CONFEDERATE SYMBOLS AND MEDIA COVERAGE: A LOOK AT MISSISSIPPI NEWSPAPERS OVER TIME

by

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this thesis was to examine how the media coverage of Confederate symbols in Mississippi has changed over time by focusing on the following events: the banning of flag sticks at the University of Mississippi athletic events in 1997, the removal of the Mississippi state flag from campus in 2015, the modification of the song “Dixie” at football games in 2009, and the banning of the song from athletic events in 2016. A sample of news articles featured on the front page of three different Mississippi-based newspapers were reviewed through content analysis by two trained coders for changes in story format, journalistic elements, framing, voice, and tone. The study found that the media coverage of Confederate symbols has changed over time as the media landscape continues to change.
DEDICATION

This is dedicated to everyone who helped me and guided me through this entire process. In particular, I thank my family for supporting me through my own times of stress and anxiety.
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I express my deepest appreciation to my advisor, Dr. Kathleen Wickham, and my committee members Dean Charles Mitchell and Professor Alysia Steele. I could not have produced this study without your continuous support and guidance.

In addition, I’d like to thank my sister, McKenna Heil, for volunteering to be the second coder in my study, my family for your constant encouragement, and my roommates for always being there for me through stressful times.

Lastly, I acknowledge the collegial support of my fellow honors college students.
Chapter 1: INTRODUCTION

This manuscript studies the media coverage of events on two controversial topics associated with the University of Mississippi at this time: the Mississippi State Flag and the song “Dixie.” The goal was to compare the media coverage when flag sticks were banned from football games at Ole Miss in 1997, the 2015 decision to stop flying the state flag, and media coverage when the song “Dixie” was first modified in 2009 and then banned completely from athletic events in 2016.

Much of the University of Mississippi’s history is rooted in the state’s slave driven and Confederate past. The University’s past and traditions are widely known throughout the South and across the nation and can be recognized by the many symbols on campus related to that past. These symbols have brought about social protest over the years in turn leading to significant change.

It is important to note that as Confederate symbols change so does the media coverage surrounding them. With an ever-changing media landscape, the way social protest and controversial issues are portrayed in the media changes over time.

The purpose of this paper is to show any documentable changes in the media coverage from the first event to the most recent event. Content analysis was used to analyze the media coverage across various news outlets and sources to assess any
changes. The selected news articles appeared on the front page of The Daily Mississippian, Oxford Eagle, and The Clarion Ledger.

The results were guided by the following research questions:

**RQ1**: What story formats were favored by which publication (inverted pyramid, Wall Street Journal), and were they hard news or feature stories?

**RQ2**: To what extent were traditional journalism elements of (a) direct quotes, (b) paraphrase (c) description favored by which publication based on the percentage of paragraphs used in each story?

**RQ3**: Which news frames dominated (patriotism, moderation, law and order, violence, racism/ethnocentrism or constitutionality)?

**RQ4**: Researchers reviewed the material for evidence of bias as well as point-of-view and perspective including objective, first person, third person and omniscient or limited omniscient (Written such that there is a one speaker who appears all-knowing, or appears to have one character that dominates but he/she has a limited view.) What was the voice?

**RQ5**: Researchers sought to determine the tone of the article toward the protagonists and their goals and the supporting sources and their goals (Supportive, neutral, oppositional)
Chapter 2: LITERATURE REVIEW

Introduction

Change is never easy, especially on a large scale. It is often met with hesitation and backlash. But today, change is prevalent in the media and on college campuses. Journalism has evolved tremendously over time and more so, just in the 21st Century. The mainstream media is engaged in a constant battle of finding new ways to disseminate information to the public in the most immediate, attention-grabbing way. And colleges and universities are increasingly finding themselves facing challenges and social pressure from clashing cultures. These changes and their impacts can be seen in the difference between the print coverage of two controversial events that occurred at the University of Mississippi: the banning of the Confederate flag from football games to not flying the state flag on campus, and the shortening of the song ‘Dixie’ to completely banning it at games.

The literature will first examine the background of each event and discuss the basic similarities and differences, diving specifically into the coverage of these events in order to assess the methods used for the earlier and later events. Secondly, the review will explore the trend of clashing cultures as a culprit behind student activism and change on college campuses, with an emphasis on the campus cultural climate at the University of Mississippi. Next, the literature will review solutions colleges and universities have
implemented to change their campus cultural climate, specifically looking at the University of Mississippi’s past and possible future solutions. The review will analyze the changing media landscape from each former event to the latter event, focusing on the amount and narrative focus of the coverage.

Background

The University of Mississippi was founded in 1848, and much of the school’s history is rooted in the state’s slave driven and Confederate past. The school’s first matriculates were the sons of plantation owners and the University played a key role in the Confederate Army during the Civil War. The University’s past and traditions are widely known throughout the South and across the nation and can be recognized by the many symbols on campus related to that past, including the Confederate statue, the existence of the Confederate cemetery, and the names of streets and buildings. In an article from *The Daily Mississippian*, assistant provost and assistant to the chancellor concerning minority affairs, Donald Cole, deemed the University “the keeper of Southern symbols,” as he discussed how other universities in the South have abandoned some of these symbols.¹

Change to these symbols made its way onto the University’s campus under Chancellor Robert Khayat’s term. In 1997, Chancellor Khayat eliminated the Confederate flag at sporting events by banning the wooden flag stick used to wave the flag.² This purposeful rule was described to ensure the safety of fans and allow fans to have an unobstructed view of the playing field. It was a decision that took a lot of consideration

over nine months, as the Confederate symbol was continuously causing problems. The football coach at the time had recruiting troubles due to the flag, and one of the most prestigious honor societies, Phi Beta Kappa, did not want to colonize on campus with the symbol still so prominent. The decision was met with much backlash as students and fans were outraged with Khayat, seeing through the rule as an attempt to ban the Confederate flag attached to those sticks; a lawsuit was filed over the issue, which was dismissed. According to Chancellor Khayat, it took around three years for fans to stop bringing Confederate flags into games. The story gained local and even national attention, appearing on CNN and USA Today.

Then came an even bigger change nearly two decades later. On October 26, 2015, the University removed the state flag on its Oxford campus because the banner contains the Confederate battle emblem, which some saw as a painful reminder of slavery and segregation. Interim Chancellor Morris Stocks had the flag placed in the University’s archives. This came days after the student senate, the faculty senate, and other groups adopted a student-led resolution calling for removal of the banner from campus. This clashing of cultures fueled students to speak out resulting in the 2015 Take Down the Flag Rally. Held by the University’s chapter of the NAACP, students gathered to condemn the Confederate symbol and demand the state flag be removed. And just days later the University announced its decision to remove the flag, a decision based on the collective judgment of a team made up of senior leadership made after weeks of consideration; Interim Chancellor Stocks was committed “that any action initiated related

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to the flag was done with dignity and respect.”

Again, the decision faced a lot of negative feedback and still does today. The controversy also gained national attention and exploded online through social media outlets such as Twitter and Facebook. Interim Chancellor Stocks believed that the local and national media was fair and comprehensive in reporting the University’s decision to remove the flag.

