**WSU smokestacks are falling down, falling down, falling down**

By Gracie Catchings
News Editor

Students should watch for falling debris the next time they drive down Forney Avenue. The stacks at JSU's heating plant are literally falling apart.

No bricks have actually fallen from the stacks, but a three-inch steel band around the top of the smaller stack came loose, according to Physical Plant Director George Lord. One side of the band deteriorated, rusted and fell to the ground.

A company came in and replaced the band, Lord said. The recommendation was made that more work be done on the stacks that were built in 1948.

“We do have some aging mortar on the chimney itself,” Lord said.

As a precaution, the area surrounding the stacks was fenced off and caused alarm in some maintenance workers.

“We don’t think there’s any real danger,” said Vice President of Administrative and Business Affairs Don Thacker, “but we’ve taken the necessary precautions anyway.”

The plant, which supplies heating for the University, is inspected periodically. In the last 10 years, several repairs have been made, Thacker said. The heat comes up through the stacks, dries out the mortar and the bricks come loose.

“We knew at some point in time we were going to have to replace it,” Thacker said.

After the stacks undergo further inspection, extensive repairs will begin in the spring. The stack will be relined and the mortar repaired, Thacker said.

“We’re going to have to make up for lost time,” Thacker said. “This is a very big job.”

Thacker said the work could take up to nine months. The stacks are expected to be completed by the fall.

Forney Avenue. The stacks at JSU’s heating plant are literally falling apart.

News Editor

Published: February 1, 2001

**Bicyclists need to be more careful**

By Gracie Catchings
News Editor

When Mikolaj Ksiazek started pedaling down Alabama 21 from the International House recently, he wasn’t wearing a helmet. “I’d never seen anybody around here wearing one,” he said.

At 2:35 p.m. on that Monday, Jan. 22, he was involved in a collision with a van. Ksiazek said the front tire on the bicycle hit the side of the van. His head hit the hood, and he was rushed to the Jacksonville Hospital, concerned about head or neck injuries.

Ksiazek suffered only minor injuries to the neck and was released from the Jacksonville Hospital that day. The driver of the van could not be reached for comment.

JSU Police Chief Nelson Coleman said bicycle collisions rarely happen on campus; only a few in the past year and a half. One in particular happened in front of Brewer Hall. It was almost identical to Monday’s accident. There were no serious injuries.

Eighty-six percent of bike accidents involve an automobile or truck, according to the Bicycle Helmet Safety Institute. The most common reason for accidents is the motorist failing to yield the right of way to a bike. According to Johns Hopkins Injury Prevention Center, 758 bicyclists were killed in crashes with motor vehicles in 1998. 96 percent of those killed reportedly weren’t wearing helmets.

**Student activity fee being put to senate for a vote**

By Gracie Catchings
News Editor

The Student Government Association hopes to bring bigger and better events to Jacksonville State University with the passage of a student activity fee.

“This fee can help everyone and the University programs on the whole,” said SGA Second Vice President Donnell Humes. “We think the students want bigger events, not necessarily more.”

The proposal will go before the SGA senate on Feb. 5 or 12. Humes said. The SGA has been pondering the idea since October. Jason Bozeman, program director for 92J, originally presented the idea to Humes.

“He proposed that we have a fee,” Humes said. “How much, we don’t know. We want it to be enough to cover everything we have to do and everything the people want. But we don’t want it so much that it’s going to be oppressive.”

The maximum fee will be $5-$10, but impending proration could also affect the numbers.

“We’re going to have to make up that difference,” Humes said. “plus enough to have the things people want.”

With a student population of about 7,950, $5 per person would generate almost $40,000 for the SGA to utilize for campus events, particularly concerts. Humes does not believe students should have to pay for concerts, but there is no alternative at the present time.

“All we want to do is to break even when we purchase a major concert,” Humes said. “If we could do it in such a way that we didn’t have to have a fee, we’d do it.”

The resolution must pass the senate and President Meehan’s vote before it is voted on by the student body.

“We did a survey, and it ended up about 70/30 that were in favor of it,” said Kerry Hudson, head of the

**continued on page 3. Bicycle safety**
Campus Crime

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

1-19-01: Christopher S. Branch, 19, of Orange County, Ca., was arrested by JSUPD for DUI at Oak Village Apartments on Mountain Street occurring on 1-19-01.

1-24-01: Barry Simmons, of Jacksonville, Ala., reported criminal mischief at Crow Hall to JSUPD occurring on 1-24-01.

1-24-01: Crystal M. Dawson, of Birmingham, Ala., reported criminal mischief at Stone Center parking lot and Sparkman Hall parking lot to JSUPD occurring between 1-17-01 and 1-18-01.

1-24-01: Ira M. Clark, of Jacksonville, Ala., reported theft of property to JSUPD occurring on 1-24-01.

1-25-01: Alvis M. Camp, of Fort Payne, Ala., reported theft of property to JSUPD occurring between 1-24-01 and 1-25-01.

1-25-01: Samantha Dawkins, of Jacksonville, Ala., reported assault at Fitzpatrick Hall parking lot to JSUPD occurring on 1-25-01.

1-27-01: John A. Schmidt, 18, of Newport, Va., was arrested by JSUPD for consumption of alcohol by a minor at Coffee Street and Pelham Road occurring on 1-27-01.

 Clubs and Organizations

- **Alpha Xi Delta**
  - Congratulations to Valerie Womack and Ann Marie Reynolds on being selected as Rho Chi's. You two represent sorority women well and are going to do a great job! Our award for the week are: Amy Johnson-study hall, April Morton-new member of the week, Anne Marie Reynolds on sister of the week. Congratulations to Amy Johnson, Trina Kulakowski, Tiffany Burnham, Courtney Edmunds, Becky Lasch, Autumn Neighbors, and Jennifer Freeman for being A recipients. Good Luck to our Basketball team!

- **Alpha Tau Omega**
  - We had a great time at our brotherhood retreat at Cheaha Mountain this weekend. We had a tremendous rush as well, as we gained 9 pledges through spring rush. Good job everyone. Congratulations to J.C. Moore for receiving Brother of the Week.

- **Delta Zeta**
  - Delta Zeta would like to wish all the JSU basketball teams GOOD LUCK this week! Congratulations to the Rho Chis that were chosen for the 2001 year. Good luck to Casey O'Connor and Stephanie Shirley on being nominated for Miss Jax State and Miss Friendly!! We would like to welcome our newest member Stephanie Byrd!!! We are so glad to have you!! We would like to welcome our alumna association to JSU! DZ would like to congratulate Kelly Copeland for being chosen for basketball hosting. Awards for the week: twisted - Exeb & BSBC crew, support - Jessica Johnson, alumna of the week - Cathy Davis, sister of the week - Amy Moore, tiny turtle - Stephanie Byrd, faculty of the week - Mr. Kinney, sisterhood - Jamie Sexton, and chairman of the week - Amy Moore.

- **Zeta Tau Alpha**
  - Zeta Tau Alpha wishes the baseball team good luck on their first game Saturday! Congrats to all the new Diamond Dolls! The teacher of the month is... Susan McCain!!! Good luck to both the mens and womens basketball teams this week! Win Win Win! We also wanted to wish Jency Sharp Good Luck with her radio show! Jency is the EC member for the week too!! SHE is just all over the place! Zeta wants all the gamecock hostesses and host to know that they have done an awesome job this year!! Great Job - Holli Blass, Jency Sharp Mandy McQueen, Leigha Cauthen, Merideth Barns, Jill Henderson and Stephanie Janis. Congrats to our newest new member Nancy Bass!

