E CHANTICLEER Jacksonville State University Volume 43, Issue 1



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"Everything goes up. USF Student

Bradenton, Fla-If you're feeling guilty about blowing off your studies to play video games every night, then the story of University of South Florida graduate Conrad Barski may

Sells Game

ease your shame. Barski just made \$25,000 because of his game-playing skills.

While at USF, Barski drew on his video game experience to design "Flip Out," an interactive puzzle game complete with colorful aliens ready to foil a player's every move. And this summer, Atari Corporation decided to pay Barski \$25,000 for the game-plus royalties, which could add up if the game turns out to be a big seller.

Barski said he first thought of "Flip Out" while at USF. In addition to playing the occasional video game for inspiration, Barski worked part-time as a computer programmer at Gorilla Systems, where he learned the technical aspects of his craft. Although he was a pre-med major, Barksi spent most of last year working with some of his Gorilla co-workers to come up with the final designs for the game.

"It was a lot of work, but it was always rewarding," says Barski. "Something like this makes you realize what you are capable of."

The game, which will run on the Atari Jaguar system, is being modified for use on home computers, too.

Despite his video game success, Barski still plans to attend medical school this fall at the University of Miami.

JSU students cope with tuition increase

By Lesley Gray **News Writer**

Do you have plenty of extra cash in your checking account?

If you had to pay tuition at Jacksonville State this semester, the answer to that question is probably "no thanks" to the latest hike in tuition.

The JSU Board of Trustees in July approved a \$50 base increase in tuition, bringing the rate up to \$920 per semester. The board also approved charging an additional \$77 dollars for every hour above 16. Students taking fewer than 12 hours would pay \$77 per hour for all their hours.

The tuition increase comes as a direct result of Governor Fob James' proposal this spring to shift 12% of the state education budget from colleges and into the kindergarten through 12th grade sys-The state's legislature instead tems. agreed on a 7.5% increase, which translates to \$2.4 million in losses for JSU. The amount that will be raised by the tuition hike is around \$800,000.

The board voted on the increase, JSU's seventh in five years, on July 24th, leaving students with three weeks to come up

See Hike

page 9

Drum corps show packs the house by Benamin Cunningham

News Editor

JSU's Paul Snow stadium was filled with the sounds of frantic fans this August, but instead of the Gamecocks. they were yelling for Southwind, the Cavaliers, and the rest of the drum and bugle corps who participated in the inaugural Southern Brass Classic.

According to Ken Bodiford, JSU's Director of Bands and the show's main organizer, between 7,000 and 8,000 people came to the event to see five of the nation's top drum and bugle corps per-



Champions Again: Members of the Cavaliers horn line play their way to another title earlier this month at the Southern Brass Classic, held at JSU's Paul Snow Stadium.

form in late-season competition.

Local corps in attendance were Southwind, which tours out of Montgomery, and Spirit of Atlanta. The Cavaliers, the definite crowd favorite of the night, won the competition by a wide margin, playing selections from composer Gustav Holst's "The Planets." The Cavaliers went on to win DCI's World Championship the next week in Buffalo, New York. Other corps appearing were the Glassmen of Sylvania, Ohio, and the Bluecoats of Canton, Ohio, both of which were finalists in Buffalo.

The show turned out to be a major suc-

cess for JSU's Marching Southerners and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia. These two organizations which co-sponsored the event grossed approximately \$14,000.

"We're hoping to clear about three thousand after we pay all our bills," said Bodiford. Most of the money will go toward purchasing new equipment for the Marching Southerners and making improvements to Mason Hall, home to the Music Department, he said.

"We're going to buy things for the



Campus Crime Docket

The docket section of The Chanticleer has been reorganized this year for a more comprehensive look at crime on campus. Arrests and reports are now organized by category, and beginning next week there will be semester totals for recurring reports and arrest charges such as theft of property and possession of marijuana. We hope you find the new docket useful in keeping an eve on crime and your personal safety.

Arrests

•8-29-95. Christopher Glyndon Fuller, 20 and Bryan Scott Neal, 18, both of Huntsville were arrested and charged with being minors in possession of alcohol at Campus Inn Apartments on Forney Avenue. Larry Joe Canada, Jr., 20, of Menlo, Ga., was arrested and charged with driving under the influence and being a minor in possession of alcohol. All three arrests were made around 1:30 am.

Theft

•8-25-95. Keith Hopkins reported breaking and entering of an automobile at Salls Hall. Stolen were a car stereo and a cellular phone.

•8-25-95. Bryan Robinson reported theft of property at Salls Hall. Two necklaces were reported stolen.

•8-28-95. Carrick Benton reported breaking and entering of an automobile parked on the south side of Pete Matthews Coliseum, near the lobby. A bicycle and four

wheels were reported stolen.

•8-28-95. Tammy Edwards reported theft of property. A dark brown Oriental rug was taken from the third floor of Curtiss Hall.

Other

•8-22-95. Johnathan Downey reported menacing in the Rowan Hall lobby.

•8-29-95. Mary Uan-Slambrouch reported criminal mischief at Leone Cole Auditorium. The passenger door of a 1987 Ford Escort was kicked in.

Compiled by Benjamin Cunningham

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Mike Canada Editor in Chief **Emily Wester** Advertising Director Benjamin Cunningham, News Editor Erin Key, Copy Editor Tim Lockette, Features Editor Scott Stansell, Sports Editor Joe Langston Manager of Student Media

UC Scraps Affirmative Action Plan

By Marco Buscaglia **College Press Service**

SAN FRANCISCO—After nearly nine months of debate by politicians, administrators and students, the University of California Board of Regents voted to end the educational system's affirmative action plan at a meeting in late July.

The move, which will prohibit racial preferences in hiring and contracts beginning next January and in admissions the following year, may have lasting effects on the nineschool UC system but may not have as large an impact on schools across the nation as some had originally predicted.

"Since schools have voluntary and deliberately taken affirmative action efforts in admissions, I don't think they'll want to be reversing themselves," said David Merkowitz, director of public affairs for the American Council of Education.

Still. Merkowitz sees a risk from state legislators who may wish to capitalize on the current political climate. "State Universities can be deeply affected by politics," he said. "Look at what Pete Wilson was able to do as governor of California and president of the Board of Regents. That entire decision (to eliminate affirmative action) was layered with partisan politics."

Wilson, who hadn't attended a Board of Regents meeting since 1992 prior to July 20,

serves as president of the 26member board and has made affirmative action a centerpiece for his 1996 presidential campaign.

Shortly after the meeting, he called the ruling "the beginning of the end of racial preferences."

Meanwhile, President Clinton reaffirmed his support for affirmative action, acknowledging that the system has problems but is still necessary because of unequal opportunities for women and minorities.

"The job of ending discrimination in this country is not over," Clinton said. "We should have a simple slogan: Mend it, but don't end it."

UC's new policy allows a minimum of 50 percent of all admission to be solely based on academic achievement, a change from the current policy, which allows anywhere from 40 to 60 percent at each school. The remaining 60 to 40 percent are admitted because of race, special talents, academic ability and other special circumstances.

With the criteria for race, gender, religion, ethnicity and national origin removed, UC officials estimate that they may lose up to half of their minority students. Currently, white students make up 49 percent of the UC student population; Asian Americans are at 25 percent; Hispanics make up 13 percent; and African

Americans cover 4.3 percent.

In Michigan, legislation that calls for the abolishment of affirmative action is pending. Support is growing in Texas, Ohio and other states for similar proposals. Republican presidential candidate and Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole has said that he will introduce legislation aimed at scaling back affirmative action at a national level.

Despite the legislative threats, University of Michigan officials say they will fight to keep their affirmative action program intact. "We strongly believe in equal access to education," said UM's associate provost Robert Holbrook.

Many students vow to fight the effort as well. "They are taking away our right to a well-rounded education," said Colleen Sabatini, a junior at the University of California at San Diego who made a plea to the Board of Regents to save affirmative action during the July 20 meeting. "They are saying that education is something that can only be enjoyed by the majority, not the minority."

Sabatini said that students are ready to protest the move. "This is the kind of thing that students get worked up over because it directly affects them," she said. "I think we'll see a lot of movement this fall from students on both sides of the issue."



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Keith Tasker, Arts & Entertainment Editor

The Chanticleer is located at 180 Self Hall. All submissions may be sent through campus mail to this address. Off-campus submissions should be mailed to 700 Pelham Road North. PO Box 3060JSU, Jacksonville, AL 36265. Deadline for submissions is Friday before the desired publishing date. The unsigned editorialis the opinion of the entire staff.

Single Copy:





JSU Administration keeps a careful eye on spending

By Benjamin Cunningham News Editor

The budget ax is hitting JSU, and the administration is taking every measure it can to soften the blow.

A July memo from JSU President Harold McGee to University officials involved in spending called for a "general moratorium" on spending for discretionary travel, purchases, employment, repair and maintenance, and other related expenditures.

