

THE CHANTICLEER

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Jacksonville State University

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NEWS Briefs

JSU's Whitestone at Miss America



Whitestone: Miss Alabama

• Heather Whitestone, a hearing-impaired JSU student, will be competing for the title of Miss America Sept. 13-18. Whitestone, a junior accounting major, won the title of Miss Alabama 1994 on her third attempt to take the crown.

Whitestone is currently in Atlantic City, New Jersey participating in preliminaries. A native of Pelham, Whitestone's talent exhibition at the pageant will be interpretive dance.

The Miss America Pageant will be broadcast on national television on Sept. 18. Check local listings for time and station.

• Tickets for Saturday's game between the Gamecocks and the UAB Blazers are on sale now, two-for-one, at TMB. The price of the two-for-one offer is \$8. Tickets at the gate Saturday at Legion Field will be \$8 per person.

Game preview: See Sports, page 14

Talking traffic signal on the way



Scary experience: Visually-impaired student Elisha Gilliland crosses the Hwy. 204/Hwy. 21 intersection with her dog Yaz. Crossing can be perilous, but with specially equipped traffic signals, the task is not as challenging.

▼ By Emily Wester
Staff writer

If you are standing at the intersection of Alabama Highways 204 and 21 by yourself and start hearing voices, don't be alarmed. It's just the traffic signal.

Around mid-October, talking pedestrian traffic signals will be installed at the intersection to assist visually-impaired students in getting across the street.

Though the task might seem simple, it can be dangerous for a visually-impaired student. These new machines can help. The prototype, manufactured in France, was installed in Talladega's city square about three years ago to assist students at the Alabama School for the Deaf and Blind.

Daniel Miller, coordinator of Disabled Student Services, said JSU has been working on getting a talking traffic signal ever since Talladega's prototype became a success.

"This is only the second unit of its kind being installed in the state," Miller said.

The unit doesn't come cheap. The cost is around \$10,000, plus installation. This rather high price tag was split between the school and the city.

The traffic signal will serve 25 visually-impaired students, 15 of which are legally blind. A computerized voice will inform them when it is safe to cross the intersection.

"We're really excited about having a unit this high-tech at Jacksonville," Miller said. "We're excited about being able to better serve our visually-impaired students. A lot of people had to work together to make this happen. We (D.S.S.) couldn't have done this without the city of Jacksonville, David Nichols of the police department and many, many others."

The school and city are not stopping with traffic signals. In addition-

See Signals

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Campus crime rate down once again

JSU's campus is safer for the third straight year as trend continues

▼ By Nathan Barclay
Staff writer

Criminal activity on campus has decreased for the third year in a row, according to a report released by the University Police Department.

The 1993-94 report, released earlier this year, listed 336 actual crimes reported and 80 arrests made. Those figures are down 21 percent from last year (424 actual crimes reported) and 48 percent (154 arrests made).

The 1989-90 report showed the highest crimes reported and arrests figures of the last seven years. The number of crimes reported was 614 and the arrests made were 124.

Dr. David Nichols, Director of Public Safety, said those statistics are great compared to other schools in the area.

"They are unheard of in any police department, whether it be campus, or municipal, or county," Nichols said.

Nichols said a number of things have happened to help lower the

crime rate.

"Enhanced entry requirements have had some impact on that," he said.

He also mentioned a number of different strategies the UPD has employed in handling campus crime.

"The University Police have almost totally changed their orientation and patrol approach, with more foot patrol especially in University Housing areas," he said.

Nichols added the UPD is being stricter about enforcing alcohol and drug violations and cracking down on public and underage drinking. Bike patrol, desk assistants on dormitory floors, and guards in men's dormitories have also contributed to public safety.

The UPD is making its presence felt around campus. Nichols and UPD Deputy Chief Nelson Coleman conducted a night patrol, visited with residence hall directors and assistants and attended the Welcome Back party on the Quad.

"We are trying to let people who

How does it look?

• Graph shows downward trend of on-campus crime rate

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might cause trouble know that we are not going to tolerate violence, weapons, or drugs. We have a zero tolerance level," Nichols said.

Most social behavior problems, like drunk and disorderly conduct, tend to occur more in the fall, while theft and other crimes go up in the spring, Nichols added.

Several cases of stalking and sexual harassment occur, Nichols said, but "no more than at any other institution."

Nichols recommends that students obtain and read the public safety policy booklet and that female students contact UPD to be escorted around campus in the evening. Students can take advantage of the escort service by calling 782-5050.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• The following are dates for the College BASE Examination, which is required for graduation.

3 p.m.-7 p.m.	Oct. 4	Room 20 Ayers Hall
3 p.m.-7 p.m.	Oct. 5	Room 20 Ayers Hall
5 p.m.-9 p.m.	Oct. 20	Room 218 Ayers Hall
8:30 p.m.-12:30 p.m.	Oct. 22	Room 20 Ayers Hall
5 p.m.-9 p.m.	Oct. 24	JSU-Gadsden, Enzor Hall Aud.
5 p.m.-9 p.m.	Oct. 25	JSU, Ft. McClellan; Room TBA
5 p.m.-9 p.m.	Oct. 26	Room 218 Ayers Hall
5 p.m.-9 p.m.	Oct. 27	Room 218 Ayers Hall

Students should plan on being in the test a minimum of two hours and 30 minutes. Registration for the College Base Exam is in the Office of Assessment, 216 Ayers Hall.

• Career Development and Counseling Services has announced its 1994 fall workshop schedule. (All will be held in room 220, Stephenson Gym.)

"Building Self Esteem," 4 p.m.-5 p.m., Sept. 15.

"Resume Writing, Interviewing and Job Search Techniques," 2 p.m.-3:30 p.m., Sept. 20; 3 p.m.-4:30 p.m. Sept. 21; 4 p.m.-5:30 p.m., Sept. 22.

• There will be an exhibition of works by the Art Dept. faculty of Birmingham Southern College at Hammond Hall Gallery through Sept. 30. The exhibition is free and open for all to come and visit. Gallery hours are Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

• The Student Accounting Association will have a professional speaker at 2:30 p.m. today in room 101 Merrill Building. The speaker will be Robin Young, president of the Northeast Alabama Chapter of the Certified Public Accountants Association.

CAMPUS CRIME DOCKET

- 9-12-94. Anthony D. Horton reported theft of property at Merrill Hall.
- 9-12-94. Antuan Paci reported a theft at Rowan Hall.
- 9-12-94. Shawn Edward Holsombeck reported criminal mischief in the Martin Hall parking lot.
- 9-11-94. JSU reported criminal mischief at Crow Hall.
- 9-11-94. Karen Estelle Shelton reported criminal mischief at Logan Hall.
- 9-9-94. Patricia Emily Hawk reported theft of property at Sparkman Hall.
- 9-9-94. Charles Jason Liggan, 22, Gadsden was arrested and charged with public intoxication.
- 9-8-94. Fred Louis Davis, 19, Birmingham was arrested in Crow Hall and charged as a minor in possession of alcohol and with possession of marijuana.
- 9-8-94. Joe Lucious Berry, 23, Hartselle, was arrested in Crow Hall and charged with unlawful possession of marijuana.
- 9-8-94. Roderick Wilson, 19, Anniston was arrested in Crow Hall and charged with possession of marijuana.
- 9-8-94. Maurice Dedrione Battle, 19, Birmingham, was arrested in Crow Hall and charged with unlawful possession of marijuana.
- 9-8-94. JSU reported a minor possession of alcohol and unlawful possession of marijuana in Crow Hall.
- 9-8-94. Jamarie Catrice Clark reported criminal mischief at Penn House Apartments.
- 9-7-94. Mark Franklin Samples, 18, Atlanta, was arrested and charged with harassment and possession of marijuana in the Dixon Hall parking lot.
- 9-7-94. Harassment was reported in the Dixon Hall parking lot.
- 9-7-94. A fire alarm went off at Fitzpatrick Hall.
- 9-6-94. Harassment was reported on the third floor of Dixon Hall.

THE CHANTICLEER



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"A free press is the unsleeping guardian of every other right that free men prize; it is the most dangerous foe of tyranny."

--Winston Churchill

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The editor reserves the right to edit for content and space. Send all submissions to Jamie Cole, The Chanticleer, 180 Self Hall, JSU, Jacksonville, AL 36265. Deadline for all submissions is noon Friday.

NATION • STATE

The Chanticleer • September 15, 1994

WASHINGTON, DC

U.S. invasion of Haiti could come 'soon'

Military action against Haiti could come "very soon." That was the official word from Pentagon officials this past Tuesday, as Pentagon officials ordered two aircraft carriers to be prepared to join more than 15 ships already on active duty in the Caribbean.

The *USS America* and the *USS*

Eisenhower will be assigned to haul troops and special forces into Haiti, should an invasion be ordered.

Officials said that special operations forces, which usually enter a hostile zone to capture vital targets in advance of the main invasion force, will be on the

America.

