

# THE CHANTICLEER

Jacksonville State University

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## WORLD NEWS

• Sporadic fighting between Palestinians and Israeli soldiers continued in the West Bank on Tuesday, as an Israeli deadline passed for Palestinians to end their attacks.

• All European Union-imposed sanctions against Yugoslavia since 1998 have been lifted. The announcement coincided with news from Belgrade that the Serbian parliament which is dominated by allies of former President Slobodan Milosevic - would be holding new elections.

• A Spanish prosecutor has been critically wounded in a shooting in the southern city of Granada in an attack bearing the hallmarks of the Basque separatist group ETA, officials have said.

• U.S. Energy Secretary Bill Richardson wants an internal investigation into whether any government or contractor employees working for the Energy Department have been victims of racial profiling.

• Bobby J. Jones made a name for himself as he threw the sixth complete game one-hitter in postseason history as the Mets eliminated the Giants with a 4-0 win in Game 4 of their NL division series Sunday.

• Reform Party presidential candidate Pat Buchanan accused American Indians who tried to block a Columbus Day parade of "cultural Marxism." "I think what is going on here is an intolerant, militant left-wing group is attempting to deny Italian-Americans their right to march under a banner of their hero, who is also a hero of Western civilization," Buchanan said in an interview Monday.

• Two solo albums by John Lennon were released on Monday to mark what would have been the late Beatle's 60th birthday. The first museum dedicated to the murdered music star also opened to the public in Japan on Monday.

## INSIDE NEWS

Unknown substance clears out Sparkman

### •RED HERRING•

Drama production: "Crimes of the Heart"

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Middle Eastern troubles again?

### •WEEK IN SPORTS•

JSU Gamecocks lose a heartbreaker to Sam Houston State

## Is alcohol a problem at JSU?

By Gracie Catchings  
News Editor

These days it's hard to find a college student who does not drink.

Many students who drink are underage and/or binge drinkers. Jacksonville State University's policies concerning the consumption of alcohol by minors adhere to those of the city of Jacksonville and the state of Alabama. According to JSU's student handbook these policies prohibit "possession, use, or purchase of liquor, beer, or wine by persons under 21 years of age (Code of Alabama, 28-3-266)" and "providing liquor, beer, or wine to an underage individual (Code of Alabama, 28-3-261)."

The University Police Department's 1999 crime statistics reported five instances of public intoxication on campus, 31 DUIs, and 11 violations of the liquor law. Eighty-nine percent of crimes on campus were non-alcohol related, while nine percent were alcohol related and two percent were drug related. The last four crime dockets



A student buys beer at the Cock Pit from Edwin Concepcion, a clerk. "We card anybody who looks under 30," said Concepcion.

listed seven counts of either DUI or possession of alcohol by a minor.

What drives students to drink? Are the pressures of college life so great there are no other ways to cope?

"Alcohol is the number one drug of choice among the nation's youth, and it can have serious, often lifelong consequences for them, their

families and their communities," reported a news advisory issued by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism The NIAAA, according to their web site, "supports and conducts biomedical and behavioral research on the causes, consequences, treatment and prevention of alcoholism and alcohol-

Continued on page 3, *Drinking on campus*

## SGA says "no show" for fall concert

By Gracie Catchings  
News Editor

With his cowboy boot crossed over one knee and his fingers laced together underneath his chin, SGA Second Vice President Donnell Humes could not conceal the regret and disappointment in his voice.

"We started searching for a concert about Aug. 15," Humes said. "The window of opportunity closed. We couldn't secure contracts for the right amount of money for the right people at the right time."

A concert that was tentatively scheduled for "Whoop Troy" week is no longer in the cards for Jacksonville State University.

"That ticks me off. I voted for one," said JSU student Stephani Sinyar in reference to SGA's concert poll at a recent football game.

Humes said SGA sent its agent after several acts including Nine Days, Fuel, Destiny's Child and

Vertical Horizon.

"We get our agent to go after a band, and then they jumped \$5,000-\$6,000 out of our budget," said Humes.

According to SGA President Elizabeth Webb, the budget for a concert was about \$25,000-\$30,000.

"It (the budget) puts us in a very limiting group of acts," Webb commented. "We either have to get people that are coming up or people that are coming down. Basically the problem we run into is we want a good concert for the students. If we get a good name that's very popular with the college crowd right now, it's around \$55,000-\$70,000."

Humes added that if SGA overextended their budget for a fall concert or if the concert did not come out well, the University would not be able to have many (if any) major events in the spring.

"I think it was to the prudence of this executive counsel and to the

Office of Student Activities that we hold off till the spring and find a better option, find the band we want for the right price at the right time," Humes said.

Booking was also an apparent problem in securing a band to play at JSU. Humes stated that bands such as Fuel, Nine Days and Destiny's child could not break away from their current touring schedules.

The idea of imposing a mandatory student activity fee on JSU students has been debated as an additional source of funds for such events as concerts. According to Webb SGA has explored several possibilities for this fee.

"There was the possibility of \$1 for every hour a student takes. We talked about just adding \$5 onto every (student's tuition). That would be roughly \$40,000 to work on a concert. We could get some-

Continued on page 4, *"No Show" for concert*



Noted author Daniel Wallace to have book signing and lecture at JSU

## A new addition to JSU telephone services

By Stephanie Pendergrass  
Staff Writer

A device that has made life a little more convenient is Caller I.D. This telephone feature identifies the party calling you by displaying their name and telephone number. With just a quick glimpse, you can see who is calling you, and decide whether or not you want to pick up the telephone. Caller I.D. can also make you aware of calls you may have missed while not available to answer the telephone.

Jacksonville State University students are now being offered this new service for their telephones. The Telecommunications Center along with Bell South has recently incorporated Caller I.D. into its line of services for Jacksonville State students.

Why is the center now offering this service? Evin Thompson, manager of the Telecommunications Center said, "Students have expressed an interest

Thompson stated that there has been "quite a bit" of student response to the service and many are taking advantage of it. Heather Miller, a freshman at JSU, stated, "Well, no one really ever calls me, but I'm sure people would use it."

Miller also responded with, "It has its advantages and disadvantages," when asked about the new telephone service. A major advantage of Caller I.D. at JSU is the service is not just available to dorm residents. Anyone using the JSU telephone service is eligible for Caller I.D. The biggest disadvantage, which proves to be somewhat minor, is the fact that only the caller's phone number shows up on the box, and not their name.

The only prerequisites for the service, which costs \$4 per month, is the customer must have a Caller I.D. box, which costs about \$10.

If you would like to take advantage of the Telecommunication Center's offer for Caller I.D., feel free to contact Patty Owens or Mary MacArgel at Bibb Graves Hall in room 116. You may also call them at ext. 8000 for Ms. Owens or ext. 5990 for Ms. MacArgel between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

## C I u b

- 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.

### • Habitat for Humanity

Come be a part of the newly-forming JSU Campus Chapter of Habitat for Humanity. Contact Kim Weatherford at 782-5762 or weather@jsucc.jsu.edu for more information.

### • Zeta Tau Alpha

On Oct. 15 Zeta will be 102 years old! A special thanks to Coach Crowe, Gina Smith and Brandon Lewis for visiting our meeting on Sunday. Awards this week... EC Member of the Week- Jamie Rotters, PC Member of the Week- Kim Loeb, Strawberry- Britney Smith, Cuddle Bunny- Elizabeth Webb, and Social Bunny- Candace Calhoun. Good Luck to the Zeta football team this week. Happy Birthday to Amy Ginn. Good luck to the JSU volleyball team and JSU rugby team. Remember that the month of October is Breast Cancer Awareness month.

### • Rho Lambda Greek Women's Honor Society

The following women were initiated on September 18, 2000, into Rho Lambda, the National Greek Women's Honor Society: Rebekah Adams, Alpha Omicron Pi, Lorie Ash, Phi Mu, Summer Bagwell, Phi Mu, Amber Burgess, Alpha Xi Delta, Mary Cash, Zeta Tau Alpha, Allison Eason, Zeta Tau Alpha, Kelli Patterson, Alpha Xi Delta, Christy Ramsden, Alpha Omicron Pi, Jamie Rotters, Zeta Tau Alpha, Shannon Smith, Zeta Tau Alpha, Deidra Tidwell, Alpha Omicron Pi, April Warhurst, Alpha Omicron Pi, Elizabeth Webb, Zeta Tau Alpha, and Ginny Wyatt, Alpha Omicron Pi.

Rho Lambda recognizes the top 10% of Greek women on the JSU campus and the requirements for membership are to have at least a 2.75 cumulative GPA, be a junior or senior, and have extensive leadership roles within the campus and Greek community. Congratulations to these outstanding women!

### • Alpha Xi Delta

We hope that everyone is having an awesome week! Good luck to our football and bowling teams. You girls are doing an excellent job. Congratulations to Pi Kappa Phi on a successful War of the Roses! Gamecocks, we're behind you all the way! Keep representing us well. Sigma Nu, we are looking forward to our mixer with you. Our awards for the week are: Rose Character Award-Kelli Patterson, Sister of the Week-Nicole Harvel, New Members of the Week-Amy Rains and Lisa DiMartino, Study Bear-Celinda Gardner, Beary Best Bear-Miranda Killingsworth, and Support Award-Ann Marie Reynolds.

### • Delta Zeta

Good job and congratulations to all the Delta Zeta ladies who worked so hard to win first place in Pi Kappa Phi's War of the Roses last week. Congratulations to MaryBeth Edwards and Rothe McClendon for being named 1st and 2nd runners-up in the Rose Queen Pageant last week. Thanks to Pi Kappa Phi for a great week! Good luck to the Delta Zeta Intramural football team as the season comes to an end. You ladies have done a great job! Good luck to the JSU football team this weekend! Awards for this week are Faculty Member of the Week: Dr. Beard, Alumna of the Week: Lori Norton, Twisted Sister: Jennifer Ellison, Support: Becky Stone and Jessica Johnson, and Rosebud of the Week: Casey O'Conner. Happy Birthday to our CCD, Kim Dalesandro (October 16)! Have a great week!

### • Alpha Omicron Pi

AOII would like to thank everybody that attended the AOII all Greek Mixer. It was nice to be able to "mix" with everyone. We had a blast! Congratulations all new little sisters, your bigs love you. Congrats to Ginny Wyatt, Erin Woodruff, and Deidra Tidwell for being nominated for Homecoming Court. Good luck to the Gamecocks in there upcoming game at McNeese State. Awards: Sister of the week - Kerry Hudson, Positive Panda - Ana Alas, and Officer of the week - Amy Whatley.

