Right to speak to SGA raises debate

By Philip Attinger and Thomas Webb
Chanticleer News writers

This week’s SGA meeting broke up early after a heated exchange erupted between members of the audience and some senators concerning the presence of Jose Martinez. Martinez, his mouth covered with tape which read “SGA”, walked back and forth through the rows of empty chairs holding signs stating his belief that the SGA, in particular, First Vice President Matt Crandon, was attempting to deprive him of his First Amendment rights.

The debate was sparked when, during the student body report, a student expressed her disappointment with the behavior of some senators regarding Martinez’s presence. This included Environmental Committee Chairperson Daniel Dean’s response, “I want to apologize. I’m not as well prepared as I should be. Got anymore tape, dude?” when called upon by Crandon for his committee’s report.

The discussion centered around comments made concerning Martinez’s right to speak at the SGA meetings. Senator Jarrod Nichols pointed out that Martinez is no longer a student. “No one is trying to be immature. The problem that happens is we just think, that in order to speak one must have standing...” He has graduated from Jacksonville State University, but let him go to Connie Edge at the Chanticleer News office for the inhabitants of the building.

jsu graduate and local activist Jose Martinez protests the SGA’s unwillingness to hear him speak at Monday’s SGA meeting.

see SGA page 3

No-go on Luttrell as student center

by Rachel Watkins
Chanticleer News writer

As was reported in the last issue of the Chanticleer, the Student Government Association’s proposal to turn Luttrell Hall into a student center and meeting place for organizations was voted down by the university. The major reason given was the presence of asbestos, which was used as a popular fire-retarding substance until its cancerous effects became known. It is considered safe when used for insulation or in ceiling panels. However, when a building is renovated, the asbestos fibers can be torn out with the insulation or ceiling tiles and escape into the open air. This can cause serious health concerns for the inhabitants of the building.

“We wanted to knock down some walls, as some of the rooms weren’t big enough, and that was where the problems with asbestos started,” explains SGA President Bob Boyle. The space in Luttrell Hall was of interest to several different student organizations, including Alpha Phi Omega, the Danball Alliance, several historically African-American sororites and fraternities, as well as a host of other student organizations.

In order for students to achieve a quality education experience, we believe it is necessary to provide them with an area on campus for socializing. The space in Luttrell Hall was to have housed the offices and meeting rooms for student organizations, recreation room, several coin-operated washers and dryers, and various coin-operated video arcade games, not unlike those found in Stephenson Hall.

see Luttrell page 3
**The SGA Student Senate meets every Monday night at 6 p.m. in the TMB auditorium on the 3rd floor of the TMB. Everyone is encouraged and welcome to attend.**

**ATO sends congratulations to its new members and to ZTA for a great homecoming. They also wish to announce that they are holding a fund raiser for the American Red Cross, and that they cleaned their adopt-a-mile.**

**The SGA will be holding their blood drive on Oct. 23-24. All students are strongly urged to participate.**

**Applications for the Miss Jacksonville State University Scholarship Pageant will be available Monday, Oct 21 in the SGA office 4th floor TMB. This is a preliminary to the Miss Alabama Pageant. Applications will be due no later than Nov 8 at 4:30. If you have questions, call Allen Reynolds, pageant director at 782-5490 or 782-0513.**

**The BCM offers a wide variety of services and activities for JSU students. One outreach is to International students. For the fall semester, we are offering free English conversation classes from 4 to 5 pm every Mon at the BCM. On Tues Oct 22 at 7 pm there will be a meeting for those interested in English conversation classes. The BCM also offers assistance for International students who may need to have access to transportation. All interested in E.C. transportation assistance should attend the meeting or call the BCM at 435-7020.**

**Circle K, the largest collegiate service organization in the world, meets every Tuesday at 4:30. If you have questions, call Allen Reynolds, pageant director at 782-5490 or 782-0513.**

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**NATION • STATE**

The Chanticleer • October 17, 1996

**Presidential contenders bicker over budget**

*by Jennie Ford*

**Chanticleer News writer**

With the Presidential and Vice-Presidential debates in full force, the Balanced Budget Amendment is the hot topic. Both sides agree that they want to balance the budget and pay off the deficit, but they differ in how they propose to do it.

