Search for JSU student ends tragically

by Mai Martinez
Editor in Chief

The damp, gray atmosphere outside seemed to be a reflection of the somber atmosphere inside the First United Methodist Church of Jacksonville where family and friends gathered on December 31 to remember Zihui Liu.

The search for Liu who, was last seen on October 18, ended when the Alabama Department of Forensic Science positively identified a decomposed body found in Etowah County as that of Liu.

Liu’s friends and family felt it was important to have a memorial service before too much time passed. “It helps us find some closure even though the investigation is not finished, and it gives us a chance to say good-bye to somebody we love,” said Reverend Penny Ford, who conducted the service.

Liu’s two sisters attended the service, but their parents were not able to make the trip from China. Ziting Liu, Zihui’s sister, said relatives are staying with her parents to help them cope with the death of their youngest daughter. “They need to rest well. They are not in good shape. My mother is not doing well at all. They need to rest well. They are not in good shape.”

The body was found by a state highway inspector around 10:30 a.m. December 16 near the intersection of Green Valley Road and U.S. 431 in Etowah County. Chief Jack Lowe of the Etowah County Sheriff’s Office said the body was found in a shallow grave, covered by dirt, debris and running water. According to Detective Bill Wineman of the Jacksonville Police Department the body was in a ditch approximately 35 yards from the highway.

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Williams to lead Gamecock football

by Rebecca Matanic
Chanticleer Sports Editor

Mike Williams was named the new head football coach at JSU on December 20. The 42-year-old Williams comes to the Gamecocks from the University of Southern Mississippi after serving there for seven years in various coaching positions. Williams becomes the ninth head coach in modern Gamecock football history.

“We’re certainly pleased to have Mike Williams as a member of our staff and football team,” JSU Athletic Director Jerry Cole said. “We have all the confidence in the world that he will pull our program together and get us started on the right track.”

Prior to coaching positions such as running backs, tackles, tight ends, special teams and defensive backs at USM, Williams spent a decade coaching at the high school level. Williams built successful programs at Andalusia, Carroll, Samson and Conecuh County High Schools. During the 1987 and ’88 seasons Williams led Andalusia High School to the state playoffs. He also served as the athletic director at Andalusia.

“I’m extremely excited about the opportunity to coach and work at Jacksonville State University,” Williams said. “JSU has great potential. I’m certainly looking forward to the challenge.”

Williams is a 1977 graduate of JSU rival Troy State University. While at Troy, Williams was a two-sport star, lettering three years in both football and basketball. Williams was a member of both the ’73 and ’76 TSU football teams which captured the Gulf South Conference Championship. Williams is married to the former Elaine Kimble of Samson, a former elementary school teacher who is now self employed.

“Mike has done a great job for us and he will do a great job for See Williams page 3
by Jennie Ford  
*News Editor*

“Build it, burn it, forget it,” said Calhoun County Commissioner Eli Henderson - his subject, nerve gas incineration at Anniston Army Depot.

At Friday morning’s meeting of the Local Emergency Planning Committee, Pete Kelley of Westinghouse presented a slide presentation about the “chemical demilitarization” process, the burning of nerve agents, which is planned to begin in Anniston in the near future.

In February of 1996 Westinghouse Anniston, a division of Westinghouse Electric Corporation, was awarded a contract from the US Army to destroy chemical munitions stored at Anniston Army Depot. Today the project is awaiting the necessary permits from the State before it may continue. Westinghouse does however have Limited Notice to Proceed which authorizes only the following four functions: establishment of a project office with a limited staff, preparation for the construction phase, support of the permit process, and personnel training. All four of these functions are now being carried out.

After the permits are granted by the state, Westinghouse plans for the project to last approximately nine years. The project will employ about 700 people but Kelley contends that the company is not concerned with economic benefits as much as it concerned about safety. Kelley also stated that continued storage of the nerve and mustard agents is much more harmful than incineration.

In a 1985 study done by the Army which looked at leaks, the loss of stabilizer, and the effect of corrosion on M-55 rockets, it was found that the chance of a catastrophic event in the near future was highly unlikely. Kelley says that 85% of the leaks and problems associated with storage come from the rockets. The Westinghouse incinerator would destroy the rockets first, a burning process which would take one year. The Westinghouse incinerator is actually four separate incinerators. There is an incinerator for the liquids (nerve and mustard agents), one for the explosives or propellants, one for the metal parts, and one for the damage or packing materials that the munitions are stored in. The munitions will be trucked from the Depot to the incinerator in steel vaults that Kelley says are fire-, leak-, and explosion-proof.