- **Phi Mu**
  - The sisters of Phi Mu hope everyone is having a great week! Congratulations to the sisters of Alpha Omicron Pi for 11 great years on campus. We are also very proud of Melinda Clark and Shannon Collins for being chosen as Rho Chi! Good luck to the Phi Mu basketball team-keep up the great work ladies! Phi Mu would especially like to thank Debbie Garrett, Patsy Hubbard and Sarah Hubbard for speaking to us about Children’s Hospital during our meeting Sunday. The Phi Mu Lady of the Week is Melinda Clark and we want to wish Lauren Thrower a happy birthday!! We hope everyone has a great weekend and good luck to our Gamecock tonight! We love Phi Mu!!

- **Omega Pi**
  - The sisters and new members would like to congratulate the following sisters on their awards at the Founder's Day Dinner:
    - Rose Award: Deidra Tidwell, Hope Award: Erin Woodruff, Outstanding Sophomore: Mandy Holland, New Member of the Year: Elizabeth Davis, Certificate of Honor: Kim Mullendore, Outstanding Senior: Rebekah Adams, Leaders Council Award: Sara Thompson, Advisors Award: Deidra Tidwell, Sister Ruby A Award: Boy Boyd, New Member A Award: Robin Goodwin, Most Improved GPA: Cheyenne Creasy, & Jessica Henry, Big/Lil Award: Elizabeth Davis & Kerry Hudson, Highest Big/ Lil GPA: Aly Boyd & Mariana Chandler

- **Kappa Alpha**
  - We would like to thank Kappa Alpha Order for allowing us to have our Big/Lil revealing at their house tonight! We love our new members and can’t wait for them to find out who their Bigs are! Awards of the Week: Officer of the Week: Kerry Hudson. Positive Pandas & Sisters of the Week: Mandy Holland, Amy Whatley, Sara Thompson, and Heather Miller. Also, we want to congratulate all the new Peer Counselors! Good job!

- **Panhellic Council**
  - Panhellic Council—Congratulations 2001 Rho Chi’s; Melinda Clark, Shannon Collins, Elizabeth Hoffman, Holly Pinson, Jennifer Jones, Amy Phillips, Ann Marie Reynolds, Valerie Womack, Mandy Holland, and Amy Whatley. We look forward to working with all of you toward a successful fall recruitment.

- **African American Associated**
  - The officers of the African American Association would like to extend our warmest welcome to all of the new students. Good Luck!!!

Announcements

- **The Writers’ Club is seeking submissions for the 2000-2001 edition of “Something Else,” the literary magazine of JSU. All students are encouraged to submit poetry (maximum of 35 lines), short stories, essays, and drama (maximum of 10 pages), and original artwork and photos (pre-shrink to 8.5 by 11 inches) to the Writers’ Club, JSU Box 3083, or to professors Jones, McCurdy-Jennings, or Hawley in the English Department, Stone Center. Submissions should be typed and double spaced and be prepared for blind review, i.e. no names on the work, only student ID number. Include a cover sheet with name, student ID number, campus address, phone number, title of work, and category of submission. The deadline is Friday, 16 February 2001.

- JSU is starting its first scuba diving club. No equipment or experience required. For more information contact Ted Starnes @ 455-6951.

- **The African American Association** will be having a meeting on Thursday, February 1, 2001 at 4pm in the Multicultural Services Office on the 4th floor of the Theron Montgomery Building (TMB). For more information send email to cecylbh@hotmai.com.

Marv Albert says... Read a paper with a little bite...
Construction aiding in community convenience

By Stephanie Pendergrass
Staff Writer

A new location for recreation and exercise will soon be gracing the community. With the creation of the Jacksonville Community Center, convenience will be found closer to home.

The Jacksonville Community Center will be located at Union Yard Park. Harley McGatha Construction, Inc. of Centre is in the process of constructing it. The Chief Ladiga Trail is also located nearby, which will add to the accessibility of the center.

"It’s located near the populous of our town, where the majority of the seniors and kids who need it the most are in walking distance," said Bo Batey, Parks and Recreation Director for Jacksonville.

The 18-acre area will have many features. According to Batey, the project will include a large divisible gymnasium, plus a swimming pool, aerobics room, weight room, an 8-lane indoor track, plus 4,000 feet put aside for rental functions.

Batey believes the gymnasium will be the main feature to the community center. At this time, 18 basketball teams in the Jacksonville area have to depend on the school system and JSU for the facilities they need to play. With the completion of the center, however, teams will be able to play at one central location.

"[The center is] a need that our civic leaders have realized for many years. We’ve had this need forever, but this is the first time we’ve ever been in a position to afford it," said Batey.

Mayor Jerry L. Smith reports that the center will be paid for with bonds and the construction will cost approximately four million dollars. "We got to the point where we were willing to take a risk and see if we could fund it," said Mayor Smith.

While the center is being built in an older part of town, it may help the area by bringing new businesses in. "We think there will be some changes and some economic benefits outside of the facility itself. It should be a major capital asset for Jacksonville for years and years," said Mayor Smith.

By Aaron Taylor Webb
Staff Writer

Gas leak slows busy student traffic to a virtual halt

A gas leak on the corner of Alabama 21 and Mountain Street caused Jacksonville traffic to back up more than usual last week.

The corner by the post office, half the intersection and two lanes were closed off. City workers, bulldozers and bright orange cones hindered the flow of traffic for several days.

"The blocked drive was somewhat of an inconvenience, but we were just as busy as usual," a postal worker said. "It really didn’t seem to affect us."

Some JSU students thought differently though. "The traffic caused me to be late for a class," Matt Garland said.

"Some idiot almost hit me while changing over from the closed lane," Cam Barfield said.

There had been reports of a strong smell of natural gas in the area, Mayor Jerry Smith said. City workers were sent out to find the leak and repair it.

"Gas leaks are usually fixed fairly quick, but this leak was more elusive than others in the past," Smith said. "It was harder to track because the odor that came from the ground was not where the break was."

Finally, the small leak was found and repaired and the intersection was reopened.

"Gas leaks are not unusual, especially in the winter," Smith said. "The cold weather has harsh effects on the old, rusted pipes sometimes causing breaks in the lines."

Smith said the city is in the process of replacing these aged pipes, but it takes a long time and money. Smith said the leak wouldn’t impinge on the gas bills of residents nearby. It affects the city. The loss of gas from this leak has not yet been estimated.

By Stephen Pendergrass
Staff Writer

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Continued from page 1, Student activity fee

Continued from page 1, Bicycle safety
Black History Month 2001
Celebration Highlights

Sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Services

Comedy Night
featuring
Rickey Smiley

Thursday, February 8, 2001
Leone Cole Auditorium
7:00 p.m.

Students with JSU ID admitted free!
IDs will be checked at the door!

General Admission: $15

Soul Food Dinner Theater
featuring
“1001 Black Inventions”

Thursday, February 15, 2001
Leone Cole Auditorium
6:30 p.m.