**Bill Clinton**

President Clinton opposes a Constitutional amendment to balance the budget. However, he does support a balanced budget that maintains funding for Medicare, Medicaid, education, technology and research, the environment, and maintaining a strong defense. In 1995, Clinton proposed a plan to balance the budget in ten years. This proposal included a $105 billion tax cut as well as a $128 billion cut in Medicare and a $200 billion cut in discretionary spending. Clinton has also cut federal spending by $255 billion and has headed three years of deficit reduction.

**Bob Dole**

Dole favors the Balanced Budget Amendment to the Constitution. In 1971, he co-sponsored a balanced budget amendment. He is also an advocate for the line-item veto, which would allow the President to veto certain items in legislation before signing it into law. Dole helped to pass the current budget plan to eliminate the deficit in seven years.

Dole wants to eliminate four of the cabinet agencies: Education, Housing and Urban Development, Energy, and Commerce. He also supports the elimination of the Corporation of Public Broadcasting and the National Endowment for the Arts. As for Medicaid, law enforcement, school lunches and welfare, Dole supports sending block grants to the states to fund these programs.

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**Minority affairs starts STARS program**

*by Jean Miller*

**Staff Writer**

The Office of Minority Affairs has launched two new programs to help African American students succeed in their first years of college.

The Students Together Are Reaching Success (STARS) Program offers African-American upper-classmen a chance to help freshmen learn the ropes during their first semester at JSU. The program compiles a list of African-American freshmen who go through orientation, groups them by major, and assigns each group a peer advisor. Advisors contact their groups by phone or by card at the beginning of each fall semester. The students can then ask their advisors where to go if they need a certain service. Advisors and students meet several times during the semester and attend out-of-class activities together.

The Black Education Support Team (BEST) offers freshmen and sophomores one-on-one tutoring in a variety of disciplines. BEST offers students an alternative to the Center for Individualized Instruction (CII). Tutors hold sessions on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons on the third floor of the TMB.

David Zeigler, Director of the Office of Minority Affairs, hopes the programs will help African-American students remain in college. “We lose a large number of our African-American students between their freshman and junior years,” explained Zeigler. “If we can help them develop some good study skills now as freshmen...we can assure their success in the future.”

Advisors for the BEST program and tutors for BEST are volunteers, but they can receive credit for their service. Students interested in taking advantage of or participating in these programs should visit the Office of Minority Affairs on the fourth floor of the TMB or call 5886.
Students lose hours to wage hike

by Katrina Thomas
Chanticleer News writer

The minimum wage bill signed by President Clinton took effect October 1. Like many workers across the country, Jacksonville State students will be affected.

Larry Smith, Director of Financial Aid, says that aside from the increase in pay, student's work-study hours for the fall and spring semesters will be reduced from 15 hours to 13 hours. The reason for the reduction in hours is the funds allocated for work-study were not increased when minimum wage increased. "We are optimistic that the 1997-98 appropriations will increase so we can go back to 15 hours," says Smith. There are preliminary indications that Congress will appropriate more money. The requisition for additional funding for '97-98 has already been submitted.

About 75 percent of work-study funding is provided by the government. JSU supplies the other 25 percent. The financial aid office will know in March if the request will be honored and the available hours will be returned to 15. Students were given work slips on the first day of classes. The fact that their hours may have been decreased was mentioned on the slips.

The financial aid office was not aware of the minimum wage increase and all of their awards had been made. Smith says that the two hour cut is fine with her. "I didn’t want to work 15 hours anyway," she adds. Kathy Hobbie, a worker at the Information and Ticket center, says she has no problem as long as she gets 15 hours next year. One campus post office worker doesn’t appreciate the decrease in her hours.

There is an average of about 800 students each year on work-study at JSU. Each college or university determines the hours students work. The philosophy at JSU is that work-study is the best financial aid program we have. Students can get a job a paycheck, and experience," says Smith.

Students lose hours to wage hike

Luttrell from page 1

The elimination of Luttrell Hall as a location for student center does not mean that the plans are going to be shelved. The SGA says that it continues to explore other options. The SGA is beginning preliminary work on plans to renovate the Theron Montgomery Building to serve the student body.