Officials also stated that some reservists could be called up for action, but Pentagon officials have stated during the past few weeks that they might rely on volunteers from the reserves rather than activating reservists.

CONNECTICUTT

Jessica Tandy dead at 85

Jessica Tandy, who won an Oscar for her portrayal of a strong-willed Southern Jewish woman in "Driving Miss Daisy," died of ovarian cancer Sunday.

She was 85.

Ms. Tandy first garnered critical acclaim in 1947 as Blanche DuBois opposite Marlon Brando in "A Streetcar Named Desire" on Broadway.

She won a Tony for her performance.

She was named Best Actress in 1989 for "Daisy" at the age of 80. At the Oscar presentation, Ms. Tandy made no attempt to cover her near-baldness resulting from chemotherapy treatments for cancer she had battled for five years.

In 1983, Miss Tandy won her third Tony award for her role in "Foxfire," in which she starred with her husband of 52 years, Hume Cronyn. Cronyn was at her side when she passed away about 6 a.m. Sunday morning.

Ms. Tandy also starred in the motion picture adaptation of Fannie Flagg's novel "Fried Green Tomatoes", set in fictitious Whistle Stop, Alabama.

Her last film, "Camilla," will be released in November.

CALHOUN COUNTY, AL

Teens die in car accident

Two teenagers died and several others were injured in three separate car accidents this weekend.

Cindy Nettles, 15, from Walter Wellborn High School died on Coldwater Pump road on Friday night and Ohatchee's Christain Carroll, 16, died early Sunday morning on Cochran Springs Road.

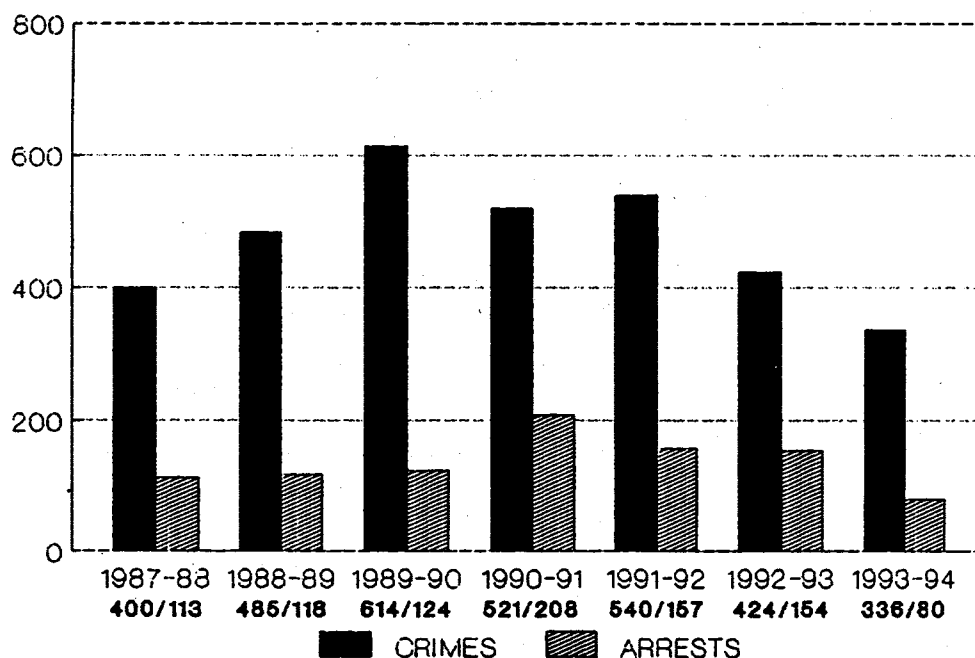
Miranda Martin, 16, was injured in the crash that killed Miss Nettles. She is listed in fair condition at University Hospitals in Birmingham.

Carroll was pronounced dead at 2:30 Sunday morning at Regional Medical Center. He was pinned in the middle of his vehicle when medics from the Anniston Emergency and Rescue Squad arrived at the scene of the accident.

Nettles, who was a majorette at Wellborn, and Martin, who was driving, were on their way to catch the bus leaving Wellborn for a football game at Munford High School.

Investigators concluded Miss Martin lost control of her vehicle near the 2500 block of Coldwater Pump Road. Michael J. Reid of Anniston was approaching from the opposite direction and swerved to avoid a head-on collision. The cars struck on their passenger sides.

UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT CRIME/ARREST TRENDS



Graph courtesy of University Police Department

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Signals

from page 1

tion to the talking signals, other improvements are underway

Many sidewalks around campus were "scored" — changing the texture of the sidewalk by cutting grooves into the surface — during spring semester, and the sidewalk in front of Martin Hall will undergo the process soon. This aids visually-impaired students who use a cane.

Elisha Gilliland, a visually-impaired elementary education major, is one of many who welcomes these advancements. Construction is nearing completion on these projects.

"One of my friends didn't know that construction was going on (in front of Martin Hall)," she said. "She wondered why her (seeing-eye) dog wouldn't go over there."

There are also programs already available at JSU to assist physically-challenged students.

Lois Gregory, of the Department of Rehabilitative Services, is in charge of one such program: the Orientation Mobility program. This is a state funded program designed to help physically-

“*We tell them that it will be hell the first few weeks...*”

--Dan Miller

Disabled Student Services

challenged students adjust to campus life.

According to Miller, "physically-challenged students come to school a few weeks early. Through the Orientation Mobility program, they learn how to get to and from class and basically how to adapt to campus. We tell them that it will be hell the first few weeks, but they learn to adjust. The program helps them to adjust."

Of course, there is Disabled Student Services, which offers a wide variety of services to the physically-impaired.

Talking traffic signals and other improvements underway will hopefully make the jobs of these organizations a little easier, and make the friendliest campus in the south that much friendlier to physically-impaired students.



JSU Chamber Orchestra: The JSU Chamber Orchestra starts its second season this semester. The first rehearsal was September 12th.

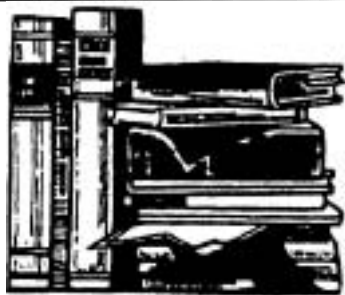
The orchestra is made up of community members and college students and is under the auspices of JSU's Department of Music.

The orchestra was formed in January of this year and has already performed several concerts in the Jacksonville and Anniston area. They spe-

cialize in pieces from the Classical and Baroque era. Composers include Bach, Handel, Vivaldi, Pachelbel, Mozart and many others.

The orchestra is open to all college students and members of the community as well. Rehearsals are 7 p.m.-9 p.m. each Monday at Mason Hall, room 104.

Those interested in joining should contact Victor Vallo at 782-5048 or 435-8349.

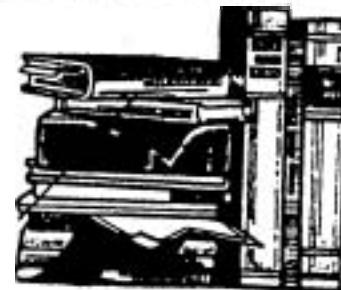


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NEW AND USED

Number of applicants up, number of slots in grad schools down

Trying to get into grad school? The odds are against you

▼ From College Press Service

Staff reports

Each year, more and more students are applying to graduate schools only to face increasingly slimmer chances for acceptance.

The harsh realities of limited job opportunities has prompted record numbers of students to pursue advanced degrees. Now, many outstanding college seniors who would have had little trouble being admitted to top graduate programs a few years ago are being turned down cold.

David Nall, a senior at Rollins College in Winter Park, Fla., is one such student. Nall has a 3.93 GPA and GRE scores totaling 2230. He designed a rigorous combined major for himself in art, philosophy, music and English, and is considered an exceptional student by his professors.

"I applied to philosophy Ph.D. programs at six grad schools: Harvard, Berkeley, Stanford, MIT, Chicago and Northwestern," he says. "All of them rejected me."

Stanford, he was told, has six openings for more than 200 applicants.

Nall is not alone. Even though growing numbers are applying to graduate

school, available spaces for these students have increased only slightly, if at all.

"From 1986 to 1992, graduate school applications increased at a rate of 7 percent per year, and in some cases even higher," says Peter Syverson, director of information services for the Council of Graduate Schools. "Enrollment has gone up 2 percent per year overall. If applications go up faster than enrollment, institutions become more selective."

"Most attribute this (increase) to the economy. As the job market for new graduates closed, many students looked to continuing their education as a way of increasing their competitive edge while riding out the economic recession...bad economic times are very good for graduate schools in terms of student demand."

Graduate degrees also are becoming required credentials for career advancement in many settings such as high school teaching, public administration, social work and nursing, Syverson notes.

