

# THE CHANTICLEER

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"Hey kids, I'm Purvis, the burned buffalo. Make sure you read Joshua W. Bingham's feature on the Sports Nut and the Barnyard Bar and Grille on page 5"

## Charges filed after stabbing at Fuller's Pub

By Danni Lusk  
Staff Writer

Charges have been filed by the Jacksonville Police Department against a Jacksonville resident in the wake of a Feb. 11 stabbing at Fuller's Pub.

Travis Bundrum was charged with the stabbing of JSU graduate student Joel Harver.

Harver said at approximately 2 a.m. a conflict started between a group of Harver's friends and another group, one of them Bundrum. According to Harver, Bundrum struck a female companion of one of Harver's friends.

Harver then said he attempted to get Bundrum out of the building. It was then Harver was stabbed. "I didn't even feel it," said Harver, "I just looked down and there was blood all over me."

Harver was taken to Jacksonville Hospital. After exploratory surgery and a short stay in the hospital, he was sent home.

According to Jacksonville Police Chief Tommy Thompson, first-degree assault charges were filed with the police department that night.

Bundrum was taken to the Calhoun County Jail where he was held on \$10,000 bond. A preliminary court hearing will be held March 23.

Fuller's Pub manager Billy Newman said there have been a couple of fights in the pub, but "never anything like this." Two bouncers are always on duty at Fuller's. Newman plans to double-up on security when big-name acts play. "We did everything we could do," Newman said.

The incident won't keep Harver from going back to Fuller's. The stabbing was a "freak accident," according to Harver. "I've been here since '95 and I've never seen anything like this before," said Harver.

### INSIDE NEWS

The skinny on the SGA candidates

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#### •WEEK IN SPORTS•

"Thrill" talks with a genuine legend in this week's "One on One"--Coach Rudy Abbott

## Candidates prepare for battle as SGA elections kick off next week

By Gracie Catchings  
News Editor

With the upcoming SGA elections, many students may not know the names or the faces of those hoping to fill the positions. Currently 14 students are hoping to win the titles of SGA president, first vice president, second vice president and controller. All information was obtained from the candidates' SGA officer and senator applications provided to *The Chanticleer* by current SGA president Elizabeth Webb.

#### Candidates for President:

Stephen Ronald Douglas Bo Brackett is a junior from Gadsden, majoring in biology. Brackett currently serves as SGA director of publicity and historian for Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity. He was a peer counselor in 2000 and now serves as peer counselor coordinator. Brackett is also a member of Omicron Delta Kappa Honor Society, College Republicans and the Residence Hall Judiciary Board.

"I seek the position of SGA president because I want to give something back to JSU," Brackett said.

"I feel that I have been given many opportunities here that I would not have received at another university, and because of this I want to serve not only the University, but the students as well."

Robert Brandon Lewis is a junior from Jacksonville, majoring in marketing. Lewis currently serves as SGA first vice president and peer counselor for 2000-2001. He is a charter member of the Order of Del Phi and is also a member of Kappa Alpha Fraternity. He has served as SGA senator, executive assistant and head of the constitution and code of laws committee.

"The students of JSU deserve the very best student representation possible," Lewis said. "An honest, competent, concerned and forward-looking president should lead our Student Government Association. I am of the notion that I possess those necessary qualities."

Donnell James Humes of Jacksonville, is a senior majoring in accounting. Humes currently serves as SGA second vice president and is a member of the Student Activities Council. He is also a peer counselor



The candidates for SGA officers, bottom row: Brandon Lewis, Leigha Cauthen, Mary Beth Edwards, Miranda Killingsworth, Matt Wiram, Sherry Todd, Daniel Dewberry, Stephanie Janis. Top row: Donnell Humes, Brad Medaris, Emily Doty, Cicely Hayes, Joy Boyd and Stephen Brackett

and member of the Residence Hall and Facilities Committee, Comedy Club Committee and Omicron Delta Kappa National Honor Society. He is president of the Model Arab League and is the cinematic arts vice chair.

"I seek the office of the president because I want to improve my home," Humes said. "For four years

I have worked to create, encourage and strengthen campus organizations. Furthermore, I want the honor of holding the highest office of service at Jacksonville State University."

Matt R. Wiram is a junior from Birmingham, majoring in computer science. Wiram currently serves as

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## Proration cutbacks find JSUPD in the line of fire



Photo by Callie Williams

By Gracie Catchings  
News Editor

Student safety and campus security are already taking a fall from the proration punch. With no money for training, travel and vehi-

cle and equipment maintenance, the Jacksonville State University Police Department may turn to students to collect more money.

"It's already just getting down to the wire," said JSUPD Chief Nelson Coleman. "Basically, we

have just enough money to buy small office supplies and gasoline for the vehicles. Anything else we need we have to go and kind of beg for."

JSUPD has no overtime money left for officers who work events such as sports games and concerts, Coleman said. In the past JSUPD hired Jacksonville Police Department officers to complement their force, and that money is gone as well.

In an effort to raise funds for the department, raising the fine for parking tickets and the price for decals was suggested, Coleman said. The fine for tickets would increase from \$10 to \$15, and the price for a decal would jump from \$15 to \$20.

"We're just thinking of reasonable ways to help raise money for

the institution by bringing our fees to what other universities already charge," Coleman said.

JSUPD does not receive contributions from alumni and donors, Coleman said. Although JSUPD receives equipment through police related grants, they receive nothing else above their budget from the University.

"Our department is just a little smaller than the Jacksonville City Police Department," Coleman said. "Their annual budget is two and a half times what our budget is. Our budget should be what their budget is."

There is also a shortage of student patrol officers who have to take over dispatcher duties, Coleman said. With no extra money in the

Continued on page 3, Proration hits UPD

# • JSU Clubs and Organizations •

## 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.

**2-19-01:** Jessica S. Holloway, of Roanoke, reported third degree assault at Fitzpatrick Hall to JSUPD occurring on 2-19-01.

**2-20-01:** Tanny L. Hayes, of Anniston, reported unlawful breaking and entering a vehicle and theft of property at Bibb Graves parking lot to JSUPD occurring on 2-20-01.

**2-20-01:** Jessica S. Holloway, of Roanoke, reported third degree assault at Campus Inn Apartments to JSUPD occurring on 2-20-01.

**2-20-01:** Mark Word, of Miami, Fla., reported third degree assault at Campus Inn Apartments to JSUPD occurring on 2-20-01.

**2-22-01:** Nathaniel Weaver, of Jacksonville, reported harassment at Self Hall (92-J) to JSUPD occurring on 2-22-01.

**2-23-01:** UPD reported trespassing and reckless endangerment/cluding a police officer at Pete Mathews Coliseum occurring on 2-22-01.

**2-23-01:** JSU reported criminal trespassing at Salls Hall to JSUPD occurring on 2-23-01.

**2-23-01:** Kevin W. Hopwood, of Boaz, reported criminal mischief at Wallace Hall parking lot to JSUPD occurring on 2-23-01.

**2-26-01:** Marcus D. Mitchell, 19, of Crestview, Fla., was given a uniform non-traffic citation and complaint by JSUPD for unreasonable noise from a motor vehicle on Trustee Circle occurring on 2-26-01.

**2-27-01:** John T. Brooks, of Summerville, Ga., reported criminal mischief at Dixon Hall parking lot to JSUPD occurring between 2-26-01 and 2-17-01.

### • Alpha Tau Omega

We had a great time at Night Of The Deer on Thursday Night. Thanks to Delta Zeta for a great mixer on Wednesday Night. ATO is participating in "Read Across America" at Kitty Stone Elementary this week. We also have a fishing tournament scheduled for March 10 at Big Oak Boys Ranch. Good luck to Coach Abbott as he goes for his 1,000th victory this week. Congratulations to Jonathan Portis for being elected Brother Of The Week.

### • Alpha Xi Delta

Go Greek with Alpha Xi Delta! Good luck to AOTT on Mr. University tonight! Don't forget to vote in the SGA elections! We support Miranda Killingsworth for SGA president! Good luck to all gamecock athletics this week!! We are excited and looking forward to our sisterhood retreat this weekend at Stone Mountain! Congratulations to our A recipients- Heather Stedham, Lisa DiMartino, Jennifer Freeman, Amber Burgess, Frances Archuleta, Addie Ferguson, Sara Gerrard, Michelle McDevitt, Bonnie Borden, and Katie Green! We are proud of you-keep up the great work! Congratulations to April Whitmarsh-sister of the week, Katie Green&Sara Gerrard-new members of the week, Sara Gerrard-study bear, and April Whitmarsh-bear best bear award! You ladies do a great job! The support award goes to LeAnna Morrow! We hope everyone has a great week and GO GREEK with ALPHA XI!

### • Delta Zeta

The sisters and new members of Delta Zeta would like to congratulate everyone who received awards at the Greek Awards Banquet! We would like to wish AOII good luck tonight on their Mr. University Pageant. Thank you to the SGA for the up coming Casino night. It is always a blast!! Awards for the week are: sister of the week - Leslie Godfrey, tiny turtle of the week - Stephanie Byrd, sisterhood - Becky Stone, scholarship turtle - Charlee Michel, twisted sister - Amanda Miller, turtle out of her shell - Jessica Johnson, Alumna of the week - Kim Dalesandro, senior of the week - Michelle Zopfi, faculty of the week - Jennifer Ferrell, support - Allison Garmon, chairmen of the week - Leslie Godfrey, and exec of the week - Stephanie Shirley

### • Zeta Tau Alpha

Zeta Tau Alpha wants to wish everyone running in the SGA elections good luck next week!! Don't forget to vote Tuesday and Wednesday in the TMB! Zeta is looking forward to AOII 's Mr. University tonight! Good luck to all the guys participating in it! All the members of Zeta want to thank Stacy Cross our President for doing an awesome job far this semester! You are the best! Everyone have a grreat rest of the week!

### • Phi Mu

Phi Mu would like to announce that this week is our Big Appreciation Week, so Littles, don't forget your bigs! The week will wrap up with a sisterhood retreat on Saturday and Sunday. Phi Mu would also like to thank Mr. Eric McCulley, Coordinator of Orientation and Advisement, for speaking to us at our last meeting. The awards this week are: Ashley Gwinn, Phi Mu Lady of the Week; Heather Harper, Sunshine Award. Have a wonderful week and Go Gamecocks!