The memo sites the state budget for the 1995-1996 fiscal year and the accompanying reductions higher education as reasons for the directive. The Alabama legislature has approved a 7.5 percent cut in spending on the state's colleges and universities, a move which will shave at least 1.4 million from JSU's budget.

in appropriations for

David Watts, JSU's Vice President for Academic Affairs, says the directive is more of a "spending restriction" than an absolute moratorium. "After the legislature completed its work, Dr. McGee determined that it would be in the University's best interest to restrain spending as much as possible, but without interfering with the necessary operations of the University," said Watts.

"The University's business ... the necessary business is being conducted...." Dr. David Watts V.P. Academic Affairs

Watts explained that rather than absolute elimination of certain activities, those activities would be performed at the lowest possible expense to the University. "Where, for example, two persons in the past might have attended a meeting now it may only be necessary or mandatory for one person to attend it," he said. "The University's business ...the necessary business, is being conducted, we're just trying to exercise that business in as prudent a manner as is possible."

State appropriations crunch forces

Departments are still being allowed to make purchases and spends University funds, According to Watts, with some new procedures. "In terms of purchases, every purchase requisition within this division has to be personally signed and approved by me. There are very few that are not approved, but the process of the approval puts a break on spending, and that's what Dr. McGee wanted to accomplish so that we could conserve our resources and have the least possible impact upon our instructional

a review of budget

DCI

continued from page 1

Southerners like drum sticks, drum heads, get some horns repaired," said Bodiford. "We're going to carpet the music office. We're trying to help give the music department a facelift, because I feel like appearance is very important, and our music building is outdated. If we're not getting a new building at least we're going to paint our offices, carpet things and make it look respectable."

Aside from money, the show helped to bring in students to JSU's music department. "We've had a lot of students that were going to other colleges, when they came here to the corps show, and felt the atmosphere, saw the corps, saw our stadium. They canceled their classes at the University of Alabama and transferred to Jax State," Bodiford said. He estimates that a dozen students chose JSU after attending the Southern Brass Classic.

Bodiford doled out thanks to the local Exchange Club and the Alumni office for help with the evont. He said he was especially grateful to the University for its assistance.

"The University was unbelievable," he said.

1995Southern

"The athletic department let us use the field, got it lined off for us. University housing was very cooperative as far as lining off practice fields for the corps to practice, they gave the Cavaliers a shaded area to eat."

David Watts, JSU's Vice President for Academic Affairs, however, credits Bodiford and Phi Mu Alpha with the success of the show. "Basically all we did was provide the field. The rest was up to them."

program at this point."

Bodiford says that he has even higher hopes for next year's show. "This is going to sound conceited, I think everything was covered so well ... there are just very few things we're going to change, because everything went so well."



Spirit of Atlanta gave drum corps fans at JSU their first taste of brass.



Montgomery's Southwind performing Southern gospel was a hit with the crowd.

Brass Classic Results Cavaliers 93.9 Bluecoats 84.7 Glassmen 83.1 Southwind 73.0 Spirit of Atlanta 68.5





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Enrollment rise may continue

By Benjamin Cunningham News Editor

The early returns are in, and it looks like JSU is ahead ... so far.

Early figures on enrollment for the fall term from the Office of Admissions and Records indicate that the upswing in enrollment last fall may continue into the 1995-1996 academic year. If the numbers hold out, it might signal the end of a downward trend in enrollment JSU experienced in the early part of this decade.

According to Jerry Smith, Dean of Admissions and Records, there was a large enrollment jump in 1990; at that time, enrollment stood at 8,448 students. A drop of 208 students the next year began the slide down. Enrollment dropped by 218 in 1991, and plunged 516 in 1993, putting JSU at 7,506, down by nearly 1000 students from the 1990 level.

Last fall, the trend was broken as enrollment increased by 47 students. The increase, however slight, had University officials hopeful since it came despite ever-shrinking high school graduating classes and Georgia's Hope Scholarship program. Many feared that the Hope Scholarships would eat away at JSU's traditional base of students from western Georgia, since the program offers many Georgia students at least one year of free tuition.

At that time, Smith said the University's goal was to continue the upswing with a four to five percent increase. Now it appears that goal may be achieved.

"This morning, we were 122 people above where

we were on this same day last year," Smith said on Tuesday. He did note that the numbers were still very preliminary and that more definite numbers for enrollment wouldn't be in for over a week. "I will be delighted if those figures hold," he said. "I had hoped all along for stable enrollment, hoping that we would be up, but didn't think that we would be up a whole lot. So if this is a barometer, if we're going to be up 122, you're going to be seeing one smiling face in this office."

Smith noted that new student applications were up by over 100, and said that usually around 60 percent of applicants actually enroll at JSU. "If we were up by a hundred, I was hoping for 60 new students.

"The University has

made enrollment one of its very, very top priorities," Smith added. "It's high on Dr. McGee's list, it's high on all the vice presidents' lists, there is a University-wide commitment to enrollment. You counter that with Hope Grants in Georgia, and things like that, and we're going to have to work very hard to maintain our stability in enrollment.

David Watts, JSU's Vice President for Academic Affairs, was expressive about the importance of enrollment for the University. "The reason why it's important is so that we can provide the breadth and depth of educational programming for our students. Without a reasonable base of student enrollment, we can't provide that breadth of programs and depth of programs. We just don't

have the resources."

Watts attributed any increase in enrollment in large part to a heightened emphasis on recruiting. "We've had greater effort in recruitment, which has been a shared effort by faculty, students, and staff."

"I'd like to think that we're becoming a more student-oriented university," he added. "We're concerned with students' welfare, we're concerned with students' academic progress. Faculty have been very responsive, very supportive, and willing to take on additional responsibilities to be sure that students' educational needs are met.

"So if we're successful I would say it's a whole constellation of things that everybody shares the credit for."

Sororities attract new sisters

By Erin Key News Writer

If you were anywhere near the Quad on the morning of Monday, August 21, you probably noticed the happy commotion of hundreds of young women. Monday was Bid Day for JSU's sororities — an exciting and much awaited day after a busy week of activities.

On Bid Day, sororities met their new members who just finished going through Formal Rush. From August 16 to August 21, the rushees went to different parties to learn about all five sororities which participated in Rush: Alpha Xi Delta, Delta Zeta, Alpha Omicron Pi, Zeta Tau Alpha, and Phi Mu. The sisters of Alpha Kappa Alpha and Sigma Gamma Rho did not participate in Formal Rush. Rushees came

from all over to stay at Fitzpatrick Hall for the big event. While the sororities decorated and prepared for the different parties, the 102 rushees and their Rho Chis (Rush counselors) played cards, went roller skating, and anticipated the festivities ahead of them.

At 10 a.m. Monday morning, the sororities surrounded the Round House with their multicolored balloons and T-shirts, cheering for all of their new members and waiting for them to run outside. When the doors flung open, 82 smiling girls hurried out to find their new sorority sisters. Then everyone released balloons, chanted cheers, and took pic-

tures. After group photos were taken, each sorority had a get together so everyone could get to know each other better.

If you missed out on Fall Rush 1995 and would still like to become a member of a sorority, please contact Tracy Stark in the Office of Student Activities at 782-5491 for more information. And for all you guys, remember Fraternity Rush starts September 18. Sign up today in the Office of Student Activities if you're interested!



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House Republicans Vow To End Direct Student Loans GOP targets program on path to balance budget

By Elissa Leibowitz College Press Service

WASHINGTON— House Republicans no longer want to limit President Bill Clinton's pilot direct student loan program. They want to scrap it altogether.

With a mandate to cut \$10 billion out of the out of the budget within the next seven years, Republicans on the House Economic and Educational Opportunities Committee said on July 27 that Clinton's direct loan program is a good place to start.

"Direct lending can work, and in some ways it is working," said Rep. Bart Gordon, R-Tenn., a member of the committee. "The question is not 'Can it work?" The question is why go to direct lending unless you can make significant improvements in the current system. Just to say it works is not enough."

The year-old direct loan program allows colleges to bypass banks and other lending agencies when students seek loans from the federal government. Without the middlemen, students receive their loan funds much more quickly and save money in interest, say proponents. At the same time, colleges benefit by cutting back on paperwork and be receiving tuition payments faster, which improves cash-flow.

Originally, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) had estimated that direct loans would save taxpayers \$6.8 billion by the year 2000 by eliminating reinsurance fees and other subsidies now paid to banks and guarantee agencies under the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program.

But Republicans have charged that the Department of Education misjudged the amount of money that the program saves taxpayers. Instead of saving money, direct loans will cost the nation \$1.5 billion over the next seven years, according to new a CBO study.

"They used smoke and mirrors to determine the savings," said the House committee's chairman, Rep. Bill Goodling, R-Pa., of Clinton administration estimates.

However, Sen. Paul Simon, D-Ill., one of Congress' main supporters of the direct lending program, accused the Republicans of using "concocted formulas" to skew the congressional budget report in their favor.

"Direct loan opponents are trying to cook the books when it comes to student loans," Simon said in a statement. "Write a recipe for mush, and mush is what you get."

Goodling and other Republicans will try to cancel the direct loan program in a reconciliation bill in September.

