

# Ole Miss sweeps Lincoln Regional, headed to Supers

Bruce Newman/Special to the Clarion Ledger / USA TODAY

Dom Decker admitted Sunday night in Lincoln was not his or Ole Miss' best game, but a sacrifice fly off his bat scored a walk-off run to sweep the Lincoln Regional and propel the Rebels to the Super Regional round.

It is the first time since 2022 Ole Miss will play in a Super Regional (I can't remember what happened that postseason). The Rebels had to overcome a 3-0 Arizona State lead early on in this game with Cade Townsend having a rough first two innings on the mound. He locked things down for the next few innings however allowing Ole Miss to get back into the game.

From there, a not so often used Wil Libbert came in for three no-hit innings in one of the more clutch outings of the season. Then JP Robertson pitched for

the second time in as many days and shutout ASU in the ninth and tenth innings.

The Rebels just couldn't grab the lead despite all those zeroes in the top half of the inning. Then, as baseball does sometimes, an unexpected hero emerges. With one man on and one out in the bottom of the tenth, freshman Luke Romine pinch hit with only two hits for the season. **FOR THE SEASON.**

Romine poked a fastball through the infield to advance the runner to third base to allow Decker the chance for a big fly to end the game. Decker came through as he seems to always do in these situations with a deep fly ball to left field scoring Cannon Goldin.

Ole Miss will know wait to see if Auburn can end the Cinderella story of Milwaukee on Monday in its regional final or not. If Auburn wins, the Rebels will

head to Auburn, Ala. for the Super Regional round. If Milwaukee pulls off the upset, the Rebels will host the Super Regional round in Oxford.

There has not been a Super Regional in Oxford in more than 15 years, and while fans may think playing Milwaukee would be a punched ticket to Omaha, college baseball is all about getting hot at the right time and every series at this point is going to be pressure packed and difficult.

Either way, this has been one interesting season for Ole Miss baseball. At times, this team looked destined as one of the top 10 or 15 teams in the country. Other weekends were as low as I can remember seeing the program perform. The coaching experience and veteran roster shone through this weekend in Lincoln, however. This is where this team and locker room expected to be at this point in the year.

# Mississippi College becomes Mississippi Christian University



commitment and affection for what 'Mississippi Christian' stands for."

The Mississippi College School of Law will also adopt the name and become the Mississippi Christian University School of Law, but will remain known as the MC School of Law or, simply, MC Law.

Refreshed lettering on the University marquee sign at the Highway 80 and Springridge Road intersection is one of the first tangible signs of the name change. The banner at 'The Gates' to campus beckons visitors, "Welcome to Mississippi Christian University," while more evidence of the new name will follow on campus in the coming weeks and months.

What hasn't changed at MC or MC Law are the traditions, memories and people. The University remains committed to the success of its students, the integration of faith and learning throughout the educational process, and the preparation of the next generation of Christian leaders.

"We students are enrolled at a significant point in the life of the University," Pineda said. "There is a shared excitement about being right in the middle of it all."

For more information about the shift to Mississippi Christian University, visit [mc.edu/introducing-mississippi-christian-university](http://mc.edu/introducing-mississippi-christian-university).

On June 1, 2026, the state's oldest institution of higher learning, Mississippi College, officially changes its name to Mississippi Christian University.

MC President Blake Thompson said the University's new name is a strategic, forward-looking decision that better reflects the school's Christian mission, academic scope and long-term vision. Fittingly, the change comes amid the University's celebration of its 200th anniversary in 2026.

"In this bicentennial year for the University, we want to ensure that MC will be a university recognized for academic excellence and commitment to the cause of Christ for another 200 years," Thompson said.

Discussions about a potential name change had been ongoing at MC for decades. Thompson said the shift to Mississippi Christian University emphasizes the school's faith-based identity and university-level academic program offerings. It also allows the institution to maintain its beloved "MC" logo and moniker.

"We have been rooted deeply in this state for 200 years, and we will continue to serve Mississippi by prioritizing our students, maintaining our academic focus and striving to reflect the message of Christ," Thompson said.

