal justice that teaches offenders rather than only punishing them.

“I would certainly hope that the department of student housing takes a similar approach so that students are given the necessary space to grow and learn from the possible mistakes they’ve made,” Crouch said.

Freshman economics major Nicholas Castellanos lives in a university residence hall and said community assistants tend to involve UPD in issues that could be handled with a



PHOTO: KATHERINE BUTLER

Martin Hall is one of the dorm buildings that UPD regularly visits in response to minor offenses.

university citation.

“You don’t want to ruin someone’s life if you can help it,” Castellanos said.

Lewis said UPD often tries to offer training on how to handle certain situations and how to determine the correct procedure for housing employees.

Lewis also said housing employees sometimes ask why UPD officers do or do not

discipline reported students in certain ways when they are called to the residence halls.

“When I help train our officers and the (Community Assistants), I emphasize that if people are cooperative with us, honest with us, that goes a long way in determining what we can do with them,” Lewis said.

When officers are called to the residence halls for “a small amount of alcohol” or a

minor drug possession “like marijuana residue,” they have “wiggle room and don’t have to arrest (students),” according to Lewis.

These are the types of cases Crouch believes could be more easily resolved by writing a housing citation, confiscating the substance and sending the offender through the student conduct process without law enforcement involvement.

“We need to focus on solutions to make sure our students are learning in the most effective way, and I would hate to see any department or organization on campus outsourcing problem-solving to law enforcement when it’s not necessary,” Crouch said.

Director of Student Housing and Residential Life Lionel Maten said the rules of student housing are explained to residents during floor meetings the first week of the school year and from then on, he said, it is the responsibility of both the residents and the CAs to act accordingly.

Maten said the housing department wants to keep residents safe and only involves UPD when it is necessary for security reasons.

“In the time I’ve been here, anytime housing has groups come to us offering suggestions, we’re always

willing to listen and take their thoughts into consideration, whether that’s ASB or another group,” Maten said.

Senior hospitality management major Meghan Bullock agreed that housing should act as the primary authority when it comes to issues in residence halls but said her experience in Martin Hall demonstrated housing’s dependence on the UPD.

Bullock said she and four of her friends were in a dorm room, and while two of them were drinking alcohol, a CA came into the room unannounced.

“The cops were called, and they just watched as the CA poured out the wine,” she said. “Then a month or two later, the Martin head of housing made us all meet with her. She discouraged us from appealing the citation, saying it would be too difficult, even though some of us hadn’t even been drinking.”

Bullock ultimately paid a \$100 fine, attended RebelADE interventions and completed 25 hours of community service.

“When that happened to me, housing immediately resorted to calling the police, which I think was a little heavy-handed of a response,” she said. “They wanted the police to come in and enforce the rules.”

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Black History Month speakers address race, history

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Tim Wise, an anti-racist writer and activist, and Joy DeGruy, a scholar whose research focuses primarily on race and trauma, delivered the University of Mississippi's Black History Month keynote address and highlighted how to address racial problems of the past, how those problems haunted the university this past weekend and what can be done to move forward.

Wise discussed Saturday's Confederate marches and said that, while he often hears white people claim that African-Americans cannot let go of the past, the protests this weekend prove otherwise.

"If somebody needs to let go of the past, it's the white guys marching in defense of an army that was defeated 150 years ago," Wise said.

The keynote address was presented hours after the university released a statement to the Ole Miss community saying the neo-Confederate groups caused concern for our campus and inviting concerned students to attend to the keynote Monday night.

Vice Chancellor for Diversity and Community Engagement Katrina Caldwell said at the close



Keynote speakers Tim Wise and Joy DeGruy address the crowd regarding Black History Month and related themes last night in the Ole Miss Student Union Ballroom.

PHOTO: KATHERINE BUTLER

of Black History Month that there is more to be done in the fight for equality.

