Anti-IHL protesters plan next steps
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Will Boyce affect the university’s accreditation?
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What UM can learn from USC
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University Police Department Chief of Police Ray Hawkins carries out Camille Calisch. Calisch was leading protesters inside the conference room where Glenn Boyce was supposed to be announced as the chancellor.

Boyce in, protesters out

Does Boyce have a plan for the university?

Daniel Payne
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With a little over a week before newly announced Chancellor Glenn Boyce takes his new position, he said that he has few concrete steps in mind to improve the university. He wants to listen to students before he makes a definite plan.

Boyce said that he believed the search process did put students at the center of the conversation about the next chancellor. The Institutions of Higher Learning chancellor search process was cut short, and Boyce did not visit campus as a preferred candidate to meet students, faculty and staff before the vote.

"Personally, I do believe that students were at the center of the conversation. Okay, I do, because I met with students when I was out there,” he said. “Now, when I was doing this work to try to figure out what the university community was looking like, I met with student leaders, actually, we went out to dinner together and spent time with some of the student leaders. And so, from that viewpoint, they represented the school as well and did a good job.”

On the conference call, IHL Board of Trustees Vice President Ford Dye said that Boyce was brought in earlier to unify the university as quickly as possible. When asked about the concrete actions he would take to unify the university, Boyce said that he couldn’t give concrete steps yet because “those will evolve over the next few months,” after he talks and listens to constituents around campus.

“(I) can’t be concrete yet because I have so much to learn,” he said.

Boyce emphasized his need for data about the university before he makes decisions for the start of his term.

"I don’t know what (visiting as a preferred candidate) would have done,” Boyce said. “I don’t know if it would have helped, (and) I don’t know if students would feel like they had been more invested. Perhaps they would have, okay… I know that the board made their decisions, and I worked with that.”

He said he would be meeting
with student leaders before his contract began.

"I need them to know who their chancellor is," he said. "I need them to know the respect I have for them, and I need them to know that I don't make hollow words. It just doesn't come out of me."

Boyce said that campus unity should come from knowing what the university is today and what it will be in the future. "I've got to look at some things to answer that question as to who we are today," he said when asked who the university community is. "And in particular, I want to look at our achievements, our success rates, for our students. And I'm really interested in some particular issues as to how we're doing with our students."

"It isn't about (just lab space). It's about students taking those courses with the best facilities, the best equipment and sophisticated advanced equipment. Then, all of a sudden, they're having a desire to become a doctor to become a dentist, you know. It turns them on, and it turns on a passion."

Boyce also said that fundraising is below what it should be, saying it was one of his top priorities. He did not answer questions about concrete actions to improve fundraising efforts. Boyce mentioned the need to complete the STEM building to provide more lab space for students.

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He said that enrollment was another top priority, saying he would visit high schools to try to recruit more students. Boyce does not want to increase enrollment too much, though, saying the university's infrastructure could not handle it.

"If we had 30,000 students, we'd be miserable — all of us — because we don't have the infrastructure for that," he said. "But we need to continue to grow, and continue to grow successfully, in a manner that the infrastructure will allow us to do so."

Without many specific plans for his first weeks as a chancellor, Boyce is now looking to learn more about the university. "It may sound simple to you, but it's just true; I need to listen, and listen to more, and then I'll have a concrete plan," he said.

It also says that the committee is concerned that this process has caused "immense harm to (the) institution and its reputation."

Earlier on Friday, the IHL planned to have a press conference at The Inn at Ole Miss to protest the announcement of Glenn Boyce as the new chancellor.

PARKER GALLOWAY / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Chief of the University Police Department Ray Hawkins rubs his face after telling protestors to leave. Hundreds of students showed up to The Inn at Ole Miss to protest the announcement of Glenn Boyce as the new chancellor.

ACADEMIES continued from page 1

education at all levels in the state of Mississippi, I stand behind my track record of promoting diversity and supporting students from all walks of life," the statement said. "I plan to bring that same rigorous approach to benefit all students, faculty, and staff at the University of Mississippi during my time as chancellor. Any suggestion to the contrary is based solely on a selective interpretation of my record and reflects a lack of knowledge about me as an individual. I look forward to the entire campus community getting to know me."