Dan Mann, associate financial aid director at Southern Illinois' Carbondale campus, said the Republicans are rushing to end a maturing program that has not yet shown its fullest potential.

"It would be a real mistake to eliminate the program because it is a much easier process for everyone involved," Mann said. "I don't think they've given it a chance."

The Clinton administration kicked off the program last year at 104 schools and expanded it to 1,400 colleges for the 1994-95 school year, which is 40 percent of the college students who receive federal loans.

Republicans said instead of improving the guaranteed student loan program, which still serves the majority of colleges, the Clinton administration is rushing to phase it out so that officials can institute the direct loan project at all universities nationwide.

"It wasn't our idea to move that rapidly," Gordon said. "The problem is they got too greedy. They couldn't be satisfied with just a test."

But Madeleine Kunin, deputy secretary of education, said the guaranteed loan program benefits from the direct loan project.

"What they are proposing to cut would affect both programs," Kunin said. "If you know something is working, why not make it available to a large group of students and institutions?"

"This is too vital a subject for people to play politics with," Kunin said.

And it's too vital to colleges participating in the direct loan program, according to a study this summer by the Education Department. Ninety percent of the schools surveyed said they would recommend the program to other colleges.

Lincoln University, a predominately black college in Jefferson City, Mo., was one of those singing the program's praises. Spokesman Dan Diedriech explained how the direct loans ease Lincoln's financial aid process, which processed almost \$4.1 million in direct federal loans last year.

"Under the old system, a student comes in, says 'I want a loan,' and the financial officer hands out a form," Diedriech explained. "The student fills out the form, and it goes to a bank, which accepts or rejects it and sends it back. That can take up to six weeks. the decision is now made on the spot. The process might take six days. The disbursement of funds to students is an advantage."

Proponents say the program saves the government money by eliminating the subsidies it pays lenders to administer the loans. The government also can borrow money directly from the Treasury at a lower rate and turn that money over to students. Students then benefit from lower interest rates.

But a July study by the

Washington-based Coalition for Student Loan Reform stated that 72 percent of Americans interviewed believe student loans should be offered through private institutions and not through the federal government.

They share the sentiments of those House Republicans who want to end the program altogether. Other critics on Capitol Hill, including Sen. Nancy Kassebaum, R-Kan., want to limit the number of colleges allowed to participate. If left uncapped, the program would put too much of a burden on the government and would cause lending agencies to lose money.

"The direct lending program is very new," Kassebaum spokesman Mike Horak said. "It's easy to make calculations on the savings at this point before loans become due. Clearly it's too early to tell what the long-term fiscal impact on direct lending will be."

Kassebaum and other Republican leaders in congress have introduced legislation to cap the program at 40 percent of new loan volume. They also want to force students to pay the interest on their loans while in school, rather than defer it until after they leave.

Goodling introduced a similar bill in the House, but he said he would scrap it in favor of ending the direct loan program and restoring the inschool subsidy.

Hike Continued from page 1

with the extra money.

"I was surprised," said SGA President Emily Hawk. "I knew they were going to raise it and I even thought they would have the dollar amount. But I thought that if they added the dollar amount they would at least give people time to be notified properly and to get the money."

Students who could not afford the per hour rate were forced to drop classes that put them over 16 hours, which means they might have to stay in school longer.

"I think all but two majors require that sometime in your four years you have to take above 16 hours," said Hawk. "Music majors are going to be hit hard. They have to take above 16 hours every semester."

"Everything goes up," said University President Harold McGee. "Movies cost more, cars cost more, hamburgers cost more, but no one wants tuition or taxes to be more."

"They [students] could see this coming," said McGee. "It's really not that much money. They may have to do without a McDonald's hamburger or new clothes but they can pay for it. It's just a question of what's most important to them."

Tuition isn't the only way the school hopes to make up for some of its

losses. "There is going to be a freeze on all unnecessary expenditures," said McGee. There will be less adjunct faculty, less unnecessary sections of classes, reductions in financial aid, and reductions or eliminations of certain services or activities. A recent memo sent McGee to those bv involved in the spending University money of called for an all-out moratorium on spending for discretionary travel, purchasing, employment, repair and maintenance, and related expenditures.

McGee says he hopes to eliminate some unnecessary expenditures by decreasing class "shopping." "Students will sign up for classes and then drop them the day before classes begin," said McGee. "Then we're left with all these adjunct faculty members that we have to pay and no one in their classes." McGee says he hope the hourly rate will discourage students from shopping around as much for classes.

Despite the hike in tuition, the administration contends that JSU is still one of the most affordable universities in Alabama. "We still have around the third least expensive tuition in the state," said McGee. "And we have a much broader selection of courses than the less expensive schools."



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VIEWS

ISSUE OF THE WEEK

Heavier class load, higher cost: unfair burden

Money. There's less of it all over.

The governor and the state legislature seem to have decided that JSU and Alabama's other colleges and universities had more We suggest: Give students what

they pay for.

than their fair share of it. So they took 7.5 percent of it away.

JSU was suddenly short a couple of million dollars. As students we understand this. We can handle the fact that running a major university costs a lot of money and we know that that money has to come from somewhere. We can even understand that as the receivers of this university's services, we are probably going to be paying more for these services when other sources dry up.

So we have a tuition increase; we can handle that.

What does seem a little hard to swallow is a new system that charges more, substantially more, for what used to come at the standard flat rate. An 18 hour schedule last year cost a student \$870. This semester the same 18 hours, which the University catalog recommends for almost every major at least once (usually more) costs \$1074.

Most people come to college with at least the faint hope that they will graduate in four years. It now seems that will be impossible to do without paying the new \$77 per hour rate on a rather frequent basis.

Should more than 16 hours be considered more than "regular hours" when the University catalog recommends it so frequently?

Still, the administration holds that it's not really that much money, that we will come up with it somehow, despite the rumblings in Washington of decreased financial aid and the increasingly souring job prospects for college graduates.

The administration contends that students can pay the new rates, that it's just a matter of what's more important to us, and even cited such expenses as food and clothing as possible options for reduction. Granted, it may not be easy. What does seem easy is for university administrators with \$100,000+ salaries plus fringe benefits to tell students to make the tough decisions.

It was recently said that Jacksonville State is becoming more of a student-oriented university.

For this kind of money, it had better be.

FORUM Letters to the editor

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 no rebuttals will be published 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 non 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.



A modest proposal ...

By Tim Lockette Features Editor

To: Rep. Newt Gingrich From: Rep. Logan Runyon Re: Renewing American Civilization

Mr. Speaker,

Enclosed are the findings of the House Committee on the Tragedy of American Compassion. The document itself, as you can see, is voluminous, but after sorting through literally thousands of charts and months of testimony, we have come to precisely the conclusion you predicted.

Our conclusion, in summa, is this: our country is going bankrupt, the middle class is shriveling, the American family is falling to pieces, and immigration will soon cause a serious overpopulation problem.

We have traced all these problems to one source: Americans are simply getting too damned old. We all know that Medicare and Social Security are the two biggest items in the Social Security budget. Young Americans cannot participate vigorously in our system of free enterprise because a significant portion of our wealth is in the hands of senior citizens. There's no room for Cuban immigrants in Florida because the state is already overrun with retirees.

Finally, marriage as an institution was founded at a time when the average person livedto be twenty-eight, which is one reason most Americans today opt for the more robust tradition of "serial monogamy."

This growing problem certainly falls under the heading of "tragic compassion." Americans see forty years of labor as an easy way to get on the public dole. We must put an end to this, which is why the Committee is proposing a Universal Age Cap. Our statistics show that the Medicare problem alone could be effectively done away with if Americans were executed at the age of fifty. Early termination would also free up massive amount of capital and would do much to end urban gridlock, particularly in the Sun Belt States.

Of course such a program would have to be introduced in graduating stages. Early termination would empty most high offices in our nation's capital, a sure threat to national security. With the baby boom generation entering its sixth decade, execution at the age of fifty would be a serious blow to the economy. However, our experts tell us that an age cap on persons born after 1965 - the socalled "Generation X" ---would have minimal longterm demographic effect. Conveniently, this portion of the population is both small and politically apathetic, reducing the chance of serious resistance at the polls.

With luck and hard work, our plan may even gain the favor of the American Association of Retired Persons.

Unofficial communications between the Committee and the White House indicate some sympathy on the part of the Clinton administration. The President told me personally that "every plan deserves a hearing" and reassured me that he is "as interested in cutting waste as the next guy." Aides tell us even though Clinton likes the idea in theory, he believes the age limit can be raised to 57 or 60 without ill effect. This is probably a pre-election posture: Clinton wants to make the GOP look like the "bad guys." In the end, we may have to move his way: preliminary polls show that a slight majority of Americans would consider an age limit of less than 55 to be "meanspirited."

(Editor's note: The preceding is a work of fiction. Any resemblance between the characters presented herein and any actual persons with other than satirical intent is entirely their fault.)

VIEWPOINTS

As a student, what do you think of JSU's tuition increase?

"I can see what the University is trying to do, but I think in the long run it will hurt a lot of students financially."

