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MISSISSIPPIAN

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

UNANIMOUS

With the eyes of Rebel nation on them, all 47 Associated Student Body senators voted to start the process of removing the Confederate monument from the heart of campus. The students have spoken.



PHOTO: KATHERINE BUTLER

Leah Davis nervously waits as the Associated Student Body senators are voting.



PHOTO: DEVNA BOSE

Katie Dames signs the resolution to relocate the Confederate monument after it passes ASB Senate.

HADLEY HITSON

THEDMNEWS@GMAIL.COM

After 10 seconds of silence, a room previously stricken with suspense erupted into applause and joyous tears.

Surrounded by students, community members and university police officers, the Ole Miss Associated Student Body Senate unanimously passed a resolution calling for the relocation of the Confederate statue from the Circle to the Confederate cemetery.

"This is not what I expected," John Chappell, president of College Democrats and co-author of the resolution, said. "I didn't think it was going to be unanimous, but this shows that the university, the student body as a whole, is sending a strong message that this statue does not represent us."

ASB publicly released the resolution, authored by Chappell, Sen. Katie Dames, Sen. Jarvis Benson, Sen. Charlotte Armistead, Sen. Arielle Hudson, Leah Davis, Tyler Yarbrough and Sen. Dalton Hull, on Feb. 26. Since then, the Senate received 164 constituent comments regarding the possible statue relocation, of which 57.9 percent were favorable and 31.7 percent were unfavorable.

"This is a big moment, and it's a big moment for African-American students especially," said Benson, who is also the president of the Black Student Union. "Fifty years ago, we couldn't be here. Twenty years ago, this definitely wouldn't have passed. Five years ago, I don't even think this would have passed."

Benson said he was fearful coming into the vote, concerned that his fellow senators would not

understand or feel as strongly about the need to move the Confederate statue to a more appropriate location than the heart of the Ole Miss campus.

"I just feel awesome that we made a right step in the direction of progress and a right step in making sure every student who steps on campus feels welcome and respected," Benson said.

ASB President Elam Miller was present for the vote and has signed the legislation, moving it into the

hands of university administration.

"We live in quite a divisive time these days, and I think tonight really shows great compromise," Miller said. "We are making history."

He also promised to follow through with this legislation by holding the university administration accountable to moving it forward in a timely manner.

SEE **ASB** PAGE 6



PHOTO: DEVNA BOSE

Barron Mayfield speaks at last night's ASB meeting, saying the statue should be relocated.

THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN
EDITORIAL STAFF:

SLADE RAND
editor-in-chief
dmeditor@gmail.com

DEVNA BOSE
managing editor
dmmanaging@gmail.com

MEGAN SWARTZFAGER
copy chief
thedmcopy@gmail.com

TAYLOR VANCE
news editor

HADLEY HITSON
GRIFFIN NEAL
assistant news editors
thedmnews@gmail.com

JUSTIN DIAL
sports editor
JOSHUA CLAYTON
assistant sports editor
thedmsports@gmail.com

CHRISTIAN JOHNSON
photography editor
KATHERINE BUTLER
assistant photography editor
thedmpotos@gmail.com

LIAM NIEMAN
arts & culture editor
ELIZA NOE
assistant arts & culture editor
thedmfeatures@gmail.com

HAYDEN BENGE
MACKENZIE LINNEEN
MEAGAN TAPE
design editors
thedmdesign@gmail.com

ETHEL MWEDZIWENDIRA
opinion and design editor
thedmopinion@gmail.com

SARAH HENDERSON
multimedia editor
ANNIE SHARP
online editor
thedmonlineeditor@gmail.com

IVANA NGUYEN
social media editor
thedmsocialmedia@gmail.com

ADVERTISING
SALES MANAGER
Rebecca Brown
dmads@olemiss.edu

SALES ACCOUNT
EXECUTIVES
Cameron Collins
Sam Dethrow
Isaiah Pugh
Michael Rackers
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STUDENT MEDIA CENTER
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On Confederate symbols

In a series of columns, three Daily Mississippian columnists share their thoughts on the Confederate symbols and the ASB resolution.



JACOB GAMBRELL
THEDMOPINION@GMAIL.COM

As many members of our LOU community are members of the Christian faith, I would like to share my thoughts on the ASB Senate Resolution 19-4 from that perspective.

Christianity has long been guilty of the sin of white supremacy. Slave ships had chaplains. Plantation owners

“converted” their slaves to Christianity. Churches have long been some of the most segregated spaces in our country. Men like Jefferson Davis, James Vardaman and Ross Barnett read the same bible and worshipped the same God we do. Today, I would hope that a vast majority of the people who profess to follow the risen Christ would agree that white supremacy is indeed a sin that our religion must repent of.

So why would Christians today support the presence of a monument to white supremacy at the heart of our university? The Confederate monument is an idol constructed in the early 20th century to enshrine the “Lost Cause” ideology. The Lost Cause is the belief that the Confederate soldiers were noble heroes fighting for a doomed but just

cause. In actuality, Confederate soldiers fought against the U.S. military for their right to own black slaves, made in the image of God, as chattel. This monument exalts not only these men, but also their sin. While I would love to see this sinful idol completely demolished, I understand that its relocation is the best option that is legally feasible.

I also understand that many Christian supporters of the monument do not believe it is a symbol of white supremacy but a monument to the Confederate dead. In that case, wouldn’t the Confederate cemetery be the perfect space to properly represent that? And we also must examine how symbols change over time. The cross once represented Roman dominion over the world, and

now it represents the crucified Christ and our faith as a whole. In addition to changing meaning, symbols mean different things to different people. Republican Sen. Roger Wicker acknowledged as much after the Charleston shooting in 2015. Quoting the apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 8:13, he said, “If food is a cause of trouble to my brother, or makes my brother offend, I will give up eating meat.” Even if it is just a monument to “the Confederate dead,” it symbolizes hate to people of color who are our brothers and sisters in Christ. As Christians, why would we continue to support it?

