

the Local Voice

The Local Magazine for Our Community - Issue #8 - August 3, 2006 - www.TheLocalVoice.net

IN THE SPIRIT OF COURAGE: ROY LEE "CHUCKY" MULLINS # 38

by Gordon P. Shumway

UNIVERSITY, MISS. (TLV) - "It's Time, Rebels! It's Time."

There are but a few catch phrases an Ole Miss fan can spout off to another without any explanation as to the meaning behind the words.

Hotty Toddy. We Are, Ole Miss! Go Rebs. Are You Ready?

And then there are the most inspirational words ever spoken in a locker room prior to the Ole Miss Football team running out on the field. Just a few months after his eventual life ending injury against Vanderbilt, Roy Lee "Chucky" Mullins made his way to Liberty Bowl Stadium to wish his team mates good luck in their post-season game against Air Force.

Confined to a wheel chair and paralyzed from the neck down, Mullins' simply spoke from his heart to the squad before the game.

"It's time, Rebels! It's time," Mullins said.

Those words of encouragement ignited a fire inside of a team that had struggled since his injury, losing two of its final three regular season games. The words sparked roaring screams of enthusiasm as the Rebels made their way onto the grid iron where they thumped Air Force 42-29.

I remember the game like it was yesterday. Ole Miss was hosting Vanderbilt on an October 28, 1989. Mullins wasn't a player that received much attention from the media. He had earned the right to play special teams and was used as a fifth defensive back in passing situations.

Vanderbilt was driving down the field and threatening to score. It was third down and goal at the Ole Miss 12-yard line when #38 was called onto the field for a nickel package. Vanderbilt running back Brad Gaines made his way out of the backfield and for a moment was

open at the Ole Miss four yard line. A pass was thrown his way. Gaines leaped for the ball and pulled it in close to his chest.

As one foot hit the turf near the Ole Miss end zone, Mullins anticipated the when the ball would get to Gaines and laid a hit that broke up the pass and stopped Vanderbilt from scoring. The hit also stopped Chucky's spine from functioning. He shattered vertebrae in his neck and would be paralyzed from the neck down for the rest of his life.

What the hit didn't stop was the heart of Chucky Mullins. Over the next year and half, Chucky's never quit attitude and unbelievable positive spirit

touched the lives of thousands. In January of 1991, he re-enrolled at Ole Miss in search of his degree.

Mullins would never earn his degree from Ole Miss, dying from complications due to a blood clot just five months later. A memorial scholarship was set up in his name.

Each year, a rising senior on the Ole miss football team is awarded the Chucky Mullins Courage Award and given the honor of wearing number 38 during his senior season at Ole Miss.

There have been 16 recipients of the honor. The award

will continue to be handed out, but the number will no longer be worn by any Ole Miss Football player. Number 38 will forever hang inside the walls of Vaught-Hemingway Stadium. Mullins is in good company too. The only other player in Ole Miss in the 111 years of Ole Miss Football to have his jersey retired is **Archie Manning**.

The retirement of Mullin's coveted number 38 has not come without opposition. Some supporters of Ole Miss Athletics feel that the number should remain on the field. In a way, they are right. And his number will remain on the field. A #38 patch will be worn by this year's recipient, **Patrick Willis**, and a replica of his jersey will be hung next to Archie's #18 for all to see when they visit Vaught-Hemingway.

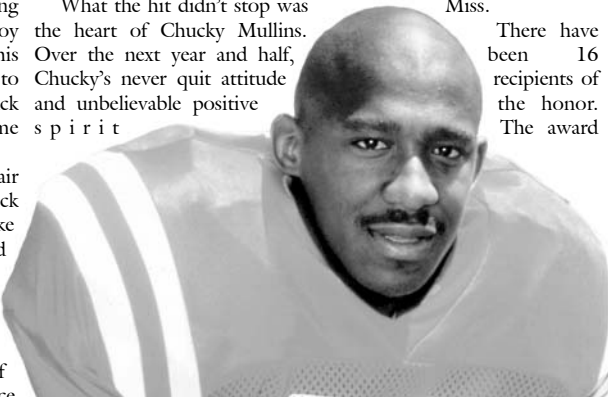
Prior to kickoff against Memphis State on September 3, 2006 Chucky Mullins will be recognized and his jersey will be officially retired. A bronze bust of Chucky Mullins that sits in his trophy case at The Starnes Center will be relocated to the front of the tunnel in the southwest corner of the stadium.

Ole Miss Players will now be able to get a little extra spirit, determination, courage, valor and grit when they rub Chucky's likeness as they make their way onto Hollingsworth Field.

The greatest honor a football player can receive is having his jersey retired. Some compare it to the equivalent of finding the Holy Grail. I don't know about that, but it is certainly a long overdue honor for a legend at Ole Miss.

To borrow a portion of Chucky's phrase: It's about time, Rebels! It's about time.

The Local Voice salutes Chucky Mullins and the University's decision to retire his number. We remind the community that there's less than 30 days til the first Ole Miss football game: Sunday, September 3, 2006 the Memphis Tigers at Ole Miss!



Roy Lee "Chucky" Mullins (July 8, 1969 – May 6, 1991)

Since 1990, the **Chucky Mullins Courage Award** winner has been selected each spring, given to a senior defensive Ole Miss Rebel. The winning player has worn Chucky's number 38 the following season. Winners, beginning in 1990, include

Chris Mitchell, Jeff Carter, Trea Southerland, Johnny Dixon, Alundis Brice, Michael Lowery, Derek Jones, Nate Wayne, Gary Thigpen, Ronnie Heard, Anthony Magee, Kevin Thomas, Lanier Goethie, Jamil Northcutt, Eric Oliver, Kelvin Robinson and this year's recipient, **Patrick Willis**.



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Totally Useless Trivia

Local Q&A: What are you reading this summer?

