Southerners, Cocky and TSU mascot scuffle at football game

By Stephanie Pendergrass
The Chanticleer News Editor

One of JSU’s 20-Js, or tuba players, said he was hit by TSU’s Trojan mascot, T-Roy at the Nov. 17 Troy State University vs. JSU football game.

Right before halftime, Daniel Stallings, also known as Sabertooth by his fellow Marching Southerners, said he was surprised when TSU’s Trojan mascot, Todd Scott, got defensive.

As Stallings explained, “he Southerners were getting ready to go on the field for the halftime presentation with the Sound of the South and, well, I was going over to my spot, which [was] on the 50-yard line. As I was walking over to my spot, our mascot, Cocky, and the Trojan (were) playing around or whatever. I walked by, and I guess I was in his way.”

“Anyway,” said Stallings, “I just kind of stood there and from that point he kind of pushed me, and I wasn’t moving.”

Stallings then explained that as a Marching Southerners tradition, “we don’t move when somebody tries to come through our line.”

When Stallings didn’t move, T-Roy took the offensive. “That’s just the way it was and I just drew back and hit me, out of nowhere,” said Stallings. “My eye did black after the game; I went with a black eye for a day.”

Stallings reported the incident to the Troy State University Police and as he said, “They didn’t seem too interested in the situation.” At that point, I was directed to go talk to their mascot’s manager.

Troy State’s student newspaper, The Tropolitan, explained the situation somewhat differently. The newspaper reported that “JSU band members enclosed T-Roy.” According to The Tropolitan, “T-Roy was trying to escape the band crowd before the halftime show... when the JSU band ‘bumped’ and enclosed him.” It was also reported that “it appears the JSU band created the problem when they surrounded (T-Roy) and started hitting him.”

Stallings did not take action when T-Roy hit him and did not report any wrongdoing on the part of the Marching Southerners. “I was in uniform. I was with the Southerners. I was representing not only the Southerners but Jacksonville State University and myself,” said Stallings. “I was not going to take offensive action to that, because we from Jacksonville, I see that we have a little bit more class than the Troy people do.”

Stallings said he is not going to take legal action in the matter. Instead he asks for one thing: an apology. “I personally would like a letter of apology because I had nothing to do with the situation,” Stallings said. “Whatever it may have been, I had nothing to do with it.”

Cocky and T-Roy had apparently been engaged in a sort of horseplay during the first half of the game, but the Marching Southerners were not associated with the actions either mascot had been a part of. “There was no (real) altercation or instigation going on,” said Stallings. “I didn’t go up to him and say anything, I didn’t push him or anything.”

He later said, “Just because I’m a 20-J player, if anybody else (his fellow tuba players) had said anything out of the way, that I’m not knowledgeable of, it’s not my fault.”

Stallings said he got some apologies from some of the Sound of the South members, and some told him, “that that wasn’t the first time it had happened.”

The Tropolitan reported that T-Roy was punished and had to sit out during the second half of the football game.

Stallings has yet to receive a letter of apology from TSU. He went on to say that he doesn’t believe Cocky would do anything like this, regardless if it was just playing.

“If you’re going to be a representative of your team, then you need to have a little more professionalism about yourself,” said Stallings.

Cheerleaders to compete in Orlando in January

By Stephanie Pendergrass
The Chanticleer News Editor

JSU’s cheerleaders have recently been ranked seventh in the nation. The squad is planning a trip to Orlando, Fla., to participate in the national competition.

According to Carra McWhorter, JSU’s cheerleader sponsor, although the cheerleaders have not yet competed, they were ranked in advance. “It’s from submitting a video entry for national competition to (the) Universal Cheerleaders Association,” said McWhorter.

McWhorter said that the tape was sent into UCA on Oct. 30 and about two weeks later, it was confirmed that JSU’s cheerleaders were ranked seventh.

According to Varsity.com, the UCA/UDA College Cheerleading and Dance Team National Championship will be held in Orlando, Jan. 10-13.

While several divisions exist, JSU’s cheerleaders are in Division I with 14 other schools. The six schools ranked above JSU include: Morehead State University, University of Delaware, George Mason University, Southwest Texas State University, Sacramento State University and Sam Houston State University, according to Varsity’s Web site.

McWhorter said the cheerleaders’ goal is to at least place in the top three of their division at the competition. She then added, “I think they have a very good shot at winning it.”