Jacob Gambrell is a senior international studies major from Chattanooga, Tennessee.



LAUREN MOSES
THEDMOPINION@GMAIL.COM

On March 1, the Associated Student Body Senate announced its intention to vote on a bill to encourage administration to

relocate the Confederate statue from the Circle to the Confederate cemetery on campus. By and large, this was the first time the majority of the student body had heard about this legislation. Thus, little to nothing can be done by students in dissent of the bill to express their opinions.

No matter your opinion on the moving of the statue, there is something fundamentally wrong with the timing of the announcement. The ASB posted minutes from the last meeting noting that bill 19-4, the legislation to move the statue, would go to committee that Thursday, Feb. 28.

The next day, the ASB Facebook page announced the intent to bring it to the floor.

Over the past couple of weeks, Ole Miss has been home to debates about the Confederacy. It is understandable that the ASB wants to address this debate and bring change to campus. However, it seems that they are trying to ram through legislation without input from the student body. This is a serious debate with arguments to be heard on both sides.

Similar actions have taken place within the ASB. In September 2017, a student vote to

change the mascot from a bear to a landshark took effect. Only about 4,100 students voted for the landshark mascot, and there were few opportunities for the students of Ole Miss to voice their opinions on a mascot change.

The movement of the statue is of even greater weight. The ASB should open this legislation to the debate it deserves, allowing all members of the Ole Miss community to voice their opinions.

Lauren Moses is sophomore accounting and political science major from Dallas.

ALEXUS SMITH
THEDMOPINION@GMAIL.COM

When we learn about history, we most often learn the short-story through the eyes of those who have won the war but not those who have lost the war. After all, to the victor go the spoils.

I have often been asked about the statue since the protesting

started on campus last month, and everyone hears the same response from me: It is merely a statue. I bear no malice toward the statue as most of my African-American kith do. I do not see it as a centerpiece for racism, but as a conversation starter about the dark history behind the school. It can be used to see how far the University of Mississippi has come since that time. I look at the statue in a perspective that

most fail to see. It is something to learn from and not be held back by.

The Confederate statue can be used as a way to learn a bit more on about how others felt on the losing side even if they are not here to tell their story. Do not misinterpret this though; I do not support slavery or racism. I support learning about a past and using it as a way to understand that you cannot mask a

dark history by pretending it didn’t happen. But you may use it as a way to rise up and become a better person, community and even university.

It does not matter if you keep the statue where it is or place it elsewhere. It is merely a story from the losing side that some of us have to accept.

Alexus Smith is a political science major from Jackson.

THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

S. Gale Denley Student Media Center
201 Bishop Hall,
P.O. Box 1848
University, MS
38677-1848

Main Number: 662.915.5503
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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
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MEMBER NEWSPAPER

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

First, my wife and I have opposite opinions on the statue debate, but we discuss and respect each other's opinions.

My great-great-great grandfather fought for the South but did not own slaves. When most Southern soldiers were asked by Union troops why they were fighting, their response was "because you are here." Union troops invaded the South. Yes, Fort Sumter was fired upon when, after South Carolina asked Lincoln to remove federal troops, Lincoln sent resupply ships. These statues honor those men who fought to protect their homes and families. The Daily Mississippian and others call those who wish to protect these statues "neo-Confederates," "white supremacists," "bigots," "racist," etc. The majority are people who don't want to dishonor their families.

I have had the opportunity to hear an individual who marched with the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. speak and be specifically asked about Confederate symbols. This person's response was, "There has to be compromise." Ole Miss has claimed that it wanted to compromise, doing away with one symbol before removing something else a year or two later. Where is the compromise? We heard that "From Dixie with Love" was not going anywhere. We heard that "Dixie" was not going anywhere.

We heard that the statue wasn't going anywhere. However, it will probably lead to a court battle and more negative publicity for Mississippi and Ole Miss. We've heard that the term "Ole Miss" and "Rebels" were staying, but why should we believe that claim? Many of us no longer feel welcomed by our own school because of the name-calling and lack of compromise. I hope this provides some insight into the feelings that many alumni, such as myself, have. I hope this can lead to an honest and fair dialogue without accusations and name-calling.

William Pearce III is a class of 2009 graduate.



FILE PHOTO: BILLY SCHERMAN

Two weeks ago, as neo-Confederates marched on campus, students left town in fear for their safety. This newspaper reported that one student wondered "whether I should continue to go to Ole Miss" because "I feel like they don't want black people here." It's unacceptable that white supremacists felt more entitled to our campus than an actual student.

But as history shows, this isn't new. The statue has been used to threaten and insult black students for decades.

When James Meredith arrived in 1962, the statue became a beacon for white supremacists looking to inflict pain. More than 300 people were injured, and two were killed that Sunday night and the following morning. It was blandly dubbed "the Ole Miss riot of 1962."

Fifty years later, when a mob of white students protested former president Barack Obama's re-election, embarrassment followed. Campaign signs were burned, racist slurs were yelled and again our school was a national headline reading "riot." There's no doubt whether Confederate glorification helped or hurt that cause. It helped just like it did when Austin Edenfield and Graeme Phillip Harris hung a noose around James Meredith's monument five years ago. Accompanying the noose was the old Georgia flag with the stars and bars.

These are highly publicized examples, but they are no more concerning than innumerable testimonies from black students who walk past the statue every day.

We know why white supremacists came here last month. The statue gives them a perceived stake in Ole Miss. Even though they have no knowledge of who we are beyond the Confederate symbolism on our campus, they believe it is their turf.

It's time for students — especially white students who've been silent — to say enough is enough and pressure the university to end this cycle of hatred and embarrassment. We cannot continue to watch crises emerge every few years, followed by shame, and shake our heads in disbelief until the cycle repeats itself. The statue and other Confederate iconography are symbols of hate. Naturally, they draw hatred.

