Ref accused of roughing a Southerner

By Gracie Cutchings
News Editor

At the Nov. 18 game against Troy State, the Marching Southerners got a rude awakening during their half time show.

With two to three minutes left on the clock, according to band director Ken Bodiford, the referees and team captains marched to the center of the field and began pushing and cursing at band members.

“We were almost done with the show, and I noticed the referees coming on the field,” base drum player Jason Rucker said. “They came up to our part of the line and started yelling obscenities and what not.”

“One of our (football) players elbowed my drum and knocked me out of the way.”

“You don’t run out in the middle of the field when a band is performing,” Bodiford said. “That shows disrespect, plus it’s dangerous.” These kids are marching so fast in some of the moves that we do. If there’s somebody standing behind them, and they trip over them with one of those 50 pound tubas, they can get hit in the head.”

The altercation stemmed from lack of communication, according to Assistant Athletic Director Mike Galloway. The athletic department petitioned for a 25 minute halftime instead of 20, and the clock operator was not notified of the change.

“It wasn’t the clock operator’s fault,” Galloway said. “It was just miscommunication of us getting word to him that we were granted 25 minutes instead of 20. He just put the regular 20 minutes on the clock, and that’s what the officials went by.”

The matter was over to Greg

Continued on page 3. Southern altercation

Is JSU helpful to nontraditional students?

By Gracie Cutchings
News Editor

Nontraditional students come from all walks of life. Whether they are striving to make better salaries or striving to better themselves, “the University needs to know the concerns and needs of those students,” said Alice Cusimano, Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs.

“The literature defines 25 and older as a nontraditional student,” Cusimano said. “We know that we have some older than that that have families or are working full time. They really could fall into that category because coming to school is not their primary responsibility.”

Kathy and Kyle Shelton, both communication majors at Jacksonville State University, have experienced many of the struggles that nontraditional students face. The Sheltons began their college careers in their 20s. In an effort to break down the barrier that not having a college degree presented in her job as an administrative assistant, Kathy embarked on the odyssey of night classes at Gadsden State Community College.

“I had pretty much gone as far as I could possibly go career wise in the company,” Kathy said. “I was also pretty miserable because I felt so limited. A lot of emphasis is placed on getting that piece of paper saying you are a college graduate.”

With the responsibility of a family, job and paying for her own education, Kathy finally exhausted all the classes that she could take at Gadsden State. She realized she would have to transfer to a four-year university to obtain her degree in the field of communication.

“JSU had the reputation at the time of being one of the best schools in the Southeast for communication majors, but because the classes weren’t offered at night, I ran into a problem,” Kathy said.

Kathy made the sacrifice and quit her job to finish her degree. Working part-time, taking out loans, acquiring scholarships and trying to raise a family began to take its toll. After suffering numerous health problems and a failed marriage, Kathy decided there was nothing better to do than throw herself into the ‘college experience.”

Although she worked two jobs, Kathy became the editor of The Mimosa, and as fate would have it, she met her future husband, Kyle Shelton, who worked as a writer for The Chanticleer.

Kyle started his studies at JSU when he was 21. Since he was just beginning core classes at the time, he found it easy at first to juggle various jobs and attend school.

“Since I was still taking core classes, there was no problem because they were offered at night,” Kyle said. “Unfortunately, my work required me to travel, and I was forced to drop out of college. In the meantime, I had met the editor-in-chief of The Mimosa, who would later become my wife.”

The Sheltons were eventually married and both had to drop out of college for various personal and professional reasons. Thanks to a chance meeting in 1998 with current Acting Communication Department

continued on page 3. Nontraditional students

World News

• Prime Minister Jean Chretien scored a bigger-than-expected victory in Canada’s parliamentary elections, becoming the country’s first leader since World War II to win three consecutive majorities.

• With calls for an end to violence in the region increasing, Israel’s Prime Minister Ehud Barak on Tuesday faced a political battle inside the country’s parliament.

• The Philippine Senate rejected on Tuesday President Joseph Estrada’s petition to throw out corruption charges against him, clearing the way for his impeachment trial next month.

• A pilot dodged a high school, homes and moving cars in an emergency landing on a San Jose, California, runway about one hour ago. No one was injured and his plane was unscathed.

• The U.S. Supreme Court agreed Monday to hear an appeal by a condemned killer from Texas whose lawyers say he is mentally retarded and has the reasoning capacity of a 7-year-old.

• The U.S. Postal Service is bringing in thousands of temporary workers, 80 more airplanes, extra trucks and trains and even the residents of Whoville to speed the mailing of holiday mail.

• U.S. regulators have put off a vote on Thursday to block America Online Inc.’s planned acquisition of Time Warner Inc. after settlement talks made new progress, the Wall Street Journal reported Tuesday.

• Vice President Al Gore took his case for challenging the certified Florida election results directly to the people, saying that people in America are equal on Election Day only if all votes are counted.

• Ignoring votes means ignoring democracy itself,” Gore said during a televised statement Monday night.

Inside News

New House of Refuge caters to young adults

RED HERRING

“Red brings the funk to Brothers”

EDITORIAL

Beans the thankful after Thanksgiving

WEEK IN SPORTS

Gamecocks lose final game of the year to Troy State

Beaver College reborn as Arcadia University

By Billy O’Keefe
TMS Campus

The Beav has left the building. Pennsylvania’s Beaver College, in hopes of tempering ridicule and boosting enrollment, announced Monday that it would change its name to Arcadia University.

The college unveiled the new moniker, selected through a poll of more than 20,000 students, alumni, faculty and parents, as well as a handful of university focus groups, at an impromptu slumber party for students, whom staffers rounded up with less-than-an-hour’s notice.

The new name, which becomes official July 16, 2001, could be a major boon for the school, which claims to lose a significant portion of prospective students each year on the issue of the name alone.

“The word ‘beaver’ too often elicits ridicule in the form of derogatory remarks pertaining to the rodent,” the TV show “Leave It to Beaver” and the vulgar reference to the female anatomy,” Beaver president Bette E. Landman wrote in a letter sent last month to members of the community.

Landman isn’t kidding: everyone from Conan O’Brian and David Letterman to Howard Stern and the cast of “Saturday Night Live” have garnered laughs at the college’s expense.

“There are alumni reports that our name presents an obstacle when seeking employment, and that some have chosen not to display their diplomas to avoid unkink remarks from colleagues,” wrote Landman.

In order to streamline the search for a new name, the college created the Name Finding Task Force. The goal was to find a name that was at once original, intriguing, prestigious, simple, reflective of the school’s character and, naturally, free from potential ridicule.

“Arcadia University reflects our foundation and the kind of learning environment we aim to foster,” said Landman at the unveiling.

Founded in 1855, Beaver College received its original name from its location in Pennsylvania’s Beaver County, although it is currently located in the Philadelphia suburb of Glendale.
Campus Crime

- The Campus Crime Docket is never and will never be edited unless an incident report involves a minor.
- Items in the Campus Crime Docket are obtained from incident and arrest reports at the JSU Police Department.
- JSU students have the right to view these public records.
- If any information is incorrect, please contact us at 782-5701 or call the JSU Police Department at 782-5050.

I 11-10-00: Gina Owen, of padden, Ala., reported criminal mischief and theft of property at Dixon Hall to JSUPD occurring between 11-9-00 and 11-10-00.

11-11-00: Tonya Catlin Butler, of Jacksonville, Ala., reported third degree assault at Pannell Hall to JSUPD occurring on 11-11-00.

11-15-00: Deidre Thomas, of Florence, Ala., reported criminal mischief at Stone Center parking lot to JSUPD occurring on 11-15-00.

11-20-00: Corey Gandy, of Silver Creek, Ga., reported theft of property at Dixon Hall to JSUPD occurring on 11-20-00.

11-22-00: Benjamin Adam Welche, of Jacksonville, Ala., reported theft of property at the Alpha Tau Omega parking lot to JSUPD occurring between 11-17-00 and 11-22-00.

11-22-00: Katrina Korlise Garrett, of Alpine, Ala., reported theft of property and criminal mischief at the parking lost across from the Student Health Center to JSUPD occurring between 11-21-00 and 11-22-00.

