

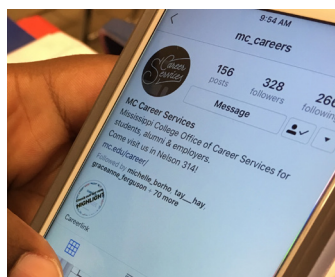
October 2, 2018
Volume 100, Issue 3

THE COLLEGIAN

Mississippi College

TheMississippiCollegian.com

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Bike Olde Towne



Image Source: Tiffany Strain

TIFFANY STRAIN
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Since the Olde Town Depot opened in 2018, Main Street Clinton has continuously looked for ways for the depot to stay connected to the brick streets. Because of this, Main Street has begun a bike-sharing program to encourage people to experience Old Towne by bike.

It is a free experience for everyone. All people have to do is leave a form of identification, such as a driver's license or a debit card. After filling out a waiver, the bike can

be checked out for hours at a time, as long as it is brought back 15 minutes before the Depot closes. When the bike is checked out, employees of the Depot give riders a lock for the bike. Then, after hours of riding, the biker can stop, lock up the bike, and walk around Old Towne for a while.

The Main Street Board of Directors have wanted to make this possibility a reality for a while, so they purchased four cruiser bikes to implement this idea.

"I think this is such a good idea, especially since it is so close to campus. It gives

students something else to do," said graduate of MC, Molly Mitchell Golding, the Assistant Event Coordinator of the depot.

This new program has been around for a couple of weeks and quite a few MC students have rented bikes. The staff is looking forward to the cooler weather to encourage people to take a nice, cool stroll down the brick streets. Golding said that if they see that this program continues to grow, the staff plans to purchase more bikes in the future.

"I would totally bike around the brick streets

with my friends. That is so much more fun than just sitting in your apartment watching TV. I really hope that they keep this program around," said MC senior Katee Brown.

Visitors and residents are welcome to check out a bike whenever the depot is open. The hours of the depot are Tuesday from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m., and Wednesday to Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. To learn more about the program, call the Main Street Clinton office at 601-924-5472 or email questions to tlytal@clintonms.org.

Ready? Let's Talk MC's Male Cheerleaders



Image Source: Jezreel Massey

JEZREEL MASSEY
CONTRIBUTING
WRITER

"I'm a serious athlete, not a ballerina." This line, from The Game Plan starring Dwayne Johnson, tells the story of a successful football player turned dad. As the movie progresses, his daughter's ballet instructor convinces him that ballet is not easy and it is not just for girls. In fact, she says, "If

ballet were easy, they'd call it football."

Cheerleading, much like ballet, or any other physical activity requiring twirls, strategic flipping, or a dance routine, holds a certain stigma in the minds of many -- too girly.

"My initial thought for trying out was a solid no, even when I went to tryouts. My mom didn't want those stereotypes that are associated with cheerlead-

ing to be placed on me. But now, I don't care. I'm going to be my own person," said MC cheerleader, Malik James.

Since the eighties, MC's cheer squad has been all female, but now, the cheer squad gladly welcomed new male additions to the team: Caleb Ross, Malik James, Matthew Castle, and Lawson Stewart.

"I got an email about co-ed cheer, and I knew Lawson

was trying out for the team. I was just going to go with him to watch and support, but I ended up trying out. I knew most of the girls on the squad, anyway," said James.

"We literally had no experience, and we just walked in," explained Lawson Stewart. "They told us what to do, and we were like, 'What is all of this?' It was a full day of learning everything. There were 20 girls and the coaching staff during tryouts. We just did what they told us to do."

"Then eventually, me and Matthew were convinced to try out too," said Caleb Ross.

Cheerleading on the team is different for men than women. Their workout sessions require a little more of them, and their positions on the team are different too.

"We mainly help with group stunts, and support in back spots," said Matthew Castle. "We do a lot of the heavy lifting and prepping for the main and secondary base," said Ross.

The chemistry on the squad is strong, not only because the guys fit in well with the women on the team, but all of the male cheerleaders also knew each other prior to trying out.

"The good thing about the four of us is that we all know each other from our club, Rotaract, and two of us are roommates, and the other two of us are roommates. So, we see each other all the time," said James.

Male cheerleaders on a cheer squad are commonly seen in cheer movies or even at larger colleges and universities. Having male cheerleaders on the squad "makes cheering at a game feel more collegiate and not so high school-like," said Stewart.

"We're all different, but all of us together bring a different level of fun and goofiness. The squad is really laid back," said Castle. "Having a male presence changes the feel of the game. It changes the atmosphere, and it seems like the players [on the sports team they are cheering for] play better too," he continued.

"We experienced a great deal of support when we tried out for the squad, really more support than anything else. At the end of the day, don't knock it till you try it," said Stewart.

"Tryouts are in the spring, and we'd love to get to know people. I really think that more guys should try out for the team, so we can see the team continue to grow," said Castle.

A Teen Vogue Worthy Dorm Room

TIFFANY STRAIN
ASSISTANT EDITOR

“My thought process when I decorated (the dorm) was not to get featured in BuzzFeed or Teen Vogue, those were just nice bonuses,” said interior design major, Olivia Middlebrooks, a senior from Chesapeake, Va.

Middlebrooks was recently featured in an article for Teen Vogue because of her uniquely decorated dorm room. A writer for Teen Vogue contacted her through social media. The writer noted that she had enjoyed the photos that were posted of Middlebrook’s dorm room, and the magazine wanted to feature the room. Emails were exchanged back and forth between the two over the weekend and the article was posted online on Sept. 11.

“I feel so blessed and excited to have the experience of having my name on such a prestigious and respected website, especially one that I have looked up to for much of my life,” Middlebrooks said.

Middlebrooks realized she wanted to pursue interior design because decorating and redecorating a room truly makes her happy. She wants to create that happiness in the lives of others. She said because her home is her sanctuary, she wants others to experience that joy too. Middlebrooks wants people to have a space where they can love one another and create memories in that environment.

“I would describe my style as lived-in. Eclectic, cozy, warm, with little flares of vintage. I want the most serene environment possible,” said Middlebrooks.

This year she strived to create a living space that did not feel like a dorm room. She wanted to decorate her room in a way that was not going to break her bank and that was going to make her feel like as if she were home away from home.

Middlebrooks says she loves to thrift shop. She shops for pieces at antique shops and thrift stores all over. She also gets a lot of decor from T.J. Maxx, Marshalls, Homegoods and Urban Outfitters.

She feels the most creative when she is thinking about her future. Traveling, the mountains, and other things that inspire her are key aspects that she tries to incorporate into her designs.

“I’m a girl with such big dreams; I spend a lot of time daydreaming. My inspiration is the West Coast, where I would like to live after school,” Middlebrooks said.

Her roommate, graphic design major Haylee Riley, said, “She has a way of bringing in a vibe of creativity to the space. She turned our dorm into a more homey atmosphere, and she helped influence the way I ended up arranging my things in my room.”

Middlebrooks is affected by her surroundings, and as an interior design major, she takes pride in her spaces. Interior design brings her happiness, and she cannot wait to extend that happiness to others in the future.



Images Source: Tiffany Strain





2018 Market Dates

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Office of Career Services Spotlight

JOELLE YOUNGBLOOD
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Choosing a career can be hard, but with the help of one particular Mississippi College office, students can get the help and support they need. The office that is dedicated to helping students further their careers once they leave MC is the Office of Career Services.

Taylor Ormon, the associate director of Career Services, got her start at Millsaps working as the internship coordinator. Ormon knew that she wanted to be at MC, but at the time, no positions were available.