Likewise, in 2009, under Chancellor Dan Jones, the University instructed its band to shorten the song “From Dixie With Love,” to discourage students from chanting the last line of the song “the South will rise again.” This change was a result of supporting efforts first initiated by students. This too had the University and Chancellor Jones under fire with much resistance from the student body and other local groups, such as alumni. “The effort to have alumni accept these changes was a large challenge,” said Chancellor Jones. This became another story that painted front pages around the state and made national headlines. Though the decision didn’t stop students from chanting at the end of the song, another change did. In August 2016 came the decision for the marching band to no longer play the song “Dixie” at any sporting event because of its historical context. Athletic Director Ross Bjork said in a statement regarding the situation, “We want everyone who steps foot on campus to feel welcome, and that they’re part of the Ole Miss family.”

Chancellor Vitter and other administrators made this decision closing a two-year phase-out plan for “Dixie,” which began in the Summer of 2015. Although this plan

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6 Ibid.
7 Nave, R. L, "Rebel Land: A Racial History of Oxford and Ole Miss."
9 Ibid.
10 Fowler, Sarah, and Daniel Paulling, "Ole Miss Marching Band Drops 'Dixie' from Game Day," The Clarion-Ledger, Aug. 19 2016.
did not begin under Chancellor Vitter’s term, the final decision perfectly aligned with previous sentiments he expressed about “respecting the University’s positive brand and always using images and symbols that are consistent with our core values.” This decision upset many students and fans and was immediately picked up on the national level, spreading like wildfire online.

**Trend: Clashing Cultures**

The literature surrounding other colleges and universities facing similar issues to the University of Mississippi reveals a common trend: clashing cultures and values create problems and a desire for change on college campuses. The book *Educating Citizens: Preparing America’s Undergraduates for Lives of Moral and Civic Responsibility*, outlines the importance for institutions to create a campus climate or culture that reinforces what students learn in their courses and extra-curricular activities. The authors explain campus culture as a powerful source of socialization and can have significant impacts on an institution.

Understanding campus culture is not simple because culture is heterogeneous and dynamic. This is because everyone experiences things differently and many aspects of campus culture will have different meanings and salience for different people. Therefore, students tend to experience several cultural currents, some of which may conflict with each other, leading to problems of racial or ideological intolerance.

In a study done at the University of Maryland looking at how different students perceive campus cultural climate, researchers found that significant racial and ethnic

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group differences exist with regard to perceptions and experiences of the campus cultural climate. African American students perceived and experienced significantly more racial conflict and separation on campus, while white students consistently reported less racial tension and seem relatively immune from a hostile climate. This signifies why it is also important for higher education institutions to foster an environment of respect for people whose backgrounds, cultures, or beliefs differ from one’s own.

The country’s college campuses have seen a surge in student activism amid escalating tensions over their hostile racial climates; many groups nationwide have issued sets of demands aimed at improving the campus climate. Among these is Princeton University. In November 2014, student activists staged a protest and sit-in at President Christopher Eisgruber’s office urging him to do away with Woodrow Wilson’s name on the Public Policy school because of Wilson’s racist legacy. Some students felt unwelcomed or threatened that their University aligned with a leader who was a segregationist and supported racist groups and ideals, leading them to speak out.

One year later, similar actions took place at Harvard when students confronted their school’s racial tensions. Hundreds of law school students and faculty protested the law school’s “racist and unwelcoming environment” and demanded the school abandon its seal, which many felt did not represent the values of the law school; the seal included the family crest of Isaac Royall Jr., one of the college’s founders who was a slaveholder.

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15 Colby, Anne, Erhlich, Beaumont, and Stephens, "Campus Culture or Climate," 49-95.
17 Ibid.
Likewise, events of similar fashion have taken place at Yale University, the University of Missouri, and Ithaca College.

But student activism in response to racism and discrimination on college campuses is not a new phenomenon. One of the earliest documented incidents occurred some 50 years ago, when Benjamin Reese, Jr. started classes at Bronx Community College students were not charged tuition, but then New York Governor Nelson Rockefeller, planned to impose tuition costs, which Reese and other students protested, ultimately losing in the end.18 Reese is now the Vice President of the Office for Institutional Equity at Duke University.

Activism among students boomed during the Vietnam War era. Students held protests, sit-ins and rallies on campuses across the country in opposition of the war, some becoming increasingly violent. Many will never forget the shooting at Kent State University when the Ohio National Guard opened fire during an anti-war protest killing four students and wounding nine. The incident shocked the nation and for several, it became the event that brought the war home.19

Student activism has been leading change on college campuses for years, and it is no different at the University of Mississippi. In recent years, the campus cultural climate at the University has presented itself as the conservationists versus the change-agents.20 The University’s Creed emphasizes civility in which student activism is encouraged through the spirit of Ole Miss.21 Many institutions have started on a path to developing aspects of its culture that support moral and civic development as well as an environment

18 Mashaun, "Student Activism Leading Change on College Campuses."
20 Turnage, "The Symbols' Keeper: Ole Miss' Identity Struggle."
21 Dan Jones, email interview.
for better understanding of and respect for others. These efforts may clash with existing practices or “underground cultures” that are inconsistent with the fundamental values of higher education.22

Many students, alumnae, and fans who want to conserve the traditions and heritage of the University, and the South in general, are in a battle with those who wish to abandon the racist past associated with the University. It comes down to the fact that “many want progress but few want change.”23

**Solutions**

The word atone means to make amends or reparation, as for an offense or a crime, or for an offender. This idea of atonement has made its way onto college campuses as a steppingstone in the path to moving forward. Many of the higher-education institutions across the country share a shameful past with their histories marked by elitism and racism—traces of which manifest today. But some institutions, because of student and community pressure, are making amends. For example, Georgetown University announced it would give admissions preference to the decedents of the 272 slaves whose sale the university profited from in the early 1800s stating, “We had a tragic moment in the early years of our history that we’ve been trying to come to terms with.”24

At other institutions, where slavery or past issues are less explicit but no less entrenched, different strategies are being used to atone for errors in judgment. Harvard

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22 Colby, Anne, Erhlich, Beaumont, and Stephens, "Campus Culture or Climate."
23 Dan Jones, email interview.
24 Wong, "How Should Universities Atone for Their Past Mistakes?"
University is engaged in several initiatives to start the process of reconciliation, including a committee that is researching the impact of slavery on its campus.\textsuperscript{25}

No matter the issues of the past or the solutions implemented to fix them there is a central theme to these conversations. Ta-Nehisi Coates, a correspondent for \textit{The Atlantic}, sat down with the presidents from Georgetown and Harvard Universities to talk about the racial issues their campuses are facing. Coates identified the common theme as ultimately responsibility: universities’ responsibility to the populations they abused, to the communities in which they operate, and to the peer institutions they influence.\textsuperscript{26}

Culture change is never easy for large organizations. However, change can be catalyzed by listening to the voices of those closest to the points of change and taking action accordingly.\textsuperscript{27} In a study conducted at the University of Alabama, researchers found that a key component in catalyzing culture change on campus was the culture of engagement on campus. In order to make change, there needs to be engagement with students, faculty members, administration, and members of the community. But for a university to fully institute engagement activities, there needs to be support and effort from everyone.

The University of Mississippi has made the effort to engage the campus in its strategies. In 2015, the University created the Chancellor’s Advisory Committee on History and Context to address the controversial symbols and names on the campus. First on their list was to contextualize the plaque on the Confederate Monument, which is of a Confederate soldier. The United Daughters of the Confederacy first installed the

\textsuperscript{25} \textit{Ibid.}
\textsuperscript{26} Wong, "How Should Universities Atone for Their Past Mistakes?"
\textsuperscript{27} Franz, Nancy, Childers, Sanderling. "Assessing the Culture of Engagement on a University Campus."
monument in 1906 to serve as a “monument, not only to the heroes not forgotten, but to the zeal and untiring patriotism of a band of loyal women, and as history to the youth of the Southland.”