### • Sigma Alpha Iota

Sigma Alpha Iota, Professional Fraternity for Women in Music, is holding our first campus-wide "Wanna Be A Diva?" Pageant to benefit SAI Philanthropies, Inc. Guys, this is your chance to show us how good you look in a dress! You will be judged on your appearance, a brief interview, and the talent of your choice for a cash prize. The "Wanna Be A Diva?" Pageant will be held on March 15th, at 7:00 PM, in the TMB Auditorium. If you would like to participate, or would like to sponsor someone, you may pick up an application at the Band Office, 304 Mason Hall, or in the Student Activities Office. All applications must be received by March 3rd. If you have any questions, contact Kim Hays at 782-6497.

### • Alpha Omicron Pi

The sisters and new members of Alpha Omicron Pi would like to invite everyone out to Mr. Universe-ity on Thursday, March 1st at 8:00 in Leone Cole. Admission is \$2.00. Thanks to Rebekah Adams for letting us have Sisterhood at your house, it went great! Thanks to Sigma Phi Epsilon the mixer last week was great! Delta Chi we can't wait to have our mixer with you this week! Good luck to all the SGA candidates in the up and coming elections. Awards of the week: Positive Panda- Arranda Blalock, Thoughtful Sister- Meredith Baker, Officers of the week- Kristi Smith and Thereasa Baird, Sister of the Week- Lori Guffey.

# • A n n o u n c e m e n t s •

• The African American Association is having a meeting today at 4pm in the Multicultural Services Office on the 4th floor of the TMB. If you are interested in getting a t-shirt please bring \$5.00 for the deposit. Hope to see you there!!!

• Students interested in registering for EH 484 Current New York Theatre must register and pay a deposit on or before March 15, 2001. The dates for this year's trip are tentatively scheduled for May 22-26, 2001 and the cost of the trip is \$1390. Students may receive three hours credit, but JSU tuition must also be paid for course credit. For further information, contact Dr. Steven Whinton at 782-5414 or Mr. Carter Osterbind at 782-5661.

• The International Student Organization will be sponsoring a soccer tournament on Sunday, March 4 at the Old Jacksonville High School field. Teams must pay a participation fee of \$30 or \$5 per person. The tournament will start at 10 a.m. For more information contact Mike at 782-7235.

## JSU Area Events Calendar: March 1 - 8

Thurs 1	Fri 2	Sat 3	Sun 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. University Pageant sponsored by Alpha Omicron Pi</li> <li>• JSU Women's Basketball @ Florida Atlantic, time TBA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student leader shadow day.</li> <li>• JSU Spring Star Party from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the parking lot of Pete Mathews Coliseum.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JSU Women's Basketball at UCF @ 2 p.m.</li> <li>• Gamecock Baseball at Mississippi State @ 2 p.m.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gamecock Baseball at Mississippi State @ 1:30 p.m.</li> </ul>
Mon 5	Tues 6	Wed 7	Thurs 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CBASE exam to be given from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in Rm. 20, Ayers Hall.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SGA Elections to be held</li> <li>• Residual ACT at the Anders Roundhouse @ 1 p.m.</li> <li>• Gamecock Baseball at Middle Tennessee State @ 3 p.m.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SGA Elections to be held</li> <li>• CBASE exam to be given from 1:45 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. in Rm. 20, Ayers Hall.</li> <li>• Gallery talk with Dr. Karen Henricks at Hammond Hall @ 10 a.m.--free admission.</li> <li>• Early bird registration begins.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CBASE exam to be given from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in Rm. 20, Ayers Hall.</li> <li>• Gamecock Baseball at Middle Tennessee State @ 2 p.m.</li> <li>• JSU Symphony Orchestra performance at Stone Center @ 7 p.m.--free admission.</li> <li>• JSU Softball at Belmont University @ 1 p.m.</li> </ul>

'optimizing' the news you need...



THE CHANTICLEER

more than meets the eye.

# SGA elections: up close and personal with the candidates

Continued from page 1, SGA elections

an SGA senator and head of the Residence Life and Facilities Committee. He is Residence Hall Olympics director, residence life and facilities web master and the founder of the Residence Hall Association. Wiram is a member of the Computer Science Club and served as YMCA Collegiate Legislature Committee Head. Along with various other campus organizations and committees, he served on the JSU Accreditation's Committee and has received numerous awards in these areas.

"As president I plan to fight student apathy by making everything more exciting," Wiram said. "First I will work towards making executive officers a more collective unit by thus making them easier to work with. Then I will keep the SGA senate motivated by working with the first vice president to keep them feeling welcome and useful. Currently it is a mass of wasted potential."

Miranda Alisha Killingsworth of Alexander City, is a junior majoring in elementary education. Killingsworth currently serves as SGA controller and is a member of the 2001 orientation team. She is Panhellenic president and an Alpha Xi Delta sorority officer.

"I would like to be SGA president because I think I am very unbiased and willing," Killingsworth said. "If elected I would listen to the students' views and try to accomplish the goals that they want accomplished. I will try my hardest to see that JSU is a student friendly campus because without us the University wouldn't be here."

Cicely Myiesha Hayes of Attalla, is a senior majoring in political science. Hayes currently serves as president of the African American Association and is an SGA senator.

"I am seeking the position of president to empower the students of Jacksonville State University through promotion of political activity," Hayes said. "In addition, the Student Government Association as a governing body of the University will be enhanced due to my strong interpersonal skills that cross racial boundaries, gender boundaries and competence boundaries."

First Vice President:

**Sherry Lynn Todd** is a senior from Lincoln, majoring in security administration. Todd currently serves as first vice president of judicial in the Panhellenic Council and is active in Phi Mu sorority. She is an executive member of the Up 'Til Dawn event and is an SGA senator as well as allocations chairman. She is also the chairman for Casino Night.

"I am seeking the office of first

vice because I feel that there are some changes that students want to make at JSU, and I am the leader that can get those ideas into action," Todd said. "I have many people skills that I feel would be beneficial to the SGA along with a diversity of friends that would provide several outlets from which I could gain input on students' view of JSU."

Stephanie Ann Janis is a sophomore from Huntsville, Ala., majoring in criminal justice. Janis currently serves as an SGA senator and is a team captain for Up 'Til Dawn. She was also blood drive chair, served on the homecoming committee and was a JSU collegiate legislature representative. She is historian for Zeta Tau Alpha sorority and is a Gamecock Hostess.

"In my two years here on campus I have been involved in many different organizations at JSU, and of all of them, SGA is the one I've enjoyed the most," Janis said. "I'd really like to make a difference in the SGA and being first vice I could."

Brad Medaris is a junior from Pelham, majoring in political science. Medaris currently serves on the student judiciary council and the SGA executive board. He is a member of Phi Eta Sigma and Omicron Delta Kappa.

"I am tired of watching the SGA fail to meet expectations year after year," Medaris said. "The senate would have been better run by a shaved gorilla this year, and I cannot sit idly by and risk this happening again. The senate should be the most powerful and influential body in the SGA and should act as such. I want to see the senators work for the students that elected them, not for their own resumes. I want to see if I can, somehow, make students a bit more proud to be Gamecocks."

Second Vice President

Leigha Marie Cauthen is a sophomore from Montgomery, majoring in political science. Cauthen currently serves as an SGA senator and is a member of Zeta Tau Alpha sorority. She is a Panhellenic delegate, Gamecock Hostess and baseball hostess. She also serves on the Up 'Til Dawn Moral Team.

"As a 2000-2001 senator, I've learned the importance and honor it is to represent the JSU student body. With the position of second vice president I will have a greater opportunity to work with JSU students and serve them to the best of my abilities."

Daniel Scott Dewberry is a senior from Jacksonville, majoring in finance and e-commerce. Dewberry currently serves as treasurer of the Financial Management Association and SGA Major Events Committee head.

"I feel that I could work together

with the entire student body to bring events to our campus which everyone would approve of," Dewberry said. "I believe that I am qualified for the position of second vice president because I have worked under Donnell Humes and have learned many of the necessary skills that it takes to be second vice president. I have also maintained the position of major events committee head which has also shown me first hand what the job takes."

Joy Anne Boyd is a junior from Lawrenceville, Ga., majoring in history. Boyd currently serves as an SGA senator and is a member of the Student Activities Council, Parliamentary Affairs committee and is entertainment chairperson of the Up 'Til Dawn event. She is also chapter relations chair of Alpha Omicron Pi sorority and is a member of the history club.

"As a student of JSU, I have attended nearly every type of student activity offered," Boyd said. "I have seen what attracts students and what does not have a student draw. My primary goal, if elected second vice president, would be to bring a large-scale concert to JSU with crossover appeal. Not only do I feel that a concert of this nature would benefit the students of JSU, young and old, but I feel that it could be instrumental in recruiting students to our school as well."

Controller

Emily Dawn Doty is a junior from Springville, majoring in secondary education. Doty currently serves as an SGA senator and is an Up 'Til Dawn team captain. She is a member of Omicron Delta Kappa, Phi Eta Sigma and works as a SLS tutor.

"I feel that I am the most qualified because I have a strong background in math and objective unbiased reasoning skills in addition to good communication skills," Doty said. "Since I have been at JSU I have been actively involved in numerous activities and organizations and feel that I have a strong perception of JSU student attitudes, interests and desires."

Mary Beth Edwards is a junior from Summerville, Ga., majoring in communications. Edwards currently serves as an SGA senator and JSU Ambassador. She is a member of Delta Zeta sorority and JSU Panhellenic public relations.

"I feel that the SGA needs strong leadership, and from the positions that I have held on campus I have developed people skills to help me get the job done."

The elections are scheduled for March 6 and 7. For more information on the elections or the candidates, contact the Student Activities Office at 782-5490.

# State proration causing shortage of JSUPD personnel

Continued from page 1, Proration hits UPD

budget, the dispatcher positions cannot be filled when someone resigns. Normally JSUPD has 10 patrol officers with two in the police academy. The remaining officers must work "seven days a week, around the clock," Coleman said. "We have the absolute bare minimum people to handle all the calls and duties that we do."

The shortage of personnel has caused some delay in answering calls, Coleman said. With events going on around campus such as the Calhoun County Basketball Tournament, there are not as many officers available to quickly respond to calls such as unlocking a student's car.

If the University continues to lose money, Coleman said, JSUPD personnel and services will be jeopardized.

"If an officer resigns," Coleman said, "there's no way to replace that officer. If we lose more people or have to cut people, we would have to start cutting services."

"If everybody else is like we are, we've already given up all the money we can with the first hit."

According to Coleman, JSUPD cannot make it to the end of the year on their remaining funds. There is less gas money than would normally be available at this time, and the aging patrol cars are getting harder to maintain. If another hit from proration strikes, Coleman said there would be no alternative but to lay off personnel.