Chad Henson "Your mail."	
Scott Schornhorst "No Country for Old Men" by Cormack McCarthy	
Bobby Sims & Roy "The Jungle" by Upton Sinclair, because it makes me hungry	
Eric Vinson "Swank."	
Rankin Sherling "Dubliners" by James Joyce."	
Tyler Keith "The Family" by Ed Sanders."	
April Boyd "Geek Love" by Katherine Dunn. Deliciously Grotesque."	
Jake Castle "I do not recommend summer reading."	
Neuter Cooter "The Local Voice!"	
Jamo "Between the lines."	



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Friday, August 4th T Model Ford

Friday, August 11th The Cooters with Soviet Reaction



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the Local Voice

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR: AUGUST 2006

calendar sponsored by THE MUNCHIE MOBILE submit your event by email: thelocalvoice@thelocalvoice.net



MUSIC

Thursday 08.03.2006

Two Stick: Augustine Proud Larry's: Guelei Kumba & Friends

Friday 08.04.2006

Longshot: T Model Ford Proud Larry's: Kenny Brown (Happy Hour) Two Stick: Seth Libbey & the Liberals

Saturday 08.05.2006

Two Stick: Gunboat

Thursday 08.10.2006

Two Stick: Cindy Woolf

Friday 08.11.2006

Longshot: The Cooters with Soviet Reaction

Wednesday 08.16.2006

Two Stick: Daybreakdown

Thursday 08.17.2006

Two Stick: Dustin Messina & Braden Land

Friday 08.18.2006

Two Stick: Rocket 88

Saturday 08.19.2006

Two Stick: WILX

MOVIES & FILM

Hollywood Type Films:

Movies and showtimes change often. To get the most up-to-date information, call 662-234-5625 for the Cine 4 and 662-236-4962 for Oxford Studio Cinema.

Public Library Children's Movie: 10 a.m. Every Monday - Children's Movie at the Lafayette County & Oxford Public Library.

VISUAL ART

University Museem: "Journey of the Spirit: The Art of Gwendolyn Magee" June 6-Aug. 27 "Journey of the Spirit: The Art of Gwendolyn Magee." Vibrant expressions in fabric & thread. University Museum, Tue.-Sat. 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sun1-4 p.m. Reception July 23, 1-3 p.m.

Southside Gallery: Through Aug. 5. Ron Dale, ceramics; Nell Dickerson, photographs; Laurin McCracken, water colors. Mon.-Thu. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Fri.-Sun. 10 a.m.-9 p.m.;

Southside Gallery: NIA Group Exhibition August 7 through September. 2, 2006. Anthony D. Lee, mixed media paintings; Edwin McSwine, mixed media paintings; Frank D. Robinson, Jr, mixed media paintings. Opening Reception: Aug. 10, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Meek Hall and Triplett Alumni Center Lobby: Until Tuesday, June 19th, 2007 Rotating displays of work by Ole Miss

students, faculty, alumni and art classes. Displays can be viewed from 8 a.m.- 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The Center for the Study of Southern Culture's Gammill Gallery in Barnard Observatory: "Southern Towns, Southern Cities", photographs by David Wharton. Through August 23rd.

Gallery 130, Meek Hall: Mary Hardy's "Pulling Threads: Seeking Structure" Through September 14th Mary Hardy of Ocean Springs presents "Pulling Threads: Seeking Structure." There will be a slide presentation on Sept. 14 at 2:30 p.m. in Barnard Observatory & a reception at 4 p.m. in Gallery 130.

THE POWERHOUSE

Friday, August 18, 2006

The Flicker Box Presents: A Jazz Lunch Movie Fund Raiser. Lunch will be served from 11:00 until 2:00 featuring the Jazz infusion sounds of Trio. Later (from 5:00 until 11:00) spend the evening with Oxford best local bands Auditions will be held for the short film "The Light" will be held on Saturday, August 26th from 11:00-2:00.

BOOK SIGNINGS

Thursday 08.03.2006

Off Square Books: The Reverend by James Perry Walker, 5:00 PM

Monday 08.14.2006

Off Square Books: Dollar Daze by Karin Gillespie, 5:00 PM

Tuesday 08.15.2006

Off Square Books: Waltzing at the Piggly Wiggly by Robert Dalby, 5:00 PM

Thursday 08.17.2006

Off Square Books: Point Clear by Jennifer Paddock, 5:00 PM

Sunday 08.20.2006

Off Square Books: A Cast of Characters and Other Stories Edited by Sonny Brewer, Time TBA

Monday 08.21.2006

Off Square Books: A Sound Like Thunder by Sonny Brewer, 5:00 PM

Wednesday 08.23.2006

Off Square Books: The Judas Field by Howard Bahr, 5:00 PM

Friday 08.25.2006

Off Square Books: Smonk by Tom Franklin, and Colorado by Dennis Lehane, 5:00 PM

Wednesday 08.30.2006

Off Square Books: Winter's Bone by Daniel Woodrell, 5:00 PM

PUBLIC LIBRARY

Open Mon. 10AM-8PM, Tues. 10AM-8PM, Wed. 10-8PM, Thurs. 10-8PM, Fri. 10AM-8PM, Sat. 10AM-5:30PM, Sun. 2PM-5PM

Every Monday at 10 AM is a Children's Movie. On Thursdays at 6:30PM is Storytime. On Fridays at 10AM is Toddler Time and at 10:30AM is Storytime.

GOVERNMENT

Monday 08.07.2006

Lafayette County Board of Supervisors Meeting, 7:00 PM, Chancery Court Building

Tuesday 08.15.2006

Board of Aldermen Meeting, 6PM, Courtroom of City Hall

Wednesday 08.16.2006

Oxford Tourism Council Meeting, 5PM at the Oxford Conference Center.