In 1985 Congress called for the disposal of the entire chemical weapons stockpile to be completed by 2004. In 1988 the Army reached the decision that on site destruction by incineration was the safest way to dispose of the chemical weapons stockpile. The Anniston Army Depot houses 71% of the nation’s total chemical weapons stockpile in the form of Blister Agent (mustard and lewisite) cartridges, projectiles, ton containers, and mortars along with Nerve Agent cartridges, projectiles, rockets, and mines. These munitions have been stored at the Depot for 30 years and there has never been an injury reported that was related to the nerve or chemical agents. There are nine storage sites in the US: Tooele Chemical Activity, Utah; Pine Bluff Chemical Activity, Arkansas; Anniston Chemical Activity, Alabama; Umatilla Chemical Depot, Oregon; Newport Chemical Activity Indiana; Edgewood Chemical Activity, Kentucky; and Pueblo Chemical Depot, Colorado.

Kelley stressed the fact that only the chemicals at the Depot would be burned in the incinerator in Anniston, noting that transportation of the weapons across state lines is illegal.

Attendance at this public meeting was low, about 15-20 people, and there was apparently no one from the local citizens action groups either. Rufus Kinney of the Citizens Against Nerve Gas Incineration says that his group is “not aware of the meeting” and usually not invited to the meetings. Friday’s meeting was open to the public and announced in the Anniston Star’s calendar of events. Citizen turn out has also been low in the awareness classes planned by the EMA. Three classes were held last year with low turnout and four were scheduled and then canceled for lack of participation according to Leslie Cochran of the Calhoun County EMA.

There will be two public meetings this month with Westinghouse representatives and others present. The meetings will be held at the Anniston City Meeting Center January 14 at 6:30 PM and January 28 at 7 PM. Anyone concerned with the incineration project is encouraged to attend the meetings and express an opinion.
Patterson Hall dorm director dies, no evidence of foul play

by Scott Hopkin
Managing Editor

"She was one of the most energetic people on campus," says SGA President Bob Boyle of Patterson Hall Dorm Director Wendi Leamond. Even though he didn’t know her well, Boyle says, she stands out in his mind as someone who "went out of her way to help people."

Boyle and many other students were shocked when Leamond was found dead in her dorm room at 6 AM on December 10th. The cause of death has yet to be determined, though County Coroner Benny Hulsey says it is "more than likely a medical-related death" stemming from a heart condition.

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"Wendi was Jewish," says Housing Director Ray Creel, who was in charge of organizing a memorial service. "And she was proud of her Jewish faith. I didn’t want to do a Christian ceremony." The service was held on Dec. 13.

Creel asked English Professor Steven Whitton to conduct the service. Whitton says he is not a religious leader, but "anyone can run a memorial service. The important thing, according to Whitton, is the Kaddish, which is spoken at every service in remembrance of the dead. Creel originally asked Whitton only to say the Kaddish for Leamond, but because Whitton is Jewish, he was eventually asked to take over the entire service.

Leamond, who was 26 years old, was in her fifth year as a special education major at JSU. She had worked with special education classes at Jacksonville High School, and was preparing to begin her student teaching.

Liu from page 1

days later," said Detective Wineman. Liu’s roommate, Mary VanSlambrouck, also identified clothing found on the body as belonging to Liu, along with jewelry she had lent Liu.

Wineman said Liu’s death is being investigated as a homicide and Chen Shi who was the last person seen with Liu is being sought for questioning. Shi, a 21-year-old JSU student, disappeared a week after Liu and is currently listed as a missing person.

According to Wineman, Shi’s mother came to collect Shi’s belongings from his dorm room on January 7 and said “the last time she spoke with her son was sometime in the middle of October, but she has not seen him since August.”

Wineman expressed some frustration at the lack of cooperation he has faced from some students who have been questioned during this investigation. “There are several students who know more about what is going on, but they don’t want to get involved. It’s kind of sad because if their relative was killed, they would want anybody and everybody to help."

Ziting hopes that the memorial services will encourage more people to get involved with the investigation and raise awareness about her sister’s death. “We want to help to make people to know my sister better by telling them a little more about her. She could have had a good future.”

A small, frail tree now stands in front of the Wesley Foundation. The tree, which is commonly found in China, was planted after Zihui’s memorial service by her sisters. “We planted the tree because my sister deserves to be remembered because she is such a warm and pleasant person. It is more a symbol of her life forever.”

A second memorial service will be held January 14 at 4:00 p.m. at the Wesley Foundation. Rev. Ford will also conduct this service. "It gives students a chance to say good-bye and share some of the feelings which can be anything from sadness to anger to fear," she said.

Ziting, who is unable to attend the second service, said she would like to thank Rev. Ford and the members of the Wesley Foundation for helping with both services.