Students: $8
General Admission: $12

Menu

ON THE SQUARE IN JACKSONVILLE
435-8200

Email: cheeseinc@aol.com  www.dominosofjacksonville.com

Large 1 Topping $10.99
2nd Large $5.99
Add your choice of Cheese Sticks or 2 Liter Coke, Sprite, Diet Coke or Mr. Pibb only $10.99 + tax

MATCH THE CLOCK MONDAY NIGHTS ONLY
Add 2nd Large $5.99
Buy One Large 1 Topping Pizza and The Time On The Clock Is Your Price + Tax.
no coupon necessary

12 Inch 1 Topping Pizza with a 10 Piece Wing & Dressing $11.99 + tax

PIZZA & WINGS
Go Large $2.49

Med. 1 Topping $6.00 Tax Inc.
Lunch BLOWOUT

Med. 1 Topping $6.00 Tax Inc.
Lg. 1 Topping $9.00 Tax Inc.

Med. 1 Topping $6.00 Tax Inc.
Lg. 1 Topping $9.00 Tax Inc.

FAMILY FEAST
2 Large Pizzas with 1 Topping
and a 2 Liter

Large 1 Topping $13.99
2nd Large $7.99
Add your choice of Cheese Sticks or 2 Liter Coke, Sprite, Diet Coke or Mr. Pibb only $13.99 + tax

Specialty Pizzas

Pick a Specialty
Extravaganza • Deluxe • Meatball
• Bacon Cheddar Cheeseburger • Vegetarian • BBQ

Small 1 Topping $9.99 + tax
Med. 1 Topping $10.99 + tax

Large 1 Topping $12.99
2nd Large $7.99
Add your choice of Cheese Sticks or 2 Liter Coke, Sprite, Diet Coke or Mr. Pibb only $12.99 + tax

FAMILY SIZE $15.99
adding a 2 Liter Coke for 99¢

NOW HIRING!
New Hours:
Now Open Late!!!
Monday - Sunday
11 am - 1 am

6 Pack Of Coke, Diet Coke, Sprite or Mr. Pibb for 99¢ with purchase of Large Pizza at Regular Price

6 PACK 99¢
Southern writers conference pushes JSU’s literary edge to the “brink” of greatness

By Joshua W. Bingham
Features Editor

Has anyone ever wanted a book signed by the author on their living-room bookshelf? A book to be proud of, kept in mint condition and shown to visitors often? If so, then Saturday, Feb. 3 will be that person’s lucky day here at Jacksonville State University.

“On the Brink 2001” is a conference designed to bring Southern writers and readers together offering “a forum to emerging writers as they explore the Southern experience through our past, present and future,” reads the registration form.

The conference will take place on the eleventh floor of the Houston Cole Library and the eight published authors attending will read from their latest works, discuss their reasons and inspirations for writing in their genres as well as answer questions from the audience. The genres range from historical fiction to poetry with a few in-between.

Gena Christopher, the English department affiliate to be contacted before attending the conference, gave some information on each of the authors and their latest works.

Clyde Bolton has been a sports writer for The Birmingham News since 1961, played football for Alexandria High School and grew up in Wellington. Bolton has previously written biographies about football stars from Alabama but will be discussing his first fictional work, “Nancy Swimmer: A Story of the Cherokee Nation.” It is a fictional account of the Cherokee Trail of Tears.

Ben Erickson is a carpenter, living in Birmingham, who will be discussing his first fictional work, “A Parting Gift.” A high school graduation present for his son, this book is about a boy of high school age who becomes friends with an 84-year-old man and the relationship they establish.

Wayne Greenhaw is a historian from southern Alabama who will be discussing “Beyond the Night.” It is a fictional account about an auto accident he was in as a child. According to Christopher, it could almost be considered a children’s novel.

Melinda Haynes is from southern Alabama and was a social worker before she started writing. Her first book was “A Fortunate Woman.” Haynes has written and published biographies about several Alabama football stars from Alabama but will be discussing her new book, “Nancy Swimmer: A Story of the Cherokee Nation.” It is a fictional account of the Cherokee Trail of Tears.

U. of Texas tight lipped about presidential student

By Joanna Tom
TMS Campus Correspondent

President-elect George W. Bush’s 19-year-old daughter’s name is not among the records of students enrolled at the University of Texas at Austin even though she’s beginning her fourth semester at the university.

Not only is Jenna Bush’s name omitted from registrar records but it’s also not listed in the university’s electronic directory, which lists the name, major, address, phone number and e-mail address of most UT students. However, students may request not to be listed in the directory.

The university has been working with president-elect Bush to ensure that Jenna remains safe while in school and is happy to have Jenna as one of its students, said James Vick, vice president for student affairs.

“We’re delighted to have her among our students, and we hope she’ll have a very positive experience as a student here,” he said.

Having a president’s daughter attend the University may help the institution because of publicity, but Jenna is not the first president’s daughter to attend the University.

“Jenna is an example of the type of student we attract,” said Vick. “She’s not a typical student, she’s a special student.”

Bush’s daughter will be safe from coverage in UT’s student newspaper, The Daily Texan, unless she draws attention to herself with her personal life, said Vick. “She’s just a normal person.”

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“She’s just a normal person,” he said. “Just because her father is the president doesn’t mean much.”

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A letter to the JSU student body from a lowly newspaper editor

By Adam Smith
Editor

Dear Students:

So, we meet again. It’s been a couple of weeks since I’ve used this space to force my “liberal” and “profane” views down the throats of the campus. I took a couple of weeks off and allowed Gracie to rise up the masses with her opinions on being a conservative, and to berate those who don’t speak in class. Well done, Gracie. I think she did a great job, and JSU seems to be on her wave-length, judging by the number of letters we got a couple of which we didn’t print at the requests of the authors.

That’s part of the reason I’m writing this. We’ve had a lot of feedback concerning our first month’s papers. From the fallout of Christopher Lauer’s critique of the ECE, to my predictions for 2001, to Gracie’s conservative manifesto. We’ve all found a way to either piss you off, excuse me, make you mad, or happen than flies on horses**, excuse me, very pleased. Cutting down on the profanity here, ma.

Some of the letters we received were critical of our “forum” policy and how it compared with the way we write our opinion pieces. As far as my responses to this, I could really be a jerk, but I won’t be. While our policy does state to “think before you write,” we’ve printed many letters this year from people who obviously didn’t think before doing so. The forum is set up as a feedback forum so we can gauge what the students want, and how they feel about JSU, or The Chanticleer.

However, we’ve received some downright insulting letters, attacking us, JSU employees, for doing what we get paid to do. And, I’ve run pretty much all of them, as either motivation to us to do better, or as a reminder that there are people out there who feel the way they do. I realize we’ve got our shots in as well, so usually I don’t mind running them. An eye for an eye, in a way.

Another thing that seems to be a common theme is keeping hearing recently it’s a lack of positive feelings in your newspaper.” We highlight the positive things of JSU that we are able to. We do stories on JSU students making a difference, when we hear of it. We do stories on fun activities for college students, when we hear of it. We highlight area arts and entertainment like great plays, movies and bands, when we hear of it. But more often than not, we don’t hear of it.

What do we hear? We hear about corruption, condemnation in our town and our school. We hear about the students taking advantage of people, or the division between the Greeks and the independents.

We hear about shootings, muggings, robberies, thefts, drug usage, $107 traffic tickets, missing funds, underpaid and overworked and overstressed student workers, teachers resigning before their time, incompetence in our student government, identifying sound bands bearing different names playing our favorite bar(s), drug addiction, alcoholism, unfair teachers, soul-less administrators, incompetent instructors, car accidents, incinerators, “rape, murder, it’s just a shot away...”

And you, the reader, want to tell us to be more positive? Uplifting? Happy-go-lucky? Ecstatic? Optimistic? To those who wish these feelings for us, I give you a two-word phrase. First word, sounds like schmuck. Second word, sounds like Jew.