"As of right now, the students don’t have one certain place where they can congregate-I mean, the TMB has the SGA offices, mailboxes, a bookstore, and a snack bar. That’s not enough," says Boyle. He is quick to add, however, that the proposal for the overhaul of the Theron Montgomery Building is still in the planning stages.

"We’re basically going to sit around a table and dream for a little while before we do anything. The idea for using Luttrell Hall as the student center was a very quick thing with the SGA. This time, we want to be able to take more time to plan the renovations. Right now, we all just want to figure out how best to serve the student body."

The need for student ideas is critical at this point, and the SGA welcomes any student suggestions.

SGA from page 1

Alumni Affairs, that would give him standing for that," said Nichols.

Boyle said in the past, the SGA has allowed anyone to speak, but this has become disruptive. Currently, non-students who want to speak at SGA meetings must be placed on the agenda as guest speakers. Allowing non-students to speak without being placed on the agenda has been a "gray area," according to Crandon. The Executive Committee’s recommendation to clear this up is to require those who want to speak, to contact the First Vice President—currently, Matt Crandon—to be added to the agenda.

Concerning Martinez’s case, Crandon said, “We’re further checking into it because we had made somewhat of a brief decision on what to do. We weren’t sure and we hadn’t let anybody know what’s going on yet because we’re not sure ourselves. This is the first time. It’s unclear at this point.”

According to Title III (Legislative branch Laws), Chapter 308 (Senate Public Access Law), Section 3, of the Student Government Constitution, “All regular meetings of the Senate shall be open to the public. All regular meetings of the Senate committees shall be open to the public. The Senate and its committees shall have the power to bar and expel individuals for disruptive behavior.”

The discussion soon turned into a shouting match. As the exchanges became more intense, Martinez was asked by Second Vice President, Angel Narvaez to stop disrupting the meeting. This was followed by Crandon saying UPD could be called to escort Martinez out of the meeting if there were further disruptions.

At this point, Crandon decided to move on with the meeting.

Crandon rapidly flew through the remaining orders of business, calling out “Old business, any old business? None. New business? None. Announcements? None.” This rapid fire session was ended when Narvaez made a motion to adjourn, which was followed by several "seconds" from senators.

Some less controversial orders of business dealt with at Monday’s meeting included announcements of this year’s SGA budget ($124,655.92), a reminder that the SGA is looking for volunteers to help with Parent’s Day, which is Saturday. The desire for more student participation in SGA-sponsored events was, once again, mentioned. The Environmental committee requested more student involvement with local recycling efforts.

One event counting on good participation is the upcoming Red Cross Blood Drive. Suzanne Crandon, organizer of the drive, encouraged organizations to get their members to donate blood. The organizations which give the most blood will win cash prizes. The goal of the drive is to collect 300 pints of blood.

Brenna Beard, of the Allocations committee reported that Zeta Phi Beta, Zeta Sigma Nu, and the Inspirational Voices for Christ received money from the SGA. She also stressed the importance of organizations keeping in touch with the Allocations committee. New forms are being used to process applications for funding. Organizations can get these forms and a list of rules for applying from the SGA office.
Higher education in Alabama: Is there really just too much?

Believe it or not, the State of Alabama is overemphasizing higher education. Alabama Governor Fob James has spent significant amounts of his time in office fighting what he sees as an overabundance of spending for administrative affairs at the state’s four-year colleges and universities. He has largely ignored, however, what makes up the bulk of Alabama’s institutes of higher education.

Between technical colleges, junior colleges, community colleges, and branch campuses thereof, there are about 44 institutes of higher learning in Alabama below the four-year-university level. Not to mention the 16 campuses for four-year universities across the state.

James has targeted the four-year schools since he took office, doling out budget cuts for two years in a row. Alabama’s universities are struggling to provide quality education at nationally competitive prices. The two-year schools, however, seem to be enjoying something of a golden age. New schools and branch campuses are springing up on every corner, and existing schools are upgrading their operations.

That’s the case here in Calhoun County. JSU has entered into a consortium of local schools, along with Gadsden State Community College and Ayers State Technical College in Anniston, with an agreement to operate a joint educational facility on Ft. McClellan when it closes. Despite this fact, Ayers State is investigating a plan of its own to relocate its entire operation to Ft. McClellan.