While she confirmed that “we are definitely going,” McWhorter said some of the schools in Division I may not be able to attend nationals because of the cost behind the trip.

According to McWhorter there are currently 16 cheerleaders on JSU’s squad, including eight women and eight men. She also said that tryouts for cheerleaders are held in the spring and along with doing cheers and chants, those trying out have to do tumbling and other stunts as well.

McWhorter said, “I think [the cheerleaders are] doing pretty good.” She then expressed some concern with the lack of enthusiasm that some students have at the University.

“I think JSU, itself, we’ve got to do something to make us proud to be Gamecocks against,” said McWhorter. “If that ever happens, the job that you see them doing, the cheerleaders, is going to improve. It’s very hard when you’re cheering to a crowd that’s just looking at you and not yelling with you, it appear as spirited as they need to be.”

Ed Strempel, one of the University’s cheerleaders, had positive feelings toward the competition. “I feel like we’re going to do very well,” he said. “This is only the second time in the past few years that we’ve ever competed.”

Strempel also said he thinks the cheerleaders have improved this year, in comparison to those in the past, which should help at the contest. “We have a lot of talent this year, more than we’ve had, so I feel like we’re going to at least land in the top five,” he said.

Strempel is happy with the job the cheerleaders are doing this year. “I think we’re doing a lot better this year than we had in past years,” he said. “People are a little more dedicated this year and more excited about the program now because we’re getting more support from the school.”

JSU President William Maehan and his daughter Carol Grace play host at the JSU In Lights event held Tuesday night. The evening started with a reception at the Maehan’s Home and culminated with the lighting of campus holiday decorations.
**Announcements**

**Alpha Omicron Pi:** The sisters of A0Pi would like to wish everyone good luck with finals this week, and also wish everyone a safe Christmas break! To Rebekah, Ginny, and Robin - you will be greatly missed next semester! We love you! **Contact:** Kristi Smith, 782-6212.

The Delta Chi Fraternity would like to congratulate our new initiates. We also give thanks to Delta Zeta for a wonderful Margaritaville Mixer last week. Everyone study hard and remember to go to finals. Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! **Contact:** Andrew Symonds, 782-6753.

**SGA:** Release the stress that finals bring by singing Karaoke in the Caf and enjoying breakfast at the Midnight Snack tonight, 10pm-12am! SGA wishes you a very safe and restful holiday season. Get involved and let SGA lead your way to a happy new year! **Contact:** Robert Hayes, 782-5495.

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**Campus Crime**

- Nov. 3 - Alexander Yearly Hooper, 22, of Huntsville, received a uniform non-traffic citation and complaint, from JSUPD for open container violation occurring at Mountain Street and Forney Avenue.
- Nov. 3 - James Alan Creel, 24, of Palatka, Fla., received a uniform non-traffic citation and complaint, from JSUPD for open container violation occurring at Mountain Street and Forney Avenue.
- Nov. 3 - Thomas Daniel Kozlowski, 23, of Jacksonville, received a uniform non-traffic citation and complaint, from JSUPD for open container violation occurring at Mountain Street and Forney Avenue.
- Nov. 28 - Sherman Maurice Banks, 19, of Hartselle, received a uniform non-traffic citation and complaint, from JSUPD for noise ordinance violation occurring at Nelson Avenue and Trustee Circle.
- Nov. 29 - Amanda Sharell Ford, 19, of Hillsboro, received a uniform non-traffic citation and complaint, from JSUPD for noise ordinance violation occurring at Nelson Avenue and Trustee Circle.
- Nov. 29 - Marlon Lorenzo Gurley, 26, of Huntsville, received a uniform non-traffic citation and complaint, from JSUPD for nuisance and loud music from a vehicle occurring at Trustee Circle and Nelson Avenue.
- Nov. 29 - Greg Alan McDonald, 22, of Jacksonville, received a uniform non-traffic citation and complaint, from JSUPD for noise ordinance violation occurring at Hwy. 21 and Mountain Street.

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**Remaining finals schedule**

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**Sat., Dec. 8**

Same time as class normally meets.

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Happy Holidays

Good luck on your finals, Merry Christmas and have a Happy New Year.

Fall semester 2001 at JSU is finally over, and when we meet again, it will be a new year, we’ll be a bit fatter from all the Christmas treats and further toward our degrees.

If you’re graduating this semester, good luck. Hopefully, all the years of education at JSU will pay off and you will get a nice-paying job you love. That’s why we’re all here after all, and looking at how JSU graduates place well in the job market is always an inspiration to enrolled students.