Come work for The Chanticleer for a while and see how optimistic about this town and this school you stay. I came in like a lion and will probably leave like a scalded dog.

Will I be a negative, pessimistic person? No, I’ll be what I am now. A realist. I see things the way they are. No blinding here, ma.

To sum it up, I’m tired of fighting for a school that refuses to fight for itself. The apathy wants to consume me, but I refuse to let it. However my time is running short, and some will have to take up the fight long after I’m gone.

How long will you, the students, continue to be violated by people who can be easily beaten? The Chanticleer has tried to change things and make a difference. And I think when the votes are tallied, it won’t be too close to call. I think we have made a difference in some people’s lives.

We’re not trying to heal the world, or start riots. We’re trying to start a revolution. A revolution of open-minded college students who aren’t going to take whatever is laid before them. If you want something, you’ve gotta fight for it.

So, I’m sticking to you, the student body. You can either come with us, or you can come against us. Whatever you choose, it will be a bloody battle.

So, write your letters. They’re fuel for our fire. What do you want to see out of your college? Write it down, and let us know. What do you want out of your newspaper? Write it down and let us know. Sick of being a “lapdog?” Write it down and let us know. It could be contagious. It may grow from a movement into a front, into a revolution complete with four-part harmony.

Greks, independents, Christians, atheists, Democrats, Republicans, hippies, skinheads, EVERYBODY! Lend us your ears, your hopes, your dreams, your beauty, your ugliness, your humor, your sadness, your fears. But you’ve gotta be willing. Are you ready to take a chance and step outside your small-town comfort level? Think about it, and let us know. We’ll be here.
I have better things to talk about, but people keep pestering me about the Student Government Association. People want me to quit talking about the Universe and go out of "its" way to be nice to SGA members and affiliates), this year. many are actually trying to come the way of others, just so they can see: our first contestant for Ruler of King (currently Queen) of this year. Marcus J. Bartlette

Apathy 2001-2002 is Brandon train's acomin'.) Mr. Humes, who saw: Our third contestant is Donnell Humes. Mr. Humes is currently 2nd vice president and has held this position for, going on, four semesters now. As second vice president, he is responsible for the concerts you didn't see in the past two years. But as we speak, he is throwing together a concert in hopes of winning the upcoming election. (That's right. The little bird told me a Train's acomin'.) Mr. Humes, who will no longer speak to me in Wal-Mart, is also a big Ted Kennedy fan. So if you're happy with the entertainment we've received in the past two years, think the bar and par should be left where it is, Vote Stephen Brackett!

Dear Editor,

Anyone that's had Mr. Kinney has probably heard him get on his "soapbox" about the incinerator, and sometimes he gets downright excited. Well, now I know why. I attended a City Council meeting recently regarding the incinerator. A virgin to the event, I didn't know what to expect and was only slightly educated on the subject: I know where the incinerator is, I know it's purpose is to destroy the chemicals and chemical weapons left behind; but there are safer and healthier alternatives that were never brought to our attention. The alternatives would not release the carcinogenic (cancer causing) toxins or the hundreds of other poisonous emissions that the incinerator would be releasing daily on a community already burdened with poisons. Also, if this incinerator is so safe, why did the government bring in thousands of body bags to the depot? I ask myself, "Why would they even consider building such a monstrous thing in such a populous community?" Then it hit me - Anniston has a very poor economy predominantly populated with African-Americans, and is already considered one of the most poisoned communities in the nation. So, I'm getting the impression that the "higher-ups" are saying no big deal to us; we're screwed anyway so let's finish them off, they are expendable. I say to hell with that - my life and health are just as important as anyone else and I will not stand by any longer and watch myself or the people I know and care about get executed with these poisons.

This incinerator is supposed to crank up in the next year or so and it affects everything within a 50-mile radius at the least. My fellow classmates, this includes you. Get involved. Get your family involved, even if you're not from here; your parents have a right to know what you will be subjected to in the very near future. It's imperative that the community as a whole gets involved so we can get the help we need to shut this operation down.

Please, write a letter to Congressman Bob Riley (who seems to be the only one with an interest) and demand a response. You can send these letters via: Rufus Kinney, 806 12th Ave NE, Jacksonville, AL 36265. Ask your questions, tell your opinions, and give your side of the story. Your opinion count, and needs to be heard. It only takes five minutes. This would be helping to save the health and welfare of thousands, even yourself.
Jim Croce

**Time in a Bottle: His Greatest Hits**

"I got a song And I carry it with me
And I sing it loud If it gets me nowhere I'll go there proud."

One week after recording this song, Croce died in a plane crash.

Every song on this album sings of the range of emotions we all have felt and people we have all met. Croce is an artist to be listened to when one needs to be centered. Through choruses of nostalgia and snapshots of life, the listener can't help but calm down to the truths we all feel.

"And some times at night I think I hear you calling my name / Mmm hmmm hmmm these dreams / What came between us / Maybe we were just too young to know / Mmm hmmm hmmm these dreams" (from "These Dreams").

Croce taught himself guitar - which is an amazing thing if one tries to follow him through all the different folk-quirks and chord progressions - and began playing fraternity parties in 1964 at Villanova College in Pennsylvania. He worked different construction jobs, truck-driving jobs, taught special education students briefly and later started touring folk-clubs in New York. That didn’t work out too well for him and his wife, so they moved to the country to raise their son A.J. Soon after that, his records went to the tops of the billboards and he started touring.

Croce died in September, 1973 as he and four other men were taking off in a single-engine plane from Nachitoches, Louisiana. The plane didn’t get enough lift off the end of the runway, hit a tree and spiraled to the ground.

Though it has been a while since the release of Croce’s albums, there is a well of emotion and truth to be felt by his songs, and a great addition to any CD collection. There is one song on this album especially deep for us all, “Alabama Rain.”

Now and then I find myself / Thinking of the days / When we were walking in the Alabama rain / Drive-in movies / Friday nights / Drinking beer and laughing / Walking in the Alabama Rain.

Anthony Haden-Guest wrote of his short friendship with Croce before his death, “the last time we saw him was in the Sunset Marquis and he invited us to stay at his farm outside New York. As we left he was out by the pool, but sitting in it, in his Levis. Nor for any particular reason. Just because it felt good. This album sings of days gone by, but emotions and people are forever. So is Jim Croce.

By Joshua W. Bingham

CD Information: 1994 Woodford Music

George Harrison

**All Things Must Pass (re-issue)**

anniversary re-release of what is arguably rock ‘n’ roll’s first boxed set, his solo album “All Things Must Pass.” The November release date, however, had to be delayed so not to detract from the hoopla surrounding the Beatles “1,” the first collection of all the group’s No. 1 singles. A listen to tapes of the dreamy, heartfelt sessions that would yield “Let It Be” reveals Harrison attempting, without success, to interest his band mates in “Something.” “Isn’t It A Pity” and “All Things Must Pass.” These were to be passed over in favor of Lennon dross like “I’ve Got A Feeling” and “Dig A Pony.”

Harrison must have felt vindicated when “All Things Must Pass” - released seven months after McCartney’s underwhelming debut and one week before Lennon’s raw and revelatory “Plastic Ono Band” - became the best-selling of all the Beatles’ solo releases, charting seven straight weeks at No. 1. Much of its success was dependent on its first single, the infectious and joyous “My Sweet Lord.”