Zeta Tau Alpha

Congratulations to Stacy Cross, Meredith Barnes, Mandi McQueen, Amanda Pope and Jamie Rotters on Order of Omega! Good luck to both the Mens and Womens basketball teams over the holidays! Win, win, win! Congratulations to the New PC! You guys are doing a great job! Zeta had their Senior Banquet Sunday night we are going to miss our Seniors. Awards this week... Beautiful Zeta goes to Elizabeth Webb, PC member of the week goes to Amanda Warren, EC member of the weeks goes to Stacy Cross, Creative Zeta goes to Liz Hoffmen and finally Marshal of the week goes to Leith Cauthen. Zeta Tau Alpha wishes everyone good luck on finals next week! HAVE FUN STUDYING!

Delta Zeta

Delta Zeta hopes that everyone had a great Thanksgiving!! We would like to thank Kappa Alpha Order for a great Thankgiving mixer! All the food was great and we had a blast. We are also excited about our big little week this week. All our littles—your big love you!!! Bet ya can’t wait to know who we are? Only a few hours left! We are looking forward to our new member retreat this weekend! We are also very excited about our mixer with Sigma Nu tonight! We had a great time at our Christmas party and Senior Ceremony last night! Seniors we will miss you—Stephanie, Layla, Becca, Brooke, Michelle, Cara, and Jenny. We love you!! We would also like to wish a good ending running for office a GOOD LUCK on elections Sunday. Also Delta Zeta would like to wish EVERYONE good luck on finals!!! Awards for the week: twisted turtle - Jonesy and Casey, support - Layla, Bradford, and Ellisson, faculty - Ms. E. White, Allumna of the week - Candace Whitt, tiny turtle of the week - Amy and Stacy, senior sister of the week - all graduating seniors, sister of the week - Tavia, MaryBeth, Rothe, and Stephanie Shirley.

Alpha Xi Delta

We hope that everyone had a nice holiday. We wish the basketball team good luck! Congratulations to all of our new executive and appointed officers! Our executive council for the 2001 school year consists of: Pres.-Tiffany Burnham, Chapter Life VP-Kelli Patterson, Public Relations VP-April Whitman, Financial VP-Lisa Martin, Membership VP-Amy Johnson, Programs VP-Heather Stedham, Recording Secretary-Jennifer Freeman, and Panhellenic Delegate-Bonnie Borden. We know that you will do a wonderful job. Our awards for the week are: Merit Award-Kelli Patterson and Valerie Womack, Support Award-Valerie Womack, and Sisters of the Week-Margaret Dorm run and Jessica Hess. We wish everyone the best of luck on finals and hope that everyone has a happy and safe holiday season!!!!!

Phi Mu Alpha

Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia celebrates the Fall 2000 Pledge Class, Coniariatus: Rico Barfield, Wes Roberts, Ryan Davenport, Brian Farris, and Burt Haynes. You did an excellent job this semester! Hail Sinfonia!! Your FEOWEED.

Clubs and Organizations

- Free confidential HIV testing is available at the Nursing Center Clinic, at Lurleen B. Wallace College of Nursing and Health Sciences. Please call 782-5432 to schedule an appointment. Office hours are from Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Applications for Orientation Peer Counselor are available in Room 201 Bibb Graves Hall. Requirements to become a Peer Counselor are: 2.25 GPA, 24 semester hours earned, have previously served no more than one year as a Peer Counselor, a strong desire to assist new students in their transition to JSU, and strong communication skills. Applications are due by 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 14 in Room 201 Bibb Graves Hall. For more information contact Eric McCulley at ext. 5278.

The Student Health Center is currently administering flu vaccinations for JSU students and employees. The cost for the vaccination is $10. Appointments will be scheduled for Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday mornings from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Please call 782-5310 for an appointment.

The Jacksonville State University Department of Music will be presenting a free holiday concert on Monday, December 4. “Christmas Spectacular 2000” will feature the Chamber Winds, Jacksonville State’s premier concert ensemble, performing Christmas favorites that are sure to put kids and adults alike in the holiday spirit. “Christmas Spectacular 2000” is a free concert for children of all ages, 2 to 102! The program will be held in the Earnest Stone Center for the Performing Arts Auditorium on the Campus of Jacksonville State University at 7:00pm. For directions or any other information please call the Jacksonville State University Band Office and (256)782-5562.

The JSU Potter’s Guild will hold a Christmas sale on Friday, Dec. 1 from noon to 6 p.m. in the TMB in front of the JSU bookstore. It will continue on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. inside the alumni house. For more information, contact Karen Gregg at 782-5231.

I know a good piece when I see it.

Emerging leaders come to JSU

By Jamie M. Eubanks

JSU News Bureau

On Nov. 10, 114 leading high school juniors from surrounding counties visited Jacksonville State University for the First Annual Emerging Leaders Day.

These juniors were selected by their guidance counselors to attend Emerging Leaders Day by having a genuine interest in JSU, high school involvement in clubs and extracurricular activities and community involvement.

Once chosen, students attended an informative day on the campus of JSU. Their day included two mock classes that the students chose for their interest areas. Faculty members prepared these classes in advance.

Students were then given a walking tour of the campus. Each time they were shown to a different activity, they were with a different group of students. This allowed them to meet a host of students just like them and make some new friends.

To end the day, the entire group gathered in the Theron Montgomery Building for a closing ceremony with the JSU Cheerleaders. At the ceremony, more education was given along with a leadership scholarship for one lucky student to use in 2002-2003. Kara Roberts of Hokes Bluff High School was awarded that scholarship.

All students left with an Emerging Leaders Day T-shirt and a wealth of knowledge about JSU and the college day experience.
Local ministry offers support to young adults

By Stephanie Pendergrass
Staff Writer

Pearl Williams works hard to find students off-campus employment. This JSU staff member is also an important figure in the Jacksonville community. Ms. Williams has recently founded the House of Refuge Ministries at St. Paul Christian Methodist Episcopal Church on East Vann Street.

The House of Refuge Ministries is a safe haven for unwed mothers, single parents, high school dropouts and teenagers. The mission theme for the ministry is “Discovering Abilities, Building Opportunities” and promises those in need a chance to learn something about themselves and how to achieve their goals.

While the population to be served initially will be unwed mothers, gradually the ministry will cater to the needs of others in the community that are in need of assistance in planning for the future. Alabama ranks as one of the top states for high school dropouts. The rate of teen pregnancy in the state has considerably declined in the recent years, according to data from the National Center for Education Statistics.

The Reverend Janice Blackmon, pastor at St. Paul CME Church, is excited about the program and believes the neighborhood has embraced the ministry. “I think it is going to be a great asset to the community,” stated Blackmon.

“I want to see those young girls and boys pick themselves up by the bootstraps and go back to school. I don’t think anything should stop you as to what God wants you to do.”

The start up date for The House of Refuge Ministries was Nov. 11. Along with Williams and Blackmon, the Board of Directors for the program includes Mrs. Emily Lipscomb, Mrs. Myrille Bailey, Mrs. Brenda Williams, Mr. Charles Moore, Ms. Louise Vasey, and Mrs. Phyllis Hardy.

Through the House of Refuge Ministries, Ms. Williams hopes to get teens back on track to find their place in the world. “With the ministry, I want to just continue to help others discover their God-given talents,” stated Williams. “The more I know God, the more I realize who I am and what he has called me to do.”

After weeks of productive workshops, the ministry will continue with seminars. Jim Roberts, of the Career Services Office, will lead “Employability Skills” on Dec. 2, and “Goal Setting and Career Planning” will be led by Major Mary Peyton and April Jackson, of student recruitment, on Dec. 9.

Head Dr. Ralph Carmode, the Sheltons made plans once again to return to JSU.

“By chance, we saw Dr. Carmode in Knart, and he encouraged us to return to JSU,” Kyle said. “After giving it serious thought, we decided that it would be difficult, but that we would do it. We were excited as we prepared to return, but what we have found has not been very encouraging.