The proposed new Ayers campus, which will include residence halls, would accommodate as many as 3,500 students, according to JSU President Harold McGee. In a nutshell, they’re looking to create a school half the size of Jax State not ten miles down the road. If that’s not wasteful use of state education money, what is?

Why is it necessary to make an upgrade like this to Ayers State? The answer is that it’s not. Alabama has many other institutions offering the same curriculum. Not to mention a major university right next door, and two community colleges, Gadsden State and Snead State, within a short drive.

Instead of making Alabama’s two-year college system even more redundant, why not cut some of the fat there, and use the savings to help support all the state’s institutions of higher education. Perhaps then the budget cuts would go to the places where they belong.

We Suggest: Cut the real fat.

How many parking decals do you have? If it’s more than one, you have too many.

What is this University’s fascination with parking decals? I mean, what real function do they serve other than keeping students out of Blue parking spaces?

Actually, come to think of it, they don’t even serve that function.

Students are required semi-annually to stick bits of red see-through plastic on the side of their car. For new students, or people who have recently changed cars, the process is far worse. I’m sure all of us remember trying to find a free moment during those hectic first few days to drive over to the UPD station and try to fill out their paperwork. I clearly remember trotting out to the car for forgotten bits of information, like insurance carrier, license plate numbers, or expiration dates of tags.

I realize that most students, if not all, have already gone through the process. I bring this up because, considering the approximately two months we have left in the semester, now would be an opportune time to change the system.

Consider the actual function of these tags. You can easily identify student’s cars, and you know immediately who to give parking violations to. They serve no other function, and even these are duplicate to what can be worked without such hassles. Traffic violations could easily be processed by make and license plates numbers, (hey, it works for the JPD!) Knowing beforehand whether or not a driver is a student sounds good on the surface, parking is at a premium some days. But how many non-students drive to, say, the Stone Center or Martin and park for half a day? Okay, people could then argue that the stickers keep students out of teacher’s parking places. Actually, the only thing that allows staff or professors to park where they do is their own blue tags, which makes the student stickers pretty redundant in this case.

If the UPD needs to know the exact model and license plate numbers for students, then maybe that should be part of the registration process. Cars are registered with the state, and if a student doesn’t update their registration information with the inevitable car shift, surely a small fine could be imposed.

With all of the paperwork that students have to put up with, wouldn’t it be nice if students could have one less hassle?

Yearly parking registration is overkill
History Professor rebuts Nazi book ads

Dear Editors:

Someone on campus has recently begun distributing a rather disturbing flier. The flier in question is an advertisement for a book, "The Pink Swastika: Homosexuality in the Nazi Party, which purports to expose "The central role of Homosexuals in Nazism and America’s current social crisis." Several of my students and colleagues have raised concerns regarding the contents of this handout, an as an historian of twentieth-century Germany who has heard this ludicrous argument made before, I feel compelled to respond—to set the record straight.

First of all, homosexuals did not play a central role in Nazism. Hitler was not gay. On sexual matters, he and his supporters were essentially Victorian. The only leading Nazi who was a homosexual—SA Chief Ernst Rohm—was murdered, on Hitler’s orders, in June 1934, shortly after the Nazis came to power. Homosexuals—along with Jews, Gypsies, Jehovah’s Witnesses, pacifists and numerous other groups—were viciously persecuted throughout the Nazi years. Deemed biologically inferior, thousands were consigned to concentration camps, where large numbers of them died. Any link between homosexuality and National Socialism exists only in the minds of a far right element who will go to any extreme to attack gay Americans.

While I have no expectation of changing the minds of those propagating this insidious libel, I believe that students and faculty should be made aware of the actual historic record.

Russel Lemmons, PhD
History Department

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 we 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 in noon Monday before the desired publication date.
* Submissions may be brought to the Chanticleer office, sent through campus mail to 180 Self Hall, or emailed to newspaper@student-mail.jsu.edu. All submissions must include a name, phone number, and student number for JSU students.

Do you think Luttrell Hall should be used for student organizations?
Why or Why not?

