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THE DAILY

MISSISSIPPIAN

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OLE MISS SQUARED OFF WITH MEMPHIS AT AUTOZONE PARK

The 17-8 Rebels traveled north to Memphis on Tuesday in the middle of their road trip to take on the 11-11 Tigers, hoping to bounce back from last weekend's losses.

SEE **THEDMONLINE.COM** FOR FULL COVERAGE



OXFORD CONFERENCE FOR THE BOOK BEGINS TODAY

The annual conference begins today and continues until Friday evening on campus. Read inside for stories about the conference and follow along with the DM throughout the week.

SEE PAGES 5 AND 6

ASB candidates discuss mental health, inclusion



PHOTO: KATHERINE BUTLER

Presidential candidates Barron Mayfield and Leah Davis listen to fellow candidate Tom Fowlkes as he gives his opening remarks during the Associated Student Body executive officer candidate debate on Monday night.

HADLEY HITSON DANIEL PAYNE

THEDMNEWS@GMAIL.COM

The 13 Associated Student Body executive candidates gathered in the Overby Center on Monday night to debate the most prominent issues on the Ole Miss campus — mental health, student involvement and ASB transparency.

Leah Davis, Tom Fowlkes and Barron Mayfield, the three candidates running for ASB president, all sought during the debate to emphasize the current lack of diverse representation in Ole Miss student government.

Mayfield, a junior public policy leadership major from Lubbock, Texas, said students should always come first on campus, especially in ASB's work

Fowlkes, a junior public policy leadership and accountancy major from Memphis, said the university is moving in the right direction, and he wants to create firm policy ideas to continue that forward movement.

Davis, a junior psychology major from Tupelo, said mental health and unity on campus are the two largest issues for students. Davis cited the University Counseling Center's recent policy change limiting students to 10 counseling appointments per semester.

Following Davis's discussion of the state of mental health care on the Ole Miss campus, Fowlkes and Mayfield agreed that mental health should be

a major concern for student government.

The issue of moving the Confederate monument first came up in the debate between the three presidential candidates. Davis co-authored the ASB resolution to relocate the monument from the Circle to the Confederate cemetery, and Mayfield was an active voice in support of the resolution when it was unanimously passed by the ASB Senate.

"The statue is something that

is a point of division, and it's something that we are working with administration on," Davis said. "We actually just met with the chancellor on Friday."

Fowlkes was silent on the issue of the statue during the debate, and afterwards, he did not explicitly say whether he supports the relocation of the campus's Confederate statue.

"I think that our compromise, no matter what side you're on, is one of the

SEE **ASB DEBATE** PAGE 4

State politicians disagree on who can move monument

TAYLOR VANCE

THEDMNEWS@GMAIL.COM

State legislators who authored the bill that dictates how military monuments can be relocated have different opinions about who has the final authority to actually relocate the Confederate monument that stands in the center of the Ole Miss campus.

The bill, which was signed into law by former Gov. Haley Barbour in 2004, states, "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."

Mike Chaney, who is

the Republican insurance commissioner for the state, served as one of the main authors and said the intent of the bill was to prevent cemeteries and battlefield sites in his hometown from being altered.

"When I co-authored and voted for the Mississippi Military Memorial Protection Act, I did so out of an abundance of caution to prevent sites like the battlefield in Vicksburg from being altered," Chaney said.

Chaney, who is a Vietnam War veteran, said many cemeteries and battlefield sites had been vandalized and that he thought this legislation would change that

"I think it's important to note that the law also prevents changes to monuments from a host of other military events and figures," Chaney said. "The law also allows for the governing body to move a memorial to a more suitable location, should they so decide. In this case, (the state college board) is the governing body."

SEE **LEGISLATURE** PAGE 3

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MOYER AND

COLUMN

Media must hold itself to a higher standard



WRIGHT RICKETTS
THEDMOPINION@GMAIL.COM

This Sunday, special counsel Robert Mueller submitted a highly anticipated report detailing his 22-month-long investigation into Trump's 2016 presidential campaign. The investigation explored allegations that the campaign conspired with the Russian government to influence the 2016 presidential election and attempted to obstruct a related federal investigation.

After subpoenaing over 2,800 individuals, conducting nearly 500 search warrants, interviewing approximately 500 witnesses and spending over \$30 million in taxpayer dollars, the special counsel concluded there was no evidence the Trump campaign colluded with any foreign adversary. The report stated, "The special coun-

sel's investigation did not find that the Trump campaign or anyone associated with it conspired or coordinated with Russia in its efforts to influence the 2016 U.S. presidential election."