The statement noted Boyce's time at Holmes Community College, where he worked with a student body made up mostly of African Americans, as well as his hiring of a diverse faculty and staff at the college.

According to recent data from the U.S. census and greatschools.org, nearly all current Tri-County Academy students are white, while the majority of residents in Flora — the town in which the school is located — are nonwhite. Over 75% of Canton residents are nonwhite, but 88% of Canton Academy's students are white. Madison-Ridgeland Academy is 95% white, while nearly 40% of Madison County residents are nonwhite.

"Segregation academies" are private schools primarily in the South that were founded with the goal of creating all-white schools that could legally deny nonwhite students admission. Most of these academies were founded between Brown v. Board of Education ruling in 1954 and 1976, when the Runyon v. McCrary case prohibited private schools from discriminating based on race. These schools, however, still remain predominantly white.

Madison-Ridgeland Academy was founded in 1969. Canton Academy and Tri-County Academy were both founded in 1970. Eliza Noe and Kenneth Niemeyer contributed to the reporting for this article.
The progressive student organization UM Solidarity had a closed-door meeting on Sunday to discuss plans to move forward after protesting the Institution of Higher Learning’s new hire of Glenn Boyce as the University of Mississippi’s 18th chancellor. 

The logistics that are still a little bit hush-hush, but we’re going to focus specifically on disseminating information so people on campus aware of the protest,” Colisch said. 

Calisch also said that she thinks the group’s process of hiring Boyce was a very corrupt process and considers it to be an abuse of power.

Interviewed with the board and was given the job. This move came after Boyce was previously hired as a consultant to the board. “But political debts must be paid even if the interests are sacrificed!”

Some University of Mississippi faculty members have expressed concern about the possibility of choosing UM’s next chancellor. The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Principles of Accreditation say that accredited institutions must operate with “integrity.”

It describes integrity further, saying, “the foundation of a relationship in which all parties agree to deal honestly and openly with one another, their constituencies and one another.”

Jessie Wilkerson, assistant professor of southern studies and one of the protest members whose protest caused the announcement of Boyce as chancellor to be called off, said that the IHL did not make decisions as the Editorial Board:

When it is decided that The Daily Mississippian will take an editorial stance on an issue, the following positions will be consulted:

- The sports editor
- The opinion editor
- The editor-in-chief
- The managing editor
- The copy editor

When the above positions are not able to form a consensus, the executive read. “But political debts must be paid even if the interests are sacrificed!”

The principles also say that the governing board of the institution and those who sit on the board must be held to a higher standard than those who sit on the board and are not an accountant, McCool said. “...I am asking is that there be a fair and legitimate process.”

Boyce was hired after a ten-month chancellor search that was narrowed down to eight candidates for interviews. The institutions of Higher Learning Board of Trustees interviewed five of the eight candidates, then one member of the board moved to nominate Boyce.

Boyce arrived shortly after, interviewing with the board and was given the job. This move came after Boyce was previously hired as a consultant to the board. “But political debts must be paid even if the interests are sacrificed!”

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Why IHL expedited their search process

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The Institutions of Higher Learning Board of Trustees selected Glenn Boyce as the next chancellor before completing the 20-step process because the campus needed to be unified as soon as possible, according to board vice president Ford Dye.

The IHL hosted a phone press conference on Friday with Dye and newly announced University of Mississippi Chancellor Glenn Boyce.

“There’s a lot of division in the Ole Miss family right now and we felt like the best thing to do was get Dr. Boyce on the board as soon as possible to help unify the Ole Miss family,” Dye said.

In the conference, Boyce opened with an emphasis on his focus on students.

“I will tell you also that first and foremost, I’ve always been a student-centered individual,” Boyce said. “I will be incredibly engaged with our students, highly visible with our students.”

The day of his announcement, students protested at The Inn at Ole Miss and on the steps of the Lyceum, expressing their disdain for the IHL’s lack of transparency during the chancellor search process.