As time went on, a position in Career Services became available at MC. This school year, Ormon moved into the associate director position.

“I love my job because I get to see students start from a spot, see them grow over time, and develop professionally,” said Ormon.

Career Services utilizes Careerlink, which displays all of the available positions for on-campus employment and some opportunities for off-campus employment. Ormon is always working to get more employers involved with connecting with MC students in order to get more opportunities.

Coming up this month will be the part-time job fair hosted by Career Services where students can bring their resumes and talk to employers in a more casual setting. “It’s a great way for students to come and meet with employers professionally even if they aren’t looking for a job,” said Ormon.

The employers will provide information about their workplace, job opportunities, and possible career opportunities. “There will be different types of employers such as churches, camps, and restaurants who are looking for part-time people,” said Ormon. Employers will also be attending that have full-time and internship positions available.

The event will take place on the quad Oct. 3 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

“Our most important thing is responding to students’ needs,” said Ormon. Many mock interviews are taking place for medical students in order to prepare them for the medical school interviews. The office also does “document reviews on a daily basis,” which is helping students further refine their resumes.

The first piece of advice that Ormon can give students about resumes is that it’s all in the timing. “The earlier you can start, the better,” said Ormon.

The second piece of advice she gives concerns the overall first impression of the resume. “The employers spend about 60 seconds reviewing your resume,” said Ormon, “so you want to be sure that you have your format and content down.” The content of the resume “needs to be specific and concise, easy to scan, and organized.”

Career Services can benefit students in more ways than just helping to build a resume.

“From the beginning, we can help them by getting involved on campus and finding them supplemental income. A lot of students come to college looking for that, so we provide them with the tools to be successful, such as the document reviews and helping with applications,” said Ormon.

Career Services also helps with the process of deciding to change a major. They provide an assessment that students can take, and they “help students digest those results to give a best overall fit.”

This year, Career Services has been focusing on their social media following. Tara Walls and Taylor Pendley are two student workers in the office who are helping grow the social media presence.

“Our goal for our Instagram account is to have 500 followers by Thanksgiving,”



Image Source: Joelle Youngblood

said Walls. To have 500 followers or more would mean that they would be reaching more students about the “amazing job opportunities, as well as job fairs that come to MC.”

Career Services will be sponsoring giveaways in order to increase their number of fol-

lowers. There have been giveaways in the past, but Walls said, “This next giveaway will be something that nobody will want to miss out on.”

To learn more about what Career Services can do for students, check out <https://www.mc.edu/career/>.

Downtown Clinton October Festivities in Full Swing



Images Source: Afnan Beauti

AFNAN BEAUTI
REPORTER

Clinton’s residents will soon be walking on the brick streets of downtown at events that will give residents and students much to do as the fall season arrives. The city con-

tinues its efforts for growth and prosperity through several upcoming events for community members and businesses to enjoy. Main Street Clinton will celebrate the start of harvest season Oct. 13 at 9 a.m. with the annual Fall for Clinton Market. The event of-

fers locally crafted items such as woodwork, jewelry, candles, apparel and more. The 6th Annual Pet Parade will take place at 10 a.m. the same day. The parade encourages owners to dress their pets and partake in the festivities and will include prizes and awards.

The city strives for a family-oriented atmosphere at its downtown events and offers several other events hosted by Main Street Clinton in October including Dinner and a Movie Oct. 5 and 19 at 6 p.m. in the Olde Towne. The Jungle Book will be shown outdoors on the big screen the first date. The Little Mermaid will be shown on the latter date.

“Clinton has a rich history and a quaint downtown,” said Anna Hawks, assistant director of Main Street Clinton. “Preserving the character of our community is vital to creating a vibrant downtown. Promoting the natural assets that we have along with fun events and a variety of small businesses gives Clintonians a reason to be proud of its community.”

Olde Towne After Dark Trivia will be hosted Oct. 18 at 8:30 p.m. at one of downtown’s go-to restaurants, 303 Jefferson. The trivia night will allow teams of four contestants to put their knowledge to the test on topics like pop culture and science. The event is sponsored by the Baptist Healthplex at Mississippi College. The event will be held on the third Thursdays of every month this fall. Dinner and Jazz is Oct. 12 at 6 p.m. and will include a dinner, movie and dancing. The Mississippi College Jazz Band will perform live on the brick streets as attendees eat, watch and dance to the tunes.

“We have a very iconic and authentic downtown area, thus the name Red Brick Roads. We have all these great brick streets, and we want people to come down and enjoy it,” said Clinton resident T. J. McSparrin. “It’s very important for us to share our city with the tri-county area and beyond.”

BBQ on the Boulevard is Oct. 13 at 12 p.m. at the Clinton Plaza Shopping Center and will be presented by the Boulevard Steering Committee. The event invites adults, children, local organizations and businesses to enjoy a barbecue competition, games and live entertainment. Just the Girls is Oct. 18 at 11 a.m. and will be hosted every third Thursday for lunch and a demonstration by one of downtown’s businesses. The hands-on event typically involves watercolor painting techniques, fashion exhibits or decorative lessons.

In addition to upcoming events, residents will also see new features to downtown. The Hillman Commons development is predicted to bring crowds into downtown. The Lions Club Park will also be moved and restored and is expected to bring attention to the center of Clinton.

Another major fall event for Clinton’s brick streets is the 11th Annual Holiday Market Nov. 10 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in spirit of the approaching holiday season. The market jumpstarts residents’ Christmas shopping with handmade merchandise from more than 120 artisans and vendors. The festival will feature performances by dancers, choirs and bands as well as food trucks and a chance to eat at Olde Towne’s restaurants.

“People are drawn to unique places,” Hawks said. “A vibrant downtown attracts visitors and increases quality of life for residents.”

Events help the city of Clinton economically flourish and attract hundreds of guests every year. The Olde Towne aims to show what it has to offer through its annual traditions. This October is filled with downtown events for residents and guests to experience and come back to.

Arts & Entertainment

Are you afraid of the dark?..

JOSHUA DILMORE
A&E EDITOR

Have you ever wondered what that noise is that goes bump in the night? Or what waits in the dark of the woods? What roams in the darkest depths of the ocean? Now is your chance. “In the Dark” runs from Sept. 29 through Dec. 31 at the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science in Jackson. This spooky exhibit arrived just in time for Halloween.

A national traveling exhibit, “In the Dark” was created by the Cincinnati Museum Center, according to the Mississippi museum’s website. The exhibit has made its way to Mississippi, which the museum promises to be “intriguing.”

“What thrives beneath the soil, under the sea, in the shadows of night, and within other dark environments? How have people reacted to darkness throughout history? Visitors will discover the answers as they explore the fascinating, largely unseen, world of things that go bump in the night,” the museum advertises.

“Visitors can crawl inside a giant bat head, experience life as a termite, explore the worlds of bobcats, skunks, and cicadas, plus learn how birds find their way when flying at night and how bats use echo-locations!”

Many of the exhibit’s features are viewable on the museum’s website, as well as more information on the exhibit. This exhibit is generously sponsored by the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks and The Mississippi Museum of Natural Science, as well as numerous other local businesses and organizations.

“In the Dark” follows the museum’s summer exhibit “The Science of Ripley’s Believe It or Not!” which featured artifacts from Ripley’s museums and other interactive installations. Visitors will be treated January 2019 to “Ocean Bound,” an exploration of how people’s actions on land affect the ocean.