There is plenty to love about Oxford. The statue does not represent those things. It's essential that it be moved.

Ryan Oehrli is a junior political science major from Washington, North Carolina.

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Decades of dealing with campus Confederate symbols

TAYLOR VANCE
THEDMNEWS@GMAIL.COM

The University of Mississippi now stands at a crossroads after two campus government organizations have passed resolutions to relocate the Confederate monument: move the statue to the Confederate cemetery, or allow it to remain in the Circle.

Though the position the university is in is contentious, it isn't new — Ole Miss has found itself here, in the controversy of Confederate symbolism, time after time during the last 20 years.

“At each juncture, it takes either a horrible incident or some real bold leadership to make these things happen,” former assistant provost and long-time professor Donald Cole said about the university's history with confronting Confederate symbols.

In 1997, then-Chancellor Robert Khayat banned all sticks from Vaught-Hemingway Stadium during football games, which largely ended the tradition of waving Confederate flags at football games.

Six years later, in 2003, the administration removed Colonel Reb, a white plantation owner, as the official sideline

mascot for the university.

“I can remember meeting with all the athletic coaches and them saying how much it hurt their athletes — having that caricature on the sidelines — and them trying to recruit with that hanging around their neck,” former Dean of Students Sparky Reardon said.

A student committee formed in 2010 decided to change the mascot from Colonel Reb to Rebel the Black Bear, marking one of the first student-led initiatives to remove Confederate icons from the Ole Miss campus.

“To me, that was a huge year,” said Alex McDaniel, former editor-in-chief of The Daily Mississippian. “I just think in the past, important decisions came from administration or other campus officials, but students led the effort that year.”

However, the decision, like those that preceded it, was met with considerable opposition.

In 2015, the university administration decided to remove the Mississippi state flag — which bears the Confederate battle emblem — from campus, after several campus government organizations voted to remove the flag.

“When the university first rid itself of the Confederate flag,



PHOTO COURTESY: ROBERT JORDAN | OLE MISS COMMUNICATIONS

University Police Department officers fold the Mississippi state flag after removing it from the flagpole in the Circle in 2015.

that was a gigantic move and of course, a lot of people at the time appreciated it,” Cole said. “But now, when we look back, even more people say that was the right thing to do, that was the moral thing to do.”

The Ku Klux Klan protested the removal of the flag in the days leading up to the vote, but the flag was ultimately removed.

“Every time the university tries to move itself forward, there are people who are not part of the university, who respond and act for their own good, and they use the university for their own causes,” Reardon said. “Dammit, I'm tired of the university being used.”

Little by little, the university has inched toward the climax it reached Tuesday night. The

Associated Student Body is now leading the charge to relocate the statue and distance the university from the Confederate history that continues to color its present, and the decision will ultimately rest in the hands of the administration at the Lyceum as it continues its process through the university.

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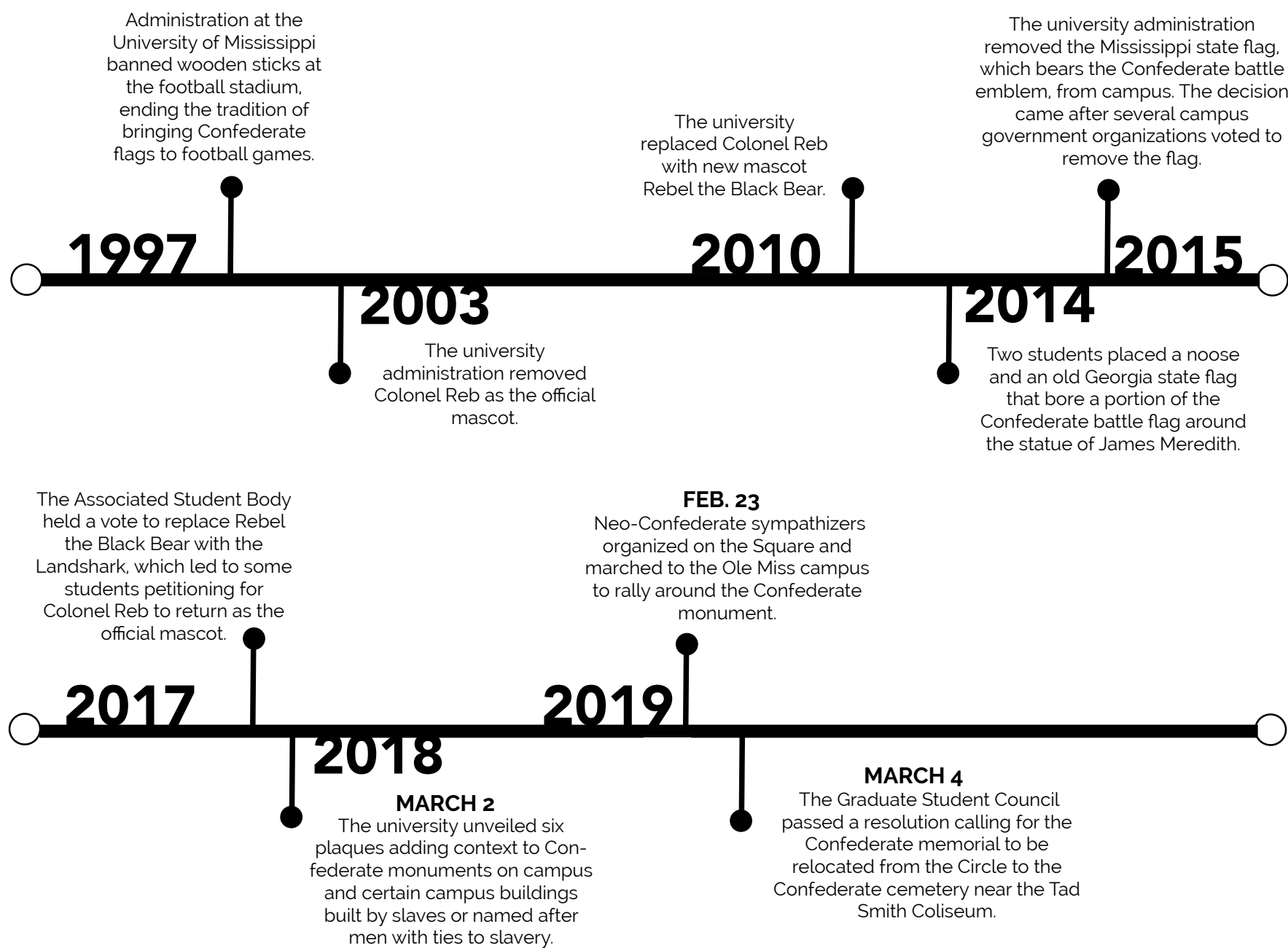
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Ole Miss's recent history of distancing itself from Confederate symbolism