Last fall results the results of an annual survey of more than 220,000 freshmen, conducted by UCLA's Higher Education Research Institute,

showed a record 65 percent said they were interested in attending graduate school, a 10 percent jump from 1992.

"There's also a higher percentage of women coming into college intending to pursue graduate and professional study, and I think that may be feeding the increased admissions as well," says David Merkwitz, director of public affairs for the American Council on Education, who sponsored the survey.

At Duke University in North Carolina, Donna Giles, assistant dean and director of Graduate Admissions, reports receiving about 6,600 applications in 1994, up 10 percent from 1993.

"We don't expect to admit any more students just because the pool increased," she says. "We offer admission to fewer than 1,500, but the incoming class usually is between 525 and 550."

However, this year Giles says some "severe financial cutbacks" may impact admission offers, which usually are three times higher than the desired enrollment number.

The situation at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is similar, according to Myrna Bower, director

"I applied to six grad schools...all of them rejected me."

--David Nall

of the Graduate School.

"Extending offers is really a game of chance. We got burned in English three years ago when the national picture looked bleak...the department extended the usual number of offers, only this time 70 to 80 percent (instead of the usual 50 percent) said they were coming and it put them in a dither for the year," she said. "In philosophy you practically have to walk on water to get in."

At some larger state universities, economic cutbacks have decreased financial assistance for students, making it harder for some to attend even if they are accepted.

At UCLA, applications have dropped slightly, going against the national trend, says Ellen Benkin, who coordinates data for the Graduate School. She blames the decrease on California's ailing economy, an 18 percent increase in tuition, and a

decrease in the number of staff positions available for graduates, which all affect the students' ability to pay tuition. Nevertheless, odds for admission are not great—approximately 16,000 applicants for 2,500 openings.


At Ivy League schools like Princeton, the competition has always been tough, but now it's even more so.

Dave Redmond, acting dean of the Graduate School, says Princeton has experienced a 5 percent increase in applications this year. And, other than a small decline last year, applications have been slowly increasing over the last several years.

"This year we had 7,000 applications and admitted about 900 of those students and hope to enroll about 460 to 465 new graduate students," he said.

David Nall is now one of those who knows that pain of rejection well. "It was a numbing experience," says Nall, who is re-evaluating his options. "I plan to work, save money and reapply next year, perhaps to different grad schools where I won't be facing such tremendous odds—if there are any schools like that."

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SEPTEMBER 20
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Leone Cole Auditorium - 7:30 p.m.

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VIEWS

The Chanticleer • September 15, 1994

“Dogs throw up a lot. It's a survival instinct they inherited from their relatives.”

SEE NEXT PAGE

ISSUE OF THE WEEK

Attacks on the media: Just doing our jobs

Do the media go too far?

This is a question many people have been asking themselves lately, especially in light of the O.J. Simpson case. Coverage of the Simpson story has certainly led those of us in the media to reevaluate our role and, let's be honest, to face some very hard questions.

But there have been other high profile stories in the past, many involving celebrities, many having to do with suspected crime. What makes this one so different? Perhaps the most frightening thing to consider is this story really isn't that different.

Consider Rodney King, the Menendez brothers, Lorena Bobbit and countless others. What's at issue here is a fundamental principle of the American judicial system: innocence until guilt is proven. Can this be reconciled with a society so overwhelmed with the media? Trial by media. What a concept.

The media aren't going to go away. Hopefully, neither will our current judicial system. Sure, there are problems with each—but can you imagine a world without either?

What we must come to terms with is we are living in “the global village.”

For the most part, some aspect of media touches us all. For those of us in the media we have to try not to forget this responsibility, for consumers of media, you must be as aware as possible. One thing we should all endeavor to do is to think for ourselves.

It has been said the medium is the message. That may be true, but the message isn't necessarily the gospel. Neither are the media the devil in disguise. The media are a series of channels by which information is conveyed. If that information is indeed to come at us at speeds appropriate to a superhighway, it might be a good idea to learn to better disseminate the information—before we all become roadkill.

We suggest:

The news media seem to be under constant attack. However, we have a responsibility to the public to bring the information to them; they would miss it otherwise.

Careful when borrowing from Uncle Sam

New student loan reforms turn government into loan sharks

If you are on federal financial aid, or are planning to apply, read this!

I can't wait until October 1. If you, too, depend on various financial aid sources, you know exactly what I'm talking about.

It's the day that the mysterious monies are mystically applied to my account in THE JSU MASTER COMPUTER. I am at the mercy of THE JSU MASTER COMPUTER. The week of October 1, the speed and efficiency of THE JSU MASTER COMPUTER in cutting my check will depend on whether it's Big Macs or Ramen Noodles for dinner.

But I digress. You know what I'm saying. Financial aid plays an immeasurable part in a college student's life.

And since we live in a state that, according to the latest census, has very few population distinctions except for the fact that we have *four counties in the top ten poorest counties in the entire nation*, one would assume that financial aid would have particular impact in Alabama.

As a matter of fact, as of 1993, almost more than half of JSU's students were receiving some type of federal financial aid.

If you've ever applied for a Stafford loan or Pell grant or any other type of federal assistance, you know the system is in need of reform. For the last several years, student lobby groups such as the United States Student Association (USSA) and the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) have been pushing for student loan reform.

Bill Clinton was elected on a platform of promises to the younger generation. Among them was student loan reform. That “reform” came late last year in the form of The Student



by
Jamie Cole
Editor in Chief

Loan Reform Act of 1993. The result of this act, however, is not the answer to every student's money-borrowing dreams. It could turn into the debtor's nightmare.

Much like many of Clinton's policies, the new plan for borrowing money for college sounds great at first. Clinton promised an “income-contingent” repayment plan for student loans, which means you pay back the money depending on how much money you make once you graduate. The resulting payments are low enough for a college grad, newly released into the “real world,” to afford.

The plan is similar to the current Stafford loan program, except there is no middleman (in other words, no bank or guaranty company to deal with). Instead, the money comes directly from the government. The administration's proposal would lower monthly payments for everyone, regardless of income, and would automatically stretch the current payback period (used under the Stafford system) of ten years to a minimum of 12 years.

Sounds pretty good, right?

It's the hot new option in federal financial aid. One Cumberland (Samford) law graduate I talked to this summer, who is close to \$40,000 in debt, was particularly excited about it. I admit, it sounds like a great idea, but simple mathematics might change your mind.

For one thing, the extended pay period creates more interest. The interest rate on these income contingent loans is variable but is never supposed to exceed 8.25%. Even so, for more than 65 percent of all borrowers the monthly payment amount will be so low (based on the average college grad's income) that it won't even cover the interest on the grad's loan. In turn, Bill plans to charge you interest on the interest you can't pay plus the principle as well. This means that middle and low income borrowers could end up paying three times their initial debt back to the government.

For instance, according to the USSA and the AASCU, if you make \$17,500 a year after graduating and owe \$15,000 (the rock-bottom cost, in my opinion, for an education at JSU), it would take you more than 19 years to pay it back. By that time, interest and all, you will have paid back \$33,598 (that's counting in a four percent raise in your salary per year).

Yikes.

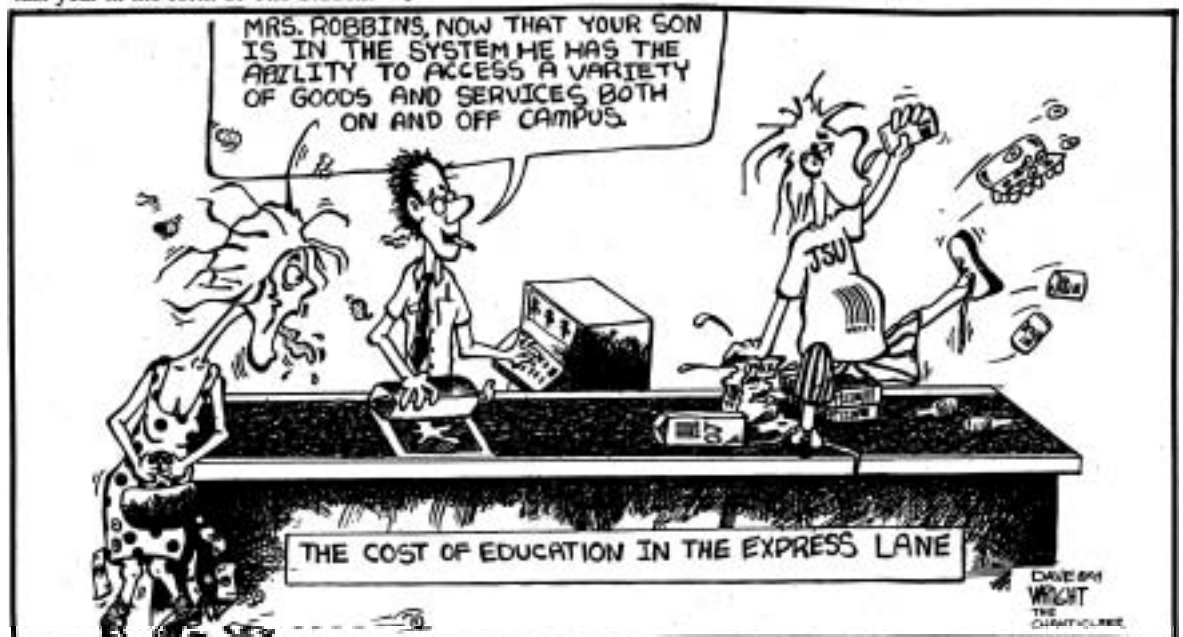
Of course, the government stops capitalizing on the interest if you end up owing more than 150 percent above what you borrowed.