Yet listening to the remastered reissue, we’re reminded that “All Things Must Pass” is one of the few double LPs in all of rock that would not be better pared down to a single disc. The reason is the abundance of great compositions, something made clear by the stripped-down demo versions of “Beware of Darkness” and “Let It Down” included as bonus tracks, as effective and beautiful as the finished versions. If you haven’t heard “All Things Must Pass” lately, or if your own discovery of the Beatles hasn’t developed beyond “1,” or “Revolver,” this set will stand as either a reconfirmation or a revelation. Yes, it was that good.

**Today’s Birthday (Feb. 1):** Something you put up with at home could become intolerable this year. Make the changes you’ve thought about. You may be frustrated in February. By March you’re coming up with brilliant schemes, some of them totally unrealistic. 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 a 6 - Take a friend’s advice to heart and you’ll benefit romantically. Let your gentle side out. You could benefit financially if you redirect funds to your savings account.

- **Taurus (April 20-May 20):** Today is a 6 - A struggle with an older person could end in a standoff. You won’t budge and neither will he or she. You base your decisions on good practical common sense, and the other person uses facts and figures. You’re both right. Try to compromise.

- **Gemini (May 21-June 21):** Today is a 5 - Travel looks attractive, but isn’t a good idea. You need to finish an assignment first. Don’t despair. Conditions for travel improve this weekend. Make a date and reservations now.

- **Cancer (June 22-July 22):** Today is a 7 - Friends might suggest spending more than you can afford. Even for a good cause, delay a little longer. Make sure your future is secure before you accept any more expenses.

- **Leo (July 23-Aug. 22):** Today is a 4 - Things could grind to a halt. Others know their objectives, but no one has your interests at heart. Might be good to stall. Don’t worry, you’re good at this.

- **Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Today is a 6 - Work and romance vie for your attention. Don’t call your sweetheart long distance during office hours, even with an 800 line. You could get caught.

- **Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23):** Today is a 7 - Save for this weekend and travel to a favorite place. You and your sweetheart will have a marvelous time, but plan ahead to keep expenses down. Stay with relatives, for example.

- **Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Today is a 6 - Something isn’t going as planned. Your partner was nearly convinced you were right, but that could change by tomorrow. You may have to acquiesce to you mate, so be willing to compromise. Stand firm, of course, just prove your point.

- **Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Today is a 6 - Be careful on a new program or difficult project. There may be more bugs to find. You have everything running smoothly, eventually, but more study is required.

- **Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Today is a 7 - Love means more than money to you, by a long shot. Don’t feel guilty if you turn work down, Focus on loved ones, now, while you can. You can work over the weekend.

- **Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Today is a 6 - You’re strong but don’t seem to be getting anywhere. Check your brakes and anchors; one could be stopping you. Stay home tonight and rest. You cannot imagine the benefits.

- **Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20):** Today is a 7 - Walk quietly and carry a big stick. Your idea will probably prevail. You may seem outnumbered, but your insight could be what others lack. Be gentle, as you persuade them you know best.
How Can You Help Save a Child's Life

A: Stay "Up 'Til Dawn"

The Up 'Til Dawn organization is sponsoring a 24-hour event to celebrate the lives of children who fight cancer at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Here's how you can become a part of this momentous occasion.

1. **Create a Team** of 7 friends and work together to raise a minimum of $750. That's approximately $107 per person. Or if you can not create a team please **Participate as an Individual** and raise a minimum of $150.

2. **Attend the Up 'Til Dawn Event** Your team or individual contribution gets your team members into the event.

3. **How we will help you:** The Up 'Til Dawn executive board will provide your team with fundraising information, ideas, and opportunities to raise your money.

Additional applications are available in the Office of Student Activities, TMB 4th floor. If you have any questions, or would like an Up 'Til Dawn member to speak to your organization, please call 782-8054.
book, "Mother of Pearl," is about an African-American girl who grows up in the modern harsh conditions of southern Alabama. This book has been chosen as one of the Oprah Book Club books.

Lynn Hinton lives in South Carolina and is a minister of a Presbyterian church. Her first novel, "Friendship Cake," is about a collection of short stories about living in the south.


Barbara Robinette Moss graduated from Oxford High School and is a very successful professional painter, owning a studio and gallery, who currently lives in California. Moss will be discussing "Change Me Into Zeus' Daughter," an autobiography about growing up in poverty in Calhoun County.

"On the Brink 2001" has a fee of $35.00 for adults, yet only $15.00 for students. If interested, one must contact Gena Christopher in the Stone Center in person or by phone at 5856 on campus and 782-5856 off campus. As Christopher said, "On the Brink" is really for anyone who loves good books. It's not an academic conference. It's very laid back and for anyone who is interested in books.

An example of how laid back the conference will be is that at lunch, each writer will sit at a different table so that members of the audience can choose to sit and talk with the authors they like best. All the books talked about will also be available for purchasing and the subsequent signing.

This conference is happening Feb. 3, so if interested act quickly. Not only will one be able to get their treasured book to place on their bookcase, but also have plenty of time to ask questions and perhaps make the author laugh. Wouldn't that be a good story to tell your friends, or the date you're trying to impress?

The schedule is as follows:

9:00 - 10:00  Registration and Refreshments
10:15 - 11:15  Session I
11:15 - 12:15  Book Signings
12:30 - 1:30  Lunch
2:00 - 3:00  Session II
3:00 - 4:00  Book Signings

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Fully furnished & unfurnished available - You pick!
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Blues and booze without the schmooze

By Jan Palmer
Staff Writer

Before you get completely trashed, take a good look around the room at Birmingham’s 22nd Jazz Café, located at 710 22nd Street in South Birmingham. Take in the low mesh ceiling, soft mood lighting, and the stage, located five feet from the front row of tables.

The first thing you’ll notice are the low-slung, black bohemian tables placed randomly about the floor and if you don’t have it by now, you never will.

The first thing to greet the eyes upon entrance is the bar. It looks to be about 10 tons of solid oak and ancient brass. It definitely has all the goods. To the immediate left of the room-length bar is the central seating, which incidentally is right in front of the stage.

A person can walk right up and offer a drink to the singer if her music is appreciated. There is no separation between the performers and their audience. If you were to walk to the front of the room, pass the stage and go up to the second story, there’s another section to enjoy. The middle of the floor has been cut away and screened only with a faint black mesh so a person can sit (presumably if there is no room left below).

Right in front of the cut-away floor is a giant-screen where a person can see a projection of the stage, double-life size. It’s a hint to this establishment’s true attraction.

The performers on Friday, Jan. 12 were Glen & Libba with The Cast playing backup for Libba’s beautiful vocals. You could sit totally stunned, as Libba trilled through song after song in her amazing voice, occasionally backing Glen (lead guitar) with tempestuous flute riffs that blew the ears away. If you have never heard these guys before, one taste and be assured, you will come back for more.

The upstairs also comes fully equipped with a pool table, foosball, and the same moody lounge-like atmosphere as below. This is complete with waitresses all in black. There are no social distinctions at the 22nd Street Jazz Cafe in Birmingham. People sit where they can, and the view is great from anywhere in the bar.

No one cares, and the lights are too dim to see the red-rimmed eyes. No one gets rowdy; it’s the wrong atmosphere. You may never even see a bouncer here.

They barely advertise. You won’t hear an ad for them on WRAX, or see a sign trumpeting their glories on the highway, but they are packed and that always says something. However, the understatement is obvious. “We’ve got it. If you’ve got none, we won’t lend you ours. You can’t buy it, you can’t steal it, and if you don’t have it by now, you never will.”