"The events during this month have inspired those on the frontlines in the battle for racial equality to keep on keeping on," Caldwell said. "They have been an opportunity to recruit new

people because there is still work to be done."

DeGruy, through her research, coined the term "Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome," which is a variation of Post-traumatic Stress Disorder that has perpetuated stress among enslaved people and their

descendants for generations.

She spoke about a situation that she called common among the African-American community. DeGruy described two sets of parents, one black and one white, who have children that are best friends. When the parents complement each other's

kids, the black parent feels the need to downplay his or her child's success. She said this reaction is traceable to slavery.

"There's a different response to success, among white and black parents, of their offspring, a defense mechanism," she said. "This is a direct result of chattel slavery among black parents to make their children seem undesirable in order to prevent the sale of their offspring."

Wise, in response to DeGruy, explained the this trauma from the opposite perspective: one of white supremacy.

"If trauma does something to the traumatized, by definition, it seems that being favored intergenerationally has an affect among generations," he said. "White folks don't want to look at the possibility that white supremacy has harmed us."

Brittney Jackson, a senior integrated marketing communications major, said that hosting events like this is moving the university forward.

"It's a positive decision for the university to have this event in the wake of last weekend's events," she said. "With so many things trying to hold us back, we're trying to progress as a university, but we can only do this if the intentions are good. The university has to want things like this to have a good effect."

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Authors of the memo said this earlier version unintentionally contained those statements but made no indication of why those opinions were initially included.

In October 2017, Deputy Attorney General Mike Lanford said Confederate monuments can be relocated as long as they remain on similar public property.

Two years earlier, in October 2015, the ASB Senate passed a resolution encouraging the removal of the Mississippi state flag from campus, and within a week, administration made the decision to officially lower the last remaining state flag on the Ole Miss campus.

In a statement released by the university, then Interim Chancellor Morris Stocks said the campus and community discussion inspired the administration to act quickly with the removal.

The ASB rules committee will review a draft of a resolution calling on the university to remove the monument before that legislation potentially comes to the Senate floor next week.

"I don't think it's any coincidence that this (resolution) is coming on the heels of last weekend," ASB Vice President Walker Abel said. "I think it's a very well-written bill, and at this point, it's well-researched."

In addition to meeting with

official campus councils, senators met with other student leaders, including College Democrats and student ministries, to bolster support for relocating the monument.

"This is not something that has been rushed in any way," said John Chappell, president of College Democrats. "A lot of research has gone into it."

The ASB memo shows that senators met with former members of the Chancellor's Advisory Committee on History and Context and other experts on campus race relations from the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation and the Center for Inclusion and Cross-Cultural Engagement.

Last night's proposed resolution comes just hours after the university hosted two forums where students and faculty members asked the university administration to take action and begin the process for relocating the monument.

Junior biology major Jojo Brown attended the students' forum, hosted by Vice Chancellor for Diversity and Community Engagement Katrina Caldwell, and said she wanted to know how to remove the statue from the center of campus.

"I will take whoever's email. I will make however many statements I need to do," Brown said. "Coming here as an African-American female, everywhere I go, somebody says, 'Why would you go (to the University of Mississippi)? It's racist. They don't want you there.'"

Sophomore political science major Mya King said she was tired of coming to the same meetings and "looking at the same people" she sees at every meeting.

"I'm frustrated because we're talking about the same thing that we talk about in every other meeting," King said.

At the faculty forum hosted by Provost Noel Wilkin, history professor and director of African American studies Charles Ross said the forum provided a lot of information to the faculty, but he thinks there the university can do more.

"I think this idea that we don't know what the policy is in moving the statue — I think we need to get some clarity on that," he said. "Hopefully, administration can move quickly on that, and I'd like to see the administration unilaterally take some leadership."

At the separate forums, Wilkin and Caldwell both said senior leadership is currently trying to determine who the "governing body" is that would have the authority to relocate the statue.