The “real world,” we’ve heard, can be a bit cold, so isn’t it nice to be graduating before the Christmas break?

Prior to grappling with the fierce job market, you can go and enjoy your family and the touch of warmth that always seems to come from the season.

The first year of the millennium will soon be over. How was it? Did your previous New Year’s resolutions pan out OK? Well, if not, the time for making new ones is soon approaching.

Some terrible things happened this year; in remembrance of everything, we should embrace the new year and the fact that will mean leaving behind JSU and the city of Jacksonville.

While there’s bound to be as many opinions on that fact as there are graduates, I think it’s safe to say many of them will feel a profound sense of relief.

How will they remember this school and this town after they’re gone? What will they say to people in the years to come about their time here?

To be sure, their memories and their continuing relationship with JSU will be different than those of graduates from our state’s larger schools. Jacksonville is a far different place than Birmingham, Tuscaloosa, or even Auburn, and JSU is certainly different than the schools you’ll find there.

For starters JSU is a smaller school, in a smaller town. Graduates will likely remember smaller class sizes, on average, than they’d have seen at other schools. They’ll remember seeing their professors teach most of those classes, and not graduate-teaching assistants.

They’ll remember a smaller “college scene” than exists in other towns. There are fewer places to eat, to drink, to dance and hang out, fewer bands playing and fewer places to shop. The upside to that is that there are more familiar faces at those places.

Does our smaller size make other schools better than JSU, or other college towns better than Jacksonville? I guess it’s all a matter of taste. If graduates leave here wishing they’d had a few more choices when going out to stuff their faces or drink their fill, perhaps they’d have been happier somewhere else. But if you’re the type who picks a favorite spot or two and becomes a regular, who relishes the “Cheers”-like cry of your first name when you walk into a place, this town might have been just right for you.

How will the feelings of these graduates shape the future of their relationship with the school and town? Graduates of many schools often speak of their colleges and the towns that hold them in reverent tones, making almost sacred pilgrimages back for football games to relive the good ol’ days, and tithe generously to the schools and their various causes.

Regardless of their level of fondness for JSU and Jacksonville, chances are our graduates won’t be writing huge checks to the school for multi-million dollar stadium renovations, etc.

While other schools can count many of the states doctors, lawyers, engineers and prominent politicians among its alumni, Jax State’s graduates are mostly destined to become the teachers, nurses, police officers and other not-quite-blue collar, not-quite-white collar workers who do the work that makes our society move, without taking home a lot of money for it.

Those people are unlikely to find room in their budgets to bankroll the huge building projects and generous scholarships you might see elsewhere. But some will do what they can, as some always have, and help keep JSU rolling right along despite the lack of support from Montgomery.

Hopefully, when they’re not working, they’ll come back for football games and other athletic events, for their children’s graduations (they’ll send their kids to JSU, naturally, right?) or perhaps just for a platter of wings and a day full of good memories.

Regardless of the reason, I hope they’ll come back, and do what they can to keep the JSU family strong.
Jacksonville gives reason this Christmas season

By Danni Lusk
The Chanticleer Features Editor

Many JSU students flock home for the holidays right after their finals are over. But this year, the city of Jacksonville just might give some of them a reason to stay just a little bit longer.

The annual Jacksonville Christmas parade will set Pelham Road aglow with floats, antique cars, bands and beauty queens on Dec. 6 beginning at 6:30 p.m. The parade begins at the Old Plaza Shopping Center and ends near Stephenson Hall, according to parade coordinator Rita Edwards.

"They really do an excellent job. I really liked. The album's first single, "Standing Still" holds a little bit of good musicianship. The song's arrangement pays close attention to Jewel's storytelling and her voice. The single isn't too bad. One song that hit me the wrong way was the way too country, "Everybody Needs Someone Sometimes." I hate hearing Jewel trying to use a southern accent and am almost offended by lyrics like, "...she weren't no spring chicken." What the hell?! And what about, "He looked like a potato shoved into jeans." What does that mean? Although Jewel disappointed me with many of the songs on this album, she never fails to drop a nice ballad every now and then. One high point on the album was "Break Me." Besides having a good arrangement, this soft, romantic ballad also has some really good lyrics. "And you could hurt me with your bare hands / You could hurt me with the sharp end of what you say / But I am lost to you now / There's no amount of reason to save me."