The Sheltons are now trying to complete those last elusive hours while maintaining jobs and taking care of a family. They feel the University is not very accommodating to nontraditional students’ circumstances.

“I have found inflexible rules that hinder the University’s ability to serve me as a customer,” Kyle said. “Some people rely more on being administratively correct as opposed to doing what is necessarily progressing the education of the student.”

Like many other nontraditional students, it has been very hard for Kyle to complete his degree due to lack of evening classes. In addition, restrictions on the communication department’s internship programs have also been a problem for him. Jerry Chandler of the Communication department said allowances have been made to let Kyle complete his internship at his current job at the Talladega Daily Home.

“We’re doing what we can do now to take care of our majors,” Chandler said. “It’s a challenge.”

Kyle still faces the obstacle of getting his degree when there are no evening classes offered in the department.

Dr. Carmode told me that classes would never be offered at night or on weekends because there is no market for it,” Kyle said. “Unfortunately, that means I may have to transfer to UAB after spring semester to complete my degree.”

“We recognize that the future growth of this University is going to be largely dependent upon the future growth of nontraditional students,” Chandler said. “We need to have the resources to be able to meet the challenge. Now we don’t.”

According to Dr. Cusimano, the University has looked into night classes and will continue to review the prospects.

“Employability Skills” on Dec. 2, and “Goal Setting and Career Planning” will be led by Major Mary Peyton and April Jackson, of student recruitment, on Dec. 9.

When you look at how many classes a faculty member can teach and their other responsibilities,” Cusimano said, “then when you’re dealing with four people, it gets pretty slim.”

The Sheltons feel they should be viewed as customers paying for the services the University provides.

“The University should make its goal the education of everyone,” Kyle said. “not just those who work the right hours or who are the right age and have chosen to get an education at the right time.”

Kathy ran into problems with the University’s mandatory math placement testing. Since she sees herself as a customer of JSU, she feels she should be able to pay for the class she needs to take, M 102, and not have to go through remedial courses first to obtain her degree.

“I am the customer,” Kathy said. “I am paying the University to educate me and to enable me to enhance my ability to be a viable member of society.”

Dr. Cusimano said the placement tests are not meant to hinder a student’s educational endeavors.

“I would liken it not as a punitive but as something to help them. If you’ve been out of school for eight years, I'm not sure you remember all the theorems. To start at a level that is above your head seems to be saying, ‘Let me take your tuition money and just burn it.”

Dr. Cusimano also said people can’t study hard and get a tutor and just give it all up and pass. A nontraditional student is more likely to do that than a traditional student.

With about 35 percent of JSU’s student body being made up of nontraditional students, according to University data, the Sheltons’ experiences are probably not unique among JSU’s adult learners.

Cusimano said the University recognizes that these individuals have special needs and resources. “We need to make sure we are accommodating all the students, and the administration and departments will continue to try to meet those needs.”

“They want things efficiently,” Cusimano said. “When they call they want good service. They want their questions answered. They want to know what the nontraditional students, and the administration and departments will continue to try to meet those needs.”

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- EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION
- EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATION
- ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
- ENGLISH
- GENERAL STUDIES
- HISTORY
- LIBRARY MEDIA
- MATHEMATICS
- MUSIC
- MUSIC EDUCATION
- NURSING
- PHYSICAL EDUCATION
- POLITICAL SCIENCE
- PSYCHOLOGY
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JSU dancers practice pirouettes for “The Last Dance” by Christina Morrison

Features Editor

Although many Jacksonville State University students have a hard time trying to decide what type of work they will be doing for their senior projects, Brian Dixon knew exactly what his project would be—a dance recital.

Dixon, along with his instructor Susan McCain, have formed a new dance group consisting of 15 talented dancers who are all JSU students. “This is a company of dancers that’s made up of students with all different types of dance training and majors,” said McCain.

Brian Dixon has had a good deal of experience in the world of dance since an early age. He did choreography for his show choir and cheerleading team during his high school years. He has also been on JSU’s cheerleading team in recent years.

“I’ve been dancing for as far back as I can remember. I’ve been choreographing for a long time and I still choreograph at my high school,” said Dixon.

Dixon said that he chose this idea for his senior project because of his love of dance and knowledge of the subject.

The dance recital, entitled “The Last Dance,” will feature several different types of dances including jazz, Latin, classical, tap, ballet, hip-hop and country. McCain said that much of the dancing involves choreography that can currently be seen in popular media.

“It’s mainly going to be dances that you see so much of in musical theater on Broadway, because musical theater on Broadway is now taking into account all these different types of dances. They are including street dances and so forth rather than just classical dances,” said McCain.

Choreography can be extremely difficult when there are several different types of dances to be done in one sitting. For each type of dance, a new choreography must be created to show the movement clearly.

“This has been very hard to choreograph, because there are 12 different numbers and they are really different. They go from one extreme to the next. For example, it goes from a ballet solo to a hip-hop number and then to gymnastic/akara numbers that are very ‘Matrix-y,’” said Dixon.

The company has been together and practicing for the show for about six months. “This group really became close company since last spring,” said McCain.

This is the second dance company that has appeared at JSU in recent years. “We had an original company that we started with a young lady named Y. Lloyd and some other dancers back in the spring of 1996. That evolved into the dance class and now we have this group,” said McCain.

The recital is scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 3 at 2 p.m. on the second floor of the TMB. Admission is free, and there will be an intermission between segments.

“JSU students who will be participating in “The Last Dance” recital.

“The Colored Museum” debuts at JSU by Christina Morrison

Features Editor

Jacksonville State University’s drama department is currently preparing for their last play of the fall 2000 season, “The Colored Museum” by George C. Wolfe.

The play received the CBS/Foundation of the Dramatists Guild Playwriting Award in 1986 and was written by the author of the Tony-winning play, “Bring in Da Noise Bring Da Funk.”

Shane Goodwin, a JSU student, is directing the play in an effort to bring more cultural theater to JSU’s drama program.

“We recently had auditions for “Hamlet” and about six or seven black people showed up, but there aren’t many roles in “Hamlet” for them. Every audition that I’ve had so far, there have been tons of black people showing up. So, I went to Dr. Charen and I told him I’d really like to do a black show. He said that if we recently had auditions for “Hamlet” and about six or seven black people showed up, there aren’t many roles in “Hamlet” for them. Every audition that I’ve had so far, there have been tons of black people showing up. So, I went to Dr. Charen and I told him I’d really like to do a black show. He said that I should and so that got it started,” said Goodwin.

Most roles in this play call for black characters and there are only three or four parts for white characters.

Goodwin admitted that this is a tough play to direct for several reasons, although he said the race boundary was never an issue for him. “This is a very tough play to direct. The race difference between myself and the characters was an easier part because I grew up in a black neighborhood. I never saw the race difference as a problem,” Goodwin said.

The play centers around a museum which is full of black characters who are examples of some type of black cliché or stereotype. The play pokes fun at these stereotypes and also serves to teach a lesson about racism, past and present.

The play also deals with the role of black people in today’s society and their relationship to the past. The play has been called a satire of several different cultural traditions and problems. It has also been recognized as satirizing black dramas such as Lorraine Hansberry’s “A Raisin in the Sun.”

Continued on page 9, Colored Museum.

Local Scene

11/30/00 Dr. Dan--Brothers
12/01/00 Patrick Smith Band--Brothers
12/02/00 Ethan and the Ewox--Brothers
12/06/00 Members Only--Brothers

Birmingham

12/02/00 Bloodhound Gang & Caviar
12/03/00 “Anger Management Tour”--DMX, Goodmack, Limp Bizkit & Sinistarr-BJCC
12/06/00 Junior Brown--Five Points Music Hall
12/08/00 Suburban Love Junkies--The Nick
12/09/00 The Supremes Starring Mary Wilson--Civic Center

Atlanta

12/01/00 Southern Culture on the Skids--The Cotton Club
12/02/00 Fashball--The Masquerade
12/06/00 Guy Smiley--Smith’s Old Bar
12/08/00 Kool and the Gang--Tabernacle
12/08/00 Beth Wood & Blue Dogs--Smith’s Old Bar

CD Releases

Master P-Ghetto Postage
Various Artists-Lyracist Lounge Vol. II

December 5

Rage Against the Machine
Renegades
Eve-Scorpion
Neil Young, Friends and Relatives
Road Rock Volume 1
Alice in Chains-Live
Roger Waters-In the Flesh
K-Ci and Jo-Jo-X Funkmaster Flex-60 Minutes of Funk Volume IV:The Mixtape
3LW-3LW
Editorial

Ways to be thankful even after Thanksgiving

By Adam Smith, Editor

I'm tired. I'm tired of hearing about the election. I'm tired of hearing about how bad things are. We, as a country, screwed up a little bit. We dropped the ball. We took for granted that every four years on Nov. 7, we could elect a new president. Our forefathers have been rolling over in their graves since it all began a few weeks ago; I'm sure of it.