Monday 08.21.2006

Lafayette County Board of Supervisors Meeting, 7PM, Chancery Court Building

FARMER'S MARKET

Every Wednesday All Day and Saturday 7-11AM

Farmer's Market at the Mid-Town Shopping Center on North Lamar with fresh produce. Vendors will have a variety of locally-grown and produced fruits, vegetables, eggs, dairy items, baked goods, herbs, flowers and potted plants. The market also features weekly musical entertainment and monthly children's activities.

CYCLE OF THE DAYS

Thursday 08.03.2006: Sunrise: 6:09am Sunset: 7:58pm, Moonrise: 3:01pm, Moonset: 12:14am

Friday 08.04.2006: Sunrise: 6:10am Sunset: 7:57pm, Moonrise: 4:06pm, Moonset: 12:52am

Saturday 08.05.2006: Sunrise: 6:11am Sunset: 7:56pm, Moonrise: 5:10pm, Moonset: 1:39am

Sunday 08.06.2006: Sunrise: 6:11am, Sunset: 7:55pm, Moonrise: 6:10pm, Moonset: 2:37am

Monday 08.07.2006: Sunrise: 6:12am Sunset: 7:55pm, Moonrise: 7:02pm, Moonset: 3:44am

Tuesday 08.08.2006: Sunrise: 6:13am Sunset: 7:54pm, Moonrise: 7:47pm, Moonset: 4:57am

Wednesday 08.09.2006: Sunrise: 6:14am, Sunset: 7:53pm, Moonrise: 8:25pm, Moonset: 6:13am, Full Moon: 4:54am

Thursday 08.10.2006: Sunrise: 6:14am Sunset: 7:52p, Moonrise: 8:58pm, Moonset: 7:29am

Friday 08.11.2006: Sunrise: 6:15am, Sunset: 7:50pm, Moonrise: 9:28pm, Moonset: 8:42am

Saturday 08.12.2006: Sunrise: 6:16am Sunset: 7:49pm, Moonrise: 9:58pm, Moonset: 9:53am

Sunday 08.13.2006: Sunrise: 6:17am Sunset: 7:48pm, Moonrise: 10:28pm, Moonset: 11:04am

Monday 08.14.2006: Sunrise: 6:17am Sunset: 7:47pm, Moonrise: 11:01pm, Moonset: 12:14pm

Tuesday 08.15.2006: Sunrise: 6:18am Sunset: 7:46pm, Moonrise: 11:37pm, Moonset: 1:24pm, Last Qtr: 7:51pm

Wednesday 08.16.2006: Sunrise: 6:19am, Sunset: 7:45pm, Moonrise: none, Moonset: 2:33pm

Thursday 08.17.2006: Sunrise: 6:20am Sunset: 7:44pm, Moonrise: 12:20am, Moonset: 3:39pm

Friday 08.18.2006: Sunrise: 6:20am Sunset: 7:43pm, Moonrise: 1:09am, Moonset: 4:38pm

Saturday 08.19.2006: Sunrise: 6:21am Sunset: 7:42pm, Moonrise: 2:05am, Moonset: 5:30pm

Sunday 08.20.2006: Sunrise: 6:22am Sunset: 7:40pm, Moonrise: 3:05am, Moonset: 6:14pm

Monday 08.21.2006: Sunrise: 6:22am Sunset: 7:39pm, Moonrise: 4:07am, Moonset: 6:50pm

Tuesday 08.22.2006: Sunrise: 6:23am Sunset: 7:38pm, Moonrise: 5:09am, Moonset: 7:20pm

Wednesday 08.23.2006: Sunrise: 6:24am, Sunset: 7:37pm, Moonrise: 6:08am, Moonset: 7:47pm, New Moon: 1:10pm

Thursday 08.24.2006: Sunrise: 6:25am Sunset: 7:35pm, Moonrise: 7:06am, Moonset: 8:11pm

Friday 08.25.2006: Sunrise: 6:25am Sunset: 7:34pm, Moonrise: 8:01am, Moonset: 8:34pm

Saturday 08.26.2006: Sunrise: 6:26am Sunset: 7:33pm, Moonrise: 8:57am, Moonset: 8:56pm

Sunday 08.27.2006: Sunrise: 6:27am Sunset: 7:32pm, Moonrise: 9:52am, Moonset: 9:19pm

Monday 08.28.2006: Sunrise: 6:27am Sunset: 7:30pm, Moonrise: 10:49am, Moonset: 9:45pm

Tuesday 08.29.2006: Sunrise: 6:28am Sunset: 7:29pm, Moonrise: 11:48am, Moonset: 10:14pm

Wednesday 08.30.2006: Sunrise: 6:29am, Sunset: 7:28pm, Moonrise: 12:49pm, Moonset: 10:48pm

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LOCAL CORRESPONDENCE

Re: The Local Voice #7: "Local Girl Fails to Break Through Glass Ceiling at Annual Pie Contest"

Dear LV,

Glass Ceiling at Annual Pie Contest"

Sarah Reddick is a true hero for the simple fact that she wrote the word "shit" for this esteemed publication without hesitation. Not only that, but she doesn't dance around the real issues, she plays hardball, writes the truth and then leaves it up to the people to decide where injustice has been served.

Sarah's got a case of moxy and it's contagious. I plan to burn my bra as soon as I can find my lighter.

Sincerely, Ma Bell, www.myspace.com/sxysadie

Dear Ma Bell,

That was actually a much discussed editorial issue here at The Local Voice. Complicating the issue was the fact that author Sarah Reddick wasn't using the word, she was quoting someone else. After much debate, we were leaning towards not printing the quote.

However, on July 17, 2006 our President George W. Bush was quoted in every newspaper and broadcast on every news channel around the world as saying, "The irony is, what they need to do is get Syria to get Hizbollah to stop doing this shit, and it's over." We could not find a single case where any newspaper or TV broadcast edited or censored his quote.