Besides special exhibits, the museum offers special



events and lectures throughout the month, open to the community. Visitors will learn about the great state of Mississippi and its diverse wildlife population through the museum’s permanent installations and one of the state’s only indoor aquariums. Inside the aquarium wing of the museum, visitors will encounter catfish, rattlesnakes, and alligators—oh my!

Admission for adults is only \$6. The museum offers discounts to youths and elders as well as special rates for school teachers with classes (just call ahead).



Image Source: Mississippi Museum of Natural Science

Tickets may be purchased online or at the door. The museum is opened every day (except holidays) until 5 p.m.

The museum is located next door to the Mississippi Children’s Museum and LeFleur’s Bluff State Park. The park offers generous space for picnics, developed and primitive camping, a golf course, disc golf course, and fishing/boating launches (some fees apply). For more information about LeFleur’s Bluff State Park, visit [www.mdwfp.com/parks-designations/state-parks/le-](http://www.mdwfp.com/parks-designations/state-parks/le-fleurs-bluff)

[fleurs-bluff](http://www.mdwfp.com/parks-designations/state-parks/le-fleurs-bluff) or call 601-987-3923.

The Mississippi Museum of Art is also a short drive from the Museum of Natural Science as a part of Mississippi’s museum circuit.

For more information about “In the Dark,” or to learn more about the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science, visit www.mdwfp.com/museum/ or call 601-576-6000. The museum is located at 2148 Riverside Drive in Jackson. Find the museum online on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube.

“I CAN’T STOP READING!” An Average Jane’s Review of Kindle Unlimited



Image Source: Jessica D. Letchworth

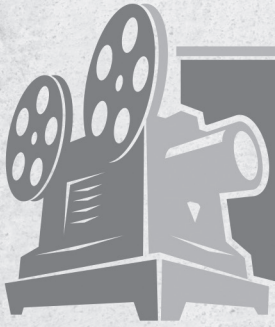
JESSICA D. LETCHWORTH
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Hey there guys and gals! It’s the Average Jane again with another fun-filled review. This week’s topic is the highly acclaimed Kindle Unlimited service. Please take the words “highly acclaimed” with a grain of salt as I am basing that entirely on the thoughts of the few people I have spoken to about the service over the past several months. ’Tis true, I did hear quite a number of exciting things about this service beforehand, so I decided to take it for a whirl on my own Kindle Paperwhite.

As a quick side note—if you are an analogue girl (or guy) living in a digital world, I highly recommend the Kindle Paperwhite. It is front-lit, which means it doesn’t emit that horrible, piercing light when you turn it on for a short reading session. The pages resemble that of an actual book much more than other Kindle versions do, which I prefer as well. I resisted the e-reader movement for years, and now I am not

See KINDLE • Page 5

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Kindle, cont.

exactly sure why. My trusty Kindle Paperwhite is my new best friend. But I digress, back to the service.

Simply stated, Kindle Unlimited is a rental service that is available on any of your devices for only \$9.99 per month. It boasts over 1 million titles, including thousands of audiobooks and magazines too! Subscribers have the option to rent up to 10 titles at once. When you are finished, simply return the book for another page-turner. You are free to cancel any time without penalty. I know we all love that feature, right? The best part is that Kindle gives new subscribers a 30-day free trial to

make sure this unlimited service is right for you.

It sounded too good to be true, so I took the plunge. I perused the library for what seemed like hours in hopes of finding some of my favorites. I can't lie to you, upon first glance, I was slightly disappointed with the selection. I had a list of books I wanted to read, but none of the titles on my list were in the Kindle library. I felt duped but continued to sift through the titles anyway. Finally, I found one that sounded somewhat interesting: "P.S. from Paris" by Marc Levy. I go through these weird moments when I feel sappy and wish for nothing more than to read

a truly romantic love story. This book provided just that. While I was disappointed initially in the service itself, this particular gem did not disappoint. I finished the book within a couple of days and was off to the races to find another.

One more book turned into three over the course of the next two months. My three additional choices were "The Dead Key" by D.M. Pulley, "The Tuscan Child" by Rhys Bowen, and "The House by the River" by Lena Manta. I cannot say that I would have picked any of these up in the bookstore, but I am so glad that I took a chance on them as rentals.

Granted, they may not be the greatest literary works of art. Some even have a fair amount of typos. But they each brought something to the table that was both enjoyable and engaging.

At this stage of the article, you are doing one of two things. Option 1: you have stopped reading to sign up for the free trial of Kindle Unlimited. To those folks, thank you for reading as long as you did. I hope you enjoy the service! Option 2: you are still wondering whether Kindle Unlimited is right for you. My advice to those that fall under Option 2 is download the app if you don't already have it and sign up for

the free trial. Set a reminder on your calendar to cancel prior to the 30-day window just in case you decide it isn't for you. Because it is free for 30 days, you truly have nothing to lose.

I will admit that I no longer subscribe. I simply didn't feel that it was worth the money for me because I do not have the time to devote to digital content like many of you probably do. With that said, I will gladly sign back up when the time is right. We have to tilt with the ebbs and flows of life. So, ask yourself, are you in the right season for access to over 1 million titles at your fingertips? If so, sign up today!

Artist Spotlight: Gabriel Shearer

JOSHUA DILMORE
A&E EDITOR

"Joy and happiness come from almost everything I get to do. I have the ability to touch lives and bring a smile to their face. So why not use my talent?" That is the question Gabriel Shearer posed when asked what keeps her inspired as an artist.

Originally from Decatur, Miss., Shearer is a multi-talented musician and painter who has lived throughout the states of Mississippi and Tennessee, which equates to about 11-13 moves according to the artist. Self-taught in both disciplines, her music career first began on Christmas years ago when she and her brothers received a drum set and guitar.

Through the years, Shearer and her siblings collected a drum set, an acoustic guitar, a banjo, 2 saxophones, 3 clarinets, —one of which a friend came across in perfect condition after the tornado that hit Louisville, Miss., a few years ago—a bass guitar, harmonicas, pianos, and the list goes on. Shearer and her brothers play in a variety of venues, from church gatherings to



Image Source: Gabriel Shearer

other community events. "Our love for music has allowed us to help others."

Beyond the stage, Shearer enjoys visual art. "I can draw exactly what I see," she said. "I've always been very crafty and loved building things." These creations have allowed

her to touch people, as she has with her musical talents, in a different way.

"A friend came over to my dorm at [Mississippi State University] and told me she wanted me to make her one of the artwork pieces I had made for my dorm. So, I exchanged string

art for a pair of converse shoes." This exchange carried over with her friend's sister, who also wanted a piece of Shearer's artwork and commissioned a painting of a bulldog.

"I laughed and said I've never painted a day in my life," Shearer said, adding

that she told the sister that "I'll take \$20 for it, and if you don't like it, I'll just throw it away." After completing the painting, Shearer found that she could paint, too. Since then, the artist has been involved in art festivals and other events around the state.

Like many other artists, Shearer finds her chosen crafts to be an "escape." Even so, she explained that she loves "to just be used of God in any way I can to touch another's life."

Shearer also attends Nursing School "to pursue another aspect of touching lives."

All this success, she said, she attributes foremost to God, "a loving family that tried their best to expand our musical talents and abilities, [and] friends that always encourage me to do my best and keep achieving always."

Shearer had a message for any aspiring artist as well. "Don't stop, there's always more to learn, be yourself, and be a part of something great!"

Shearer is available for commissions through her business Bee Artsy and may be contacted via Instagram @bee.artsy1620 or email at bee.artsy1620@gmail.com.

Do you know an artist who you think deserves to be spotlighted? A singer, a painter, a candlestick maker?
Contact A&E Editor, Joshua Dilmore, at jfdilmore@mc.edu.