"I don't know any other way to operate without adequate funds," Coleman said. "Proration is very devastating. Of all the years we've had proration, we've never caught up from those years, so our budget is way below what it should be."

# JSU sponsors road trip to Montgomery in the name of Higher Education

By Stephanie Pendergrass  
Assistant News Editor

Higher Education Day is coming up soon. The event, designed to safeguard higher education in the state of Alabama, will take place in Montgomery on March 6.

Higher Education Day is sponsored by the Higher Education Sponsorship of Alabama and it will feature a rally that will begin at 11 a.m. The event will also include two state legislators, two featured speakers, two student speakers and two bands from universities in Alabama.

Following the rally, lunch will be served and a job fair will take place. The job fair will feature 80 of the top businesses in Alabama and will give students an opportunity to interact with professionals working in their desired field of study.

"Higher Education Day is a day for all of the public universities in the state to get together and show the state legislators that we care and we want them to have our input before they make decisions on our budget," said Elizabeth Webb, president of the Student Government Association.

According to its website, the Higher Education Partnership's

goals are to "identify, recruit, organize and unite advocates of higher education." Also to "advocate the needs and effectively communicate the importance of higher education to the people of Alabama and its leaders" and finally to "promote new education partnerships to improve the quality of life for citizens of Alabama."

According to Webb, as of right now, grades K-12 receive 68 percent of the general funds for education. Higher education, on the other hand, receives less than 30 percent and "we want it more equal. We want a one-third, two-thirds split which would give [colleges] 33 percent and [K-12] 66 percent."

Jacksonville State University plans on taking two buses to Montgomery for the rally and job fair. Higher Education Day is a special event for the future education of students. "The importance of it is, students have to be seen down there. When state legislators look out their windows and see students, they know [students] care. I think it's our responsibility to get the word out so the students here know they do have a voice. If I need to be that voice, I will be," said Webb.



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## Jacksonville State University



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Benefiting



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Pick up a team application in room 402 of the TMB or contact Meredith Barnes at 782-8054

### **Q: 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.



# Behind the bars 2: half a nut and a barn give the kids more options

By Joshua W. Bingham  
Features Editor

The Sports Nut is alive and kicking and the Barnyard Bar and Grill is the newest competition in town. As two bars offering different settings for stories of night life around Jacksonville, they encourage Jacksonville State University students to visit.

A fire recently burned part of the Sports Nut. Owner Mike Williams said "we're taking one day at a time." And as the sign outside reads: "half a nut is better than no nut at all."

A wall has been built inside the bar, blocking the burnt section off, and the Sports Nut is still open to the public. When the gas line is back on — Williams said it will be soon — the kitchen will reopen and "hot wings will be flying, just like they always have." Admission is for people 21 and up because liquor is served.

The rubble has been removed and new construction is going to start soon. "It's a fresh start if you look at it," Williams said. "We're going to seize the opportunity ... the (new construction) plan is a great one." The Sports Nut is going to "assume the print shop place," move the dance floor to the middle, put the pool tables at the far side and have 12 draft lines from a new walk-in cooler.

“

*"This is a happy place - used to be wall to wall students. It needs to be again because it will be the biggest bar in Jacksonville."*

Mike Willis  
Sports Nut patron

”

"With twelve draft lines, options are almost unlimited," Williams said. With the draft lines, Sports Nut will have Killian's, Foster's and many other beers on constant tap.

The buffalo head, Purvis, survived the fire and Williams said that there is going to be an inset in the wall behind the bar specifically for Purvis.

Construction is expected to be finished in June or July of this year and Williams is "open to any new fresh ideas" he could improve with.

Williams estimated the Sports Nut clientele to



be 50 percent students and "students are welcome. We're in transition between now and the time we'll reopen," Williams said. "Come down and support us - it's a great conversation pub."

The Sports Nut is open Sundays, requiring only a \$3 membership fee to get in.

With other area bars, Williams feels "no competition - feel fine."

JSU alumnus Mike Willis said there is "good people in the Sports Nut. It's a family atmosphere. Once you get in here and know people, these people are like your brothers and sisters." Willis has been a patron of the Sports Nut for seven years and his favorite memory was of "Banana Republic playing and things just getting



The Sports Nut and the Barnyard Bar and Grill in all their picturesque glory. Clockwise from left to right: Sports Nut owner Mike Williams serves patrons at the bar. At the Barnyard Bar and Grill, eggs wait to be lifted and consumed. They also have plenty of pool tables available for its patrons. And finally Purvis, the buffalo head left behind escaped being completely burned up in a recent fire. Photos by Celia Williams

totally packed. So packed - one line of traffic to the bathroom and one line out."

"There needs to be more student involvement in this bar," Willis said. "This is a happy place - used to be wall to wall students. It needs to be again because it will be the biggest bar in Jacksonville."

JSU graduate student Sue Freeze likes "the people and the price of drinks" at the Sports Nut. She also likes the interaction between the patrons and

Continued on page 10, *Behind the Bars*

**WLJS**  
**92-J**  
91.9FM  
concert  
calendar

### Local Scene

- 3/2/01 Blue Soul--Brothers
- 3/3/01 Bloodkin--Brothers
- 3/3/01 Juke-joint Gypsies--Fuller's Pub
- 3/5/01 Pool Tournament--Brothers
- 3/6/01 "Dead Night"--Brothers
- 3/7/01 Ladies Night featuring D.J. Mac--Brothers
- 3/7/01 Ladies Night featuring D.J. Bout-It--Fuller's Pub
- 3/8/01 Emma Gibbs Band--Brothers
- 3/8/01 Wayne Mills Band--Fuller's Pub
- 3/9/01 Lefthand Monkeywrench--Fuller's Pub

### Birmingham

- 3/3/01 The Chieftains--Jemison Concert Hall @ Alys Stephens
- 3/8/01 Alison Brown & Chris Godfrey--Zydeco
- 3/13/01 David Copperfield--Civic Center
- 3/15/01 Blake Babies--Zydeco
- 3/16/01 Lizzy Borden & Yngwie Malmsteen--Five Points Music Hall

### Atlanta

- 3/1/01 Erykah Badu--Fox Theatre
- 3/2/01 The Chieftains--Fox Theatre
- 3/5/01 Jeff Beck--Tabernacle
- 3/8/01 John Wesley Harding--Cotton Club
- 3/8/01 Henry Rollins--Variety Playhouse
- 3/9/01 Matthew Sweet--Roxy Theatre

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**COMING**  
**DISTRACTIONS**

### CD Releases

- Dave Matthews Band--Everyday
- Pearl Jam--Domestic Bootlegs
- Duncan Shiek--Phantom Moon
- Gladys Knight--At Last
- John Wesley Harding--Trad Arr Jones
- Tim Buckley--Morning Glory: The Tim Buckley Anthology

### March 6

- Aerosmith--Just Push Play
- Eve--Scorpion
- Amy Ray--Stag
- Kristin Hersh--Sunny Border Blue
- The Posies--Nice Cheekbones and a Ph.D
- Blake Babies--God Bless the Blake Babies



# The Town Crier

## An outsider's look at the SGA and elections

By Adam Smith  
Editor

This week's editorial has caused me great distress in regard to how to write it. I had several different directions in which to pursue. I had come up with a verse from a Cracker song to start my original editorial. Somewhere along the way I kept splitting directions and paths. Finally I decided to turn off the office stereo and impose at least a 30-minute moratorium on music (much to my managing editor's chagrin) until I figured out just what I was going to do.

Why all the distress, you ask? It's been a distressing month. Then again, February has never been too incredibly kind to me. This week has been equally unkind. The cause of part of my distress has been the upcoming SGA elections. I've yet to say anything in print about my views on the upcoming push for

democracy at JSU, partly because I felt like Christopher Lauer was pretty much saying it all.

I knew I had to say something this week though. It's reached a fevered pitch so they say. "Let the mud-slinging begin" should have been the call by SGA a few weeks ago. The information I know about the elections themselves, the way our current SGA runs the show, as well as the information concerning the way the candidates are treating each other is unfathomable. It can't possibly be expressed in one simple editorial.

So I now present "Adam's grand plan for successful SGA elections."

First and foremost, I'd love to see a clean campaign. No rabbit punches, no low blows and no threatening of other candidates with brute force. In a perfect world, there would be no tearing down of fliers and campaign posters and there would be no backstabbing. There would be no

empty, false promises and there would be at least three polling stations run by people independent of the SGA and the campaign. If you give people a chance to cheat, chances are they probably will.

Secondly, I'd love to see the right people get the job. Who are the right people? That's up for the student body to decide. I myself am leaning toward several candidates, one of which is endorsed in Mr. Lauer's column. But, more importantly, I would love to see four or five people in the SGA office who can work together successfully. And while Donny Osmond shrieked that "one bad apple don't spoil the whole bunch, girl," I strongly disagree. We've seen it a couple of times here at *The Chanticleer* this year, and friendships have been lost over stupid personal gain or attention. People, when you're part of a "team," you don't have the luxury to be a star player. I think the next SGA's success will be measured and determined by how well they can work together as a team.

Last but not least, I would like to see people in the SGA who can produce on the sometimes empty promises they're currently pondering to anyone with ears. If you like what you hear, fine. Voting for the best looking girl or guy who has the

flashiest car and best clothes may work for some people. However, get to know the candidates a little before making your decision. If you have the presence of mind to want to be enlightened, read Gracie Catchings' fine article on page one. You can find out important information about the candidates who are running for positions.

To end my ramblings, I'd like to remind the student body that our student government is an important part of your college career, whether you think so or not. They are pivotal in determining how much better or worse your life will be on and off campus. If you live on campus, you certainly can't afford to not be involved. If you attend SGA sponsored events, and you're glad or sad at the job they do, then you can't afford to not be a part of this either.

With that in mind, don't be a slacker. Get out of bed on Tuesday, March 6 or Wednesday, March 7. As soon as you take your headache powder of choice, drink your morning cup of beer/coffee and wipe the hangover from your eyes, go to your nearest polling station (provided they have the good sense to open more than one) and VOTE!

Flex your flabby democratic muscle and be a part of something greater than your own piddly life.

# THE CHANTICLEER MAST

- Adam Smith, *Editor*
- Christopher Lauer, *Managing Editor*
- Gracie Catchings, *News Editor*
- Stephanie Pendergrass, *Assistant News Editor*
- Joshua W. Bingham, *Features Editor*
- Anthony Hill, *Sports Editor*
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• *The Chanticleer* will not print letters which are unsigned, libelous and/or defamatory.

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

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

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

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

• SUBMISSIONS SHOULD BE SENT VIA MAIL to jsu\_chanticleer@hotmail.com.