How generous.

The low payments and easy money sound good to students who have no money to speak of. But keep in mind that even if you can afford to pay more than your set payment on the plan, you can't. You're stuck.

It's a false sense of security. It's a flawed plan. It's symptomatic of a much larger problem: an administration that makes promises it can't, or won't, keep.

Write me or call me for more information, especially if you've considered this plan.



Use your heads, dog owners!

by Dave Barry
Miami Herald

Millions of Americans own dogs because they are good natured, simple and easily amused. I am referring here to the Americans. The dogs are not exactly MENSA members either, but they definitely make better pets than tropical fish.

Suppose, for example, that you're home alone, and you start choking on a piece of takeout Chinese food, and you collapse to the floor, dying. A tropical fish is not going to alertly rush over to the phone, knock the receiver off the hook, dial 911 with its nose and bark excitedly into the mouthpiece until the operator sends paramedics. Of course, a dog is not going to do this either. A dog is going to wander over and lick the soy sauce off your increasingly blue face. But while it's doing this, it will be thinking loyal thoughts about you.

So we see that there are major benefits to dog ownership. But before you make "man's best friend" part of your family, you need to know the Three Key Principles of Practical Dog Ownership:

1. REMEMBER YOUR SAFETY PRIORITIES WHEN DRIVING WITH A DOG.

Dogs LOVE to go for rides. A dog will happily get into any vehicle going anywhere. It is not mere coincidence that the first animal in space was a dog. It went up in a Russian satellite that was clearly never going to come back down, but the Russians didn't have to ask it twice. (The dog, not the satellite.) They just opened the satellite door and the dog bounded enthusiastically inside and blasted into space and spent 189 consecutive hours with its nose pressed against the porthole, barking violently at cosmic rays, until finally the Russians couldn't stand it anymore and turned off the radio receiver.

So your dog will definitely want to go in your car. But you must be careful when driving with a dog. Consider the following true anecdote involving a Southgate, Mich. woman whom I will identify only as Ann because she will probably want to remain anonymous after she kills her husband, Stephen, for writing in to tell me this anecdote.

Ann was driving in her minivan with a schnauzer, whom I will identify here only as Bobbie, when Bobbie started to throw up on the passenger seat. Dogs throw up a lot. It's a survival instinct that they inherited from their relatives, wolves, which swallow their prey in the field, then return to the den and regurgitate for their young; this causes the young to be so grossed out that they leave the den and get jobs. (This technique can also be adapted by human parents, according to Dr. Joyce Brothers' best-selling new book, "Ralph on Your Kids.")

Anyway, when Bobbie started barfing, Ann wisely took her eyes off the road and reached over to shove Bobbie off the seat. Thanks to Ann's quick thinking, disaster was avoided, except for the fact that her minivan swerved across the road and smashed into a parked car, resulting in over a thousand dollars worth of damage. But the important thing here is that the seat was fine. "Above all, protect the seat" is the No. 1 rule of driving with a dog.

2. THERE IS A RIGHT WAY AND A WRONG WAY TO BREAK OFF A PIECE OF BISCUIT FOR YOUR DOG.

Consider what happened to Richard Dawson of Bordentown N.J.

Dawson was walking his dog, Lou, and decided to give Lou a piece of the large dog biscuit in his (Dawson's) jacket pocket. Rather than go to all the trouble of taking the whole biscuit out, Dawson decided to break off a piece by simply punching the biscuit while it was still in his pocket. The first punch failed to do the job, so Dawson punch the biscuit harder, the result being - in Dawson's own words - "I broke my rib."

The lesson here, obviously, is that you need to really whack your biscuit.

3. USE GOOD JUDGMENT WHEN DISCIPLINING DOGS.

I have here an article, sent in by many readers, from the Jan. , 1994 issue of the Rocky Mountain News, headlined WOMAN ACCIDENTALLY SHOOTS HERSELF, and sub-headlined "Owner of 10 dogs nicks fingers with a handgun she routinely fired at ceiling to stop pets from fighting."

The article states that the woman used a .25 caliber handgun to control dogs; she told police that she fired it into the ceiling when the dogs got into a fight.

As a dog-owner and dog-lover, I was shocked to learn that in a so-called humane society, a person would even THINK of attempting to control 10 dogs with a gun of such small caliber. Use your heads, dog owners! For five or more dogs, experts recommend at LEAST a .357 magnum, unless the dogs are Labradors, in which case you need nuclear weapons. In this, as in every other area of dog ownership, the key is "common sense," which is why I want to leave all of you dog-owners out there with this thought: "The Biscuit Whackers" would be an excellent name for a band.

VIEWPOINTS

Do the media go too far in their coverage of world events?



"I don't think anyone should limit any expression because everyone has the right to express what they want to. The media are an outlet to get to common people that can't find out any other way."

- Kristin Mitchell
Junior

"I think the media go too far. They can put news events on TV at appropriate moments, not right in the middle of my soap operas. The wouldn't interrupt a baseball game."

- Meredith Voorhees
Junior



"The media do go too far in the types of events they cover... they don't cover the important things in the world...the things about everyday events that affect the people of the world."

- Wayne Dempsey
Professor, Math Dept.

"America tends to be an isolationist country and we need to start caring about the world, not just ourselves. We need to be more informed about the world."

- Tammy Hoobler
Senior



"Somewhat. They go a little in depth on things I don't want to know about...as far as the facts go, you can't go too far."

- Kevin Robinson
Sophomore

Forum LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

New 'Letters' policy for 1994-95

Forum is our readers' column. Our policy for letters to the editor should be kept in mind when working on submissions.

- The Chanticleer will not print letters which are longer than 300 words.
- The Chanticleer will not print letters which are libelous and/or defamatory.
- The Chanticleer reserves the right to edit letters for space and grammar as well as style.
- There will be at least two weeks between publication of letters from the same person and will publish rebuttals no later than two weeks after the publication of the article, editorial or letter in question.
- The Chanticleer reserves the right to refuse publication of any submission.
- Deadline for submissions is noon Friday before the preferred publication date.
- Submissions may be brought to the Chanticleer office or mailed to 180 Self Hall. All submissions must include a name, phone number and student number for JSU students.

FEATURES

The Chanticleer • September 15, 1994

“Natural Born Killers’ will spit out your mind and make you wonder what the hell just happened.”

SEE PAGE 10

THE REIGNING QUEEN OF ALTERNATIVE MUSIC TORI AMOS SPEAKS TO HER WIDEST AUDIENCE YET

The diary of a minister's daughter drew a strange crowd to the Atlanta Symphony Hall August fifth and sixth. The conservative couples, in their expensive evening wear, looked at home among the orchestra pit and cappuccino. The kids, with their well-worn concert shirts and body piercings, looked a little less at ease. They weren't used to smiling security guards who tore tickets and said, "Enjoy the show."

In the outside world, these sects of society rarely mingle. Chances are, they have joked with their friends about "those snobs" or "those freaks." This night, they didn't seem to care; they all shared the same anxiousness. Some odd character had drawn them together to hear stories of love, God, sex and life, stories that many consider passages from their own experi-

Little Earthquakes:

"I WENT INTO THAT ALBUM WITH ALL THIS STUFF THAT I NEEDED TO TALK ABOUT"

ences.

As Tori Amos performs on stage, alone except for her piano and a few stuffed teddy bears, she seems at home, a performer at ease. She delivers her songs of love and pain with the disarming grace of a good girl doing something very bad ... and savoring it. She has the crowd on the tip of her tongue, ready to swallow or spit them out at her leisure. The years of playing bars across America have polished her well.

The daughter of a Methodist minister, Amos began her career as a two-year-old toddler plucking out tunes on her family's upright piano in North Carolina. By the age of five, she was training as a classical pianist at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore. Her training ended six years later, when her now infamous eccentric streak prompted the Conservatory to dismiss her for "irreconcilable differences."

"I came in playing by ear...the whole idea was that to be a classical pianist you had to learn to read music," recalls Amos. "I knew that, but the way they did it was to try to



Tori Amos: Her religious upbringing and turbulent past culminate in passionate music

break the ear, so that it would force me to read."