“Our students exercised their freedom of expression, and I understand that and recognize that,” Boyce said. “I would say, however, that it’s also important, at some point, when we have civil discourse and conversation and the venue requires respect, that we eventually come around to that respect as well.”

The conference call was opened after a news conference scheduled for Friday morning was canceled, which was where the IHL planned to announce Boyce as chancellor. The news conference was canceled amid the protests.

Boyce, who previously served as the commissioner of the IHL, was hired as a consultant by the board in the beginning of the search process to gain input from the Ole Miss community. He estimated that he was paid around $87,000 for his consultation services.

“Once I completed my work, which was completed before the search even started,” Boyce said. “I was finished. I didn’t do any more work during the time that the search was conducted.”

When asked about returning the money he was paid for his consultation services, Boyce said he will “take that into consideration,” though he did not consider the work he did to be unethical.

Before the phone conference, the IHL released an official statement naming Boyce as the 18th chancellor of the University of Mississippi.

“The Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL) has voted unanimously to name Dr. Glenn Boyce as Chancellor of the University of Mississippi,” Boyce, a well-respected leader of higher education, most recently served as Commissioner of Higher Education for the State of Mississippi, before retiring in June 2018, the statement read.

“I am looking forward to our students being the most creative, innovative students, anywhere, anyplace, they can compete globally,” Boyce said.

“I’ve spent my entire career really focused on advancing institutions through student success. It was always about the students and will always be about the students.”

Dye added that despite claims that the Board of Trustees ignored campus voices, the IHL did consult those in the Ole Miss community.

“We got a lot of campus input,” Dye said. “I think we did a really good job of getting input from a lot of different people.”

The co-chairs for the Campus Search Advisory Committee were Oxford Mayor Robyn Tannehill and Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education Charles Hussey.

Dye said that he didn’t believe he heard any pushback from members of the CSAC about the selection of Boyce.

“Our (CSAC) co-chairs were involved with the interviews. The rest of the committee was not involved with the interview process.”
Students protest IHL’s decision

KENNETH NIEMEYER
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Students, faculty and alumni took part in protests across campus on Friday in response to the Institution of Higher Learning’s selection of Glenn Boyce as the University of Mississippi’s new chancellor.

Friday morning, students and faculty, led by campus activism groups, gathered in the Grove, making signs and organizing chants to say in response to the IHL’s upcoming news conference to announce the new chancellor.

Protesters from the community gathered in The Inn at Ole Miss prior to the conference, which was cancelled because of disruptions.

When protesters entered the ballroom, they initially stood silently in the front of the room on either side of the podium, holding signs with phrases such as “not my choice, not my chancellor” and “abolish the IHL.”

Tensions escalated in the ballroom after community members started the Hotty Toddy chant. Immediately following, protesters began a chant in unison: “IHL...what the hell?”

When the fire marshal closed the ballroom door after the room reached capacity, protesters demanded the door be open so those outside could hear the conference. With the doors closed, the ballroom is soundproof.

Organizer for UM Solidarity Cam CaIisch was forcibly removed from the room during the protests.

Wilkerson, assistant professor of history and Southern studies as well as another protestor, said that CaIisch was asking the University Police Department to allow students to enter the room.

“Was asking the police to open the doors because this wall can open, or go up, and she was asking them to open it so the students outside could be a part of the process,” Wilkerson said. “She was told she had to leave and then was pulled out of the room in a pretty unnecessary way.”

Wilkerson also said that faculty has been disgruntled with the IHL for several years over past chancellor searches and tenure deliberations.

“This goes back several years,” Wilkerson said. “The process with Dan Jones was dubious (and) the process with Vitter was dubious. They’ve threatened our tenure at this university and now they’ve pulled this.

The IHL Board held a two-hour discussion during the summer to decide whether James Thomas, a professor of sociology, should be granted tenure.

All 12 members of the IHL Board of Trustees were appointed by Gov. Phil Bryant.