### • Phi Mu

Phi Mu would like to wish our intramural football and bowling team good luck next week! Congratulations to Zeta on taking first place in tennis, and congrats to Phi Mu on second! Congratulations to our intramural football team on their wins against AOPi and DZ last week. Good luck to the Gamecocks this weekend against McNeese State. Phi Mu would like to thank Coach Crow for coming to speak at our meeting Sunday! The awards for this week are as followed: Phi Mu Lady of the Week-Melinda Clark; Phi of the Week-Rachel Jordan; Sunshine Awards- Allison Byrd and Lindsey Jacobs; Athlete of the Week- Somer Leathers. Phi Mu had a great time at the AOPi mixer Wednesday, and would like to congratulate DZ on winning the War of the Roses! Good Luck to Beth Sellers and John Michael on their wedding this Saturday. Congratulation to all Phi Mu's who made Freshman Forum. Phi Mu's Philanthropy Day is October 16th and we will be hosting a "Children's Candlelight Ceremony" on the Quad from 6-8p.m. Good luck to our Phi's next week as they begin their Inspiration Week-we are so proud of you! We hope everyone has a great week. Go Gamecocks!

### • Student Government Association

The SGA met on the third floor of the TMB on October 2nd. Elizabeth Webb briefed the senate on her discussion with President Meehan about the phone lines in the dorms. She stated that although the problem would not be fixed, it should be better this week. The senate is discussing the 2002 calendar, and the possibility of implementing a Fall Break. Student Resolution 01 passed, and called for a more professional and polite manner from the University Police when dealing with students. A bill was passed to appoint Emily Doty to the senate, and to amend section 704.3 of the Code of Laws. All senator applications are due ASAP, and allocation applications are now available.

## Announcements

• **The ECE for Fall 2000** will be given Tuesday, Oct. 17 from 6-7:30 p.m. and Wednesday, Oct. 18 from 3-4:30 p.m. Students planning to take the ECE need to come by Stone Center, Room 215 and register by Oct. 11. Optional workshops for the Fall exam will be held Monday, Oct. 9 from 6-7:30 p.m. and on Tuesday, Oct. 10 from 3-4:30 p.m. in the Merrill Hall auditorium, Room 101. Any questions regarding the ECE may be directed to Mr. David Myer, 112 Stone Center, ext. 5464, e-mail dmyer@jsucc.jsu.edu.

• **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.

• **A health fair** sponsored by the MSN students of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences will be held on Oct. 26, 2000 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the auditorium of the TMB.

• **The CBASE Test will be given** at 1-4:30 p.m. in Room 20, Ayers Hall. Seniors may obtain registration forms in the Office of Assessment, Room 144 Ayers Hall. Students are eligible to take the test whenever they have completed 96 or more credit hours toward a degree.

• **The student health care center** will be administering flu vaccinations for JSU students and employees beginning Monday, Oct. 16. The cost for vaccination is \$10.

• **The international students organization** is inviting all international students to their general meeting on Oct. 13 @ 5 p.m. at the International House.

## JSU Area Events Calendar: October 12 - 19

Thurs 12	Fri 13	Sat 14	Sun 15
Mon 16	Tues 17	Wed 18	Thurs 19

"Hi, I'm Al Gore, and since I invented the internet, there are a lot of great sites out there like [www.jsu.edu/chanticleer](http://www.jsu.edu/chanticleer). And by the way, I also invented electricity."



**THE CHANTICLEER**

We're not afraid to tell you what you want to hear. Even on the world wide web.

Continued from page 1, *Drinking on campus*

related problems.”

According to the NIAAA, “The younger the age of drinking onset, the greater the chance that an individual at some point in life will develop a clinically defined alcohol disorder. Young people who began drinking before age 15 were four times more likely to develop alcohol dependence than those who began drinking at age 21.”

The NIAAA also found that in 1997 about 11 million current drinkers were ages 12-20. Of these, 4.8 million

were binge drinkers, including 2 million heavy drinkers.

“Many researchers define binge drinking for men and women as drinking five or more drinks at one sitting,”

according to a message from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, Donna E. Shalala. “More students under age 21 binge drink and have alcohol-related problems than those over 21. Students who binge drink are more likely to damage property, have trouble with authorities, miss classes, have hangovers and experience injuries than those who do not.”

Recent Associated Press wire reports cited a study by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation that was published in the March issue of the *Journal of American College Health*. The study was based on surveys from 14,000 students at 119 colleges in the United States. According to their findings, “The population of frequent binge drinkers rose last year to 22.7 percent of the student population, up from 19.8 percent in 1993 and 20.9

percent in 1997.”

Studies also found binge drinkers on college campuses to be white, live in a fraternity and have a history of binge drinking in high school.

“Fraternity and sorority members drink more frequently than their peers,” reported Shalala, “and accept as normal high levels of alcohol consumption and associated problems. Fraternity-sponsored parties also may factor heavy drinking. Studies have found that students who consider parties or athletics important and those who drink to get drunk appear most likely to binge drink or to drink heavily.”

According to Shalala, students not only drank because their peers did, but they may have had certain personality characteristics that were contributing factors to

destructive drinking behavior. Among these characteristics were impulsiveness, depression, anxiety and early deviant behavior. Shalala also reported that some studies cited a family history of alcohol abuse as a risk factor for problem drinking in college students.

JSU offers some help to students who have drinking problems. In April Counseling and Career Services will hold a workshop on understanding addiction and will also sponsor an alcohol-screening day. In addition, Counseling and Career Services provides confidential counseling for those struggling with several of the factors that cause some students to reach for the bottle: stress, depression, anger, anxiety and situational problems. For more information, contact Counseling and Career Services at 782-5475.

“ Many researchers define binge drinking for men and women as drinking five or more drinks at one sitting.”

-Donna E. Shalala  
Secretary of HHS

# Chemical scare evacuates Sparkman Hall



Students were f

By Josie Connell  
Staff Writer

The Jacksonville University Police Department is investigating the release of an undetermined substance in Sparkman Hall Monday night that resulted in two residents requiring hospital treatment.

The Jacksonville State University Police received a call at 6:49 p.m. Monday evening from a Sparkman Hall resident who said someone had sprayed a substance in the seventh floor elevator. She also said she smelled a strange odor, and residents were gagging. However, resident Hillary McConnell said, “I didn’t get sick. I was just mad. I think it’s just stupid.”

University Police Chief Nelson Coleman said the Jacksonville City Fire Department and University Police Department were dispatched immediately to the scene. All 290

female residents were evacuated.

Nelson said many residents were complaining of burning sensations in their noses, throats and eyes.

“It got in my system,” an anonymous resident said, “and I have an eye infection.”

Several had stomach aches, and one vomited in the elevator. Two residents were treated at The Jacksonville Hospital for burning eyes and were released. No serious injuries occurred.

Coleman said the substance was concentrated on the top three floors but was circulating throughout the building. Firefighters blew out each floor, and doors and windows were opened for ventilation.

Monday night Coleman said officials tried to contact an expert who had access to proper equipment to determine the identity of the substance, but he couldn’t be reached.

After fire officials determined the building safe, the hall was re-

opened at midnight.

However, Coleman said many students opted to stay with family and friends. Any resident who did not want to return that night was provided a room in Luttrell Hall.

The police department “has been beating out our brains” over the mysterious identity of the substance, Coleman said. Coleman also said all possible mechanical problems of Sparkman Hall were checked out.

“We checked out the elevator,” Coleman said. “We also checked out the flooring in the basement. That was just put down and we thought it might have been the glue, but it wasn’t.”

An expert was reached Tuesday afternoon to investigate the substance, but Coleman said the tests likely won’t reveal anything.

“That substance has had too long to dissipate,” Coleman said. “It will be hard for his equipment to pick up anything.”

Coleman said police have one suspect and they suspect it could have been a prank.

“There were other things going on Monday night involving fraternity matters,” Coleman said. “We’re looking into it.”

It was a serious incident, according to Coleman, but he said he is proud of how well everyone worked together: “We came together and worked as a team.”



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Continued from page 1, "No Show" for concert

body that's really good and that people would enjoy."

Webb added that Second Vice President Humes is talking to several colleges to find out how their programs work, are funded, and how to implement a fee at JSU if there is going to be one.

The proposal for an activity fee would have to be approved by the Board of Trustees since it would be an additive to tuition. President Meehan views the student activity fee as taxation on students.

"I view a student activity fee as really a taxation on the students because it goes to fund the student government activities which are for the students," Meehan said. "If the student body votes an activity fee in to tax themselves for that, then I will be in favor of it."

Jacksonville State University senior Travis Hall said, "I would pay a little more money if it would bring more activities to the University."

"They haven't had a good concert here in years," added student Misty Phillips.

The obvious concern to students is for a student activity fee to go to worthwhile activities the student body would support and actually attend.

According to Cornell University's Supreme Court Collection website, in a recent Supreme Court case, Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin.

System Petitioner v. Scott Harold Southworth et al., a group of students at the University of Wisconsin challenged a mandatory student activity fee used in part to support student organizations that sponsored political or ideological speech.

The exorbitant fee of \$331.50 per year per student was used by the University to fund "various campus services and extracurricular student activities," according to the Cornell site. Portions of the funding were allocated to various groups that sponsor political speeches, but these groups were advised to maintain grounds of neutrality.

The District Court and the Court of Appeals invalidated the University's student fee, "relying upon our precedents which protect members of unions and bar associations from being required to pay fees used for speech the members find objectionable," reported the Cornell site.

Despite this ruling by the lower courts, the Supreme Court reversed the decision and the case has been remanded for further proceedings with this opinion.

The bottom line is JSU students want more activities and events on campus. The question is, are they willing to pay for them.

"As long as tuition doesn't go up," said student Christol McFadden, "I don't think it (a student activity fee) would be a problem."

## JSU fraternity to sponsor marching contest for charity

By Tim Ross  
Staff Writer

For the fifteenth year running, the brothers of the Epsilon Nu chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia continue the Southern Classic Marching Contest on Oct. 14.

Phi Mu Alpha's contest provides the opportunity to attend 21 premiere performing high school bands from across the Southeast. The Up 'Til Dawn organization will be present to accept donations for St. Jude's Hospital.

The contest was run by the Tropicana Bowl for many years until Ken Bodiford, now Director of Bands at Jacksonville State University, led Phi Mu Alpha to turn it into the present Southern Classic. "Because of its unique format of prelims and finals, it has been one of the most respected band contests in the state," Bodiford said.

Students of JSU will have the chance to liven up this usually "dead" weekend with superior sights and sounds of marching band competition. Because contests like these create opportunity for high school students to earn trophies and awards for their performance, bands deliver more powerful performances than at their normal Friday night football game.

Thomas Moore, past band director of Trion High School, said, "The Southern Classic is well run and has a pretty fair evaluation of the bands, giving them a chance to see what other high schools are doing. The contest is a very good promotion of music by the fraternity."