Either way, this has been one historic year. I'm thankful enough that I'm old enough to fully understand what this whole process has been about, for better or worse. It will be something to tell my children about some day when they read about it in their history books.

I've also learned a great deal about our country, and I've been thinking. Yes, thinking. We took this election for granted. We take everything for granted. We take everything for granted, for better or worse. It will be something to tell our children about some day when they read about it in their history books.

We tend to be unthankful for, even after a week Thanksgiving. We take for granted the fact that we’re even able to go to the polls every four years and elect our leaders. And this year we had the lowest voter turnout in our nation's history.

We can speak freely about whatever we want to, whenever we want to. Would I be able to write this editorial in communist China? No, I wouldn’t. So I am truly thankful we live in a country that has a First Amendment that allows me to say what I want to.

We take for granted that we have an economy strong enough to support a nation, and can allow us many of the necessities and extravagances that we take for granted. How many people our age have Sony Playstations, cell phones and DVD players in their homes? Began, yet, how many drive their own shiny cars to the newly-opened Wendy's and order a tasty old-fashioned hamburger? How many have the cars, and how many have the money?

How many people in Africa can get up every morning to the sound of their $40 alarm clock, take a hot shower using $5 shampoo, brush their teeth with their high-tech multi-bristle toothbrushes, put on their Gap or American Eagle outfits they’ve so neatly laid out the night before, and leave their nice apartment or rental home in their latest-model sports car with the Pioneer CD-changer and two 15-inch woofers to go “boom-boom” down their paved roads, all the way to a four-year university? How many have that privilege in Africa? How many of you even care?

This is America. The land of the free, the home of the brave. We are the greatest country in world. It's sometimes hard to even comprehend. We have banks on every corner, cars on every road, our elected leaders in our cities and state houses, right up to our House of Representatives, Senate and White House.

We have police officers to keep us safe, doctors, nurses and paramedics to keep us alive and firefighters to help protect what we hold dear to us. When we do something stupid like leave the iron on when we leave for the holidays.

We have schools for every level and our production facilities come by anything other than our own ill behavior. It's time for us to stand up and realize that many other people my age suffer from it. I'm not perfect. At times, I can be self-involved, uncompasionate and uncaring about my fellow man and my country.

My generation, the “X” generation as it is sometimes called, has never experienced pain or strife. We’ve never had a depression, a major war or any kind of hardship inflicted on us by anything other than our own ill behavior. It's time for us to stand up and give thanks for what we do have. We have it good, people. We have it damn good.

I'm tired of hearing about the election. I'm tired of hearing about how bad things are. We, as a country, screwed up a little bit. We dropped the ball. We took for granted that every four years on Nov. 7, we could elect a new president. Our forefathers have been rolling over in their graves since it all began a few weeks ago; I'm sure of it.

Either way, this has been one historic year. I'm thankful enough that I'm old enough to fully understand what this whole process has been about, for better or worse. It will be something to tell my children about some day when they read about it in their history books.

I've also learned a great deal about our country, and I've been thinking. Yes, thinking. We took this election for granted. We take everything for granted. We take everything for granted, for better or worse. It will be something to tell our children about some day when they read about it in their history books.

We take for granted that we have an economy strong enough to support a nation, and can allow us many of the necessities and extravagances that we take for granted. How many people our age have Sony Playstations, cell phones and DVD players in their homes? Began, yet, how many drive their own shiny cars to the newly-opened Wendy's and order a tasty old-fashioned hamburger? How many have the cars, and how many have the money?

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We have schools for every level and our production facilities come by anything other than our own ill behavior. It's time for us to stand up and give thanks for what we do have. We have it good, people. We have it damn good.
I'm tired of the elections. The nation was split, so a Gore must be just as good as a Bush and vice versa. So give it to one of them and we'll all bitch about him and make jokes about him and go on about our lives.

I'm tired of the Middle East—a cop for a civilian, a soldier for a child, a tit for a tat. I'm tired of it because we all know if those heathens just had a lil' more Jesus in their lives, then everything would be all right.

And I'm tired of turkey and I'm tired of family. I'm tired of Adam Smith, who, in his editorial, said he was tired too. Well, I was tired first and I'm tired of people stealing my feelings. I'm tired of other people writing about being tired. Don't they know that I have a monopoly on fatigue and negativity? Got-dammit, I'm tired!

So what's left to talk about? What about my closing statements? What about if I close the column down for the semester and write you a Christmas present next week? Or I could just not write a column at all next week and some of you would probably consider that a Christmas present in itself. Could we be so lucky? No, we couldn't. There will be one more column this semester, so next week I'll try to be nice and give everyone a brief chance to laugh at me and my misfortunes. A brief chance though, I assure you, I don't really want to read it. It's just very brief.

A week or so ago I met two fans of mine. Some of my friends jokingly call me a communist, I'm a capitalistic communist. I think that everyone should have a little money. All the things I've done aren't catching up to me. I've just stopped to look at what I've done, and what I could do. People say I'm rocking the boat. Am I rocking the boat, or am I merely making you take notice of the waves? Okay, so it's a little of both. I'll give you that, but we didn't flip over did we? And for those of us who can swim, I must admit, it's been a lot of fun. I've learned a lot this semester, and if you think you've learned anything from reading my column, I've still learned more than you, because your ego is bigger and better than your ego. Got-dammit! All this self-exploration you see here is caused by my grandfather's cather. I could leave it at that. I think I will.

Just kidding. My grandfather sat a turkey, two glasses of milk, and a bowl of smashed potatoes away from me at the Thanksgiving table. My grandmother, his wife, died in August, and you could see the pain in his eyes—a pain he will live with for a few more years.

And then there's that cather he puts in by himself. My grandfather—he walks around like a man, a tried and humble man, but a man. And then there's that cather. Who does he talk to? I've but his problems? What about if something humorous happens with that thing? Who does he talk to? No one.

I can't completely express my feelings. You either understand me, or you don't. My grandfather's cather was sobering. Oddly enough, it made me think about who I am and where I'm going. Who I want to be and the people I let help make the person I am. Maybe this week, instead of being pissed at me, you can be pissed at yourself, or maybe please with yourself, but hopefully both.

And it's all—oh, a semester, a phase of my life—coming to an end. Maybe I can be reborn this week. I need to be, because I have two movie scenes bounding around my brain right now. Both of them are from the end of "Catch 22"—the man beheading the dead horse and the baby sucking on the old woman's leathery teat. Ahh, that wacky brain o' mine. Got-dammit!

So here I am, stuck in the closing scenes of some tripped-out movie. As Jim Morrison said, "Did you have a good world when you died? Enough to base a movie on?" Well, it'd probably be some independence without much nudity. But I'd watch.

Good luck on finals and Merry Christmas. Got-dammit!

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**Forum**

To All JSU Students,

Classroom etiquette: If you don’t care to go to class, fine, but don’t come in after five weeks of absences, wonder why you’re failing and ask to borrow notes. Don’t come in halfway through the class period or leave early. It’s distracting to both student and teacher, and it’s rude. Also, don’t eat, sleep, talk, read a newspaper, pass notes, or get up every five minutes. If you’re going to spend the whole time gossiping, do it elsewhere. Don’t sit next to me if you can’t sit still. If you don’t know how to take your own notes by now, you’d better head back to high school. And learn to be independent; instructors don’t tell you everything, so READ THE BOOK. No one holds your hand here. Finally, if you feel the need to cheat, don’t.