The new text the committee decided upon was met with backlash, so the administration decided to listen to those unsatisfied and engage them in finding a solution. Chancellor Jeffery Vitter opened an online submission form to allow community input into the language of the plaque where students, faculty, Ole Miss fans and alumni sent in more than 250 recommendations and letters to the administration. The recommendations were heard and taken into consideration by the committee who decided upon new text for the plaque, which was officially placed on the statue in October 2016. The campus and community responded well to the engagement efforts involving the plaque.

The university’s past is a complex one riddled with the Confederacy, slavery and segregation. But slowly change has been made. After a long legal battle, the first African-American to enroll at Ole Miss was James Meredith in September of 1962. His arrival

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28 “Keeping the Faith with the University Greys’: Ole Miss as lieu de mémoire,” University of Mississippi, 48.
29 The original plaque on the monument in the circle read, "To Our Confederate Dead, 1861-1865, Albert Sidney Johnston Chapter 379 U.D.C."
The plaque on the monument in the square reads, “In memory of the patriotism of the Confederate soldiers of Lafayette County, Mississippi. They gave their lives in a just and holy cause.”
The text that got rejected read, “As Confederate veterans were passing from the scene in increasing numbers, memorial associations built monuments in their memory all across the South. This statue was dedicated by citizens of Oxford and Lafayette County in 1906. On the evening of September 30, 1962, the statue was a rallying point where a rebellious mob gathered to prevent the admission of the University’s first African American student. It was also at this statue that a local minister implored the mob to disperse and allow James Meredith to exercise his rights as an American citizen. On the morning after that long night, Meredith was admitted to the University and graduated in August 1963.”
The new text reads, “As Confederate veterans were dying in increasing numbers, memorial associations across the South built monuments in their memory. These monuments were often used to promote an ideology known as the “Lost Cause,” which claimed that the Confederacy had been established to defend states’ rights and that slavery was not the principal cause of the Civil War. Residents of Oxford and Lafayette County dedicated this statue, approved by the university in 1906. Although the monument was created to honor the sacrifice of the local Confederate soldiers, it must also remind us that the defeat of the confederacy actually meant freedom for millions of people. On the evening of September 30, 1962, this statue was a rallying point for opponents of integration.”
was met with a mob of angry students and residents protesting the integration of the university, which resulted in a violent riot still remembered today. But nonetheless, integration sufficed. And today the University of Mississippi is more diverse than ever. In fall 2016 the total unduplicated headcount enrollment for black students was 13.1% compared to 76.6% white students and 10.4% other; the total enrollment in all public colleges in Mississippi for black students is 33.5% compared to 57.6% white students and 8.9% other.\textsuperscript{30} Black Student enrollment has increased by over 30% in the last ten years. Chancellor Vitter, the current Chancellor, believes that no matter the challenges the University faces, “we must do so the Ole Miss way, which is to focus upon what is truly best for the well-being and success for our students and our university.”\textsuperscript{31}

\section*{Social Protest Coverage and the Changing Media Landscape}

Between the ban on the waving of the Confederate flag and the removal of the state flag the media landscape changed. Then a 24-hour news cycle to one of instant message, the roar of the crowd was heard quicker and louder. The time log between the first modification of “Dixie” and the final banning was shorter—seven years—news of the dismantling of the traditional song represented itself over social media platforms. With the introduction of the Internet, social media outlets and blogging, reporting has changed tremendously. The question presented is whether journalists tend follow a pattern in protest coverage and whether the coverage of social protest has changed with the times as journalists gain more access to information over the Internet.

Covering social movements and social protest, “framing” becomes increasingly important to consider. It has been noted that through social protest coverage the media

\begin{footnotesize}
\begin{itemize}
\item \textsuperscript{30} Atchison, Fall 2016 Enrollment Fact Book and Ten-Year Enrollment Comparison and Selected Information on Diversity.
\item \textsuperscript{31} Jeffrey Vitter, email interview.
\end{itemize}
\end{footnotesize}
have the ability and power to define issues, supply context, and label groups. Scholars have found that journalists routinely fail to provide the larger contexts (thematic frames) behind protests and cover them merely as disorder and violence news (episodic frames).\textsuperscript{32} Such framing issues and lack of context or information can lead to misguided public perception.

In a study comparing social protest coverage in 1967 to 1999, researchers found that journalists from the latter time period cited official and authoritative sources more than journalists did in the 1960s.\textsuperscript{33} It was concluded that journalists do in fact tend to follow a pattern seldom changing frames, again failing to provide larger context. In addition, journalists did not fully integrate the use of the Internet as much as one might assume.

A 1994 study on journalists’ use of the internet found that “the forms of information retrieval may be different, but the same organizational power structures, sources, and news frames are still evident.”\textsuperscript{34} More than ten years later, in a time where social protests often now unfold over the internet, it is necessary to see if this holds true.

In a study comparing legacy media coverage to online media coverage, researchers found that consumers who rely on news websites are likely to get a mix of the news covered by legacy media. On average about six in ten of the top news stories on news websites correspond with the storylines found on the front pages of newspapers, on

\textsuperscript{33} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{34} Hansen et al., "Local Breaking News."
national television or on radio. These results reassure that the agenda-setting role is retained in a world invaded by more news and information introduced by online media. 

Equally important in evaluating coverage of social protest is the tone used in order to determine the salience of an issue and potential biases, and whether this is part of the pattern journalists follow. Tone refers to the balance of coverage on a given issue, and even though media coverage of an issue generally tends to—or tries to—present all sides fairly, not all coverage is successful. Researchers argue bias can be uncovered in the media by examining the positive or negative tone of the coverage. 

As evident from the literature, the media coverage of social protest is changing, largely due in part to the digital age. It is necessary to explore the relationship closer the changing times has had on media coverage. In doing so, the taking down the state flag and the banning of “Dixie” on the Ole Miss campus will be examined.

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Chapter 3: METHODOLOGY

The research is based on a quantitative content analysis in order to compare the amount and scope of the media coverage. Content analysis is a research technique used to summarize and describe written, spoken, and visual communication by counting various aspects of the content.

In this study, content was analyzed from three different Mississippi-based newspapers, as well as online sources and social media. Articles were acquired from The Daily Mississippian, Oxford Eagle, and The Clarion Ledger from the J.D. Williams library located at the University of Mississippi, the Oxford Eagle office, and The Daily Mississippian online archives. Articles from the library were collected through the microfilm collection and the Special Collections and Archives. Selected for review were 38 total stories featured on the front page involving the events between the dates they occurred to one month after. The time frame was chosen because it contained the most heated coverage. Articles chosen were directly related to the events studied. The total number of articles selected from The Clarion Ledger was eight, nine from the Oxford Eagle, and 21 from The Daily Mississippian.