New Stage Theatre Begins Its 53rd Season

MEREDITH STRATMANN
NEWS EDITOR



Image Source: Joshua Dilmore

Sweat. The Great Flood of 1927. Anne Frank. What do all of these seemingly dissimilar topics have in common? In fact, they are all bases for this year's productions at New Stage Theatre in Jackson. Now in its 53rd season, New Stage Theatre continues to, in its own words, "provide professional theatre of the highest quality for the people of Mississippi and the Southeast."

New Stage focuses on producing both contemporary works and classics. This year, the season kicked off with "Morningside," a comedy focused around nine women at a wild baby shower in Atlanta. Beginning Oct. 23, audiences may see the timeless story of Anne Frank and her struggle to survive in the work "Diary of Anne Frank." Just within these first two works, it is clear that New Stage produces a grand array of works ranging from historical pieces to musical theatre and everything in between.

In addition to "Diary of Anne Frank," theatre-goers may see "A Christmas Carol," "Hell in High Water," "Sweet Potato Queens," "Sweat," and "Bright Star" at New Stage this 2018-2019 season. Particularly interesting is "Hell in High Water," which follows the story of the Great Flood of 1927 in Greenville, Miss., and the effects that the mighty Mississippi River had on people there. A raw work, according to New Stage: "Fathers and sons are pitted against each other in this stunning true story of courage and cowardice, power and poverty, life and survival."

Another performance that speaks to the human condition is "Sweat." Although not based on history, "Sweat" focuses on a group of friends working at a factory. Eventually, they are met with a number of obstacles, including layoffs and picket lines. The group has to fight to survive, even if that means turning against their friends.

"A Christmas Carol" will be making its annual holiday return to New Stage after a two-year absence. "Sweet Potato Queens" and "Bright Star" also promise grand performances for all theatre-goers. New Stage truly does offer a diverse season. Each year is vastly different. In the past, the New Stage has put on famous productions such as "Sister Act: The Musical," "Beauty and the Beast," and "Steel Magnolias," as well as lesser-known performances.

Since its founding in 1965, New Stage has been committed to producing a variety of shows. New Stage began in an adapted church, five minutes from what is now the Mississippi Museum of Art. The museum's inaugural season included shows such as "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?," "The Glass Menagerie," and "The Fantasticks," which were performed in front of the city's first racially integrated audience. In 1978, New Stage moved to its present-day location in Belhaven, which has 364 seats rather than just 150. Over the years, New Stage has grown and expanded, while adding a number of additional programs and educational events. Today, it continues to produce quality theater, while adding culture to the surrounding area.

To go and see one (or more) of these fabulous productions, call the box office at 601-948-3533, or go online to newstagetheatre.com/tickets. New Stage also offers discounted ticket prices to students, elders, and military personnel.

This Week in Comics: Soldier Supreme

CHRISTOPHER LIPE
CONTRIBUTING
WRITER

Comic book fans of the 90s will remember a limited run of the Amalgam comics. These comics were combinations of popular Marvel and DC characters. These comics gave us the iconic Dark Claw (Wolverine and Batman), Doctor Strange-fate (Dr. Strange and Dr. Fate), and Super-Soldier (Captain America and Superman). The new Marvel Infinity Warp series harken back to those same feelings by showing our favorite Marvel heroes combined into a new entity. The first one of these combinations is Soldier Supreme. This character combines the unlikely duo of Captain America and Dr. Strange. Captain America with his strong moral compass and loyalty combined with Dr. Strange's affinity for the dark arts make for an interesting character.

Warning! Spoilers Ahead!
The comic begins with Stephen Rogers signing himself up for the new super soldier serum tests. Instead of the traditional super soldier serum, we see Dr. Erskine performing a ritual and chanting

before injecting the serum. This gives Stephen mystical powers without having to learn any spells. The first demonstration we see of his newfound powers is him conjuring a shield that bears a striking resemblance to Captain America's iconic shield.
The sidekicks of both heroes are also fused together in this comic. Wong, the fiercely loyal servant of Dr. Strange, is merged with Captain America's oldest friend Bucky Barnes. The result of this is Bucky Wong, a steadfast companion in the face of war with an undying loyalty. This loyalty is ultimately tested when Bucky is killed in the line of battle, and after a small incantation, he is reborn as Winter Soldier. Instead of the normal Winter Soldier, this Winter Soldier is a specter, aiding Soldier Supreme even in the afterlife.
The final combination comes in the form of Red Dormammu. This comes as a combination of Red Skull and Dormammu. Red Skull is the leader of Nazi terrorist activities, appointed by Hitler himself. This will put him at odds with Captain America, even after the war is long over. He is often depicted as the archenemy of Captain America.

The second half of this pairing is Dormammu. This truly evil being is the ruler over the Dark Dimension, a dimension completely void of any light. Dormammu uses his immense power to break into other dimensions, wreaking havoc wherever he goes. One of the few beings that can go toe-to-toe with him is Dr. Strange. This puts them at odds anytime Dormammu comes to earth. Their combination brings a horrifying amount of evil. They are employed by Hitler to be the Priests of Hell. While the comic does not go into any details, it would be safe to assume that is not good.
The comic book ends with a major confrontation between Soldier Supreme and Red Dormammu. They go back and forth with a battle, neither giving up their ground. Soldier Supreme makes a small mistake and Red Dormammu makes him pay for it, quickly slamming him to the ground and placing his foot firmly on Soldier Supreme's face. Out of nowhere, the Winter Soldier shows up to save our Soldier. This puts Red on the ropes and forces him to pull out his last effort at winning. He sends our heroes into his dimension, the



Image Source: Marvel Comics
Dark Dimension. The page goes black and all we see is a single light, one being created by Soldier Supreme.
The comic ends there, with our heroes in a dark

and distant dimension. Will they make it out alive? Will they stop Red Dormammu? Find out next month in Infinity Warp: Soldier Supreme.

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SPORTS

Camaraderie Carries the Choctaws

DAMON WRIGHT
CONTRIBUTING
WRITER

In the history of sports, there have been many good teams: teams that have enough talent to take themselves deep into a playoff or tournament in hopes of playing for a national championship and realizing the dream of being immortalized in the history books as the best team of that specific year. These good teams can be celebrated and praised for their achievements, but they come up just short of greatness. There is a fine line between a good team and a great team, and in many instances, that line is the camaraderie present on a team.

The Mississippi College Men's Soccer team is led by head coach Kevin Johns, who is in his 16th year at the helm of the program, and he has recognized the strong feeling of teamwork has enveloped the team, on and off the pitch: "The depth and camaraderie of this team has been a massive boost for us ... it is a hard working group of guys that care about each other; they do a lot of things off the field and they get along together and it really carries over to the field, and I think that is one of our biggest positives," said Johns.

The team is currently 4-2 and is coming off a huge GSC win over rival Delta State, a game in which the Choctaws

came behind from a 2-0 deficit to win by golden goal in the 107th minute. The Choctaws will have a stretch of 8 GSC games to finish out the season, which will begin Friday against the Shorter Hawks and Sunday against the Lee Flames. Both games will be at home, weather permitting.

Junior defender Connor Johnson has been happy with how the team has performed so far but is looking for improvements as the season progresses: "I think it has been up and down; we have had the highest of highs like beating #9 West Alabama at home, but we have also had the lowest of lows, losing against Alabama Huntsville, and then a big win against Delta State. It has been up and down; we would like to have a little more consistency," Johnson said.