The long-awaited report is obviously great news for our country and for democracy. However, its conclusion stands in sharp contrast to what we've been led to expect from mainstream media outlets over the last 22 months. Virtually every day since the creation of the special counsel, Americans have been subjected to endless speculation and unfounded accusations regarding Donald Trump's guilt and the possibility of impeachment despite the fact that not a shred of actual evidence ever came to light.

The disproportionate coverage of the story, along with hasty assumptions and reliance on guesswork, helped create the now disproven narrative that the campaign had in fact colluded with the Russian government. A study released by Newsbusters.org on Monday found that the "Big Three" broadcasting networks, ABC, CBS and NBC, "produced over 38 hours of Russia 'collusion' coverage — and 92 percent of it was negative in tone and content." That's a combined 2,284 min-

utes of coverage over 791 days, averaging three minutes every single night. To put the extent of the coverage in perspective, Rich Noyes, senior editor of Newsbusters.org, described the level of coverage as "normally associated only with a major war or a presidential election." Newsbusters.org promotes a mission statement of "exposing and combating liberal media bias." The study went on to say that "the networks' fixation on scandal over substance is one reason their coverage of the president has been so preposterously lopsided." Obviously journalists had an obligation to report on such an important issue, but the overwhelmingly biased coverage of it rendered it, at best, completely misleading, or, at worst, a deliberate political hit job.

This epic journalistic debacle leads to several questions: Why were so many journalists so positive of the Trump campaign's guilt? Why was this story broadcasted on TV, social media and radio nonstop for nearly two years? Why were so many members of the media so intensely passionate about a legal situation in which they had literally no insight into?

There are two possibilities. Either most journalists are grossly incompetent at their jobs, or they intentionally try to advance political agendas through their reporting. Unfortunately, it's most likely a mixture of both. It is clear the media has an enormous credibility problem — and rightfully so. Its coverage of anything evenly remotely related to President Trump and conservatism over the last two years has been astonishingly unfair and disingenuous — whether it was the Kavanaugh hearings, the Covington Catholic video or the Mueller investigation.

The media must begin to recognize its political bias and hold itself to a higher standard. A free and objective press is essential for holding our government accountable and ensuring transparency for the American people. Americans deserve to have confidence in the press and to trust that reporting and analysis will be fair, accurate and not politically motivated. Throughout the last two years, media has utterly failed in this regard. The press must do better for the sake of everyone who values truth, transparency and fairness.

Wright Ricketts is a senior banking and finance and managerial finance double major from Memphis.

THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

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



MEMBER NEWSPAPER

LEGISLATURE

continued from page 1

Chaney said there were several Republican and Democratic lawmakers who signed on as authors of the

"Our history can be ugly and complicated, but good things are a part of it, too especially freedom," Chaney said. "Freedom comes at a price — the price of death for many whom we seek to remember."

State Sen. Deborah Dawkins, a Democratic lawmaker from Harrison County, was also an author of the bill and said she, like Chaney, signed on as an author of the bill in order to protect military cemeteries in her district. Dawkins, however, believes that the state college board (IHL) is not the governing body with authority over Ole Miss's statue. She maintains the decision to relocate campus statues in Mississippi lies with groups on campus.

"I think (IHL) is over policies of purchasing, certification, educational matters and things like that," Dawkins said. "I would think, for each campus in the state of Mississippi, whoever the lead group on that campus is

would be the ones that would be in charge of relocating a military monument."

Dawkins said that, from what she remembers, the bill was not centered around Confederate monuments.

Stacey Pickering, who is currently the head of the Veterans Affairs Board for the state, was also a co-author for the bill and said its intent was to protect the voices of all veterans in the state, regardless of the time period in which the veterans served.

Pickering, who described his job as ensuring that all veterans have a voice and respect, said it's important to look at all history: good, bad and different.

Pickering said he thought the university was being "very measured" in its response and that the university coordinating with IHL and the Department of Archives and History is the best approach in dealing with relocating the Confederate statue.

"I think when it comes to our wars, whether we understand or don't understand, I think it's important in every aspect that we approach history and approach our fellow Mississippians cautiously and keep them in context," Pickering said. "No matter what era."