Francesca Rao

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**What’s your sign?**

By Linda C. Black

Tribune Media Services

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**Today’s Birthday**

Today’s Birthday (Nov. 30). You’re practical this year—and scholarly, too. You’ll earn more if you spend more on your education. It’s deductible! Continue to change for the better in December with a new routine. Spend wisely in January, and you’ll profit. Something that seemed impossible could start taking shape in February through your ingenuity. Need a co-worker’s advice to profit in May and your partner’s advice to have more fun in June. Schedule a cruise or tour with friends for October. To get the advantage, check the day’s rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

- **Aries** (March 21-April 19) - Today is an 8 - You’ve had a lot of obstacles to overcome, and you’ve done a good job. You’re trying out a new idea, but it’s based on solid planning. You’ve had time to do a lot of that, lately, with all the delays. Put your plan into action.
- **Taurus** (April 20-May 20) - Today is a 6 - Advance your career by providing what an older person needs. This is difficult; don’t let fear slow you down. Use what you’ve learned through experience, but don’t let past failures interfere. This is a whole new ball game.
- **Gemini** (May 21-June 21) - Today is a 7 - Contact with somebody from far away could get you revved up. You can accomplish something you’d just about given up on. This is an opportunity you mustn’t let slip through your fingers. Reach out a little further this time.
- **Cancer** (June 22-July 22) - Today is a 4 - New information could change your investment plan. Check out all rumors before signing on the dotted line. Read the fine print. The money’s there, but the interest rate may be too high, for example. Proceed with caution in business dealings.
- **Leo** (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is a 7 - Your partner can see what’s going on and should make a good decision. You’re usually the captain, so following’s not easy. It’s good for you to do this, every once in a while. If you’ve chosen the right leader, you have nothing to worry about.
- **Virgo** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 6 - More work’s coming in. The bad news is that the money’s going out just about as fast. Plug up a leak by cutting costs. That’s hard to do when you’re so busy. But if you don’t, you could be doing all this work for nothing.
- **Libra** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - Today is an 8 - You’re lucky in love, and travel looks especially romantic. Getting away may be hard, but you can take a fantasy excursion. Pick up an exotic dinner to go and a movie set in a foreign land. Let your sweetheart know when and where to meet you!
- **Scorpio** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is a 6 - Home is where you ought to be today. Something there isn’t working the way it should. If you let somebody else take care of the situation, it won’t meet your expectations. Stay involved if you want what you had in mind.
- **Sagittarius** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is a 7 - Your friends are always eager to give you helpful advice. Today they might go even further. Do you need a good attorney? A partner to help with your work? Ask friends. They’d be glad to set you up. They know just what you need.
- **Capricorn** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 6 - Plenty of work’s coming in, and plenty of money can be made. A surprise is involved, like a chance to put in more overtime. Don’t schedule anything else so you can grab this opportunity when it shows up.
- **Aquarius** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is an 8 - Your dreams and fantasies look like they’re going to happen now, especially in romance. You’re pushing harder. Keep doing what you’re doing. It works.
- **Pisces** (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is a 6 - Something you’ve been thinking about could work out well. You’re following the blueprints, but don’t let them limit you. A combination of planning, foresight and flying by the seat of your pants will get you there this time. 
Who, that really listens, hasn’t been haunted by Bruce Springsteen’s “Nebraska?”

It spooked the hell out of me on numerous occasions—on empty highways and late at night, its unnerving silence and stripped soul were more desperate and more real than I thought Springsteen was capable of. More desperate and more real than most musicians are capable of—“Nebraska” flies in behind only a handful of albums whose alarming intensity is generated through nothing but voice and lone accompaniment. Think Robert Johnson’s hotel recordings, or Nick Drake’s “Pink Moon,” or Dylan’s pointed, vindictive “The Times They Are A-Changin’.”

It almost sounds like something we shouldn’t be hearing. Recorded in his bedroom on a four-track recorder and intended to be strictly a demo for his band to arrange, “Nebraska” was a set of stark snapshots of hapless ramblers and condemned narrators: sin personified. With “Badlands,” it’s apparent that the songs still rattle the soul. “Badlands” is a tribute not to Springsteen himself, but to “Nebraska.”

Various Artists

Badlands: A Tribute to Bruce Springsteen’s “Nebraska”

Conceived and arranged by the musicians, the album revives each song in running order, and tacks on a couple of songs recorded on that notorious tape but left off the official release. And, in the best move such a project could make, the musicians are given freedom to interpret as they see fit—though confined to the same four track recorder.

Chrisie Hynde and Adam Seymour open the album with the title track, here lifted out of its guitar/harmonica/voice into a swirling, spacious echo with organ and drum machine. Hank Williams III turns in an odd take on “Atlantic City,” beginning as a honky-tonk dance tune and abruptly morphing into an insistent country snarl. It’s a little unwieldy and hard to take seriously. Los Lobos, however, successfully revive “Johnny 99” into their own mold of music, injecting accordions and baritone sax into the bouncy melody. “Highway Patrolman” is strikingly rendered by Dar Williams, whose reserved vocal comes close to approximating the whispered confession of the original.

Deana Carter offers a surprisingly effective version of the album’s paranoid, throbbing “State Trooper,” and Ben Harper’s delicate slide guitar underscores the folkish “My Father’s House.” The true gems come in the final stretch of the album: Son Volt emerges from the ashes of the once-fiery “Open All Night” with a slow, woozy drawl, emphatic and paired as a dashboard clock countdown can be. Johnny Cash’s “I’m On Fire” is smoldering and guilty—hitting rock bottom at the “six-inch valley in the middle of my skull.” And Damien Jurado’s “Wages of Sin” wavers breathy and mumbled over a harrowing dirge: it’s the most moving, believable and ambitious recreation here.

“Badlands” will never achieve the ghostly ambience that Springsteen caught on tape; no other voice could so effectively deliver both the frame’s plea, “deliver me from nowhere” and humble, unaffected “sir” that punctuates so many lines. But these voices offer a viable and exciting attempt at honoring a work of art that defies its very intent and being.

By Graham Smith
Dr. Dan brings prescription for funk tonight

By Adam Smith
Editor

Jacksonville will get a rare treat tonight when critically acclaimed keyboard wizard Dan Matrazzo makes an appearance at Brothers. Better known as Dr. Dan, Matrazzo has built up an impressive 25 year career playing all over the world with a variety of artists.

Called “a funky, rocky, jazzy blend of freestyling instrumental tracks” by Songwriter’s Monthly, Dr. Dan’s latest release “Dan on the Moon” is an instrumental tour de force. Sounding not unlike Stevie Wonder or better yet Max Middleton in their mid-70’s prime, Dr. Dan brews up a pot of fresh funk and jazz fusion.

Featuring excellent backing from drummer Melvin Baldwin, bassist Mark Bynum and guitarist Dave Yoke, the doctor plays off his support with verve and intensity. The disc also features guest musicians Warren Haynes (Gov’t Mule), Sam Sims (Mariah Carey, Cher) and Lil John Roberts (Janet Jackson) who add fiery skill to the funky proceedings.

“So many albums have come out over the past few years that are so much the same throughout,” said Matrazzo in a July 2000 interview with Creative Loafing’s J. Lyon Layden. “I wanted an album with every song telling a different story. They have a thin common thread, but there’s a different color for each tune.”

The common thread throughout the album is funk, and Dr. Dan lays it on thick and heavy. If his live shows are anything like “Dan on the Moon,” Jacksonville is in for a real treat. He is not to be missed at any cost.
Carrey doesn’t steal Christmas in “Grinch”

By Christina Morrison
Features Editor

Families are rushing to the movies this holiday season to see the remake of cartoon Christmas classic “How the Grinch Stole Christmas” by Dr. Seuss. I know, because when I went to the theater thinking the late show would have only a few viewers, it was completely packed.