When asked what Bush felt when was told about the broadcast of the comments, White House spokesman Tony Snow said: "His reaction first was, 'What did I say?' So we showed him the transcript, then he rolled his eyes and laughed." When asked by reporters whether he had a comment about the president's use of the word, Snow laughed and replied, "Not unless you have never used it."

Well, that settled the debate. The English language is a living language and when you really don't like a situation, there is only one way to adequately describe it. Right, Mr. President?

-The Local Voice

Dear LV,

I am the eminent physicist Professor Jacques Cousteau Bainbeau, inventor of Anti-Gravity Socks, "Plasma-in-a-Can!" and the refreshing chocolate beverage currently known as Yoo-Hoo (originally called "El Choccolato, Ole!") I have perused your publication in the local tavern known as "The Long Shot," and I commend your effort to serve the nearly lost cause of The Arts, yet I am appalled that there has been no mention of My Heroic Feats and numerous Artistic Achievements.

Am I not the discoverer of the Beautron (VERY exotic subatomic particle causally related to Menstruation in Women)? Am I not the world-famous Conquistadore of the Space/Time Continuum? Have I not sipped red wine from the navel of Rue McClanahan (that saucy wench!)? I have, indeed, and many other great accomplishments have been logged under My Name in the annals of both Past and Future (which I control), yet my Stupendous Brain goes unacknowledged in your publication. What a woeful oversight on your part. I imagine that you are ashamed and deeply embarrassed.

Upon publication of your next issue, I expect the cover story to be: "Professor Bainbeau: YOUR ONLY HOPE FOR A FUTURE!" I shall be pleased to provide you with an 8 x 10 glossy of my smiling and (I daresay) handsome face.

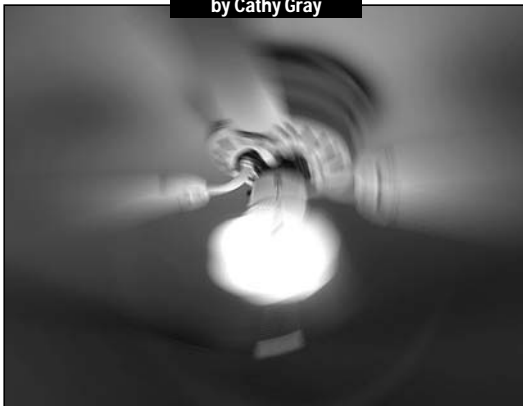
- Professor Bainbeau

Slayer of Genghis Khan, Seducer of Saucy Chi O's
www.myspace.com/bainbeau

"Ashamed and deeply embarrassed" only begins to scratch the surface! Our appologies professor! You send that 8x10 on over and we'll get this snafu sorted out. Thanks for your understanding & support. - The Local Voice

THE SPIN THEORY

by Cathy Gray



Little kid doesn't have a bike, yeah, he mopes
But he sees the other kids riding,
and watches their spokes

The faster their wheels go
The more it looks like they're going slow
It even looks sometimes like their wheels
are turning backwards, he jokes

There's this guy lying in bed with no plan
Nothing better to do than watch his ceiling fan
But watching those fast blades
That image totally fades
And suddenly slowly and backwards his fan ran

Little girl with a mind so absurd
She gets a kick out of just sitting on the curb
Watching fast cars go by
But as fast as their hubcaps fly
All she sees is this slow backwards turn

The world spins out of control
as you're on your cell phone
Computers, faxes, crazy machines moving it all on
But there's people not faxing, beeping or typing
Just letting their thoughts perfectly ripen
And they'll soon be that slow backwards spin
and the only ones shown.

Cathy Gray is a local poet originally from Tupelo, Mississippi but now residing in Nashville, Tennessee.

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August 10: Cindy Woolf
August 16: Daybreakdown
August 17: Dustin Messina & Braden Land
August 18: Rocket 88
August 19: WILX
August 22: Pithecanfunktus Erectus
August 23: Starroy
August 24: Looney Mill
August 25: Maria Y el Sol

So, I'm hitchhiking up to New York to see the Yankees whip the Red Sox and I wake with the realization I've fallen asleep in the back seat of a ride's ride and I don't know where in the northeast we are now in this still-moving vehicle. There are two adults in the front seat, and they're arguing about whether to stop at McDonald's or Burger King. I sit up and the driver, who was making a point about french fries, wide-eyes me, hollers, and the Camry we're in swerves violently to the left. Goofy's wife screams the scream of an over-dressed uncomfortable woman and the Camry pendulums to the right, spraying roadside gravel as the spinning tires break free of the road into the world beyond. This conks the woman's head against the window and then she really starts screaming. We soon come to a stop and the uncomfortable woman is cursing the man like she's a pimp. The woman is so unpleasant; I am worried the driver might sock her in the face. He doesn't and instead shows he's one of those guys who, when stressed, makes fists and holds them against his eyes while his shoulders bob, seemingly seething. I look at the vein snaking up his temple and I think of the Yangtze. The woman slows, moving into a sobbing-and-cursing-under-her-breath phase, and I see the guy eyeing me with one of his eyes from behind one of his fists.

"Get out," he said as softly as a hiss could be soft.

"Where are we?" I asked. "What town are we in? Are we still headed---"

"GET OUT!"

I exited. It appeared I was no longer on an East Coast interstate headed to New York but somewhere in deepest suburbia. A 7-11 squatted not far away and I walked in, asking the stoner clerk, "Uh, where are we, man?"

The clerk pushed his long red hair behind his ears and I thought about how his freckles would look good on a girl. "Dude," he said. "We're at the check-out counter."

"Dude," I said, telling myself not to be rude or lewd with the stoner. "Where is this check-out counter? I mean, I know it's here in this 7-11. Where are we? Near Philadelphia? Hoboken?"