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Executive Director of Mississippi State

Veterans Affairs Stacey Pickering

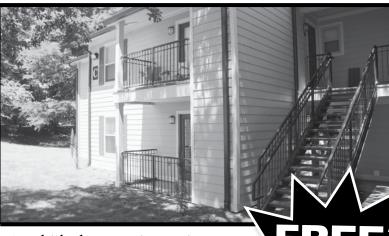


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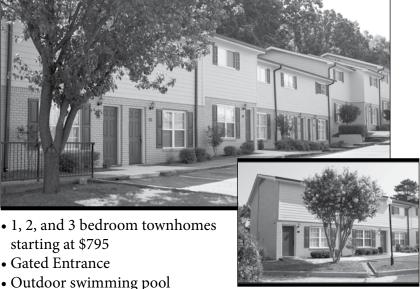
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ASB DEBATE continued from page 1

wisest compromises we've seen in the entire country," Fowlkes

Fowlkes also made a comment directed at Davis and Mayfield, saying that "no real policy ideas" were brought up by either of his fellow candidates.

Following the debate, Mayfield and Davis said they disagreed with that statement.

"I thought we talked a lot of policy tonight," Mayfield said. "It's tough to get your whole platform out there in only three questions, some of which were very direct and specific."

After the debate, Mayfield expanded on the specific ways in which he hopes to make students a top priority on campus.

"It would be done through advocacy and action," Mayfield said. "We can't legislate ourselves a seat on (the state college board), but we can advocate, and we can advocate loudly for that."



The Associated Student Body VP candidates from left to right: Charlotte Shackelford, J.R. Riojas, Brady Keis, Nick Weaver and Sarah Doty.

Davis also clarified that her job as co-director of the Elections Reform Task Force and her job as co-director of ASB's inclusion and cross-cultural engagement committee have separate

responsibilities.

"The task force will continue on throughout ASB, and it is not dependent on whether the codirector of inclusion is involved or not," Davis said.

Fowlkes said he thinks he achieved his goal of demonstrating his personality and goals for the student body at the debate.

"I want people to know who they're voting on, and you know, that might have come off as nervous, but it was nervewracking up there," Fowlkes said.

Five candidates took the stage for the vice presidential debate. In the night's most contested category, candidates disagreed on the need for increased training in the ASB Senate and the creation of an ASB liaison to bridge the gap between the Senate and administration.

Sarah Doty, a junior public policy leadership major from Brookhaven, said she wants to make ASB focused on the students, not just on the organization itself.

"I'm running because ASB tends focus a lot on ASB instead of the students," Doty said. (Students are) busy. We should be there putting ASB at the forefront of their mind. We should try to make meaningful change, whether or not they care."

Nick Weaver, a sophomore public policy leadership and integrated marketing communications double major from St. Louis, said he wants to get to know students before executing a policy plan. If elected, he said, he will focus on following through on old goals rather than creating new ones.

"Senators need to be meeting students where they already are," Weaver said. "It's really not about creating more positions. We have plenty of positions on ASB."

Charlotte Shackelford, a junior political science major from Mandeville, Louisiana, wants to focus on ensuring that students knowing who their senators are and start a newsletter to inform students about their senators' activity in ASB.

"I feel like Senate is the heart of ASB," Shackelford said. "I

understand that it's really hard for people to come to us, so I want to make sure we are going to them."

J.R. Riojas, a sophomore from Wool Market who is in the Arabic flagship program and is majoring in public policy leadership and philosophy, proposed that the Senate research mental health needs on campus and work toward increasing funding for the counseling center. Multiple candidates agreed that they wanted to do more for mental health care on campus by using the Senate for research and support.

"I really want to help by engaging the community,' Riojas said. "ASB can make our campus a more inclusive and exciting place for people from all over the world."

Brady Kies, a junior criminal justice major from Birmingham, Alabama, wants to focus on training senators in Senate policies and procedures so that they can be more active in their participation.

"I kind of made a fool of myself this week," he said, referring to a campaign video he posted on his campaign Facebook page in which he conflated the process of allocating funds from the ASB Internal Budget with the student activity fee. He has since removed the video from his Facebook page.

Two candidates for the office of judicial chair - Brynn Trahan and Liza Boyer - took the stage to debate about "restorative justice" on campus.

Trahan, a junior public policy leadership and integrated marketing communications double major from Fort Smith, Arkansas, wants to continue transitioning from punitive to restorative justice for students.