• All non-electronic submissions MUST BE TYPED! No hand written letters will be accepted under any circumstances.

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

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

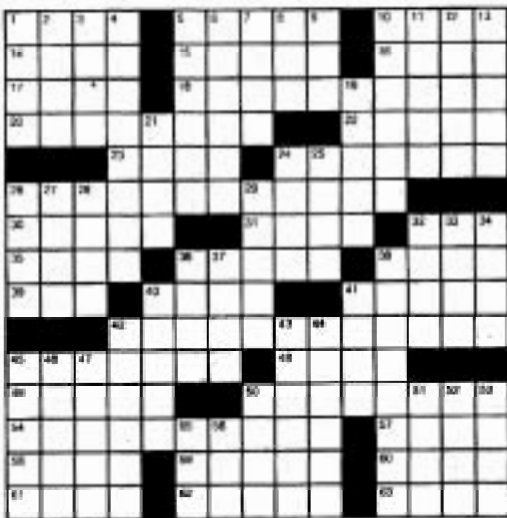
• And remember, please think before you write

Thank You  
The Editorial Staff

## Crossword

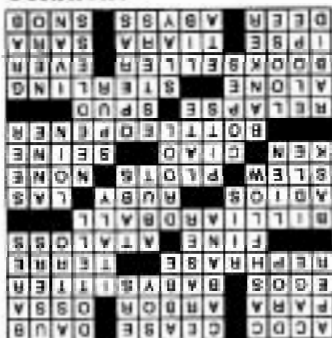
### ACROSS

- 1 "Back in Black" rockers
- 5 Desai's partner
- 10 DiMatteo's painting
- 14 Amazon estuary
- 15 Ann... MI
- 16 Greek peak
- 17 Prima donna's problems
- 18 Nanny
- 20 Say again in a different way
- 22 Haute, IN
- 23 Cash penalty
- 24 Perplexed
- 26 Sphere that gets banished
- 30 Mexican farewell
- 31 July birthstone
- 32 ... Cruces, NM
- 35 Large, indefinite amount
- 36 Secret plans
- 38 "...but answer came there
- 39 Starr or Kenney
- 40 Ta-ta, Luigi
- 41 Fishing net
- 42 Church key
- 45 Backside
- 48 Taler
- 49 Solo
- 50 British money
- 54 B. Dalton, for one
- 57 At all times
- 58 ... dirt
- 59 Queenly headgear
- 60 Post Feastday
- 61 Bamb's folks
- 62 Unfathomable chasm
- 63 Uppity one

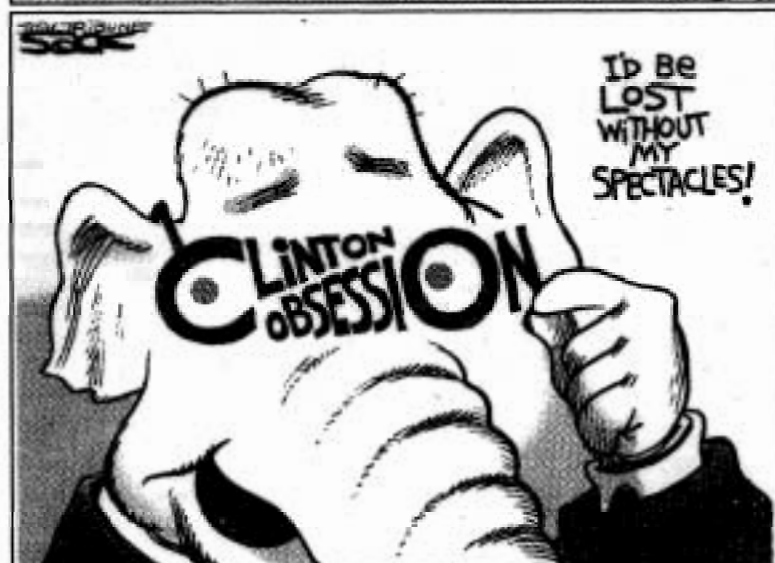
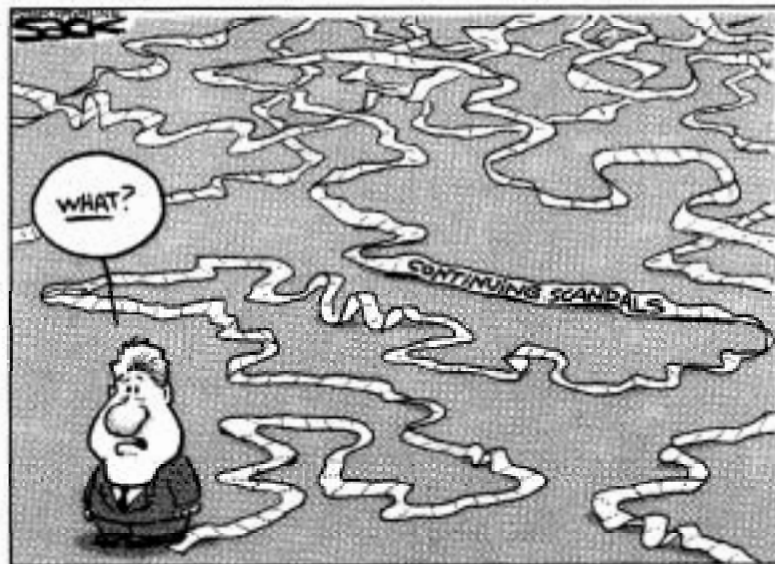


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### Solutions



- ### DOWN
- 1 Copycat
  - 2 Actor Nicolas
  - 3 Tear unit
  - 4 Money on the move?
  - 5 Beach shelter
  - 6 End of a pencil
  - 7 Cugat's singer
  - 8 Oriental sauce
  - 9 Hospital areas
  - 10 You don't say!
  - 11 Houston player
  - 12 PC operators
  - 13 Uncovers
  - 19 Leghorn location
  - 21 Journalist Jacob August
  - 24 Adjoin
  - 25 Slot fillers
  - 26 Lie in the sun
  - 27 Doing nothing
  - 28 Legal claim
  - 29 Go-ga-go
  - 32 Cut of pork
  - 33 Boleyn or Bancroft
  - 34 Soothsayer
  - 36 Mine excavations
  - 37 Overdue
  - 38 Unnecessary
  - 40 Gets by
  - 41 Railroad branch line
  - 42 Moneylender
  - 43 Organic compounds
  - 44 Works by Puccini
  - 45 Suffering from hydrophobia
  - 46 Skip the church ceremony
  - 47 Unrestrained
  - 50 Bowl over
  - 51 One of the Karamazov brothers
  - 52 Pianist Peter
  - 53 Snatch
  - 55 LAX info
  - 56 Ad follower?





the most powerful and most moving speech of the evening. I thought the skies were going to open up as if the rapture had begun, but no one was there to hear it, because the current SGA has the deck stacked against the student body. The SGA director of publicity failed to publicize the speeches.

Why? Possibly due to complete incompetence. Possibly because if no one votes, block voting will be enough to get people like Lewis elected. The current SGA is just about all

So Brandon Lewis sinks to my level. Actually, below my level by making accusations followed by absolutely nothing. How pitiful. Mr. Lewis, if you change Greyhound to British Airways, I'm gone.

But he does bring up a good point when he says, "It has been quite a pleasure to hear you belittle and curse the student body, labeling them as second rate in everything from their religious views to their athletic accomplishments."

Brandon, I called you and the leaders of the current SGA second rate for failing to bring a fall concert, when you had an entertainment budget of approximately \$37,000. I called the students second rate for allowing people like you to hold office. I will continue to call the student body apathetic and second rate if they do not get out and vote, and by failing to do so, allow the SGA to be run, once again, by incompetent, self-serving candidates such as yourself. I have strongly disagreed, but I have never called anyone's religious views "second rate."

Brandon, people like you have destroyed the morale on this campus by segregating us by affiliations with certain organizations. No one should vote for you. Just look at your track record. You have done nothing. You have been 1st vice president of the current SGA that has done nothing. You were the mastermind behind last fall's voter drive fiasco where JSU students lost their right to vote in the closest national election in decades. The students trusted the SGA to register them to vote and somebody failed them.

Brandon, I complain about JSU in order to change it and concerned students have been "materializing" right in front of my face. I have been afforded opportunities at this University that I would not have had elsewhere. I have a love/hate relationship with this place. I have grown to love JSU and hate bureaucracy, tradition, and the good-ol' boy system--three things holding the South back and three things that you, Mr. Lewis, personify.

So when Cicely Hayes took the stage Monday the 19th and started her campaign speech off with a poem and then said, "...a vote for me is a vote for change," I took notice. Cicely Hayes' speech was

Greek, all white, and all white Greeks. Independents find it useless to run because the deck is stacked against them.

I thought about running for senate, but I want out. But not Cicely. Cicely is 23 and has been at JSU for a while now and will be entering graduate studies in the fall. She loves this University but is becoming disheartened, because the deck is stacked against her, because the deck is stacked against us.

Cicely Hayes is not for the Greeks, or the independents. Not for the blacks, or the whites. Not for the men, or the women. Cicely Hayes is for the students of Jacksonville State University. Cicely Hayes is for each and every one of us, together.

During one of our first meetings, Cicely was telling me about talking to blind students about their concerns. We have a large population of blind and deaf students on this campus and no candidate has even mentioned them. What improvements need to occur on this campus? Cicely wants to know.

Cicely Hayes is demanding, of your time, your intellect, your morality, and your individualism. After several meetings with Cicely over the course of these elections, I have realized how concerned, misunderstood, and humble she truly is. I have labeled her with my favorite word: magnanimity—loftiness of spirit enabling one to bear trouble calmly, disdain meanness and revenge, and make sacrifices for worthy ends. She would deny this, but she truly is magnanimous.

And when Mr. Lewis wrote the following on his website, "Honesty, vision, and competency are attributes that must be inherent in a SGA president," he was surely talking about Cicely Hayes.

If you read my column, then you know what I've expected, and what I expect from the SGA. Cicely Hayes is the person for the job. Brad Medaris is the person for the job of 1st vice. And I don't know the rest of the candidates well enough to endorse them, or discredit them, unless I've discredited them in the past.

I will try to support whoever wins, and hopefully the new president will usher in a new era. "...a vote for me is a vote for change." - Cicely Hayes.

# F o r u m

## WAITING

I don't want to wait  
For fate  
Chance  
Or divine inspiration.  
I want to move  
Now!  
I want to grow  
Now!