"University bands and JSU's Music Department are responsible for recruiting the largest group of students on campus," Brandon Cornutt said. "Thousands of high school kids and parents will attend our contest. This will be their first impression of our school, and they will see how Jacksonville State strongly encourages music."

"The contest is a culmination of seven months of hard work from Mr. Bodiford, university bands, my program committee and our chapter. This wouldn't be a success without the support, patience, and family

environment that surrounds the school's musical programs, like the Southerners. We have had excellence for fifteen years, and our efforts now affect the future of the contest, which could in fact be run by those attending the Southern Classic," said Cornutt.

Up 'Til Dawn raises money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. It takes place on March 9th from 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on March 10th at Stephenson Gym. Teams of seven work to raise at least \$750 to attend through many different ways.

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# The Red Herring

## New JSU production commmits "Crimes of the Heart"

By Christina Morrison  
Features Editor

JSU's Drama Department will begin its 2000-2001 season tonight with a performance of Beth Henley's 1981 Pulitzer Prize winning play "Crimes of the Heart."

The play is directed by Susan McCain of the Drama Department and the lead parts are played by Crystal Long, Mandy Carter, Tanya Poore, Jenny Newcomb, Clint Leroy and Justin Young.

The storyline consists of three sisters who are gathered in a small Mississippi town to await the death of their grandfather, who is at a local hospital. These three are also complemented by two outsiders, a cousin and an ill-at-ease lawyer. As the play unfolds the audience learns of each woman's past and their plans for the future.

This dark comedy contains many realistic aspects of life that are

intended to touch the audience while making them laugh at the same time. McCain said, "This play is truly challenging because it is so true to life. In rehearsal we're consistently discovering these new things in that make it so real."

Each of the characters has problems in her life which are so bizarre that they become believable. One sister is out on bail, since she has recently shot her husband; another has returned to the hometown from a failed career as a country music singer; and the oldest sister is single and unhappily facing diminishing possibilities for marriage in the future. All of these problems contribute to the reality of the play.

"The honesty of the characters and their relationships makes it a great piece to perform. It's all so true-to-life even though they're in what seems to be an unusual circumstance. Things happen in the play that we've all seen happen or been in



The cast of "Crimes of the Heart" from left: Mandy Carter, Crystal Long, Tanya Poore, Clint Leroy, Jenny Newcomb and Justin Young.

the midst of things happening, things that happen between people," said McCain.

The Drama Department chose to perform this play because of its

renown, which the piece gained from the Pulitzer Prize and other awards, and in order to balance out the season with comedy and tragedy. "Of

*Continued on page 9, "Crimes of the Heart"*

# Author Daniel Wallace to appear at JSU library

By Christina Morrison  
Features Editor

Author Daniel Wallace will read from his new novel *Ray in Reverse*, and hold a book signing, at Jacksonville State University's annual Friends of Houston Cole Library Author's Evening at 7:30 p.m. tonight, on the 11th floor of the library.

Wallace's newest novel begins in heaven with main character Ray Williams telling of his death. The rest of the story consists of Ray examining parts of his life in order to figure out why he died after only 50 years of life. The main twist to this story is that it is told in reverse: from his death backward, until Ray is about ten years old.

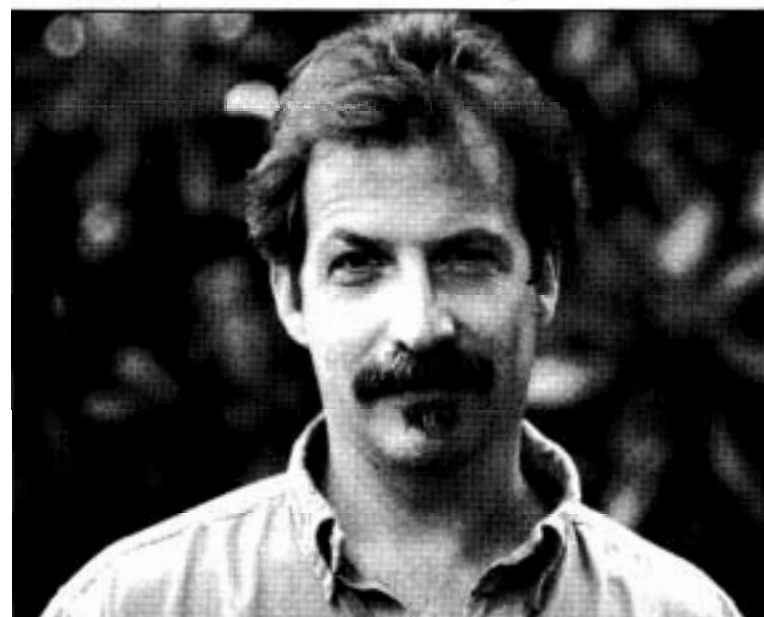
Wallace explained, "It's just stories from this one person's life, and as you work backwards through it there's the idea that you get to know him in a different way than you would have had it been presented from the beginning. It also happens to provide you with a happy ending. At the end of his life, it's not that

happy. But the beginning was. I like happy endings and the only way I could get it was to structure it backwards."

The success of his newest novel is evident in many circles. The website [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) offers reviews of his book, with the average rating of the novel being five stars, the highest possible. One reviewer commented, "Daniel Wallace is one of the original writers I've discovered in the past year. He's one of the few willing to step outside the box and try something different."

JSU Professor of English and frequent book reviewer Dr. Steven Whitton said of *Ray in Reverse*, "What I really like about it was that this character discovers, after examining himself, that he wasn't anything special because he missed all of the really special things that were around him."

When asked what the best thing about being a successful author is, Wallace replied, "I never ever thought that I would make any money from this. Or, not very much



Author Daniel Wallace

anyway. It's just great to have books out there that people are interested in reading and people are interested in buying. And it provides me with more time and more opportunities to write more books. That's what it's

all about. So it feels pretty good; I feel blessed."

Wallace found it hard to name one exact writer that influenced his work, "Well, I've read a lot over the

*Continued on page 9, Daniel Wallace*

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### Local Scene

- 10/13/00 Cool Beans--Brothers
- 10/14/00 Members Only--Brothers
- 10/18/00 3D Kaleidoscope--Brothers
- 10/19/00 Memory Dean--Brothers
- 10/20/00 Dread Wood Jed--Brothers
- 10/21/00 Bloodkin--Brothers

### Birmingham

- 10/12/00 North Mississippi Allstars--Zydeco
- 10/13/00 Soup--University of Alabama
- 10/14/00 Groove Collective--Zydeco
- 10/17/00 David Wilcox--Zydeco
- 10/19/00 Tab Benoit--Zydeco

### Atlanta

- 10/12/00 Superdrag & The Tragically Hip--Coca-Cola Roxy Theatre
- 10/13/00 The North Mississippi Allstars--Cotton Club
- 10/13/00 The Greenhorns & The Forty-Fives--Star Bar
- 10/14/00 Vallejo & The Twilight Singers--Cotton Club
- 10/14/00 Live & The Counting Crows--Lakewood Amphitheatre
- 10/19/00 Mike Watt and the Pair of Pliers--Echo Lounge

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### CD Releases

- Wallflowers-Breach
- Collective Soul-Blender
- Slash's Snakepit-Ain't Life Grand
- Orgy-Vapor Transmission
- Merle Haggard-If I Could Only Fly
- Cake-Selected Features
- Cherry Poppin' Daddies-Soul Caddy
- October 17**
- Johnny Cash-American III: Solitary Man
- Everlast-Eat at Whitey's
- Squirrel Nut Zippers-Bedlam Ballroom
- Mark Olson & The Original Harmony Ridge Creek Dippers-My Own Jo Ellen
- Superdrag-In the Valley of Dying Stars
- Tony Iommi-Iommi

# Editorial

## Fighting in the Middle East and other tales of woe

By Adam Smith  
Editor

Well, in case you haven't noticed, the world has gone crazy again. Fighting in the Middle East and a revolution in Yugoslavia are just a few of things I've been trying to keep up with lately.

Fighting between the Israelis and the Palestinians is nothing new to anyone. The whole situation involving the Gaza Strip is a delicate, volatile matter to say the least. However, it took me a while to grasp what exactly happened. Some of you may also be oblivious to the facts.

In essence, Ariel Sharon, who is the chief opposition leader to Palestine, went and visited the Temple Mount, considered to be the coup de grace of all Jewish holy sites. Oddly enough, that site now acts as a holy sanctuary for Muslims. Sharon, surrounded by armed guards-a-plenty, decided to pay homage to the Temple Mount, engraving essentially the whole country of Palestine. It doesn't sound that

complicated, but it took me a couple of days to figure out why the Palestinians were so pissed off.

Some of you may be saying, "Well, why are the Palestinians so, like, angry, man?" My response is, because the Middle East takes religion very seriously. You have Jewish people, and Muslim people, and never the twain shall meet.

Sharon was on "Nightline" with Ted Koppel last week and pretty much shrugged his shoulders and more or less said he had no idea that he would get this kind of reaction from the Palestinian people. I say that's bull malarkey. He knew good and well that going over there would enflame the Palestinians. Why else would he take hundreds of armed guards with him when he went?

For example, I wouldn't march into a fraternity house carrying a keg of O'Doul's. If I did, some crap would go down. That's not exactly the same, but you get the point. I wouldn't walk into an atheist gathering decked out in my John 3:16 shirt and wearing my W.W.J.D. bracelet. It just wouldn't be wise. Nor would

I take the seven train to the Mets playoffs wearing one of the "Rocker Rules" shirts you can pick up at the Braves stadium.

So now, things are left up to other powers-that-be to straighten things out. It will all be left up to Ehud Barak and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat to straighten everything out. Arafat is definitely one of the coolest world leaders, and not just because his name sounds like "yes, sir." It's because he wears a head wrap, dresses in beige and usually carries a big pistol. That's why he's cool.

Barak and Arafat are constantly having some kind of peace negotiations about something, and more often than not, these negotiations are never on either country's native soul. The peace talks for this whole debacle were originally held in Paris, and then were moved to Egypt. Wouldn't the best way to solve a problem be to stay at home and figure it out? If a man has a fight with his wife, he may drive to the bar down the street but that doesn't make it right. The same applies here.

And better yet, why is Madeleine Albright always in the mix? Sure, we care about what's going on in Israel and Palestine, but it seems every time a country is in trouble, Bill's putting Albright on a plane to go play Mother Goose to a bunch of

overindulgent children. She can't solve the world's problems. Yasser's a smart guy. Let him and Barak work it out themselves. And if they keep giving us problems, we'll send in Madeleine, Bill (unless George has already taken over) and some reserves, because God knows they're not doing anything right now but eating Twinkies and cleaning their rifles.