This consistency will be needed for this bout of GSC matches, which includes a 5-game stretch where the Choctaws will not be on the home pitch. Though the games will be a difficult, wins will be crucial, and senior forward Joshua Robinson says that the team is prepared for the challenge ahead: "We're ready. We have a few training sessions before our game against Shorter; we are hitting the ground running, we are going strong as a unit, and we are eager and excited to see what the future holds," Robinson said.

Robinson, who also received GSC player of the



Image Source: David Nichols

week honors at the beginning of September, is looking to see the team improve mentally for the remainder of the season: "Usually what I would say needs improving is having cohesion, but we already have that strength and unity, so the most important thing to me is our mental game -- going out there with the hunger and the passion I feel like we have been lacking, but it can improve," said Robinson.

Coach Johns is confident with this team, especially going into the most important stretch of the season. Johns says that the depth

of the team is something he has never seen before and that will be a big help to finish the season: "Every game in this conference is extremely important. I have told the guys multiple times that pretty much every game is the championship because every game has so much meaning. It is a one game at a time mentality ... the depth is so strong and will be crucial for these games, and we are confident that we can bring in anybody off the bench, and they can before just as good as the guy in front," said Johns.

Connor Johnson is excited for the future of MC soccer

and looks to leave a mark of success on an already established powerhouse program: "Hopefully the future holds a regular season championship and then a conference championship. My freshman year we won the regular season, and we just hope to win a championship this season. That is our main goal," Johnson said.

Senior Joshua Robinson has given his all to this program and has the same goal in mind: "I want to be remembered as that one British guy that came here and did his job and left with his head held high and hopefully a ring around his finger," Robinson said.

Choctaws Face Off Against #10 West Florida in Their First GSC Game of the Season



Image Source: Reid Vance

SADIE WISE
CONTRIBUTING
WRITER

On Saturday, Sept. 24, the Mississippi College football team set out against the #10 ranked West Florida Argonauts inside Robinson-Hale Stadium. The game was scheduled for 7 p.m., but Mother Nature had other plans, which led to a late night for Mississippi College football fans. The first lightning delay came around 5:30 p.m. on Saturday and was followed by three more delays, which pushed the game start time back almost two hours.

The lightning subsided, but the rain consistently fell well into the first half of the game. The Choctaws took the field at nearly 9 p.m. for

what would be their first Gulf South Conference game of the season, following an off week due to a canceled game against North Greenville.

The Choctaws started the season 2-0, and they were hoping to keep that momentum going into the game against West Florida. Drake McCarter, the recent Northwest Community College transfer and Choctaw kicker, said "Being 2-0, we have all the momentum going for us right now."

Unfortunately, that momentum would not be enough for the Choctaws, as they fell to the Argonauts at home.

Even with the wet and muggy conditions, the Argos wasted no time, and with a 20-yard field goal by UWF kicker Austin Williams, the Choctaws trailed 3-0 early in

the first half. The Choctaws attempted to answer, but they were not able to get the job done, and they reached the last minutes of the first half trailing the Argos, 10-0.

Despite the talent of the UWF Georgia transfer quarterback, Sam Vaughn, the Choctaw defense kept their team in the game, as junior Turner Rotenberry had an interception right before halftime, and that appeared to give his team some momentum going into the second half.

As the second half began, the Choctaw defense continued to show out, forcing another turnover, as the Jones County transfer Derric Hawthorn ripped the ball from the Argonauts. The Choctaw offense answered with a touchdown from the hands

of Detric Hawthorn to those of Cole Rotenberry for a 46-yard completion, which resulted in the first Choctaw touchdown of the night.

Despite some big plays on both sides of the ball for the Choctaws in the second half, they still would not be enough. The Choctaws fell to the Argos 34-21, with the clock winding down at nearly midnight.

"We had those big plays on offense and on defense, and we just needed more of them. I think we just made too many mistakes," Choctaw Head Coach John Bland said after what was his first loss of the season.

Coach Bland does feel that the Choctaws will be able to bounce back, though. "We'll be able to see those mistakes on film, and fix them," Bland said.

The Choctaws have their fourth consecutive home game in Clinton, on the 29th. The #13 Valdosta State Blazers will be coming to town on Saturday, looking to keep their winning streak alive. The Blazers from Georgia are 4-0 so far this season, and 2-0 in GSC play, beating both West Alabama and Shorter by significant numbers.

The Choctaws are looking to get their first GSC victory of the season on Saturday. "It's good that we're gonna be back at home. We had a great crowd tonight. It was awesome, even with the delay. A lot of schools, you would've come out here and they would've been gone, but not MC. That was great to see, and I know they'll be back," Bland said.

On the Verge of a Big Step Forward



Image Source: Corey Rholdon

ELLIOT REEDER
CONTRIBUTING
WRITER

After an up-and-down and injury-riddled start to the season, the Mississippi College Volleyball team feels they are on the verge of taking a big step forward. First year Head Coach Shawna Laurendine said, “I’m really looking forward to having everybody healthy, and seeing what we can actually do once we get everybody healthy, and have some depth in some positions, and challenging the teams in our conference. We’re going to surprise some people in the 2nd half.”

An incredibly young Choctaws team has gotten some big playing time from numerous freshman including Jamie Boros, Kendall Platt, Lexie Laurendine, Rylee Markham and Gwynyth Prenter. Junior Julia Martin says that at first most of the freshman were shy, but they quickly stepped out of their shyness due to how many of them there were and how important they were going to be to the team.

Over half of MC’s roster is made up of freshmen, and another 26% of the roster is made up of sophomores. The young Choctaws roster is continuing to improve every day. Martin went on to say

that the team has focused on some fundamentals and that “each day we get out and perform the best we can.” Lexie Laurendine says that she feels her and her fellow freshmen are working on not having a freshman mentality, and working to play like they have been in the program for just as long as everybody else.

With such a young roster, the Choctaws have relied on some crucial leadership from players such as senior co-captain and libero Jill Brown, junior co-captain Shelby Grace Mays (who is expected back soon from an injury), and sophomore Brandi Bundy. Martin, who was also mentioned as a leader, spoke to how important a period this past spring, when only the handful of returning players were around, has been to building the camaraderie between the returners that was then passed on to the freshmen when they arrived.

The squad has worked hard on keeping the tempo and energy up in practice, even in the middle of a grueling season. Coach Laurendine said, “We’ve worked really hard, the girls are improving every day.” She also mentioned how important good practice is after tough losses. Freshman Lexie Laurendine said, “When we first come in, we try to have positive and consistent enthusi-

asm throughout the day.”

Martin and both Laurendines spoke to how important communication has been to the team throughout the first half of the season. Martin also talked about the connection the team has worked on through drills throughout the different positions and different experience levels.

The Lady Choctaws currently have a 7-9 record about halfway through the season. They have a road trip to Georgia (to play Valdosta State and West Georgia) scheduled on Sept. 28 and 29. They then return back to AE Wood Coliseum for a big GSC home stand that starts October 2nd against West Alabama. The home stand includes matches against Alabama-Huntsville and the Crohn’s Awareness game against Montevallo on Saturday October 6th.

Lexie Laurendine spoke about a mantra the team has called “finish empty.” This refers to leaving all of their energy and effort on the court and finishing with an empty tank. If the Lady Choctaws get some players back from injury, get continued development from their youngsters and buy into finishing empty, then they really could turn their season around and surprise the GSC in the 2nd half of the season.

Defense and Leadership Has Led to the Lady Choctaws 5-1 Start!



Image Source: David Nichols

COREY RHOLDON
SPORTS EDITOR

The Mississippi College Lady Choctaws are currently ranked 22nd in the country, and have started out the season with a 5-1 record. A big reason for that is defense; MC started out GSC play with 3 straight road games and in those games, the opposing team has scored 0 goals.