McKinley said there is a state law referred to as the "monument statute" that states it is unlawful to take down the statue.

"The second part of that statute explains that the governing body may decide that is more suitable for display somewhere else," McKinley said. "And, what we grapple with here is that phrase 'governing body' is not defined."



FILE PHOTO: CHRISTIAN JOHNSON

Demonstrators at the Black History Month March gather around the Confederate monument in the Circle in the rain on Thursday under a canopy of umbrellas.

First novel from Andrew Ridker ‘tender and evocative’

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Arthur Alter, patriarch of the Alter family, stopped to examine dandelions blooming through his driveway. It was his first trip home in weeks, and readers should forgive him, “considering the undisturbed calm of the private place, for losing world-historical perspective while within its bounds, for devoting (him)self entirely to intimate ruptures, bubbles and tears in the asphalt.”

This nearsightedness is one of the defining traits of Arthur Alter, the protagonist of “The Altruists.” The book is the debut novel of current Iowa Arts Fellow in the Iowa Writers’ Workshop Andrew Ridker. “The Altruists” finds itself on anticipatory 2019 book lists by such publications as Southern Living and The Millions and asks readers to bestow upon its characters the

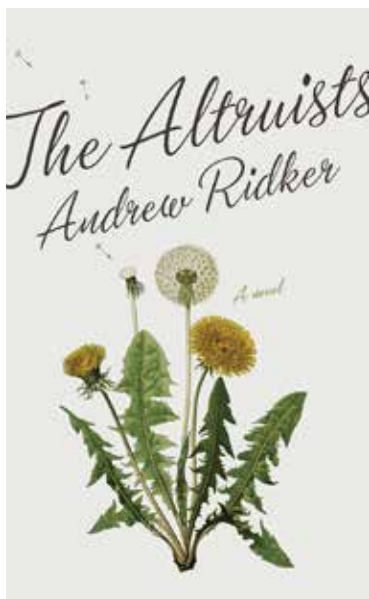


PHOTO COURTESY: ANDREW RIDKER

generosity that is implied by its title.

Generosity may be all that gets readers past the novel’s first three chapters, but once this hurdle is cleared, the indulgence will be repaid tenfold in tender and intimate

glimpses into the struggling heart of an unhappy family.

Ridker’s debut reads like an illness trajectory of a grief-stricken family. Following the death of their competent and beloved matriarch, Francine, husband Arthur and adult children Maggie and Ethan spiral.

Arthur, an untenured professor with a nearly blank publication history and one catastrophic failure under his belt, drives his children away with his self-absorption and absent-mindedness. Do-gooder Maggie slowly starves as she attempts to funnel her grief into world-improvement. Ethan squanders the inheritance left to him by his late mother, plunging himself into debt with tasteful wall hangings and monthly cheese subscriptions.

In its early chapters, the novel’s clashing uses of humor and earnestness in its descriptions of these symptoms are often discordant, falling flat

in their attempts at garnering pity for privileged and self-righteous characters.

However, with the introduction of Arthur — a narcissistic male protagonist in the tradition of Jonathan Franzen who is no less sympathetic for his conformance to a trope or his grating egomania — “The Altruists” becomes stunningly intricate and touching, peeling back the layers of each of the three main characters to reveal the pathology of their personalities.

All three of the surviving Alters are traumatized — Arthur by the great failure of his youth, Ethan by social and familial rejection and Maggie by her inability to reconcile the comfort of middle-class life with her desire to help the underprivileged. Their traumas surface with Francine’s death.

Ridker’s meticulous reopening of the Alters’ wounds at once exposes the contrived behaviors of the Alters as coping

mechanisms indicative of the depth of grief each of the family members experiences and reveals the characters’ absurdities as the contradictions of consumer culture and self-actualization in 21st century America.

This allegory at times jumps tactlessly out from behind the intricately woven curtain of the novel’s emotional world, but even this occasional lack of subtlety — a trait deserving of leniency in any first novel — is charming in its sincerity.