—compiled by Janna Waller

"Luttrell Hall should be given to the students. For uses of JSU organizations ... All organizations."
Mikelle Moore
Freshman

"Without a doubt. However, I feel that access to the building should not be delegated or allotted to a particular organization."
Janay Johnson
Sophomore

"Personally I think that if the school makes it so the building is safe for people, they should give it to the students."
Pete Watkins
Freshman

"I think they should go ahead and renovate the building and let the students use it."
Robert Densmore
Senior

"The asbestos needs to be eliminated and then the building should be given to the students!"
Trish Ward
Sophomore
Ethan & the Ewox

“Striking a chord on the soul.”

Story by Bill King • Photo by Janna Waller

Chances are, if you’re familiar with the Jacksonville music circuit, then you’re also familiar with a group called Ethan and the Ewox. Over the past year, the band has become a staple in the local music scene, as well as one of Jacksonville’s favorite bands.

The Ethan and the Ewox saga began a year and a half ago as a cure for everyday boredom. “I had recorded a solo project a year and a half ago. I was throwing originals out until Andy Curtis joined the band,” says Ethan Baker, singer and guitarist for the band. “He was a friend of such places as Gaterz, Brothers, and the Acoustic Cafe. “We’re very fortunate that [Jacksonville] had a bunch of places open up all of a sudden. The Acoustic Cafe has been great to us, and we still have places like Brothers and Gatorz and just different places around town,” says Chumney of the local scene. “Because we have places like that we can attract different types of people that may be interested in our music but wouldn’t come out to a certain venue to hear us or for whatever reason. That’s a very big thing with the new band movement that’s going on like with us and Quenchable Quid. We’re trying to help each other out,” he adds. “We may now become a real college town and start to see a trend where people don’t leave town for the weekend.”

One of the most important things to the band, second only to playing good music, is their devoted fans. “The people that have showed a really big interest are incredibly loyal; They come to every show. Look out in the audience the next time we play man, they’re there, and singing along the whole time,” says Baker. “And that’s groovy that we can look out there and just be the people we are,” adds Chumney.

“Not only do they sing along and stuff, but when we’re through with our gig they’ll come and help us load our equipment. They’re like roadie-helper-friends,” Banner concludes.

In the months to come, the Ewox will continue to play the usual venues. They are also working on material and gathering money to record a CD. For more information on the band contact Gary Chumney at 435-1898, Andy Curtis at 782-7308, or Ethan Baker at JSU box 3306.
“Bus Stop” kicks off JSU theatre season

by Chris Colvard
Chanticleer Writer

Everybody has a story to tell, from the sublime to the ridiculous. Each and every person has a life experience to share with the rest of the world, or at least those in the room. Eight such different stories were told late at night in a town outside of Kansas City, in a small corner restaurant that also functions as a bus stop.

“Bus Stop,” by William Inge, is a comedy that smoothly blends pathos and sympathy. Not only does it share a laugh, but it invokes compassion for the characters involved. It falls into the category of what comedy is supposed to be: not only should it make you laugh, it should make you think.

This play helps to answer one of the “what if” scenarios that has plagued mankind for ages: what if people of different backgrounds were stuck together for an indefinite time?

Bo wants to marry Cherie and take her home with him, but she doesn’t love him. Geron does a better-than-average job portraying the chanteuse with the heart of gold. Even though she never saw the movie version, when she sings “That Old Black Magic,” visions of Marilyn Monroe kept coming to mind. Holland captures the youthful essence of Bo perfectly, letting his emotions rule his judgment.

A second sub-story involves another passenger, Dr. Gerald Lyman (David Downs), an English professor-turned-wandering lush with an “affinity” for young girls, and his advances towards Elma Duckworth (Ashley Pendley), the innocent young waitress at the diner. Both Downs and Pendley do a stellar job separately, but together they have an on-stage chemistry that draws the viewer like a magnet to iron.

During their “Romeo and Juliet” scene, Carder and Romano have improved greatly since their first on-stage roles. This should be a fair indicator for the rest of the JSU Theater season.**************

The following are upcoming events to JSU Theater:

Eugene Ionesco’s taut thriller “The Lesson” will be performed October 28 and 29 with shows at 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. in the Black Box Theater (Room 338 Stone Center).

William Shakespeare’s fantasy/comedy “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” will be performed November 19-23 at 8:00 p.m., November 24 at 2:00 p.m., with special matinee performances at 10:00 a.m. on November 21 and 22.