Disagreement between the two candidates was modest. Both Trahan and Boyer, a junior political science major, focused on increased visibility for the judicial chair not only within the student body but in ASB.

Boyer agreed with Trahan's approach but added that she wants to solve judicial issues before they become a problem by working with the Title IX office and the University Counseling

Center to offer students help before the judicial council becomes involved.

Austin Fiala, a junior public policy leadership and French double major, is the only candidate for attorney general and has already served in the position for the majority of this school year.

Fiala said he wants to ensure justice and accountability for ASB members by creating the new position of deputy attorney general of justice, who would be in charge of holding ASB members accountable to the Code and Constitution.

"Somebody needs to be responsible of holding them to their word and to doing what they are telling students they will," Fiala said.

Gianna Schuetz, a sophomore accounting and theatre arts double major, is running unopposed for the office of treasurer. She has acted as interim treasurer since Jonathan Cox's resignation from the position in November 2018.

"One of the most important parts of my platform is increasing the student activity fee," she said. She proposed a \$5 increase in the fee, saying it could have an "extreme" impact on funding for student organizations.

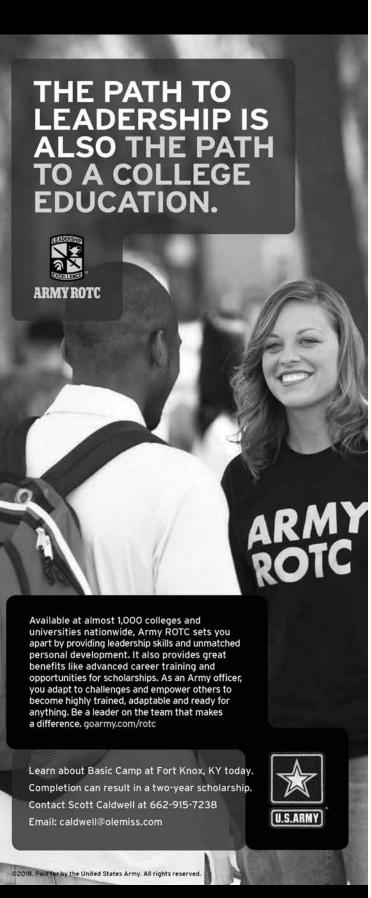
Hannah Chauvin, a junior political science major from Columbus, Ohio, is the sole candidate for secretary, and she highlighted her plan to increase transparency by keeping the ASB website updated.

'My platform is to decrease th information gap between ASB and the student body," she said.

Interim Attorney General Anya Czerwinski said she was pleased with the overall execution and student turnout of the debate.

"The collaboration between ASB and the student media proved to be effective in carrying out a debate where the candidates participated in thoughtful discussion," she said. "I'm hopeful that we will find the same success in future years."

Find more information about all of the candidates here. The ASB general election will be on April 2, and the runoff will be on April 4.



Poker champion talks bets, decision-making tomorrow

ELIZA NOE

THEDMFEATURES@GMAIL.COM

Annie Duke, winner of the 2004 World Series of Poker Tournament of Champions, will speak at 4 p.m. Thursday at the Overby Center. As part of the 2019 Oxford Conference of the Book, Duke will discuss her new book "Thinking in Bets: Making Smarter Decisions When You Don't Have All the Facts."

Her book, published in
February 2018, details Duke's
methods of behavioral
s science and decisionmaking.

Neil Manson, a
philosophy professor at Ole
Miss, suggested inviting Duke
to this year's conference after
he was invited to participate
in a panel on cognitive
psychology. Manson said that
getting in touch with Duke
was a no-brainer.

"I also knew her to be incredibly smart, successful and charismatic. She also has a very strong research background in cognitive psychology from before she started playing poker professionally," Manson said. "Overall, she's a very intriguing person."

Manson also added that he encourages all to attend Duke's presentation and Q&A. The first two rows will be reserved for students, and he said that Duke will provide beneficial insight that students can use during their college careers.

"One of the most important things you can learn in college is how to make decisions," Manson said. "Economics, psychology, ethics, business, logic — all these courses are teaching you different ways to make decisions. That's what her book is all about. Her key lesson is to stop 'resulting' — stop judging decisions just by their results."

Duke, who has also been a contestant on NBC's "Celebrity Apprentice," told GQ that, in her book, she discusses the concept of being afraid of uncertainty. To Duke, there's no need to fear the unknown.