Jamie Allen, Sophomore

"When I first heard about it I was not fond of the idea, but if the University uses the money in a productive manner I think it will work out okay."

Bobby Ritter, Sophomore

"I don't like it because I'm on full scholarship and now I have to pay \$200, even though I'm on full scholarship."

Allen Wright, Junior

"In retrospect, there's always been tuition increases, but now it's really beginning to be felt around the state. It's unfair to the people who have great potential but are of little income. I'm against it!"

Scott Gibbs, Junior

"It doesn't affect me because I'm on scholarship, but I don't see why we can't get the same quality education for the same tuition."

Mac Brewer, Freshman



ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

You will loose your job, your friends, and even you entire state of being.
See below

Sights & Sounds of Summer

Apparatus "Apparatus" Re-construction/Cargo Records

Apparatus is an industrial band — there's no question about it. Just about the only people that will like this album are people who like industrial music. Now I'm not talking the NIN type of industrial, this a more in-your-face take on the genre.

This style works for some songs, like "Hell's Home" and "Baal," but over all, most of the music is lost under an over abundance of samples. It's seems that every new industrial band has to sample movies. It must be in the contract or some secret deal with Blockbuster.

Some do it well and some do it too much. Apparatus does it too much and, because of that, the album becomes annoying instead of enjoyable. Maybe when these kids from South Carolina grow up they will lay off the samples and play some music. These guys have the potential to be a good industrial band.

 $\star\star$

Circle Jerks "Oddities, Abnormalities & Curiosities" Mercury Records

The Jerks are back and are going to take over the punk world!! That's what I thought when I heard that the legendary Hermose Beach punk band, The Circle Jerks, were reforming and releasing a new record. Much to my surprise, I was wrong.

This album is a sad excuse for punk. The band that once brought us "Golden Shower of Hits" have traded in their boots for a bottle of Geritol. Most of the songs on this album try to Whew! This summer was a scorcher. Temperatures reached record highs, sending folks running for shade and more than a few to the hospital. Ahhh, but the heat wasn't all that knocked people out. Music, movies and concerts did their fair share of the damage. Here's a look at the red-hot hits that raised blisters and a few that just left us cold.

blend the fluffy pop of today's punk with the total lack of melody of yesteryear. It doesn't work. Vocalist Keith Morris sounds more like an emphysema patient than a punk rocker. His grating voice may have worked a decade ago, but it just doesn't fit in with the music the Jerks are trying to play now.

What's worse is that the best, and only good, song on this album features back up vocals by ex-mall queen Debbie Gibson. I guess punk isn't what it used to be. With the Ramones opening for a group of sixteen year olds, Silverchair, what do you expect.

Foo Fighters "Foo Fighters" Roswell/Capitol Records

 \star

Everyone thought that Dave Grohl would vanish after the end of Nirvana. Well, it seems that the prodigal drummer has been busy. He has managed to create an album of incredible songs, on which he played all the instruments and sang all the vocals.

Now, the Foo Fighters aren't the next Nirvana, but who eversaid they had to be. It is a great collection of songs that show Grohl can play a guitar as well as he can play drums and his singing voice is better than most would imagine.

This album is all over the place. From the calm textures



of "Big Me" to the wall of noise powerhouse "Weenie Beeni," Grohl shows that he is more than just the guy from Kurt's band. Grohl has created a band of his own but, since he can't tour alone, he has recruited former Nirvana guitarist Pat Smear and Sunny Day Real Estate's drummer, William Goldsmith, and bassist, Nate Mendel.

Of course their are going to be Nirvana references. Yes, it's true that sometimes Grohl can scream like Cobain and even play guitar like him, but this is Grohl's band...and that's just fine.

Into Another "Seemless" Hollywood Records

I really should hate this band. At first they sound like a strange mix of Voivod and Alice in Chains. Two bands that should never be copied. But after repeated listenings, Into Another grow on you. You realize that, contrary to your initial thought, they do not sound like Alice or Voivod.

However, the singer can sometimes remind you of Alice singer Layne Staley and the music can become a bit spacey like Voivod. But, Into Another has more to offer than just two dimensions.

The music can either throw you to the back of the room or induce a flashback. It's quite impressive. Into Another can go from a four chord mind splitter into a rather relaxing and hypnotic ballad. To go along with the dynamic music is the unpredictable singing of Richie Birkenhead, which is either harsh or melodic. Plus the lyrics that are sung, or screamed, are quite thought provoking, "The girl who wants to be/ something more than a mother/ is told it's not lady like/ leave ambition to your brother."

So, while at first Into Another may remind you of other acts, it will later become something new and interesting. $\star \star \star$

Seaweed "Spanaway" Hollywood Records WHAT EVER YOU DO, DO NOT BUY THIS RECORD!!!

It will consume your entire being. You will do nothing but listen to this Tacoma, Wash. bands fifth album. The fact that it sounds like what Soul Asylum, had they had never

found country, will pull you in. And once your in their grasp there is no escape. From the pulse of "Free Drug Zone" to the soulful "Start With" and on to the loving sentiments of "Not Saying Anything," the 'weed will not let you go. This is not an album that you can listen to a couple of songs and then go on with your life. You will listen to it from beginning to end because, unlike former Seaweed albums, this album contains great song after great song, not just a few hits stuck between mediocre tunes.

With "Spanaway" you will do nothing but sit in your room and listen to the record over and over, because once will never be enough. You will loose your job, your friends, and even you entire state of being. You will only try to figure out how to score more 'weed. Then you will come to the conclusion that you are a weedhead. You will commit yourself to making necklaces out of sea crustacean just so you can sell them to, of course, score more 'weed. The 'weed will consume you, it will over take you. This is the album that will become your life-your destiny-your religion.....hey-you wanna buy a really cool neck-

lace? It's made from really neat-o sea stuff. You want one? Do ya?

"311" Capricorn

311

311 has always been an amazing band. A band that has become a huge touring force with little radio airplay and almost no video play. 311 is

see Albums page 16



Good Riddance 2308 North, Birmingham June 13, 1995

This was a punk show, plain and simple. The place is a third level loft that had the windows bricked up, no air conditioning and stage lighting that consisted of a hundred watt bulb over the band. And speaking of a stage, there was none. The band played on the same wood that the audience was on. Now this would be a terrible place to see a stage band like Pink Floyd, but for a punk band like Good Riddance, it was great.

The band played songs from its latest release "For

God and Country" for around forty-five minutes, which included a rousing cover of "Stop The World And Melt With You."

After that show I was covered in sweat and my ears rang for a week. The place may not have been the Ritz and the sound may have sucked, but overall this was the way to see a **punk band. It felt like you** were watching the guys rehearse in their garage.

Tilt Somber Reptile, Atlanta

July 16, 1995 Now this is, once again, a punk show. The venue was a little bigger and a lot better, but the band played with the ferocity that is expected from punk. Lead singer Cinder Block's voice was like a knife in your heart and it tore through you every time she sang. And sang she did through the hour long set of songs that included new ones off of Tilt's latest release "'Til It Kills."

You may be familiar with Tilt from the Green Day "Longview" video, drummer Tre Cool wore a Tilt shirt in it. But that's where the comparison ends. Tilt is a lot heavier and harder than Green Day and this live show proved it. It was well worth putting up with the crappy Atlanta punk bands to get a good dose of South California angst.

 $\star\star\star$

Korn

The Masquerade, Atlanta July 1, 1995

To put it simply, this show was amazing. The Masquerade holds around 1,000 people but there must have been double that this night. Which is quite amazing because Korn has had little air-play and no video until recently.

Anyway, this show was terrific. It was hot and sticky and no matter where



DAVE MATTHEWS BAND

The band was great...the crowd was not: Dave Matthews tried his best in B'ham..

you went, you couldn't escape the pit. The fury of fists and sweat only added to the anarchy that Korn presented on stage. Especially when they broke into the now infamous song "Snakes and Ladders," I swear I thought I was going to die.

Next time around Korn will probably play a bigger venue, but I suggest going anyway. Momma always said to make sure and get some Korn, just don't hurt yourself. OK?

$\star\star\star$

Route 666 Tour The Masquerade, Atlanta July 15, 1995

This was an odd show. You would figure a title like the "Route 666 Tour" would bring all kinds of freaks out. It didn't. With a low audience level, the show just didn't seem to have any fire. Perhaps the reason for such low attendance was that two of the five scheduled bands didn't appear. The show being on a Sunday couldn't have helped either. The bands that did show up put on great live acts. And the headliners, Evil Mothers, tried like hell to get the low audience level into the act, but it just didn't work. It was really sad to see such a powerful live act wasted on such poor attendance. Evil Mothers are one of those bands that feeds on audience energy and without a good attendance this show just had no fire.