The movie was very good, but nothing could beat the original cartoon. The main point on why the cartoon is better is because it has no explanation of why the Grinch (Jim Carrey) is so bad other than that his heart is two sizes too small. He’s just bad. There’s no Freudian reason why he is the way he is; he just is. The movie goes into a long exposition and even a flashback scene in which the reason why he is utterly alone is explained, which is completely unnecessary.

Another reason why the cartoon is better is because the Grinch has his very own distinct personality in the cartoon, whereas in the movie Jim Carrey’s comic style edges in a little bit too much. Of course the audience knows it’s Carrey from the credits, but his style is so blatant, it takes away from the Grinch’s character. The Grinch is a big fat meanie, without the witty, over the top sense of humor that Carrey is known for.

The music is also better in the original, except for the cute solo done by Cindy Lou Who in the movie. The Grinch’s theme song, “You’re a Mean One, Mr. Grinch,” was much more well done in the original than in the newer version. The narration was beautifully done by Sir Anthony Hopkins in this movie, but it is hard to beat Boris Karloff, the original narrator.

One reason why the movie is better than the cartoon is that the character Cindy Lou Who (Taylor Momsen) gets a bigger, better part. She adds a lot of fun to the story by trying to be nice to the Grinch, although he isn’t very receptive to this idea. Another great character who was added to this story is Martha May Who-vier, played by Christine Baranski. She serves as the Grinch’s love interest and also as Betty Lou Who’s (Molly Shannon) Christmas decoration rival.

Although the movie doesn’t measure up to the cartoon, it does come close. The story is still about the joy of Christmas rather than the commercialism, a message gently given to us in the cartoon but is somewhat shoved down our throats in the movie. Still, both versions still get across the ‘true’ meaning of Christmas, only in somewhat different ways.

Grade: B

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“World’s greatest tragedy” a hit at JSU

By Jason Bozeman
Contributing Writer

William Shakespeare’s “Hamlet” is regarded as the greatest tragedy ever written. The only true tragedy of the performance given by the actors at Jacksonville State’s Earnest Stone Performing Arts Center is that the show only ran 5 days. On Monday, Nov. 20, I attended the show.

Carlton Ward, David Keifer, and the many students who work tirelessly to build the sets and program the lights always do an outstanding job at creating an on stage atmosphere which takes you away from everyday life for a cool rejoinder.

If you didn’t know, all of the costumes are products of JSU’s costume department. The costumes were breathtaking, and the attention to detail was astounding. Hats off to the costume department for its fantastic job.

The role of Hamlet was played by Fabio Pires. A native of São Paulo, Brazil, Pires had an initial challenge in doing a role written in Shakespearean English. Other than a couple of early stumbles, his performance was amazing.

Hamlet’s closest confidant, Horatio, was portrayed by Jeremy West. A veteran of the JSU stage, West turned out another fine performance. Claudius and Gertrude, the treacherous King and Queen of Denmark, were played by Shane Goodwin and Devon Budoiian. Both turned out wonderful performances, but looked a bit young on stage.

The role of Laertes (Hamlet’s friend, who ends up being his undoing) was played by John Dodson, who let his abilities shine in the final act. You could see the pain his character went through after losing both a father and sister, and all culminating in a masterful duel of foils between Dodson and Pires, which was very well choreographed. Laertes’ sister Ophelia (Hamlet’s love interest) was played by Casey Cox. Her stage presence was unmatched, and she never slipped out of character at any time.

One of the most memorable moments was the performance of Josh O’Bryant as the gravedigger. O’Bryant always seems to have a “full speed ahead” approach to acting, and this role was no exception. His antics were a breath of fresh air in the show, keeping me laughing the whole time he was on stage.

Dr. Wayne Clarean and the entire production staff should be recognized and thanked for a wonderful job. This weekend “The Colored Museum” will be in performance on the mainstage of the Stone Center. For more information on the JSU Theater, call 782-5648.

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ADD CARNED COKE, DIET COKE, SPRITE, OR MR. PIBB 30¢ ea., tax inc., limit 6

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a 2-liter Drink
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Despite Domino’s Pizza being an American multinational pizza restaurant chain, its history dates back to 1960. The first location was opened in1960 in Oklahoma City, and the company was founded by Tom Monaghan. The first store was opened as "Tom’s Pizza parlor". The company changed its name to "Domino’s Pizza" in 1965. It has expanded from its original location to over 16,000 locations worldwide. Most Domino’s locations are franchisee-owned and operated, but the company also operates under an "approved franchise" program, which allows the company to own and operate stores directly. In 2009, the company had $7.7 billion in sales, making it the world’s largest pizza restaurant chain. Domino’s has also been known for its innovative marketing strategies, such as the "Pizza Gift Card" program and its "Domino’s Pizza Delivery" service. This has helped the company to become one of the most successful restaurant chains in the world.
Alabama exhibition games that they won in convincing fashion before the start of the season. The Trojan offense used a trick play to get another score. Troy State fullback Thad Buttone took a toss and looked to be running a sweep, but he stopped, squared up and threw a 33-yard bomb to Carter for his second touchdown in as many plays for Troy State.

The season gave the Troy State a 14-0 lead with 11:57 remaining in the first quarter following a Tynes' extra point. Carter led all receivers with 101 yards and two touchdowns on the night.

"Neither play were really trick plays," said Carter. "We run these types of plays all of the time. I guess they didn't study us hard enough."

Trojan running back Demontray Carter, a transfer from Auburn, hurt the Gamecocks on the ground as he rushed for 157 yards on 23 carries. Gamecock quarterback carried the load both on the ground and in the air, with 99 yards on 14 carries. Stancil found it difficult to pass the football, completing 26 passes for only 72 yards and an interception.

The Gamecock defense held the Trojans scoreless in the second half but failed to cash in on any of their offensive possessions. "We played a good team tonight," said Marcus "B-Bird" Blandinburg. "If we take those two plays, we might've could've made it a good game. We didn't quit and we played hard to the very end."

Things didn't get any better for the Gamecocks in the second half. With a mixture of bad weather and poor field conditions, the Gamecock offense still couldn't reach pay dirt. Trojan punt returner Hayward Skipper sprinted 55 yards for a touchdown to put the Troy State up 21-0. Buttone added a one-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter to end the night's scoring.

"I didn't think that we played good enough to win. I think Troy State knows how to win football games. I thought they played a championship-caliber game," Crowe said.

The Gamecocks end the season at 4-6. Troy State advanced to the Division I-AA playoffs, where they were beaten 33-30 by Appalachian State.

Lady Gamecocks whup the Wolverines

By Sports Editor

Things are coming together for the Jacksonville State women's basketball team. The Gamecocks came alive in the first game of the 2000-2001 season in Pete Mathews Coliseum Monday night as it defeat- ed Morris Brown College, 91-52.

All along head coach Dana Austin has been saying how small her squad is this year and how important it would be to put together a solid inside-outside game with four guards and a post player on the floor.

"We have four or five players that can play the post-position and I have stressed to them how we need a solid 25-points from them each game," said Austin.

Against the Wolverines, that game plan was successful. Within the first eight minutes of play, after being down 1-0, the Gamecocks broke into a 14-4 run. Jax State scored 12 points before Morris Brown made a field goal in the game.

"First we knew we couldn't lose at home," said sophomore Tiara Eady. "And secondly, the post-players needed to make a statement. The guards started hitting the 3-pointers right off and that opened up our inside game."

JSU made three 3-point buckets within the first six minutes of play and the five post-players tallied 41 points in the game.

After that, Morris Brown came within nine points of Jax State's lead and the largest lead the Gamecocks would take was the final margin, 39.

"This win helped our confidence," said Austin. "The first two games prove us more for what we would see in conference play, but we needed a win before the conference season starts."

The Gamecocks were led by junior Laura Baswell with 15 points and six rebounds and sophomores Eady and Amanda Tyus with 13 points each. Junior Gennifer Ambler added ten.

Senior Eyshea Amber and led the Gamecocks in rebounds for the night with eight in only eight minutes of play.

The Lady Gamecocks will host its first conference opponent of the year in Florida Atlantic University tonight at Pete Mathews Coliseum. Tip-off is set for 7 p.m. at Pete Mathews Coliseum.