After protesters persisted with chants throughout IHL Board of Trustee Vice President Ford Dye’s opening, University Police Department decided to cancel the news conference. UPD Chief Ray Hawkins called off the conference because there were “people in attendance who choose not to be civil.”

UPD then asked anyone who was not a guest at the Inn to leave the property, resulting in protesters marching across campus to the steps of the Lyceum to continue the chants.

When asked what a better chancellor search process would look like in the future, Associated Student Body President Barron Mayfield leaned in to the recorder and said, “one not run by the IHL.”

Mayfield also served as the student representative on the Chancellor Search Advisory Committee.

“Just that would take obviously some big structural changes, but I think that’s got to be looked at,” Mayfield said. “This has been totally mishandled from the get-go and I’m very upset by it.”

Mayfield said that he did not think the IHL took student’s input or the input of the advisory committee into account when they made their decision.

“The students were not represented,” Mayfield said. “I was frustrated from the get-go that I was the only one placed on the advisory committee, but you could have put a thousand students on there and it would have made no difference because they weren’t listening.”

In the Grove on Saturday, more Ole Miss fans were stickers featuring a photo of Boyce inside the words, “Beat the IHL.”

Erin Killion contributed to the reporting for this article.

George Johnston, a 1971 Ole Miss grad, sits in at the Inn at Ole Miss in protest of Glenn Boyce being named as the new chancellor.

An officer is told by Police Chief Ray Hawkins to monitor the protesters of Glenn Boyce on Friday.
CROWNED

Lexie Harper is crowned Miss University by last year’s winner Blair Wortsmith. Harper will continue on to represent Ole Miss in the Miss Mississippi pageant.

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Lexie Harper walks across the stage after being crowned Miss University. Harper performed a jazz dance as her talent for the competition.

Reigning Miss University Blair Wortsmith performs a tap-dance routine. Wortsmith graduated last May and now works as a graduate assistant for Ole Miss.

BILLY SCHUERMAN / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN
DIARIOLO brings ‘surreal’ performance to the Ford Center

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When asked about his personal description of dance performance “DIARIOLO: Architecture In Motion,” performer Simon Greenberg kept it short and simple.

“Playful, a little surreal and dangerous,” Greenberg said.

“DIARIOLO” played its first show in Oxford at the Gertrude Turner Center on Tuesday night.

The Los Angeles-based dance company was founded in 1992 by Jacques Heim. “DIARIOLO” travels internationally and was featured on “America’s Got Talent” in 2017 for the show’s 12th season.

Since its debut on “America’s Got Talent,” the group has been participating in what is described as more commercial and corporate showings rather than concert or theatre performances, like the showing in the Ford Center.

The show is comprised of two parts that each tell a story slightly different from the other.

The first part is the company’s newest adventure called “Voyage,” which honors the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing. The dance depicts a young woman dreaming of space travel and the stage fills with her imagination and eventual transformation.

“DIARIOLO” then showcases its signature piece, “Trajectoire,” which displays an emotional journey and the transformation of a human soul despite adversity.

“There’s a moment in ‘Trajectoire,’ which is the big boat. We rock it so far that people dangle by their arms at the very top of it,” performer Kelsey Long said.

That part specifically always scared me at first because I didn’t believe I had enough hand strength to hold my weight added with the momentum of the rock.

Now that I’m in it, it’s one of my favorite parts out of the entire piece because you feel weightless... you can’t get that feeling from any other object.”

The choreography is centered around large pieces of equipment that are disassembled and reassembled by 12 dancers throughout the show.

“I think DIAVOLO is such a complex creature. On that stage, you get to know 11 other people really intensely, and their parts really intensely. So not only are you working under conditions that kind of inspire adrenaline, but you’re responsible for all these other moving parts. It doesn’t get easier, but it gets more fun,” Greenberg added.

The dancing is performed to pre-recorded songs. The last part of “Voyage” was shown through the song “Cosmic Love,” by Florence + the Machine. Despite the lyrical meaning, the choreography took on a story of its own.

“The dancers are all approximately in their 20s and have extensive backgrounds in athleticism, dance and overall movement. The choreography is a combination of contemporary dance as well as acrobatics, gymnastics, hip-hop and martial arts.