So what do I propose Barak and Arafat do? I don't know, honestly. For two countries with so much turmoil and strife between them, it almost seems like a no-win scenario. Of course, people have been fighting over religious beliefs and ideals since the beginning of time. We can't end all the animosities with the swift stroke of a pen, nor can we end strife with some brilliant words from an aging leader.

The true tragedy of this situation is that innocent people are also involved, especially children. The most horrific thing I've seen on television of late is the image of the father trying to protect his son from stray gunfire. Unfortunately the son was shot and killed and the father was also hit by gunfire. Maybe Barak and Arafat will take that image into consideration during their peace talks.

# THE CHANTICLEER MAST

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Our policy for letters to the editor should be kept in mind when sending submissions to The Chanticleer:

• The Chanticleer will not print letters which are unsigned, libelous and/or defamatory.

The Chanticleer reserves the right to edit letters for space and grammar, as well as style.

• There will be at least two weeks between publication of letters from the same person. We will publish rebuttals no later than two weeks after the publication of the article, editorial or letter in question.

• The Chanticleer reserves the right to refuse publication of any submission.

Deadline for submissions is noon Monday, before desired publication that Thursday. In the event of a three day weekend, submission deadline is 4 p.m. the preceding Friday.

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• Bring submissions or send through campus mail to our office: Room 180 Self Hall--JSU.

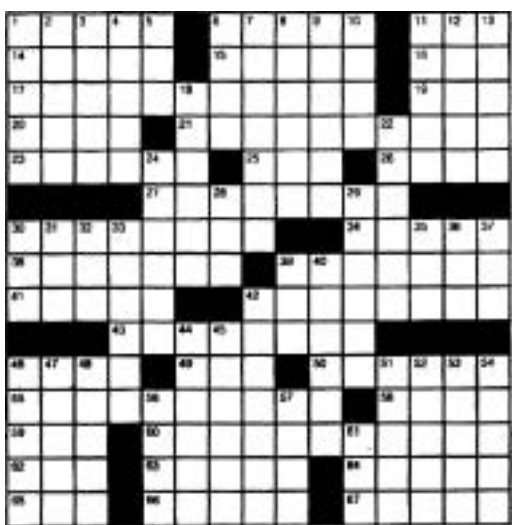
• All submissions must include a name, phone number and student number for JSU students.

• And remember, please think before you write.

Thank You,  
The Editorial Staff

## Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Out of fashion
  - 6 Strip cut by a lawnmower
  - 11 Original
  - 14 Fred Astaire's sister
  - 15 California ballplayer
  - 16 Boston hockey great
  - 17 Garden cart
  - 19 Compete
  - 20 Focal point
  - 21 Poor sleepers
  - 23 Reaping tool
  - 25 Cool or groovy
  - 26 Clean and tidy
  - 27 Umpires
  - 30 Bedtime drink
  - 34 Sound component
  - 38 Showed contempt for
  - 39 Sleeping bag
  - 41 Nearby
  - 42 Surrounded by hostile forces
  - 43 Colombo's country
  - 46 Meat inspecting org.
  - 49 U.S. voter
  - 50 Amen to that!
  - 55 Dali's movement
  - 58 Church recess
  - 59 Hurry
  - 60 Bluebloods
  - 62 O'Hare abbr.
  - 63 Like fatty animal tissue
  - 64 Go along with
  - 65 Cincinnati player
  - 66 Chelmsford's county
  - 67 Afrikaners



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- DOWN**
- 1 Hocks
  - 2 Committee type
  - 3 Run-down and shabby
  - 4 Falling ice
  - 5 Moray or conger
  - 6 Bridge
  - 7 Destroyer or frigate

- Solutions**
- 8 Sure-handed
  - 9 'foeil
  - 10 Felled
  - 11 Exploding stars
  - 12 "All My Children" character
  - 13 Seize forcibly
  - 18 "The Devil's Dictionary" writer
  - 22 Guarantee
  - 24 Mad as a
  - 28 Naughty
  - 29 Tire type
  - 30 Sports division, est. 1969
  - 31 Sick
  - 32 Sticky stuff
  - 33 European light cavalryman
  - 35 Collie or corgi
  - 36 -de-France
  - 37 Ancient
  - 39 Cross or Affleck
  - 40 Inuit composition
  - 42 Plain-woven fabric

- 44 Son of Daedalus
- 45 "\_\_\_ of the Field"
- 46 Lead to seats
- 47 Musical composition
- 48 Apprehension
- 51 Bogart movie,
- "Key \_\_\_"
- 52 Let live
- 53 Daisylike flower
- 54 Affirmatives
- 56 Relaxation
- 57 Charon's river
- 61 Hack

## F o r u m

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to the "Y Not?" by Christopher Lauer from the October 5th issue. It deeply saddens me to know that someone so cynical and sarcastic is given the privilege to write and represent our University. I found his religious biases offensive, if not repugnant.

Has Mr. Lauer no idea what abortion has done to our society? He's probably one of the very ones who screams for gun control because of the mass murders in our schools. Due to abortion, there is no sanctity of life, therefore it's fine to kill and maim your classmates, as in Columbine and other various schools across our country.

In response to his religious bigotry, God is indeed very alive. It is our society who has rejected Him. I truly hope the day will come when God removes the scales from Mr. Lauer's eyes and he will be able to experience God for himself. Perhaps at that time, he will be able to look at life with a more purposeful view point.

Mr. Lauer, you are indeed here for a purpose. Is your effect going to be positive or negative?

Sincerely,  
Paige Robinson





WITH CHRISTOPHER LAUER

failed.”

But the funny thing about all that is, I went to bitch her out about not having a concert, and before I knew it, she's threatening to put me on some concert committee with Second Vice President Donnell Humes. She acted like I was the first concerned student she had seen all year. I probably was, because this school and all its students suck.

On a piece of paper stapled to the wall across from the SGA office was an account of what happened at last week's SGA meeting. A few lines down was a heading that read,

“Student Body.” Next to that read, “NONE!” The SGA is here to represent the students, but the students don't care. The paper is here for the students' enjoyment, but we don't know if you people are enjoying it or not. You're probably thinking, “The paper's okay,” or “It sucks!” But are YOU doing anything to make it better?

The SGA can't even keep a stable senate. The only students who tell the SGA what they would like to see at JSU are the senator's Greek brothers and sisters. I can't blame them for that. The SGA has no input from the student body. And for once, I feel their pain.

The paper is run by the Communications Department, yet two out of five paid positions are held by English majors. Our news editor just quit. Somehow, we were lucky enough to find a not-so-apatetic communications major to take her place. We, just like the SGA, are overwhelmed. Why? Because you people (especially Communication majors) suck.

And I'll say it again, if you're not walking through all the doors that this little University has open for you, then you suck. If you've never walked down to the SGA office, or applied at the radio station, or volunteered to do a story for the paper, or acted as President of the Computer Science club, or whatever, then you suck. Because you could, and it looks awfully good on a resume, and you make very influential friends, and the list of benefits goes on and on.

Let me end this rant like this, just so you won't forget that I'm not just picking on you: After Monday Night Football, Adam (Editor-in-Chief) and I (Managing Editor) began watching the news. Large quantities of mace were released in Sparkman Hall, and the cops and special agencies were called because someone thought it was some sort of chemical leak in the dorm. Adam and I had no idea. We may work for the student newspaper, but we get our JSU news from ABC 33/40.

Because we failed. Because we're overwhelmed. Because we suck. And that's what's expected of us. We're second rate editors at a second rate school newspaper with a second rate budget and a second rate audience. (Derogatory remarks not aimed at Francesca Rao or Paige Robinson, who at least show some sort of effort for no reason at all. We all appreciate students such as these.)

I am appalled. For the second year in a row, our Student Government Association has failed to bring us, the students of Jacksonville State University, a homecoming concert.

I worked hard last year to make sure the SGA brought a concert. The paper worked hard last year to keep the SGA on their toes. Rufus Manley inflamed and outraged the SGA, the Greeks and the student body, all in an attempt to end this University's apathy problem. But we were young and idealistic back then. I guess it's time to assume our roles as second rate students at a second rate university.

This column was going to be the tar-and-feather-the-SGA column, but then I looked in the mirror. I'm not happy with the way the paper is going either.

In fact, I'm writing this column after the deadline and only hours away from the time the paper makes it into print. There will be no wit added or wit edited in this last ditch attempt at a column, but maybe the SGA can see that I at least produced something.

I figure it's not the SGA's fault; it must be the University's fault, and we're all members or affiliates of this University, so it's our fault. I mean, if the SGA was filled with truly organized people and tomorrow's leaders, they wouldn't be here; they'd be at Alabama or Auburn. If I could write, I wouldn't be working for *The Chanticleer*. And if you were intelligent, you'd be at Yale. I guess it's time to face the music.

In my opinion, JSU's game against the Bearcats was one of the better, televised games on Saturday, but we lost. JSU was competing with the Michigan's and Purdue's for viewers. The only thing missing from JSU's game was crowd noise and loyal fans and that all-around feeling of a college football game. It was a second rate college game on a second rate channel. And where was I when my team needed me? At home on my fat ass eating Swiss Cake Rolls. I guess it's time to face the facts.

And my present attitude came about simply because the SGA didn't bring a concert. A concert would have been a good thing for morale, pride, togetherness and numerous other positive things, but once again, we've been screwed, and I guess it's time to assume the position.

In an attempt to give the SGA a defense, I went to President Elizabeth Webb's office on Monday. She did everything but come right out and say, “We failed.” But to me, she did come right and say, “We

# F o r u m

Dear Editor,

This is in response to the “Y-knot?” from October 5th. Thank you for attempting to educate the world on RU-486, and I do agree with you that abortion is a moral issue in regards to what kind of life the child will have; not to mention that the choice should belong to only those involved. But after that point is where I have a problem.

I'm from about an hour north of Chicago, and to my knowledge, we're not all pimps and whores. At least, I can't remember the last time I threw on my crop-top and mini-skirt to go prancing around downtown, looking for a little income. Remember, it is the Windy City, so it gets a little chilly doing that. Have you ever been to inner-city Chicago? Not everyone there is a pimp, either. They're just people who don't have it as well as you and I. As for the homeless up there, many of them work selling a newspaper called “Street Wise.” See, they actually have to sell the paper they write in order to survive.

Just because someone's not making an impact on your life (are you making one on theirs?), doesn't mean they shouldn't have the right to reproduce. When it becomes our responsibility to take care of their children is when the problem begins. Besides, did you give up your morning coffee today to help the invalid halfway across the world?

Francesca Rao

## What's your sign?

By Linda C. Black  
Tribune Media Services

Today's Birthday (Oct. 12). You're persuasive this year. Win a prize by choosing your words carefully. You've got everybody's attention in October. Rake in the coins in November. You'll be surprised at what you find in December. A fantasy comes true, but not as expected, in February. Your partner's hot in April. Gain from distant elders in June. Be graceful and succeed in July.