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ASB

continued from page 1

“I think the next steps right now are setting up meetings, making sure the administration knows that this resolution passed, that they are hearing the student voice,” Miller said.

All of the authors said this resolution passed as a unified effort across student organizations and the Oxford community.

The uncontested passage of this resolution comes less than two weeks after neo-Confederate groups rallied around the statue in the Circle and the Confederate statue in the Square, protesting their removals.

Leah Davis, co-director of ASB’s committee for inclusion and cross-cultural engagement, insisted that this legislation is not a reaction to those events.

“It’s proactive, and it has been in the works for a while,” Davis said. “It just so happened, coincidentally, that the protests happened a couple of weeks ago.”

Dames is the chairperson of the committee for inclusion and cross-cultural engagement, which is where the resolution originated. She led the meetings and research that took place over the past several months before the drafting of the legislation.

“I know there have been lots of questions about whether we are trying to erase history, and that is simply not our goal,” Dames said. “Our goal is to move history to a place where it is contextually appropriate so that we can begin to have conversations without yelling at each other and (without) having this beacon of conflict in the center of our campus.”

During the research process, one of the main questions Dames sought to answer was why the Chancellor’s Advisory Committee on History and Context (CACHC) never considered moving the statue throughout the contextualization process.

Dames met with at least two former members of the CACHC, one of whom informed her that former Chancellor Jeffrey Vitter

prohibited the committee from discussing the location of the Confederate statue.

However, the majority of the former members of the CACHC sent the Senate a letter in support of this resolution.

The statue was erected in 1906 by a local chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy to honor the Confederate soldiers from the entirety of Lafayette County. Dames said a common misconception is that the statue was put in place to honor a specific group that was composed mostly of University of Mississippi students, the University Greys.

“Over the past couple of weeks, there have been a lot of arguments and a lot of yelling and a lot of fear among the community and among our students,” Dames said. “What we hope to do by introducing this legislation is to create a conversation so that people will listen instead of yelling.”

While all senators voted in affirmation of the resolution, several also stood to speak in support.

Sen. J.R. Riojas spoke about the context of the statue relocation.

“Relocating the statue isn’t going to change what has happened in our history,” he said. “But we have a very rare opportunity right now. We have the opportunity to be on the right side of history.”

After similarly calling upon the idea of the group’s senatorial legacy, Sen. Barron Mayfield, who also serves as an Ole Miss Ambassador, said he avoids leading his tour groups directly past the statue.

“When we walk by it, people gawk, and they gasp,” Mayfield said. “It’s embarrassing. Why would we want anything that’s embarrassing, that turns people away, that makes people feel unwelcome on this campus?”

Many constituent comments suggested that ASB hold a referendum, or a student vote on the

topic, but Dames said they deliberately chose to pass a resolution instead of turning the decision over to the students in order to comply with the authors’ understanding of Mississippi law, which allows for a “governing body” to decide upon relocation of the Confederate statue.

It is still unclear exactly what constitutes this “governing body,” but Chappell said the ASB Senate is part of the governing body of the Ole Miss campus because of the shared governance model of the university. The other groups who share governance are the Graduate Student Council, the Senate of the Faculty and the Staff Council.

The GSC Senate passed a resolution calling for the statue’s relocation on Monday night, and the Senate of the Faculty announced last night that it plans to vote on a similar resolution Thursday.



Jarvis Benson and Leah Davis embrace after the resolution passes.



Katie Dames embraces Arielle Hudson after the resolution passes ASB Senate.

PHOTO: KATHERINE BUTLER

PHOTO: DEVNA BOSE

Off-Campus Housing Fair



WEDNESDAY
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The Circle



The authors of the resolution to move the Confederate monument to the Confederate cemetery pose with their official document.

PHOTO: KATHERINE BUTLER

ASB Senate has spoken. Still, a colossal decision looms.

GRIFFIN NEAL
THEDMNEWS@GMAIL.COM

The undergraduate students want it moved. The graduate students want it moved. On Thursday, the faculty senate will likely follow suit and request the Confederate monument be relocated to the Confederate cemetery. The on-campus shareholders have spoken. But the question still remains: Will the monument actually move?

Since the ASB Senate passed a resolution calling for the reloca-

tion of the monument Tuesday night, the life of the resolution rests in the hands of the administrators in the Lyceum. Following the resolution's passage, ASB Vice President Walker Abel and President Elam Miller etched their names on the bill.

The resolution will now travel to the desks of Dean of Students Melinda Sutton Noss and Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Brandi Hephner Labanc. If they sign, Interim Chancellor Larry Sparks will then be able to sign and thus affirm the resolution.

However, Sparks's stamp of



PHOTO: DEVNA BOSE

ASB President Elam Miller signs the resolution to relocate the Confederate monument after it is passed by the Senate.

WHAT'S NEXT?

After unanimously passing through the ASB Senate on Tuesday night, the resolution calling for the Confederate monument to be relocated to the Confederate cemetery will travel to the Lyceum. Ole Miss senior administration ultimately will decide whether the monument moves or not.