Williams from page 1

Jacksonville State,” Southern Mississippi head football coach Jeff Bower said. “He’s the type of coach who demands discipline, who will be well organized. He’s a great recruiter, and he’ll do a great job of bringing quality student-athletes to JSU.”

Williams’ recruiting ability landed JSU a new offensive coordinator, Jan. 3. Williams announced that former Oklahoma State player and Georgia Military College offensive coordinator Doug Meacham will lead the Gamecock offense. Upon being named offensive coordinator, the 32-year-old Meacham promised to open the Gamecock offense up. He acknowledged that it will be a challenge to take the Gamecocks from the option offense to a totally different system, but feels that quarterback Montressa, Kirby and the rest of the Gamecock offensive squad will be able to make necessary changes and adjustments.

Meacham joins special teams/recruiting coordinator Eddie Stephenson and three Gamecock assistants from last season. Williams has retained the services of Charles Kelly, secondary, defensive coordinator; Greg Stewart, defensive tackles; and Pat Nix, quarterbacks.
China’s anti-Communist “Cowboys”

Isolated dissidents, struggle against the government…and their own desperation

When my friend Wang addresses political matters, he speaks a slow and faltering English — but what he says amazes me. Like many Chinese students, Wang speaks Communist English — Communism is “Socialism” and the Revolution is the “Liberation” — and yet what he says adds up to a pretty good concept of democratic values. This is what I admire most about Chinese student leaders: to speak of democracy in mainland Chinese is to take the vocabulary of Orwell’s 1984 and assemble a Thomas Paine essay. It’s a victory of the human mind over language, the act of a poet and not a political hack. In some areas, Wang seems to have a better grasp of democracy than most of the Americans I’ve met in China. “We believe,” he says, “that economic reform means nothing without political reform.”

His real name isn’t Wang, and his constant companion isn’t really named Li — these are common surnames I’ve given them in hopes of protecting the innocent. Wang is the kind of person who needs other people to protect him, because he suffers from the activist’s inability to keep his mouth shut.

I knew this from the first time I met him. I was sitting in a café with my Hungarian friend Peter, discussing the English class which I’d been roped into teaching. After broaching the subject of Tiananmen in one teaching session, I was reported to the English Department, warned not to discuss Chinese politics again, and — I think, but I’m not sure — put under surveillance for a short time. Peter was helping me sort things out by explaining how these things worked in Hungary during his childhood.

Wang and Li, quite without invitation, moved their soup bowls from a nearby table, plopped them down on ours, and introduced themselves in pretty good English. As it turned out, they’d been listening to our conversation, and wanted to offer their own advice. For the next half-hour, Wang and Li spoke with surprising frankness about the democracy movement and the failings of the Communist Party. When we asked him whether he felt safe in discussing these things, Wang told us: “Don’t worry — nobody here speaks English.” Yet we had assumed the same thing about Wang and Li.

I wish I could tell you more about Wang — his amazing life history, the meetings we had, mostly at times and places of Wang’s choosing, and the many times I disappointed him by not being able to meet him. But I can’t, for the same reason I often couldn’t go where he wanted me to go. Somebody has to think of Wang’s safety, and if anybody does, it certainly won’t be Wang.

“I want to be a great man like Sun Zhongshan,” he told me once, using one of the many Chinese names for Dr. Sun Yat-sen. And he believed, I think, that such a rise to greatness was not only possible for him, but necessary. More than his political opinions, this high-minded seriousness was what drew me to Wang. It alternately impressed and frightened me: once I told me that he’d thought about strapping a bomb to himself and blowing up a government office. I told him that I thought violence was a terrible form of protest in a country with a state-controlled media, and he shook his head in resignation, as if I didn’t quite understand what he’d been through.

I think I understood more than he realized. Wang’s first public sortie into the world of politics ended in a semi-official reprimand and pall of shame over his family. As a small town Southerner who opposed the Flag-Burning Amendment, I’ve had a taste of that life: half of you wants to stand in front of an oncoming grinning tank, and the other half wants to jump under a speeding bus. Wang is younger than me, and I once had that look in my eye, too, the look of a man for whom activism and suicide have merged into synonomy.

My friend Peter sometimes called Wang “the Cowboy.” This was after I’d told him the Air Force definition of the word — a reckless and unskilled young pilot. If a guy grins when you call him “cowboy,” then you can bet he is one, and you’d better put the Lord’s Prayer in your preflight checklist every time you go up with him. I never called Wang a cowboy, but I often got the impression that he wanted me to. Like the night I went with him to a very out-of-the-way restaurant in hopes of receiving some information he promised me — some underground newspapers, along with the names of academics who reportedly had “disappeared” in the wake of the Wang Dan trial, along with some underground newspapers.