Each article was assigned a specific number to make identification consistent throughout the analysis. The researcher then developed a codebook. Using priori coding,
two trained coders analyzed each article using the codebook. After the coding was completed, the results were tabulated using simple percentages, and results were interpreted. The focus of coding for this study was on each article’s format and use of journalistic elements, frame, tone, point of view, and biases toward the event covered.
Chapter 4: RESULTS

After reading the selected articles, which were obtained through archives and microfilms at the University of Mississippi’s J.D. Williams Library, the Oxford Eagle office, and The Daily Mississippian online archives, each coder analyzed them using a series of research questions. Articles were gathered from The Clarion Ledger, Oxford Eagle, and The Daily Mississippian, and spanned from the date the event occurred to one month after. Articles on the banning of flag sticks were gathered from October 23, 1997 to November 23, 1997, articles on the state flag being removed from campus were gathered from October 26, 2015 to November 26, 2015, articles on the shortening of the song “Dixie” were gathered from October 23, 2009 to November 23, 2009, and articles on the banning of the song “Dixie” at athletic events were gathered from August 19, 2016 to September 19, 2016. Articles obtained were only from the front page of each newspaper, and the total number of articles varied by newspaper and year. The number of articles reviewed for the banning of flag sticks in 1997 was 14, six for the removal of the flag in 2015, 13 for the modification of “Dixie” in 2009, and five for the banning of the song in 2016.

A complete summary of the results can be found in the tables following. For convenience, the tables are first separated by research question, then by topic and then by
event. There is also a table combining both topics’ events. Each table represents analysis of all front-page articles from the dates previously mentioned. See Appendix A for the codebook, which includes definitions for clarity.

The responses to each research question help examine how the media coverage from the first event to the second event in each topic changed, or didn’t change, over time.
RESEARCH QUESTION 1

What story formats were favored (inverted pyramid, Wall Street Journal, feature (anecdotal lead, narrative lead, descriptive leads) and were they hard news or feature stories?

Hard news stories tell about a current event where feature stories are generally softer and appeal to the emotions. This question examines how many articles were hard news versus feature stories and which story formats were used. There were 29 hard news stories and nine feature stories. Out of those, 26 stories used the inverted pyramid while 12 used the Wall Street Journal format.

State Flag

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Hard News</th>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Inverted Pyramid</th>
<th>Wall Street Journal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Banning Flag Sticks (1997)</td>
<td>71% (10)</td>
<td>29% (4)</td>
<td>79% (11)</td>
<td>32% (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flag Removal (2015)</td>
<td>83% (5)</td>
<td>17% (1)</td>
<td>67% (4)</td>
<td>33% (2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### “Dixie”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Hard News</th>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Inverted Pyramid</th>
<th>Wall Street Journal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shortening Song (2009)</td>
<td>69% (9)</td>
<td>31% (4)</td>
<td>54% (7)</td>
<td>46% (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banning Song (2016)</td>
<td>100% (5)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>80% (4)</td>
<td>20% (1)</td>
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### State Flag and “Dixie”

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<th>Feature</th>
<th>Inverted Pyramid</th>
<th>Wall Street Journal</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First (1997/2009)</td>
<td>70% (19)</td>
<td>30% (8)</td>
<td>67% (18)</td>
<td>33% (9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second (2015/2016)</td>
<td>91% (10)</td>
<td>9% (1)</td>
<td>73% (8)</td>
<td>27% (3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RESEARCH QUESTION 2

To what extent were traditional journalism elements of (a) direct quotes, (b) paraphrase (c) description favored based on the percentage of paragraphs used in each story?

The use of traditional journalism elements varies from story to story. This questions examines which elements were most favored. There were 19 stories that used direct most frequently, 12 that used paraphrasing, and seven that used description most often.

State Flag

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Direct Quotes</th>
<th>Paraphrase</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Banning Flag Sticks</td>
<td>36% (5)</td>
<td>14% (2)</td>
<td>50% (7)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(1997)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flag Removal</td>
<td>17% (1)</td>
<td>83% (5)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
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<td>(2015)</td>
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“Dixie”

<table>
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<th>Direct Quotes</th>
<th>Paraphrase</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shortening Song</td>
<td>77% (10)</td>
<td>23% (3)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(2009)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banning Song</td>
<td>60% (3)</td>
<td>40% (2)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
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<td>(2016)</td>
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## State Flag and “Dixie”

<table>
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<th>Event</th>
<th>Direct Quotes</th>
<th>Paraphrase</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First (1997/2009)</td>
<td>56% (15)</td>
<td>19% (5)</td>
<td>26% (7)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second (2015/2016)</td>
<td>36% (4)</td>
<td>64% (7)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RESEARCH QUESTION 3

*Which news frames dominated (patriotism, moderation, law and order, violence, racism/ethnocentrism or constitutionality)?*

The media focuses attention on certain events and then places them within a field of meaning. This question examines which news frames dominated. Some stories were found to be written in the context of more than one news frame. There were three stories framed under patriotism, seven under moderation, 20 under law & order, 22 under race/ethnocentrism, and six under constitutionality. (Percentages don’t add up to 100 because stories were placed in multiple frames.)

**State Flag**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Patriot -ism</th>
<th>Moderation &amp; Order</th>
<th>Violence</th>
<th>Racism/ Ethnocentrism</th>
<th>Constitution -ality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Banning Flag Sticks (1997)</td>
<td>7% (1)</td>
<td>21% (3)</td>
<td>71% (10)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>36% (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flag Removal (2015)</td>
<td>17% (1)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>33% (2)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>67% (4)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
“Dixie”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Patriot-ism</th>
<th>Moderation &amp; Order</th>
<th>Violence</th>
<th>Racism/Ethnocentrism</th>
<th>Constitution-ality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shortening Song (2009)</td>
<td>8% (1)</td>
<td>31% (4)</td>
<td>46% (6)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>69% (9)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>23% (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Banning Song (2016)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>40% (2)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>80% (4)</td>
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State Flag and “Dixie”

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Patriot-ism</th>
<th>Moderation &amp; Order</th>
<th>Violence</th>
<th>Racism/Ethnocentrism</th>
<th>Constitution-ality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First (1997/2009)</td>
<td>7% (2)</td>
<td>26% (7)</td>
<td>60% (16)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>52% (14)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>22% (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second (2015/2016)</td>
<td>9% (1)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>36% (4)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>73% (8)</td>
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<td>0% (0)</td>
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</table>
RESEARCH QUESTION 4

Researchers reviewed the material for evidence of bias as well as point-of-view and perspective including objective, first person, third person and omniscient or limited omniscient. What was the voice?

Content of a story can promote a certain viewpoint and generally, news stories are written in third person. This question examines the voice of each article. All 38 articles were written from the third person omniscient point of view. There were 29 stories written with an objective voice and nine with a subjective voice.

State Flag

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>1st Person</th>
<th>3rd Person</th>
<th>Omniscient</th>
<th>Limited</th>
<th>Subjective</th>
<th>Objective</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Banning Flag Sticks</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>100% (14)</td>
<td>100% (14)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>29% (4)</td>
<td>71% (10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1997)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flag Removal</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>100% (6)</td>
<td>100% (6)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>33% (2)</td>
<td>67% (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2015)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>
### “Dixie”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; Person</th>
<th>3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; Person</th>
<th>Omniscient</th>
<th>Limited</th>
<th>Subjective</th>
<th>Objective</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shortening Song (2009)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>100% (13)</td>
<td>100% (13)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>23% (3)</td>
<td>77% (10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banning Song (2016)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>100% (5)</td>
<td>100% (5)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>100% (5)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### State Flag and “Dixie”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; Person</th>
<th>3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; Person</th>
<th>Omniscient</th>
<th>Limited</th>
<th>Subjective</th>
<th>Objective</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First (1997/2009)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>100% (27)</td>
<td>100% (27)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>26% (7)</td>
<td>74% (20)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second (2015/2016)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>100% (11)</td>
<td>100% (11)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>19% (2)</td>
<td>82% (9)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RESEARCH QUESTION 5

Researchers sought to determine the tone (Supportive, neutral, oppositional) of the article toward the protagonists and their goals and the supporting sources and their goals. What was the tone?