"Dude, you're in Williamsport," the stoner said, narrowing his eyes at me as if I was the stoner.

"Uh, ahhh, Williamsport where...dude?"

"Dude, you don't know where you are! Dude! Dude, where's your car?"

A guy with brackish hair was selecting a six-pack of cheap local beer and turned to frown at me. The girl stocking the fried chicken did the same.

"What state are we in?" I was asking anybody.

"Pennsylvania, dude! Wow." The stoner seemed to think he had outsmarted a gecko.

"Williamsport, Pennsylvania," I said. "Great. Are we near the interstate? I'm hitching to New York."

The three stared at me. The stoner grinned and his lip quivered. The girl had seen enough and headed back to the back before the frying grease in her pan dried any more. The brackish-hair guy put his beer on the counter and said, without smiling, "You're in north central Pennsylvania, a good bit from any interstate. There's a map on that wall over there."

I found where I was while he paid and left and the stoner kid yapped into his cell phone about "...the stoner dude who don't know where he is." I was a long way from an interstate and I had a lot of hitching in front of me in order to see the Yankees beat the Red Sox in Yankee Stadium. First, I needed to go by the local library and email. I interrupted the cell-phone yapping stoner to ask how to get to the library.

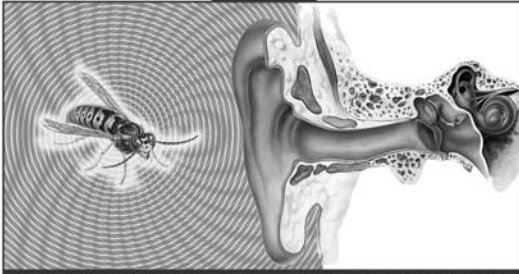
"Yeah, now he wants to go to the library!" said the stoner. "What? Yeah...yeah...(big smile on stoner's face, which should have worried me) yeah! O.K., later, dude!"

The stoner disconnected and turned his full attention to me. "O.K., dude, you want to go to the library? It's just down at that light, turn left and it's three blocks. Just watch for the statue of James Brown flashing a peace sign."

"What? James Brown flashing a peace sign? What? A statue?"

the Local Voice

COCHLEAR THRILLS



BE INVOLVED IN THE COMMUNITY BUZZ...SUPPORT LOCAL MUSIC!

The High Strung Summer Reading Program

by Chico Harris photograph by Marie Luker



"Yep," said the stoner. "It's our claim to fame here in Williamsport. That library, dude, that's where James Brown and Tina Turner signed the peace papers, and now there's a big statue of James Brown flashing a peace sign."

This I had to see. I hurried toward the library, thinking God had intervened so that I could go back to Mississippi not only with stories of Yankee victories over the Red Sox, but also of a library in north-central Pennsylvania that had a statue of James Brown flashing a peace sign in the town where he and Tina Turner signed the peace papers! I felt good! What peace papers?

Just then I reached the library and was disappointed to not see a gigantic statue of James Brown flashing a peace sign. Instead, there was a big sign that read: "James V. Brown Public Library". It occurred to me the stoner had taken me for a stoner. I stood on the sidewalk and debated whether to go in and ask about the statue or just about checking my email.

And then I heard the rock and roll.

There was indeed a rock show going on at the library and....dude! The High Strung was playing!

The High Strung are one of those great northern bands that come through Oxford every now and then and makes you wonder just how many great bands there are out there, rocking under the radar screen of love. **If the Revolver Beatles had been a punk band, they would have been The High Strung.** The band, based in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, is Josh Melerman on guitar, Chad Stocker on bass and guitar and Derek Berk on drums. The band are road dogs, playing over 200 shows a year. They have a fan base growing in Oxford on the strength of great CDs and previous high-energy-and-melody shows that ring to the pop heavens and smash brilliantly into the howling dogs of dissonance. They rock. They have six album releases under their belt, and all have been instrumental in amassing a pile of critic's darlings notices. The High Strung are unique in their fresh musical abilities that can make your leg jerk like a band forty years ago might and they are as well in their approach to the music industry.

Folks listening to cool Cincinnati radio station WOXY heard this uniqueness this spring when the band in multiple sessions played many new songs from their upcoming double-disc effort live for the first time. They are the only band I know of hip enough to play a library tour, playing public libraries across the land, bringing the rock and roll to the kids too young to get in the bar shows and to some folks too old to know they should be going to those bar shows. They played around the corner Friday the 23rd in Hernando at the Hernando Public Library at five in the p.m. and later that night in Oxford at Proud Larrys, opening for local ROCK stalwarts Tyler Keith and the Preacher's Kids. The show climaxed with members of both bands, plus assorted shakin'-it chicks, on stage for a blast of "Gloria."

"It's was a great show," Preacher's Kids drummer Frank Couch confided to me in an unguarded moment. "They're a really cool band and a lot of fun to play with. I'm looking forward to doing it again."

During the library gigs, the band plays a full set of original rock and roll music and give the mostly-teenage audience pointers about making music in the music industry, creating video for MTV and non-stop touring. The High Strung are particularly adept at writing new songs (Josh is the main songwriter) and a high point of the library gigs is when audience help is solicited in creating a new song—from the writing to the playing—in the moment. The library shows, while not the same thing as a High Strung show in a tone-seasoned music and beer hall, are a high energy, fast-paced gig that should spawn young bands across our nation.

"I go to all the shows," Sallye G. Baines told me. "I always have to change clothes between the library show and the rock club show because I dance so hard at the first show. These guys...man! You just never know what they're going to pull out! The live show is so fresh and energetic and cool. The Proud Larrys show was REALLY COOL! The guys really love Oxford."

Malerman will soon be able to get even more into the local scene with the impending publication of his novel, *Wendy*. If one Googles The High Strung Oxford Mississippi, one gets The High Strung web site, but also stuff like *Venus Magazine*, in which the band speaks highly of Oxford (even their press releases mention Oxford).