1.

ASB President Elam Miller signs the resolution, sending it out of ASB hands and to administration. He also has the option to veto the legislation.



Dean of Students Melissa Sutton-Noss approves the resolution.

2.

3.

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Brandi Hephner LaBanc authorizes the resolution to go to the chancellor.

Interim Chancellor Larry Sparks is delivered the resolution and has the opportunity to sign it.

4.



5.

If it is determined that the university has the legal authority to relocate the Confederate monument, the administration will move forward with its relocation.

approval does not necessitate the relocation of the statue.

In 2017, Mississippi Attorney General Jim Hood's office delivered an opinion concerning the relocation of Civil War monuments on state-owned land, concluding that "the governing body may move the memorial to a more suitable location if it is determined that the location is more appropriate to displaying the monument."

The language in the opinion is ambiguous as to who or what constitutes the governing body with the authority to relocate the monument.

When asked about who the governing body on the Ole Miss campus is, a spokesman from Hood's office said that the Attorney General "cannot give legal advice" and said to "refer to the opinion/code sections" for an answer. Hood's office did, however, clarify that the opinion applies to all Confederate statues on state-owned land, meaning that the Ole Miss campus is within the opinion's scope.

Neither the opinion nor state law makes explicit who or what the governing body is. If the university is legally decided to be the governing body, then Sparks's signature would mean the process of relocating the statue could commence.

Both ASB and the Graduate Student Council claim to be a part of the governing body. They are two of the four groups that compose the university's shared governance model: ASB, the Graduate Student Council, the Senate of the Faculty of the University of Mississippi and the Council of Academic Administrators.

At a faculty forum on Feb. 26, Chief Legal Officer and General Counsel Erica McKinley said "we have found nothing to indicate" that the four groups of shared governance possess the ability to relocate the Confederate monument.

In a statement released shortly after the resolution's passage, Associate Director of Strategic Communications Rod Guajardo commended the ASB Senate but did not clarify what body will make the final decision.

"As an institution of higher learning, we rely on a model of shared governance, of which the Associated Student Body is one constituency," the statement read. "This student-led resolution will now be shared with ASB leadership for final sign-off before being circulated for acknowledgement by the appropriate University of Mississippi administrators."

How did we get here?

While the debate concerning the statue's status on campus intensified when neo-Confederate protesters marched in support of the statue on Feb. 23, the resolution calling for its removal has been in the works for months.

In January, the resolution's six authors crafted a resolution calling for the statue to be relocated to the Confederate cemetery on the grounds that it violates the University of Mississippi Creed and its mission to maintain a safe and inclusive environment on campus.

As the Feb. 23 neo-Confederate rally grew near, members of student minority organizations like the Black Student Union and Students Against Social Injustice organized counterprotests and demonstrations, many of which culminated at the Confederate statue on the Circle.

The impending clash awoke local and regional news. After all, the deadly Charlottesville rallies were less than two years ago. However, it wasn't until eight black members of the Ole Miss men's basketball team took a knee during the national anthem before a game, just 200 yards away in The Pavilion, that the protests took hold.

The players' peaceful protest marked the first time in NCAA Division I Men's Basketball history that student-athletes had knelt during the national anthem. Their protest was in direct response to the neo-Confederate sympathizers' march on campus.

The New York Times, The Washington Post, ESPN and many other major news outlets circulated the story.

Once again, the eyes of the nation were fixated upon Oxford.

Five days later, a resolution that had been in the works since January passed the ASB Senate

Rules Committee, paving the way for Tuesday night's unanimous 47-0 vote.

The day before, the Graduate Student Council Senate passed a nearly identical resolution — adding only one clause denouncing white supremacy — by a vote of 15-4 with one abstention.

The period from neo-Confederate protest to the passage of legislation took 10 days and was primarily student-driven.

In 2015, when the ASB Senate voted to cease flying the Mississippi state flag on campus, the process from final vote to removal took five days. Removing the flag and relocating the statue are two thoroughly different procedures, but the impetus and circumstances surrounding the two are shockingly similar.

Morris Stocks was the interim chancellor who oversaw the flag's removal. Before Stocks made the final decision, he consulted with Jeffrey Vitter — the then-preferred candidate for chancellor — and informed him of the reasoning behind his decision.

Three-and-a-half years later, Interim Chancellor Larry Sparks sits in a precarious position. Sparks will not be the long-term chancellor of the university, and there is no preferred candidate yet waiting to assume the role.

When Stocks elected to remove the state flag from campus, Ole Miss became the fourth university in the state to cease flying the flag and was part of a greater trend of colleges and statehouses across the South distancing themselves from Confederate iconography.

Concerning the statue, similar processes have taken place at universities across the country, most notably at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Should Sparks sign the resolution when it comes across his desk, he will grant the demands of his student body and his faculty.

However, Sparks hasn't given any indication as to whether he will sign the resolution or not, nor has he directly commented on the ASB Senate's voting process.

Sparks hasn't made any public comments or released a statement since before the protests dominated his campus on Feb. 23.

Natchez-born author reads from his 18th novel tonight

ELIZA NOE
 THEDMFEATURES@GMAIL.COM

Greg Iles, a crime novelist and screenwriter, will read from and speak about his newest novel at 5:30 p.m. tonight at Off Square Books. The Natchez native is stopping in Oxford on tour with "Cemetery Road," the 18th novel in his repertoire and his first standalone book since the end of the "Natchez Burning" trilogy.

"Cemetery Road," set in southern Mississippi, describes the story of Marshall McEwan, a political journalist who returns to his small hometown of Bienville when family struggles pull him back to the South — a place he vowed that he would never return to.

After the murder of a prominent community member

turns the fictional river town upside-down, Marshall joins forces with his former high school sweetheart to investigate the corruption of the Bienville Poker Club.