Articles have a certain character or attitude towards the writing. This question examines the tone of each article. There were 18 stories found written with a supportive tone, 11 with a neutral tone, and nine with an oppositional tone.

State Flag

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Supportive</th>
<th>Neutral</th>
<th>Oppositional</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Banning Flag Sticks (1997)</td>
<td>36% (5)</td>
<td>21% (3)</td>
<td>43% (6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flag Removal (2015)</td>
<td>67% (4)</td>
<td>17% (1)</td>
<td>17% (1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“Dixie”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Supportive</th>
<th>Neutral</th>
<th>Oppositional</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shortening Song (2009)</td>
<td>54% (7)</td>
<td>31% (4)</td>
<td>15% (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banning Song (2016)</td>
<td>40% (2)</td>
<td>60% (3)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
State Flag and “Dixie”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Supportive</th>
<th>Neutral</th>
<th>Oppositional</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First (1997/2009)</td>
<td>44% (12)</td>
<td>26% (7)</td>
<td>30% (8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second (2015/2016)</td>
<td>55% (6)</td>
<td>36% (4)</td>
<td>9% (1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 5: DISCUSSION

After reviewing the content analysis of articles from *The Clarion Ledger*, *Oxford Eagle*, and *The Daily Mississippian*, there are strong indications that the media coverage of Confederate symbols has changed overtime.

The analysis suggests that hard news stories were favored over feature stories across the board. More feature stories were seen during the earlier events than the later events. As time went on, fewer feature stories were used. Also, inverted pyramid was the dominant story format during all time periods.

Results indicate that traditional journalism elements of direct quotes, paraphrase, and description were all used throughout each story, but direct quotes and paraphrase were shown to appear more often than description. The analysis shows that this pattern only increased over time. In 1997, about half of the stories reviewed used description, but by 2016, stories used either direct quotes or paraphrasing most often.

Looking at framing, most stories were found to be placed in multiple news frames. The analysis suggests the Law & Order and Racism/Ethnocentrism frames dominated. This was true for both the earlier and later events, but the results indicate that over time stories were framed around Racism/Ethnocentrism more often than Law & Order, demonstrating the power media has in defining issues. This change suggests that
the media focused more on the larger context and thematic themes rather than episodic themes, which contrasts with what some scholars have said.37

All articles appeared to be written in the point of view of third person omniscient, but the voice varied after review of the content analysis. Objective stories were more frequent than subjective stories in all events. The results indicate that over time the number of subjective stories decreased from the earlier events to the later events. Reporting on Confederate symbols has become more objective in recent years.

Results indicate the tone of stories moved to more supportive pieces over time. In all events, analysis suggests supportive toned stories took the lead over oppositional toned stories, but not by a large margin. The later events saw less oppositional stories and more supportive and neutral stories than the earlier events. Biases can be uncovered through examining positive and negative tones; more positive tones indicate less bias.38 The analysis suggests biases have been eliminated over time.

The number of articles featured on the front pages of the Mississippi-based newspapers decreased from 1997 to 2016. This in part can be contributed to the changing media landscape. News cycles changed, the Internet opened new ways of communication, and the events occurring in 2015 and 2016 were largely represented over social media platforms.

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Chapter 6: CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the analysis indicates that media coverage of Confederate symbols and social protest has changed over time.

Framing, objectivity, and tone showed the biggest changes. From 1997 to 2016, articles were placed less in news frames of Law & Order and focused more on the subject of Racism/Ethnocentrism. Stories also became less subjective and more supportive of the topics over time.

As the mindset of Confederate symbols changed over the years, so did the overall approach to the media coverage in order to reflect that change. The changing media landscape played a role as well seeing that the amount of articles featured on the front page of Mississippi newspapers dwindled in the last two decades.

In conclusion, as the attitudes of Confederate symbols and the media landscape continue to change, so will the media coverage of confederate symbols and social protest. As time goes on, more research will need to be conducted to assess how these changes continue.
LIST OF REFERENCES


Haider-Markel, Donald P., Mahalley D. Allen, and Morgen Johansen. "Understanding


Minutes of the Eleventh Annual Convention of the Mississippi Division of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, 1937, 47; UDC as quoted in Michael Alan Upton, “Keeping the Faith with the University Greys’: Ole Miss as lieu de mémoire” (master’s thesis, University of Mississippi, 2002), 48.


Simon, Mashaun D. "Student Activism Leading Change on College Campuses." NBC News. MarkMonitor Inc.


SELECTED PUBLICATION DATES

The Clarion Ledger

November 7, 1997
November 23, 1997
November 24, 1997
November 25, 1997
November 23, 2009
October 27, 2015
August 20, 2016

Oxford Eagle

October 23, 1997
November 20, 1997
October 23, 2009
November 3, 2009
November 11, 2009
November 13, 2009
October 26, 2015
August 21, 2016
September 21, 2016

The Daily Mississippian

October 23, 1997
November 4, 1997
November 6, 1997
APPENDICES

I. CODE BOOK


Research Question 1

- **Inverted Pyramid**: a metaphor used by journalists and other writers to illustrate how information should be prioritized and structured in a text. A simple triangle with one side drawn horizontally at the top and the body pointing down. The widest part at the top represents the most substantial, interesting, and important information the writer means to convey, illustrating that this kind of material should head the article, while the tapering lower portion illustrates that other material should follow in order of diminishing importance.

- **Wall Street Journal**: writing formula consisting of
  - (LEAD) The story opens with an anecdotal, descriptive, or narrative lead.
    - Anecdotal lead- a story beginning that uses humor or an interesting incident about a person
    - Descriptive lead- a story beginning that describes an object or event
    - Narrative lead- a story beginning that uses a story to explain the topic/issue at hand
(NUT GRAF) Paragraphs 2-4 explaining the lead.

(BODY) The body of the story is supporting information (quotes, facts, developments).

(ENDING) The ending includes another anecdotal or description of the people/person featured in the story.

Research Question 2

- **Direct Quotes**: a direct quotation is a report of the exact words of an author or speaker. Unlike an indirect quotation, a direct quotation is placed inside quotation marks.

- **Paraphrase**: v.) express the meaning of (the writer or speaker or something written or spoken) using different words, especially to achieve greater clarity; n.) a rewording of something written or spoken by someone else.

- **Description**: n.) a spoken or written representation or account of a person, object, or event.

Research Question 3

- **Framing**: the media focuses attention on certain events and then places them within a field of meaning.

- **News Frames**:
  - Patriotism- the quality of being patriotic; vigorous support for one's country.
  - Moderation- the avoidance of excess or extremes, especially in one's behavior or political opinions.
- Law and Order- a situation characterized by respect for and obedience to the rules of a society.
- Violence- behavior involving physical force intended to hurt, damage, or kill someone or something.
- Racism/Ethnocentrism- prejudice, discrimination, or antagonism directed against someone of a different race based on the belief that one's own race is superior; evaluation of other cultures according to preconceptions originating in the standards and customs of one's own culture.
- Constitutionality- the quality of being in accordance with a political constitution.