"Mississippi Christian University' more fully reflects who we are and who we aspire to be."

Thompson emphasized that the change will not affect the institution's accreditation, academic programs or commitment to providing a high-quality education. Students, faculty and alumni will continue to benefit from the same rigorous coursework, vibrant campus life and

populations. When your baking powder expires, the effectiveness may be reduced in how they affect your body's delicate pH balance.

strong community that has defined the institution for generations.

Marco Pineda, 2026-27 MC Student Government Association president, said he and his classmates are thrilled to be the first to have "Mississippi Christian University" printed on their diplomas.

"The name 'Mississippi College' is revered and will continue to be cherished and remembered across the state," said the senior communication/journalism major from Oxford. "But I have often had to explain to those outside the campus community that MC is both a full-scale university and a Christian institution. I strongly believe the name 'Mississippi Christian University' provides immediate clarity to our identity as an institution.

"This renaming is ultimately about identity and a recommitment to that identity. Many students share the sentiment that it is a needed step forward that will help drive MC into the future. They are excited to be a part of this moment that will lead to an even stronger sense of

# Mississippi State Sweeps Starkville Regional to Reach Super Regionals

Mississippi State baseball has claimed the Starkville Regional title with a dominant 19-5 win over Louisiana in the championship game, advancing to the Athens Super Regional against Georgia.

Regional Sweep

The Bulldogs (43-17) swept all three games at Dudy Noble Field, outscoring opponents 39-11 SuperTalk Mississippi. They defeated Lipscomb 10-1 on May 29, beat Cincinnati 10-5 on May 30, and capped the weekend with the 19-5 demolition of Louisiana.

Championship Game Highlights

\*Early dominance: Mississippi State scored 8 runs

in the first five innings, fueled by multiple home runs from Gehrig Frei, Ace Reese, Jacob Parker, and Ryder Woodson \*Louisiana's late push: The Ragin' Cajuns cut the deficit to 8-2 in the sixth, but State answered with a five-run seventh inning and added six more in the final two frames

\*Grand slam finish: Vytas Valincius hit a ninth-inning grand slam to seal the win

Offensive Standouts \*Jacob Parker (4-for-4, 2 HR, 4 RBI) and Gehrig Frei (4-for-4, 1 HR, 2 RBI) led the offense

\*Ryder Woodson added 3-for-3, 2 HR, 4 RBI.

\*Vytas Valincius drove in 5 runs, including the grand

slam Pitching Performance \*Ryan McPherson (5 IP, 2 ER, 5 H, 7 K) delivered his best outing since returning from injury, striking out seven without a walk.

\*Tomas Valincius also pitched well, striking out 10 over 7.1 innings in the semi-final Mississippi State - Official Athletics Website.

Next Step

This is Mississippi State's first Super Regional since 2021 and the 11th time the program has advanced to the next round Yahoo Sports. They will face No. 3 seed Georgia in the Athens Super Regional starting Friday, aiming to continue their postseason momentum.

# Baking Ingredients That Turn Toxic Past Their Expiration Date

Baking Powder: The Stomach Destroyer

The only danger of using expired baking soda or baking powder is its inability to properly rise, resulting in baked goods that are flat and dense. But wait, that's not the whole story. While many sources claim expired baking powder is simply ineffective rather than dangerous, there's a darker side that most people don't know

about.

The consumption of baking powder or soda can alter profoundly the pH of the blood and "is readily absorbed into the general circulation and may alter systemic pH." This means that baking powder and soda negatively affect many tissues of the body. Even as little as one milligram of baking soda or baking powder alters the pH of the

stomach. This causes digestion to be delayed while the stomach takes on the task of correcting the pH. This, in turn, can cause irritation of the lining of the digestive tract.

What's truly shocking is this connection to stomach cancer. Some studies suggest that excessive regular antacid use may be associated with modestly increased gastric cancer risk in certain

# Supt. Pat Ross speaks at Rotary



Pictured are interim Holmes County School Superintendent Pat Ross and Rotary member Leroy Riley. Mr. Ross gave an overview of the schools with a question and answer time afterwards.