After waiting two years, goalkeeper Gabby Kayser has gotten an opportunity to play, and she has made the most of it, winning the GSC defender of the week. “It is so awesome. It is unbelievable that all this hard work I have been doing for two years is paying off,” said Kayser.

The Lady Choctaws Head

Coach Darryl Longabaugh believes that back line will only continue to get better. “I think our formation is a part of it, as we run a 3-5-2. You get a little bit more support from the mid-field. Gaylynn Cooper, Liza Wise and Scarlett Hodges have been doing an outstanding job shutting everything down. Liza Wise has been doing a great job playing centerback in that group. When we make mistakes, we have Gabby Kayser in back making the saves. They are working well back there, and I see it only getting better because we are also getting healthier back there too,” Longabaugh said.

Junior mid-fielder Lauren Kate Carter has also praised the back line for not only their great play but their

leadership and communication. “Our defense is solid; we have great communicators in the back. Your leadership needs to come from the back because they see the whole field in front of you. It is awesome to have a defense to tell me as a mid-fielder what I can do and what spaces are open,” said Carter.

While the defense has been dominating, the offense has gotten off to a slow start but Carter and Coach Longabaugh believe that the goals will start to fall. “Simple... Simple... Simple... Put the ball past the keeper into the net. That is all that we need to do; we have over-complicated it. I think it is going to come, we are too talented up top for it not to start falling. I think we start to relax and

understand that is when we will start scoring 2 to 3 goals a game,” Longabaugh said.

“We have had so many opportunities in front of the goal, so we just have to be patient and execute when the opportunities are there. We have to make our shots, be consistent and have composure under the goal,” said Carter.

MC has gone to the GSC tournament championship games in back-to-back seasons. The team lost to West Florida by the score of 2-0 in 2016, and last year fell to Lee 1-0. This year, the team is motivated not only to go back to the GSC championship but to win it. “It is motivating going two years in a row, getting so close to that championship title that we

just more determined than ever to come away with it,” Kayser said.

The Lady Choctaws also want to get back to the NCAA tournament, in which they were the number 1 seed in the South Regional but lost in the first game to West Florida. “The loss in the NCAA Regionals has motivated us to get back because we do not want that to be a dark spot on our program,” said Longabaugh.

Mississippi College plays two home games this weekend vs. Shorter on Friday and against Lee on Saturday. Lee is the team who beat the Lady Choctaws in the Championship game last season, and Coach Longabaugh said that his team needs to outmatch the Lady Flames’ intensity to win that game.



The Greatest Game of All Time According to Seth Foshee



Image Source: David Nichols

MARQUISHA MATHIS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Down south, a series of holes to play, an audience watching, your team depending on you. One swing, one miss, or one swing, one hit.

One game after another for Mississippi College senior, Seth Foshee.

Golf, golf, golf, and more golf. As fun as it may seem, golf requires a lot of practice, and Seth has been keeping pretty busy these days with it all. That's when you get when you are good at what you do. You play and play, back to back.

"[I am] Drawn to golf by the number of different ways you can play golf good and win," said Seth. "There's not one specific body type or type of person that is better at every aspect of golf across the board. No matter if you're big or small, or you think more analytically as opposed to synthetically, anyone can win."

Aside from choosing a school that offered his academic program of choice, golf is specifically what he was looking for when searching; it was his top priority. This is what led him to MC. "The opportunity to play for MC under Coach McMath and Coach Doan is the sole reason I came to MC," he said.

Seth says playing golf with these guys is really interesting. "It's awesome to watch guys from very different backgrounds come together to play the greatest game there is. People who may not have anything in common off the course all share that same passion for the sport.

Seth loves fitness. "Being a kinesiology major, I'm obviously captivated by fitness and how our bodies can function better and better through hard work," said Seth. He enjoys running and lifting, and he's an avid hunter during the winter, but all he wants to do is golf.

There is inspiration behind his love for golf: his grandfather. "My grandfather led me into the game, and he really helped create the love I have for it. He didn't start playing until later in life and always said he wished he would have started earlier," said Seth. They have made memories on the course that he will never forget.

Seth has a younger brother who just turned eighteen and he seems to think golf is boring, unlike his big brother. "He needs a little more of a thrill," said Seth.

After MC, Seth plans on getting his foot in the door of the Physical Therapy field. "The time I've spent in the Pre-PT program has given me a good foundation, so I plan to build on that. I've always dreamed of living in Florida because that's where the best golf is, so I hope to move there as soon as possible. I have so much more golf to play," said Seth.

He won't just stop there. In the years to come, Seth will still be playing golf. "That's the great thing about golf. You can play it until you're eighty. I intend to do that," he said. This is what he has been doing since he was young, and he wants to continue doing what he loves most.



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THIS OR THAT?

- | | |
|---------------|------------|
| Football | Baseball |
| Hockey | Basketball |
| Volleyball | Softball |
| Cross Country | Track |
| SEC | NFL |
| ESPN | Fox Sports |



Image Source: pixabay.com

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| Summer Olympics | Winter Olympics |
| Alabama | Auburn |
| MSU | Ole Miss |
| LSU | Florida State |
| Saints | Cowboys |
| Patriots | Browns |

OPINIONS

Opioid Epidemic is a Product of Society

AFNAN BEAUTI
REPORTER

Drug abuse has become a stereotype for America. Fatal overdoses take more than 170 lives every day, including this current day. Because opioids produce an addictive euphoria, they can be easily abused. Even prescribed opioid use can lead to dependence, overdose and death. Considering Mac Miller’s recent drug overdose, awareness on drug addiction is on a high.

The past few years have displayed the horrors of an opioid epidemic that has surged across the nation. Overdose deaths to opioids became a crisis that took thousands of lives annually, leading to a public health emergency. The nation’s opioid problem has been affecting Americans since its first wave in 1991. Today, the government is determined to eliminate the epidemic. The problem continues, however, due to policymakers being focused on opioids themselves rather than the social factors influencing people’s abuse of them.

The government approved legislation to keep the opioid crisis from growing and damaging our communities. The 70-part bill is a step in the right direction but is not the cure to the crisis. Drug abuse is a grave problem with consequences of deaths, increasing in number over the past few years. That number is correlated with prescription opioids and heroin. The dramatic rise in drug-related deaths reflects a deeper problem than the drugs themselves – society. America

comprises 10% of the world’s population but manages to consume 80% of the world’s opioids. Healthcare providers are easy to blame as they can quickly prescribe an opioid as a solution to any pain.

According to The Mississippi Opioid and Heroin Data Collaborative, during 2017, over 3.3 million opioid prescriptions were dispensed in Mississippi. The state’s population was only 2.9 million. If those statistics don’t alarm you, the epidemic’s continued damage will. The Mississippi Department of Mental Health Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services was awarded an Opioid State Targeted Response (STR) grant of \$3.58 million last year to fight the state’s opioid crisis. The number of opioid-related deaths reported to Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics was still a problem, at 173 during 2017.

Are drugs really killing Americans? The reason for rising drug-related deaths has more to do with the poisons being swallowed by communities. Drug overdoses took 72,000 lives in 2017, mostly involving opioids. The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is contributing more than \$1 billion to fight opioid addiction in all 50 states through treatment, prevention, and recovery services. According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, earlier this year, Congress provided \$500 million more to the NIH budget to fund scientific research aimed at finding solutions to the crisis. Though these funds are aimed at those afflicted by addiction, Congress has not asked for in-

creased insurance coverage for long-term addicts.