"The more you can get comfortable with uncertainty, the better off you are," Duke said. "It's a more accurate representation of the world. You're able to be calmer and more compassionate toward other people and towards yourself. Things aren't always going to work out. You can make the best decision in the world, and it can go awry. You can make the worst decision ever, and it can go just fine."

James Thomas, director for this year's Oxford Conference of the Book and the associate director for publications for the Center for the Study of Southern Culture, said that opportunities like hearing this week's speakers give students something that goes beyond the classroom.

"These opportunities are a big part of what college is



PHOTO COURTESY: ANNIE DUKE

all about, I think," Thomas said. "It's not always about completing assignments for a grade. It's about having a sense of wonder and cultivating a desire for knowledge. To me, that's a significant way college prepares us for the future and expands our understanding of the world."

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Students, professors play major role in book conference

LIAM NIEMAN

THEDMFEATURES@GMAIL.COM

Including writers from Oxford and as far away as California, the annual Oxford Conference for the Book will convene from today until Friday at several Oxford and Ole Miss locations. The conference will feature talks and readings about topics, in the words of its director, Jimmy Thomas, "from cognitive psychology to a history of the first 300 years of New Orleans."

Some of today's events include Travis McDade talking about "Art, Science, and the Pillaging of American University Libraries" at 11:30 a.m. in the library as well as talks with Edmund White, Michael Carroll and David Zurick at the Overby Center.

Thursday's schedule focuses on Southern studies and includes panels on "The Spiritual South" and "The Appalachian South."

Friday is focused more on the literary side, with panels on editing, poetry and noir literature.

Thomas also serves as associate director for publications for the Center for the Study of Southern Culture. He said that this year's conference will have events that appeal to a wide range of people, including students.

"Admittedly, and for good reason, many of the authors speak to topics that we study here in Southern studies, but I believe that many of those topics are of interest to UM students, whether they be business majors or English majors or engineering majors," Thomas said.

One of those students is Luke Lee, a senior English education major, who is interested in sessions about New Orleans history, making smart decisions and Kiese Laymon's memoir "Heavy." He plans to attend the

time this year.

Since he is currently a student teacher and will be a full-time teacher next year, Lee said he hopes to learn more about books and authors that he can introduce to his students, especially Laymon's book.

"Heavy' was easily the most raw and enlightening Southern memoir I have ever read. I'm specifically interested in how 'Heavy' can help me in the classroom next year," Lee said. "I'm an English education student committed to working in Mississippi, and his insight will be invaluable when I start."

Thomas, who teaches Liba 102 classes in addition to serving as conference director, also said that the conference sessions are a great opportunity for students to learn about topics related to their classes without the pressure of completing homework or getting

"It's a great way to introduce students to the people who have written works that they are reading in classes as well as introduce them to some new ideas that we haven't discussed," Thomas said.

Several faculty members plan to bring their students to panels relevant to their classes.

Katie McKee, an Ole Miss professor of English and Southern studies, plans to take her SST 102 class to the panel about "The Appalachian South." In class, they read Karida Brown's book "Gone Home: Race and Roots through Appalachia."

"The Appalachian South" panel features scholars Brown, Jessie Wilkerson, Elizabeth Catte and Meredith McCarroll. Wilkerson, an Ole Miss professor of history and Southern studies, said that one of the session's main goals is to challenge faulty generalizations and simplistic images of the region.

"All of the panelists in some way introduce their readers to new ways of thinking critically about Appalachia and what it

PHOTO COURTESY: OXFORD CONFERENCE FOR THE BOOK

means in American culture," Wilkerson said. "They also educate readers on lesser known people and places in Appalachia."

During the session, Wilkerson will discuss her book "To Live Here, You Have to Fight.'

"(The book) places women at the center of 20th century Appalachian history and seeks to correct simplistic narratives about the War on Poverty and local people's, especially women's, relationship to it, and Appalachian involvement in twentieth-century social movements," Wilkerson said.

Wilkerson said some of her advanced Southern studies students plan to attend the conference.

"(My students) are very

excited to meet the authors, whose work they've read and admired," Wilkerson said. "I think what makes the conference so special is that students can meet the authors whose works they've enjoyed--it's rare to have that opportunity."

Thomas said that selecting panels is a collaborative effort involving campus committees and Square Books.

"The conference participants are generally selected by various committees from across Southern studies and campus," Thomas said. "Square Books plays a big part in author selection since they often know what new books will be published far in advance of publication."