One song that I can't really decide whether I like or not is "Serve The Ego." It is a very eclectic song and its melody is catchy. The lyrics are pretty strange too. "Two ships sailing on a neon sea / Eat the flesh, spit out the seeds / Feathered hair and lame heels / What turns me on is so surreal." One cool part of the song is a wail Jewel emotes halfway through the song. It sounds very much like The Cranberries.

Overall, the album wasn't so bad. It didn't quite impress me as much in the beginning. But, after a little more listening, I decided that it wasn't as bad as I thought. However, I don't recommend running out and buying the album unless you are a die-hard Jewel fan or really like the single.

Oh, and just one last thing, when is she going to fix those damn teeth?
Ten Gamecocks earn SFL all conference honors

By Anthony Hill
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

The Gamecocks didn’t end the football season the way they had envisioned they would, but they gained some respect along the way.

JSU set new school records this past season with two players earning national player-of-the-week honors and four players being selected as SFL players-of-the-week.

Last week 10 players were named to the Southland Football League All-Conference team. Three players earned first-team honors, including the talented tailback Rondy Rogers, big Jeremy Sullivan and the record-setting punter Richie Rhodes.

Rogers, a product of Minor High School in Birmingham, set a number of rushing records this season for the Gamecocks. He became the school’s all-time single-season leading rusher with 1,417 yards and 13 touchdowns.

“Sullie,” a native of Leroy and the emotional leader of the Gamecock offensive line, started 41 consecutive games in his four-year career as a Gamecock.

Rhodes was also selected as first-team SFL punter. The freshman from Alexander City, Ala. averaged 45.7 yards per punt this season and had a 74-yard punt against Troy State. Rhodes was also the first Gamecock punter to earn NCAA 1-AA National Player of the Week honors.

Senior defensive end Taylor Mitchell and sophomore safety Markee Coleman headed the second-team defensive selections. Mitchell finished the season with 52 tackles, including eight for a loss and three fumble recoveries. Coleman led JSU in tackles with 73. He also recorded three interceptions and recovered a fumble this season.

The JSU football team had five honorable mentions, including junior quarterback Reggie Stancil. The junior from Moultrie, Ga. moved into third place in JSU’s total offensive yardage category with 5,827 yards. He is now fourth on the school’s all-time passing list with 4,758 yards. Stancil finished the season completing 112 passes for 1,848 yards and 14 touchdowns.

Sophomore wide receiver Ralph Jenkins, linebacker Corey Warren, the exciting punter returner Neika Willis and place-kicker Steven Lee concluded the list of Gamecocks selected with honorable mentions.

The Southland Player of the Year went to the talented quarterback from Sam Houston State Josh McCown. Stephen F. Austin quarterback Wes Pate took home Offensive Player of the Year honor, while McNeese State safety Joe Judge brought justice to Lake Charles, La. by capturing the Defensive Player of the Year award. Sam Houston State head coach Ron Randleman was selected as the Southland Football League Coach of the Year.

Gamecock basketball drops two straight conference games

Jacksonville State’s men’s team loses to Troy State and Mercer to fall to 1-3 on season

Staff Reports

The JSU basketball team continued its road swing with games against Troy State and Mercer last week. The Gamecocks traveled to Troy to battle the Trojans, but they didn’t put up much of a fight as they lost 70-52 in their first A-Sun game of the season.

Robert Rushing scored 19 points to lead the Trojans past the Gamecocks in front of 2,456 fans at Trojan Arena last Thursday.

“Home teams win in the league and the teams that have a chance to challenge for the championship,” said head coach Mike LaPlante. “It’s a tough go when you’re on the road and we didn’t shoot the ball very well.”

The Gamecocks hit just 17-of-56 from the field and JSU shot 13 percent from 3-point range, hitting 3-of-22.

Troy State (3-1, 1-1) jumped out to an 18-7 lead over the first eight minutes of the game, as the Trojans led the entire game from the opening tip. The Trojans’ built their largest lead of the first half after Rushing scored on a lay-up with 5:18 left.

The Trojans led 34-23 at the half.

Jay Heard missed all seven of his shots in the first half and was 4-of-17 for the game. Heard finished 0-of-7 from beyond the arc and concluded the game with only nine points. He has scored 16 points in his last two games.

“I’m trying too hard, taking bad shots,” said Heard. “Doing stuff like that, it’s hard to get back in the groove. I’ve got to learn to calm down.”