The nationwide disaster is largely due to the organized customaries of pharmaceutical companies that society has subconsciously accepted past the point of thousands of drug-related deaths year after year. During the early rise of the opioid problem, the pharmaceutical industry saw a multi-billion dollar increase in profits. The nation was fooled by a false claim that opioids could be used for both short-term and long-term pain, a chronic recipe for an opioid disaster. Who regulates the corporate industry of medicine? Politicians interested only in the rights of protecting large corporations and their income rather than the safety (or wallets) of the consumers. Physicians prescribing opioids are indeed adding to the epidemic, but they are also the scapegoats for pharmaceutical companies.

Cultural society has almost zero power over the industry, or as I like to call it, the medical drug cartel. We can be as dedicated to imprisoning a corporate CEO as we are a black man and still not see improvements in the opioid epidemic until pharmaceutical companies look in the mirror and see the faces of the thousands of overdose victims. As the Trump administration emphasizes the opioid crisis as a public health emergency, it fails to focus on the real issue. Lawmakers should address legal loopholes and policy practices that continue to allow big businesses to fuel the problem.



Image Source: Afnan Beauti

In addition to politicians and pharmaceutical monsters, the medical community must take responsibility and action. Educating patients on their doctor’s orders and having consequences for doctors over-prescribing would regulate the crisis to an extent. The community of politicians, hospitals, educators and treatment facilities need to work together to stop the loop of abuse and addiction.

Media is another factor to blame for the opioid issue. How addiction is portrayed on the media influences viewers more than we realize. Addiction is seen as a stigma rather than an illness of the body and mind. What people see on TV are addicts from impoverished communities who chose to become addicted to street drugs. The problem doesn’t always begin as an addiction. Opioid dependency occurs over a long period of time and requires long-term treatment. People fail to realize that an addict is not entirely in control of his or her illness. A

stroke patient can’t recover on his own, so how could an addict? Sadly, hospitals are more easily accessible for most stroke victims than treatment centers are for addicts. Only those who can afford the cost of treatment receive help. Government funding doesn’t always get addicts the help they fully need. With limited access to treatment, opioid users from various socioeconomic backgrounds are treated unfairly.

The root of the opioid epidemic grows in the wallets of pharmaceutical companies, prescription pads of physicians, courtrooms of politicians and newsrooms of agencies showing one side of the story. These factors comprise an entire society that is blind to addiction being a disease and that is being sucked into the opioid epidemic at this very moment. Unless we legitimately change the circumstances of opioid addiction, we will continue to point fingers at each other for the lives lost to an epidemic that must be stopped.

Mr. Hogg Goes to Washington

JOSHUA DILMORE
A&E EDITOR

David Hogg. Does that name mean anything to you? Well it should, because according to the anti-gun activist, he is running for Congress in 2025.

For those of you who don’t know who Hogg is, he is a survivor of the tragic Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting that took place on Feb. 14 in Parkland, Fla. Since then, Hogg, alongside other students who survived the shooting, has been traveling around the country to speak out in support of gun control and against gun-related violence, and in most cases, against ring-wing politicians and organizations, too. None, however, have made their voices more heard or faces more known than Hogg.

CNN has heralded Hogg a “hero,” while other networks such as Fox News have compared the activist to Hitler, according to Hogg’s account. Others have criticized Hogg for “cashing in” on the Parkland Shooting. In June, Hogg and his sister, Lauren, also a survivor of the Parkland shooting, published the title “#NeverAgain: A New Generation Draws the Line.” The

book has since made it to the New York Times Bestseller List. Hogg has also appeared on countless news and talk shows. Monday, Sept. 24, he spoke at Harvard University about the importance of youth voter registration. All this to say, yes, David Hogg has made himself known. Are we better for knowing him?

As a proponent of free speech, I believe that everyone in our nation has the right to it, whether I disagree with that person’s opinions or not. Hogg frequently invokes this freedom.

Hogg has called for Nikki Haley, current U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, to resign for “misappropriating thousands of tax dollars,” thousands of dollars which the State Department spent when it purchased curtains for Haley’s New York residence. It seems, though, that Hogg didn’t read where The New York Times reported that Haley did not authorize this expenditure.

Hogg also helped raise funds for a billboard campaign in Texas where President Trump’s tweets criticizing Sen. Ted Cruz, who is running



Image Source: pixabay.com

for reelection, would be posted on billboards throughout the state. Perhaps Hogg could have asked his youth following to donate to a more noble cause? Maybe he could have raised money for the starving American children he referenced in his tweet calling for Haley to resign.

Hogg even tweeted to ask his followers to call their senators and ask them not to appoint Brett Kavanaugh Su-

preme Court Justice, not because of sexual assault accusations against him but because Kavanaugh is a constitutionalist and supports the Second Amendment.

When Fox News host Laura Ingraham mocked Hogg after he was not accepted to any of his chosen colleges, Hogg yet again invoked his freedom of speech by calling for boycotts of Ingraham’s segment, which en-

tailed numerous advertisers pulling from the network. When Ingraham tried to apologize, Hogg refused her apology, stating “a bully is a bully” in reference to Ingraham. Notorious liberal talk show host Bill Maher called Hogg a bully for his actions. Though I don’t condone Ingraham’s comments, I’m inclined to agree.

This or That: Extended Edition

Hogg, cont.



Image Source: pixabay.com

TYLER SHAMBLIN
OPINIONS EDITOR

One of the hottest new trends on social media is a “this or that” bit in which a person will select a preferred one of two items, things, entities, etc. from a list. In the spirit of this new fad, I’ve decided to make my own list of commonly debated options and provide a reasoning. While Instagram stories are limited to just a circled answer, I’ll give evidence of why Coke may be a better option than Pepsi.

Beach or Mountains

The mountains give incredible views. However, if I’m choosing one, I give the upper hand to the beach. I am a pretty involved person and am constantly busy doing something, so the beach is a better place to unwind for me. Plus, I love seafood (particularly fried oysters) and every time I go to the beach I can feel my appetite crave it. Whether vain or not, I do enjoy the tan that comes from a few days soaking up the sun at the beach. The beach also gives you area to throw a football around, to play pick-up wiffle ball games, and other athletic related activities.

College Football or NFL

I choose college football all the way. The NFL is too political, has too many rules on tackling that detract from the true nature of the game, and losing a game isn’t the worst thing in the world. College football is personal to locations; I love that in the South, the college football teams provide an atmosphere that brings people together. I also love how the games have a lasting significance for the season. In college, losing just one football game could put you out of the running for a championship, but in the NFL, I’ve watched a team with seven losses win it all. In addition, college football has traditions, marching bands, mascots, fight songs, and tough home stadiums.

Nickelodeon or Disney Channel

Most of my favorite childhood shows came from Nickelodeon as a kid. I unashamedly still quote Spongebob in situations that call for it. I am fully on board with the petition to put Drake and Josh on Netflix. I loved the game shows that Nickelodeon used to feature, and thanks to Ned, I was able to survive middle school. If we’re going very far back, though, Blues Clues was the most intriguing program to which my toddler brain fell prey. Jimmy Neutron, The Fairly OddParents, Zoey 101, Hey Arnold!, and others were the other shows that I watched whenever it was a rainy day and I couldn’t go outside.

Early Bird or Night Owl

I am very much a night owl. For whatever reason, when I wake up in the morning, it doesn’t matter if I slept for three hours or nine hours, I wake up feeling like I got hit by a bus. Maybe it’s the effect of college, where normal becomes having an intramural football game at 11:00 at night. I say night owl maybe for the activities that can take place at night like gathering with friends, but really it’s because I just can’t get myself up in the morning, regardless of my 17 alarm clocks.