A taste for places like this isn’t an overnight thing. You like Blues and Jazz or you don’t. No country square dancers or post-modern rock Pepsi sponsors will ever step foot across this threshold. Blues is the last refuge of the soul, and it is in this place that you will find it.

The only drawback to the establishment, while a small one, is this place is tough to find. Unless a person knows their way about Birmingham, they may not find this place at all. This is just as well for the patrons though, as they have managed to keep this place to themselves for quite some time.

Bottom line is, if one feels the pull of blues or jazz and can’t shake Kerouac from within your skull, this is the place for you, if you can find it.

If you like your booty shaken, not stirred, you go elsewhere. If your tastes run to the meat-lockers of Five-Points, you are welcome to them. This place, this place is for relaxing in the warm embrace of southern blues, Beal Street style.

If you can manage the good luck to find this place yourself, (hint: it’s in the name) you are in for a real evening, just make sure you bring your designated driver.
DITHERED TWITS by Shon Wuling

DITHERED TWITS by Shon Wuling

Chock full of Real News
By Mike Pingree
TMS Campus

* "NIGHT MOM, THINK I'LL TURN IN EARLY: A soldier, who romanced a 15-year-old girl on the Internet, went AWOL from his unit at Fort Knox, Ky., and wound up living in her bedroom closet for three weeks, unbeknownst to her mother. The mother worked, so Jeffrey Martin, 26, had the run of the Mount Vernon, Ohio, home when she wasn't there, but stayed in the closet when she was. Mom found out about it when she went to put some things away and found dishes and a bed in the closet. Martin was out at the time. The girl admitted everything. The cops found the man nearby in his pickup truck and arrested him for corrupting a minor.
* WHY NOT? AM I SO REPULSIVE? An unnamed man in Chieti, Italy, was hauled into divorce court by his 52-year-old third wife after a marriage of only five months. He met her through a lonely hearts agency. Testifying in court, the man admitted that it was his fault that their union had broken down: He was making constant demands for sex. He is 94 years old.
* AW, WHO NEEDS HER?? BABOOOOOM! Despondent after being dumped by his girlfriend, a 35-year-old man in Moenchengladbach, Germany, tried to take his own life by tuning on all the gas spigots in the cellar of his apartment building and then waiting for the fumes to do him in. He ultimately changed his mind, however, turned off the gas and headed back upstairs to his apartment. On the way, he lit a cigarette. The explosion ripped off the roof and destroyed two walls, but the man survived.
* JUST PARK IT IN THE DRIVEWAY: A man made a fraudulent purchase of a $41,000 truck, using someone else's name, credit history and Social Security number so he wouldn't have to pay, and so the transaction could in no way be traced to him, police said. Then, he had the truck delivered to his actual address. Armed with his Fairmont, W.Va., home address, police had no trouble locating him for arrest.

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The Bulldogs prove to be too much for Gamecocks

By Anthony Hill
Sports Editor

The Gamecocks (6-13, 3-7 TAAC) went into last Saturday’s game against the Samford Bulldogs (11-8, 8-2 TAAC) with the mindset of “we got to get a win.” The problem came when the Bulldogs stormed into Pete Mathews Coliseum with the same approach to the game.

Marc Salyers scored 22 points and had five blocks to lead Samford to a 61-53 win over the Gamecocks in a Trans America Athletic Conference game.

“This came down to guys being able to make shots,” said head coach Mike LaPlante. “You shoot 3-for-23 from behind the arc; it’s going to be hard to beat teams. We missed some shots. Their kids stuck theirs when it mattered.”

Samford earned their fourth straight victory and the eighth in nine games, despite Salyers playing with an injured knee and Derrick Jones, their second leading scorer, tossed out of the game after receiving four personal fouls and a technical.

“If Marc (Salyer) didn’t have a great game and Derrick didn’t have a great game, we had absolutely no chance because we had nobody stepping up,” said Samford head coach Jimmy Tillette.

Salyers planted his leg in an awkward position and had to leave the game early in the first half. He returned to the game after a three minute rest.

“When I first went back in, I almost started to cry,” said Salyers. “But, if I could walk, I was going to play.”

Salyers sank a 10-foot baseline jumper to open the game and the Bulldogs never trailed. The pre-season TAAC Player-of-the-Year scored 13 points in the first half, despite having a hurt leg.

The Gamecocks opened the second half with a 10-2 run to tie the game, 31-31 after Joshua Perry tipped in a ball with 13:40 left, but Samford came back to extend the lead to 36-44 with 9:25 remaining in the game.

The Gamecocks made a final run and narrowed the gap to one point. The score was 54-53 after a pair of McDaniel free throws with 3:22 remaining, but Samford scored the final seven points of the game to come away with the victory.

“It’s been the same old story, I guess. All the games that we’ve been so close and we haven’t been able to win,” said center Brant Harriman. “The offense just hasn’t been working for us. We haven’t converted down the stretch.”

Mike McDaniel finished with 14 points, including going 8-of-8 from the free throw line, to lead the Gamecocks. Scott Watson and Brant Harriman each followed with nine points. The Gamecocks will try to get back on track in a conference showdown against Campbell tonight.

Tip-off is set for 7 p.m. at Pete Mathews.

Lady Gamecocks lose close one to Samford

By Matthew Martin
Staff Writer

The Lady Gamecocks thought their inside game would provide the difference going into last Saturday’s match-up with the Samford Bulldogs.

They were correct for a half, but in the second half, Samford’s outside attack proved to be the difference of the game as the Bulldogs claimed a 55-53 victory at Pete Mathews Coliseum.

“We thought that (Samford forward) Giovanni Price would give us fits in the post, but we held her to one point,” said head coach Dana Austin. “The perimeter shots made the difference. Their guards out-played us.”

Samford (5-13, 4-5) was up by as many as 13 before the Lady Gamecocks (6-12, 3-6) stormed back to tie the game at 51 points on a free throw by Tiara Eady with 2:31 left in the contest.

The Lady Gamecocks trailed the entire game and until the 13:22 mark of the second half, sophomore Amanda Tyus was the only Gamecock to score a field goal in the game.

“Other people need to step up,” said Austin in reference to the lack of scoring. “It is easy to stop one person and Amanda is the only one who’s hot right now.”

Tyus poured in 15 points in the first half and finished the night with 23, including four three point baskets.

“We are trying to create a go-to-player in Tyus,” said Austin.

The Lady Gamecocks have been plagued all year with playing a good first half and poor second. The tables turned, as the Gamecocks came back after a bad first half and created 13 Samford turnovers and tied the game at 51 with 2:33 left in the game.

Right after the comeback, JSU made a couple of turnovers, a foul and a missed an open shot that handed Samford the game for good.

“We tied the game, but we made a couple of turnovers and missed some easy shots,” said Austin.

Sophomore Aimee Cochran led the Bulldogs with 18 points, followed by Wendi Wilcox with 13. Tiara Eady was the only other Gamecock to score double figures with 11 points and seven rebounds. Junior Amanda Gallagher had five steals, four assists and five rebounds.

The Lady Gamecocks will travel to Seibert Hall on Saturday to face Samford in a rematch. Tip-off is set for 4:15 p.m. in Birmingham.

The Lady Gamecocks guard Johnny Kilpatrick and “Thrill” hoop it up in this week’s “One on One.”

JSU guard Johnny Kilpatrick tries to hit a three-pointer over a Samford player during last Saturday’s loss at home.