Dubbed the "William Faulkner for the Breaking Bad generation," Iles sets his thrillers in the southwestern corner of the state. In an interview with William Morrow, an imprint of publishing company HarperCollins, he said that the setting of his books has a special place in his heart, but, at times, it can be difficult to face the negative aspects of his home.

"In a way, you're having to be candid about something you know a lot of negative things about," Iles said.

"When you're from the South, you're as conflicted as Faulkner's characters were because you love it so much, and yet



PHOTO COURTESY: GREG ILES VIA FACEBOOK

Mississippi native Greg Iles will read from and speak about his newest book "Cemetery Road" tonight at Off Square Books.

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 - 5 Sunscreen ingredient
 - 9 Runs in neutral
 - 14 Miners' sch.
 - 15 There oughta be ___!
 - 16 Bearings
 - 17 Gloomy
 - 19 Babble
 - 20 Falls back
 - 21 Like non-oyster months
 - 22 Blue books?
 - 23 Corp. bigwigs
 - 24 Article in Le Monde
 - 25 Warned
 - 28 The end of ___
 - 31 Wipe off
 - 32 Kauai keepsake
 - 34 Fork prong
 - 35 "L.A. Law" lawyer
 - 36 Carson's predecessor
 - 37 Tread the boards
 - 38 Beat it!
 - 39 Pooh's creator
 - 40 A collective farm
 - 42 Impresario Hurok
 - 43 ___ and terminator
 - 44 Analgesic
- DOWN**
- 1 Sweetener, in a French restaurant
 - 2 Alternate
 - 3 Take care of
 - 4 An opening
 - 5 Stately mansion
 - 6 Prince Valiant's wife
 - 7 Low in pitch
 - 8 Reactions to cuteness
 - 9 Beseech
 - 10 Most desperate
 - 11 Grazing sites
 - 12 Tolkien tree creatures
 - 13 U-turn from NNW
 - 18 Queen of Spain
 - 21 Actress

SOLUTION TO 3.4.2019 PUZZLE



- 48 Reprimand
- 50 Department
- 51 Japanese mushroom
- 52 Offering opposition
- 53 Burdened
- 54 H.S. junior's exam
- 55 Suffix with exist
- 56 Extra
- 57 Bog down
- 58 Poor grades
- Witherspoon
- 23 Assert
- 25 Ball partner
- 26 Airline since 1948
- 27 Official with a list
- 28 ___ standstill
- 29 Shaving mishap
- 30 Within (prefix)
- 31 Miscalculation
- 33 Fury
- 35 Felt sore
- 36 Crested
- 38 Horizon
- 39 Ways
- 41 Easy on the eyes
- 42 Zoological segment
- 44 Actor Romero
- 45 Foolish
- 46 Time being
- 47 Some Art Deco works
- 48 Ginger cookie
- 49 Musical postscript
- 50 Amnaz of "I Love Lucy"
- 51 Overhead trains
- 52 LP speed

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

you can simultaneously hate things about it."

Cody Morrison, the book buyer for Square Books, said the Ole Miss alum-turned-author visits the store with every book that he writes, so it was a no-brainer to invite Iles to come speak at the bookstore again.

"Since he's from Mississippi, he has a pretty big audience in Oxford and nationally because he's been on The New York Times Best Sellers list," Morrison said.

Morrison also said that he hopes that attendees get to discuss "Cemetery Road."

"We want to give people a

chance to talk about his new book, and events like these are a good opportunity for audiences to get to ask questions," he added.

Kallye Smith, a sophomore English major from Magee, plans to attend the event. As a native of southern Mississippi herself, Smith said that Iles's books bring her a sense of nostalgia about her hometown.

"I have a love-hate relationship with Magee," Smith said. "Though there are times where it seems a little suffocating, it'll always be the place where I have all of my childhood memories. I started

reading (the Natchez Burning trilogy) because I find that it's rare to read something about a place so close to me. It's easy to relate."

Smith, who frequents author events at Square Books, added that going to them helps her with her own writing process.

"I'm curious about his writing process," Smith said. "I want to be a writer myself, too. I feel like Southern writers are their own breed, and getting to hear how he plans his works will be beneficial."

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

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

INTERMEDIATE

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

BASEBALL

Ole Miss bats remain hot with victory over Little Rock

JUSTIN DIAL

THEDMSPORTS@GMAIL.COM

On a sunny, yet chilly, Tuesday afternoon in Oxford, No. 10 Ole Miss brought its winning streak to six after an 11-8 win over the Little Rock Trojans.

Jordan Fowler got the ball to start the game for the Rebels as he did in Ole Miss's midweek game last week. This time, however, he had a much cleaner outing than his 1.2 innings against UT Martin.

Although it came while Ole Miss was facing lower-level competition, Fowler's performance on Tuesday is nothing to scoff at. He pitched four full innings without surrendering a single hit, striking out three in the process.

"It was nice that he threw the ball into the strike zone," Ole Miss head coach Mike Bianco said. "At the end of the day, I think he hit three guys and walked two. You just have to play better than that."

The Rebel bats showed more of the same against the Trojans, as they feasted on early scoring opportunities. Ole Miss was able to help out Fowler's cause by racking up 7 runs in the first four frames. The team was led by Anthony Servideo and Tyler Keenan, who combined for 5 RBIs on 3 hits during those frames.



PHOTO: CHRISTIAN JOHNSON

Third baseman Tyler Keenan played a huge part in the Rebels' victory over Little Rock on Tuesday, going 3-5 at the plate with 4 RBIs.

The leader and power bat of the Rebel lineup, Thomas Dillard, is starting to be feared more than ever when making a plate appearance. Coming into Tuesday, Dillard was batting .436 with 6 homers and 19 RBIs, not to mention his 1.000 slugging average.

With two on and one out in the first inning, Dillard was intentionally walked, signaling a shift

in how opposing coaches and pitching staffs view his at bats. Dillard ended the game 1-2 with 3 walks and 2 runs scored.