“You’re never going to be good enough, you’re never going to have it and with that type of mentality, maintaining a humbleness with your professionalism and your artistry is how you grow,” performer Ezra Masse-Mahar said. “It’s a more realistic approach to the industry.”

Throughout the performance, the dancers execute tasks that have been mastered through a great amount of practice and self-discipline. The performers spend 20–22 hours in the theatre in the few days leading up to their show.

“There’s a certain kind of fearlessness that I don’t know how to put into words, that is a requirement for entry,” Technical Director Lighting Designer Evan Ritter said. “There’s a certain quality I can recognize but I’m not quite sure I can describe. And if they don’t have it and I can see that they aren’t going to be here for very long.”

The company observes not only the growth and maturing of the performance but also personal growth and achievements.

“Your soul almost starts to swell, and you start believing in yourself a little bit more,” Long said.

The 12 close-knit dancers on the touring group attribute their performance and growth to the familial bonds that are formed through the company.

“It’s a kind of crazy, intense, tight-woven family that I’ve yet to encounter anything like,” Greenberg said.

Each member comes from different areas and backgrounds, bringing his or her unique energy and expertise to the performance.

Overall, the choreography is practiced with dedication and tenacity. Throughout the show, the dancers are seen grinning while completing daredevil feats.

Through the constant travel and performance, malfunctions and potential show-stopping factors threaten the show’s performance.

“The worst fear is that it will somehow get on but it’ll diminish the energy of the show,” Ritter said.

Despite having a slight technical malfunction on Tuesday morning, the issue was quickly resolved and the show continued. Ritter mentioned that the nature of the company is the main factor that eases a potential disaster.

“DIARIOLO” travels internationally and is currently on tour.

Performers dance during the DIAVOLO: Architecture in Motion at the Ford Center last Tuesday. The dancers train over 20 hours a week for the performance.
The true freshmen shined again. John Rhys Plumlee and his crew of running backs had a strong night rushing in Rich Rodriguez’s offense as Ole Miss put Vanderbilt away 31-6 on Saturday night. While Plumlee still has a few question marks in his passing game (he finished the game 10-for-18 through the air for 99 yards), it’s obvious that Ole Miss will roll with him into next week and the foreseeable future as their starter under center.

In the first quarter, Plumlee carried the ball six times and found the end zone on a 33-yard rush. It was clear that his explosiveness on the ground was too much for the Vanderbilt defense. All three Ole Miss running backs — Jerrion Ealy, Snoop Conner and Scottie Phillips — scored touchdowns in the second half, meaning all four of Ole Miss’ rushing touchdowns came from different players. The Rebels racked up 413 rushing yards, and 165 of those came from their quarterback.

It was obvious coming into this season that Ole Miss’ underclassmen would need to step up in big ways if the Rebels wanted to be successful in 2019, and at the halfway point of the campaign, it seems a few of them have hit their stride.

Most of the Rebels’ quarterback room is made up of freshmen with Matt Corral being the veteran as a redshirt freshman, and it appears that Rodriguez has found a solution at quarterback in John Rhys Plumlee.

While Plumlee still has some passing development to do (he is a freshman, after all), his explosiveness gives the Ole Miss offense something it was missing early in the season. With Plumlee taking snaps, a big play could happen at any moment, and if he can make defenses respect his passing game, this Rebel offense could be dangerous as the season winds down.

That passing game, however, has to be Ole Miss’ biggest concern after this dominating win. Head coach Matt Luke and the coaching staff stated that their offense is not a finished product, and passing efficiency, especially taking shots in one-on-one situations in coverage, will be a point of emphasis moving forward.

Coming into the game against Vanderbilt, 82.1% of Ole Miss’ offensive production had come from freshmen, the highest percentage in the nation. It is yet to be seen whether these freshmen can lead Ole Miss to its goal of bowl eligibility, but if you’re an Ole Miss fan, you have to be pleased that your young athletes are putting up strong numbers against SEC competition.