When we arrived at the cafe, a waitress opened the door only slightly to peer at us, as though we were entering a speakeasy. Then she directed us to a corner table and erected a little screen to hide us from other customers. “This is all very dangerous,” Wang told me — yet in spite of the screen, he had seated me with my back to an open window. Over a malodorous meal of pig entrails, Wang presented me with his “information” — a banned book of academic essays, most of which, I later discovered, were about Chinese culture and history. And also Wang’s resume in poorly worded English. Not exactly what a journalist needs.

His sources, he said, were afraid to give me what I wanted, and he blamed this fact on a new, invisible crackdown in the weeks after the trial. But I suspect my outspoken behavior in the classroom may have been the real cause. Foreign teachers can say things Chinese professors only dream about, and deportation is the worst punishment the government dares level on them. Born and raised in the briar patch, I tried to commit deportable acts in every class, stopping only when my questions forced my students into embarrassed silence. (This is how I narrowed down my list of potential informants: the Party members crossed their arms and scowled at me during these moments, while the others studied their shoes, or the ceiling.) I was a cowboy copilot with an ejection seat, not to be trusted with important secrets.

Though neither of us had
thought to bring an umbrella, we walked home through darkened alleys in the freezing rain, the better to discuss politics. He told me how much he admired Wang Dan, and how much the hated student leaders who had fled, especially Wuer Kaixi. The journalists were right: the student movement really is like the Judean People’s Front (People’s Front of Judea?) from Monty Python’s “Life of Brian.” “But I like you,” he said. “I think you’re like us. A freedom fighter.”

A freedom fighter. Or maybe a cowboy. As much as I admire Wang, as much as the compliment appeals to me, I have my misgivings about that night. Disorganized and desperate, the Chinese student movement blurs the line between genuine resistance and the deluded conspiracies of teenaged boys. Results, I suppose, are the difference between freedom fighters and kids playing dangerous games in the rain, luxuriating in the thrill of naughtiness.

Wang was most interested when I told him that students at JSU had formed their own political party, registering voters and speaking at town meetings without fear of reprisal. Then I had to drop the bomb on him: our mayoral candidate never qualified to run, and probably only a few of the students voted. He took this news in with equanimity, but couldn’t help showing a slight smirk which seemed to say: “We want it more than you do.”

When I asked him what American students could do to help the cause of Chinese democracy, he gave me the usual answer, the one which qualifies me to speak of myself as a journalist-in-China. “Tell them. Tell the students to remember us, tell them to tell the world.” That didn’t sound like much, but the credulous way in which he said it showed me that there was a gulf between us after all. I was a student of the Nineties looking into the face of the Sixties—each of us shaking our heads at the other’s shortsightedness.

Tell the world. Remember. Smuggle this book out for me. None of these things will by itself help freedom in China, but Wang’s belief in them may be what’s keeping him from wrapping on that bomb. I’m not a great believer in prayer— it seems about as useful as those other things — but since I doubt Wang himself has a prayer, I might offer one up on behalf of his safety.

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.....

—by Tim Lockette
Contributing editor
Relief found for sofa-impaired students

**by Sam Dillon**
A&E Editor

Starting this semester, the Features section of the paper will start focusing more on profiles and will no longer cover social and student events. I have felt for a while now that The Chanticleer needed an Arts & Entertainment section and that JSU A&E events needed much better exposure. Too many times there have been events which have come and gone, and afterwards everyone said “I never knew about it!” Well hopefully those days are over.

The Arts & Entertainment section will cover virtually all student events, the local and not-so-local music scene, top ten movie rentals, and times for local cinema showings. Books, games, and movie reviews will be added to the section along with the continuation of concert reviews. If there are events coming up which you think students should be made aware of, please call or write. I’ll make sure that your event gets the rightfully-deserved exposure. I plan to do my best to keep sofa-impaired students and faculty informed of the cool, the fun, and the interesting.

The Anti-Christ? The Apocalypse? No, it’s Manson!

**Richard Howell**
Volunteer writer

The music stops. The lights go out. There seems to be movement on the stage, but it is too dark to tell exactly what is going on. We soon learn that the set has been changed and it is time for the second act. Is this a theatrical performance or is it a rock concert? It is both. It is Marilyn Manson.

Not since the over-extravagant stadium-rock concerts of the 80s has a band put so much effort into and taken so much pride in their on-stage performance. Their willingness to give the fans even more than they want to see coupled with the music of their more focused and conceptually artistic third release, Antichrist Superstar, is guaranteed to entertain.