★★

Dave Matthews Band Oak Mountain Amphitheater, Birmingham July 28, 1995

I've always been told that you have to see Dave Matthews live, so I did. And not to my surprise, people were right. Dave Matthews put on a great show that made you just want to get up and dance. His cover of Hendrix's "All Along The Watchtower" was wonderful and the live versions of "Ants Marching" and "What Would You Say?" were far superior to the ones on the see Concerts page 16



Atlanta loves "Dick": Birmingham native, Michael Thrasher, surprises a sold-out crowd as his band, Gwen Mars, performs it's hit "Cosmic Dick."





Cyber-Queen: Sandra Bullock has taken the information superhighway to success in The Net.

Apollo 13

One of the strangest things about "Apollo 13" is its air of nostalgia. This film is set in America's glorious past, when life was simple and the United States was a shining example of peace, justice, and prosperity. You know: 1970. Apparently the Seventies are now officially the "Good Old Days." This movie will make you pine for the days of Nixon, nuclear stalemate, and naugahyde, even if you were only a toddler at the time.

The main reason for this is that "Apollo 13" is about nothing but the space program during its Golden Age (which happened to be a not-so-golden age for the general public). There is little room for social commentary or even character development in this exciting film. You won't miss them. Whatever you do, don't go into the theater wih large Coke, because you're bound to miss something important if you have to go to the bathroom. There aren't any dull parts in "Apollo 13".

Science fiction has nothing on this true story of space travel. One wonders why this film wasn't made ten or twenty years ago- but thank goodness it wasn't. It takes 1990s special effects to tell this incredible story as it deserves to be told. \bigstar

TT.

The Net

Sandra Bullock is back in the genre that made her famous action movies. However, this movie doesn't have Keanu Reeves, thank God, or a plot so bad you could drive a bus through it.

"The Net" is a high-tech cyber-thriller that will leave you on the edge of your seat. The plot centers around Angela Basset(Bullock), who is so tied up in the information super highway that no one in her town knows who she is. So with that in mind, a group of computer terrorists decide to erase her life. From there the movie takes off into a roller coaster ride of near misses and second chances.

The scariest thing in this movie is not the suspenseful ending, but that what's happening may not be that far from what could happen in our computer reliable society.

★★★ KT

The Secret Of Roan Inish

This is one of the best and most unrecognized movies of the year. The direction is superb, the acting magnificent, and the plot will warm your heart.

Originally thought to be a kids movie, "The Secret of Roan Inish" offers so much more than your usual childhood pap. The story is about a young girl who leaves her family in Ireland to live with her Grandparents on a fishing island. There she learns the secrets of her family's former home, Roan Inish, and the terrible tragedy that made them leave.

This movie is great for kids, but adults may want to go back for a second look. $\bigstar \bigstar \bigstar$

KT

- 57. - 1

9 Months Just for a minute, forget Hugh Grant as a prostitute's client and imagine him as a new father.

In the summer hit "Nine Months," Grant plays a man who is very pleased with his routine lifestyle: his job, his Porche, his cat. When his longtime girlfriend (Julianne Moore) tells him she's pregnant, Grant panics. He isn't sure he's ready for fatherhood, especially when he meets the three obnoxious children of Tom Arnold and Joan Cusack (both are excellent in their supporting roles). Grant soon realizes he must trade the Porsche for a family car, get rid of Kitty, and take on more responsibility. This romantic comedy, directed by Chris Columbus ("Mrs. Doubtfire"), is a great excuse to spend a couple of hours in a darkened movie theater. Keep an eye out for Robin Williams, who plays Moore's obststrician. Also watch for the hilarious scene in which Grant and Arnold encounter a Barney look-alike. $\star\star$

EK

Waterworld

The most expensive movie in history is also one of the dullest. After months and months of production problems and a budget estimated at over \$180 million, Universal Pictures has been stuck with the Titanic of big movies.

First, a huge chunk of the set sank, then director Kevin Reynolds jumped ship (some say he was pushed by disappointed executives) leaving Kevin Costner to play the part of "good-hearted-movie-making-super hero." But, Kev turned out to be a bumbling bafoon when it came to his job in the editing room. He sliced Reynolds three hour epic into a two hour and ten minute yawn, removing most of the major plot points and all of the film's soul.

This "Mad Max On the Water" will leave you wondering what happened, why did it happen and who are these people anyway? Imagine a good book, not a great one, with two or three chapters missing and you have "Waterworld." Stay home and watch "Mad Max"



Huge Career Moves: Hugh Grant has better luck on screen than on the street.



Fishtar! Costner Flounders with Waterworld

with the shower running. It's cheaper and more entertaining. ★ (for buying a place in history)

Species

MC

A "thriller" that's mostly filler, this fluff ridden disaster could be one of the funniest films released this year. Scientists receive a transmission from outer space containing a code for an alien life-form. Of course, they mix it with human DNA and create a sexy monster with a thirst to breed and kill. Enter the heroes: Forest Whitaker, Michael Madsen and Alfred Molina join forces with Ben Kingsley on a search and destroy mission.

On the hunt for the genetically engineered beast (Natashia Hendridge), movie-goers are treated to such choice scenes as the good-guys finding a mutilated body in a train cab and Forest Whitaker (the inept empath) commenting, "I feel something very bad has happened here." It doesn't get much worse or funnier when it comes to films that want to be the next Alien, and come off like the Three Stooges vs. The Man Eating Woman. \star (for the comedy value) MC

Movie Reviewe by Mike Canada, Esin Key, Jim Lachette & Keith Tasker



Continued from page 12

infamous for there live shows but, the only problem was capturing that live energy in the studio.

This is their third release and it may not capture that live vibe completely, but it does get darn close. There's the chill-out groves of "Don't Stay Home" and "All Mixed up" along with the hard-core vibes of "Down" and "Hive."

It is this mix of style that has always made 311 so great. They can go from a wonderful reggae song into a spine shattering romp in no time. It's this blend of music that makes 311 such a great live band, but in the studio it's just hard to capture that feeling. So, while this is a fine studio effort by the band, it in no way compares with the live act. But, I guess this will have to do until that live album comes out. That's o.k. with me, because a studio album from 311 is better than most.

ALBUMS

Klover "Feel Lucky Punk" Mercury Records

Well, here's another band that has classic punk ties but is trying to get into the second wave of anarchy laden music.

Klover contains ex-members of the historic hardcore punk band Gang Green, but instead of trying to do another Gang Green album, former members Chris Doherty(guitar) and Brian Betzger(Drums) put together a new band with singer Mike Stone and bassist Darren Hill.

Klover won't make you want to burn bridges or destroy cars, but it will make you get off your ass. You can definitely hear the classic punk ties in "Feel Lucky Punk" but there is also a lot of melody in there too. It has the tap your feet feel of today with the angst of a decade ago. There is even a hint of 50's style rock in the mix.

This sounds like Green Day ten years from now, catchy hooks and wall shattering anger, but with a level of maturity not found in a lot of this "new" punk. ★★

Jane Kelly Williams "Tapping The Wheel" Mercury Records

Ever since 10,000 Maniacs and Live started playing on regular radio there has been this flood of a new style of music, Adult Alternative. It's supposed to be new music for the

CONCERTS

album.

Unfortunately, this show didn't come without a few disappointments. It seems that most of the sold-out crowd had never been to a show before. Some yelled the whole time, others got drunk and made fools of themselves.

I ended up leaving the show early because of the idiots who ruined what would have been an otherwise memorable show.

 $\star \star \star s \text{ (for the band)} \\ \star \text{ (for the audience)}$

Primus

Fox Theater, Atlanta August 8, 1995

Primus is known to be one of the best live acts around with some of the most outrageous pits. That's why at first I was so reluctant to see them at such a confined venue like the Fox. I have to admit, I was surprised. Primus used the venue to their advantage.

The stage consisted of an extravagant display that resembled some sort of living room. The show was going great, as Primus played many older songs and pretty much steered clear of their latest album "Tales Form The Punchbowl." Until some moron from the audience jumped up on stage and took bassist/singer Les Claypool's hat. Which made Claypool mad enough to walk of stage and stop the show until the hat was returned.

Warped Tour Masquerade Music Park August 11, 1995

The Warped Tour was one of the most anticipated events of the summer. Around twenty of the best punk bands were to come together with a multitude of professional skateboarders and in-line skaters. This was to be the event of the summer. It wasn't. Some of the bands advertised didn't show. Some of the bands just stunk.

The main and second stages were so far apart that you spent more time inbetween concerts than actually seeing any bands. But some of the bands I did catch put on great live shows.

Seaweed for example played early in the day, something that can kill an act. They did put on one hell of a performance for the afternoon crowd, though. Even though no one knew the new songs off of the then forth coming "Spanaway" older crowd, and maybe that's why I don't get it.

Now, I like Live and the Maniacs because they not only appeal to the masses, but they also do some interesting stuff. It appears that some of this kind of music is just boring.

Enter Jane Kelly Williams. Now all of these songs'sound o.k. and her voice is nice, but there is just something missing. It's just too nice. There's just no passion.