Online Shopping or In-Store Shopping

There is a riveting feeling that comes from finding a product on Amazon and getting it shipped in two-days, thanks to the Amazon Prime feature. However, I love shopping for all of my polos, button downs, bow ties, shoes, and all the other parts of my preppy style in local businesses or smaller shops. I enjoy the interaction with the store owners, and it’s also great to have a zero-wait time for receiving the product. Plus, I get to picture a game in my head of finding the discount section and finding the shirt in the size and the price that I like. It also just gives me a full idea of what the product looks like, so I don’t have to guess when I’m looking at a picture online.

Earlier this month, Hogg schooled his twitter followers yet again on AR15s and other “assault weapons,” and Hogg was in turn schooled by gun experts on the parameters of AR15s and other hunting rifles and was corrected on other misinformation his tweet included.

Last but not least, while at the Toronto International Film Festival in Canada, Hogg asked Canadians in attendance to act on their “shame” and donate to leftist politicians running for office. “Who’s ready to save America?” he asked. Filmmaker Michael Moore took the microphone away from Hogg after informing him that Canadians can’t donate to American politicians per the Federal Election Campaign Act. Perhaps before he runs for Congress, Hogg should study U.S. law more.

Sarcasm aside, Hogg’s actions alone show a level of immaturity, despite him being 18-years-old. To criticize others comes with being criticized yourself, and it seems Hogg can’t handle that without calling for a boycott or resulting to adolescent antics. When I was 18, I knew everything. By 19, I realized I knew nothing. At 22, I’m still learning. Hogg is influencing, leading a generation, when he himself is still learning.

To quote the late, great Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., “Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.” I feel that in his quest for change, Hogg has forgotten his principles and has resorted to the same cheap tactics as his opponents. Maybe he never figured out his principles before beginning this campaign. Both sides of this fight care more about their agendas than how they treat a fellow American, a fellow human being. True change does not happen this way. “Darkness cannot drive out darkness.”

To echo what Lauren Hogg told Ingraham, advice that can be directed both toward her brother and supporters on either side of the fence, it’s time to grow up.

Get Rid of All the Clutter in Your Life

KATEE BROWN
CONTRIBUTING
WRITER

Two years ago, while I was unpacking in my new dorm room and wondering why on earth I felt it was necessary to bring my entire room with me, I decided to take a break and watch Netflix. A new documentary called Minimalism popped up and I thought I’d give it a shot. Spoiler alert: it changed my thinking entirely. Being a woman in her twenties and living in a never-ending society of materialism, this documentary was exactly what I needed to continue growing and developing positive habits. The main idea is to live by the “less is more” mentality and to know that you don’t need all the things that the world tells you that you

should have. I was fed up with the materialism and decided it was time I made a change.

I feel strongly that when you decide to make a big change in your life, you should fully embrace it, so that is just what I did after watching the documentary. I took it upon myself to complete a 30 day challenge dedicated to minimizing the amount of clutter in my life. I decreased my time on social media, spent more time in

prayer, cleaned out my “junk drawer” and, probably the most difficult challenge of all, I got rid of 10-15 pieces of treasured clothing. Like any shopaholic, I love my clothes, but I had too many to count and to wear. What is the use of buying a dress you’re only going to wear once? I can’t even give an appropriate answer. The shopaholic in me simply had to go.

What I learned after watching the documentary and finishing the challenge

was this: simplicity is an amazing thing. What a freeing feeling it is to get rid of all the clutter in your life, whether the time on social media or all of the unnecessary objects taking up space.

My encouragement to you is to give this minimalism idea a try and to watch that documentary. We need to realize that our worth as humans and as who God created us to be is more than money could ever buy, and that happiness and true

joy comes from way more than expanding our closets, shelves and likes on Instagram. Take a look at the world around you because you may like what you see. You may even start seeing some aspects that you used to overlook more clearly. For me, I saw the beauty of God in all of nature, in my friendships, in my new attitude, and it taught me to really appreciate the little things in life.

Let’s put down our phones and go for a walk, go read at Cups (or wherever you like to read and drink coffee), invite a friend to join accompany you for a meaningful conversation amongst caffeine and just be present. The world is bigger than you and has many things to offer so take notice and use your time and energy collect memories instead of collecting clutter.



Image Source: Joelle Youngblood

Why Keeping Up with the News is Important

JOELLE YOUNGBLOOD
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Every morning in my household, I woke up to the sound of Good Morning America or our local television station, WTOK. There was never a morning that my parents didn't watch the news and never a 5 o'clock segment that they missed. Now it seems like it is becoming uncommon for people to watch the news first thing in the morning and late at night. Why is that? We've all seen the posts to social media sites about how watching the news, whether national or local, gives us negative thoughts about the world we live in. While I do agree with that idea, I don't agree with not staying informed about what is happening in the world or even in your own backyard.

The majority of what is taking place in the world today is people fighting over government policies, people being murdered for unexplained reasons, racial battles, natural disasters, and almost anything else negative that you can think of. Should



Image Source: Joelle Youngblood

that keep us from paying attention and staying informed? I don't think so. The more we know about what is going on around us, the better we can become at learning how to combat all of the negative. If we choose to stay oblivious to issues in society, we are putting ourselves at risk of falling captive to those issues.

I choose to stay informed about the world around me. Ever since I came to col-

lege, I've kept in touch with my news outlets of choice. I started following my news sources from many different areas. WAPT, WTOK, ABC News, FOX News, Good Morning America, The Clarion Ledger, and The New York Times are the main news outlets that I follow. Social media makes it much easier to keep up with local and national happenings. There are now live broadcasts that happen on Face-

book and Instagram that can be done from anywhere, not just inside a studio. When breaking news happens, reporters are able to release information quickly using social media and especially by using live stream.

Watching the news can give people a negative view on the world, but it can also give us hope that there are good people in the world and good things are happening. It's always refreshing to see

stories about creative engagements, a police officer playing basketball with kids, or people lending a helping hand to someone in need. I do believe that the news media could show us more positive stories that would break up the continuous negative ones.

Another reason to watch the news daily is to get a full weather update. During each news segment, there's either a small or a little longer segment only concerning weather. It is important to know what your local weathermen are saying about your local weather. This is especially important to keep up with in case of inclement weather or something like a hurricane. Following local stations on social media is also a good way to stay informed on the weather.

Overall, I believe that being informed about what is happening around you is important. It's sad to see all of the negative aspects of the world, but it's better than being oblivious to it all. Social media makes following news media so much easier, so there is really no excuse not to follow a news media in order to stay informed.

Ladies of MC:

What is your favorite thing about Fall and why?



Charis Sekanic
Major: Elementary Education
— *I love colder weather and being able to wear a light jacket. The leaves are so pretty when they start to change colors. My birthday is also in the Fall, so I always enjoy that.*



Marjorie Trevillion
Cafeteria Worker
— *The Fall is my favorite time of the year. I love the holidays. In fact, I'm already planning for Thanksgiving!*



Kirkland Smith
Major: International Studies
— *Fall Colors are definitely my favorite part of the Fall Season.*



Courtney Brooks
Major: Christian Studies
— *My favorite thing about Fall is the cooler weather, and the holidays. Actually, I love pretty much everything about Fall!*



Katee Anne Morgan
Major: Psychology
— *I love everything; the cooler weather, football, cuter clothes, and the leaves changing. Fall is my favorite!*

Images Source: Nicole Skelton

tic tac toe