The music and the lights assault the senses simultaneously and the effect is almost surreal. The song is the title track from the album. It is the autobiographical climax of a rock star’s metamorphosis from a worm to...an angel? A demon? It depends on your perspective. However, the visual image leaves little to question. The set is decorated with enormous black banners bearing the band’s red lightning-bolt symbol. From a huge balcony-like podium, Mr. Manson addresses the crowd like a religious/military dictator. The rest of the band members are wearing chrome helmets and marching around the stage as Manson begins to preach to his adoring fans. The audience responds accordingly and the energy is palpable.

What is the message? Is Mr. Manson the harbinger of an impending spiritual, political, and economic revolution? Is he, indeed the anti-Christ of Revelations? Perhaps, he is nothing more than the new Alice Cooper and he is merely trying to make a buck by shocking Christian America. Whatever the truth, it is still a hell of a show. Would such a show turn a skeptic into a believer? Probably not. But if you are already a fan of the music, you will definitely get your money’s worth from the concert.

**Ear Candy:** Radio Iodine teases fans with EP

Radio Iodine established themselves in St. Louis when they had one of their songs used in a music sampler put out by a local modern-rock radio station. The sampler along with heavy air play boosted the bands following, and shortly thereafter had them opening for such acts as Oasis and Gravity Kills (who also got their start on the same music sampler). After major label interest, the band decided to sign with Radioactive Records and release a four-song EP to introduce them to a national market and prepare fans for their full-length debut due in March.

**Fronted by Ellen Persyn**
who’s powerful yet melodic voice is mixed with some extremely impressive music. **The style is hard to wrap in a box** and hand you because the blend is very diverse. The style, loosely, can be described as a combination of razor edge pop vocals layered over pop riffs and industrial/trippy loops and beats. Definitely keep your eyes and ears peeled for their full-length debut, if it’s anything like the EP than you are in for a real treat. March is going to be a very good month for fans of Radio Iodine!!!!
By Ian Spelling  
College Press Service

Ready or not, Beavis and Butthead are ready to do America.

Yup, the animated teen-age waste products, who for four years have wrecked all kinds of havoc on MTV, are storming the big screen in “Beavis and Butthead Do America.” The film, which opens nationwide on Dec. 20, finds the intrepid duo as stupid and as desperate as ever to lose their virginity. When a guy mistakes the two—who are mournfully searching for their stolen TV—for hitmen hired to “do” his wife (voice of Demi Moore), so begins a cross-country journey to Las Vegas, the Hoover Dam and even the white house, with the FBI hot on their trail.

Ensuring that Beavis and Butthead make every stop on their trip memorable and laugh-filled is Mike Judge. Judge created the show, directed and co-wrote the movie and provides the voices of both Beavis and Butthead. A regular looking guy who lives in Texas with his wife and two kids, Judge now is sitting in a suite room at a Manhattan hotel high above Central Park.

“I think the film is better than the show, actually,” says Judge, who was born in Ecuador and raised in New Mexico. “I just tried to figure out what made the characters funny to people and play that up while staying true to the characters.

We also wanted to give it a bigger story than we’ve been able to do before. Beavis and Butthead do a lot of things in the movie—like fly on a plane or leave their home town—that they’ve never done on the show. So, we’ve tried to please the show’s fans, but also wanted to reach a wider audience and convert a few people.”

If Beavis and Butthead grow any more popular in the process of doing America, watch to see whether “family-values” conservatives freak out. After all, more than a few people, notably some powerful politicians, love to blame the show for setting back our educational system at least 50 or 60 years, and the youth of the nation along with it. Judge has heard it all, over and over again, and he’s not buying it.

“I personally think that none of our fans like ‘Beavis and Butthead’ for anything but its comedy value,” he says. “I can’t imagine kids watching it and thinking, ‘I want to be like them.”

Beavis creator says movie is not profound, just funny

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JSU men’s basketball captures first conference win

by Shannon Fagan
Sports Writer

After a rough start to the season, the Gamecocks opened conference play on January 2. They went on the road to Orlando to face the Central Florida Golden Knights, where they came away with a hard-fought win. They didn’t have long to celebrate, because they had to prepare for the Stetson Hatters. Unfortunately, JSU couldn’t make it two in a row.

On Thursday, forward Jay Knowlton led the Gamecocks in scoring with 13 points. Kenny Sorenson muscled out 13 rebounds and had 14 total points. Center Rusty Brand, with 13 points and 8 rebounds, and guard Aaron Kelley, with 12 points, also had a good night. Central Florida’s scoring was led by guard Gary Kennedy’s 21 points. Brad Traina had 11 points and D’Qwarius Steward had 14 points off the bench. It wasn’t enough for the Golden Knights as they fell to Jax State by the final of 75-74.