The boot from the traditional school kicked her into the hotel lounge/bar circuit. At thirteen years old she was playing gay bars and hotels in Baltimore and Washington D.C. Her father stuck along as her manager/chaperone.

Amos went through her stiff hair and plastic boots period, a time that rendered her first foray into recording with her band Y Kant Tori Read. The recording sold a modest 7,000 copies, so Amos turned to what she knew best: writing about herself.

For Amos, music had always been a way

of release; a way to, as she says, "keep from being a bitter person." In the mid-80s, after years on the circuit and several bad relationships, she began a sort of "self-therapy." She wrote what she felt. She wrote of being hurt by a lover ("Silent All These Years") and about emotional turmoil and loneliness ("China"). Those songs became her debut album *Little Earthquakes*.

"I went into that album with all this stuff in my life that I hadn't acknowledged and that I needed to talk about," remembers Amos. That "stuff" sold over 1,000,000 copies world-wide and placed her in an unusual position: her "self-therapy" be-

came therapy for millions of fans. One song in particular, "Me and A Gun," an *capella* song about rape, prompted women to write her asking for advice.

"A lot of people came [to me] and said, 'I can identify with what you're saying.' I had to wake up six months later and realize that there was all this stuff that I had to acknowledge, that there was a whole lot more to say."

That result was her newest release, *Under the Pink*, a collection of emotional confessions and observations about life. It has become one of 1994's biggest albums on the college/pop charts.

"God," the first single, deals with spiritual frustration... "God sometimes you just don't come through / do you need a woman to look after you?" ... left over from a religious upbringing.

Fans from every area of society run to see Tori Amos. Her August 5 show in Atlanta sold out almost as fast as tickets could be printed. So great was the demand to hear her in person, two additional shows were scheduled for the following night.

Live, Amos carries her music to new levels. Looking like the lost child of Raggedy Andy and a mischievous river sprite, she taunts, tempts and teases the audience. She spreads her legs and twists her body with casual abandon. Men and women scream, "I love you Tori!" after the songs...never during them. Girlfriends seem

The Shows:

"A LOT OF PEOPLE... SAID 'I CAN IDENTIFY WITH WHAT YOU'RE SAYING'"

proud that their boyfriends are bringing roses to another woman.

Tori Amos has opened her diary for anyone to read. "I just see myself as honest. That's just the way I am. I find the truth endlessly interesting."

The way her fans ignored the social barriers to share the same pleasures, it seems they too find the truth, or at least the one singing about it, interesting as well.

Extreme **CLOSE UP**

Father, salesman, preacher, student, teacher ... **Robert Bryan**, the new Computer Information Sciences instructor, brings enthusiasm and experience to JSU's Computer Science department.

Bryan, the father of four, was a salesman for IBM during the sixties and later became a Presbyterian minister.

After over twenty years in the ministry, Bryan changed his career to teacher when he became a business instructor at Auburn University.

When asked why he left the ministry, Bryan said that it was "God's journey." He feels that his experiences as a minister and a father will be helpful in his effort to reach and educate young minds.

The hardest thing about his new profession, he adds, is "the lack of motivation in

students." He says he has high expectations for his new position and looks at it as a challenge.

Bryan considers JSU a friendly, student-oriented campus and was highly impressed with the new faculty orientation program.

He feels that his philosophy of "be informed and be prepared" will fit in nicely with JSU's classroom environments.

As a teacher he sees himself as a coach and a friend with an open door policy for his students.

Bryan decided to work at JSU because of its convenient location (to Auburn where he lives with his wife and children), the warm, friendly environment and the helpful faculty. He wanted to be close to home and his school.

Bryan is currently working on his Doctorate of Management Information Systems at



Auburn University. Between working and finishing his degree, Bryan enjoys spending time with his family.

He goes to the gym with his youngest son, visits with his other children and looks forward to January when he will become a grandfather for the ninth time.

-- Troy Allen

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Stone's 'Natural Born Killers' assaults the senses

Oliver Stone has obsessions, that's no secret. "Talk Radio," "Platoon," "JFK" -- they're all deeply rooted in obsession. Love or hate him, Stone always leaves an impression. His films stay with you.

If his past films made you mad or just made you think, "Natural Born Killers" will spit out your mind and make you wonder what the hell just happened. "Natural Born Killers" is a brutal mix of media, love and modern society. Stone has ripped up the culture and counter-cultures of the past thirty years and tossed them into a blender. The twisted concoction he serves up is none other than Mickey and Mallory Knox ... serial killers Charles Manson would run from.

Mickey (Woody Harrelson) and Mallory (Juliette Lewis) are hybrid products of abusive homes. Their parents weren't there for comfort...they were there to dispense insults and pain. Modern entertainment kept the kids occupied. Music, TV and the movies helped distract the children long enough to grow up... and when



Reviewed:
"Natural Born Killers"
 Directed by Oliver Stone
 Now playing at
 Carmike Cinema
Rating: ★★★★★

they hit adolescence all hell broke loose.

This modern day "Bonnie and Clyde" go on a murder spree across the good old U.S.A. 52 corpses later they're in prison, fast becoming media darlings.

Enter Wayne Gayle (Robert Downey Jr.), media hound and star of the tabloid -TV show "American Mainiacs." Gayle, along with a fame-hungry warden (Tommy Lee Jones), joins the circus of events to bring the film to a surprising climax.

This movie is a protrait of schizophrenic surrealism. Salvador Dali would cry with envy at what Stone has accomplished.

Backing the on-screen collage of nightmares and synthetic dreamscapes is the noise-art compiled by Trent Reznor. Reznor has picked and mixed sound bytes

from the movie with songs by various artists. This unusual soundtrack lives a life of its own.

"Natural Born Killers" has struck a nerve with American film-goers. Considered by some to be the biggest waste of movie-making this year, "Natural Born Killers" has inspired more than a few film fans to ask for their money back.

Despite internal problems (original screenwriter Quentin Tarantino hated it so much he declined credit) "Natural Born Killers" is a classic. The warped flick goes deeper than any other off-beat movie. It is more of a "Clockwork Orange" meets "The Wall."

Go see it now. In twenty years you can tell your teenagers what it was like to see a cult classic on the big screen.

'Natural Born Killers' soundtrack: As bold as the film

"Natural Born Killers" is a movie like no other. It's only fitting that the soundtrack should be an equally twisted work of art, fully capable of standing on its own.

A mixture of songs, samples and movie snippets, the "Natural Born Killers" soundtrack is a full audio-attack on the ears and emotions.

Produced and assembled by sound-wizard Trent Reznor, "Natural Born Killers" zips from cool and serene to loud and violent. Carefully picked samples of movie dialogue add new dimensions to songs that may have been forgotten with time. Who would have thought Patsy Cline's "Back in Baby's Arms" would sound so perfect with teens spouting off about their serial killer heroes?

Jane's Addiction, L7, Leonard Cohen and yes, Nine Inch Nails make up the hodge-podge that may well be the best soundtrack since Pink Floyd's "The Wall." Mickey and Mallory aren't exactly the Floyd, but they've got a few twists of their own.

The soundtrack:

Produced by Trent Reznor
 Features Nine Inch Nails,
 L7, Jane's Addiction, Leonard
 Cohen and Patsy Cline