Outside of New Mexico State on Nov. 9, the defenses Ole Miss will face in the remainder of the season will be more talented than Vandy’s, so the difficulty level will only increase for the Rebels’ young stars. Still, they sit at .500 at the halfway point of the season, and, as I’ve said each week, winnable games remain on the schedule. Reaching six wins is still possible, but Luke and company will have to lean on their young talent if it’s meant to be.

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With newly hired Chancellor Glenn Boyce preparing to settle into his new office in the Lyceum, focus in the Athletics Administration Building shifts to another hiring process.

One of Boyce’s major assignments in his new role after his controversial hiring last week is to choose his new athletic director. While the specific logistics of the search and hiring process is currently unclear, it’s certain this hire will be crucial, not only considering athletics serves as a window to the university from the outside. A well-received hire from Boyce in this situation could garner some much-needed capital after an already rocky start to the job.

A release from the university indicates Boyce will begin serving as chancellor on or before Oct. 13, so Ole Miss could have a new A.D. very soon.

The position has been vacant since late May when Ross Bjork suddenly stepped down from his post after seven years to take the same job at Texas A&M. The unexpected resignation left Ole Miss with no one running the athletic department and no chancellor to bring in a new hire. It was confirmed shortly after that the university would wait until a chancellor was named to hire a new athletic director.

Since then, Deputy Athletic Director for Development Keith Carter has filled in as the interim A.D. and expressed his interest in the permanent job immediately.

“When I’m interested in being the long-term permanent A.D.? Absolutely. That’s the short answer,” Keith Carter said shortly after assuming the interim position. “But at the same time, I was raised that you just go in, you do good work, put your head down, and if you have success, those things will follow.”

The former basketball All-American has moved in the fashion of a permanent A.D. in the last four months, moving forward with projects already set in place by Bjork. Carter’s first major decision came when he elected not to roll over head baseball coach Mike Bianco’s contract to the four-year maximum after the end of the 2019 season.

Carter’s tenure has also seen a delayed decision on in-stadium alcohol sales, which were later approved for the final three home games of the season, the announcement of new student party decks that were only altered to tents due to safety concerns and, of course, the ongoing fight against declining ticket sales and attendance.

Names like Mike Bianco and John Hartwell have been thrown out outside the program alongside Keith Carter and Micheal Thompson as potential candidates, but the short list is totally dependent on the new chancellor.

Now that the university has a new leader, forming the search and hiring process for another extremely important position should be one of the first things on the docket.
Rebels topple Mississippi State and extend win streak

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The Ole Miss volleyball team kept to their winning ways over the weekend against Mississippi State and LSU, extending their win streak to 11 and improving their SEC record to 3-0. The Rebels came away victorious in a grueling five-set match against Mississippi State in their first match of the weekend Friday. Ole Miss came out in dominant fashion in the first set, winning 25-9 and never putting the result in doubt. The Rebels were aided by numerous errors from the Bulldogs that dug their hole deeper and deeper. The second set was far more competitive and saw Mississippi State come away with a wire-to-wire win. After exchanging points back and forth to start the set, the Bulldogs gained a slight edge and managed to keep Ole Miss at arm’s length for the rest of the set.

Their small buffer seemed to give them confidence, and they forced the Rebels to earn their points by cutting down on mistakes and avoiding costly attack errors. In a familiar position down 2-1 heading into the fourth set, Ole Miss came out of the gates slowly, again falling behind 7-2 early in the set. State continued to control the action for a few points and got themselves out to a 15-14 lead. The Rebels responded with four straight points to close the gap, followed by three straight from the Bulldogs to retake the lead.

After battling to a 20-17 scoreline, Ole Miss strung together three points to tie the set once more before putting the set away 25-23. Senior outside hitter Emily Stroup came up with two big kills late in the set to secure the win and force a decisive fifth set. The fifth set was the closest of them all and saw the Rebels outlast their rivals 15-12 to secure their first road win in conference play and their fourth straight win against Mississippi State.