"You have to hit behind him, it's just part of it," Bianco said. "He has to be patient, but the more you hit in front of him and behind him, the harder it is to (walk him)."

The fifth was a different story

altogether for Fowler, though, as he allowed 4 earned runs on 2 hits and a walk. He was relieved in the fifth by Max Cioffi, who would give up 2 hits but manage to work his way out of the inning without Little Rock further cutting into the lead.

"I was thinking to get ahead (in the pitch count) first of all and just fill up the zone" Cioffi said.

"In this weather, it's tough to hit, so if you can fill up the zone you should be good."

After escaping the jam in the fifth, Cioffi continued his impressive outing on the hill for the next 2.2 innings, finishing the day with a line of 0 ER on 5 hits, 7 Ks and 2 walks.

"He was about the only one that gave us a shot," Bianco said.

Ole Miss insured its victory in the seventh, adding another 4 runs to the scoreboard and reaching double-digit runs for the fifth time in 12 games. Moreover, the Rebels have yet to score fewer than five runs in any game this season.

Little Rock made a late offensive surge, scoring 4 in the ninth inning, but ultimately it wasn't enough. Ole Miss took the 11-8 victory.

"I hate to sound negative after a win," Bianco said. "We didn't play well today. Just a really sloppy game by us."

The Rebels have a quick turnaround after the victory over Little Rock, as No. 18 East Carolina comes to Swayze this afternoon. The matchup will be Bianco and Co.'s greatest test so far in 2019, although it was announced on Tuesday that East Carolina's star sophomore Alec Burleson will not play in the game.

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FOOTBALL

Despite Mississippi ties, Plumlee nearly wasn't a Rebel

RHYLAN GRACE HILLIS
 THEDMSPORTS@GMAIL.COM

Head coach Matt Luke signed the No. 9-ranked 2019 recruiting class in the SEC in February, and among the cornerstones of the class is 4-star quarterback John Rhys Plumlee.

Plumlee, from Hattiesburg, became the starting quarterback for the Oak Grove Warriors in his sophomore year. He was a leader to the Warriors team and made a huge impact on the program in his three years as quarterback.

"He always has a great competitive attitude," former Oak Grove head coach Drew Causey

said. "He has no quit or give up in him. He is a player the entire team will get behind and follow."

Once his name was thrown into the bidding pot, his recruitment process became increasingly serious. When he received an offer from Alabama, the offers just kept coming.

"To dream about that as a kid and actually making that into a reality is pretty special," Plumlee said.

Plumlee wanted to secure an offer before his senior football season, and after many visits and prayers, he decided on the University of Georgia the summer before his senior year. Unfortunately, when Plumlee received a call from Georgia,

before the early signing period, saying they would blueshirt him, he had to take a step back.

"I reopened my recruitment and started looking around again just to weigh out all my options," Plumlee said. "It ended up that Ole Miss was the best fit for me, and I think that's where God wanted me to be. I prayed about it, and I just asked God for wisdom and discernment, and I think he gave it to me."

When making this decision, Plumlee said he considered his future, the team, opportunity and the college itself. Plumlee is looking forward to building a better program with Coach Luke and his staff.

"I think he's building a



PHOTO COURTESY: GEORGE PATRICK CAUSEY

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pipeline for Mississippi kids," Plumlee said. "I think Coach Matt Luke is building something special. I think he's got some coaches behind him that can really help him do that."

This season, Ole Miss will receive the No. 13 dual-threat quarterback in the nation. Rebel coaches recognize his talent and his ability as an added asset to the program as much as his former teammates at Oak Grove do.

"John Rhys is a fearless player," former teammate Jarious Remonique said. "His leadership and humbleness make him a good teammate, and I trust him as a brother."

Plumlee is also committed to play baseball at Ole Miss. Plumlee has always wanted to play both sports and said that he cannot pick just one. He plans to study either engineering or medicine.

"The social aspect of college is

going to be kind of cut short for me, but I think the social aspect will pick up with my teammates," Plumlee said. "I don't want grades to give, so I'm sure down the road at some point, I'm going to have to pick football or baseball, but I'm just excited to be able to do both of them for as long as I can."

Through it all, Plumlee has set his future and decisions in his faith. Lots of hard work, dedication and talent went into making him a Rebel, but he gives all of the glory to God.

"This whole process is something you dream about as a kid. It has its ups and downs, for sure," Plumlee said. "So, to have something that's concrete and a foundation through it all — knowing that I have a God that is going to be there when I'm at my highs and lows and just knowing that and having confidence in that — is a big, big part of this whole thing."

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Ole Miss falters against No. 6 Kentucky on Senior Night

JACK GENTRY
 THEDMSPTS@GMAIL.COM

Ole Miss men's basketball came up short again in their penultimate matchup of the regular season, falling at home to No. 6 Kentucky by a score of 80-76. This loss extends the Rebels' losing streak to three games with just one SEC game remaining before the conference tournament kicks off on Wednesday in Nashville.

Riding the energy from the Senior Night festivities that took place prior to tipoff, the Rebels got off to a quick start straight out of the gates. Terence Davis, one of the three seniors honored before the game along with Bruce Stevens and D.C. Davis, scored 9 of the Rebels' first 12 points, helping Ole Miss jump to an early 12-6 advantage over Kentucky.

The Wildcats pushed back, orchestrating a 16-4 run of their own to claim a 33-25 lead with six minutes to play in the first half. The Rebels immediately countered with an 11-1 run to snatch the lead back at 36-34.

Ole Miss would head into the locker room heroically clinging to a 39-38 lead. Terence Davis paced the Rebels with 15 points and 6 rebounds in the first half,

while Breein Tyree and Devontae Shuler each had 8 points. Keldon Johnson led the way for the Wildcats with 14 first-half points and was followed by Tyler Herro, who had 13 points on perfect 6-for-6 shooting.

The second half opened with each team trading buckets and neither squad having an opportunity to pull away.