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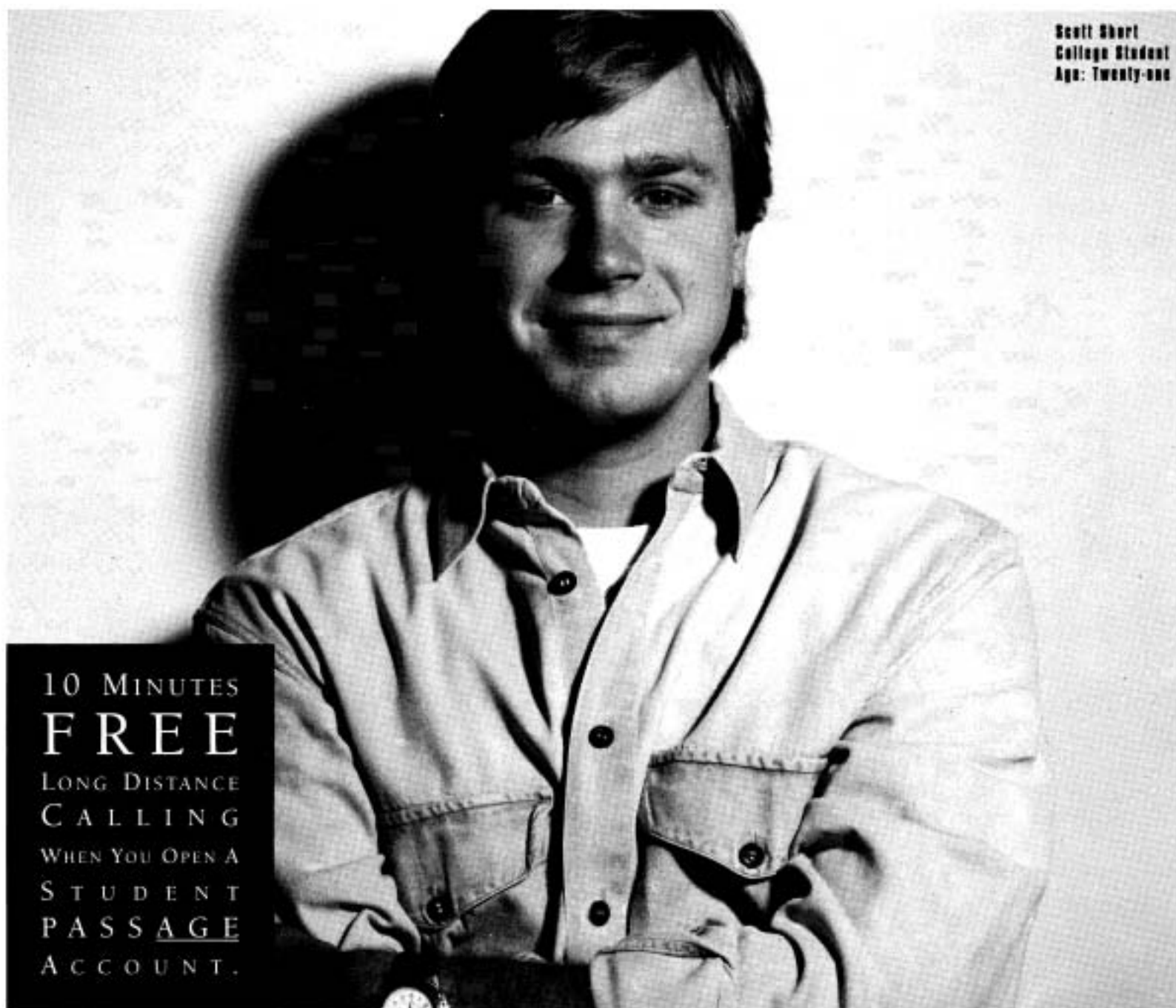
WHAT'S THE YOUNGER

about the earth's environment. About world hunger. About drugs. The economy. And you want change.

GENERATION COMING TO?

Thank goodness you don't expect it through osmosis. You've come of age. We think you deserve the rite of passage.

Scott Short
College Student
Age: Twenty-one



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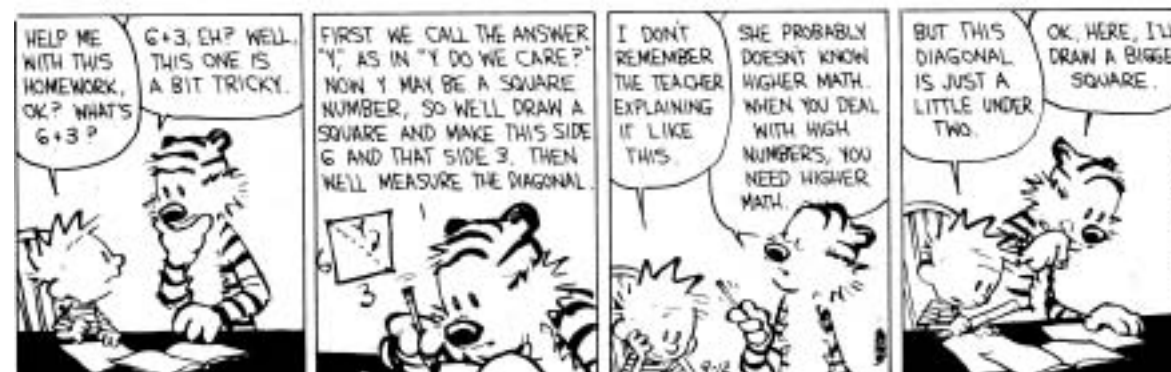
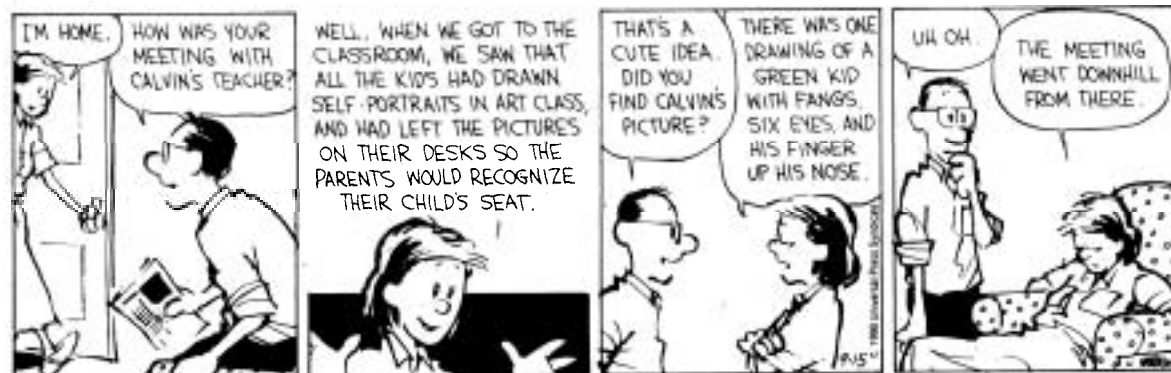
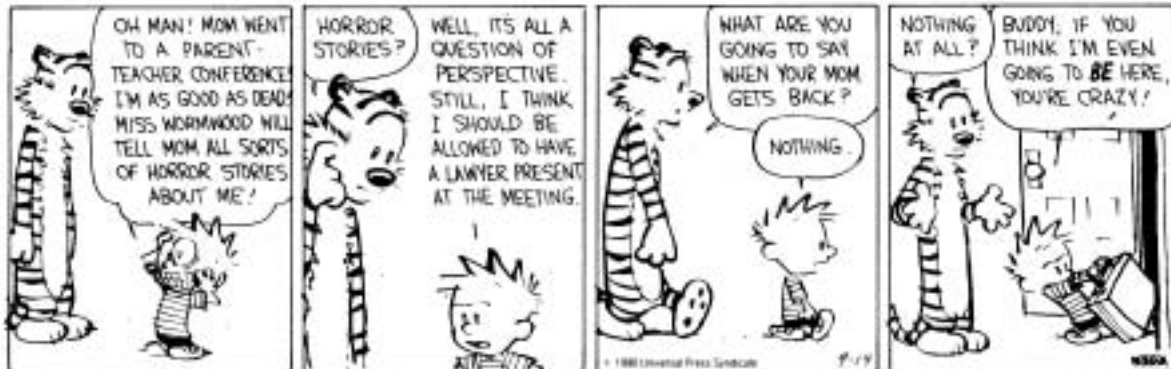
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Calvin and Hobbes

by BILL WATTERSON

Calvin and Hobbes



THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



"And so, as you enter the adult phase of your life, you will thank God that these past 17 years of being stuck in the ground and unable to move are over. ... Congratulations, cicadas of '94!"



"The problem, Mr. Fudd, is that you've been having a subliminal effect on everyone in the factory. We're proud of our product, Mr. Fudd, and there's no company in the world that builds a finer skwoo' dwivuh. ... Dang! Now you got me doing it!"



Big dogs having fun with helium.