Tentative audition dates for the Spring musical “A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum” are November 25 through November 27.

For more information call 782-5623.
**Placebo**

"Lemon Parade," the first major-label release from Tonic, is just about what you'd expect to hear from an L.A. rock band in the '90s.

Don't get the wrong impression. The album is good. From the rhythmic, driving cuts like "Casual Affair" and "Wicked Soldier," to the more lyrical and melodic "Soldier's Daughter," and "Lemon Parade," the band displays a fair amount of talent and ability. Lead singer Emerson Hart's lyrics are straightforward, though it's sometimes hard to tell if he's trying to make a point or not, as in "Casual Affair."

Guitarist Jeff Russo and bass player Dan Rothchild know their instruments. Neither ever really takes time out for solo, but the intricate, exposed parts at the beginning and end of "Soldier's Daughter," and "Mountain," showcase the instrumental talent in the band.

The best track on the album is probably "Lemon Parade." The song's main melody is a little more complex than what you'll hear on the rest of the album, and doesn't stick in your head quite as easily as the more commercially oriented ballads. Yes, that's a compliment.

The only fault in the album is that it lacks originality. Though well done, it's exactly what you'd expect to hear on any new-rock radio station. It's got points for ability, but not much in the way of originality. This is one of those purchases that you'll like at first, but gradually forget about.

-by Ben Cunningham

Consisting of only three members- bassist Stefan Olsdal, drummer Robert Schultzberg, and guitarist/singer Brian Molko- Placebo has managed to create one of the most impressive albums of the year.

This Irish trio consistently delivers on its twelve song debut, "Come Home," "Teenage Angst," "Nancy Boy," and by far what is the best song on the record "36 Degrees."

Throughout the record Placebo paints a Low-Fi soundscape that is both simple and complex. The songs here are quintessential four or five minute examples of minimalism. There are no great and expansive guitar solos or any awe inspiring bass lines, and this is where Placebo draws it's strength in a world of high tech music machines.

The vocals/lyrics, on the other hand, are a huge contrast to the music. Molko's voice helps guide you through the barren musical world of Placebo only to turn around every so often to smack you in the face a few times. Whether he's screaming through "36 degrees" or barely whispering in "I Know," Molko is always there to surprise you. You definitely won't see Placebo on the top of the charts or on MTV anytime soon, but that doesn't mean that this album should be ignored, because it shouldn't. This is the kind of album that you always thought college music should sound like. It's about time someone did it, and did it right.

-by Keith Tasker

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1120 Wilshire Blvd. #1000, Los Angeles, CA 90017
Striving to avoid a tuition hike, Dawson University looked for other ways to generate revenue.
Gamecocks get first win!!

by Shanon Fagan
Chanticleer Sports writer

The Gamecocks are finally in the win column after beating the Western Kentucky Hilltoppers on Saturday. There were a number of bright spots for JSU on offense and defense. Split end Chad Caldwell had a terrific outing as he hauled in two touchdown passes for the Gamecocks. Cornerback Chris Stewart had an interception and a fumble recovery to set up the offense in good field position. Quarterback Montressa Kirby had a superb effort passing, going 13 of 24 for 158 yards and three touchdowmns. It was a total team effort and it showed as the Gamecocks won 34-20.

The first quarter saw the Hilltoppers jump on the scoreboard first. Western Kentucky put together a seven-play, 30-yard drive which was keyed by punt returner Joey Stockton’s 38-yard return to the JSU 30-yard line. From there, quarterback Willie Taggart proceeded to take the team down the field for the score. Taggart scored form five yards out on a run to give the Hilltoppers the early lead. The point after was good as Western Kentucky led 7-0. It didn’t take long for JSU to respond. Kirby took to the air and found his target, Joey Hamilton for a 19-yard gain. Six plays later, fullback Gabe Walton scampered 20 yards, giving the Gamecocks the ball at the Western Kentucky 16 yard line. Kirby took to the air again, this time finding Caldwell for the touchdown. The extra point was no good, but the Gamecocks were on the scoreboard, trailing 7-6.