By Jay Pace
Staff Writer

The Lady Gamecocks (6-11) got off to a slow and sluggish start, but were able to finally pick up their sixth win of the season, 56-55 over the Birmingham-Southern Panthers (12-7) last Thursday night.

Both teams started the game stagnant, scoring a combined 10 points with 5:30 into the first half. The Lady Gamecocks never gave up the lead to the Panthers in the first half. Jax State jumped on the Panthers with an early 6-0 lead and led by as many as 14 points during the course of a 15-3 run.

Freshman Kelly Nye scorched Birmingham-Southern in the first half with eight points as she came off the bench. The Panthers chipped away at the Lady Gamecocks’ advantage and pulled to within five points at the half.

“We played terrible defense after the run in the first half,” said head coach Dana Austin. “We made fouls and put Birmingham-Southern at the free throw line.

The Panthers made matters a little tougher for the Lady Gamecocks and applied a half court press that often left JSU confused. Birmingham-Southern forced eight turnovers on JSU’s first fourteen possessions of the second half.

The Panthers grabbed their first lead of the night, 47-46 with 10:17 left to play in the game. Despite Birmingham-Southern’s tenacious defense, their offense struggled as they went eight minutes without a field goal.

Birmingham-Southern would fight, scratch and claw their way back to within one point. However, the Lady Gamecocks proved to be too strong down the stretch.

Sophomore McKell Copeland hit four crucial free throws late in the game to seal it for the Lady Gamecocks.

“The biggest thing for me is that McKell hit those big free throws,” said Austin.

Nye came in off the bench to replace a foul haunted Amanda Gallagher, with 12 points, four assists and four steals.

Sophomore Tiara Eady added 10 points and seven rebounds.
One on One with “Thrill”

By Anthony “Thrill” Hill

I saw Johnny Kilpatrick play for the first time in a game against Tennessee State University last December. He scorched them for 24 points that night. You could see a certain “cockiness” in Johnny. He’s the Keysthawn Johnson of college basketball. He doesn’t believe that anyone is better than he is once he hits the court. You always know that he’s in a zone when he begins to poke his lips out when he drives the ball to the basket. Johnny is one of those players who seems to have a passion for the game. His bottom line is WINNING, not compiling statistics.

Thrill: What’s up Johnny?
Johnny: Ain’t nothing baby. We’re just trying to figure out a way to make our offense work.

Thrill: What’s going on with the team right now? You guys are so close to coming back and winning games, but you haven’t been able to finish teams out in the end. What’s up with that?
Johnny: It’s simply execution. We also need to practice what we’re doing to go in the games. We don’t do that sometimes. We come out here, playing and not really getting fully prepared to play sometimes. I think that we’ll be all right.

Thrill: Tell me where most of the teams leadership comes from? Is there a single leader on the team?
Johnny: I feel like I’m the vocal leader and Mike McDaniel is the emotional leader. We’re the leaders of this team.

Thrill: You have a tough game against Campbell tonight. Are you ready?
Johnny: I’m ready. I’m really ready for us to just turn this season around. We just got to make something positive out of all of this.

Thrill: It sounds like you’re really down on yourself right now.
Johnny: I am man. I had a terrible game Saturday. I went 0-7 from the three-point line.

Thrill: That’s unlike you. People can tell when “JK” gets in a zone. You begin to start breathing hard and poking out your lips. I didn’t see that from you last Saturday.
Johnny: I came out and missed my first two shots pretty bad. It just wasn’t my game, dog.

Thrill: What’s the difference between last year’s squad and this year’s team?
Johnny: Last year we had an identity. We knew what we had to do and we knew that we were going to do it. Everybody had a role last season.

Thrill: You are what people call a complete athlete. In high school you earned second team All-State honors in basketball and lettered in baseball and football. They say that you were “fire” at wide receiver. Have you ever thought about going over and having a talk with coach Crowe?
Johnny: Nah, I am too small for college football.

Thrill: Where would you be playing if you didn’t sign with JSU?
Johnny: I’d probably be at Memphis.

Thrill: Is there one place where you really don’t mind taking a road trip to play?
Johnny: Everybody loves Florida. We love to go to Boca Raton baby.

Thrill: Who is your favorite player growing up?
Johnny: Dominique Wilkins. (Former Atlanta Hawks forward)

Johnny: I used to love the highlights.

Thrill: Let me ask you this, Johnny. Can you dunk? Everybody watches you get up to rim and finger roll it or do some other kind of acrobatic lay-up. Where’s the hops?
Johnny: Yeah, I can dunk. I just don’t see any importance in it. It’s two points just like a lay-up. I guess that I’m going to have to slam it down so that all y’all will believe it.

(Both laugh.)

Thrill: What goes through your mind when the national anthem begins to play?
Johnny: I sing along in my mind. That is just a little superstition thing that I do.

Thrill: What do you do on your free time?
Johnny: Just chill. I spend time with my son. That’s all I want to do.

Thrill: Who would you pay to watch play?
Johnny: Michael Jordan. He’s the best player to play the game.

Thrill: What’s the difference between last year’s coach and coach LaPlante?
Johnny: Coach Turgeon was one of those coaches that didn’t take no trash. Coach LaPlante is easy going. He’s a player’s coach.

Thrill: Has that helped the team or hurt you guys?
Johnny: You really can’t tell. When it comes down to it, it’s not what coach LaPlante does, it’s what we do.

Thrill: Do you talk trash on the court?
Johnny: I love it! (Both laugh.) When people talk trash to me, that’s when I get hype.

Thrill: What are your feelings on the XFL?
Johnny: I think that the XFL is going to end up getting somebody killed. There’s no fair catches. I’m going to watch it though.

Johnny: I love it. I own that movie. Thrill: Jarrod Greer.
Johnny: That’s my dog.

Thrill: “Where the Red Fern Grows.”
Johnny: That’s my favorite book. How did you know that? You been reading up on me? (Both laugh.)

Thrill: I know all I need to know. Back to where I was. Allen Iverson.
Thrill: Explosive. Great player.
Johnny: Do you have a favorite teammate?
Johnny: Mike and Jarrod.

Thrill: What is the funniest thing that you’ve seen since you’ve been at JSU?
Johnny: Coach Turgeon. Just watching him go off when he got upset. He really looked like a kid. Man, it used to be so funny. (Both laugh.)

Thrill: That’s the same thing that Brant told me.
Johnny: That’s everybody will probably tell you about coach Turgeon.
Thrill: That’s it. Good luck tonight.
Johnny: I hope this isn’t like the “Sports Illustrated Jinx.” I need to have a good game.

Thrill: You shouldn’t believe in superstition.

Two Oklahoma State players among 10 dead in plane crash

By P. Solomon Banda
Associated Press

Two Oklahoma State basketball players and six staffers and broadcasters associated with the team were killed when their plane crashed in a snowstorm Saturday while returning from a game in Colorado.

All 10 people aboard died, officials said. The plane, one of three chartered by the school, crashed about 40 miles east of Denver after taking off from Jefferson County Airport.

Wreckage was strewn over about a quarter of a mile across a field. A team of National Transportation Safety Board investigators arrived Sunday. The school said the 10 killed were: Oklahoma State players Nate Fleming and Dan Lawson, sports information employee Will Hancock, director of basketball operations Pat Noyes, trainer Brian Luinstra, student manager Jared Weiberg, broadcast engineer Kendall Durfee, broadcaster Bill Teegins, pilot Denver Mills and co-pilot Byron Feldstein.