Research Question 4

- **Point of View:** a particular attitude or way of considering a matter
- **First Person:** a literary style in which the narrative is told from the perspective of a narrator speaking directly about himself or herself.
- **Third Person:** a form of storytelling in which a narrator relates all action using third-person pronouns like "he" or "she."
  - Omniscient- the narrator knows the thoughts and feelings of all of the characters in the story.
  - Limited- the narrator only relates his own thoughts, feelings and knowledge of various situations and other characters.
- **Subjective:** pertaining to or characteristic of an individual; person; individual.
- **Objective:** not influenced by personal feelings, interpretations, or prejudice; based on facts; unbiased.
Research Question 5

- **Tone:** the general character or attitude of a place, piece of writing, situation, etc.; what the author feels about the subject.
  - Supportive - giving support; providing sympathy or encouragement; providing additional help, information, etc.
  - Neutral - not taking part or giving assistance in a dispute or war between others; not aligned with or supporting any side or position in a controversy; of or belonging to a neutral state or party.
  - Oppositional - the action of opposing, resisting, or combating; antagonism or hostility.
II. ARTICLES

A few samples of articles analyzed for this study.
Leaders back record bailout plan

Mississippi, Choctaws promise closer ties

Magnolia Venture only open for probe

Father saves twins from blaze

Sticks or not, flags appear on TV at Ole Miss game

Breakthrough study puts old disease in new light
Band

(Continued from previous page)

the Confederate flag into games in 1993.

Former Chancellor Dan Jones also

asked the band to stop playing the

flag tune at the University of

Mississippi. The band's activities have caused

controversy over the years, but the band has

continued to play the Confederate flag tune.

This year, the University of Mississippi

banned the Confederate flag from all campus

events.

There were no Confederate flags or songs

played at this year's Homecoming game.

Hinds

(Continued from previous page)

the NAACP chapter at Ole Miss underfollowed students agreed.

Band director Scott, the fundraiser for

the NAACP chapter at Ole Miss and a

followed student, said he was

surprised by the turnout.

"I think it's a very positive step for the

NAACP," he said.

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)

also supported the event, saying it was a victory for

civil rights.

"This is a significant step towards

ending the use of the Confederate flag at Ole

Miss," said John White, the national legal
director for the ACLU.

Hinds County Circuit Judge
denies asylum to refugee

The Hinds County Circuit Judge
denied asylum to a refugee

who fled persecution in his native country.

The judge said the case did not meet the

standards for asylum.

The refugee, who is a member of a religious

minority in his country, claimed he was

persecuted by the government.

The judge disagreed, saying the

evidence did not support the claim.

The refugee has until the end of

the month to appeal the decision.
Local alums support ban on sticks

Trina Does
STAFF WRITER

The University of Mississippi’s new policy banning flag sticks and other items objects from school sporting events was announced as a safety measure, but local alums of the school hope it is another step toward eliminating the racially charged Confederate flag from campus.

“Many alums have had enough,” said Ole Miss alums Karl Larson. “We are a university, not a place for hate.”

The new policy, which went into effect on Nov. 1, does not mention sticks. But the banning of sticks could all but eliminate the wording of the controversial banners.

“We just feel like the timing is appropriate for this action,” said Ole Miss athletic director Pete Boudreaux. “The policy should speak loudly to a number of issues.”

Coach Bill, who in 1979 became the first black athlete to receive an scholarship at the University, now lives in Oxford and is the owner of Bill Sign Company. He supports the University’s position.

“They shouldn’t allow any thing in the stadium but fans,” said Bill, a 1978 graduate. “I came here because of the coaches and the education. I love Ole Miss, and I want to see it move forward. If we can get this behind us it will be a big step for recruiting students and athletes.”

While many students have said they were using the flag as a longstanding tradition and part of their “heritage,” one historian says students aren’t the main problem with the existance of the flag.

“The students aren’t the ones writing a lot of these letters and putting stuff on the Internet,” said David Samuel, former Ole Miss professor of history.

“You’ve got the Civil War that caused the Confederate to have become almost a religion,” Samuel said. “People have got to understand that the University is not asking you to repudiate your heritage, we just don’t want you to hate Ole Miss.”
Request denied for hearing on UM flag policy

Kristine Harty
NEWS EDITOR

A federal judge has denied the request of a self-proclaimed white supremacist who wanted a special hearing to get permission to wave the Rebel flag at the Ole Miss football game against Georgia on Saturday.

Chief Judge L. T. Senter, Jr. denied a motion just before noon today renewing Rankin County Attorney Richard Barrett's request for a temporary restraining order. Barrett filed a lawsuit against the University of Mississippi Wednesday, claiming the University's new rules preventing displays of Confederate flags at football games inhibits free speech.

The Ole Miss Rebels play their final home football game of the season this weekend.

Barrett, who said a group of Ole Miss students gave him "$250 in small bills" to pay for filing fees, wants a judge to lift the University's ban on "sticks" from Vaught-Hemingway Stadium.

Barrett claims in the lengthy suit that he was threatened with arrest at the Rebels' Nov. 6 game against Arkansas, in which the University targeted his "new policy that prohibits sticks from being taken into the stadium. Barrett said he was helping to hold up a three-by-five foot cloth Rebel flag, without a stick, near the left of the stands during the Arkansas game. University Police told Barrett he was asked to leave the stadium because the flag was too large.

"What I meant to ask the court is, "What is a stick? What is a flag?" Barrett said Wednesday. Shortly after filing the suit, Barrett added, "Waving the flag is free speech. When I went to the ballgame, I wanted to just defy the stick ban by simply displaying the flag. My intention is to say that waving the (Rebel) flag is free speech."

Declared earlier this fall, the stick-ban policy does not specifically address flags. But Rebel Coach Tommy Tuberville and Chancellor Robert Khayat both have publicly encouraged students to cease waving Rebel flags at football games, and the issue has been hotly disputed among alumni and local residents.

The suit has been transferred to the Albermarle court because Judge Neal R. Riggs, Jr., the presiding judge here, is out of town.

The University declared in 1983 that the Rebel flag had never been officially adopted as a school trademark. Another longstanding university policy sets size limitations on banners brought into the stadium.

Ole Miss became the ninth Southeastern Conference school to ban sticks from their stadiums. The others are Kentucky, Vanderbilt, Arkansas, LSU, Auburn, Alabama, Georgia and South Carolina.

Barrett's suit names the University of Mississippi and College Board as defendants and claims that "the stadium has been used for expressive activities, centered on pro-Mississippi heritage and the Confederate flag, for over 30 years, by students and by Plaintiffs, waving flags and making pro-Mississippi Heritage statements. There is considerable interest in the Confederate Flag waving at the ball game among students and others throughout the nation, the suit says.

Chancellor Robert Khayat was in Jackson this morning and could not be reached for comment. University attorney Mary Ann Connell was unavailable this morning, and University Public Relations director Ed Monk said he did not have sufficient information to comment.

U.S. trade deficit up in September

WASHINGTON (AP) — America's monthly trade deficit soared 17 percent in September to an eight-month high as imports of toys and telephone equipment helped push the trade gap with China and other Asian nations to new records.

Today's Commerce Department said exports slumped 0.7 percent to $78 billion.