After sitting on the bench for most of the first half because of foul trouble, Kentucky's P.J. Washington found his rhythm after halftime. Washington accounted for 11 points in the midst of a 14-7 run by Kentucky that spanned over six minutes and stretched Kentucky's lead to 72-65 with over five minutes remaining.

After a nearly two-minute scoring drought for both teams, Kentucky's Keldon Johnson knocked down 1 of 2 free throws with 33 seconds left, giving the Wildcats a 76-71 advantage. Terence Davis responded with a quick bucket of his own to cut Kentucky's lead to three with 22 seconds left.

The Rebels' suffocating defense forced the Wildcats to call a timeout on their first inbounds play after Terence Davis's free throw. On its second try, Kentucky was able to get the ball into the hands

of the SEC's leading free-throw shooter, Tyler Herro, who was immediately fouled. Herro, who came into the game shooting at a blistering 94 percent from the charity stripe, was able to drill both of his foul shots and drive the nail into the Rebels' coffin.

"We are literally about three possessions away from winning eight out of nine," head coach Kermit Davis said following the fourth straight loss with a margin of four points or fewer.

Terence Davis led all scorers with 25 points and 12 rebounds for his 10th career double-double in his final game inside The Pavilion.

"It still hasn't really hit me," Terence Davis said while fighting back tears. "This place is special. The Pavilion is amazing, and I couldn't ask for a better four years."

Tyree followed up Terence Davis's effort by dropping 21 points. Stevens finished with 11 points and 7 rebounds, and Shuler rounded out the group of Rebels scoring in double figures with 10 points and 6 rebounds.

"We just have to keep plugging away," Kermit Davis said. "I'm proud of our players, and I know the progress that we have made." Johnson led Kentucky with



PHOTO: REED JONES

Ole Miss guard Breein Tyree shoots a 3-pointer at the game against Kentucky last night. The Rebels narrowly lost with a final score of 76-80.

22 points to go along with 7 rebounds. Tyler Herro ended the night with 20 points on 8-of-12 from the floor.

Next up for Ole Miss is a trip to Columbia, Missouri, where the Missouri Tigers will be waiting

for them for the final game of the regular season. While this is an important game for the Rebels' NCAA tournament hopes, Ole Miss is still jockeying for position for a double bye in the SEC tournament March 14-17.

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Campus veterans stand with basketball players' protest



PHOTO: KATHERINE BUTLER

President of the Ole Miss Student Veterans Association Michael Weldon believes in the importance of freedom to protest.

GRIFFIN NEAL
 THEDMNEWS@GMAIL.COM

Minutes after Breein Tyree stepped off the court following a win over Georgia — a game before which he and seven of his teammates knelt during the national anthem — he sent out a tweet. “To the people that fight for this country, my teammates and I meant no disrespect to everything that you do for us, but we had to take a stand to the negative things that went on today on our campus. #WeNeedChange,” Tyree’s tweet read.

Tyree’s mentions were saturated with messages of support, many of which came from veterans and service members ranging from Vietnam era service to active duty.

“As a former Marine I applaud your efforts and your cause,” a Twitter response from Jesse Lyons read. “You do what you think is right.”

Lyons, who served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1994-98, said he respects anyone willing to sacrifice for a greater cause.

“If it makes people uncomfortable, that is kind of the point,” Lyons said. “More specifically to this — or the NFL, even — I am highly sympathetic to the players’ cause. The Confederacy is a symbol of hate and treason. They fought a war to keep human beings as property. It’s gross and unacceptable.”

Lyons added that, among former veterans, he thinks he’s in the minority.

“I am not alone, but if I were to guess, vets that agree

with me are outnumbered by those that don’t,” Lyons said. “But not by as much as you would think — maybe a 60-40 split.”

Use of the national anthem as a vehicle for peaceful demonstration entered the public discourse when Colin Kaepernick, former starting quarterback for the San Francisco 49ers, dropped to a knee during a preseason game in 2016 in protest of police brutality and systemic racism.

His decision to kneel was the result of a conversation with former Seattle Seahawks long snapper and U.S. Army veteran Nate Boyer. Boyer suggested that Kaepernick take a knee instead of sitting on the bench — which Kaepernick did during the national anthem before previous games — out of

respect for the flag.

According to Billy Jones, former Mississippi Army National Guard member and U.S. Army veteran, no one person has the authority to decide whether a form of protest is appropriate.

“In the veteran community, our opinions are as diverse as the American population,” Jones said.

Jones noted he did not approve of using the national anthem for protest but acknowledged that the very reason he took up arms for his country was for people to possess the right to do so.

“When I took my Oath of Enlistment, I swore to support and defend the Constitution,” Jones said. “To me, that means supporting all forms of free speech. From kneelers to flag wavers, we

all have the same basic and fundamental right to say what we feel without fear of oppression.”

In his postgame comments, Tyree repeatedly clarified that the silent protest was in response to the neo-Confederate sympathizers marching on campus — not out of disdain for servicemen and women or the American flag.

It was a one-time occurrence. In the following games, all fifteen players stood, heads high, for the anthem.

Still, the protest sparked outrage.

“Wrong time,” “This is so incredibly disrespectful to the troops,” “Don’t use the national anthem to protest!!!” some said.

However, Michael Weldon, the newly minted president of the Ole Miss Student Veterans Association, thinks it’s all about freedom.

“It doesn’t matter what people think about the protest but, rather, that people are free in this country to do what they do,” Weldon said.

Two days after eight members of the Ole Miss basketball team knelt, the Student Veterans Association released a statement in support of the players’ right to peacefully protest.

“We support acts of protest that stand against racism,” the statement read.

The conversation surrounding kneeling during the anthem will continue, and like in any modern political debate, a winner will likely not arise. Weldon doesn’t think that matters, though. He believes everyone won that Saturday.

“We have come a long way in this country,” Weldon said. “I think people get lost in their own views instead of celebrating what happened that day to a larger scale: Freedom happened there.”





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