Carleen Brice

I am Cicely Hayes and a vote for me is a vote for change. If you do not want your opinions, needs, and wants to be secondary, cast your vote for me. My agenda is not of self-service, but one of service. Cesar Chavez once said, "It is very easy to be a servant, but very difficult to be of service. When you are of service, you're there whether you like it or not, whether it is Sunday, Monday, or a holiday. You're there whenever you are needed." I am here at your service, one who is anxious and eager to address the needs of the students. For without you, student government would not exist. If your needs have not been acknowledged or met by the previous administration, mark your ballot for me. Do not allow the usual order of business to continue. I am not a politician! Saying anything and doing anything to get into office is not my purpose. Instead, my purpose is to motivate you to take back your Student Government Association from apathetic leaders who do not have your interests in mind. The office of president should be filled by someone with fortitude, integrity, and the courage to stand up against the status quo. Your Student Government Association needs a leader who will take their job seriously, someone who does not see it as just another resume filler. This University can no longer wear the crown of the friendliest campus in the South until its leaders promote unity in every endeavor. I am calling on every student! International, disabled, non-traditional, non-greek, greek, and students of every creed and color. Unite with me. A vote for Cicely Hayes is a vote for change, a vote to be heard, and a vote for unity. Thank you and I look forward to serving you.

Cicely Hayes

Dear Editor,

As always, when Mr. Lauer embarks upon one of his escapades in journalism the very last thing on his mind is the actuality of events. In order to follow the rules you must first take five minutes out of your day and read them. As a candidate you owe it to the individuals you represent to be prepared and well educated, not rely on mere hearsay. You must be ready to run your campaign, acting as a statesmen, not like paparazzi.

First, I would like to congratulate Mr. Lauer on being a seer of seers. To constantly and consistently pass judgment on individuals you do not know is quite a feat. You must have a direct link to some divine being. I was brought up to think it inappropriate to judge others, especially if you take no action of your own accord.

Secondly, It has been quite a pleasure to hear you belittle and curse the student body, labeling them as second rate in everything from their religious views to their athletic accomplishments. Climbing to the top of your Ivory Tower every morning must take a lot of dedication and I commend you. Perhaps you should think about being a professional role model for children. If inaction can be considered an action, however, your days would probably be to busy for this.

Thirdly, your commitment to literary excellence is outstanding. On a personal note, I would like you to know that I have placed all of your enlightening editorials in a vacuum sealed container, which I purchased for a large sum. In the hopes that should the earth be destroyed, those that remained would be able to start anew, referring to these tomes of optimism and action based thought to create a Utopia where everyone sat around and complained until what they wanted simply materialized in front of them.

Lastly, I will not turn this into a campaign speech, my platform can be found on-line at [www.lewisforpresident.com](http://www.lewisforpresident.com). I would, however, like to make you an offer Mr. Lauer. I would like to personally provide you, out of my own finances no less, a Greyhound bus ticket (one way of course) to any where in the U.S., providing that you would assure those who wish for your departure that you wouldn't entertain the notion of returning. Because, I believe I speak for the majority of JSU students when I say the following: You do not deserve to be called a Gamecock.

Thank You,  
Brandon Lewis

More "Forum" letters on page 9



"Do you plan on voting in the SGA elections? Why or why not?"



Rocky Tejada  
Freshman

"Yes, because I'm part of the school. I have to contribute."



Tabitha Carlson  
Junior

"Yes, because I'm good friends with one of the candidates."



Randal Chatman  
Sophomore

"Yes, because I want to help take part in the changes."



Brandon Riggins  
Sophomore

"Yes, so we can make a change on the campus, activities and stuff."



Bill Homuth  
Freshman

"No, because I don't know anybody I've seen running."



# Noleworthy Not Worthy

Because our opinion matters



## Jennifer Lopez

J Lo



Jennifer away from the mix machine and chances are she wouldn't sound so good. While adequate, her voice has no particular tone to distinguish it from any other entertainer out there. She is musical, and knows how to make the best out of she has. She is one of the better non-singing singers around.

She's best when she's moving though. The single, "Love Don't Cost a Thing," has a jagged, bass-heavy percussive production by Ric Wake. He has worked with Jay-Z and 98 Degrees. With a hip-shak-

ing, electro-tinged attack, "Play" is a funky tribute to the wheels of steel, as Lopez declares, "I could wait all night and day/ To go to a party/ Sit down and wait/ Give my request to the DJ."

Things really start to get good on the album on the song titled "Come Over." She sings lyrics such as, "I'll do very erotic things/ I wanna make love, babe, very slowly." She also has a tight Spanish cut on this album called "Carino." This CD is decent. I can't even make it sound like a great one, because it's not. This CD is for the people that want to dance to about two or three of her cuts, not for the salsa singing.

Then again, anyone coming to a Jennifer Lopez album for some earthy salsa singing is crazy. This album is about gloss and floss and sex and looking at the pictures in the CD cover.

By Anthony Hill

In pop music, there are singers and then there are performers. Annie Lennox is a singer. Madonna is a performer. Whitney Houston, singer; Janet Jackson, performer. There are exceptions, of course. Even though Christina Aguilera is fully loaded with all the appropriate moves and accessories, she could just sing. On the other hand, Britney unplugged would kill us all.

Make no mistake, Jennifer Lopez is a performer, not a singer. Take

# "Crouching Tiger" a "superb accomplishment"



By Patrick H. Berry  
Staff Writer

"Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" is a stunning example of what a team of artists can produce when free from commercial interests. The director, Ang Lee, skillfully balances a collection of strikingly balletic action scenes with an exploration of impressively developed characters.

This is not simply a kung-foo flick; rather, it is a truly moving

dramatic work performed by extremely talented actors which include Chow Yun Fat as Li Mu Bai and Michelle Yeoh as Yu Shu Lien. Their performances are exquisite though slightly obscured in translation.

On the surface, the plot is driven by a quest to regain a stolen blade, but the film's true value lies in its analysis of the human psyche confronting social obligations which preclude spiritual fulfillment. Early 19th century China provides a refreshingly unique set-

ting for Western eyes as well as a catalyst for much of the action. The culture on display is based on unquestioned concession to ritualistic social pressures, an acquiescence none of the heroes will surrender.

The story revolves around the interactions of the three main characters. Jen is a spoiled princess who rebels against an arranged marriage and begins, albeit initially misguided, on a path towards enlightenment. Her story is woven with that of Li and his quest to avenge the death of his master while repressing his long felt passion for Yu. Yu is the widow of Li's brother and also a guiding force in Jen's life. The characters move with extraordinary grace, whether sipping from a cup of tea or engaging in mortal combat. The battles are fantastic, and it is easy to see the man responsible for "The Matrix" within them.

The film is a superb accomplishment in other respects as well. The musical score was composed by Yo Yo Ma, and it is both exotic and beautiful. "Crouching Tiger" received ten academy award nominations; because of this, it has slowly crept from Asia to Alabama — the reward was worth the wait.

Grade: A+

# What's your sign?

By Linda C. Black  
Tribune Media Services

Today's Birthday (March 1). Want a better job? Plenty of money? All this, and more, is possible. Start in March by studying. The money comes in April. If a change in attitude is required, make it. Use your experience in May to overcome confusion. In June, fix up your home with stuff you've been saving. 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 5- Your financial situation could improve. It's not because you're working overtime; more likely, it's because you'll find something valuable hidden in your closets. That ought to keep you busy tonight.

- Taurus (April 20-May 20)- Today is a 7- Reason won't be enough to change your mind today, and with good reason. You're better off going with your gut feeling on a decision that has to be made, especially if your money's involved.

- Gemini (May 21-June 21)- Today is a 6- An older person is trying to tell you something, and you ought to listen. Trouble is, it's body language that's being used, not words. It could have to do with an assignment you should have turned in by now. Just do it.

- Cancer (June 22-July 22)- Today is a 7- A friend is having a tough time, but this is good for you. Learn from another's mistake. For example, if the friend decides to tell off the boss, watch to see what happens instead of doing the same thing.

- Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)- Today is a 6- Your forward progress might seem blocked, but that's not really the case. A good partner can help you get through. Don't try to do it all by yourself - you'd just be bashing your head against the wall.

- Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)- Today is a 7- Reaching out to touch someone might be more difficult than you thought. The problem is an overload - either congestion on the highway or too many users on the Internet. Be patient. It will eventually clear up.

- Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)- Today is a 6- You'd like to live in the lap of luxury, and it might be possible, but there is a little work involved. The more work you do, the more money you'll have to spend.

- Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)- Today is an 8- Your psychic powers should be working very well. This is good, because you don't have time for a conversation that's going nowhere. Instead, cast a spell to get your way. Use chocolate.

- Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)- Today is a 5- You should be using brains instead of brawn to get the job done. That's what you're telling yourself, too. But how? It's a sure bet that you'll eventually think of something after being stuck in the muck for a while.

- Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)- Today is an 8- True love awaits if you can just make time for it. You need to run errands, but don't spend all day on them. You deserve to have a little fun just like everyone else. But in your case, you sometimes have to fight for it.

- Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)- Today is a 5- You may have dreams about the good you'd like to do for society, but today your own private spaces need attention. The sanctum sanctorum right around you needs repair. If you have money to donate to anything, spend it on that.

- Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)- Today is a 7- You may have a hunch that your skills need updating, and you're correct. Ask an expert for advice, and you'll become better at what you're doing. Don't despair. This is just another of those tricky learning experiences.

# Brother's

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• Fri. - Blue Soul Adelayda

•Sat. - Bloodkin

•Pool Tournament 10:00 pm

•Tues. - Dead Night

•Wed. - Ladies Night w/D.J. Mac

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# Forum

Dear Editorial Staff:

I am writing to you as a concerned student. I have been active in the SGA for three years and I have seen a decline in the quality of the leadership as of late. I accept some responsibility for this as I am currently a part of the Executive Board. As the Chief Justice, I am required to attend the meetings and I have a vote on the Board. I have done what I thought was right. I have argued for what I believe in and I have done all that has been asked of me. I have volunteered to help on numerous projects. I have been willing to do most anything asked of me.

However, in my current position, I have little power to change things. The Judicial branch of the SGA is designed to have little power and (in my opinion) is a branch of wasted potential. I represent a truly great council of justices. The vast majority are justices because they believe with all their heart in JSU, the SGA and themselves. They want to make the SGA a better place for all students. Sadly, we have little chance to make things better.

This is why I am running for First Vice-President. I can no longer sit idly by and watch things get worse and worse. I am tired of watching elected officials further their own agenda while letting the SGA fall apart. I sat and watched the SGA ignore *The Chanticleer* all year long. I have seen elected officials lie to students for no reason. I have heard more talk and seen less action. To be frank, I have become frustrated with how many in the SGA operate and I wish to try to change things.