ISHKOOKA

by Dave Wright

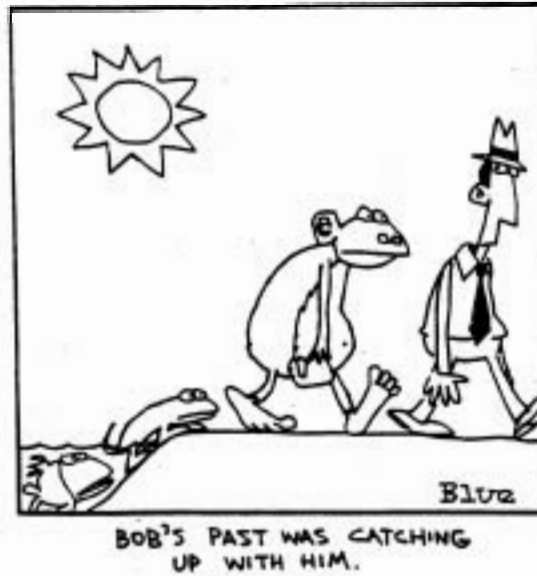


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SPORTS

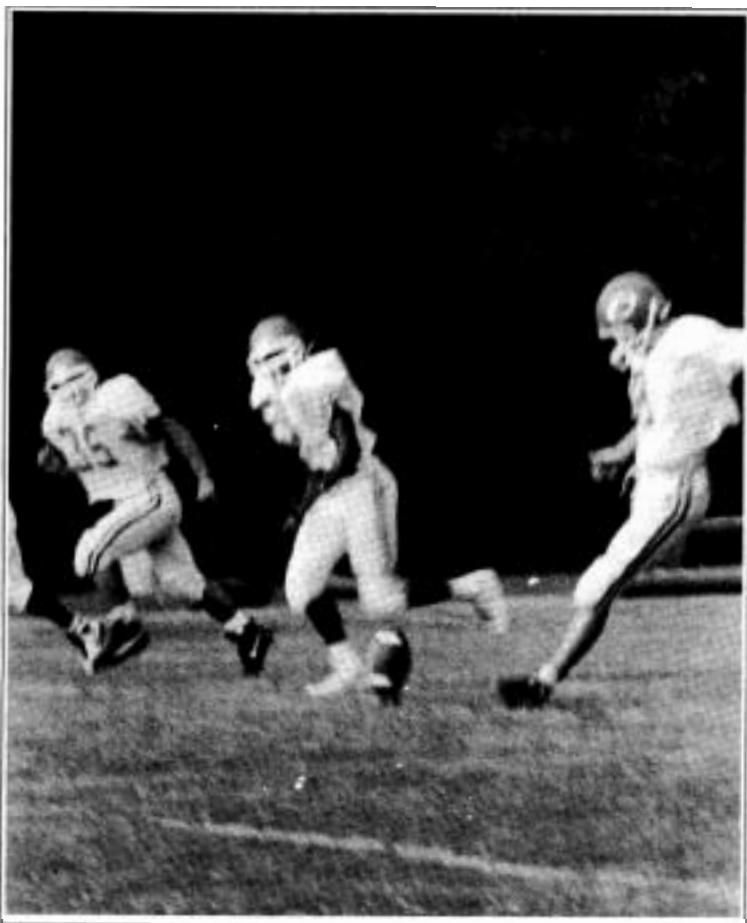
The Chanticleer • September 15, 1994

“
McNeese State had a
great defense.
”

SEE NEXT PAGE

JSU vs. UAB

No series to speak of, but the teams are still fierce rivals



Preparation: The Gamecocks in action, getting ready for their showdown with the UAB Blazers this weekend at Legion Field.

▼ By Jeh Jeh Pruitt

Sports Editor

It has turned out to be one of the biggest rivalries this side of Alabama vs. Auburn, and this is the first time in history they've ever played each other. That's what Jacksonville State and the University of Alabama at Birmingham, at least, would like to see happen to this extraordinary event.

You may ask yourself, "Self, what event is he talking about?" I'm talking about the "Jam in Birmingham," the "Thrill at Legion Field," the next Magic City Classic. It's JSU versus UAB this Saturday, Sept. 17, 1994.

This is a very important game for the Gamecocks, who lost a heartbreaker to McNeese State this past Saturday. To celebrate this new rivalry, the University is offering a buy one, get one free deal on tickets. If you buy a ticket from the ticket office on campus, you will get an extra ticket free of charge. This is only offered at the Ticketmaster in the Theron Montgomery Building.

Coach Bill Burgess, his staff, and the entire team have a very positive attitude going into their third game of the season despite their 0-2 record. The Gamecocks do have some injuries at major positions that need time to heal.

Coach Jim Hilyer and his Blazers are 1-1 this season losing to Alabama State by three and blowing by Dayton this past weekend. They will be guided by senior quarterback John Whitcomb who

Injured Robinson to QB

• In spite of a bruised knee, Chuck Robinson will see action this week against UAB, though he may not start.

has completed 34 of 62 passes for 474 yards, including four touchdown passes.

Chuck Robinson, who is injured, will still play with JSU's offense this week, though he may not start. Robinson gained 71 yards on 19 carries and completed 10 of 27 passes for 74 yards with one touchdown pass (not bad for an offense who used to pass only twice a game). His bruised knee shouldn't be a factor in his performance Saturday.

Leading tackler for the 'Cocks is Fred Mack with 24 hits. Trailing Mack is Willie Jett with 22 and David Mahaffey with 20 hits. Leading in all purpose yards is Clemson transfer running back Amel Jackson who has 94 kickoff return yards.

The Gamecocks may be one inch away from being a Division I-AA power. The papers in Lake Charles, La., where McNeese State is located, read JSU doesn't have the depth, the size, or the attitude to be competitive in this division. JSU proved them wrong last weekend by playing a solid game despite the loss.

Kickoff is at 1:30 p.m. It will be hot as far as weather goes and it will be even hotter with action on the field.

Young volleyball team is ready to start the new season

▼ By Jeh Jeh Pruitt

Sports Editor

This weekend the volleyball season will officially open with a tournament in Hornet Country: Charlotte, N.C.

All of the players, old and young, are looking forward to working together for a winning season.

"I think we can do really good if we go out and play," said Senior Jana Simmons. "You don't know how you'll play until you get there and play."

Simmons is right. She has played basketball for four years and she's even dabbled in the sport of softball, but she hasn't played on the college level in volleyball and it's been four years since she's played the game. Nevertheless, Simmons is confident with her play. Her motto is 'one for all' because "that's what our warmups say."

Junior Racheal Spinner will be one of the leaders this season and said the team will do fine with the new players.

"We have a lot of talent coming from the freshmen, so I think we'll be fine," said Spinner.

The Lady Gamecocks wanted their record to be better last year ending the season at 27-25, but a new outlook and a new attitude has faded those numbers into the past.

Sharon Peavey, the only senior with playing experience, said, "It's a young team, but everybody is on the same level. The talent is about the same. We've just got to play hard and have good defense. We're going *strictly* to win."

Returning setter for the Lady Gamecocks, Clarissa "Cissy" Nelson, is ready

to give this season the green light.

"Although we're young, I believe we have a lot of talented girls and with a little bit of time we will have a great potential. We have a very well-rounded team," Nelson said.

How do the players feel going into the game? Pumped, excited, nervous, and ready to get this first game under their belts. The players also hope the fans will come out and take time to watch a few spikes.

Simmons said she was amazed at the number of people who didn't even know there was a volleyball team at JSU.

For most of these players, they are beginning a new era in their lives and like support from the fans.

Team Roster

KIMBERLY CARNEY, Fr, Huntsville, Ala.
ROBYN CARPENTER, So, Hatton, Ala.
JULIE CROSS, Fr, Malvern, Pa.
WENDY FRANCESCHI, So, Jacksonville
CARRIE HICKS, Fr, Anniston
TARYNN MINEGAR, Fr, Naperville, Ill.
CLARISSA NELSON, Jr, B'ham
SHARON PEAUVY, Sr, Wetumpka, Ala.
AMANDA SANDLIN, So, Carbon Hill, Ala.
JANA SIMMONS, Sr., Fyffe, Ala.
RACHEL SPINNER, Jr., Titusville, Fla.
LYNN WEAVER, So, Nashville
ANGELA WOODWARD, So, Mobile

ANOTHER ALMOST: JSU now 0-2 after tough loss

GAME STATS

JACKSONVILLE ST. (0-2)
vs.
McNEESE ST. (2-0)

SCORE BY QUARTERS

	1	2	3	4	F
MSU	0	6	6	0	12
JSU	0	7	8	3	18

SCORING SUMMARY

JSU- Powell 9-yd pass from Robinson (PAT failed)
MSU- Morris 27-yd pass from Joseph (Larios kick)
JSU- Robinson 1-yd run (PAT failed)
MSU- Bronson 84-yd punt return (PAT failed)
MSU- 37-yd FG (Larios)

FINAL STATS

	JSU	MSU
1st downs	12	16
Rush yds	150	169
Pass yds	31	153
Total yds	181	322
Fumbles-lost	1-1	2-2
Pen.-yds	3-35	9-80
Time of Poss.	28:06	31:54

LEADING RUSHER:

MSU
Fields
126 yds, long 29

LEADING RUSHER:

JSU
Chuck Robinson
56 yds, 1 TD, long 12

LEADING TACKLER:

MSU
V. Landrum
10 tackles, 7 unassisted

LEADING TACKLER:

JSU
S. Tyus
12 tackles, 12 unassisted

▼ By Scott Stansell
News Editor

LAKE CHARLES, La - For the second week in a row, the Jacksonville State Gamecocks fell short.

The McNeese State Cowboys scored with 12 seconds left in the third quarter to go up 15-12 and added a fourth quarter field goal to ice their 18-12 victory over the Gamecocks before a crowd of about 15,025 Saturday night.

Coming off the Gamecock's last-second loss to Sam Houston last week, the loss was especially painful.

"We had some great offensive series but we couldn't capitalize on some of them," head coach Bill Burgess said.

The McNeese State offense rolled up 322 yards of total offense, but it was the Cowboy defense that put on a show.

McNeese held the Gamecocks to just 181 yards of offense, blocked an extra point, and stopped JSU on a two-point conversion attempt.

"McNeese State had a great defense," Burgess said.

The Cowboys drove to the JSU 27, but the Gamecocks dropped quarterback Kerry Joseph for a four-yard loss on 4th and 5.