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15- Egyptian cobra 16-The King ____ 17-Theater district

18- Go downhill fast?

19- Cornfield cacophony 20- Aviation mechanic 23- Belle or Bart

26- Boy 27- Unfolds 28-Amos or Spelling 29- Like some ears 30- ____-Cat (winter vehicle)

31- Imperial dynasty of

33- Injection amts. 34-Sprechen

37- Mineral suffix 38- "Lord, is

39-That's gotta hurt! 40-Tolkien ogre 41-Third degree?

42- Legume 43- Uncommon 45- Belief system 46- Get older 47- Annapolis sch. 48- Hippodrome

51- Menu words 52- Distinguishing

56- Pigeon coop 57- Cinco de Mayo 58- Scoffs

53- Made to resist breaking

62- Polecat's defense 63- Common Market abbr. 64- People of courage 65- Neutral shades

66- D.C. advisory grp. 67-Size up

DOWN

1- Sheet music abbr. 2- Wreath of flowers 3- I've got it!

Swampfever 5- Blender maker Restaurateur Toots - Dutch navigator

8- Inquired 9- Larger-than-life 10- Repeated from the

beginning 11- Mindlessly stupid

12- Newsman Newman 13- Flat circular plates Singer Newton-John

22- Island in central Japan 23- Piece of bacon

24- Fang, e.g. 25- Equipped

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34- March man

33-Puma

35- Afghan's neighbor

conference for the first

44- Wave riders 45-Buries 46- Llama relative

48- Cravat 49- Role for Valerie

50- Stationery brand 51- Sign of spring 52- Shades

54- First place 55- Dept. of Labor division

59- Fair-hiring abbr. 60- Hi-___ graphics

61- Conscription org

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DIFFICULTY LEVEL

EASY

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Ole Miss looks to gather momentum down homestretch

JOSHUA CLAYTON

THEDMSPORTS@GMAIL.COM

Tennis season in Oxford continues as both the men's and women's tennis teams are rolling in the heart of conference play.

The men's team is sitting at 12-9 overall with a 3-5 in the SEC. They're coming off of a two-match split on Sunday, including a 4-2 loss to No. 19 Tennessee and a 4-0 decision against Jackson State.

The Rebels started Sunday out on top, picking up the doubles points as Tim Sandkaulen and Finn Reynolds took care of their match and Fabian Fallert and Cotter Wilson clinched the lead with a 6-3 victory on the third doubles court.

Ole Miss wasn't as successful in singles play. Sandkaulen was handled 6-4, 6-1 by Tennessee's Tim Stodder in the first singles match. Reynolds fell in singles play to Karlo Kranic. Freshman Simon Junk gave the Rebels their only other point on court six with a 7-5,6-1 win over Andrew Rodgers, but it was too little too late. Adam Walton defeated Filip Kraljevic 6-4,6-3 to finish off the Rebels at Palmer/Salloum Tennis Center.

The Rebels came back for another match, this time against an inferior Jackson State University team that was 4-17 coming into the weekend.

The duo of Fallert and Reynolds returned to capture the doubles point for the Rebels with a 6-4 victory on court one. The doubles duo



FILE PHOTO: CHRISTIAN JOHNSON

Fabian Fallert competes in a singles match against Alcorn State earlier this season. The Rebels won the match 4-0.

is currently No. 14 in the ITA rankings.

Simon Junk kept the momentum going, only conceding one game in his second singles victory of the day. Fallert and Sandkaulen followed with singles wins of their own, both winning 6-1,6o to clinch the match victory and Sunday split.

The team heads into the tail end of the season with big wins over No. 26 Oklahoma State and No. 22 Georgia as well a pair of upsets over No. 21 Alabama on its resume. The Rebels sit at No. 33 in the latest ITA rankings.

The men's team will face

Arkansas in Oxford on Thursday at 6 p.m. and will travel to Mississippi State on Friday at 3 p.m.

The women's team has a 6-7 overall record and a 3-4 mark in the SEC. The Rebels were on a three-game win streak, with victories over Mississippi State, Alabama and No. 39 Auburn, before the weekend, when they dropped matches at No. 2 Georgia on Friday and No. 29 Tennessee on Sunday.

Ole Miss fell 4-0 to the undefeated Georgia Bulldogs on Friday. Alexa Bortles and Sabina Machalova dropped the first doubles match 6-1, but Cameron Kriscunas and Tereza

Janatova came back to balance the scales with a 6-3 win, their first of the season. With the doubles point on the line, Tea Jandric and Anna Vrbenska lost 6-3 to give the Bulldogs a 1-0 match lead.