Ultimately, “The Altruists” is a tender and evocative, if occasionally obvious, call for universal generosity in a time of change, grief and nationwide emotional tension. It is a reminder that “Where civilization does not exist, you must invent it” and an invitation to join the Alters in “feeling their way toward a new arrangement.”

“The Altruists,” published by Viking, hits shelves next Tuesday, March 5.

Netflix’s ‘High Flying Bird’ breaks filmmaking norms

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One of Netflix’s newest original films, big-time producer and director Steven Soderbergh’s “High Flying Bird,” takes place in the midst of an NBA lockout season and follows the path of sports agent Ray Burke (André Holland) and his rookie basketball clients.

The film addresses topics of power and race in an incredibly innovative way, and its story is written well by Oscar-winner Tarell Alvin McCraney — though it might be difficult to follow for those who aren’t knowledgeable about the world of sports.

“High Flying Bird” speaks of the change of societal norms in two different ways: through its production process and its storytelling. Soderbergh did something — for the second time in his career — that is nearly unheard of when creating modern

movies. He chose to film the entire movie using an iPhone.

Not only is it a major feat to create a successful movie with a phone camera, but this shows that it is possible for anyone who owns a smartphone to create a movie. Though production quality diminishes with this choice, Soderbergh has opened up doors to filmmaking and created opportunities for those who dream of it.

The way this film was produced goes hand in hand with the story, and it could even be seen as a way to emphasize its message. Last year, LeBron James made a statement on his HBO show “The Shop” that stirred the sports realm.

“In the NFL, they got a bunch of old white men owning teams, and they got that slave mentality,” the basketball star said.

The world of “High Flying Bird” seems to match the description of James’s quote as all of the team owners and other higher-ups in



PHOTO COURTESY: IMDB

the film are white men, and Ray Burke and his colleagues have to fight through these men of power in order to get the NBA season started. In the same way that it is rare to see a movie made with an iPhone, we seldom see diversity in powerful positions, especially in sports.

What’s also fascinating about this picture is that Soderbergh is able to get dynamic performances out of his large cast, yet he does it with no A-listers in the lineup. Holland gives the best

performance as Ray Burke, followed closely by Zazie Beetz as Sam and Sonja Sohn as Myra. On the other hand, Melvin Gregg is relatively new to acting and gives a strong effort, but he disappoints the most with his performance as rookie Erick Scott.

Gregg seems like he is calculating his thoughts too much as an actor and never really gives enough emotion to his lines; however, this is a breakout role for him that will hopefully open the doors to new

films that will help him perfect his craft. The cast members impress, and Soderbergh scatters interviews with NBA athletes Reggie Jackson, Karl-Anthony Towns and Donovan Mitchell, who provide nuggets of advice for surviving the NBA.

There is no doubt the story contains an interesting plot to follow along with interesting performances. McCraney gives us quick and snappy dialogue, while he also gives us an interesting take on what the world of professional sports might look like behind the scenes. The story moves quickly, so it can become disorienting very quickly. If they can get past the hurdles, then this film can provide an enjoyable experience.

Overall, “High Flying Bird” is an innovative, unique film that takes us through the dark mysteries of the executive world of sports while showing us how the decisions made affect those outside of the inner circle during an NBA lockout season.

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

No. 7 Tennessee comes to Pavilion on Wednesday night

JACK GENTRY
 THEDMSports@GMAIL.COM

After an emotional weekend that included eight players kneeling during the national anthem in protest of a pro-Confederate rally on campus, Ole Miss must shift its focus to a matchup with a dangerous Tennessee team.

The No. 7-ranked Tennessee squad, led by head coach Rick Barnes, has been a juggernaut for the majority of the season.

The Volunteers, who are deadlocked in a three-way tie for No. 1 in the SEC, will roll into The Pavilion on Wednesday night. The Rebels have proven they can finish on top against top-25 opponents, as their record sits at 2-2 in such games.