Sweet songs about love

and loneliness are a dime a dozen and that's about all Williams has to offer. Maybe I'm just too young for this, but she just doesn't have any fire. She kind of reminds me of a female John Denver. Then again Denver is sort of cool, I mean he had that "Smoky Mountain High" thing. Maybe that's what Williams needs...a smoky mountain high and a little life experience. $\star\star$



Warped on the road! Face 2 Face guitarist Chad Yaro gets jumpy as his band performs on the Warped Tour.

album, people seemed to enjoy Seaweed's high energy out put.

Next on the decent band list was the always fun No Use For A Name. This is fun punk. They don't take themselves too seriously and that's what is so likeable about them. The crowd seemed into the act and everybody most of the the songs.

Next came Face to Face, the band that should have headlined the tour. The field was packed with sweating kids slamming into each other, exactly what they should do at great punk show. F2F played songs of off their last release "Big Choice" to an admiring crowd.

After F2F, most of the crowd left, leaving L7 and Quicksand to play to a barren audience. Hopefully the tour got it's act together and made it possible to see bands instead of walkways. This could be the next big summer thing. $\bigstar \bigstar \bigstar$

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Catherine Wheel with Gwen Mars The Masquerade August 19, 1995

This was a homecoming of sorts. You see the lead singer / guitarist for Gwen Mars, Michael Thrasher, is from Birmingham. Atlanta was as close as the tour came to home.

So Gwen Mars was not only playing to fans, but also to family. Perhaps that explains why Gwen Mars put on such a great live show. They only played for about thirty minutes, but when they broke into their college radio hit "Cosmic Dick," the entire audience went nuts. If only they could have played longer.

Headliner Catherine Wheel later took the stage, playing selections from all three albums, including the latest "Happy Days." What was turning into a great show was cut short because of bad electrical storm.

Catherine Wheel had the ability to take their melodic music and shove it down your throat. It was so loud I thought my ears would pop. That was fine, Catherine Wheel just made you fall in love with them on stage. I can't wait to catch them again.

Interest in education

The rapidly increasing interest in education is a most encouraging feature in the current history of the country...

--Ulysses Simpson Grant



311 Five Points South Music Hall, Birmingham August 20, 1995

This was the most surprising concert of the summer. Who would have thought that enough people had heard 311 to almost Five Points South Music Hall?

This almost capacity crowd definitely got what they paid for. An almost two hour show that highlighted 311's four year career. The band belted out their best songs for the high strung audience. An audience that was oh so eager to get a swirling pit together.

It would have been an exhausting show if 311 hadn't staggered their show, allowing the audience a few breathers. Overall, this 311 show was a nice experience ... wonderful music, a great crowd and enough sweat to fill a small pool. Whew!!! ★★

> All Concert Reviews by Keith Tasker





Thank goodness there's Advil.® Advanced medicine for pain."

concert

orner

Atlanta

Chastain ParkHootie and The Blowfish w/Edwin McCainSept. 3Clint BlackSept. 4

The Fox 311 w/ No Doubt Sept. 8 \$15.00

Lakewood AmphitheatreElton JohnSept. 1 & 2Van Halenw/ Our Lady PeaceSept. 3Bon JoviSept. 16

Omni Tom Petty w/ Pete Droge Sept. 30

The MasqueradeJamiroquaiSept. 1\$12.50

Circle Jerks Sept. 6 \$10.00 Foo Fighters w/ Spearhead Sept. 7 \$10.00 Man Or Astroman-Sept. 9/ \$5.00 Rev. Horton Heat w/ Supersuckers Sept. 29 \$12.00

The Roxy Better Than Ezra with

The Dambuilders Sept. 15

Somber Reptile

Wizo	Sept. 10
Wynona Riders	Sept. 15

Variety PlayhouseThrowing MusesSept. 14\$12.00BettySept. 15\$12.00Sept. 15

Sept. 23

Sept. 1

Sept. 10

Sept. 15

Sept. 29

Sept. 30

Oct. 29

Sept. 1

5 Points South Music Hall

Dr. John

Birmingham

Curiosity Shppe

Collective Soul

Aware Show featuring

JACKOPIERCE with

Hootie & The Blowfish

Widespread Panic Sept. 23

Catfish Jenkins

Shawn Colvin

Oak Mountain

Amphitheater

Edwin McCain

w/ Rusty

The Grapes Cowboy Mouth

\$15.00

UAB Areana Natalie Merchant Sept. 21





311 - A great live band will play the Fox in Atlanta next month!



Dates compiled by Keith Taskes

14.12

48,

2.0

9.5



Dexter's not his usual self.

You suspect the Salsa.

So you call Dr. Nusblatt,

your *family* vet back home.

The call is cheap.

(Too bad about the consultation fee.)

Sign up for AT&T True Savings' and save 25% to Anybody, Anytime, Anywhere in the USA.

Life can be complicated. AT&T **True Savings** is simple. Just spend \$10 a month on long distance and we'll subtract 25% off your AT&T bill* Spend \$50 a month, get 30% off. Guaranteed. This special offer ends soon, so you've got to call **1800 TRUE-ATT** to enroll by September 15. No fees. No lists. And no circles. *That's Your True Choice.*^M AT&T.



FEATURES

Video rental stores are to the 1990's what the Customs Department was to Melville

see below



Tim Lockette

Fall is just around the corner. Soon the bands will be blaring, the cheerleadersjumping, and the teams scrimmaging on the gridiron. Temperatures will drop, and across the country, college students will plop down on their tattered couches, eagerly watching...Gamera vs. Zigra?

Once the domain of a fringe element of cultural anthropologists, bad cinema is rapidly becoming one of the favorite spectator sports of Generation X. Armchair hecklers- the earliest pioneers of interactive TV- have even acheived the lofty status of "target market," as evidenced by films like "Ed Wood" and the program "Mystery Science Theater 3000". The golden age of bad cinema has arrived.

"People like to feel superior," says Jamie Hardy, manager of Movie World in Piedmont. "They like the idea that they're smarter than people who have millions of dollars of studio money." Hardy, a JSU alumnus and former "Dress for Breakfast" editor, compares his own situation to the film "Reality Bites": unable to find a use for his degree, he works in one of the most overqualified career fields the economy has to offer. Home to thousands of would-be Quentin Tarentinos, video rental stores are to the

1990's what the Customs Department was to Melville and Hawthorne.

A longtime fan of the worst in cinema, Hardy feeds his vice every day at work, and broods about popular culture, its causes, and its cures. "People like to feel like intellectuals, like Siskels and Eberts, and bad movies make the job easy for them," says Hardy. "The really lousy ones are great at parties. They have a lot of good lines, a lot of setups for jokes."

Like most pop culture gurus, Hardy is an incorrigible compiler of lists. Here are his suggstions for really bad viewing this fall — not the worst of the worst, he says, but movies which retain their air of stupidity after repeated watchings:

Red Dawn: Hardy dismisses this militia favorite as "ridiculous propaganda" and "pure Eighties BS," but admits his choice is colored by personal politics.

Billy Jack: The liberal counterpart to Red Dawn's Wolverines, Billy Jack roughs up the bad guys in the name of peace, racial harmony, and the wearing of denim. "He works at some sort of charity. Then these guys decide to kill him. I forget why. I doesn't really matter."

Popeye: Robin Williams'

worst mistake, this bizarre musical is the film hard core fans of bad cinema use to rate their endurance. "If you can get through Olive singing 'He's large," Hardy says, "You're a better man than I am."

The Best of the Worst!!

Any movie with Linda Blair: "They're mostly set in women's prisons."

The Story of O: This series of forty-minute erotic films is so disappointing, stores will not place it in the X-rated section for fear of violent reprisal. The eponymous "O" is a very busy girl with a serious co-dependency problem. At her boyfriend's request, she lanquishes in unappealing bondage occasionally interrupted by sedate sex with oafish Euro-hunks. Apparently she is named"O" so her leading men won't forget what name to utter during intercourse.

Black Caesar: A textbook example of the "blacksploitation" movement of the 1970's, Black Caesar is a genuinely funny satire made all the more hilarious by some of the worst acting in human history. Massive afro wigs, bell-bottoms, garish ties, and a funky soundtrack by the legendary James Brown will keep you entertained even during lulls in the action. This movie features one of the longest and most preposterous death scenes ever to survive the cutting room.

RESEV COMEMA

Haunted Summer: Based on events in the lives of Lord Byron, Mary Shelly, and her husband Percy, Haunted Summer is a masterpiece of bad direction. The cast of minor brat pack luminaries (Laura Dern, Eric Stoltz, etc.), manage to transform some of history's most interesting personages into boring, ponderous, empty-headed loafers. Though filmed in the 1980's, Haunted Summer has the feel of a low-budget 1970's multiple-murder flick. One almost expects Jason to appear suddenly and lop Byron's head off--- and one is quite disappointed when he doesn't.

In a decade of cutbacks and decline, bad movies are something America can still be proud of. Flicks like "Man's Best Friend" and "Tank Girl" are proof that we can still make a bigger, costlier bomb. Crunch all you want... you know we'll make more.



Bring in the cheese!: JSU alumnus Jamie Hardy loves the worst Hollywood has to offer.

Slip Disc

Will Anniston's main source for hard to find music close with the fort?

