



Lt. Col. Rodney Hall (right) holds his 3-year-old son, Tripp, after reuniting with his wife, Tierra Hall, during the Ole Miss-Georgia football game at Vaught-Hemingway Stadium on Nov. 9. Tierra, who was honored as the military spouse of the game, has been taking care of Tripp and 6-month-old Reagan (left) while her husband has been deployed in Europe. Photo by Hunt Mercier/Ole Miss Digital Imaging Services

TOP NEWS

**[UM alumnus, soldier reunites with family during Georgia game](#)**

Lt. Col. Rodney Hall, a University of Mississippi alumnus, reunited with his family at the Nov. 9 Ole Miss football game after an eight-month deployment.

The family was the most recent honored through the Ole Miss Wish program, a philanthropic effort of the Office of Veteran and Military Services to create special moments for military families.

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PEOPLE

**[Two UM students, one graduate named Rhodes and Marshall finalists](#)**

Two University of Mississippi students and one recent graduate have been named finalists for two of the most exclusive scholarships offered to U.S. students.

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RESEARCH

**[Despite federal warnings, kratom still readily available across U.S.](#)**

A University of Mississippi study reveals that kratom, an addictive substance linked to serious health risks, is sold in 72% of tobacco and vape shops across the U.S.

Researchers urge greater regulation as federal and state authorities have yet to enforce consistent restrictions on its sale.

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NEWS

**[UMMC's overall school enrollment continues to climb](#)**

Overall enrollment at the University of Mississippi Medical Center has increased for the sixth consecutive year.

Recording the largest growth rate across the UMMC campus, the nursing school plans to open a new building in 2027 to keep pace with enrollment growth and demand for nurses.

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NEWS

**[Couple supports student wellness programs at Ole Miss](#)**

UM alumnus David Rogers and his wife, Deborah, gifted \$500,000 to the university's Counseling Center to support students struggling with issues such as anxiety and depression, addressing a growing demand for mental health services on campus.

The couple's donation will enhance mental health resources by adding new counselors and expanding the Mental Health First Aid program.

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EVENTS

**[Banking and Finance Symposium tackles AI, regulation issues](#)**

The University of Mississippi's 23rd annual Banking and Finance Symposium drew over 300 industry professionals to discuss innovations and challenges, including artificial intelligence and regulatory shifts. Keynote speaker Michelle Bowman, of the Federal Reserve, emphasized the need for clear regulatory explanations to support innovation and growth.

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