It hasn't been long enough since their first release for the High Strung to be considered for induction to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, but rest assured the band is known at the Cleveland museum. They recently had to replace a beloved member of the band, their old road dog van and all the stickers, butts and other residue of a thousand shows in a million miles. At 3 a.m., they drove the old girl up the steps of the Hall of Fame and left her at the door, donated in their name.

Chico Harris is a local writer originally from Tupelo, Mississippi. Contact him at chico@oxfordland.net and see The High Strung website at www.TheHighStrung.com

HOW WILL MISSISSIPPI'S Gulf Coast be rebuilt? What will It look like? Who's going to live there?

In those initial days (and for most of the days following Hurricane Katrina) the term "Gulf Coast" usually meant New Orleans because as one person or another would begin talking about Katrina and rebuilding the "Gulf Coast," the next words out of their mouths were generally "New Orleans and Louisiana."

This has peeved many a Mississippian. It has peeved me to no end. Don't get me wrong, I'm all for rebuilding N.O., but as I've read, it looks as if the poor and lower classes will be left out of the picture like those here in Mississippi.

First of all, the term "rebuild" implies that things will be put back in some semblance of what they were previously.

When Gov. Barbour speaks of rebuilding, he immediately attaches the words "bigger and better."

First of all, bigger doesn't necessarily equate to better. Bigger and better usually implies something upscale and costly which usually results in the lower classes being excluded. The initial rebuilding visions of grandeur were brought to Mississippi through the ideas of Smart Code and New Urbanism. Thus a Charrette was formed and outside architects, planners, Smart Coders, and New Urbanists were brought in to help us plan how our coast should be rebuilt.

Detailed plans were developed for the coastal communities and uploaded as very large pdf files for viewing, thus giving the feeling that all people were to be included - that is if you had a fast computer and DSL. I initially tried to down-load the large files on my slow computer and dial-up. Impossible! I finally had to go to the library to view the files. I wondered how many coastal people were even able to view the files being that Katrina destroyed many libraries and took away many people's computers as well as computer access.

After pouring over the resulting Charrette plans for each of the coastal communities, then researching Smart Code and New Urbanist ideas (<http://www.dpz.com/links.htm>) and going to the web sites of the southern "communities" which have been built according to those ideas, I found little, if anything, that spoke to the needs of low and middle income people. The homes and "communities" are expensive and exclusive. Some examples: www.seasidefl.com - cottages from \$1.2- \$5.4 million, www.lostrabbitms.com, and <http://www.alysbeach.com/ab.html#>

The catch 22 in rebuilding communities is that if people are not paid by their insurance companies and can find no other way to rebuild, they will sell out to the highest bidder.

Enter the profiteers and carpetbaggers. Like a plague invading our coast, bigger and better takes the form of large condo projects and more and more casinos. Zoning laws, codes, and ordinances begin changing to fit the needs of wealthy investors, large contractors, and even town aldermen. www.sunherald.com/mld/sunherald/news/15054961.htm

What is sad is that few people realize the consequences such an invasion has upon sense of community and neighborhood and those micro environments. When every last inch of green space, wooded acre, wetland area, beach front, or small tree shaded cottage within a neighborhood is given over to condos or casinos, it will be too late. The town's soul will have been scraped and raped and turned into a forgery via developers selling "heritage." With the help of the city selling itself through image making and image marketing, quaint neighborhoods become gentrified by outsiders trying to buy that heritage.

Another issue relative to rebuilding bigger and better is the fact that Katrina has displaced so many people to other regions of the state or the country. In the case of New Orleans, this is a modern day diaspora. If some people do not want to come back to New Orleans or to the Mississippi coast, that is as it should be, but if they do want to come back to their homeland they should have the fair right to be able to do just that! Otherwise, they are being excluded.

HUD and FEMA are looking to exclude by looking to the U.S. government and considering how it has used "demand side" housing in other countries where natural disasters displaced large populations. Those people were in essence made to stay in the place they were moved to. HUD and FEMA would like Katrina's displaced to stay permanently in their new "home regions" by giving them vouchers todoso. They are touting this idea under the guise that infrastructure and support services are in place wherever it is those folks are living and they need those services to get to the next proverbial rung on the ladder of starting over. FEMA is also considering selling the FEMA trailers to those who are currently in them, but requiring them to move outside of flood zones. I guess all of this would conveniently allow some slack on FEMA since they are supposed to dole out millions to coastal communities for infrastructure rebuild.

The hoops and red tape are so pervasive that not much is getting accomplished. I have to wonder if all agencies involved in creating so much red tape and hoops aren't just waiting for another storm to hit and finish off the coast. If it weren't for volunteer groups coming into the state all this time since Katrina hit, nothing would be happening.

All state and federal agencies involved in this hoopla need to get with the program and perhaps read over and/or re-read the best ideas I have seen thus far for rebuilding. Living Cities: The National Community Development Initiative wrote an open letter to the Bush Administration and to Congress which presented the following 10-point guide:

Ten Points to Guide Rebuilding in the Gulf Coast Region (from www.livingcities.org):

1. Rebuild devastated areas as mixed-income communities with opportunities for residents to return.
2. Distribute investments equitably in new infrastructure, transportation, schools, parks, and other amenities.
3. Make sure neighborhoods are healthy and environmentally safe.
4. Ensure fairness for displaced residents, so that families can rebuild their lives where they choose to do so.
5. Restore and strengthen community-based organizations.
6. Address poverty through opportunities to build wealth and assets: jobs that lift people out of poverty, homeownership opportunities, personal savings, and small business development.
7. Strengthen the political voice of dispersed residents through the voting process.
8. Create a meaningful, sustained role for resident participation in rebuilding investment decisions.
9. Use rebuilding expenditures to create jobs with livable wages for local residents.
10. Develop a communications and technology infrastructure to keep residents informed and involved in rebuilding plans.