"The players are handling this with each other and obviously are grieving very deeply," Oklahoma State sports information director Steve Buzzard said during a news conference in Stillwater. Buzzard said coach Eddie Sutton called the families of those on the plane. The Big 12 on Sunday indefinitely postponed Oklahoma State's Tuesday night game at Texas Tech. Weiberg was the nephew of Big 12 commissioner Kevin Weiberg. "This is indeed a very sad day for Oklahoma State University," school president James Halligan said. The Beechcraft King Air 200 Catpass, which seats 11 passengers, crashed at about 5:35 p.m., said Jerry Snyder, a spokesman for the Federal Aviation Administration. "All we heard was a real loud engine sound. It sounded like a shrill noise. Then I saw a big fireball," said Larry Pearson, a dairy farmer who was working outside when the plane crashed. Pearson, who was about a quarter mile from the plane when it crashed, said he called 911 and cut a fence so emergency vehicles could reach the crash site. The King Air 200 turboprop would be "less prone to get above the weather" than the other two planes chartered by the team, which were corporate jets.

Stillwater airport manager Gary Johnson said NTSB investigator Arnold Scott said no flight-data recorders were found Saturday night.

The plane was built in 1976, and the FAA said it was registered to North Bay Charter of Reno. Nev. Greg Feeth of the NTSB told KUSA-TV the aircraft "has an outstanding record. This is a solid airplane flying in these conditions if flown correctly."

Fleming was a redshirt freshman guard from Edmond, Okla., and Lawson a redshirt junior guard from Detroit, Lawson, 21, played in Saturday's 81-71 loss at Colorado, but did not score. He was one of the Cowboys' main reserves, playing in every game this season and averaging about two points. Fleming, 20, did not play.

Teegins, 48, was a broadcaster for KWTV in Oklahoma City for the past 13 years. He was the play-by-play announcer for OSU basketball. Hancock, was the media relations coordinator for the basketball program. He had been with the school for five years. His father, Bill Hancock, is director of the NCAA men's basketball tournament.

In Stillwater, several players and girlfriends of teammates came in and out of the school's basketball office with tears in their eyes, and some were sobbing. Tom Dirato of the OSU Broadcast Group said he and an assistant coach almost got on the plane that crashed, but were moved at the last minute to another plane. "There is a pecking order on who goes where," he said. "This is part of a family in the athletic department. If anything like this happens it affects many, many people."
What's up with Kobe and Shaq?

A Sports editorial
By Anthony Hill

In the city with one season, the summer of success has turned into a winter of discontent in Los Angeles.

Things are looking kind of childish in Laker town right now. The Lakers have two superstars who both want to be the "MAN" on the team. Shaq is REALLY mad with Kobe right now and Kobe doesn't seem to REALLY care.

I think that the squad should be Kobe's team. Give the kid credit; he's the man. There's never been a player with so much of the skills of "MJ" than Kobe. Let him reign. If it wasn't for him, they might not have won the big game last season. They don't need Shaq, or do they?

"I've never been one to get into whose team it is," O'Neal said on SportsCenter last week. "But, clearly, when everything went through me, the outcome was (an NBA-best record of) 67-15, playing with enthusiasm, the city was jumping up and down, and we had a parade. Now we're 23-11. Everybody knows what I can do. I know what I can do."

O'Neal is unquestionably the dominant force in the NBA even though his free throw shooting is worse than ever, below 40 percent this season. But you have to give Kobe his credit. Teams have found ways to contain Shaq, not Kobe. If Kobe is having a bad game, it's not because anyone has stopped him. He is just off that night.

Kobe is the second leading scorer in the NBA, averaging under 30 points per game. That's about four points more than Shaq. Bryant could always score, but his shot selection was very poor in the past. Not anymore. Bryant has his shooting percentage up to almost 48 percent. He is shooting at a career best, while O'Neal is flailing with a career low at 55.8 percent.

But what's been most noticeable or just not been seen very much, is the Lakers' smothering interior defense from last season. The Lakers are leading the NBA in scoring, thanks to Kobe, but are near the bottom in defense.

"All I ask from Shaq is to be the dominant presence that he is and play solid defense," Bryant said. "That's it. Scoring shouldn't affect his defense. It's a different year, we have new players and things change, things evolve. You just have to grow with that change.

"But it is last year," said Shaq. "I don't know why anybody else would want to change, other than selfish reasons."

The problem here is both have valid points. The Lakers won the championship by pushing the ball through O'Neal and making him the dominant force in the NBA. So why change?

Bryant says that this is a different team and it might not be the same Shaq. O'Neal wasn't in quite the same shape coming into this season and has had some minor injuries. He didn't improve on his free throw shooting while Bryant has clearly worked harder and expanded his game.

"Turn my game down? I need to turn it up," Bryant told ESPN magazine. "I've improved. How are you going to bottle me up?"

Shaq, the supposedly bruising giant, is the guy his teammates love, a big, playful kid who sometimes doesn't care that much about basketball. He's the sensitive one.

Bryant, on the other hand, supposedly the likable one, is remote. He doesn't cultivate relationships with his teammates, though he remains a basketball junkie. He works at his game constantly and continues to improve. He talks about being the best player in the history of the NBA and with a scoring title and MVP he might be on his way.

The Lakers could win another NBA championship on talent alone, but they'll be no resolution to this issue until O'Neal takes a step back, as Kareem Abdul-Jabbar had to do for Magic Johnson. It's Kobe's team right now, even if no one else really wants it that way.

Gamecock baseball opens Saturday

By Staff Reports

Head baseball coach Rudy Abbott will begin his quest for 1,000 career wins this Saturday when the 2001 baseball season opens for Jacksonville State University.

Abbott, who has 994 career wins in 31 seasons, is the winningest coach in the State of Alabama to win 1,000 games on the collegiate level. Jax State opens their 52-game schedule with a double-header against Concordia on Saturday. Junior right-handers Joey Shifflett (Lindate, Ga.), a three-year starter, and Steve Shippey, a JUCO transfer from Jacksonville, will draw the starts.

Abbott, who announced his retirement earlier this month, also plans to pitch senior right-hander Jon Hannah (Carrolton, Ga) and newcomers Jessie Corn (Villa Rica, Ga.) and Josh Nix (Fairhope, Ala.). The Gamecocks have 24 games scheduled for Rudy Abbott Field this season, including TAAC home games against Stetson, Georgia State, Samford and Florida Atlantic. Other highlights of the schedule include road games at Alabama and Mississippi State.

February baseball schedule

Feb. 3 Concordia (2) 12 Noon
Feb. 6 @ Alabama State 1 p.m.
Feb. 10 @ Charleston Challenge (2) 1 p.m./6 p.m.
Feb. 11 @ Charleston Challenge 11 a.m.
Feb. 13 Alabama State 2 p.m.
Feb. 17 Alabama A&M 12 Noon
Feb. 23 Siena (2) 1 p.m.
Feb. 24 Siena (2) 12 Noon
Feb. 25 Siena 12 Noon

Auditions

South East Renaissance Faire

1 Minute Comedic Shakespeare Monologue will be PREFERABLE, but not necessary. Audition will also consist of cold readings, improvisation and stage combat. PREVIOUS STAGE COMBAT EXPERIENCE IS NOT REQUIRED.

PLACE: Room 338.
Stone Center on JSU Campus

DATE & TIME: Saturday, January 27 at 2 PM & Sunday, January 28 at 6 PM

FOR MORE INFO: 435-8826 or EMAIL At SwordThrust@aol.com
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