Basketball team off to a rough start

By Anthony Hill

The Gamecock basketball team realized that the season was going to be a lot harder than the two exhibition games that they won in convincing fashion before the start of the season. The Gamecocks first three games were against Alabama A&M, Auburn and Kentucky.

The first 28 to 30 minutes of the Alabama A&M game belonged to the Gamecocks. Jason Taylor was lighting up the Bulldogs from the outside and Brant Harriman was taking care of business as usual in the paint.

But with four seconds remaining in the game Bulldog guard Desmond Cambridge hit an 11-foot jump shot and added a free throw to lift Alabama A&M over the Gamecocks by a score of 74-71.

Alabama A&M, which trailed by as many as 17 points in the second half, tied the score at 71-71 after Steve Ward scored on a lay-up with 1:38 left. It was the first time the game had tied since the opening minutes.

"They out rebounded us 25-9 on the offensive glass and turned us over 29-15, and we only lost by three; that is amazing to me," said head coach Mike LaPlante.

Jason Taylor scored 20 points, including 5-of-5 from 3-point range. "We just lost our heads when it came down to it," said Taylor.

Things did not get any easier for the Gamecocks when they traveled to Auburn to face coach LaPlante's former team. Auburn's Adam Harrington and Marquis Daniels each scored in double-figures as the Tigers cruised to a 91-51 victory over the Gamecocks at Beard-Eaves Memorial Coliseum.

Brant Harriman led all scorers with 23 points on 10-of-13 shooting, including hitting 3-of-5 from three-point range. Harriman also had five assists, four rebounds and four steals.

"Auburn has a very good team," said LaPlante. "They shot the ball well and created some turnovers that hurt us in the first half."

The forty point defeat to the Tigers might have been expected by some of the fans, but it really has to be disappointing for the players to lose in that way. The Tigers are not invincible to teams of our caliber because they lost at home a few days later to a Mercer team that the Gamecocks have to face twice during the regular season.

The Gamecocks took the road again to face No. 20 Kentucky where five players scored in double-figures for the Wildcats to claim a 91-48 win in front of 10,140 screaming fans.

Eric Daniels led all scorers with 19 points, followed by Keith Bobans and Tayshaun Prince with 14 each. Jason Parker finished with 13 and Marvin Stone tossed in 10 to lead the Wildcats.

"We were just out-manned," said LaPlante. "They are one of the top 25 teams in the country and we're not the first team that Kentucky has beaten by 43 points."

The Wildcats finished the game hitting 31-of-51 shots and sinking 25 free throws. The Gamecocks were led by freshman Scott Watson, who finished with 17 points and five steals. The Gamecocks shot just 27 percent from the field, while the Wildcats shot a season-high 61 percent.

The basketball team will open Trans America Conference play on Saturday versus Jacksonville University. Tip-off is set for 7 p.m. at Pete Mathews Coliseum.

The Trojans trample the Gamecocks

By Anthony Hill

Sports Editor

The fireworks were scheduled for after the game, but they went off two plays into the game as the Troy State Trojans jumped on top of the Gamecocks to claim a 28-0 win in the 59-year-old series finale.

"I thought maybe we were emotionally ready to play, but we weren't very poised early in the ball game," said head coach Jack Crowe.

"It was the first time the game had been tied after Steve Ward scored on a lay-up with 11:57 remaining in the first quarter following a Tynes' extra point. Carter led all receivers with 101 yards and two touchdowns on the night.

"Neither play were really trick plays," said Carter. "We run these types of plays all of the time. I guess they didn't study us hard enough."

Trojan running back Demontray Carter, a transfer from Auburn, hurt the Gamecocks on the ground as he rushed for 157 yards on 23 carries. Gamecock quarterback carried the load both on the ground and in the air, with 99 yards on 14 carries. Stancil found it difficult to pass the football, completing 26 passes for only 72 yards and an interception.

The Gamecock defense held the Trojans scoreless in the second half but failed to cash in on any of their offensive possessions. "We played a good team tonight," said Marcus "B-Bird" Blandinburg. "If we take those two plays, we might've could've made it a good game. We didn't quit and we played hard to the very end."

Things didn't get any better for the Gamecocks in the second half. With a mixture of bad weather and poor field conditions, the Gamecock offense still couldn't reach pay dirt. Trojan punt returner Hayward Skipper sprinted 55 yards for a touchdown to put the Troy State up 21-0. Buttone added a one-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter to end the night's scoring.
**One on One with “Thrill”**

The first time I had a conversation with JSU head basketball coach Mike LaPlante was during halftime of a Wellborn High football game. I was covering the game for the Anniston Star and he was there because his wife (Suzanne) is a school teacher at Wellborn High. I was trying to throw down some angles as I looked to my left and saw him simply chilling on the fence with his son, McCormick. Mike is the type of guy that if you saw him out somewhere you wouldn’t know that he was the head coach of your team. One thing that you can not argue with about coach LaPlante is his track record. He’s an experienced and qualified as you’d want a college coach to be.

**Thrill:** How’s everything going, coach?

**Mike:** It’s really been an unbelievable challenge. We’ve had a lot of tough road games to start the season.

With us being 0-3 right now, the biggest thing that we are trying to work on right now are our weaknesses. We’re just getting prepared for our first conference and home game against Jacksonville University.

**Thrill:** You came from a very successful Auburn basketball program, especially lately. What sparked your interest in the Jax State program?

**Mike:** When the job opened up I didn’t know very much about Jacksonville State, other than when they played for the national championship in 1985. The more I investigated the more interested I had become. When I came for my job and met the administration, I felt like this was an opportunity that I simply could not pass up.

**Thrill:** What type of experience was it for you to coach players like Doc Robinson and Chris Porter while you were at Auburn?

**Mike:** At that level you are going to have those type of players. Coaching those type of players everyday was a bit of a thrill, because you could kind of see what they were going to develop into as the years went by.

**Thrill:** What would you say the difference is between the players at Auburn and the players here at Jax State?

**Mike:** You know what? There isn’t a mountain of difference at this level. In fact, we have some players that could play at the SEC level. In the SEC, they’ve got 10 or 11 of those type of players. They might be a little bigger, stronger, quicker and a little more athletic. There are subtle differences that make it a different level.

**Thrill:** What do you feel that the recruiting is lacking right now?

**Mike:** Experience. Time is the only thing that can cure our problems. We have 15 players that are either a sophomore or a freshman. Until Mike McDaniel gets eligible, we only have one senior who had quality playing time last season.

**Thrill:** You look so young. Did you really have to put your foot down to get the respect from the players that you deserve.

**Mike:** No. I think that my track record made it pretty easy for me to get respect. I’ve been coaching collegiate basketball for 10 years. I’m young, but I’ve also experienced, I’ve coached at some great institutions. From day one I’ve felt that the team and I were going to have a good relationship.

**Thrill:** What is your coaching style? Who do you pattern your style of coaching after?

**Mike:** I learned this at a young age. You have to be yourself. I probably taken bits and pieces from every coach I’ve been around. The person that has given me the biggest foundation has been Mike Montgomery, an incredible constant professional. He’s always in control. One of the biggest things that he preaches is that you can’t go to high or low. Keep a level head. But, I really just try to be myself.

**Thrill:** What type of team were you at Maine?

**Mike:** I have a saying. The worst must be better. That is the bazaar coach you will turn out to be. If that’s true, I’ll go down as one of the best coaches in Jacksonville history. I was just a player that gave it everything that I had all of the time.

**Thrill:** It must have been refreshing to meet the players and see the talent that you were going to work with this season. You saw that you actually had some pretty good players, especially with guys like Mike McDaniel and Brant Hartman returning.

**Mike:** That was something that was appealing about this job. They also made a good run last season. We lost a lot from last season as well. We lost players like Marlon Overly and Rashard Willie. I liked the nucleus and I also knew that it was going to be a big challenge with the young guys that I inherited.

**Thrill:** How was it for you to go back to Beard-Eave Memorial and coach against Auburn?

**Mike:** It was exciting. It was a little tough, because they manhandled us, but I’ve seen them do that to many teams. It was a great challenge for us to go in there. I think that we learned an awful lot about our team after that.