TSU, which forced 20 JSU turnovers, pushed the lead to 45-29 on a 3-pointer by Donnie Pemberton with 15:11 left in the game, but then Jax State made a run. Omar Barlett and Jay Heard combined to slice the lead to 45-38 with 10:01 left in the game. But, a shot by Herbert Evans, who finished with 13, pushed the lead back to double-digits for Troy State and the Trojans never looked back.

The Gamecocks were led by Barlett, who finished with a career-high 16 points and eight rebounds. Cornelius Richardson contributed with 10 points.

The Gamecocks then traveled to Macon, Ga. to face the Mercer Bears last Saturday.

Scott Emerson and Aleeem Muhammad each scored 17 points to lead Mercer (2-5, 1-1) to a 71-53 Atlantic Sun victory over the Gamecocks (1-3, 0-2).

“I think that the big, big factor in this game was all the second shot chances that we gave up,” said LaPlante. “Mercer was able to get a lot of second shot opportunities and they were able to limit us to just one shot.”

Mercer held a 43-23 advantage on the boards, including 13 offensive rebounds to just seven for the Gamecocks.

The first half was back and forth before Mercer went on a 9-1 run over a two-minute span late in the half to build the lead.

A pair of free throws by Bobby Hansen with 23 seconds left in the half gave the Bears a 30-22 lead, but Poine Richardson dropped a 3-pointer with five seconds left in the half to cut the lead to 30-25 at the intermission.

Jax State cut the lead to 30-27 after Barlett scored on a 15-foot jumper with 19:20 left in the game, but the Gamecocks would get no closer.

Mercer pushed the lead to double-digits after Hansen scored inside with 13:16 left and gave the Bears a 46-35 lead.

Jax State tried to make a final run. Josh Perry connected on a pair of free throws and Emerson “Downtown” Brown followed the shots with a steal and a layup. The Gamecocks hit a 3-pointer to cut the lead to 53-47 with 7:39 left in the game, but Mercer ended the game on an 18-4 run to finish off JSU.

The JSU basketball team will return to the hardwood on Dec. 14 when they travel to Tuscaloosa to face the nationally ranked Alabama Crimson.

Junior guard Jay Heard eyes down the defense during the Gamecocks’ loss last week.

The Anniston Star/Steve Gross
Turnovers doom JSU women's basketball team

The Golden Knights defense limited the Gamecock offense to nine of 31 shots in the first half and kept the Gamecocks from scoring a basket in the last 5:28 before the intermission by going on a 17-0 run.

"UCF is a good team, but right now we're beating ourselves," said Austin. "We have got to eliminate turnovers and deny second chance points."

The Gamecocks cut the lead to 13 with a layup by Nkell Copeland with 6:20 to go in the game, but that was as close as JSU could get.

Tyus finished the night with 13 points for the Gamecocks, while freshman Shanika Freeman had 12 points and eight rebounds. Freshman Fredricka Embry added 11 points, while Copeland contributed with six assists.

UCF's Erin Paige had 15 points and six assists and Lanetra Cooks added 14 points.

JSU (1-3, 0-1) will travel to Starkville, Miss., to play in the Mississippi State tournament on Dec. 15-16. Mississippi State, Montana and Houston are some of the schools competing in the tournament next weekend.

Events: from page 5

Turnovers have been the story of the Jacksonville State's women's basketball team so far, in the early stages of the 2001-02 season. The Gamecocks dropped their first Atlantic Sun game of the season to University of Central Florida (4-4, 1-0), 85-65.

"We are not like most Division I programs where freshmen don't see a lot of playing time," said head coach Dana Austin. "We are depending on them and they need to grow up quick and eliminate mistakes."

Gamecock freshmen accounted for 19 of 30 team turnovers in the game and UCF scored 29 points off turnovers on the night.

Jacksonville State played well for the first 15 minutes of the first half. Amanda Tyus hit a 3-pointer at the 11:06 mark to give the Gamecocks the lead, but it would be the only time they would be in charge. After a JSU free throw with 5:28 left to go in the first, UCF scored 17 unanswered points to seal the lead and the win for the Golden Knights.

Finley. "It's kind of like having an open house," she said. "[Visitors are not really on any one schedule. You can linger as long as you like at any place."

For information of purchasing a $5 ticket for the tour, call 435-4053. Refreshments will be available at both the arts exhibit and the tour of holiday homes.

"I think people will enjoy it," said Finley. "This is really where you can get and relax and just enjoy hospitality with your friends and neighbors."
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