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 - A long-distance connection you make soon could be the start of something big. Excitement, new experiences - maybe even a new language to learn. Why not? You hate limits, so break through a few by taking on a whole new world.
- Taurus (April 20-May 20) - Today is a 5 - Offer to take over chores for a person who's too busy. For relatively little effort, you could become even more indispensable. Listen at keyholes, too. That way, you'll know what needs to be done.
- Gemini (May 21-June 21) - Today is an 8 - You're the brains behind the operation, so speak up! You're usually verbal, but around some people you can get a little tongue-tied. Don't let a flamboyant person intimidate you. Your idea might be the one everybody's been waiting for!
- Cancer (June 22-July 22) - Today is a 7 - New information could cause a flurry of activity. Make sure you stay up to date by asking leading questions. They don't need to know what you know, as much as the other way around. Don't worry; they'll talk your ear off.
- Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is a 9 - You're lookin' good, and so is somebody else. The attraction's mutual and could lead to great ideas. A partnership? Perhaps. The two of you bring out the best in each other. This is a relationship definitely worth developing.
- Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 4 - Somebody else's idea of a great adventure could give you the heebie-jeebies. Stay calm, or at least look like you are. Don't let anybody gamble with your money. Conditions are changing too fast. What looks like a sure bet now could fall flat tomorrow.
- Libra (Sept. 23-Oct 22) - Today is an 8 - A relationship with a different kind of person could turn out well. There's something fascinating about this individual. Even if you never fully understand him or her, it's never boring to try. Ask questions, and you'll gain insight.
- Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is a 7 - The money could be good but not steady. The work requires lots of energy, and it may not last long. If you can do a job matching this description, it should be a good deal. You could make enough to get that thing you've wanted for the house.
- Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is an 8 - You're so cute. Your wit is sparkling, and even you don't know what you'll come up with next. You might surprise yourself and blurt out a commitment. It might as well happen sometime, and now is as good a time as any.
- Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 7 - A treasure you discover in a closet or attic could be the perfect thing. With a little paint and some imagination, voila! You'll have something good enough to sell so you can buy the thing you really want.
- Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is a 6 - A friend makes an interesting suggestion. Well, why not? What could go wrong? That is the pivotal question. Don't cram too much into your schedule 'cause if anything can go wrong, it will. Something that looks easy could be impossible.
- Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is a 6 - Continue with negotiations, cautiously. Something that looks too good to be true is. A job you're counting on may not pan out, so don't rely on any one thing too much. Don't put all your eggs in one basket.



“How do you feel about the SGA's failure to bring a fall concert?”



Meredith Cutting  
Senior

“I'm kind of disappointed. I like going to concerts.”



Jennifer Short  
Senior

“It just shows their overwhelming inadequacies as leaders in our school.”



Robert Swain  
Senior

“I'm disappointed. I always have been, because the SGA isn't as connected to the student body as they used to be.”



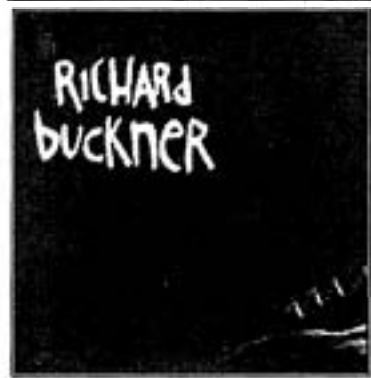
Carrick Harper  
Freshman

“I think it's a lack of effort. They're not really trying.”



William Robinson  
Junior

“I feel that it is a lack of organization and it tells me that I wouldn't want to participate in the activities.”



**Richard Buckner**

**The Hill**

★★★★ 1/2

On first listen to "The Hill," one would think Richard Buckner is merely a casual observer amidst the unfolding array of characters, but he is far more than that. Richard Buckner is a graverobber, plundering through the long-abandoned cemetery atop the hill in Spoon River. It's messy work: secrets of lust, betrayal, fear and violence pour out of the graves like the dirt through Buckner's fingers.

Buckner knows a thing or two about loss, about secrets. He's chronicled his most wrenching turmoil on three albums—among them the tight-throated confessions of "Devotion and Doubt" and the mercurial wash of emotions on "Since." "The Hill" leaves Buckner's demons alone; with careful detachment and submerged grief he enlivens the dead and their heavy burdens. Selections from Edgar Lee Masters' *Spoon River Anthology* are set to the music in this scattered, beautiful 34-minute suite. Instrumentals merge seamlessly into movements of balladry and bravada, a capella shouts and unharnessed atonal dirges.

"The Hill" is Buckner's most realized vision of literate wordplay

and ambitious musical intensity. He revisits the sound of "Devotion and Doubt"—that sparse, atmospheric instrumentation that conjured Buckner's own ghosts now open the gates for Spoon River's long dead.

The album is sweeping and orchestral, moving through moments of beauty and ferocity. Brief instrumentals outline the vocals; often the antagonist of each sung poem is detailed in fleeting wordless verses of guitar and cello.

"Tom Merritt" is a grandiose beginning that rumbles out of a barrage of feedback—the buoyant melody underpinned by Buckner's ominous vocals. "Julia Miller" is all delicacy and regret, Buckner's voice wavering in and out of hushed whispers. And "Elizabeth Childers" is exquisite—cellos hum over spacious, occasional drums, the narrator addressing a dead child. "A.D. Flood" and "Oscar Hummel" are of a piece, a swelling prelude to the killing of Oscar, drunkenly documented in the guttural epilogue, "I stood there weaving to and fro taking the blows from the stick in his hand."

Elsewhere Buckner employs a thrift-store organ, its haunting

strains sounding mournful and otherworldly, while Joey Burns' cello accents the emotion with stoic endurance. And Buckner's voice—that swooping, husky growl—escalates here into its highest register, lovely and ragged. "Reuben Pantier" is perfectly phrased and narrated, sounding not unlike one of Buckner's own elliptical pieces. "Johnnie Sayre" buries his slurred voice in a thunderous pulse, and "Amanda Barker" erupts into furious anger, his voice a sneering attack on a husband's loving reputation: "I proclaim from the dust that he slew me to gratify his hatred."

These proclamations from the dust are at times quite unnerving. And though the Anthology was written some eighty years ago, it never sounds stilted or archaic. Buckner refuses to wrestle with the non-rhyming words and refuses to force the poetry into musical verse. What results is a tormented conversation with the dead, eschewing niceties wrought by eulogy or epitaph.

"The Hill" is a decidedly challenging listen: its 18 pieces are melded into a single track, demanding exclusive attention. But that attention will be greatly rewarded. "The Hill" is the bravest and most ambitious album in years, coming from a troubadour who has lain bare his own soul repeatedly, making majesty out of ache and despair. It's time someone else volunteered their tainted soul.

And Spoon River is full of them.

By Graham Smith



**The Wallflowers**

**Breach**

★★★★

What do good bands do when they disappear for almost four years?

Well, they probably try to get themselves clean and sober, or if you're like Jakob Dylan and The Wallflowers you're writing some damn good songs at your own pace.

It's been almost four years since The Wallflowers' misguided cover of David Bowie's "Heroes" from the "Godzilla" soundtrack. I guess that would drive any good band into keeping a low profile.

However, they're back with "Breach" and it's almost like they never left. The album is a departure from their 1996 smash "Bringing Down the Horse," but their pop ambitions are still in tact, as well as their twang and ability to create polished roots-rock.

The album starts out with "Letters from the Wasteland," which is a surreal, melancholy opener, considering the rest of the album is quite optimistic. Dylan's breathy, Springsteen-esque voice is still in check, as well as the top-notch musicianship of the band.

While Jakob Dylan has never been the greatest of lyricists, he turns more inward on this release, giving "Breach" an emotional quality that is not as present on "Horse." Songs like "I've Been Delivered" and "Mourning Train" are two of his best lyrical pieces to date.

"Hand Me Down" combines the weakest lyrics of the album with one of the best melodies found on any album since at least the 60's. It begins the theme of the entire album—catchy.

"Sleepwalker" is the album's first single, and deservedly so. Dylan sings, "Cupid don't draw back your bow; I know what Sam Cooke didn't know." A wonderful nod, to a wonderful artist of the past.

The album continues to peak and climb from this point on. There are also some experimental ventures including "Some Flowers Bloom Dead" and "Up From Under." The band shows they're not afraid to use percussion loops and keyboards to add depth to the overall sound.

Co-produced by Michael Penn (a one-hit wonder in 1989 with "No Myth"), the album has a smart pop sensibility without giving themselves over to the "what's hot right now" syndrome.

My advice: Run, don't walk to your local record store and purchase this album. Or just borrow it and burn it. It's your choice. If radio has any sense at all, they'll leave this album alone and won't ruin it for everyone who owns a radio. Quite possibly one of the top five albums of 2000.

By Adam Smith



**Green Day**

**Warning**

★★★★

Green Day has released their newest album with some reviewers calling it the best album of 2000, while some rate its talent on a slightly higher level than Britney Spears. The only definite thing about this album is summed up in two words - catchy tunes.

Loyal fans of Green Day are used to songs about masturbation and the alienation that many teenagers feel. But "Warning" is more mature and can even be called positive. The title track on the album is very catchy and has been receiving constant radio play on local stations. It supports the carpe diem the-

ory and also has some classic Green Day anti-establishment lyrics: "Question everything? Or shut up and be the victim of authority."

The song "Fashion Victim" also contains a comment on society and its obsession with the fashion industry. The lyric that sums this up, and also makes the listener smirk is, "So when you're dancing through your wardrobe/ do the anorex - a go-go/ cloaked with style." Very nice.

By far the song that matches the previous album is "Blood, Sex and Booze." When it first starts it sounds like "She," from their album "Dookie," but it's quite different with the lyrics being, "Waiting

in a room/ all dressed up and bound and gagged." The song tells of the 'fun' had with a dominatrix, who in the credits is called Mistress Simone. It's catchy, as are most of the songs on the album, and has no message except for 'S&M is fun.'

The song "Misery" can be skipped upon listening to the album. The lyrics are interesting, but they aren't worth listening to the song one more time to figure out what Billie Joe is saying. Just read the enclosure. One of the best, if not the best, song on the CD is "Macy's Day Parade." It's a little bit slower than the other songs, but not quite the horrible ballad of "Good Riddance (Time of Your Life)" from the last CD, which still causes me to cringe when it comes on the radio. This one is really good—great lyrics and a great sound.

My Advice - It's a good album that has some great catchy tunes. I would probably buy it even though I'm no big Green Day fan.