Chuck Robinson, who led JSU on the ground with 56 yards on 14 carries, drove the Gamecocks to the McNeese 23 and gained 25 yards on three carries.

But JSU fumbled and the ball was recovered by Greg Bonvillain.

McNeese returned the favor later in the quarter when Damian Joseph lost the ball at the Cowboy 47. Tim Sudduth recovered for the Gamecocks and returned it 44 yards to the three.

A personal foul penalty pushed the ball back to the 18 and three plays netted nine yards.

On 4th and 1 Robinson found Eric Powell for a nine-yard touchdown with 14:49 to go in the second quarter. Lee Sutherland's extra point was blocked and Jacksonville led 6-0.

The kicking game was a problem for JSU all night long.

"We are going to have to get better at our kicking game if we are going to win ball games," Burgess said.

McNeese drove to the Gamecock 34 on the Cowboy's next drive, where Jose Larios' 51-yard field goal was just short.

The Cowboys broke through with 1:38 to go in the half when Joseph passed to Damien Morris for a 27-yard touchdown. Larios added the

extra point to give McNeese a 7-6 lead.

The Gamecocks drove to the McNeese 42 on their opening drive of the third quarter after a McNeese fumble. The drive stalled, however, and Jason Porch came in to punt on 4th and 3.

Zack Bronson fumbled on the return and Kevin James fell on it at the McNeese 7 to give the Gamecocks new life.

JSU made the most of the opportunity with Robinson going in from a yard out on 4th-and-goal.

Corky Gordon was stopped on the try-for-two, leaving JSU with a 12-7 lead.

Special teams broke down again with Zack Bronson returning Porch's punt 84 yards to put the Cowboys ahead for good. Joseph kept for the two-point conversion to give McNeese a 15-12 lead with 1:55 left in the third period.

Larios kicked a 37-yard field goal with 10:14 left in the game to put McNeese up 18-12.

The Gamecocks never crossed midfield in the fourth quarter.

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and 1 Coke...Only \$5.00 per Tax

Valid at participating stores only. Not valid with any other offer. Delivery areas limited to ensure safe driving. Our drivers carry less than \$20.00. Our drivers are not penalized for late deliveries. Prices rounded to the nearest nickel. Limited to 1 portion per topping. Limited Time Offer.

LUNCH DEAL #2
1 Large 2 Topping Pizza
and 2 Cokes...Only \$10.00 per Tax

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LUNCH DEAL #3
Get 1 Garden Salad, an Order
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Adjusting is tougher than expected

I remember the first time I stepped out on the field as a college football player. I had confidence, high hopes, and a lot of power (so I thought). I remember my mom telling me, "Son you're a man now." Mom never told me there would be even bigger men out there ready to prove my mom's words wrong.

Today, four years later, I reminisce on those thoughts, but a few of more freshmen are just now creating those thoughts of adjusting from high school athletics to college level.

Most of the players have a pretty good idea how high school is different from college. Shelton Deramus, a freshman football player from Oxford, said that football is different because you have to have "more dedication, more running, and more meetings." But there is one positive thing. Deramus likes being his own man.

Volleyball player Tarynn Minnegar, from Naperville, Ill., had a whole different outlook of her change from girl to woman.

"In high school we played three games. In college you play five games," Minnegar said. "You have people who wash your clothes for you. I thought that was really neat."

Minnegar says she is a small fish in a big pond because in high school she was the star, but now she's just a star with many other



by
Jeh Jeh Pruitt
Sports Editor

stars.

Eurosius Parker from Greenville, Ala. is probably hoping to get a paycheck for playing football because he said it "was more like a job in college." Demetrick Thomas from Munford said the players were a whole lot bigger and faster (scary feeling, huh?). Defensive end, Azriel Stovall, said "I've seen the speed before just not the speed from the someone that big before."

Julie Cross said the intensity of the game or the higher level of play is the biggest change from her point of view, but said "we've got to move up to compete." Cross' roommate Kim Carney stated, "When you come to college, you play with people from all over the place whereas in high school you play with people from middle school. You work a lot harder with all the conditioning and stuff."

All of these statements do not in any way make these players not like the game they are involved in; it is simply a reinforcement of the memories they will attribute to the beginnings of their college

careers.

Every parent gives their child some kind of advice before they go off to college. Mine was that I was bigger, faster, and stronger than everyone else. If these players took my mom's advice, they found out very quickly of its falsity. Sometimes it's much tougher to adjust to college life than it is to swallow mom's advice.

Mom, why did you lie to me?



Adjusting to college sports: Volleyball player Kim Carney in paractice. Carney says playing college sports requires more conditioning work and involves facing opponents from everywhere rather than just your area, as in high school. Carney is one of four true freshmen on this year's volleyball squad.

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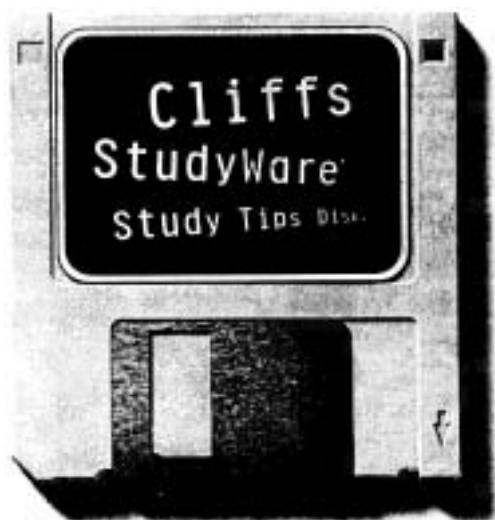
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Pro sports are losing their appeal

▼ **Editorial by Scott Barkley**
Sports writer

Well, it's getting to be that time of year again. The leaves are changing, the days are getting shorter, and driving across campus takes as long as a baseball strike. This time of year is great for one reason.

Some would say that reason would be football, but I'll take it a step further. The reason is: it is time for college athletics to start up again.

I don't know exactly when it happened, but it seems pro sports have alienated themselves from the average sports fan. Petty stuff, like Indianapolis Colts owner Bob Irsay not allowing the Canadian Football League's Baltimore franchise to use the same name (NFL's Detroit and CFL's British Columbia are both Lions) to Barry Bonds asking a judge to cut his child support payments in half while the strike is going on (yea, I expect to see

Barry show up at my door with an Amway bag any day now).

College sports appeal to the ordinary guy. In football, there's a closer association to the team. At Notre Dame, students stay up the night before every game, be it Michigan or Northwestern, to repaint the Irish helmets with paint that has actual 14-karat gold in it, and at Texas A&M, cheering practices are held by the student body before and after the games.

College hoops are, in my opinion, the most fun to watch (and this coming from a football man). A North Carolina-Duke matchup simply cannot be missed. Basketball players can react easier to the crowd, and the crowd can react back, since you can't see facial expressions in football, much less when they're wearing one of those Darth Vader masks on their helmets.

There are some things that can save pro football and bas-

ketball; baseball is almost beyond hope and hockey doesn't need any help.

Football needs young players to improve. It's a lot harder these days when a 21-year-old quarterback who shaves twice a week is supposed to be the savior of a franchise instead of getting a season or two on the sidelines to adjust, but that's just how it is.

Basketball just needs to become the NBA instead of the WWF. Officials need to start calling games stricter before players start hiding brass knuckles in their shorts. Eventually Dennis Rodman will probably get suspended and replaced by a guy who looks an awful lot like him but is from southern Louisiana and called "La fountalino" which is Creole for 'Rainbow noggin'.

Pro sports should take a look at its only reason for existence: the fans. Without us, there is no product, and no product means no sale.

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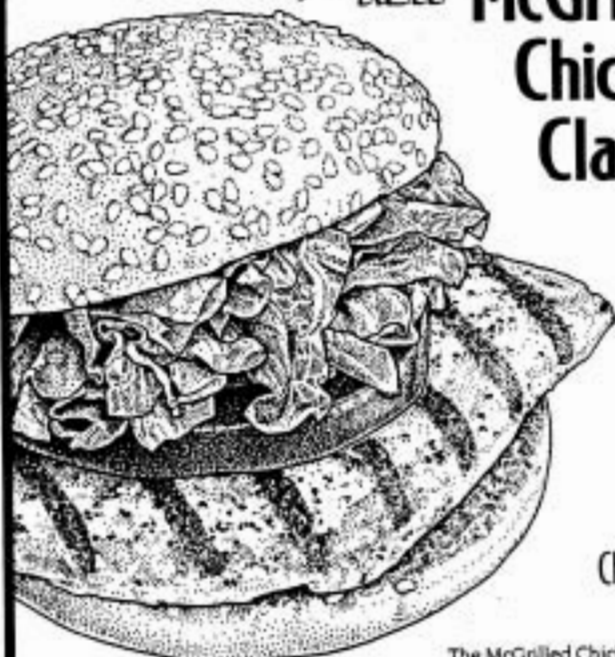
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