By Tim Lockette Features Editor

Rumors that Slip Disc will soon close are unfounded, accourding to Carl Lackey, the store's owner. The Lenlock record store, a favorite of JSU students, is the area's main source of music not approved of by Wal-Mart's board of directors. News of the closure of Fort McClellan led many people to believe Lackey would close or sell the store.

"I did some market research and discovered that not even ten percent of my clientele is active military," Lackey says. "Maybe another ten to twelve percent or my business is military-related." While he expects less robust businesses in Lenlock to shut down, Lackey is not expecting serious hardship. He feels the lack of a coherent campus "scene" hurts his business almost as much as the Fort's demise.

"Jacksonville isn't really a four-year college," he says. "Everybody leaves on the weekend. The kids go home to Rome or wherever and get money from Mom and Dad and buy their music there."

Lackey is planning to open a store in Birmingham to absorb the damage caused by the Fort's closure. "These rumors go around every time I talk about expanding to a new location ."

Changes in Slip Disc's wide-ranging inventory may be in the works. "We'll order anything you want," Lackey says, but he may be unable to stock some of his more obscure, less lucrative titles. "If you're into show tunes, classic jazz, or classical, then you're basically going to be [out of luck]. But then, Anniston is not exactly a Mecca of classical music either." He plans to expand his inventory of non-musical counterculture artifacts: posters, lava lamps, and particularly "a lot more T-shirts." Also in the works is a new set of listening stations to allow customers to sample music.



Slip Disc owner Carl Lackey : "These rumors go around every time I talk about expanding to a new location."



Don't call the cops. Those people you keep seeing in Houston Cole- you know, the ones who are always bickering and waving sheets of paper? They're supposed to be there. In fact, they're even doing something constructive, something quite possibly literary. They're JSU's own Writer's Club.

"We do tend to scare people off," says Susan Methvin, faculty adviser to the group. "The more accomplished members can be particularly intimidating. Their criticism can get pretty rough."

The Writers' Club was established in 1989, to give students a chance to polish their writing in a workshop environment. After a few years of fluctuating membership, the group has become a vital part of the creative lives of many of its members. Former members often appear at meetings regularly, even after graduation. Meetings are held on the 7th floor of the Houston Cole Library and are tentatively scheduled for Wednesdays at 4 p.m.

Methvin is quick to emphasize the loose organization or the group. "Being a member doesn't mean you ave to show up for every meeting," she says. "We would like to see everyone show up with something to read, though. We're open to all genres and literary forms- poetry, essay, short stories, anything."

New members should keep in mind the difference between loose organization and lack of discipline, Methvin says. "A lot of freshmen get discouraged when their work is critiqued for the first time. A lot of other people never listen to any criticism. We're interested in people who need feedback and want to improve their writing. That's hard work." Methvin knows whereof she speaks: herself a published poet, she regularly tries her work out on the group.

The Writers' Club also publishes "Dress for Breakfast", an annual literary magazine. "Dress for Breakfast" is edited by members of the Club and is open to submissions from the entire student body. The deadline for submissions is Jan. 10. The next edition of "Dress for Breakfast " is scheduled for release during the Spring semester of 1996. Authors printed in the magazine are invited to participate in a public reading of their work, also scheduled for Spring. Confused about love, life and especially school?

Ask the Magic 8 Ball!

It's cheaper than Tarot, simpler than reading tea leaves, and a heck of a lot cleaner than goat entrails. For years, the Magic 8-Ball has been one of

Home to a tiny demon who can communicate only by holding triangular placards against a blue window, the Magic 8-Ball is a wonder of technology right here in our midst. Through the magic of Wal-Mart, The Chanticleer has been able to secure an interview with this post-industrial oracle. Here are

America's chief sources of advice from beyond.

the 8-Ball's predictions for the coming school year:

Step 1: Wave your hands and make silly noises like a politician on campaign.

By Tim Lockette

Will there be any available parking in town between now and Thanksgiving?

Not Likely.

Will our fair city be renamed "Whitestoneville"? Signs point to yes.

Will I be reimbursed by the paper for buying you? Definitely not.

Will financial aid checks arrive on time?

Don't count on it.

Is O. J. Simpson guilty?

Better not tell you now.

Is there a God?

Outlook not so good.

Does that mean that there is no God, or that there is a God, and we're all in big trouble? Yes.

Will "Calvin and Hobbes" be seen again in the pages of this publication?

Very doubtful.

Will anyone use the term "bootie-licious" in reference to Harold McGee?





Step 2: Ask the big question.



My reply is no.

Will Newt Gingrich become President of the United States? Sources say yes.

Will we all die in a chemical weapons accident? Reply hazy. Ask again.

Are there secrets Man was not meant to know? Concentrate and ask again.

If I break open this little round window, will I be incinerated by supernatural forces like the Germans in "Raiders of the Lost Ark?" Yes.

Can I get you anything while I'm up, little demon? A Coke or something?

Ask again later.







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answer from the spirits



SPORTS



JAX STATE JOINS NEW CONFERENCE!

By Scott Stansell Sports Editor

Eight NCAA Division 1-AA schools met on July 28 in New Orleans to form a new football conference, according to Southland Conference **Commissioner Britton** Banowsky.

The charter members are Jacksonville State University, Troy State University, McNeese State University, Nicholls State University, Northwestern State University, Sam Houston State University, Southwest Texas State University and Stephen F. Austin University.

Six schools are currently members of the Southland Conference and will retain that affiliation for their other sports programs. Those six along with Troy State will compete for the conference championship this season. JSU will begin conference play in 1997.

"It's going to be a great con-

ference," JSU head football coach Bill Burgess said. "We've got three teams out of Texas, three out of Louisiana, Troy and us from Alabama. Samford was invited but didn't send anybody to the meeting.

"We will not start conference play until 1997 because we've got a lot of contracts next year we can't break."

Burgess was very enthusiastic about the move, saying it was good for JSU football.

"It builds rivalries and it should provide a schedule where you are not playing 11 games with seven of them on the road. We're looking forward to it," he said.

Burgess' enthusiasm was echoed by conference and school officials.

"It is clearly the desire of these institutions to become the premiere 1-AA football conference in the nation and the restructuring of the football into a separate entity will enable the new conference to grow and explore future members without geography being

the overriding concern," Banowsky said.

"Equally important as the structural change is the addition of Jacksonville State and Troy State, two institutions that play football at a very high level. Both are terrific additions to this alignment."

Dr. Jack Hawkins, Troy State president, said conference affiliation would be important as the restructuring of the NCAA unfolds.

"This newly formed conference will be the most competitive in Division 1-AA football," he said. "We believe the future to be bright and exciting."

Conference officials will work in the next few months to determine a name, finalize schedules, develop a television package and address other details associated with the league's formation.

There is certainly no shortage of firepower in the new conference. Southwest Texas, Troy State and Jacksonville State all won national titles at the Division II level. Troy capWill a new conference help the

Gamecocks in '97?

tured championships in 1984 and 1987 while Southwest Texas won back-to-back titles in 1981 and 1982.

Jacksonville State won the championship in 1992 and was a runner-up in 1989 and 1991.

McNeese State has made

four straight appearances in the Division 1-AA playoffs since 1991 and Troy had back-to-back appearances in 1993 and 1994. Stephen F. Austin, Sam Houston, Northwestern and Nicholls have all made post season appearances.

FOOTBALL PREVIE

By Scott Stansell Sports Editor

The wait is over. The 1992 Division II National Champions have arrived at Division 1-AA.

After two years of trying to get in compliance and make the move up, Jacksonville State will begin play at the Division 1-AA level this season and head coach Bill Burgess couldn't be happier.

"Now we're eligible to go to the playoffs if we're good enough, and we're eligible for the playoffs in any sport that has a playoff system," Burgess said at the pre-season football luncheon on August 8.

The past two seasons, in which the Gamecocks struggled to 3-7 and 4-7 records, were low points in a football program that had produced a national championship in 1992 and five straight Division II playoff appearances.

This season, the Gamecocks will have something to work toward,

a tangible goal to shoot for: the Division 1-AA playoffs.

It will not be easy. Eight seniors return from last season's 4-7 team and they will play a typically strenuous schedule, which includes seven road games.

The eight seniors returning to Jax State this fall are expected to step up and provide leadership.

"Our football team is young, but there is nothing wrong with that," Burgess said. " About five o'clock every morning, I wish I

was young and I'm not.

"But the thing about young teams is that they don't fear anything. They're not worrying about where they are playing, or whether its a long bus ride or a short bus ride, or whether we're going to get on a plane. They just want to play."

Depth, Burgess said, will be a problem. However, with scholarship limitations --- Division 1 schools can only have 85 players on scholarship at any one time - depth is everyone's problem.

The Gamecocks in 1995 will not be very different from Burgess-coached teams of the past: JSU will continue to play the game the only way it knows how and that's the Bill Burgess way.

"We've got to learn to make the plays that win ball games," Burgess said. "That's coaching, that's my fault, but we've got to learn to make those plays. If we'd made those plays last year, we would have had a much better record

FOOTBALL PREVIEW CONTINUED

than we had."