**Thrill:** How do you feel about Mercer going into Auburn and defeating them. Mercer is a school that we have to play more than once. Mike: I was telling Greg Seitz when you compare scores you have Mercer, who beat Auburn and UNC-Asheville beat Mercer by 15. Campbell beat UNC-Asheville by 12 and Winstrop beat Campbell by 42. So if you try to compare scores, that means Winstrop can beat the ACC and beat them by 65. I thought that was for our league that Mercer beat Auburn.

**Thrill:** How do you like JSU?

**Mike:** I love it. One of the things that I’m trying to figure out is how to get fans into Pete Mathews. One way I know to do it is winning. I like the administration and the team has been great to work with.

**Thrill:** What do you do for fun?

**Mike:** I try to spend time with my family. I’m not the guy that plays golf or goes fishing. I just like to spend time with my family.

**Thrill:** What type of music do you listen to?

**Mike:** You know what? I’m very eclectic. I’d say my favorite singer right now is R. Kelly. I would probably surprise you with what I like. I also listen to a little Mystikal and Outkast. I like a little bit of everything.

**Thrill:** Free Association. Cliff Ellis (Auburn head coach)

**Mike:** I think the top basketball coach in the country.

**Thrill:** Florida Gators.

**Mike:** Run and gun.

**Thrill:** Favorite food.

**Mike:** Spaghetti.

**Thrill:** Jarrod Greer (Gamecock forward)

**Mike:** Big time athlete.

**Thrill:** NCAA tournament.

**Mike:** Teams goal.

**Thrill:** Have you found a place to eat yet?

**Mike:** You know, there is a lot of good places. There’s Jefferison’s, Sinvy, The Barn. We love Cooter Brown’s and the Chinese restaurant on the square. As a staff, there’s not too many places where we haven’t eaten.

**Thrill:** That’s it coach. Good luck on Saturday.

**Mike:** Thanks a lot. See ya later.

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**Gamecocks place ten on SFL All-Conference Teams**

By Staff Reports

Ten Jacksonville State University players earned Southland Football League honors, including Jeremy Sullivan and Delvin Haghley being honored as first-team members.

Sullivan, a junior offensive lineman from Leroy, Ala. led the Gamecocks offensive line and has started in all 32 games of his career. Haghley, a senior defensive back from Anniston, Ala. finished with 65 total tackles (45 solo), two interceptions and 16 pass breakups.

Named to the SFL second-team included fullback Rondy Rogers, from Manor High in Birmingham, and Natahah "Tot-Tot" James, a defensive back from Sylvester, Ga.

Sophomore quarterback Reggie Stancil, Carlow James, Taylor Mitchell, Dell Games, Markie Coleman and Eriles McCollough all earned SFL Honorable Mention honors.

C.J. Carroll, who was a walk-on at Southwest Texas State University in 1997, has been named the Southland Football League Player of the Year after leading the Bobcats to their best finish in eight years.

Carroll edged out Northwestern State University's running back, Tony Taylor, the Southland's Offensive Player of the Year, in overall player of the year voting. The League's post-season awards are voted on by eight head coaches of the Southland.

The Southland's Defensive Player of the Year award went to Keith Davis of Sam Houston State University. The junior safety from Italy, Texas, finished with 98 tackles.
What is it with Florida?

A Sports Editorial
By Anthony Hill

Florida is already holding the entire nation hostage while we wait for a new president and now we’ve got to wait another week to see if Florida State or Miami will play in the Orange Bowl for the national championship.

Here’s the breakdown. Miami and Florida State are battling each other for the No. 2 position in the top 25 poll in the BCS ranking. The Miami Hurricanes beat the Seminoles in a head-to-head competition, yet are ranked behind the Seminoles in the BCS poll. The Washington Huskies also have an argument for the No. 2 spot. The Huskies beat Miami in head-to-head play and all three times have only one loss. So why shouldn’t Washington be the second ranked team in the nation. There is a simple answer to that—strength of schedule.

The strength schedule is basically what all fans argue about when having discussions about who is the best team in the nation. You know what I’m talking about. “My team is the best, they beat your team!” But, my team plays a hard schedule and beat two teams that your team lost to.” Now do you get it? It is a shame that if the Miami Hurricanes didn’t play against McNeece State on their first game of the season, they would probably be the undisputed No. 2 ranked team in the nation. Even though McNeece is a good Division I-AA team, they still are just that…a Division I-AA team. That simple title pulled the Hurricanes strength of schedule down an awful lot.

The control belongs to the BCS, a nebulous entity that combines the media and coaches poll, eight computer formulas and relative strength of schedule to pick the participants in the national championship game. Are you confused yet? Then try to figure this out: Miami beat Florida State, but Miami lost to Washington, which lost to Oregon, which lost to Oregon State, which lost to Washington, which has absolutely no shot at playing for a national championship.

It seems like the only way that Miami will make it to the national championship game is if Kansas State beats No. 1 Oklahoma this weekend in the Big 12 championship game. Either way, the Hurricanes could get the door slammed in their faces. Strangely enough, the Hurricanes could still slip it the national championship picture.

Picture this scenario: Florida State beats Oklahoma, but Miami whips Notre Dame or Florida, and the media poll, consisting of writers and broadcasters, vote the Hurricanes ahead of Florida State for the national championship. Meanwhile, the BCS representatives will automatically hand the title to the winner of the Orange Bowl, the media poll is not constrained by the same rules. That could very well happen right there.

For the past two years the rankings have been settled within the last two weeks of the regular season. Well, we have one more week remaining for this mess to get cleaned up. To be honest with you, I don’t care what happens. No matter what, Florida State will be at the big game. I guess the situation is a lot like the presidential elections. The system isn’t really the problem. For American voters, the lack of an obvious presidential candidate was the problem. For college football, the lack of two convincing, undefeated teams is the problem.

on the season in leading the Bearcats to a 7-4 record, their best

Continued from page 14, SFL Honors

Nagle, McN; Reggie Sunci, JSU; RB-Lee Davis, SWT; Bronson Sanders, SWT; FHB-B-Carlow James, JSU; WR-Joathan Cooper, SHSU; Bernard Green, NWLa.; Lawrence Hamilton, SFA; Freddie Lyons, SFA; Tyson Otivo, SWT; OL-Damon Cobb, SHSU; Jason Davis, McN; Brent Harrison, TSU; Kyle Smith, NICH; Gene Tennon, NWLa.; Billy Williams, SHSU; Shannon Yates, SFA; PK-Clint Sanford, NWLa.; DL-Harley Dierschke, SWT; Jerry Evans, McN; Joe Johnson, NWLa.; B.J. McNut, McN; Taylor Mitchell, JSU; Trent Taylor, SHSU; Tony Washington, NWLa.; Daven Williams, TSU; LB-Dainell Gaines, JSU; Gerg Pitts, SWT; Todd Rivera, NICH; Tommy Tull, SHSU; Reggie Williams, SFA; Nazair Yaminii, TSU; Joquall Young, SHSU. CB- Markoe Coleman, JSU; Kendal Jones, SWT; Kendrick Llorens, NWLa.; David Philyaw, TSU; Rayshaun Reed, TSU; S-David Crocker, SFA; Joe Judge, McN; Eriles McCollough, JSU; Hadley Prince, McN; Lee Rogers, NICH; Sterling Rogers, SWT. P-Rick Barrow, SWT; Mark Holmes, NWLa. RS- Jonathan Carter, TSU.
Greek Winners of The Spring 2000 "Trojan Wars" Book Buyback

Jennifer Foster, Rebekah Adams, and Sara Thompson from Alpha Omicron Pi receive 1st Place Prize from Store Manager Randall Stephens.

Lorie Ash from Phi Mu receives 2nd Place Prize from Textbook Manager Pat Morell.

Jamie Patters from Zeta Tau Alpha receives 3rd Place from Management Intern Josh Padgham.

Mike Harbison and David Glass from Sigma Phi Epsilon receive 4th Place Prize from Store Manager Randall Stephens.

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