Tennessee's starting lineup features five upperclassmen, four of whom average

in double figures. The Volunteers lay claim to two of the top five scorers in the SEC in Grant Williams, who leads the SEC at 19 points per game, and Admiral Schofield, with 16.9. Williams is not only a frontrunner for SEC Player of the Year honors but also a candidate for the Naismith Award, which goes to the best player in the country.

Jordan Bone is the floor general for the Vols, leading the SEC with 6.3 assists per game and averaging 13.2 points per game. The two sharpshooters for Tennessee — Lamonte Turner, with 11 points per game, and Jordan Bowden, with 10.6 points per game — round out the group of five Volunteers who average double figures.

“They’ve got great character, they’ve got depth, they’ve got physicalness (sic), and you’re going to have to

match toughness. Our guards are going to have to be terrific in the game,” said Ole Miss head coach Kermit Davis. “I know this place will be rocking on Wednesday.”

With the SEC tournament just two weeks away, the Rebels know that a bid to the NCAA tournament is within their grasp.

“Definitely, I am aware of it. I haven’t been in the tournament yet, so it’s something I think about every day,” Rebel guard Breein Tyree said. “I don’t think that’s a bad thing. I think everybody on this team should be thinking about it on a daily basis and trying to figure out what our best way to the tournament is and how we are going to finish out the year as strong as possible.”

Kermit Davis did not mince words when asked if he was aware of where the Rebels stand in relation to the postseason.

“It’s what we all play for, so to act like you don’t know its coming — that’s just not true. Everybody knows what their NET is. I don’t care what a coach says. Everybody knows,” Kermit Davis said. “It’s every guy’s goal and every coach’s goal to play in (the tournament) when you tip it up for the first time. It’s something we don’t harp on,



FILE PHOTO: CHRISTIAN JOHNSON
 Ole Miss guard Breein Tyree drives the ball downcourt during the game against Arkansas on Jan. 19. The Pavilion is sold out for the game tonight versus Tennessee.

but it’s sure something our guys are striving to get to.”

The Rebels have the opportunity to bolster their resume with their first top-10 win of the season on Wednesday night. ESPN

analyst Joe Lunardi ranked Ole Miss as a nine seed in the latest installment of his famed bracketology. The game is set to tipoff at 6 p.m.

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- ACROSS**
- 1 Perfect, something to aspire to
 - 6 What ___ mind reader?
 - 10 “___ Tu”: 1974 hit
 - 14 Alabama city
 - 15 Hire
 - 16 Title bestowed upon the wife of a raja
 - 17 Continental identity of a Chinese person
 - 18 Draft rating
 - 19 Adjective-forming suffix
 - 20 Acoustic engineer
 - 23 Irrational fear
 - 27 Gymnast Comaneci
 - 28 Drag
 - 29 Plaque
 - 34 Blender brand
 - 36 Lush
 - 37 “Bali -”
 - 40 In spite of
 - 43 Brian of Roxy Music
 - 44 Gallows loop
 - 45 All, in music
 - 46 Lubricant
 - 48 Capital of the Ukraine
 - 49 Dwelling
 - 53 Deadly fly
 - 55 Lay over
 - 60 Not kosher
- DOWN**
- 1 This ___ test...
 - 2 ___ Moines, Iowa
 - 3 New Haven student
 - 4 Doctors’ org.
 - 5 Polynesian porch
 - 6 Buck follower
 - 7 Diner’s card
 - 8 Supermodel Sastre
 - 9 Rat-___
 - 10 “All My Children” vixen
 - 11 Fanatical
 - 12 Zhou ___
 - 13 City in Tuscany
 - 21 Siamese, calico, or tabby
 - 22 Purpose
 - 23 Call
 - 24 Is wearing
 - 25 ___ lunch
 - 26 Exploded
 - 30 ... who lived in ___
 - 31 ___ nova