By Christina Morrison

**•Thursday...Blue Soul**  
**•Friday...Cool Beans**  
**•Saturday.....Members Only**  
**•Tuesday...3-D Kaleidoscope**

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Continued from page 5, "Crimes of the Heart"

course we're doing Hamlet this fall as well. The department likes to balance out the season. So we'll have the serious Shakespeare play that we're doing and this of course is a much more modern comical drama. And of course it's a Pulitzer Prize winner. It's very much about regular folks, as opposed to the Shakespeare play," said McCain.

"Crimes of the Heart" involves characters and situations that will have a certain appeal to a university audience. McCain said, "I think everybody from the University will really like it. It's a play that young people can definitely relate to because it's about younger people. The oldest character is thirty and the others are in their twenties. Also, it takes place in the South. There's a lot of trueness for the audience to connect with."

McCain hopes that her audience comes away with two things when they leave the theater. "I think initially 'Wow, that sure was a lot of fun,' and secondly 'I know exactly how they feel. I've been there. I understand that.'"

Tanya Poore, who plays Meg's character, said, "It's comic in that Meg is so self-centered, even though she is with three other people. She is totally out of character for me because she doesn't care about anything. She's been trying to become a hard person. So that makes it tough for her to open up to her sisters."

"I hope that the audience just laughs, because it is funny. And I hope they see the love between the sisters. The importance of coming together and of family is something that I hope is obvious too," said Poore.

The play will be performed on Oct. 12, 13, 14 and 16 at 7 p.m. at JSU's Ernest Stone Performing Arts Center. There will also be a Sunday matinee on Oct. 15 at 2 p.m. Admission is \$6 for adults; \$5 for JSU faculty, staff and senior citizens and \$4 for students and military. Groups of 20 or more receive a discount when requested. Reservations are preferred. To make reservations call 256-782-5648.

Continued from page 5, Author Wallace

years, and whatever I read is neither a positive nor a negative influence. I can't really look to one author as an important influence. Because when you sit down and start to write, all the people that you've read Faulkner, Hemingway, or whoever it is—they all influence you simultaneously. So everything, even the newspaper, is an influence."

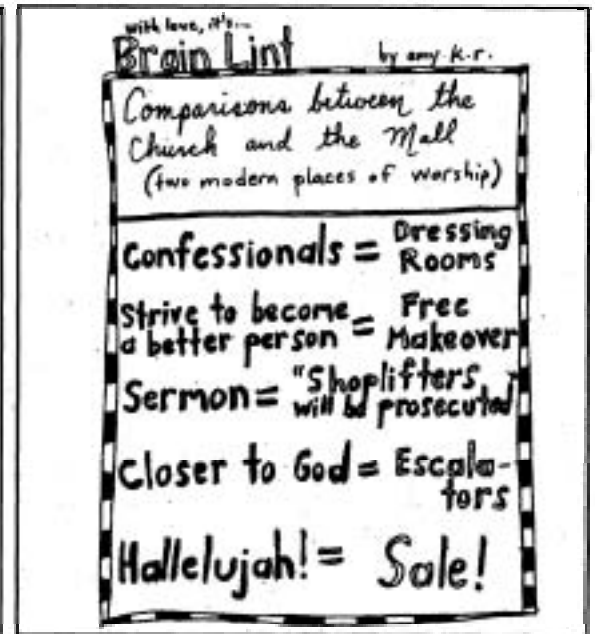
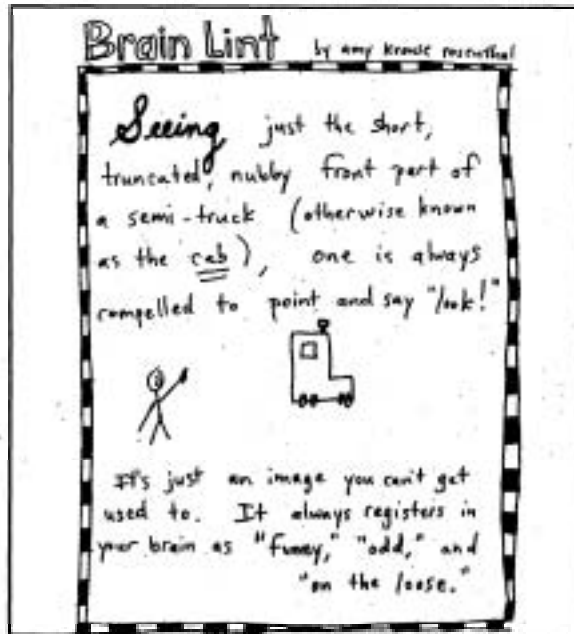
Wallace attended Emory University and the University of North Carolina for two years each, but didn't come away with a degree. Then he tried his hand at the business world but found that it wasn't the area for him. He then began writing and publishing short stories in 1986. After that he began writing what he called "practice novels" and then the real thing.

*Ray in Reverse* is Wallace's second novel; his first being *Big Fish*, which has recently been purchased by Stephen Spielberg in order to produce a film version of the book.

Wallace said he was completely dumbfounded when he learned of Spielberg's plans for a film version of the novel, "I was totally shocked because I didn't think that it would ever become a movie. It wasn't a movie kind of book. Though, when it was optioned a couple of years ago I was shocked. Then when somebody actually decided they wanted to make it into a movie, I continued to be shocked. So I guess I've been in a state of shock for maybe two years. I think I would've been feeling that way had it been anybody wanting to make a movie out of it. But the fact that it was Stephen Spielberg made it that much more amazing."

Dr. Whitton commented, "I just think he's quite a wonderful writer. I'm really excited to find out that Steven Spielberg will be directing *Big Fish* because that seems like a perfect match to me—of director and source material."

Wallace, who is originally from Birmingham, is currently living in Chapel Hill, N.C. and works as an illustrator as well as a guest lecturer at the University of North Carolina.



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**TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras** — Names like “Spark Plug” and “Miracle Tire” have prompted the tribunal that oversees the country’s public birth registry to request legislation forbidding parents from using “extravagant or offensive” names. The region where most of these names can be found is the Gracias a Dios (Thank God) province. “It is common (there) for people to employ names usually used for automobile parts,” the tribunal said.

**WELLINGTON, New Zealand** — To the delight of latte and cappuccino fans, approximately 1,500 cows on seven farms in New Zealand have been found to produce naturally frothy milk all year round. Scientists have been trying to figure out how to make cow’s milk more frothy. In this case, the county milk manager thinks it has something to do with the grass.

**LOS ANGELES** — Mr. Whipple won’t get a tribute from his old boss until after the commercial actors stop picketing. Procter & Gamble said it’s holding off on the lifetime achievement honor for Dick Wilson — he played the tissue-squeezing grocery clerk on those old Charmin commercials — until the strike is over, *Variety* reports. Wilson believes his speech at a September

13 rally — in which he said, “Please don’t squeeze the actors” — had something to do with the delay.

**NEW YORK (CNN)** — At Manhattan’s Cathedral of Saint John the Divine on Sunday, a procession of animals ranging from small birds to a camel marched, with human help, to the high altar to be blessed by the Episcopal bishop. More than 4,000 people attended the celebration in honor of the Feast of St. Francis. Herbert Katz, director of communications for the church, said, “The feast celebrates St. Francis’s love for all animals and all of God’s creatures.”

**HEY MAN, I THOUGHT WE WERE PALS:** A man, who had sailed down the Marco River with his girlfriend and three male friends and pulled in at the popular Snook Inn, in Naples, Fla., was somewhat taken aback when a woman there informed him that his girlfriend had gone into the ladies room and was having sex with one of his friends. He rushed in and heard the unmistakable sounds of passion in one of the stalls. He pounded on the door, threatening mayhem and bodily harm, but they continued undeterred. The situation was resolved soon afterward back on the dock outside, in an ugly scene featuring the expected screaming match and fistfight. Alcohol may have been involved.

**THINK YOU HAVE IN-LAW PROBLEMS?** Gary Farmer, who had met his daughter’s new husband

at their wedding only three days earlier, found that he just didn’t like the groom, Mark Erlandson, one little bit. Felt, in fact that the man just wasn’t good enough for his daughter. So, while visiting the couple in their mobile home, he came around in back of the groom, pulled his head back by his hair and cut his throat with a kitchen knife.

Erlandson survived. Farmer, 53, has been charged with attempted murder, and his attorney has requested a psychological evaluation.

**WHATEVER HAPPENED TO TRUST?** Lifuna Nyambe, angered at her husband’s incessant infidelities, finally resorted to locking him in the bedroom of their home in Zambia every night to keep him

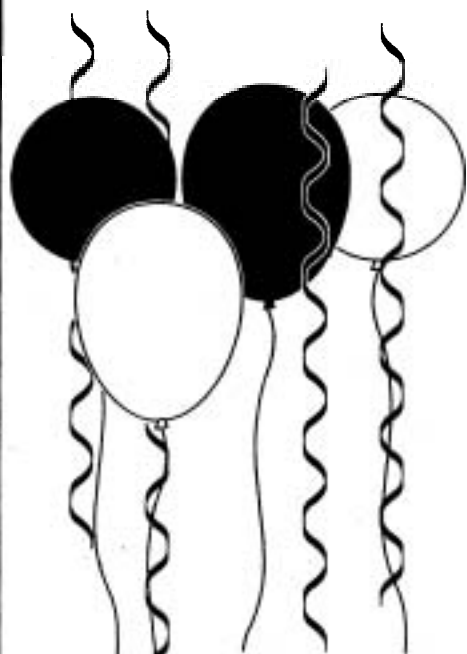
from sneaking out to dally with one of their live-in maids. The husband, Patrick Siyanyauka, testified in divorce court that she would also put him under lock and key when her female friends visited “so I wouldn’t be tempted.” The judge ruled that the eight-year marriage could not be saved, and granted a divorce.

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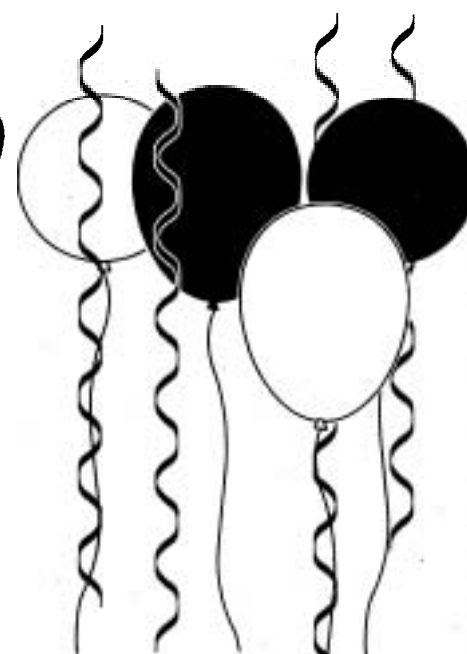


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# Schedule for Homecoming 2000 provides something for everyone

By Abigail Symonds Knight  
*JSU News Bureau*

October 30 kicks off a week of tropical excitement as Jacksonville State University celebrates a "Hawaiian Homecoming."