"Our trade situation with Japan and China remains problematic," said Commerce Secretary William Daley. "The growth of our exports to China continues to lag far behind growth of our
ZOMBIE INVASION

The South Will Rise Again!
From Dixie With Love

eenion

City ey

Silencing the Rising South

Student Leaders

To end chant
The Pride of the South Marching Band

HONORING VETERANS

Love... From Dixie With

From Dixie Without Love

By Melanie Addington
Performing song
for band to stop
Chancellor calls

The Oxford Eagle
sparks interest by KKK
Rally threatened — but last time, didn't show
By Milton Albrighton
Neillsville

The University of Mississippi's decision this week to no longer have the song "How Do You Solve a Problem With Love" performed at football games has sparked threats by white supremacist groups, such as the Ku Klux Klan, to disrupt confrontations in Oxford or on campus.

UM Chancellor Dan Jones announced Tuesday the popular song would no longer be played at the games because some Ole Miss students were charging the racially insensitive phrase, "The South Will Rise Again."

No marches or protests by the KKK have been confirmed for this weekend, but university officials say such demonstrations are allowed on the campus that supports freedom of speech.

The White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, based out of Tupelo, held a meeting Wednesday to discuss coming to Oxford in response to the banning of the song. The base group has set a second meeting Saturday to discuss a demonstration at the final home football game at UM.

However, neither the KKK nor any other group has contacted UM to request a permit because of the ban of the song.

Free-speech campus
UM Dean of Students Spady Readon explained the campus is open to free speech, but that with planned marches or demonstrations the officials ask for a courtesy heads up to prepare for any traffic congestion issues.

"We are always surprised that groups still advocate discredited racist views that are inconsistent with the values of our community and the values expressed in the University Creed, but, that said, they are free to speak on our campus," Readon said.

"If an outside group wants to express something on our campus as long as they don't violate our other rules of conduct, such as disorderly conduct, then they can express their opinions, but they can't interfere with the rights of others and can't interfere or disrupt the academic order of the university."

Any group planning to protest on the campus that has the ability to disrupt the university either through traffic, large crowds or amplified sound must fill out an event registration form through the Dean of Students office so the university can accommodate their needs.

"If any group plans to march, rally, or demonstrate, then we expect them to let us know ahead of time," Readon said.

Growing numbers of hate groups
The KKK is one of 22 active hate groups listed in the state of Mississippi and all are mapped out by location on the Southern Poverty Law Center's Web site. However, numbers for most of the hate groups are small— a tiny fraction of the membership they used to have.
Ole Miss removes state flag

UPD officers take down flag in morning ceremony

University of Mississippi Police Department officers lowered and folded the state flag in a Lyceum Circle ceremony as the campus opened this morning. According to officials, the flag will be preserved in the University Archives along with resolutions from students, faculty and staff calling for its removal.

The university’s removal of the flag is the latest development in discussions within the state about whether to change the official state flag, which includes the Confederate battle flag in one corner.

Interim Chancellor Morris Stocks first joined other state and university leaders calling for a change in the state flag in a statement last June.

"The University of Mississippi community came to the realization years ago that the Confederate battle flag did not represent many of our core values, such as a civility and respect for others," Stocks said. "Since that time, we have become a stronger and better university. We join other leaders in our state who are calling for a change in the official state flag."
Ole Miss drops "Dixie"

The Ole Miss band will no longer play any variation of the tune.

"Dixie," one of the last vestiges of the Confederacy tied to the University of Mississippi, is dead.

The Ole Miss athletics department made the call to scrap "Dixie" and several variations of the tune from the marching band's gameday repertoire for future games and postgame performances.

"The newly expanded and renovated Vaught-Hemingway stadium will further highlight our best traditions and create new ones that give the Ole Miss Rebels the best home field advantage in college football," Ole Miss athletic director Ross Bjork said in a statement. "Because the Pride of the South is a large part of our overall experience and tradition, the Athletics Department needed us to create a new and modern game show that does not include Dixie and is more inclusive for all fans."

Bjork told the EAGLE a dialogue began in 2015 with campus leadership regarding "Dixie," resulting in a slight adjustment to the season by not playing it during the game.

Timing prevented "Dixie" from being totally a matter of logi-
State flag unfurled during football game stirs debate

Some feel rights were violated, others say dialogue needed

The unfurled flag of Mississippi引起了讨论。

Some feel rights were violated, others say dialogue needed.

Unfurled State flag of Mississippi引起了一些人的关注。
Gameday hog roast to be covered by ESPN

Bogus letter fakes Khayat's signature

There is currently no announcement on the matter, but "I have not heard anything from the chancellor\'s office, we\'ll give it our fullest attention," Stewart said.

Expect him not too soon.

"I just dropped anything the truth." (Thank you and everyone's trying."

"If I don\'t hear anything, I will\".

The chancellor has rules for giving free news from individuals and groups who oppose statements from the chancellor.

Robert Khayat, director of the University of Mississippi football coaching program, discouraged the use of the Rebel Flag.

Initially printed in a new edition of the chancellor\'s office and distributed to all students, the letter was later removed from the Rebel Flag. However, the letter was later reinstated in the chancellor\'s office.

The letter was later reinstated in the chancellor\'s office and distributed in a new edition of the chancellor\'s office.

Oxford police to enforce new bicycle rules

The OPD new Department\'s bike patrol will be on the lookout for any complaints.

Rebels face Razorbacks on ESPN

Security officers to enforce stick ban

Cox and Security officers will be at the entrance gates of Vaught-Hemingway Stadium for today\'s game against the Arkansas Razorbacks. However, they will be on the lookout for any complaints.

The federal probation should welcome that change. Cox and the University Police Department officers will also be on hand to handle any complaints that may arise.

As a result of these actions, the University Police Department officers will be at the gates during rush hour on campus, so if a spectator has a stick in their possession, they will be asked to dispose of it. After disposing of the stick, they will be permitted to enter the stadium.

We are hoping that people will cooperate with us and we can go back to the governor's office and run a good game of football.

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Pom poms replace flags during game

Dr. John Brown

The recent addition of a row of red and yellow pom poms at the feet of football game fans has been an effective device. Approximately 1,000 pom poms purchased by the university marketing department were distributed to fans by the University Student Government Board at the gates to Vaught Hemingway Stadium before the Thursday night football game against the University of Arkansas, and the response was tremendous.

"It was simply an idea that went out, " said President James H. Bedell. "It was especially successful in the student section. I was pleasantly surprised."

In the non-student section, the pom poms were hung from the stands like they used to carry Rebel flags. University Police Chief Mike Bledsoe said, "It's a great sight for all."

On Oct. 31, the University of Mississippi Student Government Board approved a flag and pom pom design for the University of Mississippi Stadium. The flags and pom poms will be distributed to students and will be available for purchase in the Football Store. The flags will be distributed to the student section before the game and to the general public on game day.

The student section was evacuated after a row of flags and pom poms were set on fire by an unknown individual.

NO FAIR WEATHER PANS HERE — With temperatures dropping into the mid-60's, Rebel fans (front) Kate Edwards, Clay Dahlke, Michael Sales and B.J. Johnson hold their fans for the Ole Miss Rebels' win over the University of Arkansas Razorbacks Thursday night. Please see page 12 for game stories and columns.

'Get Fit Week' aimed at making Ole Miss physically active

Clayton Frazier

The theme of the campaign's effort was to encourage students to participate in physical activity. The campaign was organized by the University of Mississippi Student Government Board.