Should the students demand a real change and elect me, here are five things I pledge to work on as First Vice-President: 1) Encourage minority involvement (90 percent of the senate is white) 2) Encourage more organizations to become involved in the SGA 3) Work with the student media and speak with the student media at least twice a month 4) Make a copy of JSU's budget easily available to the student body so they can see how tuition is being spent 5) Require the administration to give the students a written plan on how they will improve the parking situation

I expect the student media and the student body to check on me to make sure I am making progress on my five goals.

In closing, I want to stress the importance of this election. There are candidates running for all offices that have the ability to make a difference. There are also many who are running who will change nothing. I beg you all to carefully consider your vote. Please do not vote for someone because they're your roommate's buddy or because they have the prettiest signs. Vote for someone who you know wants to better JSU. Vote for the candidate that has the best REALISTIC ideas. Most importantly, vote. Nothing will change if you do not exercise your right to vote. The election will be March 6th and 7th from 9am to 4pm in the TMB and, hopefully, other designated locations across campus.

I hope to see everyone at the polls, voting for change.

Brad Medaris

More "Forum" letters on page 12

Chris,

This letter is in response to your write-up in this past weeks paper. I don't know where you come up with your topics to write about in your column. I'm going to give credit where credit is due. The polling places are a good idea. I'm in total support of that. The issues that gets to me the most is the Brandon Lewis and Stephen Brackett thing.

First of all, if Stephen Brackett is ineligible to run, let the SGA deal with that. There is no need to bring out something that might not even have any truth to it, just to discredit somebody.

Secondly, the Brandon Lewis situation. I feel sorry for somebody who lives on a college campus and can find nothing better to do than take pictures of a candidate's campaign signs in the middle of the night. It would make more sense to watch grass grow. The "official" start of campaigning is a little more than 2 weeks before the elections. I don't think that a person's campaign signs being up 10 hours before somebody else's, (with a majority of those hours being while people are in the bed) is going to make that much of a difference.

These senseless accusations are nothing more than a continuing effort by the paper to make Greeks look bad. You people sit up there and write your opinions about what is going on around campus and think you are untouchable because you have an outlet of communication that nobody else on this campus has. I know that nobody on the staff is Greek and that's fine because that's your decision, but I'm tired of picking up the paper and hearing all of this negative Anti-Greek stuff, and so is everybody else. If you didn't notice, most people snickered when you brought up the Brandon Lewis subject at the SGA meeting tonight. That's because people think that you are an idiot for making such a big deal about nothing. Also, in your column, you referred to the pictures as "obscene". Pornographic pictures are obscene; picture of war are obscene; pictures of SGA campaign signs are humorous because they were taken at 12:30 at night about a stupid issue, by someone who would have better spent their time washing their car in the rain.

I hope you re-think what you write and realize that just because you write for the school paper, doesn't mean that you can slam people and not hear anything else about it.

Thank You,  
Sam Stewart

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# Jets prevail over Sharks in faculty scholar's bowl

By Joshua W. Bingham  
Features Editor

Screaming answers after wildly raising their hands like a crowd of rowdy students, six English professors took part in the Faculty Scholars Bowl sponsored by Sigma Tau Delta.

Dr. Whitton, Dr. Hugg and Mr. Myer were the Jets. Dr. Reed, Dr. Horton and Dr. DiBiase were the Sharks. Mrs. Christopher read questions from the "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire" board game.

The toss-up questions were worth 10 points and 20 for the bonus. The bonus questions were all literary in

nature and written by Dr. Hawley and Mrs. Christopher.

After whispers, nods, raised eyebrows and sarcastically delayed answers, the score for round one was: Jets — 300, Sharks — 270.

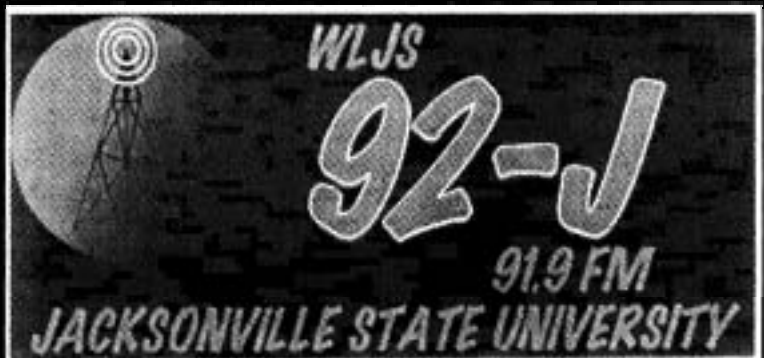
"Who said thank you, thank you very much?" Christopher read. Myer buzzed in first and said, "uh ... Elvis Presley." Christopher answered with a smirk, "no, the king." The whole room broke into laughter.

After many jokes were thrown around while the panel jested Christopher as she read the questions, the final score was: Jets — 670, Sharks — 470.

## Chock full of Real News

By Mike Pingree  
TMS Campus

- **A LITTLE SNOW WON'T STOP ME:** Undeterred by a major snowstorm that hit Nebraska, a man in dire need of a drink stole a snowplow from a storage facility in Hastings and drove it 20 miles to a liquor store where he bought a case of beer. The clerk called the cops because the guy appeared to be intoxicated. Police had no trouble catching the thief, because he paid for the brewskis with a personal check before abandoning the plow at an elementary school near his home.
- **UH, HI OFFICER, I WAS JUST LEAV ...:** Police said a man robbed a dry cleaners' shop in Vandalia, Ohio, and was walking out with the loot just as a police lieutenant walked in to pick up his laundry. The shop is right next door to the police station. The man was arrested.
- **YOU AGAIN!?** Harald Hauso, a soft-hearted fisherman, has made headlines in his native Norway because he took pity on a blind codfish that keeps swimming into his nets. Hauso's hooped nets in a Norwegian fjord attract tiny crabs and starfish, and the cod apparently knows he can get an easy meal there. He also must know that he won't be eaten himself, because Hauso has released him 35 times in the past year.
- **A LOT OF WORK FOR NOTHING:** A pretty strong thief stormed into the All-Wash Laundromat in Toledo, Ohio, forced the attendant into the bathroom, then — in a feat of Herculean might — bear-hugged a floor-model Automatic Teller Machine, picked it up and walked out with it. The attendant would have told him, had he asked, that the ATM was out of order and contained no cash.



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"Half a nut is better than no nut at all" boasts the sign in front of the remaining half of the Sports Nut

Continued from page 5, Behind the Bars

bartenders. "They take a real interest in who you are and what you want to become. For Freeze, the Sports Nut is "a great place to visit without the bullsh\*\* ... a great place to get away without getting away."

The Barnyard Bar and Grill is the newest addition to the late-night scene of Jacksonville and shift manager Craig Latimer said "we're doing good." Located beneath the Old Henry Farm Restaurant, the Barnyard Bar and Grill's clientele is 40 percent students, but they're

"working on getting more college students with beer specials," Latimer said.

Latimer feels some competition with other area bars. "It's their business we're trying to get - trying to show we have some things they don't necessarily have. We have around 25 video games, 12 pool tables and two dart boards." There is also a 60 inch TV to watch "football games or whatever" on, Latimer said.

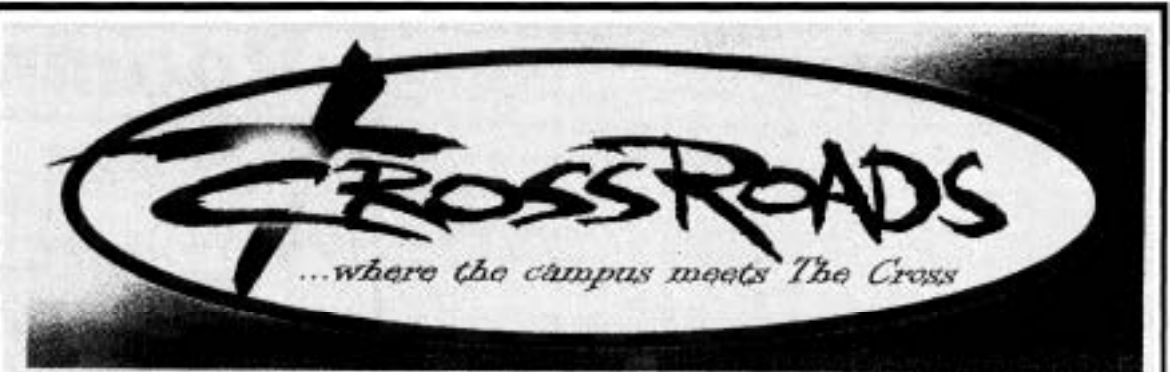
The Barnyard Bar and Grill is closed on Mondays. Tuesday and Wednesday nights, pitchers of

Natural Light are \$1 from 5 to 9 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays, domestic beers are \$1.75 and premium beers are \$1.25 until 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday nights, there are no specials except for the week-long special of Natural Light pitchers for \$3.50. They close at 12 a.m. every night, "but some nights earlier if it's slow," Latimer said.

JSU student Tony Kichler, who has been going to the Barnyard Bar and Grill for about two months, said, "It's out of the way, kind of peaceful out here. They serve great food upstairs. I like the different stages (floors). You can go upstairs and come down here - ya know, have a good time." There is a "very fancy, nice bar on the second story," Kichler said. "You can take a date up there and have a couple drinks with your friends down here. It's three places in one."

JSU student April Schrimsher loves "playing pool" at the Barnyard Bar and Grill "and the chocolate milkshakes are awesome." Schrimsher's favorite memory is of "the night the Troy (football) game. It was so cold. We came here and the game was on the TV."

As two places offering environments for late-night fun, the Sports Nut and the Barnyard Bar and Grill would like to encourage JSU students to visit them.