Allie Sanford, Sabina Machalova and Alexa Bortles lost their singles matches to finish the match. Jandric and Janatova preserved their win streaks, as their matches were unfinished when the Bulldogs clinched the victory.

"There is no doubt that Georgia is one of the best teams in the country, and they played a great match," head coach Mark Beyers said after the match. "I was just disappointed with how onesided this match was."

The Rebels traveled to

Knoxville, Tennessee, on Sunday and suffered another 4-0 decision. The No. 6-ranked duo of Sadie Hammond and Kaitlin Staines defeated Machalova and Bortles 6-2 and claimed the doubles point for Tennessee.

Jandric, Machalova and Sanford dropped their singles matches. Jandric's six-match winning streak was snapped by Tennessee's Kaitlin Staines.

The team has six SEC matchups before the conference tournament in College Station, Texas, which begins on April 17.

They'll come back to Oxford for matches against Arkansas at 3 p.m. Friday and Missouri at 1 p.m. Sunday.

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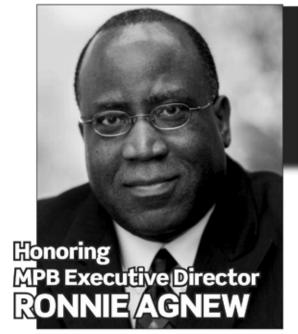
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COETRALI

Rebels split weekend series against No. 16 Gamecocks

JAKE DAVIS

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The Ole Miss softball team split its weekend series against South Carolina, as the third game on Monday was canceled due to rain.

In Saturday's game, the Rebels struggled to get the offense going, recording just 3 hits the entire game. Senior Brittany Finney allowed just 2 runs on 3 hits in 6.0 innings of work on the mound. She also recorded 6 strikeouts in the losing effort. Ole Miss had three opportunities with runners in scoring position but came up short each time. The Rebels lost 2-0.

In the first inning, sophomore Abbey Latham was hit by a pitch and advanced all the way to third on a single to right by junior Autumn Gillespie. Gillespie then managed to take second on a wild pitch, but the ball was recovered too quickly for Latham to score from third.

Sophomore Amanda Roth battled for six pitches but eventually struck out, stranding runners at second and third.

In the third inning, senior Kylan Becker hit an infield single and advanced to second on a throwing error but was then stranded at second after back-to-back outs.

The Rebels' final opportunity in scoring position came after Becker walked to lead off the sixth and managed to steal second after Latham lined out. However, she was stranded after back-to-back strikeouts closed out the inning.

On Sunday, the Rebels came away victorious in a nail-biting extra-inning affair, scoring the only two runs of the game in the top of the eighth inning. They had many more opportunities to score in this game but again struggled to drive in runners in scoring position.

In the top of the first inning, Becker led off with a single to left and stole second during the next at-bat. Two batters later, Gillespie walked, but both were stranded on base when Finney struck out to end the inning.

Becker had another leadoff single in the third and advanced to second on a passed ball. The Rebels were again unable to capitalize and stranded her in scoring position after three straight outs.

Ole Miss was finally able to break through in extras, coming alive in the eighth inning after both teams failed to score for the first seven. Sophomore Jessica Puk got the scoring



FILE PHOTO: TAYLAR TEEL

Outfielder Kylan Becker runs to second base in a 2017 game against Memphis.

started with a leadoff homer to left, breaking the tie and putting the Rebels in position to split the two-game series. Gillespie followed that up with a triple to right field and scored on a sacrifice fly.

Junior Molly Jacobsen was masterful on the mound, throwing 8.0 scoreless innings while giving up just 3 hits and 3 walks. She struck out 10 of the 30 batters she faced, including three clutch punchouts in the final two innings. Jacobsen improves to 10-1 on the season, and her 1.04 ERA leads the SEC.

On Monday, the Rebels jumped out to a 2-0 lead, but the game was stopped going into the top of the fifth inning because of inclement weather. After an extended wait, the game was canceled per SEC rules because the teams were unable to resume by 9:30 p.m.

The NCAA requires a minimum of five complete innings for a game to be completed, so the game was canceled and all of the stats were thrown out.

Ole Miss returns home this weekend for a three-game series against Florida starting on Friday.