The Gamecocks got right back onto action on Saturday by travelling to Deland, Florida to face Stetson. JSU trailed by ten at the half, but stormed back in the second half. The Gamecocks were led by Kelley’s 24 points and Jay Knowlton’s 23 points, but it wasn’t enough. Stetson guard Garrett Davis led the charge with 21 points, with forward Kenneth Johnson rock the rim for 18 points and Chad Lambert and Fred Entenman each scored 11 points. The Hatters held off a late surge by the Gamecocks, and defeating them by a score of 86-78. The loss drops Jax State’s record to 1-1 in the TAAC and 2-9 overall.

JSU continues its road trip on Thursday. They will travel to face the College of Charleston before returning home to host the Fighting Camels of Campbell on Saturday.

Lady gamecocks win first two TAAC games

by Rebecca Matanic
Sports Editor

The Lady Gamecocks started the new year and the conference season with consecutive victories over Central Florida and Stetson University, improving their overall record to 4-6 and 2-0 in the TAAC. JSU romped Central Florida 78-41, the Gamecocks largest ever margin of victory over a Division I opponent.

Junior Melissa Harden led JSU with a career-high 21 points, hitting 8 of 13 shots from the field. 6'5" center Alfredia Seals dominated the boards with six offensive and six defensive rebounds. Seals was named TAAC Women’s Basketball Player-of-the-Week for the week of Dec. 10. The Gamecocks out-rebounded the Knights 57-32. The Lady Gamecocks shot 48 percent from the field while the Knights converted only 25 percent of their attempts.

“This was a big, big win for us,” coach Dana Austin said. “We really came out and executed well and had several kids really play well.”

Kathy O’Konski played her strongest game of the season, hitting six of seven shots from the field and three of four at the charity stripe for a season high 15 points. O’Konski, Harden and senior guard Lori Breedlove each grabbed six rebounds for the Gamecocks.

JSU held UCF to just 15 first half points. Chasity McClendon led the Knights with nine points and six rebounds. The loss dropped UCF to 3-6 on the season and 0-1 in the conference.

The Stetson Hatters provided JSU with a much tougher contest than the Knights when they came to Pete Mathews Coliseum, Jan. 4. However, the pre-season All-Conference pick Alfredia Seals posted an impressive double-double for the Gamecocks scoring 25 points and grabbing 16 rebounds in JSU’s 81-70 victory. Seals converted eight of fourteen shots from the field and took advantage of 13 trips to the free throw line by sinking nine shots.

O’Konski played another strong game for the Gamecocks, scoring 14 points and hauling down 10 rebounds. Harden once again hit double figures for JSU, scoring 13 points. Harden was limited to two field goals on five attempts, but she converted nine of 10 attempts at the free throw line.

The Hatters were led by guard Liz Hufferd’s 19 points and forward Cynthia Fair’s 18 points. Stetson out-rebounded the Gamecocks 48-45. The Hatters’ 5’7” forward Marsha Harrison matched Seals with 16 rebounds, including nine offensive boards.

JSU kept their hot shooting going against the Hatters, hitting 50 percent of their first half shots and 48 percent in the second half to finish 24-49 overall. The JSU defense limited the shorter Hatters to just 31 percent from the field. The Gamecocks also converted 30-50 free throw attempts while Stetson converted 13 of 24 free throws. After committing just 14 turnovers against UCF the Gamecocks once again had problems holding on to the ball against Stetson, committing 23 miscues. The Hatters turned over the ball 20 times.

The Lady Gamecocks hope to remain undefeated in the TAAC when they play in Buies Creek, NC today at 4:30 p.m. against the Fighting Camels of Campbell University. JSU then travels to Charleston, SC for a Saturday game against the College of Charleston. The Gamecocks next home game is Jan. 16, at 5 p.m. against Florida International.

Coach Dana Austin will sign five game programs for every Lady Gamecock home game. The five lucky people who get these programs may turn them in at the concession stand and receive a free Red and White JSU basketball. Other upcoming home games include, Florida Atlantic, Jan. 18, 12 noon, Southeastern Louisiana, Feb. 1, 5 p.m., and Cambell, Feb. 6, 7 p.m.
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Sports Picks to resume for March Madness

By Rebecca Matanic
Sports Editor

The Chanticleer Sports Picks of the Week will resume just prior to the NCAA men's and women's basketball tournaments, otherwise known as March Madness. Anyone interested as serving as a guest picker during the tournament should contact Rebecca Matanic at 782-5701 or 435-6493. Dr. Robyn Eoff won the fall semester competition with a 47-34 record. Mai Martinez finished second at 44-37, Mr. Jerry Chandler third at 41-40. Rebecca Mataasic took fourth at a one under .500, 40-41 mark. Thomas Webb ended at 39-42 and Jennie Ford and the guest pickers tied for last at 35-46.