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# F o r u m

I am writing in reference to Anthony Hill's article titled "College Athletes are Taking a Stand"(2-15-01). Now that we know the athletic department was nearly \$5 million in the hole last year I would like to know exactly how Mr. Hill can justify the following statement: "Football and basketball players know they foot the bill for the whole athletic department, and that a small fraction of the money they generate is returned to them in the form of scholarships." It seems to me that if they were "footing the bill" our AD wouldn't be \$5 mill in the red. The truth is that at JSU (and the majority of other colleges and universities nation wide) the STUDENTS foot the bill. According statistics from Gender Equity Reports for the 95-96 school year, the average athletic department lost \$866,476. Of the 282 D-I schools, total revenues of \$1.8 billion were exceeded by expenditures of approximately \$2 billion dollars(total losses were \$245 million dollars). Only the largest athletic departments make money(the most profitable football program was U. Washington @ \$20,322,687, and the most profitable basketball program was U. Louisville @ \$6,892,016). If college athletes are to be paid, who is going to determine how much and to who this money would go? Obviously, ALL athletes are going to have to be paid the same amount. All programs on the same D-I level are going to have to pay an equal amount, because doing otherwise would give certain programs an unfair advantage in recruiting. And exactly where is all this extra money going to come from? Since its obvious that most athletic departments aren't exactly swimming in money the added expense would be passed on to the rest of us(the student body). Tuition is likely to skyrocket soon due to proration, I'd rather not be funding an underachieving football program to boot. I've grown weary of seeing a scholarship passed off as meaningless. Players receive an opportunity to get a college education, and if they're lucky a shot at playing pro ball. If athletes truly feel they are being taken advantage of, they don't have to sign the scholarship papers.

Christian L. Miller

The Bulletin Board

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# S THE WEEK IN SPORTS



Legendary Gamecock Baseball coach Rudy Abbott talks balls, strikes and his quest for 1,000 in this week's "One on One"

## Abbott gets win number 999

By Matthew Martin  
Staff Writer

You can't get any closer than this. With the 4-3 win last Saturday over Siena College, head coach Rudy Abbott is just one win shy of 1,000 for his career.

The Gamecocks got the win in the eighth inning on a Heath Comer game-winning run last Saturday. Jax State had chances to take the lead earlier in the game, but failed to capitalize, setting the stage for the late inning rally.

"We have not hit the ball real well, but our guys never gave up," said Abbott. "We never got frustrated, and that is why we won the game in the end."

The Gamecocks split the weekend series of four games. Siena won the second game last Friday, 1-0. They also won game one last Saturday, 3-0.

The first game of the series last Friday, Steve Shippey (2-1) picked up the win after going the distance for the Gamecocks. The right-hander allowed three hits, while striking out nine Saint batters as the Gamecocks took the 3-2 victory.

The second game on Friday turned into a pitching duel between Brent Wengert of Siena and Joey Shiftlett.

Siena scored the games' only run in the first inning. Blake Hanan scored on an error after reaching base with a double.

The loss marked the first 1-0 defeat since 1982, when the Gamecocks dropped a game against Troy State, 1-0.

Shiftlett (1-1) tossed five innings and didn't allow an earned run in the second game, but got the loss. Wengert (1-0) recorded five strikeouts and allowed just three hits to get his first win of the season. Court finished with a pair of hits for the Gamecocks, which finished with only five hits.

"We have to play smarter," said Abbott. "We had some chances to win, but we made mistakes."

In the first game of the double-header last Saturday was dominated early by Siena. They scored all three runs of the game in the first inning.

JSU loaded the bases with a single out in the seventh, before Mark Smith closed the door by striking out three Gamecock batters in the



Gamecock pitcher Josh Nix (No. 27) releases a pitch during JSU's win over Siena last Saturday. The Gamecocks play again this weekend at Mississippi State.

inning to earn the save for Siena.

Joe Hannah (1-1) got the loss for the Gamecocks. Hannah pitched a complete game, allowing just one earned run while scattering eight. He also struck out seven Saint batters.

In the final game of the series, Siena jumped out to 1-0 lead in the first inning. The Saints picked up another run off Lucas McCollum.

The Gamecocks picked up a run in the second to make it 2-1. Ben Phillips led off the inning with a double and later scored on Nick Brown's fielders choice.

## Softball team wins the Reebok Invitational Title

By Staff Reports

The Lady Gamecock softball team brought home the Reebok Invitational trophy from Georgia Southern last Sunday. The Lady Gamecocks fought, scratched, and held on to win the tournament.

The title didn't come easy for the Lady Gamecocks. They couldn't get any offense going in the first game of the invitational during the last Friday.

In the first game, Middle Tennessee shutout the Gamecocks 2-0. Jill Wilcoxson recorded the loss.

JSU made up for the loss in the nightcap as it beat Samford 1-0. Allie Simons led Jax State with two hits and Meadow McWhorter recorded the win after pitching a shutout.

In the championship game, senior Meghan Maskel recorded the winning RBI to score the go-ahead run. The Lady Gamecocks defeated the host team, Georgia Southern, 3-2 in 13 innings.

Senior Jill Wilcoxson pitched 10 innings of that game, giving up no hits and no runs, when freshmen Tera Ross finished the job and got the win for the JSU.

The Lady Gamecocks won the tournament title after defeating Coastal Carolina, 2-1.

"The wins were good for us," said head coach Jana McGinnis. "We have been struggling with our offense and we got it going when it counted today."

Senior Meadow McWhorter, who recorded the win against Coastal Carolina, headed the All-tournament team, along with Ross, Wilcoxson and sophomore Allie Simons.

## Tennis team grabs another win

By Staff Reports

The JSU tennis team continues to roll, especially the women's team as they swept West Georgia last Wednesday.

Both the men's and women's tennis team won their matches. The women's team (5-1) blanked West Georgia, 7-0 without senior Manda Martin. Martin was burned from last Saturday's win over Tennessee-Chattanooga.

Gabriela Baca filled in for her at the fifth position and came away with the match win over UWG's Sami Vora, 6-1, 6-0.

The men's team(1-4) enjoyed its first win of the 2001 campaign as

they beat Jefferson State. JSU originally was scheduled to play West Georgia, but UWG's men tennis program was canceled at the beginning of the year and head coach Steve Bailey thought the men needed a game. It also couldn't hurt to have a win to boost its confidence, even though the match won't count in the NCAA rankings.

"Today was a big win for the men," said Bailey. "Rian Greeves showed good composure today, down 5-2 in third set and came back to win in the tie breaker."

The tennis team will play their next home match against Radford on March 12. The match is scheduled to begin at 1:30 p.m.

## Another basketball player calls it quits

By Staff Reports

Head basketball coach Mike LaPlante announced Monday that Josh Bryant has decided to leave the Jacksonville State University basketball team.

"Josh came in and announced his desire to leave the team," LaPlante said from his office Monday evening. "I wish him the best in his future endeavors." Bryant, a 6-foot-6 six sophomore from Hatton, was averaging 5.0 points and 2.9 rebounds for the Gamecocks. He played in 25 games and averaged 15.6 minutes per contest.

Bryant became the second player to leave the team this season. Johnny Kilpatrick also left the team about two weeks ago.



Photo by Lyle Barnard

# One on One with "Thrill"



"We have guys that practice hitting one way in batting practice and then hit and stand a totally different way during the games."

By Anthony "Thrill" Hill

seem to be a lot more strict than Division II. You had a little more freedom to do some things as far as preparation goes in Division II. Where as, in Division I, you strictly have to go by the rules and that makes it tougher to prepare your team.

**Thrill:** I know that you can't wait to get that thousandth victory. How disappointing was it for you to not get it over the weekend?

**Rudy:** Not any more disappointing than it was for me not to get it last year. I really thought that we would get it last season. I also thought that we would get it earlier this year. We lost two games in Charleston, South Carolina, in a tournament. We lost 2-1 in twelve innings and 2-1 in another game. We lost a game late that we shouldn't have lost here and we lost a 1-0 game that we shouldn't have lost. I'm disappointed about that. I'm not disappointed about the thousandth win, I'm upset that we didn't win. We're 7-5, and we should be 10-2.

**Thrill:** Is there some sort of ritual that you go through before each game or season?

**Rudy:** I probably coach a little different than other people. I do all of my coaching in practice. I turn the ballgame over to the kids on game-day and I let them play. If a guy is not ready to play by then, I'm not going to get him ready to play. If a guy has to worry about what I want him to do, he's not going to relax and let his natural ability take over. You just have to really prepare yourself in practice. We have not done that this year. Our guys practice one way and play another. Pitching and defense have been good. Hitting has been completely

different from what we work on. We are just not getting the job done and that comes back to me.

**Thrill:** We have two tough games coming up in Starksville against Mississippi State. It would be nice to beat an SEC team to get the thousand, but would probably be more fitting to win it at home, over one of your former players. You coached Middle Tennessee coach Steve Peterson.

**Rudy:** Well, we just want to win the next game. I really wanted to beat Siena. I really wanted to beat Charleston. If Mississippi State is who we play, then that's who we want to beat. The last time we played them, we played twelve innings and they beat us 3-2.

**Thrill:** You've coached the Gamecocks for 32 years. What's your most memorable moment at JSU?

**Rudy:** It's not a ballgame. You'd want to think that our two national championships or seven world series appearances are things I would remember most. The thing that I will carry with me when I leave here is the enjoyment and satisfaction and knowing that I was able to work at my university that I love very much for a long period of time. People allowed me to do my job without checking on me and staying after me. The university has allowed me to do my job. The camaraderie and the friendships with the ball players is something I will take to my grave. Kids give so much back to you as a coach if you let them. They give me youth.

**Thrill:** How much of an honor was it to have the field named after you?

**Rudy:** I think that is the best honor that a university can bestow on an alumnus. That meant a great deal to me.

**Thrill:** How has the major league changed since you were a part of the Pittsburgh Pirate organization?

**Rudy:** The money. I played for the Giants and I played for Pittsburgh. I played for the love of the game. The money wasn't important. I

would've played for nothing. I'm glad they didn't know that. But, I would've. I had the opportunity to play in the majors. I have no desire to coach in the majors, because you don't coach the players. You end up coaching the agent.

**Thrill:** You have lived the life of a local hero. You were a multi-sport star in high school. You were also a good junior college player, along with being a great Gamecock player. How has the ride been for you?

**Rudy:** I wasn't a great player, but I appreciate you saying that. I was a good player. I just enjoyed playing. When I came out of high school there wasn't scholarships in baseball. Only football and basketball players got scholarships. I had to work. Like you, I worked for *The Chanticleer*. I also worked with *The Anniston Star* and Union Foundry on the third shift. When I had time, I played ball. Everyone had to work. There was no student loans.

**Thrill:** Is there someone out there that you admire? Whether it be in coaching or playing, is there someone that makes you think to yourself, "Man, he does a good job"?

**Rudy:** I admire successful people in all areas. Sports is just a small part of it. We've had some great writers to graduate from Jacksonville State. We've had a lot of great people leave JSU. Everyone has their own heroes. Some of them are in sports and some of them are not.