Village housing to be upgraded

Makeup

There may be a relief in sight for the residents of the Village, who have been plagued with maintenance issues over the past few months. The University of Mississippi Student Government Board has announced plans to upgrade the Village housing units. The upgrades will include new lighting fixtures, improved insulation, and updated plumbing systems.

Natalie Glavich

There were problems with the maintenance of the Village housing units. The Village housing units were also plagued with maintenance issues. The University of Mississippi Student Government Board has announced plans to upgrade the Village housing units. The upgrades will include new lighting fixtures, improved insulation, and updated plumbing systems.

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Flag lawsuit dismissed in federal court Thursday

Challa Ferguson
Associated Press

White supremacist Richard Barnett's motion to have the ban against sticks at Vaught-Hemingway Stadium removed was dismissed Thursday, according to federal court officials in Oxford.

In a decision unsealed Friday, the judge ordered Barnett to refrain from bringing any object that is prohibited, including weapons, into the stadium and to stay away from Ole Miss games.

The ban, which was put in place in June 2016, prohibited the use of sticks, cans, bottles, and other objects that could be used as weapons.

Astronaut tells of three missions

Nicole Collins
Associated Press

Despite years of training on the cutting edge of technology, there is one thing that cannot be taught.

"I was really amazed at the Earth," Davis said. "It's so vast and so beautiful. You can't see it."

On her first mission in 1992, she was a mission specialist. She and her three crew members carried out 45 different space lab experiments in a module about the size of a school bus.

On her second mission in 1997, she was a mission commander. She and her crew members carried out 34 different space lab experiments in a module about the size of a school bus.

On her third mission in 2000, she was a mission specialist. She and her three crew members carried out 30 different space lab experiments in a module about the size of a school bus.

Davis, along with another crew member, was responsible for deploying a solar sail on the outside of the space shuttles. "We spent a lot of time working on the outside because you want to make sure you don't hit the shuttle," Davis said.

The sailboat weighs about 2,000 pounds and is about 10 feet away from the shuttle at this point.

The satellite's objective was to...
CHANCELLOR ASKS BAND TO MODIFY MUSIC TO SUPPORT ASB RESOLUTION

By MOLLY GILL - News Editor

University of Mississippi Chancellor Dan Jones is supporting the Associated Student Body's recent resolution concerning the university's band's anthem "The South Will Rise Again" by asking The Ole Miss Pride of the South marching band to modify "From Dixie With Love.

I wanted to find ways to support our student leadership in this resolution, so I felt it was important to modify the song because the song is associated with the South," Jones said.

Jones acknowledged that most students love the anthem-as do students-but expressed that they should be more mindful of what they are saying.

This decision demonstrates the vast majority of the people that participate in the chant, the South will rise again, don't have any bad intent in their hearts or spirit, but I think many are aware of how harmful those words can be to so many people," Jones said. "I've received many complaints from alumni and parents of our current students who have been severely offended and hurt by those words.

Jones said he is taking full responsibility for the modification of the song.

"I had a conversation with the Director of Bands, David Wilson, and that conversation went very well," Jones said. "He was very happy to make the change. I made it clear that I was taking responsibility, it was very cordial, and there was no resistance on his part.

"The band leadership and members have been cooperative, and I want to emphasize that people who may have argued with him, I have not, and the band because I take full responsibility," Jones said.

Jones also addressed the concern that this decision was not made in a transparent manner.

The Daily Mississippian Editorial Board published an editorial Monday asking the ASB to reveal the motivation behind the resolution in order for the student body to understand why it was passed.

It was pointed out in editorial that students were concerned about the transparency of this decision, and I made the decision last week and thought it was in best interest to just let the change happen instead of making a public announcement," Jones said. "I was trying to make this change as low key as possible. I'm grateful to all of our students for supporting our athlete teams with passion and enthusiasm, and I want to express deep appreciation to our band for

O-U-T RECEIVES FIVE NEW BUSES, OFFERS FREE TRANSPORTATION FOR OLE MISS STUDENTS AND FACULTY

By RACHEL SATTI - Staff Reporter

Ole Miss students and faculty now have increased opportunities to get to campus in a safe and time-efficient way. Free of charge.

The Oxford University Transport System (OUT) has recently received five new buses, which are larger and hold more passengers than their current buses.

"We received four of the five buses last Wednesday and will be getting the fifth bus within the next few days," OUT manager Ron Biggs said.

Biggs said these new buses are an improvement from the older, smaller buses because they are actual transit buses, which are larger, carry more passengers, and have air brakes.

"We plan on using these buses until "When we received these buses, they have around two years more of expected life, but we are hoping they last much longer than that," OUT systems is planning an expansion of their system, which is expected to start in January 2010. With this expansion, the OUT system will grow to include residences that have primarily college students living in them including the Exchange, The Links Apartments and Campus Walk.

"I feel like these new buses will be a good way for students to avoid getting tickets," senior Austin Sumrall said. "Parking has been a problem at this school for years, and this could help reduce some of the stress that is involved"
TO LIVE AND FIGHT FOR DIXIE

The Daily Mississippian

SEgregationist Pushes 'TSWRA' Chant, Tells Jones to 'Back Off'

By Je Clark and Alex McDaniel, News Editor, Editor-in-Chief

Nationalist Movement leader and segregationist Richard Barrett is calling on Chancellor Dan Jones to "back off" of the Ole Miss student body or be "boxed off" concerning what he feels is their democratic right to chant "the South will rise again." through the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC). Barrett is pursuing racism.

Barrett, a lifelong white supremacist, according to a previous article written by the SPLC, "He has led rallies of KKK men and women, and worked alongside some of the most extreme racists in America."

Barrett, who gained publicity at the University of Mississippi by challenging former Chancellor Robert Khayat over the removal of the Confederate flag and Colonel Rebel, has incited the public once again, saying the student body has the right to say whatever they want without restrictions.

"They are not about to back down the course of the Confederate soldier and put up Nicky Khayat's or Barrett and they are the opposite of the KKK men and women in America."

Barrett said although the phrase is still considered to be offensive, there is no way to stop saying it in a violation of democracy.

"Democracy is offensive to some, but, I am glad it is," Barrett said. "Mississippi is the most democratic state in the Union. It is not legacy from the past Reconstruction, etc. We have more..."
Ole Miss Band faces loss of "From Dixie With Love" if controversial chant continues

By JB CLARK | News Editor

Chancellor Dan Jones said if University of Mississippi students continue to chant "the South will rise again" during football games, he will have to ask the Ole Miss Band to stop playing "From Dixie With Love.

"It is my role to listen to the many voices in our Ole Miss community and determine an appropriate course of action," Jones said in a letter to the student body (see page 2).

"Concerned student leaders, administrators, faculty, athletics administrators and coaches, alumni and major donors have called for discontinuing the chant," the letter said. "I share their view that these words are harmful. They have been used by others in the past to resist racial integration and the progress of civil rights for everyone. Although those who chant may not have bad intent, the words are painful and create an unwelcome feeling for many on our campus, a place widely known for its grace and Southern hospitality.

The movement to end the chant started nearly a month ago when the Associated Student Body passed a resolution discouraging students from participating in the chant.

Since then the issue has rallied support from the chancellor and faculty senate as well as gained national media attention from the Associated Press and ESPN.com.

Many alumni, donors, coaches, and faculty members expressed their concerns in a university press release.

"If we cannot get behind a student initiative that is trying to do the right thing, then we have failed our