October 19 begins the pre-homecoming festivities with the Homecoming King and Queen Pageant at 7 p.m. in the Leone Cole Auditorium. The field of contestants for Homecoming Queen is narrowed down to 10 at this pre-festivities event. The list of contestants will be narrowed down to 5 during elections held on Oct. 26.

October 31 marks Halloween and the SGA sponsored showing of "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" at 8 p.m. in the auditorium of the Theron Montgomery Building (TMB). Prepare to be spellbound on Nov. 1 when hypnotist Thomas Bresadola shares his talent at 8 p.m. in the auditorium of the TMB.

Students make their vote count from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Nov. 2 during Homecoming Queen elections. J-Day, held outside the TMB will feature a bungee run, bouncy boxing, a gladiator joust, a walk wall, an obstacle course, and extreme air—which allows you to experi-

ence the thrill of skydiving with out the hassle of renting a plane.

Spread a little off-key sunshine during Karaoke at the Cafeteria from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Jack Hopper Dining Hall on Nov. 3. One o'clock is tee off time at the Alumni Golf Tournament at the Silver Lakes Golf Course. The ROTC Alumni Banquet will be 6 p.m., Nov. 3 at the Gamecock Center. For reservations, call 256-782-5601. The bonfire and pep rally begin at 7 p.m. and will culminate with the announcement of this year's JSU Homecoming Queen.

On Saturday, Nov. 4, the Alumni Association General Membership Meeting begins at 10 a.m. in the auditorium of the TMB, followed by brunch at the President's home from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. ROTC open house will be held from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Rowe Hall. The Homecoming Parade down Pelham Road North kicks off at 1 p.m. The Alumni Cookout runs from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on the Gamecock Center Lawn. Prices are Adults \$7 and Children \$5.

Pre-game activities, beginning at 3:45 p.m., include a JSU cheerleader reunion on the field with a group performance of "Two Bits."

The JSU Show Choir "Encore!" will perform the National Anthem. Four o'clock is kick-off as JSU plays Northwestern State.

Halftime features performances by the Marching Southerners and Ballerinas, the Outstanding Alumni and Faculty Awards and the presentation of the 2000 Homecoming King, Queen and Court. Immediately after the game, there will be a complete performance by the Marching Southerners and Ballerinas.

A step show, sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Services and the Black Greek organizations, begins at 8:30 p.m. at the Pete Mathews Coliseum.

The Alumni Dance will be held at the Old Henry Farm Restaurant in Jacksonville from 8:30 p.m. to midnight. The cost is \$15 per person or \$25 per couple. Music will be provided by pasTime.

For further information on homecoming activities or events, contact JSU Alumni Affairs at (256) 782-5404 or the JSU Student Government Association at (256) 782-5490.



## Useless Quiz

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. What professional ambition is most often cited by <i>Playboy</i> centerfolds?       | 7. What female singer was nicknamed "The Nose"?                                      |
| 2. Who always died in the Mother's Day stories Quentin Tarantino wrote for his mother? | 8. What's the subtitle of the second Ace Ventura movie?                              |
| 3. What country sends the highest percentage of 15- and 16-year-olds to the altar?     | 9. Who got an Oscar for incessantly exclaiming "Hoo-ah"?                             |
| 4. What does "MI" stand for in the spy business?                                       | 10. Who did Elizabeth Taylor describe as "the least weird man" she'd ever known?     |
| 5. Who was the devil that bargained with Faust?  | 11. What mosh pit faves penned the lyrical <i>Geek Stink Breath</i> ?                |
| 6. What did Tammy Faye Bakker Messner have tattooed on her face?                       | 12. What actor uttered "You dirty yellow-bellied rat," not "You dirty rat," in 1931? |

7. Barbra Streisand  
 8. When Nature Calls  
 9. Al Pacino  
 10. Michael Jackson  
 11. Green Day  
 12. James Cagney

1. Acting  
 2. His mother  
 3. U.S.  
 4. Military intelligence  
 5. Meplatophiles  
 6. Eyebrows



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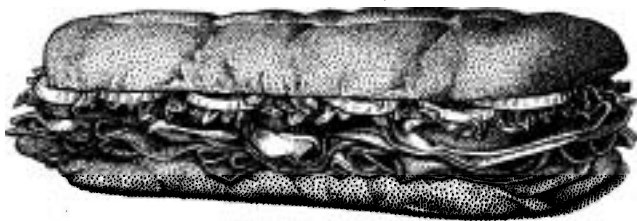
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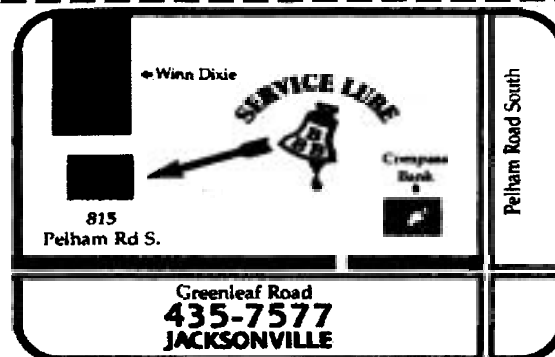
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# S THE WEEK IN SPORTS

## Bearkats slip past Gamecocks

By Anthony Hill  
Sports Editor

Alex St. Peter kicked a 27-yard field goal with just 40 seconds remaining in the game to lift Sam Houston State (4-1, 1-0) to a 26-23 win over the Gamecocks (2-2, 1-1) in a shoot-out last Saturday.

"This game had some really well executed plays, along with well executed series of plays and had just about the same amount of poorly executed plays mixed in with it," said Gamecock head coach Jack Crowe.

The Gamecocks' first touchdown came in the first quarter when quarterback Reggie Stancil threw a 15-yard strike to Cedric Allen to put the Gamecocks up 7-0. Gamecock kicker Brad Hopkins extended the lead to 10-0 on a 34-yard field goal early in the second quarter.

Sam Houston State scored late in the second quarter off a blocked punt by P.J. Traylor who returned the football 12 yards for the touchdown. "The coaches said that I would get free after Jaquail did his thing," said Traylor. "We work on special teams more than any team I know."

The Bearkat "punt block" unit has produced five blocks in as many games this year and has returned three for touchdowns.

"The coaches put us in position to make the blocks. All we have to do is execute," said Traylor.

St. Peter added a 43-yard field goal as time expired in the half to tie the score at 10-10.

"There's no doubt that the block punt was the play of the game for us," said Bearkat Head Coach Ron Randleman. "Not only did we get a touchdown, we also gained momentum going into the half."

**Gamecock running back Rondy Rogers** scored a touchdown on a one yard run early in the third quarter to put JSU back on top, 17-10. Rogers led JSU in rushing, finishing with 83 yards on 22 carries. Gamecock full-back **Carlow James** also had a good outing. James finished the day with a career high 79 yards on the ground as the two backs accounted for most of the 273 yards rushing.

Sam Houston State outscored the Gamecocks 16-6 in the fourth quarter. Bearkat quarterback Albert Bradley connected with Jermaine Henderson on a 25-yard touchdown pass to pull the Bearkats even with the Gamecocks at 17. The Bearkats went up for the first time in the game when Bradley ran the ball in from the one yard line with 9:21 left in the game. The extra point attempt was blocked, which gave the Bearkats a 23-17 lead.



JSU quarterback Reggie Stancil runs for yards in Saturday's loss to Sam Houston State

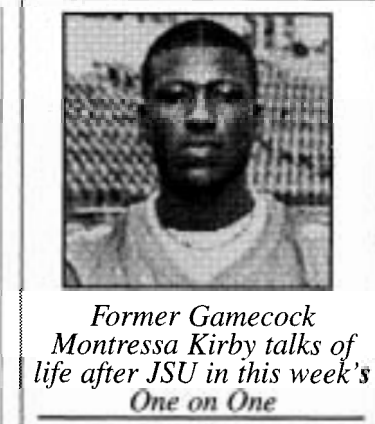
With over six minutes remaining in the fourth quarter, Gamecock tight end Jake Carlton hauled in a touchdown pass from Stancil. Hopkins' extra point attempt was blocked by Bearkat defensive back Keith Davis, which kept the score knotted at 23.

Stancil passed for 121 yards and two touchdowns and rushed for 65 yards on ten carries as the Gamecocks rolled up nearly 400 yards of total offense.

The Bearkats went on a 69-yard drive all the way to the Gamecock 10 yard line to set up the winning kick.

"We're going to play better next week. I don't know if that will be good enough, but we're going to play better," said Crowe.

The Gamecocks hit the road next Saturday to travel to Lake Charles, La. to face McNeese State.



Former Gamecock Montressa Kirby talks of life after JSU in this week's One on One

## Gamecock volleyball team in a slump

By Sports Information

Last Tuesday, senior Heather Beers led the Gamecocks offense, but it wasn't enough to get the win. The Lady Gamecocks lost to Chattanooga at home, 3-2 (15-8, 15-8, 5-15, 3-15, 14-16).

For the first two games of the match Jax State sailed right along, with key blocks from freshman Christina Cary and senior Eysa Ambler. Senior Kelby Rumph seemed to have kills left and right.

After a break to the locker room and some adjustment by UTC, JSU hit zero attack percentage in that game, after hitting over 25 percent in the first two. That game probably stole a double-double performance from Ambler, who finished the night with eight kills, 15 digs and 7 blocks.

The Lady Gamecocks improved a little during the fourth and fifth games, but never got the momentum they had in the first couple.

"We need to learn to finish games and we also need to learn to come form behind and win," said Gamecock Head Coach Jose Rivera. "Tonight, Heather was our only leader on the floor and she is already running it. She can't do everything. We need someone to step up and put the ball away."

Beers finished the night with 48 assist and eight kills, while Rumph had 23 kills and ten digs. Freshman Jennifer Brenneman had 13 kills and sophomore Sarah Taylor had her first career double-double with ten kills and 12 digs.

The Lady Mocs were led by setter Jenn Anderson with 47 assist, Jody Steinberger with 16 kills and Carol Reedus with 19 kills. UTC's Kathy Lusitti tallied a double-double of her own with ten kills and ten digs.

Last Friday the Lady Gamecocks lost their first home conference match against Jacksonville University 3-2 (10-15, 4-15, 17-15, 15-7, 11-15).

The Lady Dolphins of Jacksonville were led by Carrie Arago and Brooke Jackson, both with 16 kills in the five service aces in the Dolphins victory.