**Thrill:** Since we're talking about writing. Have you ever thought about getting back into journalism?

**Rudy:** Yes, I have thought seriously about starting a weekly newspaper. I may still do that. I may go over to Georgia and work for a newspaper. I am going to take some time to think about it. I never thought about being a baseball coach. Whatever I do or where ever I go, I will always support Jacksonville State University. I will do anything Dr. Meehan wants me to do. I will be a good alumnus.

**Thrill:** What were goals and dreams while growing up in Anniston, Alabama?

**Rudy:** To stay one step ahead of starvation. When I grew up in West Anniston, no one had any money. It's hard for people to understand how bad things used to be. When you wonder about where your next meal is coming from, you don't plan too far in advance. I've always tried to take care of today. Sometimes coaches aren't successful because they spend ninety percent of their time looking for other jobs. I'm not directing that at anybody.

**Thrill:** Wow. You said a lot with that one statement, coach.

**Rudy:** Think about it. You need to spend all of your time trying to do a better job.

**Thrill:** I will. What are your hobbies during the offseason?

**Rudy:** I try to spend time with my granddaughter, Haley. She's six. I love to work on my 40 acre farm. I have about two or three lakes. A few water gardens. I'm not going to write a book.

**Thrill:** Free Association. Gene Stephensen. (Wichita St. head coach.)

**Rudy:** Great coach.

**Thrill:** Walter Wellborn High.

**Rudy:** Alma mater.

**Thrill:** 1991 Gamecock squad.

**Rudy:** National champs.

**Thrill:** Mrs. Sue Abbott.

**Rudy:** The best thing that's ever happened to me.

**Thrill:** 1,000.

**Rudy:** A great moment.

**Thrill:** Jacksonville State University.

**Rudy:** The love of my life.

**Thrill:** One more question. What's the difference between this year's squad and the 1997 team that won the Western Conference championship?

**Rudy:** The 1997 team had a lot more power in the line-up. This ballclub is a better fielding and pitching team.

**Thrill:** Thanks coach.

## Lady Gamecocks grab two straight victories at home

By Jay Pace  
Staff Writer

The Lady Gamecocks have won two straight games in thrilling fashion at Pete Mathews Coliseum. They held on to take a 68-67 victory over arch-rival Troy State last Thursday night.

Amanda Tyus was dynamite as she hit five three-point baskets and ended the night with 18 points.

JSU came out of the blocks, firing on all cylinders in the first half as they jumped on the Trojans early in the first half.

"We were playing our game in the first part of the game and then before the half was over Troy started playing its game," said head coach Dana Austin. "They played a game of transitions and our turnovers really hurt us."

The Trojans began to methodically chip away at the Gamecocks lead. Troy State's Charquita Alexander led the charge with nine

points in the last five minutes of the first half. Alexander ended the night with 11 points.

The Trojans tied the game for the first time at the 6:15 mark and would do so another series of times.

The two teams would trade the lead several times until Donyale Blackshear hit two big free throws to take a 68-66 lead with less than a minute remaining in the contest.

Trojan guard Jennifer McGinnis drew a foul with :30 seconds remaining. After the missed free throw, McKell Copeland and Jennifer Meeks scrambled for the rebound.

Copeland had 15 points in the win, along with four assists and four steals, while Meeks grabbed a career-high ten rebounds.

The Lady Gamecocks continued to give the fans thrills during the game over the weekend against Mercer (5-20, 2-14 TAAC).

Tyus hit a 3-pointer with just seven seconds left on the clock to lift the Lady Gamecocks to a 62-60 victory at Pete Mathews Coliseum last

Saturday night.

The Trans America Athletic Conference win, improves JSU to 6-10 in the league and 9-16 overall.

Tyus struggled with her 3-point shooting for most of the night, only hitting two from behind the arc before the game-winner.

"I guess that makes up for all of the missed shots," said Tyus. "I'd rather make that one than all of the rest."

The Lady Gamecocks overcame Mercer leads as great as 16 points during the first half. The story of the game has got to be the rebounding of Eysha Ambler and the play making of McKell Copeland.

Ambler finished the night with six points and seven rebounds, while Copeland added nine points and nine assists, which tied her career-high.

Tyus ended the evening with 17 points, while junior Laura Baswell added 15.

The Lady Gamecocks will travel to Baco



JSU Lady Gamecock point guard McKell Copeland shoots to score during last Saturday's victory over Mercer

Raton to play Florida Atlantic tonight. Tip-off is set for six o'clock.





A Sports Editorial  
By Anthony "Thrill" Hill

# EVERYONE is still mourning the loss

One of the truest statements ever written about sports legends is the following: "Great Athletes Die Twice."

That is a reference to the fact that we, the fans, feel a great loss when an athlete retires or dies. The only consolation for a race world in shock is that Earnhardt died once.

The truly great athletes make an impact on more than just the fans of that particular sport, but the entire sports world.

For those of us who are not a part of the auto racing world, it is often hard to understand the allure of it to the millions who love it. But one does not have to understand the workings of an engine or the magic of Daytona to understand that an icon was taken from the world two Sundays ago.

I have a bleak knowledge of the racing industry. The two NASCAR names that almost anyone who has even a passing knowledge of sports are familiar with are Richard Petty and Dale Earnhardt. If Petty was Michael Jordan, then Earnhardt was Magic Johnson or Larry Bird. If Petty was Gretzky, then Earnhardt was Mario Lemieux.

Pick your sport, then pick the greatest couple of names in that sport. Then try to imagine one of those people suddenly dying while millions watched. Try to imagine John Elway dying in the final seconds of a Super Bowl or Derek Jeter dying during Game 7 of a World Series.

Awful as it may be to conjure up such images, that is similar to what happened with Earnhardt.

I have observed many people and their reactions to all of the news coverage this tragedy is getting. Everyone seems to be touched by the loss of Earnhardt. I have friends and associates who don't have the slightest interest in NASCAR rac-

ing, but are touched by the tragic loss. This is indeed a loss that will be discussed for years to come.

This proves that even the greatest of drivers have those moments when they can no longer control the car. At those moments, all they and everyone else can do, is pray the terror passes and is replaced by relief. This time the terror never passed. There was no relief, only tears.

As often happens in the aftermath of a genuine tragedy, Earnhardt's death will focus extra attention on NASCAR. I am even paying more attention. Certainly this column wouldn't have been written if Dale Jr. wouldn't have crashed into the wall over the weekend in seemingly the same way his father did nearly two weeks ago.

The only difference was that Dale Jr. was going about fifteen miles per hour less than his father was and limped away from his crashed car.

More often than not, the sports world brings the nation together. Whether it's to celebrate a championship or mourn a loss, the sports world is a real life soap opera that all of us keep up with or notice. Sure, the athletes make a lot of money, but what would we do without them?

We would mourn their loss and wish they were here.

# Basketball team loses final games

By Staff Reports

JSU senior point guard Tim Lindsey-Smith said that the team needed to go into the TAAC tournament on a good note.

Well, that will not happen, as the team dropped the final two games of the season to the TAAC opponents.

Rodney Kirtz scored 23 points to lead Mercer (12-14, 9-8 TAAC) to a 70-60 win over the Gamecocks last Thursday at Porter Gym.

The two teams battled back and forth over the first 15 minutes of the half and the game was tied at 21-21 with 6:32 left, but Mercer went on a 12-2 run over the final six minutes of the half to build a 33-23 lead into the intermission.

"When you score just 23 points in a half, I don't care who you are playing, it's going to be a tough night," said head coach Mike LaPlante. "You just can't get down like that on the road."

Mercer led by as many as 16 points in the second half, 49-33, after Josh Sagester scored on a lay-up with 13:02 left, but the Gamecocks made a late run.

Emerson Brown's 3-pointer from the top of the key with 7:18 left sliced the lead to 54-48, but the Gamecocks could get no closer.

Mercer sank six free throws over the final minute to seal the win. Korey McCray finished with 12 points and Scott Emerson tossed in

11 for the Bears.

Mike McDaniel led the Gamecocks with 23 points, while Brant Harriman finished with 11 points and nine rebounds.

The basketball team finished the regular season just like the football team, losing to Troy State.

All five Troy State starters scored in double figures, led by 16 apiece from Lemayn, Wilson and Jacova Jenkins. The Trojans pulled away from the Gamecocks (9-18, 6-12 TAAC) in the second half to earn a 77-63 victory last Saturday night.

The loss marks the 12th straight road loss for the basketball team this season.

The Gamecocks finished the regular season as the number seven seed in this week's TAAC tournament.

The Gamecocks tried to rally from a 37-29 halftime deficit. They sliced the Trojan lead to only two points twice but could never get any closer. An 11-3 run by the Trojans late helped seal the win for the Troy State.

"We made a run in the second half," said LaPlante. "We just couldn't get over the hump and take the lead."

Earl Bullock led the Gamecocks with 18 points, while Mike McDaniel added 16 points and 10 rebounds. The Gamecocks shot just 36 percent from the field and only 29 percent from 3-point range.

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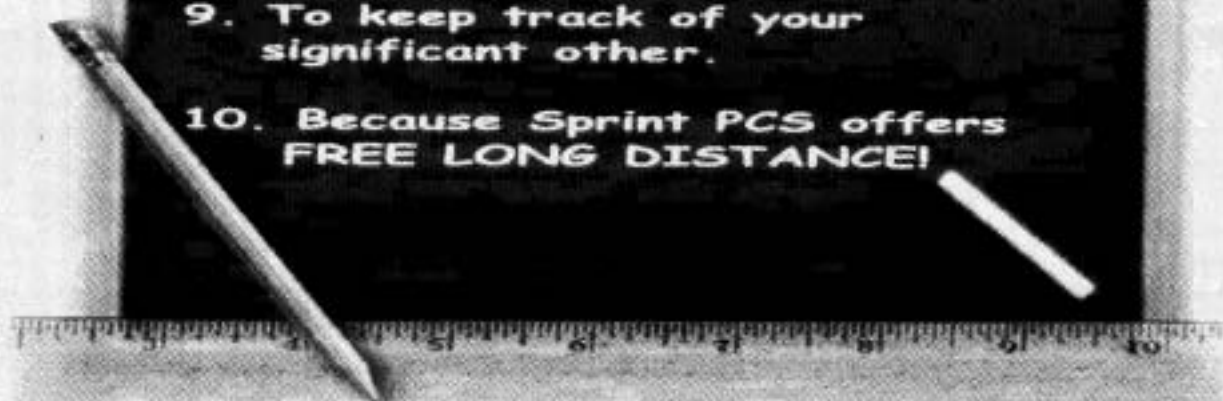
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9. To keep track of your significant other.
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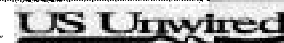
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