SOLUTION TO 2.25.2019 PUZZLE



- 61 Follow
- 62 Sporting blades
- 67 Yes ___?
- 68 Mex. miss
- 69 Adjust to zero
- 70 Red flower
- 71 Anthem opener
- 72 Fills to the gills
- 32 Old stringed instruments
- 33 Conductor
- 35 Impostor
- 37 Command to the band
- 38 Pays to play
- 39 Uncle!
- 41 Craggy hill
- 42 Ellington, e.g.
- 47 UFO crew
- 49 Mary of “The Maltese Falcon”
- 50 Small donkey
- 51 Goes into business
- 52 Friday’s creator
- 54 Visionaries
- 56 Wishing won’t make ___
- 57 Milky Way maker
- 58 Middle Eastern bread
- 59 Oil of ___
- 63 Shade of green
- 64 Superlative suffix
- 65 Wide shoe width
- 66 Ave. crossers

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

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 Puzzles by KrazyDad

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

SUPER TOUGH

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

BASEBALL

Pitching struggles, offense explodes against UT Martin

JUSTIN DIAL
 THEDMSPORTS@GMAIL.COM

Pitching continues to be Ole Miss's downfall, but once again, the bats were there to save the day for the Rebels.

Ole Miss won another high-scoring game on Tuesday evening with a 12-6 victory over UT Martin that brings the Rebels' record to 5-2 only a week and a half into the season. Thomas Dillard continued his campaign for the Golden Spikes award, hitting his fifth home run of the season.

"I'm just going out there and being aggressive," Dillard said. "I just try to put a good swing on it. Whether it's a fastball, slider or a changeup, I'm trying to jump on something early."

Ole Miss lefty Jordan Fowler made his first start on the mound Tuesday. With the Rebels' pitching woes so far through six games, Fowler had high hopes of getting himself into the weekend starter conversation. Unfortunately for him, he only lasted 1.2 innings against UT Martin.

Fowler finished with an ERA of 9.00, allowing five runs on three hits, although only two of those runs were earned. He also walked three while striking out two.

Despite Fowler's performance, Ole Miss bounced back quickly, scoring 9 runs in the first three innings and essentially putting the nail in UT Martin's coffin.

Facing a 4-0 deficit early in the game, third baseman Tyler Keenan smashed his fourth home run of the year, a two-run shot to left field. Three batters later, Zabowski, who was batting .269 coming into the game, followed Keenan's lead. He hit a two-run dinger to right to tie the game at four.

"One of the things that made the offense so good last year



PHOTO: CHRISTIAN JOHNSON

Ole Miss outfielder Tim Elko steals second base during the Rebels' matchup against UT Martin on Tuesday. Ole Miss won the game 12-6.

was the bottom of the lineup," head coach Mike Bianco said. "Guys like Keenan and (Chase) Cockrell were at the bottom. It's hard for an opposing staff to work through that lineup if the bottom can hit, so certainly the more production you get from them the better."

UT Martin took the lead in the second thanks to a Jordan Stoner RBI single. However, that lead wouldn't hold. The Rebels outscored their four-run first inning in the third, putting an additional five runs in the scoring column.

"(Our offense) looks good, but surprisingly there's a lot more in the tank," Dillard said. "There are a few things I think we can do better, as a team, to be more consistent. Right now we're scoring double-digit runs,

but I think it could get really scary eventually."

Though the starting pitching has struggled so far, the bullpen has been good, especially on Tuesday.

Following Fowler's outing, Ole Miss only gave up four hits and one run. Senior Connor Green threw 2.1 of those innings, earning the win after allowing 1 hit and 2 strikeouts.

"I feel like, mentally, I'm in a good spot," Green said. "It's all about trying to help the team and help the team win."

Alongside Green was a face new to the bullpen: senior Ryan Olenek.