JSU senior Kelby Rumph was the big playmaker for the Lady Gamecocks, having 23 kills on 56 on 56 attempts and 15 digs. Senior Eysa Ambler added 12 kills and nine digs to the Lady Gamecocks' number and fellow senior Heather Beers contributed 13 digs and 45 assists.

The Lady Gamecocks also dropped their third straight match last Saturday in five games to Stetson to drop to 5-12 overall.

## JSU names baseball field in Abbott's honor

By Tyler Greer  
Anniston Star

With Rudy Abbot spending some 31 years in coaching, it's easy to figure he has had many special days on a baseball diamond. And even though Saturday wasn't a day when Abbott's Gamecocks played a baseball game or won another championship, it will no doubt rank right up there as one of his best days in coaching.

Abbott and JSU welcomed home past players, coaches and their families Saturday for a 2000 baseball reunion. But the reunion, which featured players or family members from as far back as the 1930s, was for a bigger reason than just a get together for old-time's sake. It was a chance for former players, the university, friends and the community to honor their coach with the naming of JSU's new baseball field **Rudy Abbott Field**.

Abbott took it all in stride, graciously accepting the honor of his name appearing on the scoreboard over the baseball field. But he said the day was great for him because he got to spend time with his former players-some 150-plus of which were in attendance and thank them and the university for all it has given him and his family.

"It's hard to explain the respect and love you have for your ballplayers and it's hard to find the words to express how I feel about what the university chose to do for me and my family and the players," Abbott said after the field dedication

ceremony. "I have deep appreciation of that because JSU is my school. Anything that comes your way from your school is different."

Abbott made it clear earlier in the week that he didn't want the day to be about him. But former players Todd Jones and Tim VanEgmond said it wouldn't be fair to honor JSU baseball without honoring the man many consider to be the Gamecock program personified.

"To be honest with you, this was a long time coming," said Jones, who played for Abbott from 1986-89 and led the American League in saves this year with 42 for the Detroit Tigers.

VanEgmond, who pitched professionally with the Boston Red Sox and Milwaukee Brewers, was a member of both national championship teams in 1990 and 1991. He said naming the field anything other than Rudy Abbott would have been injustice.

"Nothing else would have been sufficient," VanEgmond said. "What else are you going to name it? He made baseball special here."

Abbott also found a special place in the heart of his players. Jones said Abbott was more than just a coach to him. He was someone he looked up to and admired.

The 60-year-old Abbott was born and raised in Anniston and graduated from Walter Wellborn High School before playing junior college baseball in Mississippi and returning home to play for



Pete Mathews speaks at the Abbott dedication as President Meehan and Coach Abbott look on.

the Gamecocks. His coach at JSU, Gene Hanson, remembers meeting and working with the 10-year-old Abbot at Ezell Park in West End.

"He would come before 8 a.m. every morning all ready dressed with a black Anniston Star cap that came way down over his ears," Hanson said. "When I would drive up five minutes 'till eight, he would be standing there hitting his hand in his glove saying 'How come you're late?'"

Baseball has been a part of Abbott's existence all of his life. And he's ready once again to lead another Gamecock team on the field in 2001, his 32nd baseball team. Of course, Abbott knew back in 1970 he would be standing on a field at his university being honored in 2000, right?

"I didn't think I'd live that long," he quipped.

# One on One with "Thrill"



Photo by Anthony Hill  
"I let the past be the past and now I'm just rolling with the punches."

By Anthony Hill

Montressa Kirby is arguably the best quarterback to ever play at JSU. He was also one of the best interviews I've had. I had a lot of fun interviewing "T-Dawg." He was very honest. If I got him with a good question, it was like he said "Uncle!" and gave me the answer. It was like I was wearing him down, humorously pounding away at him. He seem to realize that I had done my homework, and he was going to give me the payoff for effort. He and I laughed throughout the entire interview. Montressa is definitely one of a kind.

**Thrill:** What's up "T-Dawg?"

**Montressa:** What's up "Thrill?"

**Thrill:** Your name simply continued to come up in past segments, so I just had to get you on here.

**Thrill:** Montressa, you are a real superstar. Not only on campus, but throughout the entire community. How does it feel to be a regular student?

**Montressa:** Man, it's a big change. You go from playing ball and being recognized around campus to just being a regular guy. I've adjusted well, but it's different.

**Thrill:** Last year you were in Canada. You were playing for the CFL. What was it like for a guy from Anniston, Ala. to move to Canada?

**Montressa:** Man, I tell you. It was a big change. First of all, it was the weather. It was cold. I'm from the South, so they had to get used to the way that I talked.

**Thrill:** Tell me about your torn rotator cup situation. That is the injury that had you sitting out this season.

**Montressa:** It happened during the off season. I think that it was May or early April. I was throwing, trying to get ready for the season and

heard a pop. I didn't go to the doctor. I just kind of gave myself a break. And when I reported, I didn't pass the physical.

**Thrill:** Childhood was everything but easy for you. You didn't have much money or anything. It was simply hard. Did you imagine that things would swing in the ways that they have?

**Montressa:** Yeah, in a way. I put everything on my shoulders. True, we had some tough times coming up. I just thank God for my mom. She's the greatest thing to ever happened to me.

**Thrill:** What's next for Montressa? I heard that you are going to play in the NFL.

**Montressa:** I had a workout last Thursday. I think that I did well. I'm going to be in the draft. It is the 28th, 29th and 30th. Right now I've just got my fingers crossed.

**Thrill:** Reggie Stancil showed a lot of poise last Saturday and really throughout this season. Do you feel like he will ever be the quarterback that you were? I know that you're going to say yes, but give me your honest answer.

**Montressa:** My honest answer is that Reggie Stancil is going to be a great quarterback for JSU. He brings a lot to the table. The sky is the limit for Reggie.

**Thrill:** Who would "T-Dawg" pay to watch play?

**Montressa:** Dan Marino. He's the reason that I wanted to play quarter-

back. Even though I didn't want to play quarterback at first.

**Thrill:** What position did you want to play?

**Montressa:** Wide receiver. I thought that I was the greatest wide receiver ever. (Both laugh.) My speed wasn't the greatest like the rest of y'all cats.

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

**Montressa:** Most of the time I just chill with my girl. We go places. Other than that, I just do whatever.

**Thrill:** What made you change your hair-style?

**Montressa:** (laughs.) I couldn't even tell you. (laughs again.) To tell you the truth, it started out by me just being lazy. I was a little upset from having to come back home. A lot of people want me to cut it off. I like it though.

**Thrill:** Let me jump back into football again. Do you feel like the year off is hurting you any?

**Montressa:** In a way it is. The second year of pro ball would've helped me out, but I'm still involved with football. I'm all right.

**Thrill:** You lived sort of a fairy tale life in high school, as far as football is concerned. You didn't start until your senior year, you won the Class 6A state championship and you were voted to play in the Alabama vs. Mississippi All-Star game.

**Montressa:** Yeah, it was. I played

at Anniston High. We were loaded with talent. I call it a "wait until it's your turn" type of team.

**Thrill:** How many nicknames do you have?

**Montressa:** (laughs.) Man. My folks call me "Mon-T." There's "T-Dawg," "T-Dinkle-D," "Tressa." Dr. Dial calls me "Mont." There's "Smooov." (both laugh.) Sometimes they call me "T-Dinkles."

**Thrill:** Who's the best coach that you've played for?

**Montressa:** I got to say Coach (Rodney) Bivens. He was my high school coach and he taught me a lot. I never had the opportunity to go to camps. I learned a lot on my own and from him.

**Thrill:** Free association. Anniston Bulldogs.

**Montressa:** Could be a great team, if the offense comes around.

**Thrill:** Coach Bill Burgess. (legendary JSU football coach.)

**Montressa:** Straight-up type of coach. That's what I like.

**Thrill:** Woman.

**Montressa:** Jennifer Lopez. The baddest woman on earth.

**Thrill:** Phi Beta Sigma.

**Montressa:** My veins pump blue blood.

**Thrill:** That's it. Thank you for your time "T-Dawg."

**Montressa:** No problem, man.



A sports editorial  
By Anthony Hill

## Sports builds spirit of unity

Sports is a lot like music. It brings people together from different backgrounds and cultures. People from many spectrums of the world come together to fight for the same team, school or traditions.

How can one be a racist or a generally hateful person when he sweats, suffers and sacrifices for the same principles beside people of many different races? I have long stated that music had the same effect on people. That's one of the reasons why I didn't understand why so many people got mad at Braves pitcher John Rocker for what he said last year. I am just mad that he apologized for what he said. He was simply stating what he saw during his ride on a subway in New York City. If anyone has ridden on one of those in New York, you'd know exactly what he was talking about. Okay, back to what I was saying.

How many times have you gained interest in someone after you heard them listening to a certain group or artist? Well, the same thing applies in sports. Sports not only binds players of the same team, it also unites fans and other supporters.

I have met and communicated with many people after we found out a little bit about each other. I tell you what, I am all for someone who likes Florida State. I am a die hard fan of the Seminoles. As a matter of fact, the common interest in football teams is what brings most guys together. All of the football parties to watch the Miami vs. Florida State games, the Auburn and Alabama games and the list goes on.

I use sports as sort of a social brunch in some cases. Offering someone sports is almost like asking someone

if they would like a beverage or something. For instance, if I have a guest coming over to my apartment, I usually turn the channel to Sports Center on ESPN. If nothing is on we usually watch old Florida State games that I've previously taped. Sometimes we even play sports games on the Play Station. It's a guy thing, I guess.

If you think about it, sporting events are what most of our favorite actors, entertainers and even pastors get into for fun. Everybody likes sports of some sort or another. How many times has the family gotten together to watch a drama or comedy? Well, I bet that the family got together to view more sporting events than the alternatives. To be fair, watching most sporting events isn't always by choice. Your father and brother maybe hogging the tube on that given Saturday or Sunday or you may just want to spend time with your mate and he is watching "THE GAME."

You just never know when it comes to sporting events. They're almost like real life soaps to the guys or athletes in general, whether male or female. The camera angles and the music that is played throughout the presentation of a particular event is so powerful and dramatic.

Don't just look at sports like it's just an event for athletes. Look at it as a unifier. See sports as something that we can all relate to and agree on.

The Bulletin Board

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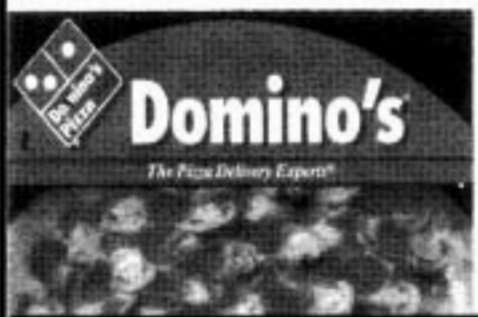
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