Stroup had a match-high 21 kills on a .222 hitting percentage. Senior outside hitter Leah Mulkey recorded 11 kills and three blocks. Senior middle blocker Nayo Warnell racked up 10 kills and three blocks, and junior setter Lauren Bars contributed four kills, 53 assists, 16 digs and three blocks in an all-around performance. On Sunday, the Rebels took care of business in four sets on the road against LSU. LSU gave more of a scare than expected in the third set but could not manage to hang with the high-flying Rebs for more than half of the set before falling behind. Because of this, Ole Miss cruised to their 18th straight win, 10 of which have come on the road.

Freshman outside hitter Anna Bair led the Rebels with 15 kills on a .244 clip to go along with five blocks. Stroup added 10 kills, 15 digs and a block. Sophomore middle blocker Aubrey Sultemeier recorded 11 kills and nine blocks, and Mulkey recorded 11 kills and five blocks to round out her successful weekend.

From here, the Rebels travel to Columbia, Missouri, where they will take on the Tigers on Wednesday before returning home to face Auburn on Sunday.

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OLE MISS COMMUNITY REACTS

Brent Marsh, here’s a thoughtful response.

Liam Nieman

Around noon Friday, I stood in the lobby outside of the Inn at Ole Miss ballroom. I was there among dozens of other members of the UM community who were angered and astonished by the actions of Higher Learning Board of Trustees’ decision to circumvent their own process and choose an inside candidate who had not applied to serve our university as its 18th chancellor.

Many students and faculty members carried signs. Many chanted. However, Dean of Students Brent Marsh said students should be “thoughtful” in the ways we convey our issues with this corrupt process and decision.

Dean of Students Dean Marsh is, in my view, a thoughtful response—as writing, the medium that all of my UM professors have taught me is best to accurately express my thoughts.

The supposed adults in the room, who ought to model our university’s values, have failed to do so. By not speaking up about the corruption inherent in the HLB’s decision, administrators like Marsh have gone against the interests of the students, faculty and alumni for whom this process is meant. As such, Dean Marsh’s decision illustrates the need to reconsider the current leadership.

YP Chief Ray Hawkins deliberately said the reason for the press conference’s cancelation was because some attendees chose “not to be civil.” Likely referencing the Creed’s call for “fairness and civility.” If Chief Hawkins did believe in civility, he would have empathized with the members of the community he is required to protect in their anger at an uncivil process and decision. Perhaps he would have forcibly removed the HLB members from the room instead of student activist Cam Calisch.

Ford Dye, vice president of the HLB, called students to “abide by the Ole Miss Creed,” while the organization he helps lead has shown none of the “personal and professional integrity” that the Creed challenges us to believe in.

If HLB members like Dye did have professional integrity, they would have let others do their list of applications and made a decision based on the input of the UM community. They would have at least acted like they believed in their own rules.

If Glenn Boyce had personal integrity, he would have denied the “backdoor” interview offered to him by HLB, recognizing how problematic such a move was, and chosen honesty, transparency and fairness. But he didn’t. He and at least two other state leaders chose dishonesty, secrecy and fraud. And now we’re here.

When the people charged with enforcing our Creed’s calls for “fairness,” “civility” and “integrity” can’t respect those standards themselves, what are we to do?

Liam Nieman is a senior Southern studies and English major from Mount Gretna, Pennsylvania.
Snoop Conner breaks free for an 88 yard touchdown run. Conner had 91 rushing yards on Saturday.

John Rhys Plumlee takes a selfie with a fan after the game.

Homecoming Queen Ciara Knapp and King Carl Tart pose with their families during halftime against Vanderbilt.

Tony the Landshark waves to fans during the homecoming parade on Friday.

Ole Miss rushed for over 400 yards in a 31-6 win over Vanderbilt in front of one of the largest home crowds of the season. Rebels were able to break free multiple times for long runs which helped lead to the largest win over the Commodores since 1993. Quarterback John Rhys Plumlee rushed for over 160 yards while throwing for 99 yards.

Homecoming Queen Ciara Knapp and King Carl Tart were honored during halftime of the football game. Tart is the first homecoming king for Ole Miss.