My hopes that our once beautiful and quaint coastal Mississippi will be rebuilt in any semblance of what used to be are fading fast. For the sake of common sense and fairness to all, we need to follow the 10-point guide. We also need to remember that people on the coast are still trying to live in very difficult situations. Please don't forget them.

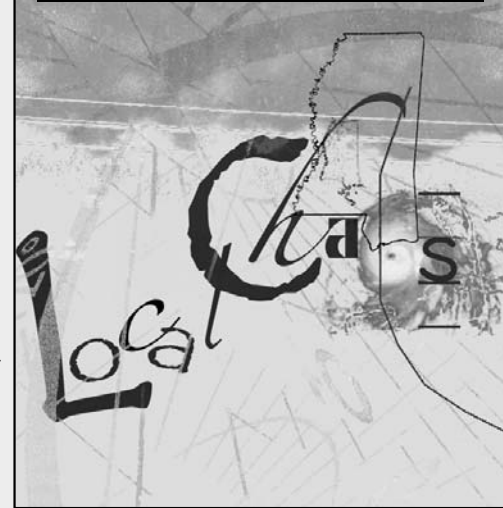
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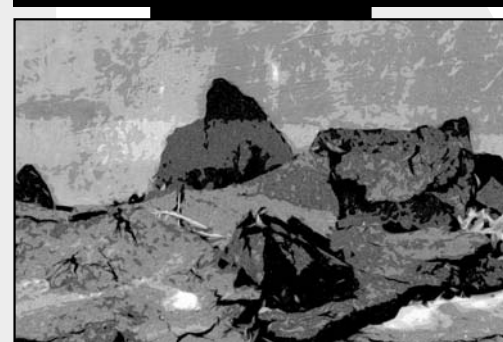
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LOCAL CHAOS

by Gara Gillentine: www.sarabluesky.com



Ocean Springs Bridge looking towards Biloxi.



Hurricane Katrina's surge stripped the asphalt from the roadbed of the Ocean Springs, Mississippi bridge. Original photographs taken by Gara Gillentine in November 2005.

Gara Gillentine is a local artist and writer originally from Tupelo, Mississippi. Contact her at www.SaraBlueSky.com

WORDS FROM THE GREASE PIT

by Travis Malkovich malk81@mail.com

Not Made of Money?

People have been asking me for advice a lot, lately. Not the usual relationship crap or how to gain some one's power of attorney, advice (true story). I'm talking about people have been asking me what they can do to ease the strain of high gas prices. Gas prices are hitting us all a lot harder. And, if you're like me, you're poor. Poor as hell. Lucky for you, there are some easy ways that you can improve the gas mileage on just about any vehicle.

First and foremost, make sure the thing is in good working order! I'm talking about making sure the engine is in tune. You aren't driving around with your "check engine" light lit. You don't see a huge cloud of black smoke every time you hit the gas . . . that sort of thing. If every time you go to start your car the thing feels like its going to rattle apart, deal with that first before you start working on better mileage.

Once everything is working properly, stay up on you maintenance. Such as changing your oil, spark plugs and wires and most importantly, making sure to replace your air filter once in a while. Harder it is for your engine to breathe, the worse mileage it will get. Think of it this way: Which is easier, breathing through a straw or breathing through a snorkel? By the same token, if you want to improve your mileage even more and bump up your performance, consider switching to a high flow, washable air cleaner. And/or having your muffler or entire exhaust replaced with high flow units. Sure, they cost more, but they will save you money in the long run. Plus your car will be more fun to drive. Word of warning, don't buy "glass pack" mufflers. Sure, they're cheap, but almost all "glass packs" are more restrictive than stock mufflers.

Another great thing you can do is check your tires. You really need to keep your tires at their recommended air levels for two reasons. The first is if your tires are under inflated this creates more drag on the drive train. What this mean to you is lower gas mileage. The other reason is your tires will last a lot longer. Actually, if you slightly over inflate your tires (by about 2 or 3 psi) you can improve your gas mileage a bit more. But, I only recommend this to people who drive around town. Any higher pressure or long highway trips could cause a blow out.

One last thing, don't keep all your crap in your car. Your car is not a trash can, nor is it a spare room in your house. For about every two hundred pounds you can cut out of a car you'll gain one mile per gallon. Just remember, the name of the game is to make your car's job as easy as possible. If you can do that, you'll get more out of your tank. Happy penny pinching.

Travis Malkovich is a local writer originally from Carbondale, Illinois.



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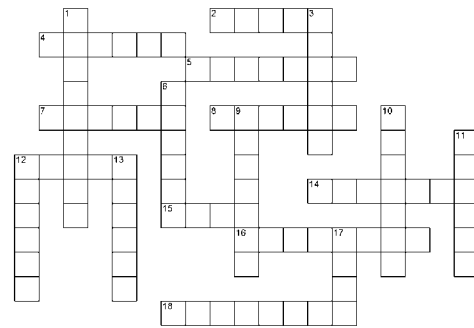
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Welcome to The Local Voice Crossword Puzzle. All of the words used in this puzzle can be found in the articles, advertisements, and pages of this magazine. The solution is on our website: www.thelocalvoice.net