Three of the Gamecocks' seven road games are instate. Jacksonville will travel to Birmingham twice — on September 16 to meet UAB and on October 14 to play Samford. On October 21, the Gamecocks will renew a rivalry with an old foe: Troy State University.

After two years of playing the likes of Montana and Southwest Missouri State, renewing rivalries with in-state schools is like a breath of fresh air.

"That's great, because we need these kind of rivalries," Burgess said. "Where we've been the last two years is kind of like being in a desert. We've been in places I didn't even know you could get to from Jacksonville, Alabama.

"It's a good schedule. We've got 11 games and seven of them are on the road, which is not good, but when you are an independent, you run into those kind of things.



ield, 600-C Pennsylvania Avenue

"It's a good schedule, it's a tough schedule, but we made it and we'll be glad to play it."

The Gamecocks open on the road with a return engagement with Sam Houston State in Huntsville, Texas. The Bearkats have 46 lettermen back from last season's 6-5 team that won its first five games, including a 48-23 shocker over Alcorn State and Heisman Trophy candidate Steve McNair.

Jax State opened the 1994 season at home against Sam Houston, losing 17-10 on the next-tolast play of the game. It was the first time the Gamecocks had dropped a season-opener since Burgess took over as head coach in 1985.

The Gamecocks' home opener will be September

9 against West Georgia College, another familiar opponent. The Braves and the Gamecocks were once rivals in the Gulf South Conference and Jacksonville State is a perfect 14-0 against West Georgia.

Jacksonville will play North Carolina A&T and Knoxville College back-toback September 23 and September 30 before embarking on a four-game road trip. The Gamecocks will play Western Kentucky on October 7, then Samford and Troy, before visiting Arkansas State on October 28.

Homecoming for the Gamecocks will be November 11 against Western Illinois. Jax State wraps up its season on November 18 against Southwest Missouri.



A New Era in JSU Sports

By Scott Stansell Sports Editor

This is not the column I wanted to write for the first edition of the Chanticleer.

Back in April, when Mike Canada invited me to return this year as Sports Editor, I sat down and wrote a column about how great it was to be back at Jax State and to be working with this group of people.

It should have tipped me off when I started five months early that the column would never appear in print. I am a procrastinator of the highest order and I like to think my best work is done under the pressure of a deadline, which is how I'm writing this.

Much has happened in the last five months and I want to touch on a number of items in my first effort as sports editor. So, in no particular order, here goes:

A new era is beginning in JSU athletics.

The Gamecocks won national championships in football, basketball, and baseball at the NCAA Division II level, and now they have a chance to duplicate those feats at Division I.

It hasn't been a particularly short road to Division I, nor has it been particularly easy. Bill Burgess, head football coach and master of the oneliner, summed it up at the football luncheon earlier this month. "Finally, we are in compliance with the NCAA."

It is noteworthy to point out the Gamecocks got to Division I in the minimum two-year period set down by the NCAA. Not everybody who makes the move up can do it in two years; some schools take three years, others take four.

Along the way, JSU joined two conferences, one of which doesn't even have a name yet. The Gamecocks will compete in the Trans-America Conference in all sports except football, which is a Division 1-AA program. The Trans-America Conference includes Samford University, Georgia State and Charleston College.

On July 28, eight Division 1-AA schools, Jax State and Troy State among them, formed a new conference in New

Orleans. The conference does not yet have a name; Burgess remarked that it would be much easier to talk about if it did.

Conference play is scheduled to begin in 1996, although Jax State might not be able to do so until 1997 because of conflicts next season.

The future is certainly very

bright for all sports at JSU, and it is certainly an exciting time to be Sports Editor of The Chanticleer.

While things are bright and rosy in Jacksonville, a dark cloud hovers over Tuscaloosa. For the first time in school history, the University of Alabama is under probation for violating NCAA rules and, to quote the NCAA, "a lack of

institutional control." Lest anyone think I am kicking a football team while it's down, let me say right up front I feel sorry for the Tide. Most of the writers who have been covering the situation agree the punishment far outweighs the crime.

I could feel sorrier, though. All of this could have been prevented had the school come clean the minute Antonio Langham revealed he might sign with an agent. At the very least, Langham would have sat out two games, perhaps three, and his absence would not have affected the team one bit.

I can only speculate about what the powers that be were thinking when they allowed a player who was obviously ineligible to suit up and play 11 games. It smells like arrogance, the kind that reared its ugly head when the punishment was handed down and officials declared the university's decision to appeal.

A friend and a colleague remarked, "Who had a better chance? Custer at Little Bighorn or Alabama appealing the NCAA ruling?"

The purpose of the appeal is to try and get some relief from the scholarship loss, but Tide faithfuls shouldn't hold their breath. For this to happen, a certain amount of groveling is required of the offending parties and from what I've seen so far, they don't seem to know how to grovel.

I saw a story on the AP wire the other day about a guy claiming to be Lou Gehrig, Jr., making a death threat to Cal Ripken, Jr. I hoped we could get through this record-breaking thing without death threats and Gehrig fans claiming Ripken deserves an asterisk for some absurd reason.

Somebody wrote a column saying if Ripken was a true sportsman, he'd play the 2,106th game and sit out the next one. He should be content to share the record with a hero like Gehrig, whose career and streak was cut short by his tragic illness, according to the columnist.

Not to cast any dispersions on

Gehrig, but that is patently ridiculous.

I firmly believe that if Gehrig could come back today, he would announce to the world that it would be an honor to have Cal Ripken, Jr. break the record once thought to be untouchable.

Ripken is one of the game's last true gentleman, a sportsman who plays the game because he loves it. He is a competitor who knows only one way to play: at full speed.

Ripken will spend hours in the hot sun signing autographs because he's such an easy touch for the fans. No matter how late he gets in from a road trip, Ripken always gets up and eats breakfast with his kids.

His conduct during all the hoopla over the record has been nothing short of impeccable. Ripken, I think, wants to take the field for the 2,106th game and play baseball. The parades, the ticker-tape, and the accolades, he could do without.

Baseball owners wonder how to put fans back in the ballparks. Players like Ripken and Greg Maddux, another gentleman, are the sport's best ambassadors. Showcasing them and their talents would go a long way toward healing the wounds.





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The Hammett name has been synonymous with

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By Scott Stansell Sports Editor

If there is a mantra for the upcoming Gamecock football season, it must be "youth will be served."

Talent abounds on offense, which is untried and untested The biggest question mark of them all is right behind center: the quarterback.

Gone is Chuck Robinson, who threw for 2,015 yards in his career at JSU. Robinson threw for 1,025 yards and six touchdowns last season.

"I told them (the players) during the spring that the quarterback position would not be settled because we had a lot of young players at that position who weren't even there during spring training," head coach Bill Burgess said.

Lewis Battle emerged from spring practice as the No. 1 quarterback on the depth chart but was questionable because of academics. A transfer student from Auburn who sat last season out, Battle had over 2,500 all-purpose yards as a high school senior at Handley High School in Roanoke.

Battle is very raw but has the skills to be an option quarterback. He has drawn comparisons to former Gamecock signalcaller and current assistant coach Nickey Edmondson.

Kenneth Clay, a thirdyear junior, is the only quarterback on the roster with game experience in 1994. He gained 18 yards on five carries and threw one pass that was not completed in a 48-26 romp over Knoxville College last season.

Brooks Barron, Jedarius Issac and Montressa Kirby

The Future of JSU's Offense

are all true freshmen. Barrron was a Class 5A All-State selection from John Carroll High School in Birmingham and guided the Cavaliers to the 5A quarterfinals. Kirby was a first-team All-State selection from Anniston, and Issac was first-team All-Metro, All-Jefferson County and All-State from Jess Lanier High School in Bessemer.

Whoever emerges as the starting quarterback will have an experienced offensive line up front. The Gamecocks return four starters and Burgess said the strength of the JSU offense will be the front five.

"I think we have a chance to have an excellent offensive line. We are not going to be as deep as I would like us to be, but with the rules we have, it's hard to get the depth you would like to have," Burgess said.

"We've got some young men back who played as true freshmen last year and played well. So I really think that's our strength."

Three-year starter John Ingram will provide leadership at guard along with Jason Hass, who started all 11 games as a true freshman last season. Derrick Owens and Jon Whiddon will be the tackles, and redshirt junior Shenazar Roberts will be the center. Senior Rick Schomberg will start at tight end, and Jeremy Tull, a sophomore, will also see action.

The Gamecocks lost leading rusher Jermelle

Pruitt, who gained 700 yards last season and scored 11 touchdowns, but Burgess is confident someone will step up.

"I think we are going to be adequate at running back. We have ability at the position, I don't think there's any doubt about that, it's just a matter of getting ready to play," Burgess said.

Jason Reynolds, a senior who gained 286 yards last season, and sophomore Amel Jackson, 221 yards and four scores in 1994, will play halfbacks. Gabe Walton will be the fullback.

Veteran Brian Grier and redshirt freshman Patrick Plott will be the wideouts.



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