"It's just tough when it's a position player," Bianco said. "The hope was (Olenek) could eat up an inning or two. The better that he pitches, the more

he'll pitch."

Olenek has pitched sparingly during his time at Ole Miss, but he put on a show in his one inning against UT Martin, striking out two of the three batters he faced.

"From what you saw tonight,

I don't know why (I'd) only be used for midweeks," Olenek said. "I think it's a serious thing. I wouldn't be out there if it wasn't serious. We're trying to win every baseball game, so I think they seriously want me to pitch."



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KNEELING

continued from page 1

than wins and losses,” Ross said. “They’re students. They walk around on campus — they understand what the Confederate monument represents for many African-Americans. It’s a very polarizing structure. It’s a structure that, when you look at it, you know it’s not for you. It’s not something positive. In fact, it’s very negative.”

Ross has extensively researched black athletes and the impact of their participation in sports on race relations. His writings on the integration of the NFL and black athletes in the AFL highlights how players have used their platforms to cause social change.

“Many people are going to be critical of these young men because (those people) don’t want the university to continue to shed those symbols that some people feel are untouchable,” Ross said. “That’s the larger issue.”

Last semester, Ross gave a campus lecture two days after Nike released an ad featuring Colin Kaepernick calling on people to “Believe in something. Even if it means sacrificing everything.” Kneeling during the national anthem is undoubtedly a divisive topic in America, and this is especially true at a university with Ole



PHOTO COURTESY: JASON WHITLOCK FACEBOOK

Fox Sports host Jason Whitlock criticized university administration for not taking a stance on Ole Miss basketball players kneeling during the national anthem.

Miss’s history. Whitlock argues that both sides of the dispute at Ole Miss are in the wrong.

“In terms of athletes saying, ‘Hey, we meant no disrespect to the flag or to the military,’ I think they need to take a step back and ask themselves if they don’t sound exactly like the people who defend the Confederate flag or the Confederate monuments and say, ‘Hey, we meant no disrespect toward black people. It doesn’t symbolize slavery and racism, it means something else to us,’” Whitlock said.

Whitlock went on to say that he’s happy Ole Miss head coach Kermit Davis supported his

players and thinks he made the correct decision in doing so.

“He’s done the right thing by supporting the players,” Whitlock said. “I think (with) young people, you have to be more sympathetic when they respond emotionally. Kermit Davis and a lot of these college coaches are in a tough spot because the professional athletes have made this the thing to do.”

Kermit Davis and Athletics Director Ross Bjork came out in support of the players immediately after the game, but the administration and Interim Chancellor Larry Sparks have yet to show public support for

the players’ demonstration, deferring to Bjork and the athletics department.

“I think that basketball coaches and athletic directors are not experts on these issues,” Whitlock said. “They’re put in the firing line because the chancellor (doesn’t) step up and take the lead on that. They leave it to their underlings, who are primarily paid to win basketball games, not be experts on social issues.”

Susan Glisson, director of the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation, also believes in the power of the players’ peaceful demonstration. She said it is a

valid response to a statue that many believe is a magnet for hate groups.

“I was really moved, and I was really proud,” Glisson said. “It’s clear to me that they were responding to visitors from outside the state who were coming to lift up messages of hate, and I thought it was a respectful and dignified way to show their concern and to deliver a message that was all positive.”

The protest on Saturday marked the first time men’s college basketball players at a major university have knelt in protest during the national anthem.

“I think this is going to be the norm, going forward, until there is some new way to express your displeasure with whatever’s going on in your bubble-world or whatever is going on in society around you,” Martenzie Johnson, senior researcher for The Undefeated, said.

Whitlock said Ole Miss’s players and coaches shouldn’t have to be the spokesmen for the university, instead, that the administration should step up and speak out.

“If the president or chancellor of the school is not talking and being the leader on this, why should we expect the basketball coach and athletics director?” Whitlock said. “I would call that poor leadership.”

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