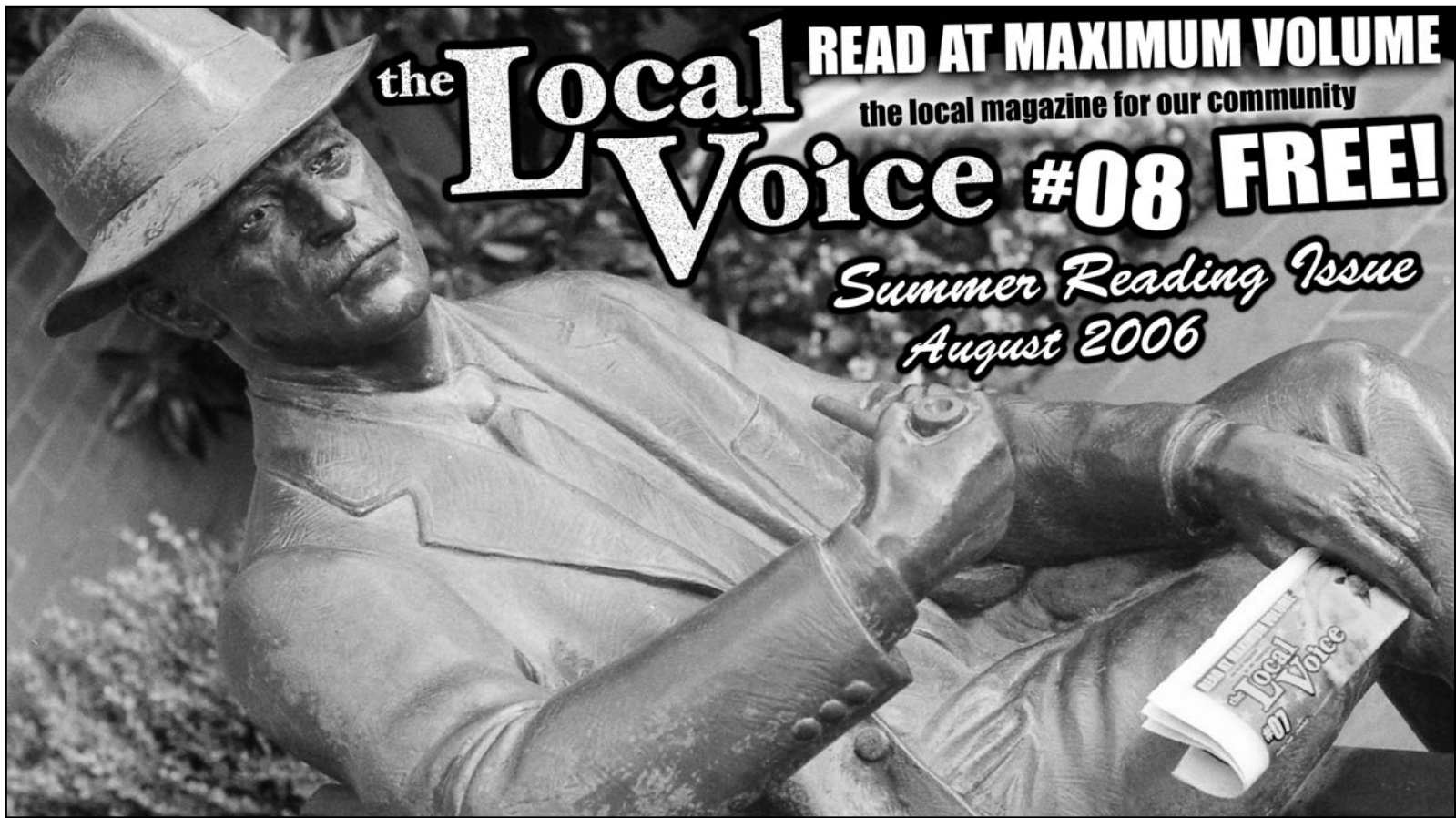


- ACROSS**
- 2 Nickname of the Star Trek doctor
 - 4 to ride around blasting bass
 - 5 when you're hungry late at night
 - 7 Action that comes to a ridiculous end
 - 8 unimportant matters or knowledge
 - 12 land near the sea
 - 14 the attitude of facing and dealing with anything recognized as dangerous, difficult, or painful, instead of withdrawing from it
 - 16 automobile for hire
 - 18 Only a slight chance of winning
- DOWN**
- 1 violent cyclone from the sea
 - 3 the soul
 - 6 free from deceit
 - 9 to renew what has been demolished
 - 10 the main root of a plant
 - 11 Musical starring Travolta & Newton-John
 - 12 Evil doll in horror films
 - 13 regarded as the first affordable automobile, the car which "put America on wheels";
 - 17 any of the heavenly bodies seen as small fixed points of light in the night sky

TOTALLY USELESS TRIVIA

Leonard Horatio McCoy Ole Miss Class of 2249, UMMC class of 2253

American Airlines saved \$40,000 in 1987 by eliminating one olive from each salad served in first class. The number of possible ways of playing the first four moves per side in a game of chess is 318,979,564,000. Upper and lower case letters are named 'upper' and 'lower', because in the time when all original print had to be set in individual letters, the 'upper case' letters were stored in the case on top of the case that stored the smaller, 'lower case' letters. The proper term for upper case letters is "majuscule" and for lower case it's "minuscule". The printing industry gives us other popular phrases, such as "mind your 'p's and 'q's." The moveable block type had the letters in reverse so they would read correctly when imprinted on paper. Apprentices had to remove the type from the pages and return the blocks to their upper and lower cases. Each drawer in the case held a different size of letters, and each drawer was divided into compartments (called sorts) for each letter. The letters 'p' and 'q' could easily be mistaken, so the master printer would advise their apprentices to mind their 'p's and 'q's. When the master printer was building a page and discovered that a particular sort was empty, he would get angry. Thus the term "out of sorts". The question mark came from a monk habit of writing the Latin word for question, quo, at the end of sentences. Over time, the letters were written vertically to save space and morphed into the ? we write today. Similarly, the exclamation point came from the Latin word "Lo", meaning something important that should be heeded. (Lo and behold...) Wellfleet, Massachusetts has the only town clock in the world that strikes ship's time. (Rings every half hour, to a maximum of 8 rings at the end of each four hour period.)



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