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Rutgers basketball team under gag order

While hoping that the furor caused over remarks made by [*] dies down, [*] have come under fire again, this time for [*].

The American Association of University Professors has criticized the Rutgers administration for [*] with reporters at The Daily Targum, the campus newspaper.

"We condemn the attempt to stifle the free speech of the members of the Rutgers men's basketball team," [*] said.

Other must not be curtailed simply because they are [*]. Two days after student protesters demanded the resignation of [*], halted the Scarlet Knights' game against the University of Massachusetts, guard Damon Santiago told a Targum reporter that he thought [*].

Senior forward Jamal Phillips told a reporter that [*].

"The next day, head coach Bob Wenzel asked team members not to discuss the issue with reporters." [*]

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It's your right to read, too.

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Dear Prospective Member:

Liberia should have a special place in the conscience of the United States of America. Its assets to become a nation came from the United States. For 149 years, it was a staunch ally of the United States. Yet for the past years, as a civil war has taken almost 200,000 lives, displaced more than two-thirds of the population and destroyed its infrastructure, the United States has treated this great tragedy as a regional problem.

Liberia has a unique historical and cultural link to the United States. Settled by African Americans, many of them former slaves, in the early decades of the 19th century, Liberia became a republic in 1847. The United States influence on Liberia is reflected the African nation’s constitution, the star and stripes of its red, white and blue flag, the structure of its government, the names of its cities, its school’s curriculum; its official language and the remarkable degree of good will its citizens feel toward America. Through all the major conflicts of the 20th century, Liberians been among the most dependable allies of the United States. In both World Wars, Liberia declared war on the enemies of the United States and offered vital air bases, ports, and natural resources to support the United States military. During the Cold War, Liberia voted with the United States on every significant resolution at the United Nations. It hosted facilities for electronic monitoring and became the largest base for United States intelligence-gathering in Africa.

Yet when Liberia’s security was most at risk because of civil conflict the United States government deferred to ECOWAS, an under-funded regional organization composed of some of the world’s poorest nations. Half of the $10 million earmarked by the United States to support a peacekeeping force had not been committed by April 1996. Meanwhile, the cost to the United States of responding to the humanitarian crisis since 1990 has been emergency relief assistance valued at over $445 million, over $66 million provided in the past year alone, more than eight times the amount committed to peacekeeping.

In the absence of a viable security plan, the torrent of refugees continues to undermine Liberia’s relations with its immediate neighbors. Though the United States has implored those nations to admit Liberian refugees, its own record of Liberian admissions declines the long relationship with that nation.

The approach to achieving peace in Liberian has revolved around the ECOWAS process for six years. This process has, in turn, been dependent on a core group of ECOWAS nations with the will and very limited resources to engage in diplomacy or to commit forces for peacekeeping. Fourteen peace agreements have been largely brokered without the United States and other international parties, such as the United Nations or AU, present with ECOWAS as working partners at the negotiating table. The result of this agreements and the resources, and leverage, necessary for successful implementation, This failure to produce a concerted approach to all aspects of the peace process, from mediation to negotiation and implementation has produced the tragic results we have witnessed in Liberia.

On August 17 the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) concluded meetings that provide a new timetable for the peace process. Starting August 20, the warring factions are to observe a cease-fire, dismantle checkpoints and withdraw from zones of combat. The peacekeeping force, expanding from 8,500 to 18,000 troops, is to be deployed throughout Liberia in November. Demobilization is to be completed by January 31. Elections are to be held on May 31 with a turnover to an elected government on June 15. The revised plan calls for sanctions against members of the warring factions that obstruct the peace process. Sanctions include restrictions on travel, freeze on economic activities, exclusion from electoral process, and war crime charges.

Now the United States has another opportunity to assert its international leadership at a critical juncture to ensure that the success of the new peace process. This leadership will not lead to an involvement of United States troops. It does mean that the United States must heighten its diplomatic efforts to help coordinate the process of peace and gather the funding that is necessary for effective peacekeeping and demobilization in Liberia.

The United States must take the necessary steps to ensure that its commitment of $30 million to support the ECOWAV peacekeeping force is obligated before the end of the fiscal year 1996. While the United States pledge of $30 million is a step in the right direction it will not alone enable a doubling of ECOWAS to the 18,000 troops necessary for deployment by November. It is vital that the United States provide additional funds to make up this shortfall or take the lead to obtain significant pledges from other donor countries.