In the second quarter, the Hilltoppers chipped away at the Gamecock defense. They got in range to attempt a 36-yard field goal. Kicker Jeff Poisel succeeded as Western Kentucky extended the lead to 10-6. JSU took the ensuing kickoff and started on offense at their own 21-yard line. What looked like a 5-play-and-out drive turned into a costly mistake for the Hilltoppers, a personal foul on Western

see Win page 11

Mountain bike team to compete in championship

by Becky Matanic
Chanticleer Sports editor

If enthusiasm and passion were enough to ensure success in a sport, the JSU mountain bike racing team would be leaving their competitors in the dust. However, the six members on the team realize that along with enthusiasm and passion for the sport, they also need experience and a coach. Team captain Matthew “Pudd” Crouse, who organized the university-sanctioned team last spring, said the team is in a prime training location, but would benefit from having a full-time coach.

“We need a coach. We have an advisor, but the other schools have a coach and trainers,” Crouse says.

Although he doesn’t know if the team will get a coach, Crouse and his teammates are optimistic they can build the sport at JSU and continue to improve as a team. “I see people riding mountain bikes around campus all the time,” Crouse says. He adds that the team is looking for additional members, male or female.

Besides the rush of traveling down hills and maneuvering through tight spaces, Crouse says collegiate competitors earn points in races which can lead to scholarships based on race performances, grade point average and community service.

“We’re trying to recruit for our team. There are a lot of benefits,” Crouse says as he sends two of his teammates after a guy on a moun-
tain bike they see pedaling .from Pete Mathews Coliseum.

“It’s great,” freshman team member Kyle Guess says of the sport. “Uphill riding is the worst, but downhill is the biggest rush,” Guess says after returning with news that the cyclist Crouse sent him after is interested in the team.

Along with the rush that competitive mountain bike racing provides, it also demands tremendous endurance mentally and physically. “Mountain biking combines anaerobic strength like football and aerobic like a marathon. The keys are breathing and drinking a lot of water,” Crouse says.

Although the team was just recently organized they will compete in the National

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Win from page 10

Kentucky gave the Gamecock offense new life. Tailback Amel Jackson made the Hilltoppers pay by blazing his way through the defense for a 39-yard gain. On the next play, Walton rushed 26 yards for the touchdown. Shane Seamons hit the extra point, giving JSU a 13-10 lead. Later in the quarter, Stewart picked off a pass and returned it 16 yards to the Western Kentucky 25-yard line. The Gamecock offense capitalized as Kirby took to the air again and completed a pass to Hamilton. After the successful point after, JSU broke the deadlock, now leading 20-10. Western Kentucky was helpless against the Gamecock's offensive surge as JSU gained a hard-fought 34-20 victory.

After the game, JSU head coach Bill Burgess was very proud of his team's effort. "This [Kentucky] team is the toughest group we've ever played. We beat a good football team," said Coach Burgess. Caldwell, a key player in this victory, called the win an emotional uplift. "Montressa [Kirby] made the right reads and put the ball in the right spot," he said.

"This win was a big lift for the team. We new we could win. It helped us a lot," added Kirby.

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Collegiate Mountain Bike Championships, Saturday in Carrollton, Ky.

"My goal for the team is that we just keep up with the people in the southeast region," Crouse says of Saturday's competition. "There could be as many as 500 people racing."

"I just want to finish. It's 16 to 20 miles," says senior Michael Hobbs of the Championships. Hobbs, who is majoring in elementary education says he has been riding for a little over six months. Crouse, who has been racing for about four years says he will be riding in the "sport" class at the nationals. The other members of the team will be racing as beginners, but Crouse is optimistic about his team's future.

"We could turn it around in as little as a semester. We have natural training grounds all around us," he says.

Despite the team's enthusiasm and need for growth and experience, Crouse says that safety is a key issue.

"Mountain biking is inherently dangerous. You need to walk a section you aren't comfortable with," he says. "Also, we won't ride with someone without a helmet."

"There is always a risk of a bad wreck," Hobbs says.

Even though there are dangers, the team says the challenges and thrills of the sport outweigh the risks.

"The ride begins where the road ends," Crouse says.

For more information on the JSU Mountain Bike Racing Team, phone Matthew Crouse at 435-0881.

Midnight Madness kicked off basketball season at JSU on Monday, Oct. 13. The men's and women's teams begin the 1996-97 season in November.