A top priority of the United States should be the implementation of a serious program for demobilizing Liberia’s combatants. Regrettably, no additional funding has been pledged by the United States to improve what was an inadequately funded and designed demobilization plan. In fact, some of the funds allocated early 1996 for reintegration of Liberia’s 60,000 combatants have been diverted elsewhere. The United States should take the lead in designing a comprehensive demobilization program. This program will not involve United States troops, but should include the resources for every stage of demobilization from encampment to training and counseling of combatants. A contribution of $20 million (non-food related) from the United States will provide the resources necessary to initiate a well-conceived demobilization program and encourage future contributions from other international donors.

President Clinton and the United States Congress must make Liberia a priority on our foreign relations agenda in Africa. United States leadership is critical if the elements are to be achieved on schedule under the new peace plan. This leadership will not lead to an involvement of United States troops. It does mean that the United States through its Special Envoy, must heighten its diplomatic efforts to coordinate the implementation of the peace process and gather the additional resources necessary for effective peacekeeping and demobilization in Liberia.

The United States should strengthen the response of the international community to the needs of the peace process. The foundation for a new international approach to the peace process already exists with the International Contact Group for Liberia, the group of donor countries that have pledged support to the peace process. The concept behind the ICGI should be expanded to a tightly coordinated partnership that includes the United States, ECOWAS, and the United Nations. This high level of cooperation will ensure that scarce resources are effectively utilized.

The outbreak of fighting in Monrovia in April 1996 was the latest in a series of clashes in Liberia’s intractable war. During the past nearly seven years, the war has produced shocking humanitarian conditions for Liberian civilians. The most recent fighting exacerbated these conditions. Humanitarian assistance organizations have been unable to deliver food and other emergency services because of the fighting in Monrovia. Their resources boiled by gangs of combatants and the safety of their relief workers threatened, these organizations closed or dramatically reduced their operations in Liberia.

As a result of the civil war in Liberia, an estimated 300,000 Liberians are internally displaced; another 800,000 are refugees in neighboring countries that are among the poorest in the world. Approximately 30% of the population in Monrovia, upward of 350,000 persons, were forced to flee their homes due to the April-May fighting and another 3,000 died. During June-July some 3,300 new cases of cholera were reported in Monrovia and a July survey found malnutrition rates for children in displaced shelters have increased up to 25%.

Now that the dust of the Civil War in Liberia is settling down, an era of a NEW LIBERIA is at hand. Whether anyone likes it or not, an leadership is bound to emerge, supposedly to shoulder the national responsibilities of politics and administration and to ensure the continued survival of the Liberian people and culture.

That such leadership will be genuine and committed is a matter that you as Liberians and friends of Liberia can decide, or at least influence. But choosing national leadership is a serious and difficult business. In Liberia, bombed-out homes and shops are painful reminders of what happens when leaders are chosen unwisely. We cannot allow this to happen again.

The Liberian Social Justice Foundation has carefully examined the administrative and operational policies of both the past the present administration in Liberia, and in our candid opinion, much more needs to be done to help Liberia go in the direction it needs to go. We as Liberians must try to have a positive influence on the selection of the national programs and the corresponding leadership which will inevitably affect our lives and the lives of our people for many years to come.

My fellow Liberians and Friends of Liberia, the Liberian Social Justice Foundation has embarked on a mission to ensure that PEACE, UNITY, SECURITY, FREEDOM AND SOCIAL JUSTICE prevail in Liberia. This is an awesome responsibility that can only occur if we cooperate as a team. History will judge us not by what we say, but by what we do. With God and the determined mind, there is nothing we cannot achieve for our Liberian Society. It is in this light that I urge you to support and contribute to the Liberian Social Justice Foundation’s programs.

Liberia, the African nation established in the 1800s by freed American slaves, has been torn by civil war since 1989. What does the Liberian Civil War mean Americans in terms of health care, humanitarian relief, stability throughout Africa and the continuation of missionary work? If you share in the dream of peace in Liberia, a country founded upon American ideals, you are invited to become more informed by writing to the LIBERIAN SOCIAL JUSTICE FOUNDATION, POST OFFICE BOX 31438, CINCINNATI, OHIO 45231, (513) 931-1872.

I am writing to introduce you to the Liberian Social Justice Foundation Inc., a broad-based social nonprofit organization. The mission of the LJSFI is two-fold: we are dedicated to restoring a just and stable society in Liberia, and to improving the quality of life for all Liberians, both at home and abroad.

On behalf of our members, I appeal to you for financial assistance in support of LJSF’s activities. An application for membership is included which contains a breakdown of membership fees. Please know that any amount you can contribute will be helpful to us. Your support of the Foundation, and your awareness of its concerns is deeply appreciated. Should you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to write us or call. Thank you for your time, your contribution, and your generosity. Checks and money orders should be made payable to the Liberian Social Justice Foundation, Inc.

Best regards,

Edwin G.K. Zoedua
Executive Director/Chairman

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